

Rules summary sheet for the Lower Gwydir Groundwater Source

Water Sharing Plan for the Gwydir Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020

Table 1. Plan details

Water sharing plan	Gwydir Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020
Plan commencement	1 July 2020
Term of the plan	10 years

Important: This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Gwydir Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020*. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the water sharing plan for further details which can be accessed via the department's website: <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/plans-programs/water-sharing-plans/status>.

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval' or 'Statement of Conditions' or alternatively via <https://waterregister.waternsw.com.au>.

Table 2. Limits to the availability of water

Limit	Explanation
Long-term average annual extraction limit	The long-term average annual extraction limit (LTAAEL) is 33,000 ML/year.
Compliance with the long-term average annual extraction limit	Average extractions for the preceding five-year period will be assessed against the LTAAEL. If growth in extractions causes the five-year average to exceed LTAAEL by more than 5%, maximum water account debits or available water determinations will be used to return the average extraction volume to the LTAAEL.
Available water determinations	Available water determinations (AWDs) will be made at the start of each water year for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">domestic and stock, and local water utility access licences—100% of the share component unless the minister determines otherwiseaquifer access licences—1 ML/unit share or a lower amount if required to return the five-year average extraction volume to the LTAAEL.

Table 3. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
Granting of access licences	<p>Granting of specific purpose access licences may be considered for the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • specific purpose access licences under the <i>Water Management (General) Regulation 2018</i> (or any replacement regulation) • aquifer (Aboriginal cultural) access licences up to a maximum of 10 ML/year per application.

Table 4. Rules for managing access licences

Type	Rules
Carryover and account limit	<p>No carryover is permitted for domestic and stock and local water utility access licences.</p> <p>For aquifer access licences, carryover of up to 2 ML per unit share of the access licence share component is permitted to be carried over from one water year to the next water year, with a maximum account take limit of 2 ML per unit share of the access licence or a lower volume if required to return the five-year average extraction volume to the LTAAEL, plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments or water allocation re-credits into the account.</p> <p>Access licence 11547 has special rules and conditions, see Table 7.</p>

Table 5. Trading rules

Trade type	Rules
Into groundwater source	Not permitted.
Within groundwater source	Permitted, subject to assessment.
Out of groundwater source	Not permitted.

Table 6. Rules for water supply works approvals

Type	Rules
<p>Rules to minimise interference between bores</p>	<p>Water supply work (bores) approvals may not be granted or amended if the work is within the following distances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 m of an existing bore, on another landholding in the same water source, that is used solely for basic landholder rights • 400 m of an existing bore, on another landholding in the same water source that is not used solely for basic landholder rights • 200 m of the boundary of the property (unless written consent gained from neighbour) • 500 m of a local water utility or major water utility bore, in the same water source • 400 m of a government monitoring or observation bore. <p>The plan lists circumstances in which these distance conditions may be varied.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply to replacement bores.</p>
<p>Rules for bores located near contamination sources</p>	<p>Water supply work (bores) approvals may not be granted or amended if the work is located within the following distances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500 m of a contamination source • 250 m of the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source • between 250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source unless no drawdown of water will occur within 250 m of the plume • 250 m of an on-site sewage disposal system. <p>The plan lists circumstances in which these distance conditions may be varied.</p> <p>Note: Contamination sources are identified in Schedule 1 of the plan.</p> <p>Note: These rules apply to new and replacement bores and bores used solely for basic landholder rights.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply for bores that are to be used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</p>

Type	Rules
<p>Rules for bores located near high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystems</p>	<p>Water supply work (bores) approvals may not be granted or amended if the work is within the following distances of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem (GDE), or a river:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 m from the top of the high bank of a river • 200 m of a high-priority GDE for bores that are not used solely for basic landholder rights. <p>The plan lists circumstances in which these distance conditions may be varied.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply to replacement bores.</p> <p>Note: High-priority GDEs (vegetation ecosystems) are defined on the legal map (full colour and zoomable) found at http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au. An overview of this map can be found in Appendix 2 of the plan.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply for bores that are to be used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</p>
<p>Rules for bores located near groundwater-dependent, culturally significant areas</p>	<p>Water supply work (bores) approvals may not be granted or amended if the work is located within the following distances of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 m for bores not used solely for basic landholder rights. <p>The plan lists circumstances in which these distance conditions may be varied.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply replacement bores.</p> <p>Note: Groundwater-dependent, culturally significant areas may be identified during the term of the plan. Aboriginal people may also identify culturally significant areas when applications for new or amended water supply works are advertised. Potential groundwater-dependent, culturally significant areas will be considered in the assessment of any application for a water supply work approval within the area of the plan.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply for bores that are to be used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</p>

Type	Rules
Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights	<p>Water supply work (bores) approvals used solely for basic landholder rights may not be granted or amended if the work is within the following distances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 400 m of a government monitoring or observation bore • 100 m from the top of the high bank of a river • 100 m of a high-priority GDE • 100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area. <p>The plan lists circumstances in which these distance conditions may be varied.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply to replacement bores.</p> <p>Note: High-priority GDEs (vegetation ecosystems) are defined on the legal map (full colour and zoomable) found at http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au. An overview of this map can be found in Appendix 2 of the plan.</p> <p>Note: Groundwater-dependent, culturally significant areas may be identified during the term of the plan. Aboriginal people may also identify culturally significant areas when applications for new or amended water supply works are advertised. Potential groundwater-dependent, culturally significant areas will be considered in the assessment of any application for a water supply work approval within the area of the plan.</p>
Rules for replacement groundwater works	<p>Replacement groundwater work means a water supply work that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will replace an existing authorised water supply work, constructed to extract groundwater from same groundwater source and at same depth of existing works • is within 20 m of existing works, and no closer to top of high riverbank if within 100 m from top of high riverbank for bores used solely for basic landholder rights, or 200 m from top of high riverbank for bores not used solely for basic landholder rights • will have no greater internal diameter or excavation footprint than existing works.

Table 7. Special rules and conditions for water access licence 11547

Type	Rules
Trade	If a trade occurs to/from water access licence 11547 or the nominated work changes, then the rules in Schedule 2 no longer apply.
Carryover and account limit	For water access licence 11547: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> carryover of up to 41.2 ML per unit of share component is permitted to be carried over from one water year to the next water year water take is limited by a maximum amount of 41.2 ML per unit of share component.
Mandatory conditions	Mandatory conditions to be imposed on water access licence 11547 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> water can only be taken if AWDs for high security licences in the Gwydir Regulated River Water Source are less than 1 ML per unit share. water can only be taken if there is no water remaining in the allocation accounts for water access licence 36740 and 36741 (these licences are high security licences in the Gwydir Regulated River Water Source), unless the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Gwydir Regulated River Water Source 2016</i> is suspended. if water is traded from water access licence 36740 or 36741, or the nominated work changes, water cannot be taken under water access licence 11547 in the water year. the total water that can be taken from water access licences 11547, 36740 and 36741 combined is 13,325 ML per year, plus any allocations traded in.

Note: The rules in Table 7 apply to water access licence 11547 and are found in Schedule 2 of the *Water Sharing Plan for the Gwydir Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020*.

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Gwydir Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020* is available at the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's website: <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/plans-programs/water-sharing-plans/status>.

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Rules summary sheet Upper Gwydir Alluvial Groundwater Source

Water Sharing Plan for the Gwydir Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020

Table 1. Plan details

Water sharing plan	Gwydir Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020
Plan commencement	1 July 2020
Term of the plan	10 years

Important: This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Gwydir Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020*. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the water sharing plan for further details which can be accessed via the department's website: <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/plans-programs/water-sharing-plans/status>.

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval' or 'Statement of Conditions' or alternatively via <https://waterregister.waternsw.com.au>.

Table 2. Limits to the availability of water

Limit	Explanation
Long-term average annual extraction limit	The long-term average annual extraction limit (LTAAEL) is 721 ML/year.
Compliance with the long-term average annual extraction limit	Average extractions for the preceding five-year period will be assessed against the LTAAEL. If growth in extractions causes the five-year average to exceed LTAAEL by more than 10%, maximum water account debits or available water determinations will be used to return the average extraction volume to the LTAAEL.
Available water determinations	Available water determinations (AWDs) will be made at start of each water year for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• domestic and stock, and local water utility access licences—100% of the share component unless the minister determines otherwise• aquifer (high security) access licences—0.3 ML/unit share plus 70% of the AWD for regulated river (high security) access licences in the Gwydir Regulated River Water Source, or a lower amount if required to return the five-year average extraction volume to the LTAAEL.

Table 3. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
Granting of access licences	<p>Granting of specific-purpose access licences may be considered for the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• specific purpose access licences under the <i>Water Management (General) Regulation 2018</i> (or any replacement regulation)• aquifer (Aboriginal cultural) access licences up to a maximum of 10 ML/year per application.

Table 4. Rules for managing access licences

Type	Rules
Carryover	Not permitted.

Table 5. Trading rules

Trade type	Rules
Into groundwater source	Not permitted.
Within groundwater source	Permitted, subject to assessment.
Out of groundwater source	Not permitted.

Table 6. Rules for water supply works approvals

Type	Rules
<p>Rules to minimise interference between bores</p>	<p>Water supply work (bores) approvals may not be granted or amended if the work is within the following distances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 m of an existing bore, on another landholding in the same water source, that is used solely for basic landholder rights • 200 m of an existing bore, on another landholding in the same water source that is not used solely for basic landholder rights • 100 m of the boundary of the property (unless written consent gained from neighbour) • 500 m of a local water utility or major water utility bore, in the same water source • 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore. <p>The plan lists circumstances in which these distance conditions may be varied.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply to replacement bores.</p>
<p>Rules for bores located near contamination sources</p>	<p>Water supply work (bores) approvals may not be granted or amended if the work is located within the following distances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500 m of a contamination source • 250 m of the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source • between 250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source unless no drawdown of water will occur within 250 m of the plume • 250 m of an on-site sewage disposal system. <p>The plan lists circumstances in which these distance conditions may be varied.</p> <p>Note: Contamination sources are identified in Schedule 1 of the plan.</p> <p>Note: These rules apply to new and replacement bores and bores used solely for basic landholder rights.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply for bores that are to be used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</p>

Type	Rules
<p>Rules for bores located, near high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystems</p>	<p>Water supply work (bores) approvals may not be granted or amended if the work is within the following distances of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem (GDE), or a river:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 m from the top of the high bank of a river • 200 m of a high-priority GDE for bores that are not used solely for basic landholder rights. <p>The plan lists circumstances in which these distance conditions may be varied.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply to replacement bores.</p> <p>Note: High-priority GDEs (vegetation ecosystems) are defined on the legal map (full colour and zoomable) found at http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au. An overview of this map can be found in Appendix 2 of the plan.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply for bores that are to be used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</p>
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Type	Rules
Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights	<p>Water supply work (bores) approvals used solely for basic landholder rights may not be granted or amended if the work is within the following distances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore • 40 m from the top of the high bank of a river • 100 m of a high-priority GDE • 100 m of a groundwater-dependent culturally significant area. <p>The plan lists circumstances in which these distance conditions may be varied.</p> <p>Note: These rules do not apply to replacement bores.</p> <p>Note: High-priority GDEs (vegetation ecosystems) are defined on the legal map (full colour and zoomable) found at http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au. An overview of this map can be found in Appendix 2 of the plan.</p> <p>Note: Groundwater-dependent, culturally significant areas may be identified during the term of the plan. Aboriginal people may also identify culturally significant areas when applications for new or amended water supply works are advertised. Potential groundwater-dependent, culturally significant areas will be considered in the assessment of any application for a water supply work approval within the area of the plan.</p>
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