Finding the balance between complexity and accuracy in modelling the Sunbury Stormwater Harvesting Scheme Wira Yan Bradley Nissley 6 June 2023









Jacksons Creek (Credit: Julia Bennett)



Melbourne Water | more than water



We are in the decade that matters when the actions we take now will define our future.

Acknowledgment of country



What we'll be talking about today



The stormwater problem

Stormwater flow in natural vs urban environments



Baseflow fed by filtered water

Less filtered baseflow

Values impacted by stormwater condition



What's happening in Sunbury?





What is the Sunbury Stormwater Harvesting (SWH) Scheme?



Modelling software

MUSIC BY **e**Water

Australia's leading tool for water sensitive urban design grounded in decades of Australian research.

- Model for Urban Stormwater Improvement Conceptualisation
- The industry standard for stormwater catchment modelling in Australia
- Quick simulation times for stormwater catchments
- Simple yet powerful UI to model stormwater hydrology



Integrated catchment modelling software to model complex hydraulic and hydrologic networks.

- Allows modelling of a network's hydraulic assets and hydrology
- Model detailed hydraulic structures including: pumping stations and rising mains, weirs, gates/valves, orifices and siphons
- Model detailed hydrology including: rainfall, evaporation, stormwater runoff, soil store and ground store

Bridging the gap between hydrology and hydraulics



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InfoWorks ICM

SinfoWorks

InfoWorks ICM does both the catchment hydrology and the network hydraulics

- Spatial rainfall and evaporation
- Manifolded pumping networks
- Pump curves
- Smart pump control
- High-resolution timestep control





Key Design Considerations

<u>Hydrology</u>

Rainfall and runoff

- Replicate initial MUSIC model flows
- Much smaller timestep to capture peak flows during large events

<u>Hydraulic</u>

Pump location and sizing

- OPEX pump run costs
- CAPEX pump costs
- Pumping station space requirements

Stormwater capture

- Stormwater network bypass flows that are not capturable
- Replicate sediment pond + wetland + overflow

Pipe location and sizing

- Planned development layouts (where available)
- Rail and roadways
- Terrain

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Spatial Rainfall

Real world rainfall data spatially allocated to each development area

- 30 minute rainfall depths and daily evaporation rates
- 30 years of storms each with their own intensity profile and direction
- Wetlands fill based on geospatial rainfall



Melbourne Water Datacube Rainfall Five Decades on a 2km x 2km Grid



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Stormwater Capture

- Initial MUSIC model was used to calibrate the ICM runoff model to replicate the results from the earlier stages of the project
- Stormwater runoff composed of:
 - Impervious Stormflow (IMP)
 - Pervious Stormflow (INFEX + SATEX)
 - Baseflow (BAS)
- Wetlands modelled:
 - Sediment pond (with orifice and weir)
 - Wetland (with overflow to creek)
 - SWH pumping station



Pump and Pipe Location and Sizing

Each wetland pumps directly to Riddell Road Basin



Intermediate pumping station with 3x piggyback stations



Pump and Pipe Location and Sizing



Pump and Pipe Location and Sizing



Predicted Scheme Performance

Sunbury SWH Scheme predicts an average 80% harvested rainfall across the 30 years of simulated operation



How is Melbourne Water using this model?



What are our next steps?



Key takeaways and learnings

80% harvest rate is achievable	Significant benefits of using InfoWorks ICM

Check the practicality of what you're modelling Find the right modelling platform(s) for your questions Emu Bottom Wetlands (Credit: Alluvium)

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