

Approval to take under Temporary Water Restrictions



Responsive management of temporary water restrictions

Approval to take from the select water sources under Temporary Water Restriction (Northern NSW Murray Darling Basin) Amendment Order 2020

The holders of access licences in the water source specified in the Table below are approved to take water while the temporary water restriction is in place but only during the approval period as specified.

The temporary water restriction is in place until 17 February 2020.

Licence Category	Water Source	Approval Period (inclusive)
Regulated river (high security access licence)	Peel Regulated River Water Source	31 January 2020 – 7 February 2020
Unregulated river access licence	Mooki River Water Source Quirindi Creek Water Source	26 January 2020 – 7 February 2020

Further details about the temporary water restrictions can be found on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment [website](#).

Reasons for Approval

Rainfall events in mid-January produced encouraging runoff from major tributaries flowing into the Peel River. Inflows from Cockburn and Goonoo Goonoo Rivers– Peel River re-established continuity from Tamworth down to the Namoi River junction, meeting its replenishment target at Carrol Gap. The estimated small high security take, if allowed, will not break the connectivity or replenishment target.

As of 30 January 2020 Quirindi Creek is flowing at a rate of 11.3 ML/d at Greenacre, and 7.2 ML/d at Dury Bridge. Mooki River is flowing at a rate of between 17.6 ML/d and 29.9 ML/d and is flowing into the Namoi River. Discharges from Mooki River and Peel River have re-established connectivity of flows in Namoi River from Gunnedah to Narrabri. This connectivity was achieved while allowing take from the Quirindi or Mooki Rivers from 26 January, as the pump sizes are small compared to the flow rates. Connectivity can be maintained if take is allowed up to and including 7 February. The approval to take ceases after this date in order to protect the tail-end of the flows.

Due to these circumstances, I am satisfied that there is sufficient water available for higher priority needs to approve the licence holders specified in the above Table to take water in accordance with their licence conditions. This approval will be in effect from 31 January 2020 to 7 February 2020.

This approval is given in accordance with the Temporary Water Restriction (Northern NSW Murray Darling Basin) Amendment Order 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Raine'.

Allan Raine, 31/01/2020

A/Director, Water Planning Implementation, Water Group

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment