Acknowledgements

This Emergency Farmland Water Response Plan was compiled with the assistance and contributions from a number of people from the Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia, Water Corporation and the Shire of Kondinin.

The Department of Water thanks these people and their organisations for their advice and support during the development of this Plan.

The Plan was also made possible through the support and assistance of landholders in the Shire of Kondinin and the Department of Water also wishes to acknowledge their contribution.
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1. Introduction

Recurrent water supply problems have affected the agricultural region over many years. Emerging climate changes are likely to increase the occurrences of low rainfall, water shortages and restrictions on the use of water.

Rural Water Planning recognises the importance of preparing for these events and increasing the opportunities to deliver an assured water supply to farmland communities in the dryland agriculture areas of the State.

The Department of Water is responsible for implementing the State Rural Water Plan, which was formulated to provide a firm foundation for an organised and structured approach to the on-going improvement and maintenance of sustainable farmland water supplies.

Emergency water response planning is one of the key roles of the Rural Water Plan and aims to ensure that the commercial and lifestyle interests of the farming families in dryland areas are safeguarded wherever possible against serious water deficiencies.

It recognises the importance of emergency off-farm water supplies to farming communities in the event of serious on-farm water shortages particularly in respect to livestock needs.

While landholder self-sufficiency must remain the primary objective, preparing for those times when on-farm supplies fail due to sustained periods of low rainfall, is an essential function of Rural Water Planners.

A responsibility rests on all stakeholders, including farmland communities, local government and State Government agencies to actively participate and cooperate in an integrated approach to water supply planning in rural areas.

In times of low rainfall and water supply shortages it is the responsibility of landholders to assess options to reduce demand, including reduction in livestock numbers.

This emergency farmland water response plan has been compiled for the Kondinin Shire for the purpose of providing clear instructions and procedures to guide stakeholders should the need arise to access emergency water supplies.

Community water sources that form part of a larger network of strategic off-farm emergency water supplies are identified in the Plan together with a description of the “Water Deficiency Declaration” process.

While the Department of Water is the lead agency in respect emergency farmland water response arrangements a critical role is played by the Department of Agriculture and Food and the Water Corporation in terms of the assessment of need and provision of emergency water supplies.
2. Background

Regional and local level rural water planning envisions that emphasis be placed on the planning, development and installation of on-farm water supplies in an endeavour to satisfy the water needs of the farm business and to address any serious water supply deficiency.

The State Rural Water Plan was framed with a view to providing an organised and considered approach to addressing serious on-going water shortages in dryland farming districts, and achieving the dual outcomes of on-farm self-sufficiency and provision of reliable emergency off-farm water supplies for rural communities.

Several initiatives have been established under the Rural Water Plan to tackle the problem of on-farm water deficiency while assisting rural communities to facilitate on-the-ground water supply improvements. These are designed to deliver reliable water supplies and secure commercial broadacre farming operators against water shortages emanating from extended periods of low rainfall and drought.

Two of the Rural Water Plan initiatives are the Farm Water Grants Scheme and the community Water Supply Program, a brief outline of which are provided below.

Farm Water Grants Scheme

The Farm Water Grants Scheme has been operating since 1995 and is designed to encourage broadacre farmers to invest in the planning, development and implementation of on-farm water improvements that will better prepare them for extended periods of low rainfall and drought and reduce their reliance on water supplies from off-farm sources.

Under the Scheme grants up to a maximum of $15,000 can be awarded to broadacre farmers in dryland areas of the Agricultural region that receive less than 600 mm of average annual rainfall to assist with the cost of on-farm works programs. Each grant recipient must contribute $1 for every dollar of grant approved.

Community Water Supply Program

The key thrust of the Community Water Supply Program is to assist broadacre farming communities that have limited options for improving their on-farm water supplies and whose livelihood is dependent on the availability of water from off-farm. The Program recognises that there are times when extended periods of low rainfall may cause on-farm infrastructure to fail forcing landholders to travel outside the farm gate to collect water supplies.

Under the Program grants can be made available to deliver a piped water service directly to a farm or to develop off-farm community water sources from which farmers can cart water in times of emergency.
Emergency Water Response Planning

While water supply self-sufficiency remains the centrepiece of the Rural Water Plan, preparing for extended periods of low rainfall and limited runoff into farm dams and tanks storage also features prominently.

Sustained periods of low runoff conditions will inevitably lead to severe challenges for landholders even for those considered to be the best water managers. Predicted climate change raises the urgency for effective planning in preparation for increasingly difficult farming conditions arising out of lower rainfall trends.

Consequently alternative water supplies must be planned to assist landholders when on-farm water shortages are experienced.

Emergency water response planning is an essential part of ensuring an orderly response to a critical deficiency in water supplies particularly for livestock requirements. Moreover, effective planning can help to minimise the economic and social impact of water shortages on farming businesses and Government exposure to the cost of hauling large quantities of water to affected districts.

Farm Water Supply Planning Program

The principal aim of the Farm Water Supply Planning Program is to encourage commercial broadacre farmers to participate in a planning process for their farm/s that will provide the framework for an on-going process of on-farm water supply improvement, less reliance on public water supplies, and a more efficient use of public water supplies. The Program will not seek to address issues associated with the quality of potable water supplies, which are the province of service providers such as the Water Corporation.

The maximum aggregated support available under the Farm Water Supply Planning Program to any one farming business to complete a farm water supply plan is $2,000. A successful applicant must match the approved subsidy dollar for dollar.

Rural Water Advisory Committee

The Rural Water Advisory Committee is responsible to the Minister for Water Resources for overseeing the implementation of the State Rural Water Plan.

The Committee advises the Minister and the Department of Water on water supply issues in dryland farming and pastoral areas of the State.

Community members appointed by the Minister represent the needs of rural communities and are available to discuss water supply issues, provide advice on rural water programs, and offer assistance on emergency water supply options outlined in this Plan.

A list of the Committee members is shown at Appendix 6 to the Plan.
3. Emergency Water Response Process

In the event of the failure of on-farm supplies forcing landholders to travel outside the farm gate to collect water for livestock purposes, the following steps should be followed.

**Step 1**
Identify and utilise neighbourhood and local water supplies while available and as water quality permits.

**Step 2**
Identify and access water from the closest strategic community water supplies.

**Step 3**
Access nearest scheme water pipeline after neighbourhood and strategic community water supplies have been exhausted.

**Step 4**
If the nearest available water supply is more than 40 kms one way from the farm gate a “Water Deficiency Declaration” may apply. Where significant demand for off-farm water exists assistance should be sought from the Shire Council in respect to lodging an application for a “Water Deficiency Declaration” with the Department of Water. The district office of the Department of Agriculture and Food should be notified of the application. A diagram showing the various phases leading up to the approval of a Declaration can be seen at Figure 2.

**Step 5.**
Submission of application by the Shire to the Department of Water of Water for a “Water Deficiency Declaration”

**Step 6.**
Activating a “Water Deficiency Declaration” – Implementation and working arrangements.

A diagrammatic representation of the above steps in the emergency water response process is provided at Figure 1.

A more complete description of the process to be followed at each of the above steps is provided in the following pages.
Figure 1 - Emergency Water Response - Process

Step 1
Identify neighbourhood and local water supplies

Step 2
Identify and access strategic community water supplies

Step 3
Access Scheme Water Pipeline Standpipe/tank

Step 4
Travelling more than 40km one way - contact Shire office

Step 5
"Water Deficiency Declaration" application

Step 6
Water deficiency arrangements implementation

Farmer - On farm livestock water storage

Collect Water
Step 1 - Neighbourhood Supplies

Some farmland communities or individual farmers have access to small localised water supplies (eg AA Dams) that although unlikely to be holding significant volumes of water can play an important role in securing farming businesses against serious on-farm water shortages, even if only for short periods.

In terms of activating a water deficiency declaration that involves the Shire and the State Government it will need to be demonstrated that any local or neighbourhood supplies have been exhausted requiring travel to more remote sources of water.

The provision of neighbourhood supplies may also be realised through the cooperative efforts of adjoining landholders who may be prepared to share surplus water supplies or work collectively to explore alternative water sources.
Step 2. Access Strategic Community Water Supply

In the event that on-farm, local and neighbourhood water supplies have been fully utilised farmers are encouraged to draw water from larger strategic community dams that have been provided for the supply of livestock water under emergency conditions.

This water is not treated and is supplied for livestock use only.

Strategic community dams and bores are important sources of emergency water and should be used sparingly and should not be used at times when on-farm supplies are available.

These supplies are provided principally to secure broadacre farming operations in the event of serious on-farm water shortages. They are not intended to be used to satisfy the demand for large quantities of water required by intensive industries such as a feedlot.

However, water users other than broadacre farmers may use the water supplied in strategic community dams providing a conservative approach is applied to the use of the water and no landholder is disadvantaged through the excessive use of supplies by one or two landholders.

Should an unreasonable and excessive amount of water be drawn from a strategic community water supply the offending party/ies if identified would be asked to limit their draw. In such cases large water users would need to make alternative arrangements in line with business needs.

Strategic Community dams/bores are important sources of emergency livestock water and should be carefully protected. It is essential that a maintenance program is implemented to ensure the dam/bore and associated infrastructure including catchments, tanks, pumps and access and truck turnaround areas are kept in good working order at all times.

It is recommended that local community management committees be established for each community dam/bore and a community leader be nominated as the contact person for each site.

The location of the strategic community water supplies in the Kondinin Shire are shown at Figure 3.
Step 3. Access Scheme Water Pipeline Standpipe/Tank

In those parts of the dryland agricultural area with access to a piped water service, standpipes and storage tanks have been provided as a source of emergency water for those landholders whose properties are not connected to the pipeline.

The use of these standpipes is generally controlled by the local government authority which is charged directly by the Water Corporation for the water used from these sources by landholders. Landholders are expected to record their water consumption rates from standpipes. Water charges incurred will be recovered from landholders at the discretion of local government.

It should be emphasised that water made available from standpipes/tanks linked to a piped water service is intended for short term emergency use only, not as a regular source of water to provide for the on-going needs of a farming business.

Unrestricted draw down from standpipes may compromise the rate of supply to landholders connected directly to the pipeline or towns people. The Water Corporation aims to limit the daily flow from standpipes to 50 kL. Tank storage is encouraged in order to provide reserve capacity and limit draw down directly from standpipes at peak times.

The location of standpipes in the Kondinin Shire is shown at Figure 4.

The Water Corporation reserves the right to close standpipes should supply to the system be compromised.
Step 4. **Contact Shire Administration**

The following process should be read in conjunction with the “Water Deficiency Declaration” guidelines at Appendix 1.

1. The Shire administration receives a request for assistance from a group of at least five or six landholders in a 20 km radius who are having to travel 40 kms or more in one direction to collect water for livestock, or are likely to do so in the following 14 days.

2. The Shire administration contacts the local Department of Agriculture and Food district or regional office and requests assistance in conducting a survey of landholders in the district to determine the extent of water shortages and demand for water. The Department of Agriculture and Food, State and district response process is represented in the diagram shown at Appendices 2 and 3. A listing of the information provided from the survey of landholders is shown at Appendix 4.

3. Department of Agriculture and Food carries out the survey of landholders and provides the results of the survey to the Shire administration and the Rural Water Planning program at the Department of Water.

4. If the survey confirms that five or six farmers or more in a localised area are travelling more than 40 kms to cart water or are likely to do so within 14 days then the Shire administration can lodge an application for a “Water Deficiency Declaration” with the Department of Water.
Step 5. Water Deficiency Declaration - Application Process

1. The Department of Water receives a written application for a “Water Deficiency Declaration” from the Shire administration. The application must include the results of the landholder survey, endorsed by the Department of Agriculture and Food.

2. The Department of Water consults with the Department of Agriculture and Food, Shire administration and local landholders to confirm that all possible alternative water supplies in the local area have been accessed and exhausted.

3. Once satisfied that community water supply options have been fully utilised the Department of Water assesses the application to ensure that the eligibility requirements have been met and that the landholders qualify for consideration of a declaration.

4. The Department of Water confirms support for the declaration from the Minister for Agriculture through the Department of Agriculture and Food NRM Program.

5. Once all eligibility requirements for a “Water Deficiency Declaration” have been satisfied and the declaration is supported by the Department of Water a recommendation for a declaration is submitted to the Minister for Water Resources.
Step 6. Water Deficiency Declaration - Arrangements

1. Minister for Water Resources approves the “Water Deficiency Declaration”.

2. The Department of Water identifies a suitable water receival point after consultation with the Shire Administration and local farming community and ensures site access is appropriate. Upgrades to access are made as appropriate.

3. The Department of Water then estimates weekly water requirements for livestock needs that are calculated from the landholder survey results provided by the Department of Agriculture and Food.

4. The Department of Water liaises with Water Corporation regarding water sources from which emergency livestock water can be hauled. A suitable site is selected.

5. The Department of Water arranges quotes from suitable water haulage contractors to cart water to selected receival points from the water source nominated by the Water Corporation.

6. A water haulage contractor is then appointed by the Department of Water to line haul a nominated amount of water into the selected receival point.

7. The water haulage arrangements are then confirmed with the local farming community, Shire Administration, haulage contractor, Water Corporation and Department of Agriculture and Food.

8. The Department of Water liaises with Shire administration for signage to be erected at receival point advising landholders that water is for emergency livestock purposes only and that water is not suitable for human consumption. See Appendix 5 for required wording of the sign.

9. A representative of local landholders is nominated to assist in monitoring water levels at approved receival point/s.

10. The Department of Water instructs water haulage contractor to commence delivery of water to selected receival point/s.

11. The Department of Water monitors water levels at receival point in consultation with landholder representative.

12. Delivery of water by water haulage contractor to be at a level not exceeding that approved in haulage contract unless otherwise varied by Department of Water.

13. Department of Agriculture and Food to continue to monitor the water resource condition and potential demand through community consultation and report to Department of Water and State NRM Manager.

14. Water haulage will continue until on-farm supplies are sufficiently replenished and a decision is made by the Department of Water in consultation with local landholder representative and haulage contractor to cease operation.

15. Recommendation made by the Department of Water to Minister for Water Resources to withdraw declaration and haulage contract is then terminated.

16. The Shire administration, Water Corporation, Department of Agriculture and Food and landholders representative are notified of decision to withdraw declaration.

A diagrammatic representation of the process that must be followed to gain a “Water Deficiency Declaration” is provided at Figure 2.
Figure 2 - Water Deficiency Declaration - Process

1. FARMERS

2. LOCAL GOVT.

3. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE and FOOD WA (DAFWA)

4. DAFWA WATER SURVEY

5. Declaration Application

6. MINISTER for WATER RESOURCES

7. Recommendation

8. Approval

9. MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE

10. WATER DEFICIENCY STATUS MONITORED

WATER DEFICIENCY DECLARATION - IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSE ARRANGEMENTS COORDINATION

1. WATER CORPORATION

2. WATER HAULAGE CONTRACTORS

3. FARMERS
4. Strategic Community Water Supplies

Figure 3 - Location of Strategic Community Water Supplies
# Description of Community Water Source

**Allen Rocks Bore**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Allen Rocks Bore</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location no /address</td>
<td>Cnr Pederah &amp; Allen Rocks Road, Hyden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associated reserve</td>
<td>22460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tank capacity</td>
<td>200 kL combined capacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure type</td>
<td>Concrete tank &amp; two steel tanks, one on stand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment type</td>
<td>Bore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area of catchment (ha)</td>
<td>36ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standpipe (Y/N)</td>
<td>No – Water drawn directly from overhead tank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnaround area</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy vehicle access</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tank storage</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean annual rainfall</td>
<td>325mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water quality</td>
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Location - Allen Rocks Bore
Description of Community Water Source

Karlgarin Tank

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Karlgarin Tank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location no/address</td>
<td>Karlgarin Rd East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associated reserve</td>
<td>19981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northing</td>
<td>6402153 N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easting</td>
<td>663117 E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dam/tank capacity</td>
<td>782 cubic metres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure type</td>
<td>Concrete tank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment type</td>
<td>Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment area (ha)</td>
<td>22ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standpipe (Y/N)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnaround area</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy vehicle access</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tank storage</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean annual rainfall</td>
<td>325mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water quality</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Location - Karlgarin Tank
Description of Community Water Source

Karlgarin West Dam (Llewellyn’s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Karlgarin West Dam (Llewellyn’s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location no /address</td>
<td>Avon 27036 – Notting - Karlgarin Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associated reserve</td>
<td>22474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northing</td>
<td>6407887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easting</td>
<td>642858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dam</td>
<td>4000 cubic metres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure type</td>
<td>Concrete floor and walls enclosed with timber and iron roofing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment type</td>
<td>Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment area (ha)</td>
<td>6 ha rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standpipe (Y/N)</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnaround area</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy vehicle access</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tank storage</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean annual rainfall</td>
<td>325mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water quality</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Location – Karlgarin West Dam (Llewellyn’s)
Description of Community Water Source

Kings Rocks Dam

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Location no /address</td>
<td>King Rocks Rd, East Hyden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associated reserve</td>
<td>8390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northing</td>
<td>6422216 N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easting</td>
<td>703181 E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dam capacity</td>
<td>6,950 cubic metres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure type</td>
<td>Concrete weir on rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment type</td>
<td>Rock with wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment area (ha)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standpipe (Y/N)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turnaround area</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Heavy vehicle access</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tank storage</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean annual rainfall</td>
<td>325mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water quality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>
Location - Kings Rocks Dam
McGanns Rock Dam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>McGanns Rock</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location no /address</td>
<td>Avon Loc 22485, 26095 Spurr Rd Kondinin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associated reserve</td>
<td>17663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northing</td>
<td>6398170 N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easting</td>
<td>650352 E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dam/tank capacity</td>
<td>6,950 cubic metres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure type</td>
<td>Concrete weir on rock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catchment type</td>
<td>Rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment area (ha)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standpipe (Y/N)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnaround area</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy vehicle access</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tank storage</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pump</td>
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<td>Mean annual rainfall</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Water quality</td>
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</table>

![McGanns Rock Dam Images]
Location - McGanns Rock Dam
Figure 4 - Location of Standpipes
Appendices


2. Department of Agriculture and Food Water Deficiency Response Process – State Level.


4. Landholder Survey Format

5. Wording for signage at emergency water supply receival point

6. Rural Water Advisory Committee – Membership list
Appendix 1

“Water Deficiency Declaration Guidelines”

Objective

Declaration of “water deficiency” is a Government response to safeguard the commercial interest of those farmers who do not have reasonable access to permanent water carting points, such as standpipes served by a Water Corporation piped water scheme.

“Reasonable Access” is defined as being within a 40km radius of a suitable water source.

Guidelines for “Water Deficiency” Declaration

Approved by the Ministers for Water Resources and Agriculture – 1 October 2001

• A “water deficiency” declaration process will be available in rural water Zones 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, as shown in the map on the opposite page, and a declaration will require the State Government to provide livestock quality water to within a 40km radius of the declared properties.

• A Shire Council should make application for a “Water Deficiency Declaration” to the Department of Water of Water after consultation with local representatives of the Department of Agriculture and Food. The application should indicate the extent of the water deficiency and a preferred method of providing water to the area.

• Criteria for declaration will be that a localised group of farmers are carting water (or plan to cart water within 14 days) from an off-farm source for a significant number of livestock, as a result of unusual seasonal conditions. (A localised group will usually consist of five or more commercial farmers within a 20 km radius, but may consist of a single farmer under special circumstances).

• Water provided under “water deficiency” arrangements will be charged for at existing rates; that is, at the Local Authority standpipe rate if sourced from a standpipe or free of charge from sources for which charges are not currently made.

• Carting water for domestic (household) use will not be a criterion for “water deficiency” declaration, although, in some circumstances, the Rural Water Advisory Committee may recommend the provision of domestic (household) water in declared areas.

• Shire Councils wishing to apply for “water deficiency” declaration should contact:

Manager Rural Water Planning
Department of Water
168 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Telephone: 6364 6916
Freecall: 1800 780 300
Fax: 6364 7601
Appendix 1 (Cont)

Rural Water Zones

LEGEND
Zone 1. Northern Sandplain/Northern Wheatbelt
Zone 2. Reticulated Scheme Area
Zone 3. Midlands and Upper Great Southern
Zone 4. Great Southern
Zone 5. North-eastern & Eastern Wheatbelt
Zone 6. South-eastern Wheatbelt & Salmon Gums
Zone 7. South Coast Sandplains
Appendix 2

Department of Agriculture and Food Water Deficiency Response Process - State Level

**Resource Condition**
Low rainfall year with limited runoff; Low storage available in on-farm dams; below average rainfall forecast.

**Notification**
District Manager to assess localised situation and notify Regional Director and State NRM Manager;
Areal extent and potential number of landholders likely to be affected to be determined by District Manager.
Co-ordination through District Office and, State NRM Manager. State NRM Manager notifies Manager Rural Water Planning, Department of Water.

**Action Trigger**
Landholders required to cart water off-farm; Off-farm water sources greater than 40 kilometres from farm gate.

**Shire Response**
Landholders carting water to contact the local Shire Office. Shire Office to contact the District Office of Department of Agriculture to request on-farm water supply surveys.

**Assess Water Deficiency and Demand**
District Office of Department of Agriculture and Food to conduct on-farm water supply surveys. District Office of Department of Agriculture to assess condition off-farm water resources (i.e. AA dams Community Supplies). Survey results collated and provided to State NRM Manager & Department of Water.

**Request for Declaration**
If recommended a letter requesting declaration sent to Department of Water by Shire.

**Recommendation**
Based on survey data and letters of support a recommendation for declaration of water deficiency within the Shire is made by Minister for Agriculture to the Minister for Water Resources for approval.

**Monitoring**
District Office to continue to monitor the water resource situation and provide feedback to landholders, State NRM Manager and Department of Water until declaration is rescinded.
Appendix 3

Department of Agriculture and Food Water Deficiency Response Process - District Level

Water Deficiency Declaration Process-District Response

**Environmental Trigger**
- Low Rainfall/low runoff event in years proceeding
- Low/no runoff rain last 6 months

**Action Trigger**
- Farmers notify district office on water shortages
- Water carting, lineups at standpipes etc.

**Official Shire Request**
- Shire Council requests the Department of Agriculture and Food to undertake Water Deficiency Survey in for Shire or mailing areas of shire

**Water Deficiency Surveys**
- Department of Agriculture and Food completes a one page survey mailout with faxback and mailing address. Ensure a clear cutoff date for surveys less than 2 weeks from the request for information from the Shire

**Collation of Data & Mapping**
- Collate and interpret the information (spreadsheet) and provide maps of properties affected and condition of local water resources (i.e. AA dams & Standpipe access).

**Letter of Support**
- Write a formal letter to the Shire who requested the survey to tell them the local office of the Department of Agriculture and Food either does or does not support a water deficiency declaration and on what grounds. Include the spreadsheet of support data and any GIS mapping for the area.

**Monitor Situation**
- Monitor the situation and work with the Shires if more surveys are needed the district officer may be requested to survey dam levels of AA dams. Establish good communications with the local Water Corporation representatives to ascertain when and where standpipe restrictors are being applied or where standpipes may be closed. Try to estimate demand at each standpipe if possible. The Department of Agriculture and Food interpret data at a local level and provide feed back from local intelligence.

**Notification**
- Inform the Manager Rural Water Planning, Department of Water, Manager of Farm Business Development, Manager Farmwater (NRM) of the impending request for Declaration and the current situation and provide feedback on on-going declarations and seasonal conditions.

District Reporting
- District Manager to report on potential water shortages 3 - 4 months before action may be required in liaison with Manager Rural Water Planning, Department of Water.
- Assess extent of area affected and decide how widely the problem needs to be known. (i.e. area affected is within a Shire)
- Notify Regional Director, State NRM Manager and Manager Farmwater (NRM) and liaise with Department of Water.
Appendix 4

Landholder Survey Format

Headings/Questions to Appear in Landholder Survey

1. District Name
2. Landholder Name
3. Address
4. Phone Number
5. Contact Person
6. Location Numbers
7. AgPacs Number
8. Do you anticipate running short of Water for Stock
9. What month will you commence carting livestock Water
10. Number of livestock carting water for
11. Stock type – Sheep, Cattle, Pigs
12. Number of livestock carting water for after planned sales or purchases
13. Do you anticipate running short of water for houses
14. What month will you commence carting house water
15. Number of people in house/s
16. How many gardens do you maintain
17. Do you anticipate running short of spray water
18. What month will you commence carting spray water
19. Distance to key community dam or standpipe
20. Location of key community dam or standpipe
21. How much water can you carry at one time?
Appendix 5

Emergency farm water supply at (Insert name of dam) community dam

The water stored in this dam has been provided by the Department of Water as a source of emergency farm water only under a “water deficiency declaration” issued by the minister for water resources on xxxxxxxxxxx 200x.

The water is suitable for all classes of livestock, but is not suitable for human consumption.

Persons using water from this source do so at their own risk

The State of Western Australia its agents, authorities, instrumentalities and their agents or servants accept no liability for any loss of or damage to property or machinery or for death or injury to any person in any way arising out of the use of this water supply point or the consumption or use of this water.

Authorised by the Department of Water
### Rural Water Advisory Committee – Member List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Agency /Zone</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Barbara Dinnie</td>
<td>Zone 1 &amp; Acting Chairman</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike McFarlane</td>
<td>Zone 2</td>
<td>9045 8244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Fred Bremner</td>
<td>Zone 3</td>
<td>9646 1115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Kelly O’Neill</td>
<td>Zone 4</td>
<td>9828 2187</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Paul Gillett</td>
<td>Zone 5</td>
<td>9686 2055</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Barry James</td>
<td>Zone 6</td>
<td>9889 5090</td>
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<td>Mr Ben Mourtz</td>
<td>Zone 7</td>
<td>9880 5109</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Noel Dodd</td>
<td>Planner/Assessor Representative</td>
<td>9651 1021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Chris Dolley</td>
<td>Water Corporation</td>
<td>9420 2656</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Bob Nulsen</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture and Food WA</td>
<td>9368 3333</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Bill Mireylees</td>
<td>Department of Water Treasury and Finance</td>
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<td>Mr John Loney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr David Hillier</td>
<td>Executive Officer – Department of Water</td>
<td>6364 6500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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