

# Mary Basin

## Wide Bay Water Supply Scheme Operations Manual

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# Chapter 1 Preliminary

## 1 Short title

- (1) This operations manual may be cited as the Wide Bay Water Supply Scheme Operations Manual.
- (2) Reference in this document to 'this manual' means the Wide Bay Water Supply Scheme Operations Manual.

## 2 Interpretation of words used in this manual

The dictionary in attachment 1 defines particular words used in this manual.

## 3 Water supply scheme

The extent of the Wide Bay Water Supply Scheme is defined in Attachment 2 of the Mary Basin Resource Operations Plan, as it has effect for the purposes of the Water Plan (Mary Basin) 2006.

## Chapter 2 Operating rules

### 4 Operating levels of storages

- (1) The minimum operating levels and nominal operating levels are specified in table 1.
- (2) The licence holder must maintain the nominal operating level in the storages specified in table 1 between October and April (inclusive) by releasing water from the upstream infrastructure.
- (3) Despite subsection (2), if for unforeseen circumstances the water level in a storage specified in table 1 falls below its nominal operating level, the licence holder must—
  - (a) release water from upstream infrastructure to restore the water level in the storage to its nominal operating level; and
  - (b) release water under subsection (3)(a) within 72 hours of becoming aware that the water level in the storage had fallen below its nominal operating level.
- (4) The licence holder must not release or supply water from a storage when the water level in that storage is at or below its minimum operating level.

**Table 1 – Operating levels of storages**

Storage	Minimum operating level (m AHD)	Nominal operating level (m AHD)
Burrum Weir Number 1	1.87	4.87 (October–April)
Burrum Weir Number 2	3.05	10.97 (October–April)
Lenthalls Dam	14.0	Not applicable.

### 5 Operating rules for Wongi Waterholes

- (1) The licence holder must remove all water contained from time to time above the natural full supply level of Wongi Waterholes (25.1 metres AHD) by the holder's water infrastructure.
- (2) When water is contained above the natural full supply level of Wongi Waterholes (25.1 metres AHD) by the licence holder's infrastructure, and the storage level in Lenthalls Dam is above 24.5 metres AHD, the licence holder must—
  - (a) commence the removal of all water contained above the natural full supply level of Wongi Waterholes (25.1 metres AHD) as soon as practicable after the containment occurs;
  - (b) remove all water contained above the natural full supply level of Wongi Waterholes (25.1 metres AHD) as quickly as practicable;
  - (c) continue to remove all water contained above the natural full supply level of Wongi Waterholes (25.1 metres AHD) in accordance with subsection (2)(a) and 2(b) until the water level falls to the natural full supply level; and
  - (d) remove the contained water at a rate of at least 150 litres per second whenever the level of inundation of Wongi Waterholes is at or above 25.3 metres AHD.
- (3) The licence holder must return to the system immediately downstream of the pump station all the water that the holder removes from above the full supply level of Wongi Waterholes as specified in subsections (1) and (2).
- (4) To remove any doubt, these rules do not authorise the licence holder to—

- (a) take or interfere with water stored at or below the natural full supply level of Wongi Waterholes; or
  - (b) take, use or supply the water removed from above the natural full supply level of the Wongi Waterholes.
- (5) The licence holder must operate the crest gates on Lenthalls Dam when the storage level in Lenthalls Dam reaches the operational levels specified in table 2.
- (6) The licence holder may manually operate the crest gates on Lenthalls Dam at storage levels lower than that specified in table 2 to further reduce inundation of Wongi Waterholes.

**Table 2 – Crest gate opening order for Lenthalls Dam**

Gate opening order from right bank	Inlet level (m AHD)	Operational level (m AHD)
3	25.96	26.01
2	26.01	26.06
4	26.06	26.11
5	26.11	26.16
1	26.16	26.21

## Chapter 3 Water sharing rules

### 6 Announced allocation

- (1) The licence holder must—
  - (a) determine an announced allocation for medium priority water allocations for use in defining the share of water available to be taken under water allocations in that priority group;
  - (b) use the water sharing rules specified in this part to calculate announced allocations throughout the water year;
  - (c) calculate and set the announced allocation for medium priority water allocations to take effect on the first day of each water year;
  - (d) following the commencement of a water year—
    - (i) recalculate the announced allocation to take effect no later than five business days following the first day of every month; and
    - (ii) reset the announced allocation if a recalculation indicates that the calculated announced allocation would—
      - (A) increase by five or more percentage points; or
      - (B) increase to 100 per cent; and
  - (e) make public the details of the announced allocation, including parameters for determining the announced allocation, on the licence holder's website within five business days of—
    - (i) setting an announced allocation under subsection (1)(c); or
    - (ii) the first calendar day of every month when resetting the announced allocation under subsection (1)(d).
- (2) The announced allocation must—
  - (a) not be less than zero or greater than 100 per cent;
  - (b) be rounded to the nearest per cent; and
  - (c) not be reduced during a water year.

### 7 Calculation of announced allocation

The announced allocation for medium priority water allocations is the announced allocation value stated in column 2 of table 3 corresponding to the infrastructure level in Lenthalls Dam stated in column 1 of table 3.

**Table 3 – Announced allocation calculation parameters**

Column 1	Column 2
Storage level in Lenthalls Dam (m AHD) (percentage of full capacity)	Announced allocation for medium priority group water allocations
23.84 (60.0%)–25.86 (100%)	100%
23.56 (57.5%)–23.83 (59.9%)	95%
23.36 (55.0%)–23.55 (57.4%)	90%
23.16 (52.5%)–23.35 (54.9%)	85%
22.97 (50.0%)–23.15 (52.4%)	80%
22.66 (47.5%)–22.96 (49.9%)	75%
22.36 (45.0%)–22.65 (47.4%)	70%
22.16 (42.5%)–22.35 (44.9%)	65%
21.93 (40.0%)–22.15 (42.4%)	60%
21.56 (37.5%)–21.92 (39.9%)	55%
21.26 (35.0%)–21.55 (37.4%)	50%
20.96 (32.5%)–21.25 (34.9%)	45%
11.86 (0.00%)–20.95 (32.4%)	40%

## 8 Taking water under a water allocation

The total volume of water taken under a medium priority water allocation in a water year must not exceed the nominal volume of the water allocation multiplied by the announced allocation and divided by 100.



## Chapter 4 Seasonal water assignment rules

### 9 Maximum water use

- (1) The maximum volume of water that may be taken in a zone in a water year is the maximum allowable water use volume indicated in table 4 for the zone; and
- (2) The total volume of water that may be taken in a zone in a water year is the total volume of water used under water allocations for all priority groups managed and distributed by the licence holder for zone WBSWB.

### 10 Seasonal water assignment rules

- (1) The licence holder may consent to the arrangement for a seasonal assignment of a volume of water provided that the total volume of water that may be taken in a zone in a water year does not exceed the maximum allowable water use volume in table 4 for the zone.
- (2) The licence holder is responsible for dealing with applications for seasonal water assignment where the licence holder distributes to the assignee.

*Table 4 – Maximum allowable use volume*

Zone	Maximum allowable water use volume (ML)
WBSWB	14 473

## Attachment 1 Dictionary

Term	Definition
AHD	The Australian Height Datum which references a level or height to a standard base level.
Announced allocation	For a water allocation managed under a resource operations licence, this means a number, expressed as a percentage, used to determine the maximum volume of water that may be taken in a water year under the authority of a water allocation.
Assignee	The person or entity to whom an interest or right to water is being transferred (e.g. seasonally assigned).
Inlet	Infrastructure comprised of an entrance channel, intake structure and gate or valve, which allow for water to be taken from the storage and discharged into the watercourse downstream of the storage.
Licence holder	The holder of the resource operations licence for the Wide Bay Water Supply Scheme.
Medium priority water allocation	A water allocation within a priority group for which the water allocation security objective (performance indicator) is in the range specified in the Water Plan (Mary Basin) 2006.
Minimum operating level	The level or elevation of water within the ponded area of a dam weir or barrage below which water cannot be released or taken from the infrastructure under normal operating conditions.
Nominal operating level	The nominal operating level is the level in a weir that must be maintained.
Megalitres (ML)	One million litres.
Ponded area	Area of inundation at full supply level of storage.
Water use	Refers to actual consumption of water.
Waterhole	A part of a watercourse that contains water after the watercourse ceases to flow, other than a part of a watercourse that is within the storage area of a dam on the watercourse.



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