

# Floodplain harvesting in the Gwydir Regulated

This document summarises the intent of rules established for floodplain harvesting in the NSW Gwydir Regulated Water Source

## Gwydir Regulated River Water Source

Rule	Intent
<b>Management zones</b>	<p>The following management zones have been created for floodplain harvesting (regulated river) access licences to facilitate access rules, active management and dealing rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carole Creek management zone</li> <li>• Gingham management zone</li> <li>• Moree management zone</li> <li>• Gwydir management zone</li> <li>• Mallowa Creek management zone</li> <li>• Mehi River Tributaries management zone</li> <li>• Thalabah Creek management zone.</li> </ul> <p>The boundaries for management zones have been based on existing water source or management zone boundaries in the Gwydir unregulated river water sources, clipped to fit within the Gwydir Valley Floodplain, as described in Table 1 and shown in Figure 1.</p>
<b>Share components</b>	<p>A total of 89,000 unit shares are being issued in the water source for floodplain harvesting (regulated river) access licences.</p> <p>(There are approx. 510,000 unit shares for regulated river (general security) and 181,000 unit shares for supplementary).</p>
<b>Calculation of the long-term average annual extraction limit</b>	<p>Calculated as the level of floodplain harvesting that existed in the 1999–2000 water year for the water source, excluding exempt rainfall run-off (tailwater drain exemption under clause 39B and schedule 4 (clause 17C) of the Water Management (General) Regulation 2018).</p>
<b>Compliance with the extraction limit (LTAAEL or SDL)</b>	<p>Allocations reduced for floodplain harvesting (regulated river) access licences if growth above the extraction limit is attributed to those licences.</p>

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	All other growth is managed through reduced allocations to supplementary water access licences (until they reach zero) then reduced allocations for regulated river (general security).
<b>Initial allocation of 1 ML per unit share</b>	The first allocation that floodplain harvesting (regulated river) access licences will receive is 1 ML per unit share (i.e., full allocation).
<b>On-going allocation of 1 ML per unit share</b>	Allocations credited at the beginning of each water year after the initial allocation will be not greater than 1 ML per unit share but can be less if required to respond to growth above the extraction limit.
<b>Rules for water supply work approvals to be nominated by a floodplain harvesting (regulated river) access licence - granting</b>	No new works: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• located in management zone A or D, as established in the <i>Floodplain Management Plan for the Gwydir Valley Floodplain 2016</i></li> <li>• located outside the Gwydir Valley Floodplain as shown in schedule 6 of the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for water supply work approvals nominated by a floodplain harvesting (regulated river) access licence - amending</b>	Amendment of approval not permitted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to add a work that is located outside the Gwydir Valley Floodplain</li> <li>• to add a work that is located in management zone A or D</li> <li>• adding a work would increase the capability of existing works to take water from management zone A or D (except where the additional work was previously nominated by a floodplain harvesting (regulated river) access licence.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for water supply work approvals nominated by a floodplain harvesting (regulated river) access licence – transitional exemption</b>	Amending rules do not apply to the amendment of approvals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lodged prior to 30 June 2023</li> <li>• for works constructed on or before 12 February 2021</li> <li>• if also a flood work, subject to a flood work approval.</li> </ul>
<b>Account debiting</b>	Volume of water extracted during a nominated measurement period to be debited from the allocation account.
<b>Account limit of 5 ML per unit share</b>	The allocation account for floodplain harvesting (regulated river) access licences cannot exceed 5 ML per unit share at any time. Any unused allocation can be carried over from one water year to the next, subject to the account limit not being exceeded.
<b>Access rules</b>	Take not permitted under a floodplain harvesting (regulated river) access licence (applied at a management zone level) when there is

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	<p>less than 195 GL in the Menindee Lakes system (as defined in the Murray–Darling Basin Agreement).</p> <p>Rule ceases to apply during periods when a flow is <b>forecast to occur</b> that is at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carole Creek management zone – 550ML/day in Gil Gil Creek at Galloway gauge (416 052)</li> <li>• Gingham management zone – 250 ML/day in Gingham Channel at Teralba gauge (418 074)</li> <li>• Moree management zone - 250 ML/day in the Gwydir River (South Arm) at d/s Tyreel Offtake Regulator (418 063)</li> <li>• Gwydir management zone – 250 ML/day in the Gwydir River (South Arm) at d/s Tyreel Offtake Regulator (418 063)</li> <li>• Mallowa Creek management zone – 1,200 ML/day in the Mehi River at Near Collarenebri gauge (418 055)</li> <li>• Mehi River Tributaries management zone – 1,200 ML/day in the Mehi River at Near Collarenebri gauge (418 055)</li> <li>• Thalabah Creek management zone – 300 ML/day in the Thalabah Creek at Belarre gauge (418 091).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Active management</b></p>	<p>Only applies to floodplain harvesting (regulated river) access licences with an extraction component that specifies the Mallowa Creek Management Zone.</p> <p>Take is restricted, in accordance with an announcement, when there is only active environmental water present in the management zone.</p>
<p><b>Temporary trade (section 71T)</b></p>	<p>No trade of allocation under section 71T of the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i>, consistent with the NSW Floodplain Harvesting Policy.</p>
<p><b>Permanent trade (section 71Q)</b></p>	<p>No trade of entitlement under section 71Q of the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> in any of the following circumstances (unless the work was nominated by the licence when it was first issued):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to a work located outside the Gwydir Valley floodplain</li> <li>• to a work located in management zones A or D</li> <li>• between management zones, except between Mehi River Tributaries management zone and Mallowa Creek management zone.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note.</b> Removal or modification of a work may be required under section 102 of the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> following a dealing that results in a significant reduction in entitlement and the works are still able to take overland flow.</p>

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<p><b>Nomination of works (section 71W)</b></p>	<p>No nomination of works under section 71W of the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> if the works are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>located outside the Gwydir Valley Floodplain</li> <li>located within management zone A or D</li> <li>located in a different management zone, except between Mehi River Tributaries management zone and Mallowa Creek management zone.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mandatory conditions - licences</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exempt from requirement relating to ordering of water</li> <li>Only take overland flow within the Gwydir Valley Floodplain</li> <li>Condition to give effect to the access rule</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mandatory conditions - approvals</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exempt from flow measurement device requirement</li> <li>Measurement conditions applied directly from the regulation</li> </ul>

Figure 1 Management zones in the Gwydir Regulated River Water Source

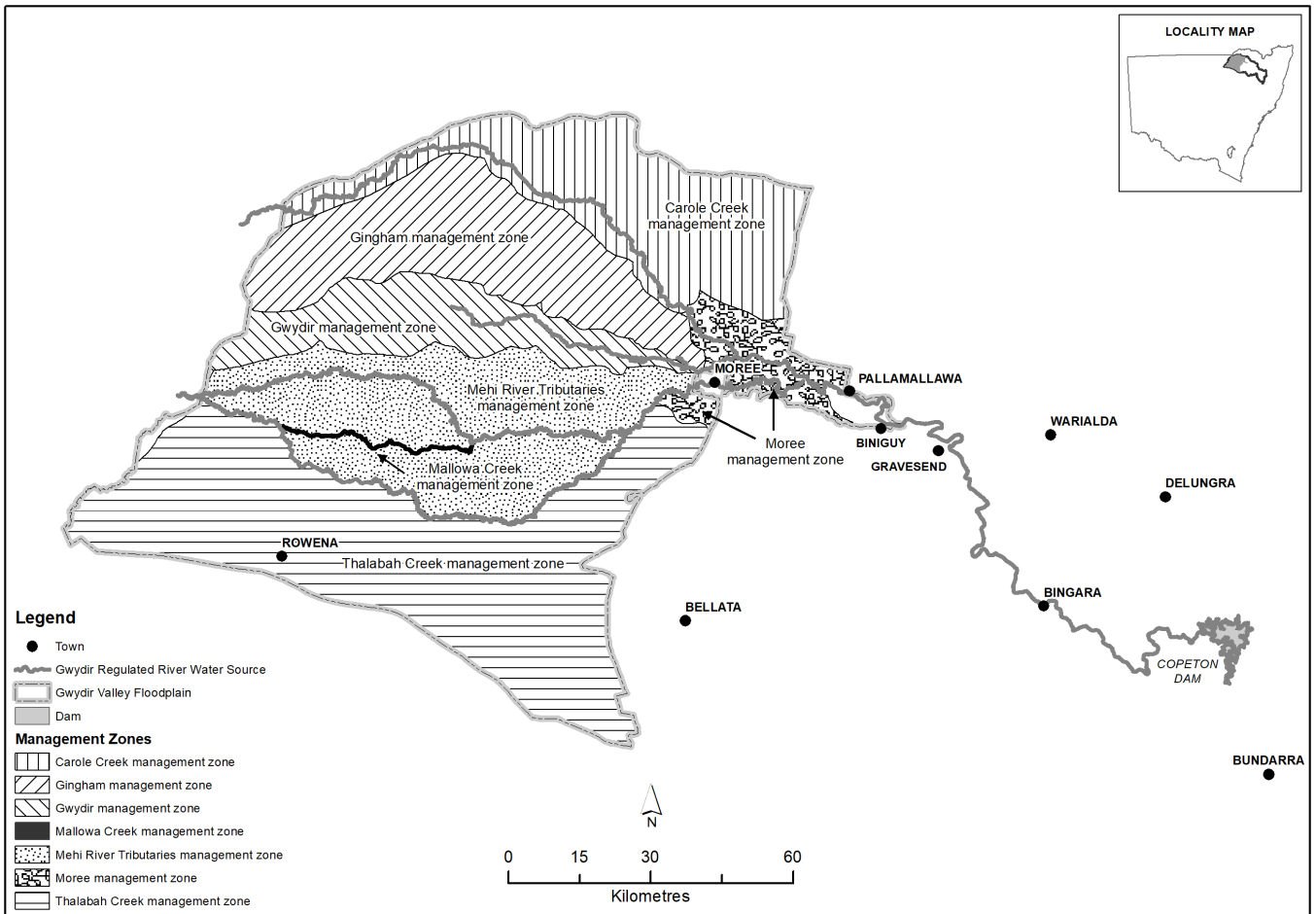


Table 1. Management zones within the Gwydir regulated river water source

Management zone in Gwydir regulated river water source	Boundary as established in Gwydir unregulated river water source
Thalabah Creek Management Zone	Thalabah Creek Water Source + Millie Creek Water Source + Gurley Creek Water Source + Tycannah Creek Water Source + (clipped to fit within the designated floodplain)
Mallowa Creek Management Zone	Mallowa Creek Management Zone
Mehi River Tributaries Management Zone	Mehi Management Zone
Gwydir Management Zone	Gwydir Water source
Gingham Management Zone	Gingham Watercourse Water Source
Moree Management Zone	Moree Water Source (clipped to fit within the designated floodplain)
Carole Creek Management Zone	Carole Creek Water Source + Gil Gil Creek Water Source