

Report Card for Brisbane Water Water Source

Water Source Context	River Flows
Area: 217 km ² Average Annual Rainfall 1215 mm Inflowing water source: Nil Receiving water source: Nil	Low flow Index: (80 th ile in December of days with flow) – 1 ML/day Flow records: Estimate based on limited data. Estimate verified using flows between 28/8/03 – 28/8/06 at Narara Creek upstream Research Station gauge
Licensed Water use	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total surface water entitlement: 105 ML/year (97% used for irrigation purposes) • 10 surface water licenses - Peak Daily Demand=0.1 ML/day • 0.6 % of total Gosford Extraction Management Unit entitlement 	

Proposed Management Rules for Brisbane Water Water Source

Draft Access Rules	
Cease to Pump (CtP)	Cease to pump is when there is either no visible inflow to, or outflow from, the pumping pool.
Reference Point	Riffles upstream and downstream of pump
Draft Trading Rules	
INTO water source	Not permitted
WITHIN water source	Permitted, except into the plateau management zone.
Conversion to High Flow Access Licence	Not permitted

Key Factors for Panel Decision

Background information

Water Source attributes	Rating	Justification
Relative Instream Value (within catchment)	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 threatened aquatic invertebrate species • 3 threatened bird species • 7 threatened amphibian species • 1 threatened herbs and forbs species • minimum disturbance to instream condition • high recreational value
Hydrological Stress	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • peak extraction demand is significantly less than available flows in December
Relative Economic Significance of Irrigation (within catchment)	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • low economic dependence of the local community on water extracted for irrigation
Risk to Instream Value (from extraction)	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • instream values are at moderate risk of being impacted by extractions within the water source

Existing Access Arrangements During Dry Conditions

Water User Association (WUA)	No
Licensed Cease to Pump (CtP)	None

Regional Panel review of initial classification and draft rules

Classification

- Gaining stream type
- The regional panel revised the risk to instream value from low to medium in recognition of urban development within the catchment.

Rules

- Trading rules identified by the classification process (trades not allowed in or upstream of water source) were adopted.
- Access rules identified by the classification process (CtP to allow flows at or below 90%ile to pass end of water source) were not adopted by the Regional Panel due to the limited number of users and licensed entitlement in the water source. In addition a lack of infrastructure prevented the proposed end of system rule from being implemented. Investment in infrastructure could not be justified due to the limited number of users. A visible inflow/outflow to pumping pool was recommended instead.

Matters raised during targeted consultation

No changes to the rules were proposed by water users or interest groups during the targeted consultation period. Note the targeted consultation period did primarily focus on the Wyong River water source.

Aboriginal Cultural Values

- The initial consultation with local Aboriginal communities indicate that they consider healthy rivers with natural flows and good biodiversity as being important. Further feedback is being sought from Aboriginal communities about values in their area.

Information on privacy and confidentiality

Submissions received will be used by the Department when it considers amending the Plan. The Department values your input into the water sharing plan process and appreciates that information that you provide may be of a private and personal nature.

If you wish your submission, any part of your submission, or your personal details to be treated as confidential for any reason then you can request this. Please indicate your preference at the time of making your submission. Please be aware that if you do not make a request for confidentiality, then the Department may make your submission, including any personal details contained in the submission, available to the public. Please see the "Community consultation" page on the Department's website for further information.

For more information about the macro planning process for the Central Coast Unregulated Water Sources refer to the "Central Coast Unregulated Water Sources - Background Document" on the Departments website:

www.dwe.nsw.gov.au

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