

# Rule Summary Sheet for the Botany Sands Groundwater Source

Rule Summary Sheet 1 of 10

## Plan details

<b>Water sharing plan:</b>	<i>Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023</i>
<b>Plan commencement:</b>	1 July 2023
<b>Term of plan:</b>	10 years
<b>Groundwater Source:</b>	Botany Sands Groundwater Source
<b>Application:</b>	These rules apply to all groundwater within unconsolidated materials within the boundaries of this water source.

### Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* for the Botany Sands 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](mailto:water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval', 'Statement of Conditions' or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

## Rules

### Managing Access Licences

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

If any account water is not used within a water year, it cannot be carried over in an account to be used in another water year.

For all access licences - the maximum volume of water that can be debited from a water account in any water year is the volume of water allocated to the account over that year from available water determinations plus allocation assignments (trades) into the account.

### Waterfront land

Waterfront land is defined in the Dictionary of the WM Act. Groundwater works that are on waterfront land are in the bed of or within 40 meters of a riverbank, lake or estuary mean high water mark.

### 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 roll out date set for coastal areas 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 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 on waterfront land

Type	Rules
<b>Cease to take</b>	<p>On waterfront land, water must not be taken when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there is no visible flow in the river adjacent to the location of the works, or</li> <li>• flows in the adjacent unregulated river are in the very low flow class. Depending on the section of the river, different rules apply. These additional rules apply in the following area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lower Georges River and Bunbury Curran Creek Water Source.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The flow class is defined in the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2023</i> and described in the relevant <a href="#">rule summary sheet for the unregulated river water source</a>.</p> <p>Water cannot be taken on waterfront land adjacent to some sections of a river unless flows have exceeded the very low flow class for at least 24 consecutive hours. This rule applies in the following area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lower Georges River and Bunbury Curran Creek Water Source</li> </ul>
<b>Take from in-river pool</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool
<b>Take from in-river dam pool</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool

Table 2. Exemptions from access rules that apply on waterfront land

Type	Rules
<b>Health and hygiene</b>	<p>For an access licence specified in schedule 1 of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fruit or vegetable washing</li> <li>• cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene</li> <li>• poultry watering and misting</li> <li>• cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene.</li> </ul>
<b>Works that cause no more than minimal harm to surface water</b>	If a hydrogeological study demonstrates that the water supply work will have no more than minimal impact on base flows in the river.

Type	Rules
<b>Aquifer interference</b>	Taking water under an access licence for an aquifer interference activity is allowed if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the licence holder complies with a water management plan, if required under a planning approval, or</li> <li>b) the licence holder is not able to comply with the access rules concerned.</li> </ol>

### 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” 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.

Table 3 summaries the rules for groundwater works approvals for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023*.

Table 3 Rules for the location of new groundwater extraction infrastructure.

Type	Rules
<b>Rules to minimise interference between bores</b>	Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 200 m of a bore that is nominated on another aquifer access licence on another landholding</li> <li>• 50 m from a bore that is used to extract basic landholder rights on another landholding</li> <li>• 50 m from a property boundary</li> <li>• 300 m from a bore nominated by a local or major water utility access licence</li> <li>• 200 m from a government monitoring bore.</li> </ul> These distance restrictions do not apply if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the bore is used solely for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• the bore is a replacement bore</li> <li>• the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal detrimental effect on existing extraction</li> <li>the local water utility, major utility or landholder potentially affected by the new bore gives written consent to the construction of the bore.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near contamination sources</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>500 m of a contamination source</li> <li>250 m from the edge of a plume of a contamination source</li> <li>250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source, unless no drawdown of water will occur within 250 m of that plume</li> <li>250 m of an onsite sewage disposal system unless the water supply work is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>constructed with cement grout in the borehole annulus to a minimum depth of 20 m from the ground surface</li> <li>located at a sufficient distance from the on-site sewage disposal system to prevent migration of septic contamination in the aquifer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the location of the bore is adequate to protect the water source, the environment and public health and safety</li> <li>the bore is used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>waterfront land</li> <li>100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>200 m of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>200 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>500 m of a Karst environment.</li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if the bore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is used only for basic landholder rights</li> <li>is a replacement groundwater work</li> <li>is for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>location is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to a high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near potential acid sulfate soils</b></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 a significant risk of acidification of the groundwater source.</p>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near groundwater-</b></p>	<p>New works are not permitted within 200 m of groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites.</p>

Type	Rules
<p><b>dependent, culturally significant sites</b></p>	<p>This location distance restriction does not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is used solely for a basic landholder right</li> <li>• is a replacement</li> <li>• is used for monitoring, environmental management or remediation works</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but has been demonstrated to have no more than a minimal impact on these groundwater dependent, culturally significant sites.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) used solely for basic landholder rights must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• waterfront land</li> <li>• 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore</li> <li>• 100 m of a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• 100 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment</li> <li>• 100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul> <p>These location distance restrictions do not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a replacement, or</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance, but would result in no more than minimal harm to any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but would result in no more than minimal harm to any groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Replacement groundwater works</b></p>	<p>A replacement water supply work (bore) must be located within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 m of the existing bore</li> <li>• no closer to the river than the work being replaced if on waterfront land.</li> </ul> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no longer manufactured, in which case it may be no greater than 120 % of the current internal diameter, or</li> <li>• less than 100 mm, in which case the internal diameter must be no more than 100 mm.</li> </ul>

## 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 aquifer to unregulated river). These rules are covered in Table 5.

Table 4. Rules for trading into or within this water source

Type	Rules
<b>Into water source</b>	Not permitted.
<b>Within water source</b>	Trading from Botany Management Zone 2 to Botany Management Zone 1 is not permitted.

Table 5. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

Type	Rules
<b>Conversion to a new category</b>	Not permitted.

Table 6. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
<b>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 <i>Water Management Act General Regulation 2018</i>.</b>	
<b>Aboriginal cultural access licence</b>	Permitted up to 10 ML/year.
<b>Aboriginal community development access licence</b>	Not permitted.
<b>Major Utility</b>	Major utility (urban water) access licences are permitted in this groundwater source.

## More information

More information about the planning process and the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the Department of Planning and Environment's website.

# Rule Summary Sheet for the Hawkesbury Alluvium Groundwater Source

Rule Summary Sheet 2 of 10

## Plan details

<b>Water sharing plan:</b>	<i>Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023</i>
<b>Plan commencement:</b>	1 July 2023
<b>Term of plan:</b>	10 years
<b>Groundwater Source:</b>	Hawkesbury Alluvium Groundwater Source
<b>Application:</b>	These rules apply to all groundwater contained in unconsolidated sediments within the boundaries of this water source.

### Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* for the Hawkesbury Alluvium 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](mailto:water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au)

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval', 'Statement of Conditions' or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).



## Rules

### Managing Access Licences

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

If water is not used within a water year, it cannot be carried over in an account to be used in another water year.

For all access licences - the maximum volume of water that can be debited from a water account in any water year is the volume of water allocated to the account over that year from available water determinations plus allocation assignments (trades) into the account.

### Waterfront land

Waterfront land is defined in the Dictionary of the WM Act. Groundwater works that are on waterfront land are in the bed of or within 40 meters of a river bank, lake or estuary mean high water mark.

### 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 roll out date set for coastal areas (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 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	Rules
------	-------

Type	Rules
<b>Cease to take</b>	<p>On waterfront land take of water must cease when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there is no visible flow in the river adjacent to the location of the works, or</li> <li>• while a cease to take notice is in effect for the Upper Hawkesbury River (Grose River to Wianamatta-South Creek) Management Zone. The notice will be published on either the Department of Planning and Environment website or WaterNSW website.</li> </ul> <p>In other areas of the Hawkesbury Alluvium Groundwater Source that are not waterfront land, take of water must cease while a cease to take notice is in effect <b>and</b> this notice has been in place for 30 consecutive days or more. The notice will be published on either the Department of Planning and Environment website or WaterNSW website.</p> <p>The conditions for the cease to take notice are defined in the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2023</i> and described in the Upper Hawkesbury River Water Source <a href="#">rule summary sheet</a>.</p>
<b>Take on waterfront land at in-river pools</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool.
<b>Take on waterfront land at in-river dam pools</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool.

Table 2. Exemptions from access rules

Type	Rules
<b>Health and hygiene</b>	<p>For an access licence specified in schedule 1 of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day, for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fruit or vegetable washing</li> <li>• cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene</li> <li>• poultry watering and misting</li> <li>• cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene.</li> </ul>
<b>Works that cause no more than minimal harm to surface water</b>	If a hydrogeological study, demonstrates that the water supply work will have no more than minimal impact on base flows in the river.
<b>Aquifer interference</b>	<p>Taking water under an access licence for an aquifer interference activity is allowed if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the licence holder complies with a water management plan, if required under a planning approval, or</li> <li>b) the licence holder is not able to comply with the access rule concerned.</li> </ol>

## 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 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.

Table 3 summarises the rules for groundwater works approvals for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023*.

Table 3 Rules for the location of new groundwater infrastructure.

Type	Rules
<p><b>Rules to minimise interference between bores</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 200 m from a bore that is nominated on an aquifer access licence on another landholding</li> <li>• 200 m from a bore that is used to extract basic landholder rights on another landholding</li> <li>• 100 m from a property boundary</li> <li>• 500 m from a bore nominated by a local or major water utility access licence</li> <li>• 100 m from a government monitoring bore.</li> </ul> <p>These distance restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the bore is used solely for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• the bore is a replacement bore</li> <li>• the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>• the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal detrimental effect on existing extraction</li> <li>• the local water utility, major utility or landholder potentially affected by the new bore gives written consent to the construction of the bore.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near contamination</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 m of a contamination source</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
<b>sources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 250 m from the edge of a plume of a contamination source</li> <li>• 250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source, unless no change in groundwater level will occur within 250 m of that plume</li> <li>• 250 m of an onsite sewage disposal system unless the water supply work is:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— constructed with cement grout in the borehole annulus to a minimum depth of 20 m from the ground surface</li> <li>— located at a sufficient distance from the on-site sewage disposal system to prevent migration of septic contamination in the aquifer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the location of the bore is adequate to protect the water source, the environment and public health and safety</li> <li>• the bore is used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for bores located near high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems</b>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• waterfront land</li> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>• 200 m of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• 200 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment.</li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if the work is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is used for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• is a replacement groundwater work</li> <li>• is for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>• location is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to a high priority groundwater dependent ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for bores located near potential acid sulfate soils</b>	<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 a significant risk of acidification of the groundwater source.</p>
<b>Rules for bores located near groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites</b>	<p>New works are not permitted within 200 m of groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites.</p> <p>This location distance restriction does not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is used solely for a basic landholder right</li> <li>• is a replacement</li> <li>• is used for monitoring, environmental management or remediation works</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but has been demonstrated to have no more than a minimal impact on these groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites.</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
<p><b>Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) used solely for basic landholder rights must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waterfront land</li> <li>• 100 m of a government monitoring bore.</li> <li>• 100 m of a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• 100 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment</li> <li>• 100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul> <p>These location distance restrictions do not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a replacement, or</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance, but would result in no more than minimal harm to any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but would result in no more than minimal harm to any groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Replacement groundwater works</b></p>	<p>A replacement water supply work (bore) must be located within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 m of the existing bore, and</li> <li>• no closer to the river than the work being replaced if on waterfront land.</li> </ul> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no longer manufactured, in which case it may be no greater than 120 % of the current internal diameter, or</li> <li>• less than 100 mm, in which case the internal diameter must be no more than 100 mm.</li> </ul>

## 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 aquifer to unregulated river). These rules are covered in Table 5.

Table 4. Rules for trading into or within this water source

Type	Rules
Into water source	Not permitted
Within water source	Permitted.

Table 5. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

Type	Rules
Conversion to a new category	Not permitted.

Table 6. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
<p><b>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 <i>Water Management Act General Regulation 2018</i>.</b></p>	
Aboriginal cultural access licence	Permitted to a limit less than or equal to 10 ML/year.
Aboriginal community development access licence	Permitted.
Major Utility	Major water utility (urban water) access licences are permitted in this groundwater source.

## More information

More information about the planning process and the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the Department of Planning and Environment's website.

# Rule Summary Sheet for the Lachlan Fold Belt Greater Metropolitan Groundwater Source

Rule Summary Sheet 3 of 10

## Plan details

<b>Water sharing plan:</b>	<i>Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023</i>
<b>Plan commencement:</b>	1 July 2023
<b>Term of plan:</b>	10 years
<b>Groundwater Source:</b>	Lachlan Fold Belt Greater Metropolitan Groundwater Source
<b>Application:</b>	These rules apply to all water contained in Cenozoic sediments directly overlying rocks of Carboniferous age or older and all rocks of Carboniferous age or older within the boundaries of this water source.

### Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* for the Lachlan Fold Belt Greater Metropolitan 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](mailto:water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval', 'Statement of Conditions' or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

## Rules

### Managing Access Licences

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.
- Licences with share components specifying the Goulburn Fractured Rock or Coxs River Fractured Rock Groundwater Sources, will be considered to be within the Lachlan Fold Belt Greater Metropolitan Groundwater Source when the plan commences.

### Carryover and Individual Account Limits

If any account water is not used within a water year:

- for aquifer access licences, up to 0.1 ML per unit share can be carried over in the account, to be used in another water year.
- For all other access licences, the water cannot be carried over to be used in another water year.

For all access licences - the maximum volume of water that can be debited in any water year is the volume of water allocated to the account over that year from available water determinations plus any carryover that's allowed, plus allocation assignments (trades) into the account.

### Waterfront land

Waterfront land is defined in the Dictionary of the WM Act. Groundwater works that are on waterfront land are in the bed of or within 40 metres of a riverbank, lake or estuary mean high water mark.

### 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 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 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 on waterfront land

Type	Rules
<p><b>Cease to take</b></p>	<p>On waterfront land, water must not be taken when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there is no visible flow in the river adjacent to the location of the works, or</li> <li>• flows in the adjacent unregulated river are in the very low flow class. Depending on the section of the river, different rules apply. These additional rules apply in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Corang and Endrick Rivers Water Source</li> <li>○ Dharabuladh Water Source</li> <li>○ Jenolan River Water Source</li> <li>○ Kedumba River Water Source</li> <li>○ Kowmung River Water Source</li> <li>○ Lower Kangaroo River Water Source</li> <li>○ Lower Wollondilly River Water Source</li> <li>○ Shoalhaven River Gorge Water Source</li> <li>○ Upper Shoalhaven River Water Source</li> <li>○ Upper Shoalhaven Tributaries Water Source (, Mongarlowe River Management Zone, Reedy Creek Management Zone)</li> <li>○ Wingecarribee River Water Source (Lower Wingecarribee River Management Zone)</li> <li>○ Wywandy Water Source.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The flow classes are defined in the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2023</i> and described in the relevant <a href="#">rule summary sheet for the unregulated river water sources</a>.</p> <p>Water cannot be taken on waterfront land adjacent to some sections of a river unless flows have exceeded the very low flow class for at least 24 consecutive hours. This rule applies in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bungonia Creek Water Source</li> <li>○ Mulwaree River Water Source</li> <li>○ Upper Shoalhaven Tributaries Water Source (Boro Creek Management Zone)</li> </ul> <p>Water cannot be taken on waterfront land adjacent to the Upper Wollondilly River Water Source when water is being transferred between Pejar Dam and Rossi Weir for Goulburn Mulwaree town water supply.</p>
<p><b>Take from in-river pools</b></p>	<p>Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool</p>

Type	Rules
<b>Take from in-river dam pool</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool

Table 2. Exemptions from access rules that apply on waterfront land

Type	Rules
<b>Health and hygiene</b>	For an access licence specified in schedule 1 of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fruit or vegetable washing</li> <li>• cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene</li> <li>• poultry watering and misting</li> <li>• cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene.</li> </ul>
<b>Works that cause no more than minimal harm to surface water</b>	If a hydrogeological study, demonstrates that the water supply work will have no more than minimal impact on base flows in the river.
<b>Town water supply</b>	Water can still be taken under aquifer access licence # 24646 or 24659 for the purposes of town water supply.
<b>Aquifer interference</b>	Taking water under an access licence for an aquifer interference activity allowed if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the licence holder complies with a water management plan, if required under a planning approval or</li> <li>the licence holder is not able to comply with the access rule concerned.</li> </ol>
<b>Works drilled to bedrock and screened</b>	For extraction from works that have been drilled into bedrock and are cased to at least 30m depth.

### 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.

Table 3 summarises the rules for groundwater works approvals for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023*.

Table 3 Rules for the location of new groundwater infrastructure

Type	Rules
<p><b>Rules to minimise interference between bores</b></p>	<p>New water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 400 m from a bore that is nominated on an aquifer access licence on another landholding</li> <li>• 200 m from a bore that is used to extract basic landholder rights on another landholding</li> <li>• 100 m from a property boundary</li> <li>• 500 m from a bore nominated by a local or major water utility access licence</li> <li>• 400 m from a government monitoring bore.</li> </ul> <p>These distance restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the bore is used solely for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• the bore is a replacement bore</li> <li>• the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>• the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal detrimental effect on existing extraction</li> <li>• the local water utility, major utility or landholder potentially affected by the new bore gives written consent to the construction of the bore.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near contamination sources</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 m of a contamination source</li> <li>• 250 m from the edge of a plume of a contamination source</li> <li>• 250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source, unless no drawdown of water will occur within 250 m of that plume</li> <li>• 250 m of an onsite sewage disposal system unless the water supply work is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— constructed with cement grout in the borehole annulus to a minimum depth of 20 m from the ground surface</li> <li>— located at a sufficient distance from the on-site sewage disposal system to prevent migration of septic contamination in the aquifer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the location of the bore is adequate to protect the water source, the environment and public health and safety</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the bore is used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>waterfront land</li> <li>100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>200 m of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>200 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>500 m of a Karst environment.</li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if the bore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is used for basic landholder rights</li> <li>is a replacement groundwater work</li> <li>is for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>location is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to a high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near potential acid sulfate soils</b></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 a significant risk of acidification of the groundwater source.</p>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites</b></p>	<p>New works are not permitted within 200 m of groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites.</p> <p>This location distance restriction does not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is used solely for a basic landholder right</li> <li>is a replacement bore</li> <li>is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>is located at a lesser distance but has been demonstrated to have no more than a minimal impact on these groundwater dependent, culturally significant sites.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights</b></p>	<p>Unless they are a replacing existing, water supply works (bores) used solely for basic landholder rights must not be constructed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>on waterfront land or</li> <li>within 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore.</li> </ul> <p>Construction is also restricted within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 m of a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem,</li> <li>100 m of a coastal wetland,</li> <li>100 m of the top of an escarpment,</li> <li>500 m of a Karst environment,</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul> <p>These restrictions do not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a replacement,</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance, but would result in no more than minimal harm to any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but would result in no more than minimal harm to any groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Replacement groundwater works</b></p>	<p>A replacement water supply work (bore) must be located within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 m of the existing bore,</li> <li>• no closer to the river than the work being replaced if on waterfront land.</li> </ul> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no longer manufactured, in which case it may be no greater than 120 % of the current internal diameter, or</li> <li>• less than 100 mm, in which case the internal diameter must be no more than 100 mm.</li> </ul>

## 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 aquifer to unregulated river). These rules are covered in Table 5.

Table 4. Rules for trading into or within this water source

Type	Rules
Into water source	Not permitted.
Within water source	Permitted

Table 5. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

Type	Rules
Conversion to a new category	Not permitted

Table 6. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
<p><b>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 <i>Water Management Act General Regulation 2018</i>.</b></p>	
Aboriginal cultural access licence	Permitted to a limit less than or equal to 10 ML/year.
Aboriginal community development access licence	Permitted
Major Utility	Major water utility (urban water) access licences are permitted in this groundwater source.

## More information

More information about the planning process and the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the Department of Planning and Environment's website.

# Rule Summary Sheet for the Maroota Tertiary Sands Groundwater Source

Rule Summary Sheet 4 of 10

## Plan details

<b>Water sharing plan:</b>	<i>Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023</i>
<b>Plan commencement:</b>	1 July 2023
<b>Term of plan:</b>	10 years
<b>Groundwater Source:</b>	Maroota Tertiary Sands Groundwater Source
<b>Application:</b>	These rules apply to all groundwater contained in the rocks of Tertiary and Permian age and in Cenozoic sediments within the boundaries of this water source.

### Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* for the Maroota Tertiary Sands 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](mailto:water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval', 'Statement of Conditions' or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

## Rules

### Managing Access Licences

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

If any water is not used within a water year, it cannot be carried over in an account to be used in another water year.

For all access licences - the maximum volume of water that can be debited from a water account in any water year is the volume of water allocated to the account over that year from available water determinations plus allocation assignments (trades) into the account.

### Waterfront land

Waterfront land is defined in the Dictionary of the WM Act. Groundwater works that are on waterfront land are in the bed of or within 40 metres of a riverbank, lake or estuary mean high water mark.

### 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 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 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	Rules
<b>Cease to take</b>	On waterfront land, water must not be taken when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• there is no visible flow in the river adjacent to the location of the works, or</li></ul>



Type	Rules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>while a cease to take notice is in effect. The notice will be published on either the Department of Planning and Environment website or WaterNSW website. This applies in the following area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower Hawkesbury River Water Source</li> </ul> </li> <li>flows in the adjacent unregulated river are in the very low flow class. Depending on the section of the river, different rules apply. These additional rules apply in the following area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cattai Creek Water Source</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Water cannot be taken on waterfront land adjacent to some sections of a river unless flows have exceeded the very low flow class for at least 24 consecutive hours. This rule applies in the following area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cattai Creek Water Source</li> </ul> <p>The flow classes and the conditions for a cease to take notice are defined in the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2023</i> and described in the relevant <a href="#">rule summary sheet for the unregulated river water sources</a>.</p>
<b>Take from in-river pools</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool
<b>Take from in-river dam pool</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool

Table 2. Exemptions from access rules that apply on waterfront land

Type	Rules
<b>Health and hygiene</b>	<p>For an access licence specified in schedule 1 of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fruit or vegetable washing</li> <li>cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene</li> <li>poultry watering and misting</li> <li>cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene.</li> </ul>
<b>Works that cause no more than minimal harm to surface water</b>	If a hydrogeological study, demonstrates that the water supply work will have no more than minimal impact on base flows in the river.
<b>Aquifer interference</b>	<p>Taking water under an access licence for an aquifer interference activity is allowed if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the licence holder complies with a water management plan, if required under a planning approval or</li> <li>the licence holder is not able to comply with the access rule concerned.</li> </ol>

Type	Rules
<b>Works drilled to bedrock and screened</b>	For extraction from works that have been drilled into bedrock and are cased to at least 30m depth.

### 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.

Table 3 summarises the rules for groundwater works approvals for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023*.

Table 3 Rules for the location of new groundwater infrastructure

Type	Rules
<b>Rules to minimise interference between bores</b>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 m from a bore that is nominated on an aquifer access licence on another landholding</li> <li>• 50 m from a bore that is used to extract basic landholder rights on another landholding</li> <li>• 50 m from a property boundary</li> <li>• 500 m from a bore nominated by a local or major water utility access licence</li> <li>• 200 m from a government monitoring bore.</li> </ul> <p>These distance restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the bore is used solely for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• the bore is a replacement bore</li> <li>• the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal detrimental effect on existing extraction</li> <li>the local water utility, major utility or landholder potentially affected by the new bore gives written consent to the construction of the bore.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for bores located near contamination sources</b>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>500 m of a contamination source</li> <li>250 m from the edge of a plume of a contamination source</li> <li>250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source, unless no drawdown of water will occur within 250 m of that plume</li> <li>250 m of an onsite sewage disposal system unless the water supply work is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>constructed with cement grout in the borehole annulus to a minimum depth of 20 m from the ground surface</li> <li>located at a sufficient distance from the on-site sewage disposal system to prevent migration of septic contamination in the aquifer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the location of the bore is adequate to protect the water source, the environment and public health and safety</li> <li>the bore is used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for bores located near high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems</b>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>waterfront land</li> <li>100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>200 m of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>200 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>500 m of a Karst environment.</li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if the bore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is used only for basic landholder rights</li> <li>is a replacement groundwater work</li> <li>is for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>location is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to a high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for bores located near potential acid sulfate soils</b>	<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 a significant risk of acidification of the groundwater source.</p>
<b>Rules for bores located near groundwater-</b>	<p>New works are not permitted within 200 m of groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites.</p>

Type	Rules
<p><b>dependent, culturally significant sites</b></p>	<p>This location distance restriction does not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is used solely for a basic landholder right</li> <li>• is a replacement</li> <li>• is used for monitoring, environmental management or remediation works</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but has been demonstrated to have no more than a minimal impact on these water sources and their groundwater dependent culturally significant sites.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights</b></p>	<p>Unless they are a replacing existing, water supply works (bores) used solely for basic landholder rights must not be constructed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on waterfront land</li> <li>• within 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore.</li> </ul> <p>Construction is also restricted within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 m of a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• 100 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment</li> <li>• 100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul> <p>These restrictions do not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a replacement</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance, but would result in no more than minimal harm to any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but would result in no more than minimal harm to any groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Replacement groundwater works</b></p>	<p>A replacement water supply work (bore) must be located within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 m of the existing bore,</li> <li>• no closer to the river than the work being replaced if on waterfront land.</li> </ul> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no longer manufactured, in which case it may be no greater than 120 % of the current internal diameter, or</li> <li>• less than 100 mm, in which case the internal diameter must be no more than 100 mm.</li> </ul>

## 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 aquifer to unregulated river). These rules are covered in Table 5.

Table 4. Rules for trading into or within this water source

Type	Rules
Into water source	Not permitted.
Within water source	Permitted.

Table 5. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

Type	Rules
Conversion to a new category	Not permitted

Table 6. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
<p><b>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 <i>Water Management Act General Regulation 2018</i></b></p>	
Aboriginal cultural access licence	Permitted to a limit less than or equal to 10 ML/year.
Aboriginal community development access licence	Permitted.
Major Utility	Major water utility (urban water) access licences are permitted in this groundwater source.

## More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the Department of Planning and Environment's website.

# Rule Summary Sheet for the Metropolitan Coastal Sands Groundwater Source

Rule Summary Sheet 5 of 10

## Plan details

<b>Water sharing plan:</b>	<i>Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023</i>
<b>Plan commencement:</b>	1 July 2023
<b>Term of plan:</b>	10 years
<b>Groundwater Source:</b>	Metropolitan Coastal Sands Groundwater Source
<b>Application:</b>	These rules apply to all groundwater contained in Cenozoic sediments within the boundaries of this water source.

### Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* for the Metropolitan Coastal Sands 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](mailto:water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval', 'Statement of Conditions' or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

## Rules

### Managing Access Licences

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

If any account water is not used within a water year:

- for aquifer access licences, up to 0.1 ML per unit share can be carried over in the account, to be used in another water year
- For all other access licences, the water cannot be carried over to be used in another water year.

For all access licences - the maximum volume of water that can be debited in any water year is the volume of water allocated to the account over that year from available water determinations plus any carryover that's allowed, plus allocation assignments (trades) into the account.

### Waterfront land

Waterfront land is defined in the Dictionary of the WM Act. Groundwater works that are on waterfront land are in the bed of or within 40 metres of a river bank, lake or estuary mean high water mark.

### 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 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 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 on waterfront land

Type	Rules
------	-------

Type	Rules
<b>Cease to take</b>	<p>On waterfront land, water must not be taken when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there is no visible flow in the river adjacent to the location of the works, or</li> <li>• while a cease to take notice is in effect. The notice will be published on either the Department of Planning and Environment website or WaterNSW website. This applies in the following area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lower Hawkesbury River Water Source</li> </ul> </li> <li>• flows in the adjacent unregulated river are in the very low flow class. Depending on the section of the river, different rules apply. These additional rules apply in the following area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jaspers Brush Creek and Tributaries Water Source</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The flow classes and the conditions for a cease to take notice are defined in the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2023</i> and described in the relevant <a href="#">rule summary sheet for the unregulated river water sources</a>.</p>
<b>Take from an in-river pool</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool
<b>Take from an in-river dam pool</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool

Table 2. Exemptions from access rules that apply on waterfront land

Type	Rules
<b>Health and hygiene</b>	<p>For an access licence specified in schedule 1 of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fruit or vegetable washing</li> <li>• cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene</li> <li>• poultry watering and misting</li> <li>• cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene.</li> </ul>
<b>Works that cause no more than minimal harm to surface water</b>	If a hydrogeological study demonstrates that the water supply work will have no more than minimal impact on base flows in the river.
<b>Aquifer interference</b>	<p>Taking water under an access licence for an aquifer interference activity is allowed if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the licence holder complies with a water management plan, if required under a planning approval or</li> <li>b) the licence holder is not able to comply with the access rule concerned.</li> </ol>



## 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.

Table 3 summarises the rules for groundwater works approvals for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023*.

Table 3 Rules for the location of new groundwater infrastructure

Type	Rules
<b>Rules to minimise interference between bores</b>	<p>New water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 200 m from a bore that is nominated on an aquifer access licence on another landholding</li> <li>• 50 m from a bore that is used to extract basic landholder rights on another landholding</li> <li>• 50 m from a property boundary</li> <li>• 300 m from a bore nominated by a local or major water utility access licence</li> <li>• 200 m from a government monitoring bore.</li> </ul> <p>These distance restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the bore is used solely for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• the bore is a replacement bore</li> <li>• the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>• the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal detrimental effect on existing extraction</li> <li>• the local water utility, major utility or landholder potentially affected by the new bore gives written consent to the construction of the bore.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for bores located near contamination</b>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 m of a contamination source</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
<b>sources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 250 m from the edge of a plume of a contamination source</li> <li>• 250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source, unless no drawdown of water will occur within 250 m of that plume</li> <li>• 250 m of an onsite sewage disposal system unless the water supply work is:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— constructed with cement grout in the borehole annulus to a minimum depth of 20 m from the ground surface</li> <li>— located at a sufficient distance from the on-site sewage disposal system to prevent migration of septic contamination in the aquifer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the location of the bore is adequate to protect the water source, the environment and public health and safety</li> <li>• the bore is used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for bores located near high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems</b>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• waterfront land</li> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>• 200 m of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• 200 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment.</li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if the bore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is used only for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• is a replacement groundwater work</li> <li>• is for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>• location is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to a high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for bores located near potential acid sulfate soils</b>	<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 a significant risk of acidification of the groundwater source.</p>
<b>Rules for bores located near groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites</b>	<p>New works are not permitted within 200 m of groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites.</p> <p>This location distance restriction does not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is used solely for a basic landholder right</li> <li>• is a replacement bore</li> <li>• is used for monitoring, environmental management or remediation works</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but has been demonstrated to have no more than a minimal impact on these groundwater dependent, culturally significant sites.</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
<p><b>Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights</b></p>	<p>Unless they are a replacing existing, water supply works (bores) used solely for basic landholder rights must not be constructed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on waterfront land or</li> <li>• within 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore.</li> </ul> <p>Construction is also restricted within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 m of a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• 100 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment</li> <li>• 100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul> <p>These restrictions do not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a replacement</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance, but would result in no more than minimal harm to any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but would result in no more than minimal harm to any groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Replacement groundwater works</b></p>	<p>A replacement water supply work (bore) must be located within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 m of the existing bore,</li> <li>• no closer to the river than the work being replaced if on waterfront land.</li> </ul> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no longer manufactured, in which case it may be no greater than 120 % of the current internal diameter</li> <li>• less than 100 mm, in which case the internal diameter must be no more than 100 mm.</li> </ul>

## 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 aquifer to unregulated river). These rules are covered in Table 5.

Table 4. Rules for trading into or within this water source

Type	Rules
Into water source	Not permitted
Within water source	Permitted.

Table 5. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

Type	Rules
Conversion to a new category	Not permitted

Table 6. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
<p><b>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 <i>Water Management Act General Regulation 2018</i>.</b></p>	
Aboriginal cultural access licence	Permitted to a limit less than or equal to 10 ML/year.
Aboriginal community development access licence	Permitted
Major Utility	Major water utility (urban water) access licences are permitted in this groundwater source.

## More information

More information about the planning process and the *Water Sharing Plan for the Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the Department of Planning and Environment's website.

# Rule Summary Sheet for the Sydney Basin Central Groundwater Source

Rule Summary Sheet 6 of 10

## Plan details

<b>Water sharing plan:</b>	<i>Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023</i>
<b>Plan commencement:</b>	1 July 2023
<b>Term of plan:</b>	10 years
<b>Groundwater Source:</b>	Sydney Basin Central Groundwater Source
<b>Application:</b>	These rules apply to all groundwater contained in all rocks of Tertiary to Permian age and Cenozoic sediments within the boundaries of this water source (excluding those within the Botany Sands, Hawkesbury Alluvium and Metropolitan Coastal Sands Groundwater Sources).

### Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* for the Sydney Basin Central 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](mailto:water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval', 'Statement of Conditions' or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

## Rules

### Managing Access Licences

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

If any account water is not used within a water year:

- for aquifer access licences, up to 0.1 ML per unit share can be carried over in the account, to be used in another water year.
- For all other types of licences, the water cannot be carried over to be used in another water year.

For all access licences - the maximum volume of water that can be debited in any water year is the volume of water allocated to the account over that year from available water determinations plus any carryover that's allowed, plus allocation assignments (trades) into the account.

### Waterfront land

Waterfront land is defined in the Dictionary of the WM Act. Groundwater works that are on waterfront land are in the bed of or within 40 metres of a river bank, lake or estuary mean high water mark.

### 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 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 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 on waterfront land

Type	Rules
<p><b>Cease to take</b></p>	<p>On waterfront land, water must not be taken when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there is no visible flow in the river adjacent to the location of the works, or</li> <li>• while a cease to take notice is in effect. The notice will be published on either the Department of Planning and Environment website or WaterNSW website. This applies in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lower Hawkesbury River Water Source</li> <li>○ Lower Nepean Rivers Water Source</li> <li>○ Mid Nepean River Weirs Water Source</li> <li>○ Upper Hawkesbury River Water Source <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Upper Hawkesbury River (Cattai Creek to Colo River)</li> <li>◆ Upper Hawkesbury River (Grose River to Wianamatta-South Creek)</li> <li>◆ Upper Hawkesbury River (Wianamatta-South Creek to Cattai Creek)</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Woronora River Water Source <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Lower Woronora River Management Zone</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• flows in the adjacent unregulated river are in the very low flow class. Depending on the section of the river, different rules apply. These additional rules apply in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wianamatta-South Creek Water Source <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Lower Wianamatta-South Creek Management Zone</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Woronora River Water Source <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Lower Woronora River Management Zone.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The flow classes and the conditions for a cease to take notice are defined in the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2023</i> and described in the relevant <a href="#">rule summary sheet for the unregulated river water sources</a>.</p> <p>Water cannot be taken on waterfront land adjacent to some sections of a river unless flows have exceeded the very low flow class for at least 24 consecutive hours. This rule applies in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cabramatta Creek Water Source</li> <li>○ Cattai Creek Water Source</li> <li>○ Lower Georges River and Bunbury Curran Creek Water Source</li> <li>○ Parramatta River Water Source <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Upper Parramatta River Management Zone</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Prospect Creek Water Source</li> <li>○ Wianamatta-South Creek Water Source <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Upper Wianamatta-South Creek Management Zone</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Type	Rules
<b>Take from in-river pools</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool
<b>Take from in-river dam pool</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool

Table 2. Exemptions from access rules that apply on waterfront land

Type	Rules
<b>Health and hygiene</b>	For an access licence specified in schedule 1 of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fruit or vegetable washing</li> <li>• cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene</li> <li>• poultry watering and misting</li> <li>• cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene.</li> </ul>
<b>Works that cause no more than minimal harm to surface water</b>	If a hydrogeological study, demonstrates that the water supply work will have no more than minimal impact on base flows in the river.
<b>Aquifer interference</b>	Taking water under an access licence for an aquifer interference activity is permitted if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the licence holder complies with a water management plan, if required under a planning approval or</li> <li>b) the licence holder is not able to comply with the access rule concerned.</li> </ol>
<b>Works drilled to bedrock and screened</b>	For extraction from works that have been drilled into bedrock and are cased to at least 30m depth.

## 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.

Table 3 summarises the rules for groundwater works approvals for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023*.

Table 3 Rules for the location of new groundwater infrastructure

Type	Rules
<p><b>Rules to minimise interference between bores</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 400 m from a bore that is nominated on an aquifer access licence on another landholding</li> <li>• 100 m from a bore that is used to extract basic landholder rights on another landholding</li> <li>• 50 m from a property boundary</li> <li>• 1,000 m from a bore nominated by a local or major water utility access licence</li> <li>• 200 m from a government monitoring bore.</li> </ul> <p>These distance restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the bore is used solely for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• the bore is a replacement bore</li> <li>• the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>• the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal detrimental effect on existing extraction</li> <li>• the local water utility, major utility or landholder potentially affected by the new bore gives written consent to the construction of the bore.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near contamination sources</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within 500 m of a contamination source</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 250 m from the edge of a plume of a contamination source</li> <li>• 250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source, unless no drawdown of water will occur within 250 m of that plume</li> <li>• 250 m of an onsite sewage disposal system unless the water supply work is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— constructed with cement grout in the borehole annulus to a minimum depth of 20 m from the ground surface</li> <li>— located at a sufficient distance from the on-site sewage disposal system to prevent migration of septic contamination in the aquifer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Type	Rules
	<p>These distances restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the location of the bore is adequate to protect the water source, the environment and public health and safety</li> <li>the bore is used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>waterfront land</li> <li>100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>200 m of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>200 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>500 m of a Karst environment.</li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if the bore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is used only for basic landholder rights</li> <li>is a replacement groundwater work</li> <li>is for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>location is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to a high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near potential acid sulfate soils</b></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 a significant risk of acidification of the groundwater source.</p>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites</b></p>	<p>New works are not permitted within 200 m of groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites.</p> <p>This location distance restriction does not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is used solely for a basic landholder right</li> <li>is a replacement</li> <li>is used for monitoring, environmental management or remediation works</li> <li>is located at a lesser distance but has been demonstrated to have no more than a minimal impact on these water sources and their groundwater dependent culturally significant sites.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights</b></p>	<p>Unless they are a replacing existing, water supply works (bores) used solely for basic landholder rights must not be constructed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>on waterfront land or</li> <li>within 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore.</li> </ul> <p>Construction is also restricted within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 m of a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>100 m of a coastal wetland</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment</li> <li>• 100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul> <p>These restrictions do not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a replacement, or</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance, but would result in no more than minimal harm to any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but would result in no more than minimal harm to any groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul>
<b>Replacement groundwater works</b>	<p>A replacement water supply work (bore) must be located within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 m of the existing bore,</li> <li>• no closer to the river than the work being replaced if on waterfront land.</li> </ul> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no longer manufactured, in which case it may be no greater than 120 % of the current internal diameter, or</li> <li>• less than 100 mm, in which case the internal diameter must be no more than 100 mm.</li> </ul>

## 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 an aquifer to an unregulated river). These rules are covered in Table 5.

Table 4. Rules for trading into or within this water source

Type	Rules
<b>Into water source</b>	Not permitted.
<b>Within water source</b>	Permitted

Table 5. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

Type	Rules
<b>Conversion to a new category</b>	Not permitted.

Table 6. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
<b>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 <i>Water Management Act General Regulation 2018</i>.</b>	
<b>Aboriginal cultural access licence</b>	Permitted to a limit less than or equal to 10 ML/year.
<b>Aboriginal community development access licence</b>	Permitted.
<b>Major Utility</b>	Major water utility (urban water) access licences are permitted in this groundwater source.

## More information

More information about the planning process and the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the Department of Planning and Environment's website.

# Rule Summary Sheet for the Sydney Basin Nepean Groundwater Source

Rule Summary Sheet 7 of 10

## Plan details

<b>Water sharing plan:</b>	<i>Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023</i>
<b>Plan commencement:</b>	1 July 2023
<b>Term of plan:</b>	10 years
<b>Groundwater Source:</b>	Sydney Basin Nepean Groundwater Source
<b>Application:</b>	These rules apply to all groundwater contained in all rocks of Tertiary to Permian age and Cenozoic sediments within the boundaries of this water source.

### Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* for the Sydney Basin Nepean 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](mailto:water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval', 'Statement of Conditions' or via the [NSW water register](#).

## Rules

### Managing Access Licences

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

If any account water is not used within a water year:

- for aquifer access licences, up to 0.1 ML per unit share can be carried over in the account, to be used in another water year
- For all other types of licences, the water cannot be carried over to be used in another water year.

For all access licences - the maximum volume of water that can be debited in any water year is the volume of water allocated to the account over that year from available water determinations plus any carryover that's allowed, plus allocation assignments (trades) into the account.

### Waterfront land

Waterfront land is defined in the Dictionary of the WM Act. Groundwater works that are on waterfront land are in the bed of or within 40 metres of a riverbank, lake or estuary mean high water mark.

### 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 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 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 on waterfront land

Type	Rules
<b>Cease to take</b>	<p>On waterfront land water must not be taken if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there is no visible flow in the river adjacent to the location of the works, or</li> <li>• while a cease to take notice is in effect. The notice will be published on either the Department of Planning and Environment website or WaterNSW website. This applies in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mid Nepean River Weirs Water Source <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Brownlow Hill Weir Management Zone</li> <li>◆ Camden Weir Management Zone</li> <li>◆ Cobbity Weir Management Zone</li> <li>◆ Menangle Weir Management Zone</li> <li>◆ Mount Hunter Rivulet Weir Management Zone</li> <li>◆ Sharpes Weir Management Zone</li> <li>◆ Theresa Park Weir Management Zone</li> <li>◆ Wallacia Weir Management Zone</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Maldon Weir Water Source</li> </ul> </li> <li>• flows in the adjacent unregulated river are in the very low flow class. Depending on the section of the river, different rules apply. These additional rules apply in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Kowmung River Water Source</li> <li>○ Wingecarribee River Water Source <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Lower Wingecarribee River Management Zone</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Shoalhaven River Gorge Water Source</li> <li>○ Stonequarry Creek Water Source</li> <li>○ Warragamba River Water Source</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The flow classes and the conditions for a cease to take notice are defined in the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2023</i> and described in the relevant <a href="#">rule summary sheet for the unregulated river water source</a>.</p> <p>Water cannot be taken on waterfront land adjacent to some water sources unless flows have exceeded the very low flow class for at least 24 consecutive hours. These rules apply in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Maguires Crossing Water Source</li> <li>○ Nattai River Water Source</li> <li>○ Werriberri Creek Water Source.</li> <li>○ Wingecarribee River Water Source <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Upper Wingecarribee River Management Zone</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Type	Rules
<b>Take from in-river pools</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool
<b>Take from in-river dam pool</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool

Table 2. Exemptions from access rules that apply on waterfront land.

Type	Rules
<b>Health and hygiene</b>	For an access licence specified in schedule 1 of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fruit or vegetable washing</li> <li>• cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene</li> <li>• poultry watering and misting</li> <li>• cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene.</li> </ul>
<b>Works that cause no more than minimal harm to surface water</b>	If a hydrogeological study, demonstrates that the water supply work will have no more than minimal impact on base flows in the river.
<b>Aquifer interference</b>	Taking water under an access licence for an aquifer interference activity is not prohibited provided – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the licence holder complies with a water management plan, if required under a planning approval or</li> <li>the licence holder is not able to comply with the access rule concerned.</li> </ol>
<b>Works drilled to bedrock and screened</b>	For extraction from works that have been drilled into bedrock and are cased to at least 30m depth.

## 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.

Table 3 summarises the rules for groundwater works approvals for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023*.

Table 3 Rules for the location of new groundwater infrastructure

Type	Rules
<p><b>Rules to minimise interference between bores</b></p>	<p>New water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 400 m from a bore that is nominated on an aquifer access licence on another landholding</li> <li>• 100 m from a bore that is used to extract basic landholder rights on another landholding</li> <li>• 50 m from a property boundary</li> <li>• 1,000 m from a bore nominated by a local or major water utility access licence</li> <li>• 200 m from a government monitoring bore.</li> </ul> <p>These distance restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the bore is used solely for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• the bore is a replacement bore</li> <li>• the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>• the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal detrimental effect on existing extraction</li> <li>• the local water utility, major utility or landholder potentially affected by the new bore gives written consent to the construction of the bore.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near contamination sources</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 m of a contamination source</li> <li>• 250 m from the edge of a plume of a contamination source</li> <li>• 250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source, unless no drawdown of water will occur within 250 m of that plume</li> <li>• 250 m of an onsite sewage disposal system unless the water supply work is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— constructed with cement grout in the borehole annulus to a minimum depth of 20 m from the ground surface</li> <li>— located at a sufficient distance from the on-site sewage disposal system to prevent migration of septic contamination in the aquifer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the location of the bore is adequate to protect the water source, the environment and</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
	<p>public health and safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the bore is used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>waterfront land</li> <li>100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>200 m of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>200 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>500 m of a Karst environment.</li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if the bore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is used only for basic landholder rights</li> <li>is a replacement groundwater work</li> <li>is for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>location is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to a high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near potential acid sulfate soils</b></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 a significant risk of acidification of the groundwater source.</p>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites</b></p>	<p>New works are not permitted within 200 m of groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites.</p> <p>This location distance restriction does not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is used solely for a basic landholder right</li> <li>is a replacement bore</li> <li>is used for monitoring, environmental management or remediation works</li> <li>is located at a lesser distance but would have no more than a minimal impact on these water sources and their groundwater dependent culturally significant sites.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights</b></p>	<p>Unless they are a replacing existing, water supply works (bores) used solely for basic landholder rights must not be constructed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>on waterfront land</li> <li>within 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore</li> </ul> <p>Construction is also restricted within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 m of a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>100 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>500 m of a Karst environment</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul> <p>These restrictions do not apply if the bore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is a replacement bore</li> <li>is located at a lesser distance, but would result in no more than minimal harm to any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>is located at a lesser distance but would result in no more than minimal harm to any groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul>
<b>Replacement groundwater works</b>	<p>A replacement water supply work (bore) must be located within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 m of the existing bore,</li> <li>no closer to the river than the bore being replaced if on waterfront land.</li> </ul> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>no longer manufactured, in which case it may be no greater than 120 % of the current internal diameter</li> <li>less than 100 mm, in which case the internal diameter must be no more than 100 mm.</li> </ul>

## 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 aquifer to unregulated river). These rules are covered in Table 5.

Table 4. Rules for trading into or within this water source

Type	Rules
<b>Into water source</b>	Not permitted.
<b>Within management zones</b>	Trading within the groundwater source is permitted subject to local impact assessment
<b>Between management zones</b>	<p>Trading from Nepean Management Zone 2 into Nepean Management Zone 1 is not permitted if the trade will increase the total licensed entitlement for Management Zone 1 above 12,465 shares.</p> <p>Trading from Nepean Management Zone 1 to Nepean Management Zone 2 is permitted, subject to assessment.</p>

Table 5. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

<b>Conversion to a new category</b>	Not permitted.

Table 6. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
<p><b>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 <i>Water Management Act General Regulation 2018</i>.</b></p>	
<b>Aboriginal cultural access licence</b>	Permitted to a limit less than or equal to 10 ML/year.
<b>Aboriginal community development access licence</b>	Not permitted.
<b>Major Utility</b>	Major water utility (urban water) access licences are permitted in this groundwater source.

## More information

More information about the planning process and the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the Department of Planning and Environment's website.

# Rule Summary Sheet for the Sydney Basin North Groundwater Source

Rule Summary Sheet 8 of 10

## Plan details

<b>Water sharing plan:</b>	<i>Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023</i>
<b>Plan commencement:</b>	1 July 2023
<b>Term of plan:</b>	10 years
<b>Groundwater Source:</b>	Sydney Basin North Groundwater Source
<b>Application:</b>	These rules apply to all groundwater contained in all rocks of Tertiary to Permian age and Cenozoic sediments within the boundaries of this water source (excluding those within the Hawkesbury Alluvium Groundwater Source).

### Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* for the Sydney Basin North 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](mailto:water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval', 'Statement of Conditions' or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

## Rules

### Managing Access Licences

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

If any account water is not used within a water year:

- for aquifer access licences, up to 0.1 ML per unit share can be carried over in the account, to be used in another water year
- for all other types of licences, the water cannot be carried over to be used in another water year.

For all access licences - the maximum volume of water that can be debited in any water year is the volume of water allocated to the account over that year from available water determinations plus any carryover that's allowed, plus allocation assignments (trades) into the account.

### Waterfront land

Waterfront land is defined in the Dictionary of the WM Act. Groundwater works that are on waterfront land are in the bed of or within 40 metres of a river bank, lake or estuary mean high water mark.

### 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 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 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 on waterfront land

Type	Rules
------	-------

Type	Rules
<b>Cease to take</b>	<p>On waterfront land, water must not be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• when there is no visible flow in the river adjacent to the location of the works, or</li> <li>• while a cease to take notice is in effect. The notice will be published on either the Department of Planning and Environment website or WaterNSW website. This applies in the following area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lower Hawkesbury River Water Source</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The flow classes and the conditions for a cease to take notice are defined in the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2023</i> and described in the relevant <a href="#">rule summary sheet for the unregulated river water sources</a>.</p> <p>Water cannot be taken on waterfront land adjacent to some sections of a river unless flows have exceeded the very low flow class for at least 24 consecutive hours. This rule applies in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Capertee River Water Source</li> <li>○ Colo River Water Source</li> <li>○ Macdonald River Water Source.</li> </ul>
<b>Take in-river pools</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool
<b>Take in-river dam pool</b>	Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool

Table 2. Exemptions from access rules that apply on waterfront land.

Type	Rules
<b>Health and hygiene</b>	<p>For an access licence specified in schedule 1 of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fruit or vegetable washing</li> <li>• cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene</li> <li>• poultry watering and misting</li> <li>• cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene.</li> </ul>
<b>Works that cause no more than minimal harm to surface water</b>	If a hydrogeological study demonstrates that the water supply work will have no more than minimal impact on base flows in a river.
<b>Aquifer interference</b>	<p>Taking water under an access licence for an aquifer interference activity is allowed if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the licence holder complies with a water management plan, if required under a planning approval, or</li> <li>b) the licence holder is not able to comply with the access rule concerned.</li> </ol>

Type	Rules
<b>Works drilled to bedrock and screened</b>	For extraction from works that have been drilled into bedrock and are cased to at least 30m depth.

### 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.

Table 3 summarises the rules for groundwater works approvals for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023*.

Table 3 Rules for the location of new groundwater infrastructure.

Type	Rules
<b>Rules to minimise interference between bores</b>	<p>New water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 400 m from a bore that is nominated on an aquifer access licence on another landholding</li> <li>• 100 m from a bore that is used to extract basic landholder rights on another landholding</li> <li>• 50 m from a property boundary</li> <li>• 1,000 m from a bore nominated by a local or major water utility access licence</li> <li>• 200 m from a government monitoring bore.</li> </ul> <p>These distance restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the bore is used solely for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• the bore is a replacement bore</li> <li>• the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency</li> </ul>



Type	Rules
	<p>services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal detrimental effect on existing extraction</li> <li>the local water utility, major utility or landholder potentially affected by the new bore gives written consent to the construction of the bore.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near contamination sources</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>500 m of a contamination source</li> <li>250 m from the edge of a plume of a contamination source</li> <li>250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source, unless no drawdown of water will occur within 250 m of that plume</li> <li>250 m of an onsite sewage disposal system unless the water supply work is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>constructed with cement grout in the borehole annulus to a minimum depth of 20 m from the ground surface</li> <li>located at a sufficient distance from the on-site sewage disposal system to prevent migration of septic contamination in the aquifer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the location of the bore is adequate to protect the water source, the environment and public health and safety</li> <li>the bore is used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>waterfront land</li> <li>100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>200 m of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>200 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>500 m of a Karst environment.</li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if the bore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is used only for basic landholder rights</li> <li>is a replacement groundwater work</li> <li>is for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>location is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to a high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near potential acid sulfate soils</b></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 a significant risk of acidification of the groundwater source.</p>
<p><b>Rules for bores located</b></p>	<p>New works are not permitted within 200 m of groundwater-dependent, culturally significant</p>

Type	Rules
<p><b>near groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites</b></p>	<p>sites.</p> <p>This location distance restriction does not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is used solely for a basic landholder right</li> <li>• is a replacement</li> <li>• is used for monitoring, environmental management or remediation works</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but has been demonstrated to have no more than a minimal impact on the groundwater dependent, culturally significant sites.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights</b></p>	<p>Unless they are a replacing existing, water supply works (bores) used solely for basic landholder rights must not be constructed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on waterfront land or</li> <li>• within 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore.</li> </ul> <p>Construction is also restricted within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 m of a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• 100 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment</li> <li>• 100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul> <p>These restrictions do not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a replacement</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance, but would result in no more than minimal harm to any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but would result in no more than minimal harm to any groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Replacement groundwater works</b></p>	<p>A replacement water supply work (bore) must be located within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 m of the existing bore,</li> <li>• no closer to the river than the work being replaced if on waterfront land.</li> </ul> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no longer manufactured, in which case it may be no greater than 120 % of the current internal diameter</li> <li>• less than 100 mm, in which case the internal diameter must be no more than 100 mm.</li> </ul>

## 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 aquifer to unregulated river). These rules are covered in Table 5.

Table 4. Rules for trading into or within this water source

Type	Rules
Into water source	Not permitted.
Within water source	Permitted.

Table 5. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

Type	Rules
Conversion to a new category	Not permitted.

Table 6. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
<p><b>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 <i>Water Management Act General Regulation 2018</i>.</b></p>	
Aboriginal cultural access licence	Permitted to a limit less than or equal to 10 ML/year.
Aboriginal community development access licence	Permitted.
Major Utility	Major water utility (urban water) access licences are permitted in this groundwater source.

## More information

More information about the planning process and the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the Department of Planning and Environment's website.

# Rule Summary Sheet for the Sydney Basin South Groundwater Source

Rule Summary Sheet 9 of 10

## Plan details

<b>Water sharing plan:</b>	<i>Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023</i>
<b>Plan commencement:</b>	1 July 2023
<b>Term of plan:</b>	10 years
<b>Groundwater Source:</b>	Sydney Basin South Groundwater Source
<b>Application:</b>	These rules apply to all groundwater contained in all rocks of Tertiary to Permian age and Cenozoic sediments within the boundaries of this water source (excluding those within the Metropolitan Coastal Sands Groundwater Source).

### Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* for the Sydney Basin South 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](mailto:water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval', 'Statement of Conditions' or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

## Rules

### Managing Access Licences

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

If any account water is not used within a water year:

- for aquifer access licences, up to 0.1 ML per unit share can be carried over in the account, to be used in another water year.
- For all other types of licences, the water cannot be carried over to be used in another water year.

For all access licences - the maximum volume of water that can be debited in any water year is the volume of water allocated to the account over that year from available water determinations plus any carryover that's allowed, plus allocation assignments (trades) into the account.

### Waterfront land

Waterfront land is defined in the Dictionary of the WM Act. Groundwater works that are on waterfront land are in the bed of or within 40 meters of a riverbank, lake or estuary mean high water mark.

### 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 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 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 on waterfront land

Type	Rules
------	-------

Type	Rules
<p><b>Cease to take</b></p>	<p>On waterfront land water must not be taken when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there is no visible flow in the river adjacent to the location of the works, or</li> <li>• flows in the adjacent unregulated river are in the very low flow class. Depending on the section of the river, different rules apply. These additional rules apply in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bomaderry Creek Water Source</li> <li>○ Corang and Endrick Rivers Water Source</li> <li>○ Fitzroy Falls Water Source</li> <li>○ Jaspers Brush Creek and Tributaries Water Source</li> <li>○ Kangaroo River Water Source</li> <li>○ Lower Kangaroo River Water Source</li> <li>○ Macquarie Rivulet Water Source</li> <li>○ Shoalhaven River Gorge Water Source</li> <li>○ Yarrunga Creek Water Source, and</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Water cannot be taken on waterfront land adjacent to some sections of a river unless flows have exceeded the very low flow class for at least 24 consecutive hours. This rule applies in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Broughton Creek Water Source</li> <li>○ Lower Shoalhaven River Water Source</li> <li>○ Minnamurra River Water Source.</li> </ul> <p>The flow classes are defined in the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2023</i> and described in the relevant <a href="#">rule summary sheet for the unregulated river water sources</a>.</p>
<p><b>Take from in-river pools</b></p>	<p>Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool.</p>
<p><b>Take from in-river dam pool</b></p>	<p>Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool.</p>

Table 2. Exemptions from access rules that apply on waterfront land

Type	Rules
------	-------

Type	Rules
<b>Health and hygiene</b>	For an access licence specified in schedule 1 of the plan, no more than 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fruit or vegetable washing</li> <li>• cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene</li> <li>• poultry watering and misting</li> <li>• cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene.</li> </ul>
<b>Works that cause no more than minimal harm to surface water</b>	If a hydrogeological study demonstrates that the water supply work will have no more than minimal impact on base flows in a river.
<b>Aquifer interference</b>	Taking water under an access licence for an aquifer interference activity is allowed if <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the licence holder complies with a water management plan, if required under a planning approval, or</li> <li>b) the licence holder is not able to comply with the access rule concerned.</li> </ol>
<b>Works drilled to bedrock and screened</b>	For extraction from works that have been drilled into bedrock and are cased to at least 30m depth.

## 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.

Table 3 summarises the rules for groundwater works approvals for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023*.

Table 3 Rules for the location of new groundwater infrastructure.

Type	Rules
------	-------

Type	Rules
<p><b>Rules to minimise interference between bores</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 400 m from a bore that is nominated on an aquifer access licence on another landholding</li> <li>• 100 m from a bore that is used to extract basic landholder rights on another landholding</li> <li>• 50 m from a property boundary</li> <li>• 1,000 m from a bore nominated by a local or major water utility access licence</li> <li>• 200 m from a government monitoring bore.</li> </ul> <p>These distance restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the bore is used solely for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• the bore is a replacement bore</li> <li>• the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>• the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal detrimental effect on existing extraction</li> <li>• the local water utility, major utility or landholder potentially affected by the new bore gives written consent to the construction of the bore.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near contamination sources</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 m of a contamination source</li> <li>• 250 m from the edge of a plume of a contamination source</li> <li>• 250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source, unless no drawdown of water will occur within 250 m of that plume</li> <li>• 250 m of an onsite sewage disposal system unless the water supply work is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— constructed with cement grout in the borehole annulus to a minimum depth of 20 m from the ground surface</li> <li>— located at a sufficient distance from the on-site sewage disposal system to prevent migration of septic contamination in the aquifer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the location of the bore is adequate to protect the water source, the environment and public health and safety</li> <li>• the bore is used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• waterfront land</li> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>• 200 m of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• 200 m of a coastal wetland</li> </ul>



Type	Rules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment.</li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if the bore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is used only for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• is a replacement groundwater work</li> <li>• is for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>• location is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to a high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for bores located near potential acid sulfate soils</b>	<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 a significant risk of acidification of the groundwater source.</p>
<b>Rules for bores located near groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites</b>	<p>New works are not permitted within within 200 m of groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites.</p> <p>This location distance restriction does not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is used solely for a basic landholder right</li> <li>• is a replacement</li> <li>• is used for monitoring, environmental management or remediation works</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but would have no more than a minimal impact on the groundwater dependent culturally significant sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights</b>	<p>Unless they are a replacing existing, water supply works (bores) used solely for basic landholder rights must not be constructed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on waterfront land or</li> <li>• within 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore</li> </ul> <p>Construction is also restricted within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 m of a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• 100 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment</li> <li>• 100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul> <p>These restrictions do not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a replacement</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance, but would result in no more than minimal harm to any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but would result in no more than minimal harm to any groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul>
<b>Replacement groundwater works</b>	<p>A replacement water supply work (bore) must be located within:</p>

Type	Rules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 m of the existing bore,</li> <li>• no closer to the river than the bore being replaced if on waterfront land.</li> </ul> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no longer manufactured, in which case it may be no greater than 120 % of the current internal diameter</li> <li>• less than 100 mm, in which case the internal diameter must be no more than 100 mm.</li> </ul>

## 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 aquifer to unregulated river). These rules are covered in Table 5.

Table 4. Rules for trading into or within this water source

Type	Rules
<b>Into water source</b>	Not permitted.
<b>Within water source</b>	Permitted

Table 5. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

<b>Conversion to a new category</b>	Not permitted.
-------------------------------------	----------------

Table 6. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
<p><b>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 <i>Water Management Act General Regulation 2018</i>.</b></p>	
<b>Aboriginal cultural access licence</b>	Permitted to a limit less than or equal to 10 ML/year.

Type	Rules
Aboriginal community development access licence	Permitted.
Major Utility	Major water utility (urban water) access licences are permitted in this groundwater source.

---

## More information

More information about the planning process and the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the Department of Planning and Environment's website.

# Rule Summary Sheet for the Sydney Basin West Groundwater Source

Rule Summary Sheet 10 of 10

## Plan details

<b>Water sharing plan:</b>	<i>Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023</i>
<b>Plan commencement:</b>	1 July 2023
<b>Term of plan:</b>	10 years
<b>Groundwater Source:</b>	Sydney Basin West Groundwater Source
<b>Application:</b>	These rules apply to all groundwater contained in all rocks of Tertiary to Permian age and Cenozoic sediments within the boundaries of this water source (excluding those within the Hawkesbury Alluvium Groundwater Source).

### Important

This fact sheet summarises the rules contained in the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* for the Sydney Basin West 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](mailto:water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your 'Statement of Approval', 'Statement of Conditions' or via the [WaterNSW water register](#).

## Rules

### Managing Access Licences

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.
- Licences with share components specifying the Sydney Basin Blue Mountains, Sydney Basin Coxs River or Sydney Basin Richmond Groundwater Sources will be considered to be within the Sydney Basin West Groundwater Source when the plan commences.

### Carryover and Individual Account Limits

If any account water is not used within a water year:

- for aquifer access licences, up to 0.1 ML per unit share can be carried over in the account, to be used in another water year.
- for all other access licences, the water cannot be carried over to be used in another water year.

For all access licences - the maximum volume of water that can be debited in any water year is the volume of water allocated to the account over that year from available water determinations plus any carryover that's allowed, plus allocation assignments (trades) into the account.

### Waterfront land

Waterfront land is defined in the Dictionary of the WM Act. Groundwater works that are on waterfront land are in the bed of or within 40 metres of a riverbank, lake or estuary mean high water mark.

### 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 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 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 on waterfront land

Type	Rules
<p><b>Cease to take</b></p>	<p>On waterfront land water must not be taken when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there is no visible flow in the river adjacent to the location of the works, or</li> <li>• while a cease to take notice is in effect. The notice will be published on either the Department of Planning and Environment website or WaterNSW website. This applies in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lower Nepean River Water Source</li> <li>○ Upper Hawkesbury River Water Source</li> </ul> </li> <li>• flows in the adjacent unregulated river are in the very low flow class. Depending on the section of the river, different rules apply. These additional rules apply in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dharabuladh Water Source</li> <li>○ Grose River Water Source</li> <li>○ Jenolan River Water Source</li> <li>○ Kedumba River Water Source</li> <li>○ Kowmung River Water Source</li> <li>○ Warragamba River Water Source</li> <li>○ Wywandy Water Source, and</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Water cannot be taken on waterfront land adjacent to some sections of a river unless flows have exceeded the very low flow class for at least 24 consecutive hours. This rule applies in the following area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Colo River Water Source.</li> </ul> <p>The flow classes and the conditions for a cease to take notice are defined in the <i>Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Unregulated River Water Sources 2023</i> and described in the relevant <a href="#">rule summary sheet for the unregulated river water sources</a>.</p>
<p><b>Take from in-river pool</b></p>	<p>Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool</p>
<p><b>Take from in-river dam pool</b></p>	<p>Take must cease when the pool is less than full capacity – when there is no flow in or out of the pool</p>

Table 2. Exemptions from access rules that apply on waterfront land

Type	Rules
<b>Health and hygiene</b>	For an access licence specified in schedule 1 of the plan, up to 20 kl/day for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fruit or vegetable washing</li> <li>• cleaning of dairy plant and equipment for the purposes of hygiene</li> <li>• poultry watering and misting</li> <li>• cleaning of enclosures used for intensive animal production for the purposes of hygiene.</li> </ul>
<b>Works that cause no more than minimal harm to surface water</b>	If a hydrogeological study demonstrates that the water supply work will have no more than minimal impact on base flows in the river.
<b>Aquifer interference</b>	Taking water under an access licence for an aquifer interference activity is allowed if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the licence holder complies with a water management plan, if required under a planning approval or</li> <li>b) the licence holder is not able to comply with the access rule concerned.</li> </ol>
<b>Works drilled to bedrock and screened</b>	For extraction from works that have been drilled into bedrock and are cased to at least 30m depth.

### 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.

Table 3 summarises the rules for groundwater works approvals for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023*.

Table 3 Rules for the location of new groundwater infrastructure.

Type	Rules
<p><b>Rules to minimise interference between bores</b></p>	<p>New water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 400 m from a bore that is nominated on an aquifer access licence on another landholding</li> <li>• 100 m from a bore that is used to extract basic landholder rights on another landholding</li> <li>• 50 m from a property boundary</li> <li>• 1,000 m from a bore nominated by a local or major water utility access licence</li> <li>• 200 m from a government monitoring bore.</li> </ul> <p>These distance restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the bore is used solely for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• the bore is a replacement bore</li> <li>• the bore is used for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>• the location of the bore at a lesser distance will have no more than minimal detrimental effect on existing extraction</li> <li>• the local water utility, major utility or landholder potentially affected by the new bore gives written consent to the construction of the bore.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near contamination sources</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 m of a contamination source</li> <li>• 250 m from the edge of a plume of a contamination source</li> <li>• 250 m and 500 m from the edge of a plume associated with a contamination source, unless no drawdown of water will occur within 250 m of that plume</li> <li>• 250 m of an onsite sewage disposal system unless the water supply work is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ constructed with cement grout in the borehole annulus to a minimum depth of 20 m from the ground surface</li> <li>○ located at a sufficient distance from the on-site sewage disposal system to prevent migration of septic contamination in the aquifer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the location of the bore is adequate to protect the water source, the environment and public health and safety</li> <li>• the bore is used for the purpose of monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystems</b></p>	<p>Water supply works (bores) must not be constructed within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• waterfront land</li> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> </ul>



Type	Rules
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 200 m of any high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• 200 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment.</li> </ul> <p>These distances restrictions do not apply if the bore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is used only for basic landholder rights</li> <li>• is a replacement groundwater work</li> <li>• is for monitoring, environmental remediation activities or emergency services</li> <li>• location is likely to cause no more than minimal harm to a high priority groundwater-dependent ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near potential acid sulfate soils</b></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 a significant risk of acidification of the groundwater source.</p>
<p><b>Rules for bores located near groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites</b></p>	<p>New works are not permitted within 200 m of groundwater-dependent, culturally significant sites.</p> <p>This location distance restriction does not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is used solely for a basic landholder right</li> <li>• is a replacement</li> <li>• is used for monitoring, environmental management or remediation works</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but has been demonstrated to have no more than a minimal impact on the groundwater dependent culturally significant sites.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Rules for bores used solely for basic landholder rights</b></p>	<p>Unless they are a replacing existing, water supply works (bores) used solely for basic landholder rights must not be constructed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on waterfront land or</li> <li>• within 100 m of a government monitoring or observation bore.</li> </ul> <p>Construction is also restricted within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 m of a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• 100 m of a coastal wetland</li> <li>• 100 m of the top of an escarpment</li> <li>• 500 m of a Karst environment</li> <li>• 100 m of a groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul> <p>These restrictions do not apply if the work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is a replacement</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance, but would result in no more than minimal harm to a high-priority, groundwater-dependent ecosystem</li> <li>• is located at a lesser distance but would result in no more than minimal harm to any groundwater-dependent, culturally significant area.</li> </ul>

Type	Rules
<b>Replacement groundwater works</b>	<p>A replacement water supply work (bore) must be located within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 m of the existing bore,</li> <li>• no closer to the river than the bore being replaced if on waterfront land.</li> </ul> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no longer manufactured, in which case it may be no greater than 120 % of the current internal diameter</li> <li>• less than 100 mm, in which case the internal diameter must be no more than 100 mm.</li> </ul>

## 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 aquifer to unregulated river). These rules are covered in Table 5.

Table 4. Rules for trading into or within this water source

Type	Rules
<b>Into water source</b>	Not permitted.
<b>Within water source</b>	Permitted.

Table 5. Trading rules for conversion of access licence category within this water source

Type	Rules
<b>Conversion to a new category</b>	Not permitted.

Table 6. Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
<p><b>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 <i>Water Management Act General Regulation 2018</i>.</b></p>	
<b>Aboriginal cultural access licence</b>	Permitted up to 10 ML/year.

Type	Rules
Aboriginal community development access licence	Not Permitted.
Major Utility	Major water utility (urban water) access licences are permitted in this groundwater source.

---

## More information

More information about the planning process and the *Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023* is available on the [water sharing plan pages](#) of the Department of Planning and Environment's website.