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# Available Water Determination Order for Groundwater Sources 2025

under the

Water Management Act 2000

I, Ashraf El-Sherbini, having delegated authority in pursuance of section 59(1)(a) of the *Water Management Act 2000*, make the following Order.

Dated this 19 day of June 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A.EL'.

ASHRAF EL-SHERBINI  
Executive Director, Water Operations and Resilience  
**NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water - Water Group**  
(by delegation)

## **Explanatory note**

This Order is made under section 59(1)(a) of the *Water Management Act 2000*. The object of this Order is to make an available water determination for various categories and subcategories of access licences in the water sources identified in Schedule 1.

# Available Water Determination Order for Groundwater Sources 2025

under the

Water Management Act 2000

## 1 Name of Order

This Order is the *Available Water Determination Order for Groundwater Sources 2025*.

## 2 Commencement

This Order commences on 1 July 2025.

## 3 Available water determination

This Order determines the availability of water in relation to an aquifer in each water source specified in Schedule 1, for each category of access licences specified in Schedule 2 except as otherwise provided for in Schedule 3.

## 4 References to percentages and ML / unit share

In this Order:

- (a) in relation to licences with share components specified as megalitres per year (ML/year) share, a reference to megalitres per unit of share component (if any) is taken to be a reference to a percentage of the share component, where 1 ML per unit of share component is taken to equal 100% of the share component, and
- (b) in relation to licences with share components specified as a number of unit shares, a reference to a percentage of the share component (if any) is taken to be a reference to megalitres per unit of share component, where 100% of the share component is taken to equal 1 ML per unit of share component.

**Note:** Water sharing plans generally require available water determinations to be expressed as:

- (a) a percentage of the share component for access licences where share components are specified as ML/year, or
- (b) megalitres per unit of share component for access licences where share components are specified as a number of unit shares.

## Schedule 1 Water sources

This Order applies to every water source to which one of the following water sharing plans applies to the extent that the water source includes water in aquifers:

1. Water Sharing Plan for the Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024
2. Water Sharing Plan for the Bellinger River Area Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2020
3. Water Sharing Plan for the Brunswick Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2016
4. Water Sharing Plan for the Central Coast Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2022
5. Water Sharing Plan for the Clarence River Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2016
6. Water Sharing Plan for the Clyde River Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2016
7. Water Sharing Plan for the Coffs Harbour Area Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2022
8. Water Sharing Plan for the Darling Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020
9. Water Sharing Plan for the Deua River Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2016
10. Water Sharing Plan for the Greater Metropolitan Region Groundwater Sources 2023
11. Water Sharing Plan for the Gwydir Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020
12. Water Sharing Plan for the Hastings Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2019
13. Water Sharing Plan for the Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2022
14. Water Sharing Plan for the Lachlan Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020
15. Water Sharing Plan for the Lower North Coast Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2022
16. Water Sharing Plan for the Macleay Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2016
17. Water Sharing Plan for the Macquarie-Castlereagh Groundwater Sources 2020
18. Water Sharing Plan for the Murray Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020
19. Water Sharing Plan for the Murrumbidgee Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020
20. Water Sharing Plan for the Nambucca Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2016
21. Water Sharing Plan for the Namoi Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020
22. Water Sharing Plan for the North Coast Coastal Sands Groundwater Sources 2016
23. Water Sharing Plan for the North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources 2016
24. Water Sharing Plan for the North Western Unregulated and Fractured Rock Water Sources 2024
25. Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Border Rivers Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020
26. Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater Sources 2020
27. Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Great Artesian Basin Shallow Groundwater Sources 2020
28. Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Murray Darling Basin Fractured Rock Groundwater Sources 2020
29. Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Murray Darling Basin Porous Rock Groundwater Sources 2020
30. Water Sharing Plan for the Richmond River Area Unregulated, Regulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2023
31. Water Sharing Plan for the Snowy Genoa Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2016
32. Water Sharing Plan for the South Coast Groundwater Sources 2016
33. Water Sharing Plan for the Towamba River Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2023
34. Water Sharing Plan for the Tuross River Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2016
35. Water Sharing Plan for the Tweed River Area Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2023

## Schedule 2 General determination for categories of access licence

Subject to Schedule 3, each amount specified in Column 2 applies to the adjacent category of access licence specified in Column 1.

**Note:** An available water determination made in relation to a particular category of access licence applies to all subcategories of that category, except to the extent to which this order provides otherwise, in accordance with section 59 (1A) of the *Water Management Act 2000*.

	<b>COLUMN 1</b>	<b>COLUMN 2</b>
	<b>Category of access licence</b>	<b>Percentage of share component, or megalitres (ML) per unit of share component</b>
1.	Aquifer	1.0 ML/share or 100%
2.	Domestic and stock	100%
3.	Local water utility	100%
4.	Salinity and water table management	100%
5.	Major Utility (Urban Water)	100%
6.	Aquifer (high security)	1.0 ML/share
7.	Aquifer (general security)	1.0 ML/share

### Schedule 3 Specific determination for categories of access licences

Each amount specified in Column 4 applies to access licences specified in Column 3 whose share component specifies the water source in specified in Column 2, as defined by the water sharing plan specified in Column 1.

	<b>Column 1</b> <b>Applicable Water Sharing Plan</b>	<b>Column 2</b> <b>Water Source</b>	<b>Column 3</b> <b>Access licence categories</b>	<b>Column 4</b> <b>Percentage of share component, or megalitres (ML) per unit of share component</b>
1.	Water Sharing Plan for the Namoi Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020	Upper Namoi Zone 1, Borambil Creek Groundwater Source	Aquifer	2.30 ML/share
2.	Water Sharing Plan for the Murrumbidgee Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020	Gundagai Alluvial Groundwater Source	Aquifer (High Security)	0.984 ML/share