

LICENSING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

Information Sheet 4 of 4

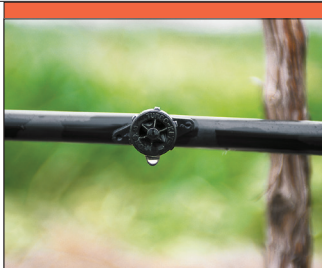


Managing the Groundwater Resources across the South Australian - Victorian Border

The Border Groundwaters Agreement



2014



INTRODUCTION

Information Sheet 1 outlines the importance of the groundwater resources within the 40 km wide Designated Area along the South Australia – Victoria State border and management arrangements under the *Groundwater (Border Agreement) Act 1985*. Figure 1 shows management zones of the Designated Area.

The Agreement provides that the available groundwater shall be shared equitably between the states and that it applies to all existing and future bores within the Designated Area. Domestic and stock bores are exempt from the Agreement. Bore construction licences and permits or extraction licences may not be granted or renewed within the Designated Area by either state unless they conform to the management prescriptions set by the Agreement.

The Agreement sets out the framework for groundwater management in the Designated Area. The individual water allocation policies and licensing arrangements are performed by the respective state agencies.

This information sheet provides some information about the licensing and administrative arrangements that apply in each state.

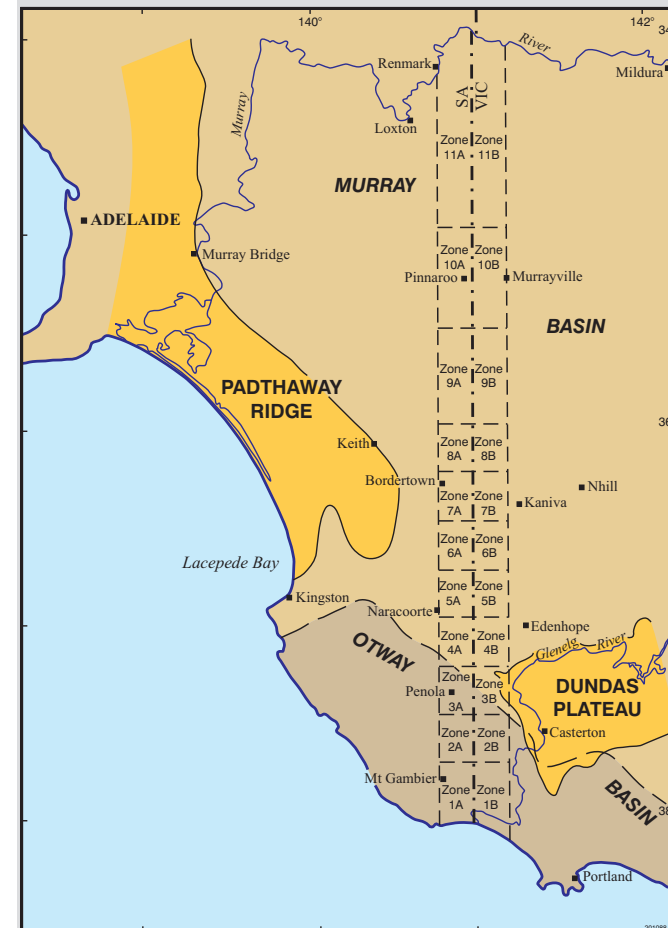


Figure 1 Zones of the designated area



Piccaninnie ponds

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

In South Australia, the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources has responsibility for well construction permits, extraction licenses for licensed groundwater use and in the Lower Limestone Coast Prescribed Wells Area, for the licensing of the impacts of plantation forests on local groundwater resources.

In Victoria, licences for bore construction and groundwater extraction are issued by Southern Rural Water and Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water.

Bore construction permits are required in both states and specific permit conditions are set according to the type of bore that is to be constructed. Drilling contractors must also be licensed in relation to the nature of the bore to be constructed.

Water licences are processed in each state according to the various policies contained within the water allocation plans in South Australia or the groundwater management plans in Victoria. These plans deal with issues such as granting of temporary or permanent transfers and hydrogeological assessment of applications.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Further information is provided in Information Sheets 1, 2 and 3.
- Sheet 1 presents information on the Border Groundwaters Agreement.
- Sheet 2 provides information on the groundwater resources of the Tertiary Limestone Aquifer.
- Sheet 3 provides information on the groundwater resources of the Tertiary Confined Sand Aquifer.

CONTACTS

For more information on the Border Groundwaters Agreement and/or the groundwater resources within the Designated Area, please contact:

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