

## Temporary Water Restrictions Order

A Temporary Water Restrictions Order applies to parts of Botany shown on the map below as Area 1 and Area 2.

### Background

A century of industrial activities in the Botany area in Sydney has resulted in the contamination of bore water (also known as groundwater) in the sandy ground surrounding Botany Bay.

In 2006, the NSW Government prohibited the extraction of groundwater for domestic use in some parts of Botany, and required monitoring for the extraction of groundwater for industrial and irrigation purposes.

### The restrictions

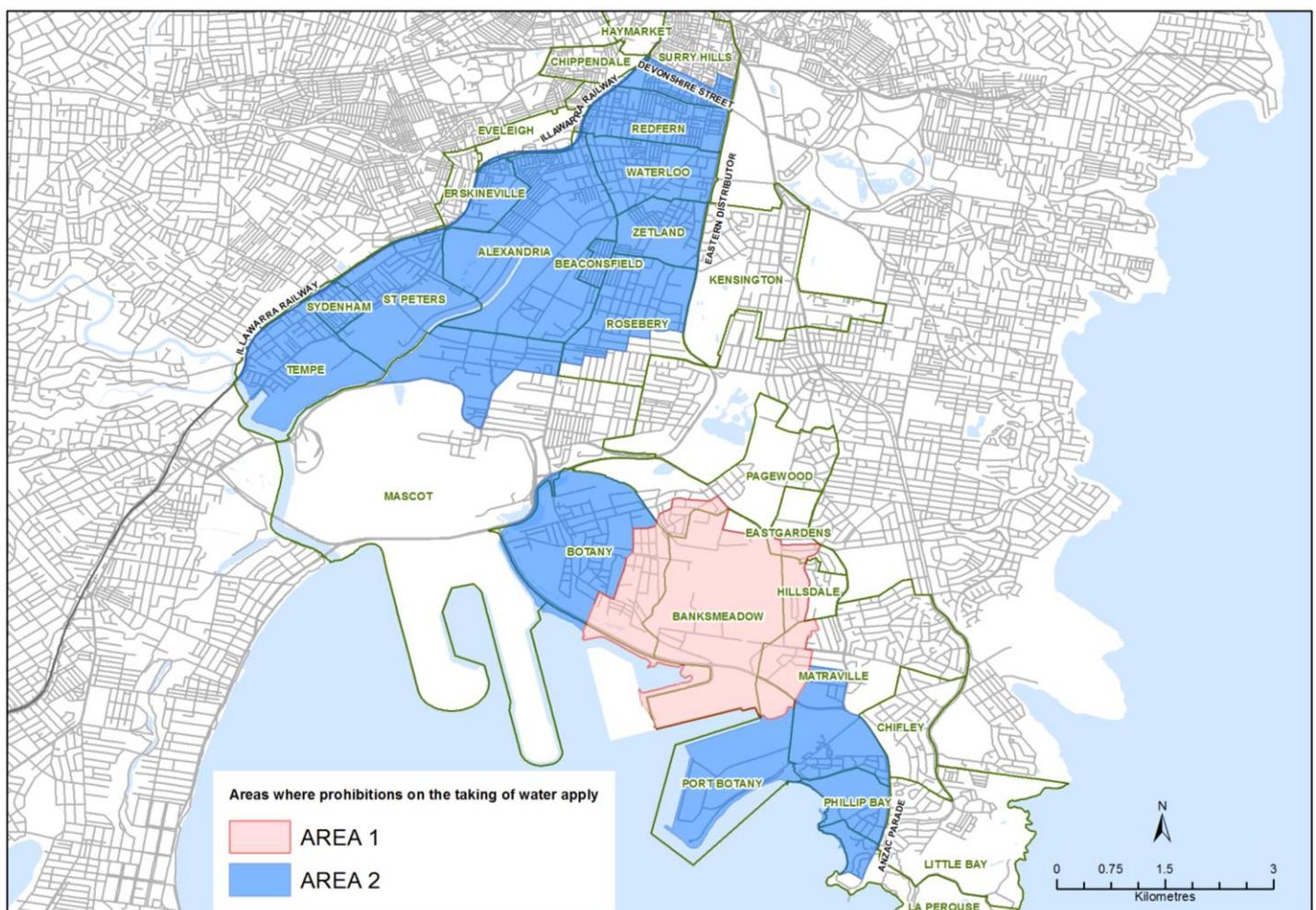


Figure 1. Water Restrictions Order Areas 1 and 2

The current Temporary Water Restrictions Order commenced in 2018 and replaces the 2006 Order.

The key changes to the Order include:

- Consolidation of the description of where the Order applies, from four zones to two areas

The boundaries of the two areas are largely the same as the four former zones, with minor changes to reflect changes in the shoreline.

- Clarification of the restrictions which apply in each of the areas

- Clarification of the requirements for groundwater monitoring and testing in relation to the circumstances when groundwater can be extracted for industrial purposes.

### Domestic use of bore water

Under the current Order, residents in Area 1 and Area 2 **must not** access bore water for domestic use.

Domestic use includes:

- drinking water for humans or animals
- cooking
- watering gardens—including watering vegetable patches or other plants that may be eaten
- washing and cleaning—for example, windows, cars or clothing
- bathing
- filling swimming pools.

Residents concerned about possible health risks in Area 1 or Area 2 can contact their local Public Health Unit on **1300 066 055**.

### Extraction of groundwater for industrial purposes

The current Order also restricts the extraction of groundwater for industrial purposes in Area 1 and Area 2. The purpose of these restrictions is to minimise the risk from exposure to potentially contaminated groundwater and prevent the movement of contaminated water through pumping.

Under the Order, water extracted for purposes other than remediation, temporary construction dewatering, testing or monitoring purposes, must be fit for purpose. To be fit for purpose, the water extracted must be:

- sampled, tested and treated in accordance with a certified water testing plan
- certified in writing by a consultant as being safe and suitable for its intended use.

### Management of bore water

WaterNSW manages the licences and approvals required by local residents and most industries to access and use bore water.

The NSW Department of Industry—Lands & Water manages licences and approvals required by government agencies, water utilities and large developments to extract and use bore water.

### More information

- Temporary Water Restrictions Order, go to [www.water.nsw.gov.au/botany-sands-groundwater](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/botany-sands-groundwater)
- Fit-for-purpose test, go to the [Temporary Water Restrictions Order](#) or contact your licensor.
- [NSW Health](#) has information about groundwater use and health at Botany.
- [Environment Protection Authority](#) has information about groundwater pollution in the Botany area.
- [Orica Botany site](#) has information about the remediation of contamination at the site.

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