

Allocating Water Volumes

Allocation methodology

The draft Water Plan (Moreton) (Supply Scheme Arrangements) Amendment Plan 2018 converts existing surface water and underground water entitlements to water allocations.

The conversion approach considers variations in the availability of water supply across the scheme area, and the way properties have historically utilised water.

For underground water licences (which specify a lot and plan that may be irrigated)

Step 1—Determine the **90th percentile** value of metered water use data from June 1992 to July 2017 for each property.

What is the **90th percentile**?

The 90th percentile is a statistical ranking taken from a property's annual historic metered use data. This acts as an indicator for previous water use and has been used to assess what category (allocation rate per hectare) is applied to each property.

Step 2—Determine the hectares of irrigable area utilising geology mapping and imagery data for parcels specified on the licence/s for the property.

The irrigable area has been determined with regards to:

- the parcels authorised to be irrigated on the water licence/s;
- the alluvial area of the authorised parcels, excluding drainage features; and
- any non-alluvial area of the licensed parcels that has historically been irrigated.

Step 3—Divide the 90th percentile value in Step 1 by the irrigable area obtained in Step 2.

How has the **90th percentile** been applied?

The 90th percentile provides a volume that is better than or equal to 90 percent of the recorded metered use.

Step 4—Assign the calculated value from Step 3 to one of the following categories:

- If the value is equal to or less than 2 megalitre (ML) per hectare, then the volumetric conversion rate will be 2 ML per hectare. The resulting allocation volume will be 2 ML multiplied by the irrigable area.
- If the value is greater than 2 ML but equal to or less than 3 ML per hectare, then the volumetric conversion rate will be 3 ML per hectare. The resulting allocation volume will be 3 ML multiplied by the irrigable area.
- If the value is greater than 3 ML per hectare, then the 90th percentile of historic metered water use will be the allocation volume.

For surface water interim water allocations (IWAs)

- IWAs that state an area—will be converted using the stated area in the current Moreton water plan at the maximum rate of 3.4 ML per hectare.
- IWAs that state a volume—will be converted at the stated volume specified on the existing entitlement.

For Morton Vale Pipeline water users

The intent of the amendment is that water users will be granted water allocations to replace current supply agreements.

In the first instance, a water allocation totalling 3507 ML is proposed to be granted to Seqwater for the supply of water to current Morton Vale pipeline users. The draft Water Plan enables Seqwater to progressively subdivide and transfer this allocation to existing water users as new contracts are established.

Further information

To view further information regarding the draft Moreton water plan targeted amendment, please refer to the catchment webpage at <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/mining-energy-water/water/catchments-planning/water-plan-areas/moreton>