

# Neal Hughes

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## Employment

2006–Present **Research / Principal / Senior Economist**, AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS AND SCIENCES, Canberra.

Research economist working in the water and productivity sections. Main research areas have included: urban water policy, reservoir management and water property rights and markets (for details see publications list). Research has included development of quantitative models, statistical analysis and policy analysis. Took a lead role in ABARES analysis of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan. Acted as water section manager for 3 months during 2010.

2005 **Graduate Economist**, ACCESS ECONOMICS, Canberra.

2002–2004 **Research Assistant**, FRONTIER ECONOMICS, Melbourne.

## Education

2012–Present **Phd in Economics**, *The Australian National University*, Canberra.

2000–2004 **Bachelor of Commerce (First Class Honours Economics)**, *The University of Melbourne*.

2000–2003 **Diploma in Information Systems**, *The University of Melbourne*.

## Awards

2012 Sir Roland Wilson Foundation PhD Scholarship

2006, 2011 Australia Day Achievement Awards

2001, 02, 03 University of Melbourne, Dean's honours list

## Phd Thesis

Title *Water property rights in regulated rivers*

Supervisors Quentin Grafton, John Stachurski, Sara Beavis

Description My thesis considers the optimal design of water property rights in rivers controlled by large dams. It involved the development of multi-agent economic models and new computational methods for solving them. My thesis focused on the Australian MDB and the western US. My caditure included 4 months in the US based at UC Berkeley.

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## Publications

### Journal articles

- 2009 N. Hughes, A. Hafi, and T. Goesch. Urban water management: optimal price and investment policy under climate variability, *Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, Vol. 53, 175–192.

### Conference papers and ABARES reports

- 2013 N. Hughes. Water storage rights: decentralising reservoir operation. International Atlantic Economic Society Conference, Madrid.
- 2013 N. Hughes, C. Gibbs, A. Dahl, D. Tregeagle, O. Sanders, and T. Goesch. Storage rights and water allocation arrangements in the Murray-Darling Basin. Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences
- 2011 N. Hughes, K. Lawson, A. Davidson, T. Jackson, and Y. Sheng. Productivity pathways: Climate adjusted production frontiers for the Australian broadacre cropping industry. Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences.
- 2011 N. Hughes. Estimating irrigation farm production functions using ABARES irrigation survey data. Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Conference, Melbourne
- 2010 N. Hughes. Defining property rights to water in complex regulated river systems: generalising the capacity sharing concept. Annual Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Conference, Adelaide.
- 2009 N. Hughes and T. Goesch. Management of irrigation water storages: carryover rights and capacity sharing. Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics
- 2009 N. Hughes and T. Goesch. Capacity sharing in the St George and MacIntyre Brook irrigation schemes in southern Queensland. Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics
- 2007 N. Hughes and T. Goesch. Urban water management: optimal price and investment policy under uncertainty. Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics