

Rule Summary Sheet for the Barragoot Lake Tributaries Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 1 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | <i>Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024</i> |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | Ten years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Barragoot Lake Tributaries Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts in this water source – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences in this water source - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#).

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location. |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose/Local water utility | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work.</p> <p>If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted.</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Specific purpose/Local water utility | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited |
| All new water supply works | Prohibited in the water source unless for the purpose of extracting or storing water for basic landholder rights or an Aboriginal Cultural access licence. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Into water source | Not permitted |

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Within water source | Not applicable * |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|-----------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Not applicable* |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not applicable* |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not applicable* |

* Not applicable – as no licences in this water source.

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department’s website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 2 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover

Table 1: Carryover rules for categories of access licence

| Access licence | Rules |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Domestic and stock | Permitted |
| Regulated river (general security) | Not permitted |
| Regulated river (supplementary) | Not permitted |
| Regulated river (high security) | Permitted up 0.1 ML per unit share, but only when the commencing available water determination (AWD) for upcoming water year is less than 0.8 ML per unit share |

Individual Account Limits

For regulated river access licences, the maximum volume of water debited from the account is the sum of:

- water credited from any AWDs
- carry-over
- adjustments made when the volume of water taken during “uncontrolled flow” events and the volume of water credited from the AWD exceeds 100 % of the share component in a water year
- any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Operation of Brogo Dam

Sufficient volumes of water must be held in Brogo Dam to satisfy the following rights and available water determinations in the water source, through a repeat of the worst period of low inflows to the water source based on historical flow information held by the department when this Plan commenced:

- native title rights
- domestic and stock rights
- available water determinations of 100 % for:
 - domestic and stock access licences, and
 - local water utility access licences
- available water determinations of 0.8 ML/unit share for regulated river (high security) access licences.

When the volume of water in Brogo Dam is 20 % of full supply level or more, the daily inflow to the dam must be released, up to a maximum of 15 ML/day. This release must not be used to meet a water order or a basic landholder right in the Brogo River upstream of the North Brogo gauge (219013).

At the end of a flood or spilling of water, the level in the Brogo Dam must not be reduced below full supply level, except to meet release requirements, unless maintaining the level in the Brogo Dam at full supply level would be unsafe.

General priority of extractions

The following priority of extraction applies when supply capability is insufficient to satisfy orders for water in a section of the water source:

- water must first be supplied to the following licences that have placed orders for water:
 - first - domestic and stock access licences
 - second - local water utility access licences
 - third - regulated river (high security) access licences
- remaining water must be shared between regulated river (general security) access licences that have placed orders for water, in the same shares as the share components specified on the access licences.

Access Rules

Table 2. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Access to regulated flows | To access regulated flows water users must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hold a regulated river (general security), regulated river (high security) or regulated river (domestic and/or stock) access licence that specifies shares in the Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers Water Source • not take water unless they have placed a water order with WaterNSW, and the order has been approved. |
| Access to uncontrolled flows | To access uncontrolled flows water users must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hold a regulated river (general security) access licence that specifies shares in the Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers Water Source, and nominates a metered work • only take water in accordance with a notice published by WaterNSW which may specify the dates and volume of the uncontrolled flow event and any limitations to access which may apply • ensure that at the end of the water year, the volume taken in uncontrolled flows plus the volume allocated to their water allocation account does not exceed 1 ML/share. |

| Type | Rules |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Access to supplementary flows events | <p>To access supplementary flows water users must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hold a regulated river (supplementary) access licence that specifies shares in the Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers Water Source • only take water in accordance with a notice published by WaterNSW which may specify the dates and volume of the supplementary flow. |

A water allocation, which informs licensed water users how much water they can extract, is a type of announcement known as an available water determination (AWD). An AWD is given effect by a statutory water order. AWDs and their associated orders are issued on 1 July and periodically throughout the year.

Table 3. Rules for available water determinations

| Type | Rules |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Regulated river (high security) | <p>At the start of the water year an AWD of at least 0.8 ML/unit share should be announced.</p> <p>If additional water becomes available, then an AWD of up to 1 ML/unit share may be made within the water year.</p> <p>For each additional AWD of 0.01 ML/share for high security, an AWD of 0.02 ML/share shall be made for general security.</p> |
| Regulated river (general security) | <p>An opening AWD for general security can be made once an AWD of 0.8 ML/share for high security has been made and there is sufficient water available after providing for water losses associated with holding and delivering existing allocations.</p> <p>For each additional AWD of 0.01 ML/share above an AWD of 0.8 ML/share for high security, an AWD of 0.02 ML/share shall be made for general security.</p> |

Table 4. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 4, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 5.

Table 5. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment |

Table 6. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category and supplementary access licences

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Conversion of high security to general security access licences | Permitted if the dealing will not result in the total volume of share components in all regulated river (general security) access licences exceeding 13,907 unit shares, subject to assessment. Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <i>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</i> ¹ . |
| Conversion of general security to high security access licences | Permitted, subject to assessment. Conversion rate of 3:1 applies, as per the <i>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</i> ² . |
| Supplementary access licences | Trade between supplementary access licences is permitted. Trade to or from a supplementary access licence from another category of access licences is not permitted. |

Table 7. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

¹ <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

² <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

Rule Summary Sheet for the Bega River Area Coastal Floodplain Alluvial Groundwater Source

Rule Summary Sheet 3 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Area Coastal Floodplain Alluvial Groundwater Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to groundwater in unconsolidated sediments within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Bega River Area Coastal Floodplain Alluvial Groundwater Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan.

Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au.

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#)

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or recorded in logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

Water allocation which is not used within a water year cannot be carried over in an account to be used in another water year.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas (that is, east of the dividing ranges), is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a bore diameter of 200 mm or larger (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals. If you have multiple bores that are smaller than 200 mm you may also need metering.

For more information or to see what you need to do to comply, please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#).

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking groundwater under an aquifer access licence

| Type | Proposed rules |
|------------------------------|---|
| Take of alluvial groundwater | No access rules for this water source. Coastal floodplain alluvial groundwater is not considered to be highly connected to surface water. |

Water supply works approvals

Water supply work approvals allow you to construct and use a work which takes water from a river, lake or aquifer. Examples of water supply works are water pumps, water bores, spearpoints, dams, weirs, irrigation channels, banks and levees. Approvals are granted through WaterNSW to construct and operate water supply works.

The purpose of water supply work approvals is to ensure that the construction or use of a work does not cause negative impacts on water sources and their dependent ecosystems, or to access of water by other authorised water users. For water supply works that extract groundwater, the term “work” or “bore” is used but relates to any water supply work that extracts water from the ground, including wells, spearpoints and excavations that intercept groundwater.

A water use approval authorises its holder to use water for a particular purpose, such as irrigation, at a particular location (water source). Every approval includes conditions that are in place to reduce adverse impacts. For more information, please visit the [WaterNSW water supply works approvals](#) website.

Note: The distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 2, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from aquifer to unregulated river). These rules are covered in Table 3.

Table 2. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Not permitted. |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Prohibited if point of extraction would be moved from outside waterfront land to within waterfront land ¹ . |

Table 3. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Conversion to a new category | Not applicable |

Table 4. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted, up to 10 ML/year, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Permitted, up to a total of 343 ML/year of entitlement in the water source, subject to assessment. |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. In this groundwater source, licences are permitted for some additional purposes. Other purposes are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Bega River Estuary and Tributaries Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 4 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Bega River Estuary and Tributaries Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

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Rules

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Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts in this water source—carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences in this water source— the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location. |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below 50 % of full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted for works located on waterfront land¹ when there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work.</p> <p>If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted.</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |
| Distance from river | Water supply works that are not located on waterfront land ² . |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

² See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------------|--|
| Into water source | Not Permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted within management zones, subject to assessment. Not permitted between management zones. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ³ . |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not permitted |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal

³ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Bermagui River Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 5 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Bermagui River Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • flows are in the very low flow class which is when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 1.4 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump | If flows have been less than 1.4 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 1.4 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. |
| Flow reference point | Narira Creek at Cobargo, Gauge (219016) For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted flows are in the very low flow class which is when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 1.4 ML/day. |
| Flow reference point | <p>Narira Creek at Cobargo, Gauge 219016</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtime.data.waternsw.com.au</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ¹ . |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not permitted |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Bobundra Creek Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 6 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Bobundra Creek Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location. |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister's opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work.</p> <p>If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted.</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister's opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ¹ . |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not permitted |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not Permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Candelo Creek Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 7 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Candelo Creek Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • for unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 3 ML/day • for unregulated river (B Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 14 ML/day • for unregulated river (C Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 35 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If flows have been less than 3 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 3 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. • If flows have been less than 14 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 14 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. |
| Flow reference point | <p>Candelo Creek at Greenmount Road, Gauge (219034)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.watnsw.com.au</p> |
| Take from in-river pools | <p>Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity.</p> |
| Take from in-river dam pools | <p>Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval.</p> |
| Take from off-river pools | <p>Take must cease when the pool is below 50 % capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval.</p> |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister's opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted for works located on waterfront land ¹ when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted, or • flows are in the very low flow class which is when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 3 ML/day. |
| Flow reference point | Candelo Creek at Greenmount Road, Gauge (219034) For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Distance from river | Water supply works that are not located on waterfront land ² . |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister's opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited – unless an application for planning approval is made prior to 1 July 2025. In circumstances where development consent is not required the application for the dam must be submitted to WaterNSW with evidence that development consent is not required by 1 July 2025. For more information see the Rule Summary Sheet for in-river dams on streams of third order or higher on the department's website . Subject to relevant assessments. |

² See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------|---|
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components for unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licenses in the water source does not exceed 368 ML/year, subject to assessment. |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ³ . |

³ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | <p>Permitted from an unregulated river access licence to an unregulated river (C Class) access licence if the sum of share components for unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 368 ML/year, subject to assessment.</p> <p>Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <u>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</u>⁴.</p> |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | <p>Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components for unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 368 ML/year, subject to assessment.</p> <p>Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 35 ML/day at the flow reference point.</p> |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

⁴ <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Cuttagee Lake Tributaries Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 8 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Cuttagee Lake Tributaries Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#).

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location. |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work.</p> <p>If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted.</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|--|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ¹ . |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not permitted |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not Permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Dignams Creek Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 9 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Dignams Creek Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the nearest rock bar downstream of the location at which the water is taken. Note: Clause 35(1) that prohibits take if no visible flow at the location from which the water is taken does not apply in this water source, as per cause 37(3). |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the nearest downstream rock bar from the point in the river closest to the location of the water supply work being used to take groundwater.</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | <p>Prohibited – unless an application for planning approval is made prior to 1 July 2025. In circumstances where development consent is not required the application for the dam must be submitted to WaterNSW with evidence that development consent is not required by 1 July 2025.</p> <p>For more information see the Rule Summary Sheet for in-river dams on streams of third order or higher on the department’s website. Subject to relevant assessments.</p> |
| All surface water works | <p>Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned.</p> |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | <p>Permitted, subject to assessment</p> <p>Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land¹.</p> |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not permitted |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not Permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Dry River Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 10 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Dry River Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • for unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 1.4 ML/day • for unregulated river (B Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 10 ML/day • for unregulated river (C Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 74 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump | <p>If flows have been less than 1.4 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 1.4 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours.</p> |
| Flow reference point | <p>Murrumbidgee River at Quaama, Gauge (219018)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au</p> |
| Take from in-river pools | <p>Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity.</p> |
| Take from in-river dam pools | <p>Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval.</p> |
| Take from off-river pools | <p>Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval.</p> |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Harvestable rights | <p>For water taken from a harvestable rights dam.</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | <p>Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 35 and 36 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence.</p> |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted, or • flows are in the very low flow class which is when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 1.4 ML/day. |
| Flow reference point | <p>Murrumbidgee River at Quaama, Gauge (219018)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | <p>Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 38 and 39 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence.</p> |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | <p>Prohibited – unless an application for planning approval is made prior to 1 July 2025. In circumstances where development consent is not required the application for the dam must be submitted to WaterNSW with evidence that development consent is not required by 1 July 2025.</p> <p>For more information see the Rule Summary Sheet for in-river dams on streams of third order or higher on the department’s website. Subject to relevant assessments.</p> |
| All surface water works | <p>Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned.</p> |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|--|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ¹ . |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Permitted from an unregulated river access licence to an unregulated river (C Class) access licence if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 1,558 ML/year, subject to assessment. Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <u><i>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</i></u> ² . |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

² <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 1,558 ML/year, subject to assessment. Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 74 ML/day at the flow reference point. |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Others as per Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Lower Bega/Lower Brogo Rivers Tributaries Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 11 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Lower Bega/Lower Brogo Rivers Tributaries Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • for unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 2 ML/day • for unregulated river (B Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 28 ML/day • for unregulated river (C Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 92 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If flows have been less than 2 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 2 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. • If flows have been less than 28 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 28 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. |
| Flow reference point | <p>Double Creek near Brogo, Gauge (219017)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au</p> |
| Take from in-river pools | <p>Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity.</p> |
| Take from in-river dam pools | <p>Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval.</p> |
| Take from off-river pools | <p>Take must cease when the pool is below 50 % capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval.</p> |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted for works located on waterfront land ¹ when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted, or • flows are in the very low flow class which is when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 2 ML/day. |
| Flow reference point | Double Creek near Brogo, Gauge (219017) For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Distance from river | Water supply works that are not located on waterfront land ² . |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister's opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

² See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Prohibited. |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ³ . |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |

³ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Permitted from an unregulated river access licence to an unregulated river (C Class) access licence if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the Lower Bega/Brogo Tributaries Water Sources does not exceed 1,359 ML/year, subject to assessment. Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <u>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</u> ⁴ . |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the Lower Bega/Brogo Tributaries Water Sources does not exceed 1,359 ML/year, subject to assessment. Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 92 ML/day at the flow reference point. |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department’s website.

⁴ <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

Rule Summary Sheet for the Mid Bega River Sands Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 12 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Mid Bega River Sands Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| <p>Cease to take¹</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, take of water is not permitted when the standing water level at Bega Borefield @ The Ranch gauge (GW039001) is at or below 4.5 m. For unregulated river (B Class) access licences, take of water is not permitted when the flow in the Bega River at Kanoona gauge (219032) is less than or equal to 65 ML/day, and there is no visible flow in the Bega River immediately downstream of the Princes Highway bridge. For unregulated river (C Class) licences, take of water is not permitted when the flow in the Bega River at Kanoona gauge (219032) is less than or equal to 160 ML/day. <p>Note: Clause 35(1) that prohibits take if no visible flow at the location from which the water is taken does not apply to the take of surface water under an unregulated river access licence in this water source, as per cause 37(3).</p> |
| <p>Flow reference point</p> | <p>Bega Borefield @ The Ranch gauge (GW039001) Bega River at Kanoona gauge (219032) Bega River downstream of the Princes Highway For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.watnsw.com.au</p> |
| <p>Commence to pump</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the standing water level at Bega Borefield @ The Ranch gauge (GW039001) has been at or below 4.5 m AHD for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until the standing level has exceeded 4.5 m AHD for at least 24 hours. If flow in the Bega River at Kanoona gauge (219032) has been less than 65 ML/day, or there has been no visible flow in the Bega River immediately downstream of the Princes Highway bridge for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 65 ML/day, and there has been a visible flow in the Bega River immediately downstream of the Princes Highway bridge for at least 24 hours. |
| <p>Total daily extraction limits</p> | <p>Domestic and stock access licences 0.15 ML/day</p> |

¹ Note that some access licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by Part 6 of the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan and must be compliant with the more restrictive conditions.

| Type | Rules |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • |
| Total daily extraction limits | <p>A1 Class: GW level at GW039001 is above 4.5 m; flow in Bega River at Kanoona (GS 219032) is at or below 65 ML/d and there is no visible flow in the Bega River immediately downstream of the Princes Highway bridge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unregulated River access licences 5.79 ML/day |
| Total daily extraction limits | <p>A2 Class: flow in Bega River at Kanoona (GS 219032) is at or below 65 ML/d and there is visible flow in the Bega River immediately downstream of the Princes Highway bridge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unregulated River access licences 9.72 ML/day |
| Total daily extraction limits | <p>B Class: flow at Kanoona gauge (219032) is greater than 65 ML/day and equal to or less than 160 ML/d and there is visible flow in the Bega River immediately downstream of the Princess Highway bridge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unregulated River access licences 19.85 ML/day |
| Take from in-river pools | <p>Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity.</p> |
| Take from in-river dam pools | <p>Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval.</p> |
| Take from off-river pools | <p>Take must cease when the pool is below 50 % capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval.</p> |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 35 and 36 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Cease to take² | Take of water is not permitted for works located on waterfront land ³ when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> flows are in the very low flow class when standing water level at Bega Borefield @ The Ranch (GW 39001) is at or below 4.5 m AHD. |
| Flow reference point | Bega Borefield @ The Ranch gauge (GW039001) For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au |
| Total daily extraction limits | Very low flow: GW level at GW039001 is at or below 4.5 m AHD. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local water utility access licences: 3.5 ML/day. |
| Total daily extraction limits | A1 Class: GW level at GW039001 is above 4.5 m; flow in Bega River at Kanoona gauge (219032) is at or below 65 ML/day and there is no visible flow in the Bega River immediately downstream of the Princes Highway bridge. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquifer access licences 1.36 ML/day Local water utility access licences (43652) 4.7 ML/day. |
| Total daily extraction limits | A2 Class: flow in Bega River at Kanoona gauge (219032) is at or below 65 ML/day and there is visible flow in the Bega River immediately downstream of the Princes Highway bridge. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquifer access licences 2.28 ML/day Local water utility access licence (43652) 6.7 ML/day. |
| Total daily extraction limits | B Class: flow at Kanoona gauge (219032) is greater than 65 ML/day and equal to or less than 160 ML/day and there is visible flow in the Bega River immediately downstream of the Princess Highway bridge. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquifer access licences 4.65 ML/day Local water utility access licence (43652) 12.8 ML/day. |

² Note that some access licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by Part 6 of the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan and must be compliant with the more restrictive conditions.

³ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Local Water Utility | The local water utility can take up to 3.5ML/day if flows are in the very low flow class. |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 38 and 39 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister's opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Not Permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ⁴ . |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |

⁴ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | <p>Permitted from an unregulated river access licence to an unregulated river (C Class) access licence if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in this water source does not exceed 743 ML/year, subject to assessment.</p> <p>Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <u>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</u>⁵.</p> |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | <p>Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in this water source does not exceed 743 ML/year, subject to assessment.</p> <p>Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 160 ML/day at the Bega River at Kanoona gauge (219032).</p> |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the water sharing plan for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department’s website.

⁵ <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

Rule Summary Sheet for the Mid Bega River Tributaries Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 13 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Mid Bega River Tributaries Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the WaterNSW water register.

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • for unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, flows are less than or equal to 2 ML/day at the flow reference point • for unregulated river (A class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 28 ML/day • for unregulated river (B class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 92 ML/day • for unregulated river (C class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are greater than 92 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump | <p>If flows have been less than 2 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 2 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours.</p> <p>If flows have been more than 2 ML/day and less than or equal to 28 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 28 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours.</p> |
| Flow reference point | <p>Double Creek near Brogo, Gauge (219017)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au</p> |
| Take from in-river pools | <p>Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity.</p> |
| Take from in-river dam pools | <p>Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval.</p> |
| Take from off-river pools | <p>Take must cease when the pool is below 50 % capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval.</p> |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted for works located on waterfront land ¹ when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted, or • flow is at or below 2 ML/day at the flow reference point. |
| Flow reference point | Double Creek near Brogo, Gauge (219017) For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Distance from river | Water supply works that are not located on waterfront land ² . |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

² See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------------|---|
| Into water source | Permitted only from the Mid Bega River Sands Water Source into C Class if the sum of share components for unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licenses in this water source does not exceed 1,359 ML/year, subject to assessment. |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ³ . |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |

³ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | <p>Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components for unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in this water source does not exceed 1,359 ML, subject to assessment.</p> <p>Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <u>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</u>⁴.</p> |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | <p>Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components for unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 1,359 ML/year, subject to assessment.</p> <p>Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 92 ML/day at the flow reference point.</p> |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department’s website.

⁴ <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

Rule Summary Sheet for the Middle Lagoon Tributaries Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 14 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Middle Lagoon Tributaries Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location. |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work.</p> <p>If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted.</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ¹ . |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not permitted |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not Permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department’s website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Murrah Estuary Tributaries Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 15 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Murrah Estuary Tributaries Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location. |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose/Local water utility | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister's opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work.</p> <p>If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted.</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Specific purpose/Local water utility | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All new water supply works | Prohibited in the water source unless for the purpose of extracting or storing water for basic landholder rights or an Aboriginal Cultural access licence. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Not applicable |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|----------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Not applicable |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not applicable |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not applicable |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department’s website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Murrumbidgee River Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 16 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrumbidgee-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Murrumbidgee River Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

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Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • for unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 1.4 ML/day • for unregulated river (B Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 10 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump | If flows have been less than 1.4 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 1.4 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. |
| Flow reference point | Murrumbidgee River at Quaama, Gauge (219018) For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.watersnsw.com.au |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister's opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted, or flows are in the very low flow class which is when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 1.4 ML/day. |
| Flow reference point | <p>Murrumbidgee River at Quaama, Gauge (219018)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister's opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department's [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ¹ . |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not permitted |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Narira Creek Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 17 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Narira Creek Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • for unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 1.4 ML/day • for unregulated river (B Class) access licences, flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 10 ML/day • for unregulated river (C Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 90 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump | <p>If flows have been less than 1.4 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 1.4 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours.</p> |
| Flow reference point | <p>Narira Creek at Cobargo, Gauge (219016)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au</p> |
| Take from in-river pools | <p>Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity.</p> |
| Take from in-river dam pools | <p>Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval.</p> |
| Take from off-river pools | <p>Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval.</p> |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Harvestable rights | <p>For water taken from a harvestable rights dam.</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | <p>Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 35 and 36 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence.</p> |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted. flows are in the very low flow class which is when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 1.4 ML/day. |
| Flow reference point | <p>Narira Creek at Cobargo, Gauge (219016)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | <p>Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 38 and 39 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence.</p> |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | <p>Prohibited – unless an application for planning approval is made prior to 1 July 2025. In circumstances where development consent is not required the application for the dam must be submitted to WaterNSW with evidence that development consent is not required by 1 July 2025.</p> <p>For more information see the Rule Summary Sheet for in-river dams on streams of third order or higher on the department’s website. Subject to relevant assessments.</p> |
| All surface water works | <p>Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned.</p> |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ¹ . |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Permitted from an unregulated river access licence to an unregulated river C Class licence if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) licences in the water sources does not exceed 1,243 ML/year, subject to assessment. Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <u>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</u> ² . |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

² <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) licences in the water sources does not exceed 1,243 ML/year, subject to assessment. Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 90 ML/day at the flow reference point. |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Nelson Lagoon Tributaries Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 18 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Nelson Lagoon Tributaries Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location. |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work.</p> <p>If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted.</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |
| All new water supply works | Prohibited in the water source unless for the purpose of extracting or storing water for basic landholder rights or an Aboriginal Cultural access licence. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Not applicable |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---|----------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Not applicable |

| Type | Rules |
|--|----------------|
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not applicable |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not applicable |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not Permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Sandy Creek Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 19 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Sandy Creek Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • for unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 3 ML/day. • for unregulated river (B Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 14 ML/day. • for unregulated river (C Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 35 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump | <p>If flows have been less than 3 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 3 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours.</p> <p>If flows have been less than 14 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 14 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours.</p> |
| Flow reference point | <p>Candelo Creek at Greenmount Road, Gauge (219034)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au</p> |
| Take from in-river pools | <p>Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity.</p> |
| Take from in-river dam pools | <p>Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval.</p> |
| Take from off-river pools | <p>Take must cease when the pool is below 50 % capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval.</p> |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted for works located on waterfront land ¹ when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted, or • flows are in the very low flow class which is when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 3 ML/day. |
| Flow reference point | Candelo Creek at Greenmount Road, Gauge (219034) For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Distance from river | Water supply works that are not located on waterfront land ² . |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister's opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited – unless an application for planning approval is made prior to 1 July 2025. In circumstances where development consent is not required the application for the dam must be submitted to WaterNSW with evidence that development consent is not required by 1 July 2025. For more information see the Rule Summary Sheet for in-river dams on streams of third order or higher on the department's website . Subject to relevant assessments. |

² See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------|---|
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components for unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licenses in the water source does not exceed 184 ML/year, subject to assessment. |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ³ . |

³ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Permitted from an unregulated river access licence to an unregulated river C Class licence if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 184 ML/year, subject to assessment. Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <u>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</u> ⁴ . |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components for unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 184 ML/year, subject to assessment. Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 35 ML/day at the flow reference point. |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

⁴ <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Tantawangalo Creek Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 20 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Tantawangalo Creek Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Cease to take¹ - Lower Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location. • for unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 5 ML/day • for unregulated river (B Class) access licences when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 70 ML/day • for unregulated river (C Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 192 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump -Lower Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If flows have been less than 5 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 5 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. • If flows have been less than 70 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 70 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. |
| Flow reference point - Lower Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone | <p>Tantawangalo Creek at Candelo Dam Site, Gauge (219022)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au</p> |
| Cease to take - Upper Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone | <p>Please note there is only one licence in the Upper Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone: Local water utility access licence 23486.</p> <p>Take of water is not permitted under access licence 23486 when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • when flows at the flow reference point are less than 4 ML/day. |

¹ Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan.

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Flow reference point – Upper Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone | Tantawangalo Creek at Tantawangalo Mountain site, Gauge (219006) For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtime.data.watersnsw.com.au |
| Daily extraction limit – Upper Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone | The take of water under local water utility access licence 23486 must not exceed 50 % of flow, up to a maximum of 5 ML/day. |
| Take from in-river pools – both management zones | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools – both management zones | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools – both management zones | Take must cease when the pool is below 50% capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 35 and 36 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted for works located on waterfront land ² when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for both management zones, there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted for the Lower Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone, flow is at or below 5 ML/day at the flow reference point. |
| Flow reference point – Lower Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone | Tantawangalo Creek at Candelo Dam Site, Gauge (219022) For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.watnsw.com.au |

² See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |
| Distance from river | <p>Water supply works that are not located on waterfront land³.</p> |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | <p>Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 38 and 39 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence.</p> |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

³ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | <p>Prohibited – unless an application for planning approval is made prior to 1 July 2025. In circumstances where development consent is not required the application for the dam must be submitted to WaterNSW with evidence that development consent is not required by 1 July 2025.</p> <p>For more information see the Rule Summary Sheet for in-river dams on streams of third order or higher on the department’s website. Subject to relevant assessments.</p> |
| All new water supply works | <p>Prohibited in the Upper Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone unless for the purpose of extracting or storing water for basic landholder rights or an Aboriginal Cultural access licence.</p> |
| All surface water works | <p>Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned.</p> |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--------------------------|--|
| Into water source | <p><i>Upper Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone:</i> – Not permitted.</p> <p><i>Lower Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone:</i> - Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licenses in this management zone does not exceed 1,592 ML/year, subject to assessment.</p> |

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Within water source | <p>Permitted within management zones, subject to assessment.</p> <p>Not permitted between management zones.</p> <p>Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land⁴.</p> |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | <p><i>Upper Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone:</i> - Not permitted.</p> <p><i>Lower Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone:</i> - Permitted, subject to assessment.</p> |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | <p><i>Upper and Lower Tantawangalo Creek Management Zones:</i> Not permitted</p> |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | <p><i>Upper Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone:</i> - Not permitted.</p> <p><i>Lower Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone:</i> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permitted into B Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (B Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in this management zone does not exceed 1,271 ML/year, subject to assessment. Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in this management zone does not exceed 1,592 ML/year, subject to assessment. <p>Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <i>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</i>⁵.</p> |

⁴ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

⁵ <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | <p><i>Upper Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone:</i> – Not permitted.</p> <p><i>Lower Tantawangalo Creek Management Zone:</i> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permitted into B Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (B Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in this management zone does not exceed 1,271 ML/year, subject to assessment. Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 70 ML/day at the flow reference point. • Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in this management zone does not exceed 1,592 ML/year, subject to assessment. Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 192 ML/day at the flow reference point. |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department’s website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Upper Bega/Bemboka Rivers Tributaries Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 21 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Upper Bega/Bemboka Rivers Tributaries Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>For both the <i>Upper Tributary Management Zone</i> and the <i>Lower Tributary Management Zone</i>, take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • for unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 2 ML/day. • for unregulated river (B Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 28 ML/day. <p>In the <i>Lower Tributary Management Zone</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for unregulated river (C Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 92 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If flows have been less than 2 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 2 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. • If flows have been less than 28 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 28 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. |
| Flow reference point | <p>Double Creek near Brogo, Gauge (219017)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.watarnsw.com.au</p> |
| Take from in-river pools | <p>Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity.</p> |
| Take from in-river dam pools | <p>Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval.</p> |
| Take from off-river pools | <p>Take must cease when the pool is below 50 % capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval.</p> |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Power Generation | Licence 23542 is exempt from the access rules in clauses 35 and 36 of the water sharing plan if the take is for power generation. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted for works located on waterfront land ¹ when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted, or • flow is at or below 2 ML/day at the flow reference point. |
| Flow reference point | Double Creek near Brogo, Gauge (219017) For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Distance from river | Water supply works that are not located on waterfront land ² . |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of ground water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

² See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------|---|
| In-river dams | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department's [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | <p>For the <i>Lower Tributary Management Zone</i></p> <p>Permitted only from the Upper Bega/Bemboka Rivers Water Source into the Lower Tributary Management Zone up to a total of 1000 ML/year more than the share components that existed in the Lower Tributary Management Zone at the commencement of the 2023 water sharing plan, subject to assessment.</p> <p>For both the <i>Upper Tributary Management Zone</i> and the <i>Lower Tributary Management Zone</i></p> <p>Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licenses in the water source does not exceed 1,359 ML/year, subject to assessment.</p> |
| Within water source | <p>Permitted within management zones, subject to assessment.</p> <p>Not permitted between management zones.</p> <p>Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land³.</p> |

³ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 1,359 ML/year, subject to assessment. Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <u>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</u> ⁴ . |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 1,359 ML/year, subject to assessment. Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 92 ML/day at the flow reference point. |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

⁴ <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Upper Bega/Bemboka Rivers Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 22 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Upper Bega/Bemboka Rivers Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • for unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 5 ML/day • for unregulated river (B Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 65 ML/day • for unregulated river (C Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 160 ML/day. <p>For local water utility access licence 23756 water must not be taken when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 160 ML/day, or • the total volume of water taken is no more than <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 0.5 ML/day, or — if water releases are being made from the Cochrane Dam Drought Reserve 0.2 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If flows have been less than 5 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 5 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. • If flows have been less than 65 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 65 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. |
| Flow reference point | <p>Bega River at Kanoona, Gauge (219032)</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.</p> |
| Total daily extraction limits | <p>A Class: When flow in Bega River at Kanoona gauge (219032) is above 5 ML/day and no more than 65 ML/day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic and stock access licences 0.2 ML/day • Unregulated River access licences 29.6 ML/day <p>B Class: When flow in Bega River at Kanoona gauge (219032) is above 65 ML/day and no more than 160 ML/day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic and stock access licences 0.2 ML/day • Unregulated River access licences 61.6 ML/day |

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below 50 % capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 35 and 36 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence. |
| Power Generation | Licence 23755 is exempt from the access rules in clauses 35 and 36 of the water sharing plan if the take is for power generation. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted for works located on waterfront land¹ when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted, or flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 5 ML/day. |
| Flow reference point | <p>Bega River at Kanoona, Gauge (219032) For flow data at the reference gauge, go to https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Distance from river | Water supply works that are not located on waterfront land ² . |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 38 and 39 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and

² See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|--|
| Into water source | Not permitted. |
| Within water source | <p>Generally permitted, subject to assessment.</p> <p>Conditionally permitted, subject to assessment, for licences listed below, which can only trade to or from another licence on the list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WAL23787 • WAL23797 • WAL23721 • WAL23752 • WAL23774 • WAL23764 • WAL23751 <p>Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land³.</p> |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |

³ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | <p>Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in this water source does not exceed 2,220 ML/year, subject to assessment.</p> <p>Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <u>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</u>⁴.</p> |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | <p>Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in this water source, does not exceed 2,220 ML/year, subject to assessment.</p> <p>Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 160 ML/day at the flow reference point.</p> |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department’s website.

⁴ <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

Rule Summary Sheet for the Upper Brogo River Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 23 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Upper Brogo River Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#).

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below 50 % of full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted for works located on waterfront land¹ when there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work.</p> <p>If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted.</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------------|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Distance from river | <p>Water supply works that are not located on waterfront land².</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

² See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All new water supply works | Prohibited in the water source unless for the purpose of extracting or storing water for basic landholder rights or an Aboriginal Cultural access licence. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Into water source | Not permitted |

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Within water source | Not applicable |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|----------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Not applicable |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not applicable |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not applicable |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not Permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Wallaga Lake Tributaries Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 24 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Wallaga Lake Tributaries Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location. |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work.</p> <p>If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted.</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|---|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ¹ . |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not permitted |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not Permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department’s website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Wapengo Lagoon Tributaries Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 25 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Murrah-Wallaga Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Wapengo Lagoon Tributaries Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below full capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------------|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------|--|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work.</p> <p>If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at or above full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted.</p> |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Health and hygiene | <p>For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fruit and vegetable washing cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene poultry watering and misting cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | <p>For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household.</p> |
| Specific purpose | <p>For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan.</p> |
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Prohibited. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---------------------|--|
| Into water source | Not permitted |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ¹ . |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|--|----------------------------------|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Not permitted |

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Not Permitted |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for the Wolumla Creek Water Source

Rule Summary Sheet 26 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Extraction Management Unit: | Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit |
| Application: | These rules apply to all surface water and the highly connected alluvial groundwater within the boundaries of this water source. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for the Wolumla Creek Water Source. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details on this water source or other areas covered by this plan. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Rules

Managing Access Licenses

Each water access licence has its own share component (volume of the licence) and a water allocation account that acts like a bank account where water is credited or debited.

- Water is credited to an account by an available water determination or if water is traded in (purchased) during the year from other licence holders
- Water is debited from the account when water is extracted from a water source or traded out (sold). Total extraction from a work (pump, bore, etc.) will be measured via metering or logbooks.

Carryover and Individual Account Limits

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licence accounts – carryover of water remaining in an account is permitted up to 1 ML per unit share or 100 % of share component (where expressed in ML) at the end of each water year.

For domestic and stock, unregulated river and aquifer access licences - the maximum water account debit in any 3 consecutive water years is the volume of water allocated to the account over those 3 years from available water determinations plus any adjustments made for allocation assignments (trades) or water allocation re-credited into the account.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

Access Rules

Table 1. Access rules for taking surface water

| Type | Rules |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Cease to take | <p>Take of water is not permitted when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow at the extraction (pump) location, or • for unregulated river access licences with no specified flow class, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 3 ML/day. • for unregulated river (B Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 14 ML/day. • for unregulated river (C Class) access licences, when flows at the reference point are less than or equal to 35 ML/day. |
| Commence to pump | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If flows have been less than 3 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 3 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. • If flows have been less than 14 ML/day at the flow reference point for 30 or more consecutive days, take is not permitted until flows have exceeded 14 ML/day at the flow reference point for at least 24 hours. |
| Flow reference point | <p>Candelo Creek at Greenmount Road, Gauge (219034).</p> <p>For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.watnsw.com.au</p> |
| Take from in-river pools | Take of water is not permitted when the pool is below full capacity. |
| Take from in-river dam pools | Take of water is permitted from an in-river dam pool, if the take is consistent with the water supply work approval that is authorising the use of a water supply work for the purpose of taking water from the in-river dam, provided the in-river dam pool is formed by an in-river dam that is referred to in a water supply work approval. |
| Take from off-river pools | Take must cease when the pool is below 50% capacity, unless stated otherwise on the water supply work approval. |

Table 2. Exemptions from surface water access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table A of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Harvestable rights | For water taken from a harvestable rights dam. |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 35 and 36 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence. |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |
| Aquifer interference activities | Access rules do not apply to the take of surface water under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and • in the Minister's opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 3. Access rules for taking alluvial groundwater

| Type | Rules |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Cease to take | Take of water is not permitted for works located on waterfront land ¹ when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is no visible flow in the river at the location nearest to the water supply work. If the location in the river nearest the water supply work is an in-river pool, the pool must be at full capacity for take of alluvial groundwater to be permitted, or • flow is at or below 3 ML/day at the flow reference point. |
| Flow reference point | Candelo Creek at Greenmount Road, Gauge (219034). For flow data at the reference gauge, go to: https://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au |

Table 4. Exemptions from alluvial groundwater access rules

| Type | Rules |
|---|--|
| Health and hygiene | For an access licence specified in schedule 2, Table B of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fruit and vegetable washing • cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene • poultry watering and misting • cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene. |
| Domestic use | For domestic consumption under a domestic and stock access licence, up to 1 kl/day per household. |
| Access licences and approvals subject to existing cease to take conditions | Some existing licences have cease-to-take conditions that are more restrictive than those defined by the water sharing plan. These licences are listed in Schedule 3 of the water sharing plan. These licences are exempt from the access rules in sections 38 and 39 of the water sharing plan but are subject to their own access rules listed in Schedule 3 of the plan and on the relevant water access licence. |
| Distance from river | Water supply works that are not located on waterfront land ² . |
| Specific purpose | For an access licence specified in Schedule 2, Table C of the plan. |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

² See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| Aquifer interference activities | <p>Access rules do not apply to the take of groundwater under an access licence for which a planning approval is in force if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the licence holder complies with an approved water management plan, and in the Minister’s opinion, the licence holder is not reasonably capable of complying with the access rules. |

Table 5. Rules for constructing surface water supply works

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| In-river dams (dams on streams of third order or higher) | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| All surface water works | Prohibited 200 m upstream of coastal wetlands defined in the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 2021</i> and 3 km upstream of Ramsar wetlands unless there will be no more than minimal harm to the wetland concerned. |

Note: the distance rules for groundwater water supply works are detailed in the Rules Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals on the department’s [South Coast Region](#) website.

Trading

Trading covers:

- assignment of rights dealings (trading of a licence), share component dealings between water sources (trading of entitlement between water sources), water allocation dealings (trading an annual allocation) and water supply works dealings (relocation of an extraction point). These rules are covered in Table 6, and
- conversion of an access licence to a new category (for example from unregulated river to aquifer). These rules are covered in Table 7.

Table 6. Rules for trading into or within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|----------------------------|---|
| Into water source | Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 184 ML/year, subject to assessment. |
| Within water source | Permitted, subject to assessment. Not permitted from an aquifer access licence that does not nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land to an access licence that does nominate a water supply work located on waterfront land ³ . |

Table 7. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

| Type | Rules |
|---|---|
| To aquifer access licence from surface water access licence | Permitted, subject to assessment. |
| To surface water access licence from aquifer access licence | Not permitted |
| Conversion of surface water access licence to high flow access licence | Permitted from an unregulated river access licence to an unregulated river C Class licence if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 184 ML/year, subject to assessment. Conversion rate of 1:3 applies, as per the <u><i>Access Licence Dealing Principles Order 2004</i></u> ⁴ . |

³ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

⁴ <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/information/asi/electricity-and-water/access-licence-dealing-principles-order>

Table 8. Rules for granting access licenses

| Type | Rules |
|--|---|
| Aboriginal cultural access licence | Permitted up to 10 ML/year per licence, subject to assessment. |
| Aboriginal community development access licence | Permitted into C Class if the sum of share components of unregulated river (C Class) access licences and unregulated river (Aboriginal Community Development) access licences in the water source does not exceed 184 ML/year, subject to assessment. Water can only be taken when flows are greater than 35 ML/day at the flow reference point. |

There are limited purposes for which a new licence will be granted. It is anticipated that most water needs will be sourced from the market. One reason a licence may be granted is for Aboriginal cultural purposes. Other reasons are identified in Clause 10 of the *Water Management Act General Regulation 2018*.

More information

More information about the planning process and the water sharing plan for the *Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for Groundwater Works Approvals

Rule Summary Sheet 27 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 years |
| Application: | These rules apply to all approvals for works to access groundwater in Cenozoic sediments in this plan area, except for those in the water sources to which the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the South Coast Groundwater Sources 2016</i> applies. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* for groundwater works approvals. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details or contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

General Information

Water supply work approvals allow you to construct and use a work which takes water from a river, lake or aquifer. Examples of water supply works are water pumps, water bores, dams, weirs, irrigation channels, banks and levees. Approvals are granted through WaterNSW to construct and operate water supply works.

The purpose of water supply work approvals is to ensure that the construction or use of a work does not cause negative impacts on water sources and their dependent ecosystems, or, for access to water by other authorised water users.

A water use approval authorises its holder to use water for a particular purpose, such as irrigation, at a particular location. Every approval includes conditions that are in place to reduce adverse impacts. For more information, please visit the [WaterNSW water supply works approvals](#) website.

Non-Urban Water Metering Framework

In December 2018 the department's [non-urban water metering framework](#) came into effect. The metering framework is intended to support the fair and equitable sharing of water amongst users and provide increased transparency and efficiency of water management in NSW.

The non-urban metering rules are rolling out in stages to give water users, suppliers and installers of metering equipment enough time to prepare to become compliant with the rules. The amended roll out date set for coastal areas is December 2024.

By this time all licence holders with a pump diameter of 100 mm or larger for surface water, or 200 mm or larger for groundwater (unless exempt), will need to be equipped with a meter that is pattern-approved, has a local intelligence device (LID) and tamper-evident seals.

For more information please visit the department's [non-urban metering](#) website or to check your access licence details please visit the [WaterNSW Water Register](#).

Rules for Groundwater Works Approvals

The following table summarises the rules for granting or amending groundwater works approvals for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024*.

Table 1. Rules for the location of groundwater extraction infrastructure

| Type | Rules |
|--|--|
| <p>Rules to minimise interference between bores</p> | <p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 m from a bore that is nominated on an aquifer access licence on another landholding that takes water from the same water source • 200 m from a bore that is used to extract basic landholder rights on another landholding that takes water from the same water source • 100 m from a property boundary (unless negotiated in writing with neighbour) • 500 m from a bore nominating a local or major water utility access licence taking from the same water source (unless negotiated in writing with the utility) • 100 m from a government monitoring or observation bore. <p>These distance restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the bore is used solely for basic landholder rights • the bore is a replacement bore • the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services • the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal detrimental effect on existing extraction. |

**Rules for bores
located near
contamination sources**

Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:

- 500 m of a contamination source identified within the plan
- 250 m from the edge of a plume of a contamination source listed in the plan
- 250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source identified within the plan, unless no drawdown of water level will occur within 250 m of that plume
- 250 m of an onsite sewage disposal system unless the water supply work is:
 - constructed with cement grout in the borehole annulus to a minimum depth of 20 m from the ground surface, and
 - located at a sufficient distance from the on-site sewage disposal system to prevent migration of septic contamination in the aquifer.

These distances restrictions do not apply if:

- the location of the bore is adequate to protect the water source, the environment and public health and safety
- the bore is used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Rules for bores located near high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems</p> | <p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • waterfront land¹ • 200 m of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem unless, in the Minister’s opinion, there is not a high probability of groundwater dependence for the relevant ecosystem • 200 m from a wetland – a wetland includes a coastal wetland or declared Ramsar wetland. A coastal wetland is any wetland mapped under the <i>State Environment Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021</i> • 500 m of a Karst environment, or • 200 m from a spring. <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if the bore is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • used only for basic landholder rights • a replacement groundwater work • used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services • likely to cause no more than minimal harm to the water source and its associated ecosystems and ecological processes, high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems, wetland, karst or spring concerned. |
| <p>Rules for bores located near potential acid sulfate soils</p> | <p>New bores cannot be constructed in an area classed as having a high probability of the occurrence of acid sulfate soils if there is significant risk of acidification of the water sources.</p> |
| <p>Rules for bores located near groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites</p> | <p>Water supply works (bores) must not be granted or amended within 200 m of groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</p> <p>This distance restriction does not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the bore is used solely for a basic landholder right • the bore is a replacement bore • the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services • the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal harm to any groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area. |

¹ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights

Water supply works (bores) used solely for basic landholder rights must not be constructed if the bore is located within:

- 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore
- waterfront land²
- 100 m of a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem unless:
 - there is not a high probability of groundwater-dependence for the relevant ecosystem, and
 - the location of the water supply work is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to the high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystem.
- 100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area unless, the water supply work is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to the groundwater-dependent culturally significant area,
- 200 m of a wetland
- 500 m of a karst
- 200 m of a spring
- unless, a lesser distance would result in no more than minimal harm to the wetland, karst or spring concerned.

These location distance restrictions do not apply if:

- the bore is a replacement bore

² See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of 'waterfront land'.

Replacement groundwater works

A replacement water supply work (bore) must be constructed to extract water from the same water source or management zone, and from the same depth as the replacement bore and be located within:

- 20 m of the replaced bore
- no closer to the river than the work being replaced if located on waterfront land³.

The replacement bore must not have a greater internal diameter or excavation footprint than the existing bore, unless the existing bore’s internal diameter is:

- no longer manufactured, in which case it may be no greater than 120 % of the current internal diameter
- less than 100 mm, in which case the internal diameter must be no more than 100 mm.

A replacement bore may be permitted to a different depth within the water source, or greater than 20 m from the existing bore if it can be determined it will not adversely impact:

- a water source
- a high priority groundwater dependent ecosystem
- public health and safety
- a groundwater-dependent culturally significant area
- take of water by another user with an existing water supply work.

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department’s website.

³ See *Water Management Act 2000* Dictionary for definition of ‘waterfront land’.

Rule Summary Sheet for Extraction Limits

Rule Summary Sheet 28 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 Years |
| Application: | These rules apply to all licensed extraction within this plan, as stated per extraction management unit. |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* specific to Extraction Limits. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

Extraction Limits

The extraction limits are designed to manage take at a whole of extraction management unit scale. Water sharing plans also include other rules that manage how much water an individual licence can take and when.

Description

In New South Wales all water sharing plans include extraction limits to enable the long-term objectives of NSW water sharing plans to be met. These limits are designed to protect water resources, dependent ecosystems and communities from the impacts of over-extraction in the longer term. They reinforce the value of water, support the water market and the integrity of tradeable water entitlements.

There are two main types of extraction limits used in water sharing plans:

- the Long-Term Average Annual Extraction Limit (LTAAEL), and
- the Annual Higher Flow Extraction Limit (AHFEL).

The LTAAEL restricts total extractions from the extraction management units over the long term. The LTAAEL will be expressed in the plan either as a definition or a volume calculated based on a definition. The AHFEL restricts total extraction from the extraction management units taken from higher flows under Unregulated River (high flow) access licences and certain types of Specific Purpose Access Licences (SPALs). Both types of extraction limits are detailed in the Bega River Area plan. The plan also specifies how the department assesses if the extraction limits have been exceeded and any compliance action that may occur.

Changes to the volume of water that can be extracted are controlled by the Available Water Determinations (AWDs) set at the beginning of each water year (1st July) that puts allocations into individual water access licence allocation accounts. If the AWD is less than 1 (or 100%) a further available water determination may be made during the year until the AWD is at 1 or 100%. The AWD for the year may also depend on a range of factors other than extraction limits.

Standard LTAAELs

There are four standard LTAAELs in the Bega River area plan in the following extraction management units:

- Bega River Catchment Extraction Management Unit
 - The standard LTAAEL applies to take from all flows and includes all basic landholder right (BLR) extraction (including harvestable rights).
 - This LTAAEL is a fixed volume and is the sum of all categories of access licence share components (excluding those specifically taking only from high flows) at the commencement of this water sharing plan plus Basic Landholder Rights that existed at the commencement of the first water sharing plan.
- Murrumbidgee Catchment Extraction Management Unit

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- The standard LTAAEL applies to take from all flows and includes all basic landholder right extraction (including harvestable rights).
- This LTAAEL is a fixed volume and is the sum of all categories of access licence share components (excluding those specifically taking only from high flows) at the commencement of this water sharing plan plus basic landholder rights that existed at the commencement of the first water sharing plan.
- Bega River Area Coastal Floodplain Alluvial Groundwater Extraction Management Unit
 - The standard LTAAEL applies to all take from this extraction management unit.
 - This LTAAEL is set at 25% of rainfall recharge.
- Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers Extraction Management Unit
 - The standard LTAAEL applies to all take from this extraction management unit.
 - This LTAAEL is the sum of all categories of access licence share components at commencement of this plan plus basic landholder rights that existed at the commencement of the first water sharing plan.

Annual Higher Flow LTAAELs

There are two Higher Flow LTAAELs in the Bega River area plan, in the Bega River Catchment and the Murrumbidgee-Wallaga Extraction Management Units:

- These annual higher flow LTAAELs are the largest sum of the share components of all higher flow extraction licences within the extraction management unit occurring within a water year.
- These LTAAELs apply to extraction that can only occur from high flows. This volume can vary as licences are converted to high flow licences or if specific-purpose access licences are granted in high-flows such as high-flow licences, licences for initial fill of dams and Aboriginal community development licences.

There is no annual higher flow extraction limit for the Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers Extraction Management Unit and the Bega River Area Coastal Floodplain Alluvial Groundwater Extraction Management Unit.

Compliance

Fixing the standard LTAAEL and including maximum harvestable rights – as at the start of the first plan – allows us to manage any growth in water extraction.

In the Bega River Catchment and the Murrumbidgee-Wallaga Extraction Management Units, if the 3-year average extraction increases to more than 5% above the standard or higher flow LTAAEL (from

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licensed take plus BLR take, including harvestable rights), then we may announce a reduced AWD to bring extractions back to the extraction limit. The AWD can only be applied to licensed water users.

For the Bega River Area Coastal Floodplain Alluvial Groundwater Extraction Management Unit and the Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers Extraction Management Unit if the annual extraction increases to more than 5% above the standard LTAAEL then we may announce a reduced AWD to bring extractions back to the extraction limit. For the Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers Extraction Management Unit the reduced AWD will first be applied to supplementary water access licences and then to general security access licences.

Limits

Table 1. Limits for extraction management units – standard LTAAELs

| Extraction Management Unit (EMU) | Standard LTAAEL (Volume calculated from definition) |
|---|--|
| Bega River Catchment | 40,342 ML/year |
| Murrah-Wallaga | 9,014 ML/year |
| Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers | 16,624 ML/year |
| Bega River Area Floodplain Alluvial Groundwater | 429 ML/year |

Table 2. Limits for extraction management units – annual higher flow LTAAELs

| Extraction Management Unit (EMU) | Annual higher flow LTAAEL (Definition) |
|---|--|
| Bega River Catchment | The annual higher flow extraction limit is the largest sum of the share components of all higher flow extraction licences within the extraction management unit occurring within a water year. |
| Murrah-Wallaga | The annual higher flow extraction limit is the largest sum of the share components of all higher flow extraction licences within the extraction management unit occurring within a water year. |
| Bega and Brogo Regulated Rivers | N/A |
| Bega River Area Floodplain Alluvial Groundwater | N/A |

More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the department's website.

Rule Summary Sheet for in-river dams on streams of third order or higher

Rule Summary Sheet 29 of 29

Plan details

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Water sharing plan: | Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024 |
| Plan commencement: | 24 May 2024 |
| Term of plan: | 10 Years |

Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* (the Plan) specific to in-river dams on streams of third order or higher. It is intended as a guide only. Consult the [water sharing plan](#) for further details. Alternatively, contact the department on 1300 081 047, or via email at water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Water access and other water sharing plan rules are implemented through conditions on the “Statement of Conditions” for access licences and “Statement of Approval” for water supply work approvals. These conditions are updated in accordance with any new or amended water sharing plan. However, this can take some time. Licence and approval holders must comply with the conditions on their existing licence condition and approval statements until new statements are provided by the department.

You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’, ‘Statement of Conditions’ or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

Construction of dams on streams of third order or higher

Background

The construction of dams on streams of third order or higher has been identified as a key threatening process for catchment and marine environments. Water sharing plans can address these risks by prohibiting the construction of such in-river dams in areas with high environmental values.

Current rules

The recently commenced *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* (the plan) prohibits the construction of in-river dams on streams of third order or higher in twenty-one water sources. See Part 7 Division 2 section 42(1) of the plan for a list of these water sources.

Six of these water sources have a time limited exemption, See Part 7 Division 2 section 42(3) to assist to transition to the new rules.

Transition period

To provide time to adapt to these changed rules, the plan includes a transition period. This is in the form of an exemption which applies to six of the water sources where the rules for construction of in-river dams have changed, including:

- Candelo Creek
- Dignam's Creek
- Dry River
- Narira Creek
- Sandy Creek
- Tantawangalo Creek.

In these water sources, approval under the *Water Management Act 2000* may be granted if a development application for the construction of an in-river dam, which will capture and store licensed water, is submitted prior to 1 July 2025. Applications for development consent and approval will be subject to the requirements set out in the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and the *Water Management Act 2000*. In circumstances where development consent is not required the application for the dam must be submitted to WaterNSW with evidence that development consent is not required by 1 July 2025.

Authorisations required

Where dams are permitted with development consent under relevant environmental planning instruments, the landowner will need to make the relevant application. This will require:

- **development consent** under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* from Bega Valley Shire Council, and
- a **water supply work approval** under the *Water Management Act 2000* from WaterNSW for the construction and use of the dam, and
- a relevant category **water access licence** under the *Water Management Act, 2000*, that covers the volumetric capacity of the dam. Talk to WaterNSW about your existing licence, trade and high flow conversion option as required.

As approval from both the local council and WaterNSW is required, construction of an in-river dam on a stream of third order or higher is integrated development. The Statement of Environmental Effects provided with the development application and list of approvals of the kind referred to in s4.46(1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* that must be obtained before the development may lawfully be carried out (to be included with the development application under s25 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*) should identify the development as integrated development.

Council will then refer the development application to WaterNSW and there will be an integrated assessment of the proposal.

- If WaterNSW recommends refusal, Council must refuse consent to the application.
- If WaterNSW recommends approval, Council must be consistent with the general terms of any approval proposed to be granted by Water NSW when granting consent to the development.

Please note that applicants are still required to submit an application to WaterNSW for a water supply work approval after development consent has been granted, but as WaterNSW will have already provided its general terms of approval, processing times for these applications will be reduced.

Both Bega Valley Shire Council and WaterNSW provide a pre-application service advising on the applications process including required forms and fees. It is suggested that applicants seek this advice to ensure they clearly understand the requirements and timeframes.

- Bega Valley Shire Council
<https://begavalley.nsw.gov.au/services/pre-lodgement-advice>
- Phone 02 6499 222
- WaterNSW <https://www.waternsw.com.au/customer-services/water-licensing/approvals>

Phone 1300 662 077 Option 1 (Licensing)

How the exemption works

WaterNSW will only be able to grant a water supply work approval to construct an in-river dam in the six water sources where the exemption applies if an **application for development consent for the in-river dam has been submitted to Bega Valley Shire Council prior to 1 July 2025**. In circumstances where development consent is not required the application for the dam must be submitted to WaterNSW with evidence that development consent is not required by 1 July 2025.

If a development application is lodged with Bega Valley Shire Council on or after 1 July 2025, the exemption will not apply and any **subsequent application** to WaterNSW for a water supply work approval for the in-river dam will be refused.

If a development application is submitted to council prior to 1 July 2025, and subsequently consent is granted, Water NSW will have 3 years after the date on which the development consent is granted to then grant a water supply work approval. Applicants should submit their application for a water supply work approval as soon as possible.

More information

The exemption is at section 42 (3) of the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024*.

Information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024* is available on the department's website, including the [water sharing plan pages](#).