

Water Sharing Rules

Upper Oxley River Water Source

Water Sharing Plan	
Plan	Tweed River Area Unregulated and Alluvial Water Source
Plan Commencement Date	17 December 2010
Term of the Plan	10 years
Water Sharing Rules	These rules apply to all surface waters in the water source, as well as the alluvial groundwater that is highly connected to the surface waters.

Rules Summary

The following rules are a guide only. For more information please contact : D W H U 1 6 : R Q

Access Rules	
Cease to pump	3 ML/day at the Eungella gauge (approximates no visible flow in the Upper Oxley River Water Source). NB: From year six of the Water Sharing Plan the cease to pump condition will apply to aquifer access licences extracting from all alluvial aquifers within 40m of an unregulated river, except for existing Domestic and Stock access licences and Local Water Utility access licences for which these rules do not apply.
Pumping restrictions	Pumping permitted for a maximum of 6 hours/day between 7:00 pm and 5:00 am when flows are equal to or less than 5 ML/day and greater than 3 ML/day at the Eungella gauge.
Reference point	Oxley River, Eungella gauge (201001) in the Lower Oxley Water Source
Amendment provisions	N/A

Trading rules	
INTO water source	Permitted only from the Hopping Dicks Creek, Lower Oxley River, Mid Tweed River, Smiths Creek, Rolands Creek, Doon Doon Creek, Upper Tweed River, Byrrell Creek, Brays Creek or Pumpenbil Creek Water Sources up to a maximum additional entitlement of 418 ML.
WITHIN water source	Permitted, subject to assessment
Conversion to High Flow Access Licence	Not permitted
Conversion to Aquifer Access Licence	Permitted, subject to assessment

<p>Rules to manage water supply work approvals (bores) located near sensitive environmental areas</p> <p><i>These rules apply to new bores.</i></p> <p><i>These rules do not apply to bores constructed for the purpose of monitoring, environmental management or remedial work</i></p> <p><i>These rules do not apply to replacement bores that are part of a bore network for a local or major water utility for Town Water Supply.</i></p> <p><i>These rules do not apply to replacement bores.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A bore is not to be located: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ within 100m of a high priority groundwater dependent ecosystem, as identified within the plan, in the case of a bore used solely to take water for basic landholder rights; ○ within 200m of a high priority groundwater dependent ecosystem, as identified within the plan, in the case of a bore not used solely to take water for basic landholder rights; ○ at a distance specified by the Minister greater than 200 metres, excluding bores used solely for basic landholder rights, if the Minister is satisfied that the water supply work is likely to cause drawdown at the perimeter of any groundwater dependent ecosystem identified within the Plan; or ○ within 40m from the top of the high bank of a river or stream. ▪ The Minister may increase the distance rules above for any high priority groundwater dependent ecosystem if the Minister is satisfied that drawdown is likely to occur within these distances. ▪ The distance of a bore from a groundwater dependent ecosystem may be varied if the Minister is satisfied that no drawdown will occur at the perimeter of any groundwater dependent ecosystem listed in the Plan or that a lesser distance would result in no greater impact on the water source and its groundwater dependent ecosystems. ▪ These specified distances may be amended in the Plan, or high priority groundwater dependent ecosystems may be added to or removed from the Plan based on further studies of groundwater ecosystem dependency undertaken by the Minister. ▪ There are no groundwater dependent ecosystems identified within the Tweed River WSP area at the commencement of the Plan.
<p>Temporary local impact area rules for managing water quality and maintaining groundwater levels</p> <p><i>These rules apply to all bores.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Section 324 of the Water Management Act 2000 provides for the management of local impacts in groundwater sources. The Minister may, for a specified period, prohibit or restrict the taking of water from a water source, as the case requires to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ maintain or protect water levels in an aquifer; ○ maintain, protect or improve the quality of water in an aquifer; ○ prevent land subsidence or compaction in an aquifer; ○ to protect groundwater dependent ecosystems; or ○ to maintain pressure, or to ensure pressure recovery, in an aquifer.

More information

- about the development of the water sharing rules can be found on the water source Report Cards
- on the Water Sharing Plan for the Tweed River unregulated and alluvial water sources generally is available at: www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water

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