

# Rules summary sheet: Barwon-Darling River Water Source

## Water Sharing Plan for the Barwon-Darling Unregulated River Water Source 2012

Table 1 Plan details

Water sharing plan	Barwon-Darling Unregulated River Water Source 2012
Plan commencement	4 October 2012
Term of the plan	10 years
Management zones and river sections	<p>The water source is divided into management zones and river sections</p> <p>River Section 1</p> <p>Management zones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Mungindi to Boomi River Confluence Management Zone,</li> <li>b) Boomi River Confluence to Upstream Mogil Mogil Weir Pool Management Zone,</li> <li>c) Mogil Mogil Weir Pool Management Zone,</li> <li>d) Downstream Mogil Mogil to Collarenebri Management Zone,</li> <li>e) Collarenebri to Upstream Walgett Weir Pool Management Zone,</li> <li>f) Walgett Weir Pool Management Zone,</li> </ul> <p>River Section 2</p> <p>Management zones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>g) Downstream Walgett to Boorooma Management Zone,</li> <li>h) Boorooma to Brewarrina Management Zone,</li> </ul> <p>River Section 3</p> <p>Management zones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Brewarrina to Culgoa River Junction Management Zone,</li> <li>j) Culgoa River Junction to Bourke Management Zone,</li> </ul> <p>River Section 4</p> <p>Management zones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>k) Bourke to Louth Management Zone,</li> <li>l) Louth to Tilpa Management Zone,</li> <li>m) Tilpa to Wilcannia Management Zone, and</li> <li>n) Wilcannia to Upstream Lake Wetherell Management Zone.</li> </ul>

**Important:** This factsheet summarises the rules contained in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Barwon Darling Unregulated River Water Source 2012*. It is intended as a guide only. Approvals and licences also contain conditions that holders must comply with. You can access this information from your ‘Statement of Approval’ or ‘Statement of Conditions’ or alternatively via <https://waterregister.waternsw.com.au/water-register-frame>.

Table 2 Limits to the availability of water

Limit	Explanation
<b>Long-term average annual extraction limit</b>	The long-term average annual extraction limit (LTAAEL) is 214 GL/year.
<b>Compliance with the long-term average annual extraction limit</b>	There is non-compliance with the LTAAEL if average annual extraction exceeds the long-term average annual extraction limit by 3% or more.  Average extraction is calculated at the end of each water year and is calculated over the duration of available climate records
<b>Long-term average sustainable diversion limit</b>	Baseline diversion limit minus 32,000ML minus any shared reduction
<b>Compliance with the long-term average sustainable diversion limit</b>	If there is a non-compliance the action will be to reduce the sum of available water determinations that is permitted to be made in accordance with clause 38 for unregulated river (A Class) access licences, unregulated river (B Class) access licences and unregulated river (C Class) access licences.
<b>Available water determinations</b>	Available water determinations (AWDs) will be made at the start of each water year for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic and stock, local and major water utilities and specific purpose access licences (incl. supplementary water [Aboriginal environmental] access licences) – 100 per cent of share component</li> </ul> Unregulated river access licences – a ratio of the LTAAEL (irrigation component) divided by the sum of share components for A,B and C class access licences

Table 3 Rules for granting access licences

Type	Rules
<b>Granting of access licences</b>	<p>Granting of access licences may be considered for the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• specific purpose access licences under the Water Management (General) Regulation 2011 including local water utility, major water utility, domestic and stock and town water supply</li> <li>• Unregulated river (Aboriginal cultural) access licences, up to 10 ML/year</li> <li>• Supplementary (Aboriginal environmental) access licences - individual licences volumes up to 500 ML, but no more than 2,000 ML in total across the water source.</li> </ul>

Table 4 Rules for managing access licences

Type	Rules
<b>Carryover</b>	<p>Unlimited carryover of account water at the end of each water year is permitted for unregulated river access licences.</p> <p>No carryover is allowed for domestic and stock, local water utility or specific purpose access licences (incl. supplementary [Aboriginal environmental] access licences).</p>
<b>Individual Take Limits</b>	<p>For all unregulated river access licences, the maximum amount of water that can be taken in any one water year is equal to 3 times the share component of that access licence at the commencement of that water year plus any water assigned under 71T of the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> (WMA). Licences specified in Schedule 1A are exempt from this take limit for 5 years or until they have reduced the amount of water in their water allocation account to equal to or less than 10 times the share component of their access licence at the time the rule commenced.</p> <p>Should the Barwon-Darling sub-valley be considered in breach of the trigger threshold for Schedule E of the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement, the Minister may announce that for all unregulated river access licences, the maximum amount of water permitted to be taken over three consecutive water years shall be equal to the sum of share component for that access licence at the start of each of those water years multiplied by 1ML/unit share.</p> <p>There are no individual take limits for specific purpose access licences.</p>

Type	Rules				
<p><b>Individual Daily Extraction Components (IDECs)</b></p>	<p>The IDEC is part of the extraction component of an access licence, specifying the daily volume of water that may be taken under the licence by reference to daily flow shares.</p> <p>IDECs apply to all Unregulated River A Class, B class and C Class water access licences and WAL36273.</p> <p>The maximum volume of water that may be taken on any day is 1 ML per daily flow share.</p> <p>The Minister may make an announcement to reduce the maximum volume of water permitted to be taken per daily flow share under if the sum of IDECs for licence holders that have expressed interest to take water exceeds the water available to be taken under those licences for the relevant flow class. In these situations, the available water is shared between licence holders that have expressed an interest in taking the water.</p>				
<p><b>Resumption of Flows</b></p>	<p>This plan allows for the first flow after an extended period of no flow or low flows to be protected from extraction. The rule is applied by sections and is triggered when the following occurs:</p>				
		<p><b>Criteria set at Section 1</b> (Walgett)</p>	<p><b>Criteria set at Section 2</b> (Brewarrina)</p>	<p><b>Criteria set at Section 3</b> (Bourke)</p>	<p><b>Criteria set at Section 4</b> (Wilcannia)</p>
<p><b>Section 1 restriction is activated if:</b></p>		<p>If Section 1 flow has been below 326 ML/d for 150 days</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p>	<p>If Section 2 flow has been below 468 ML/d for 150 days</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p>	<p>If Section 3 flow has been below 450 ML/d for 120 days</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p>	<p>If Section 4 flow has been below 200 ML/d for 90 days</p>
<p><b>Section 2 restriction is activated if:</b></p>			<p>If Section 2 flow has been below 468 ML/d for 150 days</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p>	<p>If Section 3 flow has been below 450 ML/d for 120 days</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p>	<p>If Section 4 flow has been below 200 ML/d for 90 days</p>
<p><b>Section 3 restriction is activated if:</b></p>				<p>If Section 3 flow has been below 450 ML/d for 120 days</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p>	<p>If Section 4 flow has been below 200 ML/d for 90 days</p>

Type	Rules				
	<b>Section 4 restriction is activated if:</b>				If Section 4 flow has been below 200 ML/d for 90 days
	Restrictions are lifted when				
		<b>Criteria set at Section 1</b> (Walgett)	<b>Criteria set at Section 2</b> (Brewarrina)	<b>Criteria set at Section 3</b> (Bourke)	<b>Criteria set at Section 4</b> (Wilcannia)
	<b>Section 1 restriction is relaxed:</b>	If Section 1 is forecasted to have a flow of greater than 706 ML/d for 10 days at Walgett OR The cumulative flow past Walgett is forecast to cause a cumulative flow past Bourke greater than 30 GL AND	If Section 2 is forecasted to have a flow of 1008 ML/d for 10 days at Brewarrina OR The cumulative flow past Brewarrina is forecast to cause a cumulative flow past Bourke greater than 30 GL AND	If Section 3 is forecasted to have a flow of 972 ML/d for 10 days at Bourke OR The cumulative flow past Bourke is forecast to be greater than 30 GL AND	If Section 4 is forecasted to have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a flow of 400 ML/d at Wilcannia for 10 days</li> </ul> OR a cumulative flow past Bourke (since start of restriction) greater than 30 GL <sup>1</sup>
<b>Section 2 restriction is relaxed:</b>		If Section 2 is forecasted to have a flow of 1008 ML/d for 10 days at Brewarrina OR The cumulative flow past Brewarrina is forecast to cause a cumulative flow past Bourke greater than 30 GL AND	If Section 3 is forecasted to have a flow of 972 ML/d for 10 days at Bourke OR The cumulative flow past Bourke is forecast to be greater than 30 GL AND	If Section 4 is forecasted to have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a flow of 400 ML/d at Wilcannia for 10 days</li> </ul> OR a cumulative flow past Bourke (since start of restriction) greater than 30 GL	

<sup>1</sup> the flow trigger of 30 GL in the Darling River at Bourke is a cumulative total flow. Flows start contributing to the 30 GL target from the start of the most recent low-flow or dry period, when flows have been less than 200 ML/day for more than 90 consecutive days at Wilcannia.

Type	Rules				
	<p><b>Section 3 restriction is relaxed:</b></p>			<p>If Section 3 is forecasted to have a flow of 972 ML/d for 10 days at Bourke. OR The cumulative flow past Bourke is forecast to be greater than 30 GL AND</p>	<p>If Section 4 is forecasted to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a flow of 400 ML/d at Wilcannia for 10 days</li> </ul> <p>OR</p> <p>a cumulative flow past Bourke (since start of restriction) greater than 30 GL</p>
	<p><b>Section 4 restriction is relaxed:</b></p>				<p>If Section 4 is forecasted to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a flow of 400 ML/d at Wilcannia for 10 days</li> </ul> <p>OR</p> <p>a cumulative flow past Bourke (since start of restriction) greater than 30 GL</p>
<p>Active Management</p>	<p>The WSP allows for Active Management in the Barwon-Darling Water source. Active Management is a suite of tools implemented to announce access, manage environmental water, and share water between users when demand is greater than available water. Active Management is implemented by WaterNSW in line with the Barwon Darling Active Management Procedures Manual.</p> <p>Daily announcements are made by WaterNSW for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flow Classes</li> <li>Adjusted flow class thresholds CTPs</li> <li>When daily flow share of less than 1ML/Share is required</li> </ul> <p>Access announcements may be changed by WaterNSW within 24 hours of making an announcement when there are mismatches in observed and forecast flows that result in more water being available for the management zone<sup>2</sup>.</p>				

<sup>2</sup> Changes to access announcements within 24 hours will not commence until WaterNSW systems have been upgraded to implement the revised announcements.

Table 5 Flow Class Thresholds

<p>Access licence holders may only access water when there are announced flows in the management zone mandatory conditions are met.</p> <p>For domestic and stock, local water utility and unregulated river access licences access is allowed when announce flows are in the low flow class, A class, B class or C Class,</p> <p>Extraction by Domestic and stock must not exceed 0.6ML/day when the announced flows in the management zone specified in the access licence are in the Low Flow Class.</p> <p>Low flow class for each management zone is a of more than 0 ML/Day but less than less than the A Class threshold in the table below.</p>		
Flow Class	Flow class thresholds (ML/day) as at 9:00am	
Mungindi to Boomi River confluence management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	0 ML/Day
A Class	198 ML/Day	176 ML/Day
B Class	230 ML/Day	270 ML/Day
C Class	230 ML/Day	1,500 ML/Day
Reference Points	Barwon River at Mungindi (gauge 416001)	Barwon River at Presbury (gauge 416050)
Boomi River confluence to upstream Mogil Mogil Weir pool management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	0 ML/Day
A Class	176 ML/Day	220 ML/Day
B Class	270 ML/Day	230 ML/Day
C Class	270ML/Day	1,800 ML/Day
Reference Points	Barwon River at Presbury (gauge 416050)	Barwon River at Mogil Mogil (gauge 422004)
Mogil Mogil Weir pool management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	
A Class	220 ML/Day	
B Class	570 ML/Day	
C Class	1,800 ML/Day	

Reference Points	Barwon River at Mogil Mogil (gauge 422004)	
Downstream Mogil Mogil to Collarenebri management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	0 ML/Day
A Class	220 ML/Day	317 ML/Day
B Class	570 ML/Day	500 ML/Day
C Class	570 ML/Day	2,900 ML/Day
Reference Points	Barwon River at Mogil Mogil (gauge 422004)	Barwon River at Collarenebri Main Channel (gauge 422003)
Collarenebri to Upstream Walgett Weir pool management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	0 ML/Day
A Class	317 ML/Day	275 ML/Day
B Class	500 ML/Day	430 ML/Day
C Class	500 ML/Day	3,050 ML/Day
Reference Points	Barwon River at Collarenebri Main Channel (gauge 422003)	Barwon River at Tara (gauge 422025)
Walgett Weir pool management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	
A Class	600 ML/Day	
B Class	900 ML/Day	
C Class	5,650 ML/Day	
Reference Points	Barwon River at Dangar Bridge (gauge 422001)	
Downstream Walgett to Boorooma management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	0 ML/Day
A Class	600 ML/Day	400 ML/Day
B Class	900 ML/Day	870 ML/Day
C Class	900 ML/Day	5,500 ML/Day



Reference Points	Barwon River at Dangar Bridge (gauge 422001)	Barwon River at Boorooma (gauge 422026)
Boorooma to Brewarrina management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	0 ML/Day
A Class	496 ML/Day	550 ML/Day
B Class	870 ML/Day	840 ML/Day
C Class	870 ML/Day	6,800 ML/Day
Reference Points	Barwon River at Geera (gauge 422027)	Barwon River at Brewarrina (gauge 422002)
Brewarrina to Culgoa River Junction Bourke management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	0 ML/Day
A Class	550 ML/Day	570 ML/Day
B Class	840 ML/Day	760 ML/Day
C Class	840 ML/Day	8,250 ML/Day
Reference Points	Barwon River at Brewarrina (gauge 422002)	Barwon River at Beemery (gauge 422028)
Culgoa River Junction to Bourke management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	0 ML/Day
A Class	645 ML/Day	605 ML/Day
B Class	1,330 ML/Day	1,250 ML/Day
C Class	1,330 ML/Day	11,000 ML/Day
Reference Points	Darling River at Warraweena (gauge 425029)	Darling River at Bourke Town (gauge 425003)
Bourke to Louth management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	0 ML/Day
A Class	605 ML/Day	555 ML/Day
B Class	1,250 ML/Day	1,130 ML/Day

C Class	1,250 ML/Day	11,150 ML/Day
Reference Points	Darling River at Bourke Town (gauge 425003)	Darling River at Louth (gauge 425004)
Louth to Tilpa management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	0 ML/Day
A Class	555 ML/Day	505 ML/Day
B Class	1,130 ML/Day	1,010 ML/Day
C Class	1,130 ML/Day	11,000 ML/Day
Reference Points	Darling River at Louth (gauge 425004)	Darling River at Tilpa (gauge 425900)
Tilpa to Wilcannia management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	0 ML/Day
A Class	505 ML/Day	455 ML/Day
B Class	1,010 ML/Day	850 ML/Day
C Class	1,010 ML/Day	12,000 ML/Day
Reference Points	Darling River at Tilpa (gauge 425900)	Darling River at Wilcannia Main Channel (gauge 425008)
Wilcannia to upstream Lake Wetherell management zone		
Domestic and Stock	0 ML/Day	
A Class	455 ML/Day	
B Class	850 ML/Day	
C Class	12,000 ML/Day	
Reference Points	Darling River at Wilcannia Main Channel (gauge 425008)	

Table 6 Trading rules

Trade type	Rules
Into water source	Not permitted.

Trade type	Rules			
<b>Within</b> water source	Permitted subject to specific rules.			
<b>Out of</b> water source	Not permitted.			
Assignment of allocation (account water)	Permitted with in the water source to another access licence that is subject to an equivalent or higher cease to take condition			
Assignment of rights	Permitted within a river section.			
	Permitted between licences of the same category into a different river section provided the total shares in that section and class do not exceed the total specified below			
	Section	A Class	B Class	C Class
	1	3,434	82,940	26,040
	2	2,535	38,282	114,197
	3	13,515	126,019	34,344
Amendment of extraction component,	Permanent trade of daily flow shares are permitted within a river section to licences that have the same or more restrictive take conditions as the seller.			
	Temporary assignments (trade) of IDECs are permitted within a river section to licences that have the same or more restrictive take conditions as the seller <sup>3</sup> . Water can only be accessed under IDECs that are temporary traded when WaterNSW has announced access for both licences involved in the dealing.			
Nomination of works,	Prohibited if work is nominated by a licence listed in Schedule 2 at commencement of Plan.			
	Prohibited if being amended to nominate a water supply work located within a natural pool, lagoon or lake that is not within a river or stream (regardless of size), on a flood-runner or floodplain, or on an effluent.			
	Prohibited if nominating a work in a river section would case the total share in that section and class to exceed the total specified below.			
	Section	A Class	B Class	C Class

<sup>3</sup> Temporary trades of IDECs will not commence until WaterNSW systems have been upgraded to implement the trades.

Trade type	Rules			
	1	3,434	82,940	26,040
	2	2,535	38,282	114,197
	3	13,515	126,019	34,344
	4	5,860	38,246	44,720

More information about the planning process for the *Water Sharing Plan for the Barwon-Darling Unregulated River Water Source 2012* is available at the Department of Planning and Environment's website: [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water)