



River Scientists (Ecology / Hydrology / Biology / Geomorphology)

Contractors (several positions)

3 to 6 year contract

35–50 days per year

Rate to be negotiated

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority (the Authority) is a small independent Commonwealth Authority responsible for the integrated management of water resources in the Murray-Darling Basin.

MDBA's Sustainable Rivers Audit (SRA) was established in 2004 to provide regular and comprehensive assessments of the health of river ecosystems in the Murray-Darling Basin. The SRA program includes monitoring and assessments of fish, macroinvertebrates, hydrology, vegetation and physical form. Monitoring is carried out by State agencies and the MDBA Office, and the data are interpreted by an independent group of river scientists, called the Independent Sustainable Rivers Audit Group (ISRAG). ISRAG's SRA Report 1 was released in June 2008, and SRA Report 2 will be delivered in early 2011.

The Audit Group provides to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council annual reports on the progress of the SRA and triennial reports on the condition of Basin rivers. In addition to ensuring the independence of river health assessment reports, the Group also provides scientific leadership and guidance for the SRA Program, particularly with respect to experimental design, analysis and development. It will also play a key role in providing input into the development of the Basin Plan, and monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the Basin Plan in delivering on its river health objectives.

Highly experienced and eminent individuals with a strong background in river science (ecology / biology / hydrology / geomorphology) and an appreciation of the issues involved in the management of natural resources in the Basin are encouraged to express an interest in becoming a member of the Independent Sustainable Rivers Audit Group.

Members will be appointed on a consultancy basis under a milestone-based contract for 3-6 years, involving approximately 35–50 days per year. Up to four appointments will be made, depending on the mix of skills of applicants. Successful candidates are not required to relocate to Canberra. However, as outlined in the Selection Criteria, they should be available to attend meetings and workshops in Canberra and other places in and around the Basin.

Applications for these positions close on **3 May 2009**.

An information package, including Terms of Reference for ISRAG, Selection Criteria and the latest SRA reports, can be accessed from the [MDBA](#) website.

For more information on the SRA and the role of the Audit Group, please contact **Dr Michael Wilson**, Director Sustainable Rivers Audit, on **02 6279 0444**.

For information on the [MDBA](#), please visit our website.