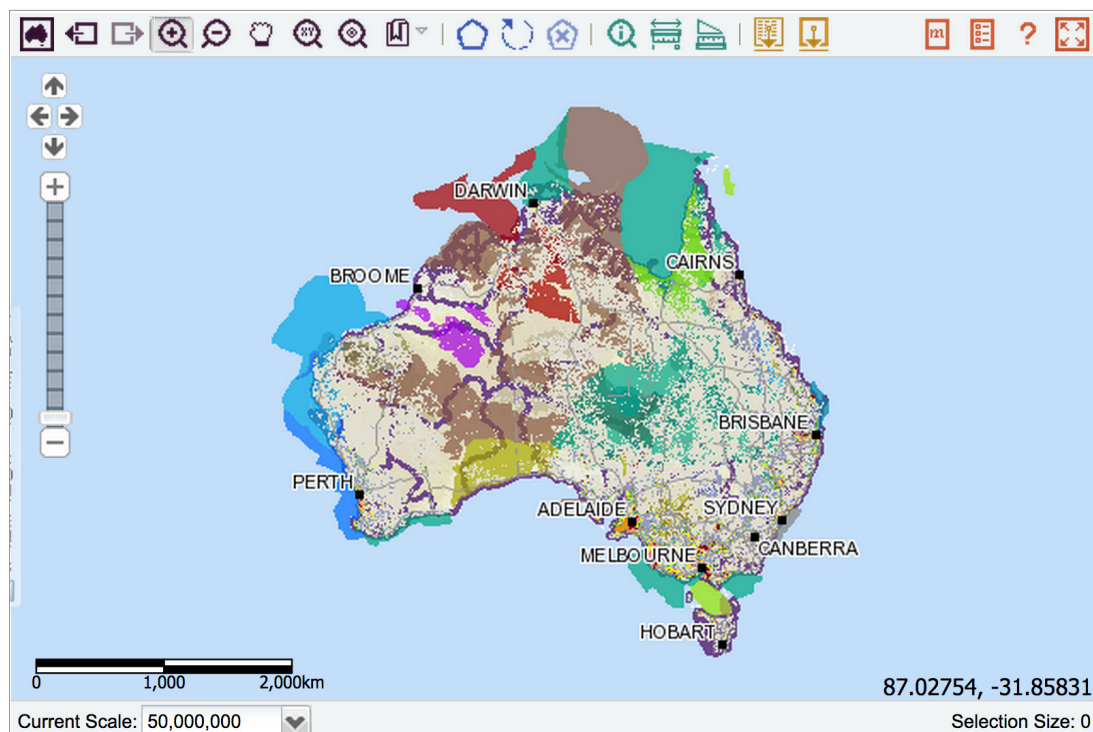


# Providing a national view of groundwater resources

As the Australian population and economy has grown, so has the demand for water. Because access to surface water has been constrained, an increasing demand has been placed on groundwater reserves. Recent national water reforms identified the need to improve basin water planning, particularly for the sustainable use of groundwater. Previously there was no consistent national view of groundwater systems and aquifer characteristics, with each State and Territory adopting its own classification scheme. The Bureau of Meteorology's Australian Groundwater Explorer now provides a consistent, detailed picture of the nation's groundwater resources. This is particularly useful for groundwater systems that traverse jurisdictional boundaries.



The Australian Groundwater Explorer enables the visualisation, analysis and downloading of groundwater information.

*The Australian Groundwater Explorer gives users the ability to access groundwater data for the entire country from a single website. It is the first time I have been able to see South Australian groundwater information presented in the context of the rest of Australia. This greatly simplified the task of building a cross-jurisdictional hydrostratigraphic model (which shows sedimentary layers) for the whole Murray Basin.*



## Steve Barnett

Principal Hydrogeologist  
South Australia Department  
of Environment, Water and  
Natural Resources



Australian Government  
Bureau of Meteorology