

# New water sharing plan for the Murrumbidgee–Wallaga area

This document explains how changes to metering provisions may affect you.

## NSW non-urban metering framework

In December 2018, the NSW Government introduced a new non-urban water metering framework to ensure robust and fair water management across the state.

Development of the framework was a key commitment of the NSW Government's 2017 Water Reform Action Plan and the Murray–Darling Basin Compact. It was informed by extensive public consultation with water users and the metering industry.

The new framework will significantly improve the standard and coverage of non-urban water meters in NSW by setting clear rules for who needs a meter and the standards that need to be met. The standards are based on the objective that meters are accurate, tamper-proof and auditable.

The NSW Government is rolling out the new water metering rules in stages. The government will implement them fully by December 2023.

## Metering in the Murrumbidgee–Wallaga water sharing plan

The current 2010 Murrumbidgee–Wallaga water sharing plan includes a condition for all water supply works to have a meter. That requirement will remain in place, meaning that metering must continue for existing works that need a meter. If you hold a water supply works approval, you will see that this is a mandatory condition on your approval.

The draft of the 2023 replacement plan for Murrumbidgee–Wallaga has rules relating to the NSW non-urban metering policy. The NSW Government is rolling out the policy across the state. In coastal NSW, the new metering requirements will begin in December 2023. From then on, metering will be mandatory for works of a certain size and log-keeping for water extracted from smaller works.

If you have works that currently meter, you will need to make sure those meters meet the Australian Standard 4747 before December 2023.

Any new works constructed after this time must meet requirements of the non-urban metering policy.

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## Compliance with metering

The Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) is responsible for compliance and enforcement of water laws in NSW. The [Metering Regulations – NRAR compliance approach \(PDF 198 KB\)](#) outlines NRAR’s approach to the new metering rules.

To report any suspected breaches of water laws to NRAR, call its compliance hotline 1800 633 362 or email [water.compliance@nrar.nsw.gov.au](mailto:water.compliance@nrar.nsw.gov.au)

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## More information

To find out more about the non-urban metering framework, visit the website <https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/nsw-non-urban-water-metering>.