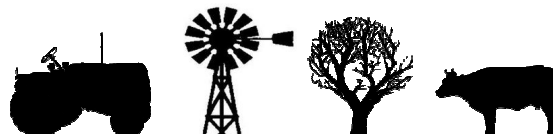


**Amendments to the Katunga Water Supply Protection Area
Groundwater Management Plan
Submission Form 2017**



The Katunga Water Supply Protection Area Consultative Committee (the Committee) welcomes your response to the draft amendments to the Katunga Water Supply Protection Area (WSPA) Groundwater Management Plan (the Plan).

The Committee was appointed by the Minister for Water to provide advice on the amendment of the Groundwater Management Plan in late 2015. The Committee has consulted broadly with groundwater users and the community to develop the draft amendments to the Plan.

The draft amendments to the Plan outline proposed management rules for groundwater resources in the region, including a revised process for restricting the take of groundwater, rules for trading groundwater and groundwater salinity monitoring.

Submissions on the draft amendments to the Plan are invited from groundwater users and the community. Submissions will be received until 5pm Friday 12 May, 2017.

All submissions will be provided to the Committee and forwarded to the Minister for Water for consideration along with the Draft Amendments to the Plan. Approval of the amendments to the Plan will be the responsibility of the Minister for Water.

This form can be used for responses or alternatively you may write your own letter.

Please indicate below if you agree or disagree with each prescription listed in the amendments to the Plan. If you do not support a prescription, please provide your reasoning. Additional comments may also be included for consideration by the Committee and the Minister. If there is insufficient space, please attach any further comments to this form.

Please provide your contact details

Personal details are required for your response to be considered by the Consultative Committee.

Name (please print)			
Postal address:			
	Town:	Postcode:	
Phone:	Email:		
Please indicate if you are responding: <input type="checkbox"/> as an individual <input type="checkbox"/> on behalf of an organisation <input type="checkbox"/> on behalf of a community group (No. of members)			
If you are responding on behalf of an organisation or a community group, please provide the name of the organisation and its aims: 			

Protecting your privacy

Goulburn-Murray Water protects your privacy by collecting and handling your personal information in accordance with the requirements of the *Information Privacy Act 2000*. Personal information collected in this form will only be used for the purpose of considering your submission for the amendments to the Katunga WSPA Groundwater Management Plan. It may be disclosed to the Committee and Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning for this purpose. You have a right to access and correct the personal information you provide to Goulburn-Murray Water. For further information regarding Goulburn-Murray Water's privacy statement please refer to our website at www.g-mwater.com.au

PRESCRIPTION 1: Limit on entitlement (Page 12)

GMW must not approve an application for a groundwater licence if the approval of the application would cause:

- a) The Permissible Consumptive Volume to be exceeded;
- b) The total groundwater entitlement within a 2 km radius of the proposed extraction site exceeding 3,700 ML/year; or
- c) The following zone limits to be exceeded.

Management zone	Zone limit (ML/year)
North Western Dryland Zone (1061)	6,500
Numurkah-Nathalia Zone (1062)	No limit
Cobram Zone (1063)	25,000

<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Comments:		

PRESCRIPTION 2: Restrictions on taking groundwater (Page 14)

By 1 July each year GMW will:

- a) Determine the rolling average of the maximum annual groundwater recovery levels from the preceding five irrigation seasons for bores listed in Schedule 1 (page 24) and announce a corresponding allocation for the subsequent irrigation season as detailed below:

Trigger level depth below natural surface (m)	Allocation
21.0 and above	100%
21.1 to 24.0	70%
Below 24.1	70% and review undertaken by GMW in consultation with Katunga Groundwater Reference Group

- b) Announce allocations by listing them on its website, sending letters to all licence holders and placing public notices in local newspapers.

<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Comments:		

PRESCRIPTION 3: Transfer of entitlement (page 15)

3.1 GMW may approve a permanent transfer of entitlement provided relevant matters have been considered and:

- a) Zone limits in Prescription 1 (page 12) will not be exceeded; and
- b) The total licensed volume within 2 km of an applicant's bore will be less than 3,700 ML/year; or
- c) Where the total licensed volume within 2 km of an applicant's bore is equal to or greater than 3,700 ML/year, the permanent transfer is from other licence holders within a 2 km radius of the applicant's bore.

3.2 GMW may approve a temporary transfer of entitlement provided relevant matters have been considered and:

- a) Zone limits in Prescription 1 (page 12) will not be exceeded; and
- b) The total licensed volume within 2 km of an applicant's bore will be less than 3,700 ML/year; or
- c) Where the total licensed volume within 2 km of an applicant's bore is equal to or greater than 3,700 ML/year –
 - i. The applicant's entitlement volume in one season will not exceed 125% of their permanent entitlement volume prior to any temporary trade occurring; or
 - ii. The temporary transfer is from other licence holders within a 2 km radius of the applicant's bore

<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Comments:		

PRESCRIPTION 4: Metering licensed use (page 18)

GMW will:

- a) Ensure that a meter is fitted to new licensed bores;
- b) Read each meter at least once a year and record use in appropriate database(s); and
- c) If GMW is unable to measure the volume of water taken through a meter it may:
 - i. make an estimate of use; or
 - ii. request the licence holder to provide a meter reading.

<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Comments:		

PRESCRIPTION 5: Groundwater level monitoring (page 19)

5.1 GMW will:

- a) Obtain groundwater levels from bores used for allocation assessments (listed in Schedule 1; Page 24) on a monthly basis. If a bore used for allocation assessments becomes defective an alternative bore may be monitored and the defective bore should be decommissioned. The alternative bore will be selected by consensus between DELWP and GMW.
- b) Ensure that water level monitoring is carried out at appropriate locations throughout the Katunga WSPA to:
 - i. assess annual and long-term impact on water levels from groundwater pumping;
 - ii. monitor regional and local seasonal drawdown; and
 - iii. monitor the impacts of groundwater pumping generally across the Katunga WSPA and in areas of high intensity groundwater pumping.

5.2 DELWP must ensure that:

- a) Continuous regional baseline monitoring is maintained to provide sufficient information to identify changes in groundwater resource availability and condition;
- b) State observation bores are properly maintained; and
 - i. Data collected from the bores is entered into the groundwater management system, within 30 days after it has been collected.

<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Comments:		

PRESCRIPTION 6: Groundwater salinity monitoring (page 20)

GMW must:

- a) Sample bores specified in Schedule 1 (page 24) and have the samples analysed at an accredited laboratory for salinity once a year;
- b) Upload salinity measured in bores referred to in Schedule 1 (page 24) to the State groundwater database; and
- c) Provide a sample bottle to any groundwater user in the Katunga WSPA who requests one, test the salinity level of returned samples and provide the results to the groundwater user.

<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsure
Comments:		

Amendments to the Katunga Water Supply Protection Area Groundwater Management Plan

Submission Form 2017

PRESCRIPTION 7: Annual reporting (page 23)

By 30 September each year GMW will prepare an annual report on the enforcement and administration of the Plan. The report will be provided to the Minister for Water and the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and made publicly available on GMW's website.

☐ **Agree**

☐ **Disagree**

☐ **Unsure**

Comments:

Additional comments

Comments:

(please attach additional comments if there is insufficient space provided here)

What happens next?

After submissions close, all submissions received will be reviewed by the Katunga Consultative Committee. The Consultative Committee will forward all submissions and the draft amended Plan to the Minister for Water for consideration.

The closing date for submissions is 5pm on **Friday 12 May, 2017**. Submissions should be returned by mail to:

Katunga Consultative Committee

C/- Karina Joy

Goulburn-Murray Water

PO Box 165

TATURA 3616

Or email karina.joy@gmwater.com.au