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New Water Allocation Plan for the Mallee Prescribed Wells Area

What does it mean for you?

Water allocation planning makes sure that we sustainably manage the water resource for all water users, now and into the future. This amended plan replaces the previous Water Allocation Plan for the Mallee Prescribed Wells Area.

The plan has been developed in collaboration between the SA Murray-Darling Basin NRM Board and the community based Mallee Water Resources Committee in consultation with the wider community.

This plan provides new management arrangements for the use of water within the Mallee Prescribed Wells Area including:

Licensing based on volume rather than irrigated area

Area-based irrigation allocations (HalE) will be converted to a volume based on the maximum area (in hectares) under irrigation during a single water use year within a defined period. The sum total of licensed entitlement must remain within the volumetric limit for the respective management area.

The volumetric conversion process is subject to a series of policies as outlined in the Water Allocation Plan. Licences will be converted over time but current licences will remain valid until new licences are issued by the Department for Water.

For further information on licensing, contact the Department for Water on (08) 8595 2053 or visit www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au.





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Water allocation limits for new management areas

Licensed entitlements must not exceed the Allowable Annual Volume (AAV) for that management area. The plan recognises that there are varying effects of water extraction in localised areas therefore the setting of AAVs for defined management areas is necessary. This will enable the water resource to be managed more equitably amongst all users. These management areas are outlined in the Water Allocation Plan.

More flexible transfer arrangements

Permanent and temporary transfers may be permitted within and between management areas subject to certain conditions as outlined in the Water Allocation Plan. The new management areas replace the *Hundred* boundaries for the purpose of trade and allocation.

Copies of the Water Allocation Plan are available from the SA Murray-Darling Basin Board's Mount Barker office or from the website: www.samdbnrm.sa.gov.au





