Rural Water Plan implementation 1995–2010

Looking after all our water needs

Department of Water
May 2011
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Farm Water Assessors and Auditors

Former staff of the Rural Water Planning Program

Members of the dryland agricultural community

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For more information about this report, contact the program manager, Rural Water Planning.

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1 Introduction

Recurrent water supply shortages have affected the agricultural region over many years. The impact of climate variability is likely to result in an increase in occurrences of low rainfall, water shortages and the need for a more conservative and efficient use of available water.

Rural water planning recognises the importance of preparing for these events and increasing the opportunities to deliver an assured water supply to dryland parts of the state, particularly agricultural areas.

The Rural Water Plan provides a foundation for a coordinated, organised and structured approach to maintaining sustainable farmland water supplies in dryland areas. Responsibility for implementing the plan rests with the Department of Water.

Although there have been noticeable improvements in farmland water supply across the state in recent years, there is still the potential for serious water deficiencies to present in some areas.

Predicted trends for drier and warmer conditions serves to highlight the importance of planning for challenges facing farming communities. Water planners and the community will need to address lower rainfall conditions, higher evaporation, reduced surface water run-off and greater demand for water. Sustained periods of low run-off into farm dams and tanks will inevitably create big challenges for landholders – even those considered to be good water managers.

The key to successfully tackling the two most pressing problems in dryland areas – lack of water and poor quality water – is a coordinated approach that draws together a set of integrated actions with clear outcomes.

Developing viable local water sources in situ will become increasingly important as the population of the state increases and the rural sector battles to sustain itself in the face of growing uncertainty associated with climate variability, continuing salinity problems and demands for protection of the environment.

This report traces the history of the implementation of the Rural Water Plan since 1995 and the successes that have been achieved in better preparing the dryland areas of the state for extended periods of low rainfall and reduced runoff conditions.
2 Background

Recurrent farm water supply problems experienced throughout the agricultural region during the late 1960s to early 1990s highlighted the need for an integrated plan to tackle farm water supply shortages in dryland farming districts.

During this period, farm water shortages continued despite free technical advice from the Department of Agriculture and financial assistance from the Rural Adjustment and Finance Corporation. In 1992, the state government established a Farm Water Strategy Group to develop long-term solutions to the ongoing water supply problems in the dryland agricultural region.

In 1994, it was recognised that in spite of the estimated average annual water carting expenditure of $4 million by Western Australia’s farmers for supplementary water supply, many farmers had been reluctant to improve their on-farm water supplies, and apparently preferred to regularly cart water from nearby public water sources which were intended for emergency use only.

The group included farmer representatives and government officers and concluded that:

- The most acceptable, practical and economic solution to water supply problems was one that encouraged optimum development and use of on-farm water supplies.
- Emergency farm water supply arrangements should be provided by government.
- Low-cost and good-quality off-farm water encouraged farmers to cart water.
- Farmers were reluctant to invest in more reliable on-farm supplies.
- Farmers developing their own on-farm supplies faced far greater risks than those connected to piped supplies.

The Farm Water Plan was completed by late 1994 and has been largely adopted since then.

The 1994 plan was framed to:

- provide a planned approach to water supply developments to ensure projects were the best long-term solutions and fit together as an integrated strategy
- adopt technology to improve reliability of water supply infrastructure
- focus on integrating farm water supply and landcare, and establish a more equitable link between the real cost of on-farm supplies, piped supplies and the actual prices charged for water from the Water Authority scheme.

These outcomes are reflected in the initiatives that evolved out of the plan’s recommendations.

During 2000, an extensive review of the Farm Water Plan was undertaken under the guidance of the former Office of Water Regulation and the Rural Water Supply
Coordinating Committee (subsequently referred to as the Rural Water Advisory Committee).

Important contributions to the review were made by stakeholder groups including landholders, the WA Farmers Federation, the Pastoralists and Graziers Association, Water Corporation, the Department of Agriculture, Landcare technicians, Rural Water Advisory Committee members and the former Office of Water Regulation.

The review led to a commitment by the state government to maintain the operation of the original Farm Water Plan, re-badged as the State Rural Water Plan.

A 2004 review also reinforced the key role played by the plan in improving rural water supplies, better managing existing water resources and securing dryland communities against serious water deficiency.

Trends in primary production and changes to the management of land and natural resources require on-going improvement and review of the Rural Water Plan.

The Department of Water, as custodian of the plan, is committed to ensuring the plan remains responsive to the needs of the rural sector.

A subsequent review of the Rural Water Plan and the various water supply initiatives was undertaken during 2008 with input from a range of stakeholders and concluded that too great an emphasis was being placed on addressing the symptoms of water deficiency rather than the underlying causes, such as poor maintenance practices, lack of attention to demand management, and inefficient use of water. Additionally, it was agreed that too little attention was paid to water supply planning and the link to broader business activities.

As an outcome of the 2008 review, the Farm Water Grants Scheme (FWGS) that had been operating since 1995 was closed, and two new rebate schemes were launched. The first is the Farm Water Supply Planning Scheme (FWSPS), which focuses on the development of farm water supply plans. The second is the Farm Water Rebate Scheme (FWRS), which provides rebates for on-farm water supply improvements similar to FWGS.
3 Rural Water Plan outline

The major objectives of the Rural Water Plan include the following:

- encourage on-property water supply self sufficiency
- improve the reliability, continuity and quality of on-property water supply
- provide rural communities with reliable emergency water supply arrangements.

The original Farm Water Plan Area is shown in Figure 1 and consisted of seven zones in the South West agricultural area of Western Australia, excluding the lower west coast and wetter South West. The zones were defined according to the availability of water supplies, frequency and extent of water deficiencies, opportunities for water resource development and the estimated time required to correct problems. To a large extent these zones continue reflect the coverage of the Rural Water Plan in agricultural areas. Rangeland areas of the state are also now covered by the Rural Water Plan.

The implementation of the Rural Water Plan is managed by the Department of Water and has been enabled through the following program initiatives:

- Farm Water Grants Scheme (closed 2008)
- Pastoral Water Grants Scheme
- Farm Water Supply Planning Scheme (opened 2009)
- Farm Water Rebate Scheme (opened 2009)
- Community Water Supply Program
- rural water planning and technical support
- water deficiency arrangements
- strategic public water supplies, agricultural area dams
- Rural Water Advisory Committee (discontinued, August 2010).

More information on each of these initiatives is provided in section 4 on page 6 of this publication.
Figure 1 Seven Farm Water Plan zones

RURAL WATER ZONES
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
4 Program initiatives

4.1 Farm Water Grants Scheme

The Farm Water Grants Scheme (FWGS), which operated from 1995 to 2008, made water grants available to individual farmers affected by serious on-farm water deficiency. Grants were available to implement improvements to on-farm water supply infrastructure or develop new water resources.

The aim of the FWGS was to improve on-farm water supplies to a level where farms were substantially self-sufficient, and able to cope with consecutive years of low rainfall and in turn be less reliant on public water supplies from off-farm sources. It superseded the Farm Water Supply Assistance Scheme (FWSAS 1988) in the dryland agricultural area. The FWSAS, a previous assistance scheme, was available statewide and was administered by the Rural Adjustment and Finance Corporation (RAFCOR).

The FWGS was administered by the Department of Water and, prior to its closure, grants were available at the rate of 50 per cent of water supply expenditure up to the maximum grant available of $15 000. During the period 2006–07 grants of up to $20 000 were available and grant recipients were required to contribute 30 per cent of the cost of water supply improvements on-farm. The increase in the maximum grants available during this period was in response to consecutive dry seasons. From January 1995 until its closure in 2008, 3313 farm water grants were awarded, totalling $30.9 million at an average grant amount of $9315.

Reviews of the scheme confirmed that the availability of farm water grants provided a significant incentive for landholders to carry out on-farm water supply improvement. Additionally, the reliability of on-farm water supplies was shown to have improved on a majority of farms that benefited from a farm water grant.

However, a review of the scheme in 2008 found that while it continued to encourage farmers to improve on-farm water supplies too little emphasis was placed on planning and addressing some of the underlying causes of on-farm water deficiency. As a result, a decision was made to discontinue the FWGS and to establish two new rebate schemes to address those shortcomings.

The number and value of grants approved for each financial year is tabulated at table 1. A breakdown of the total value of approved grants by farm water zone is illustrated at figure 2 while figure 3 provides the extent of grants provided by high-quality (domestic and crop spray) purposes and low-quality (livestock, garden and general farm use) needs. The distribution of all farm water grants from 1995–2008 is mapped in appendix A.
Table 1  Number and value ($000s) of farm water grants awarded 1995–2008

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<td>162</td>
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<td>158</td>
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<td>327</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>3313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rebates</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2400</td>
<td>5050</td>
<td>1456</td>
<td>632</td>
<td>873</td>
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<td>1120</td>
<td>1678</td>
<td>1424</td>
<td>5148</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>30859</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2  Total value of approved grants by farm water zone, 1995–2008

Figure 3  Total value of approved grants for high- and low-quality requirements, 1995–2008
It is estimated that on-farm water supply improvement projects approved from 1995 to 2008 under the FWGS resulted in the following additional water supplies:

- 130,000 kilolitres of new rain tank capacity for household and crop spray needs
- 5,239,000 cubic metres of new dam capacity.

### 4.2 Pastoral Water Grants Scheme

The Pastoral Water Grants Scheme was launched on 1 December 1999, replacing the Farm Water Supply Assistance Scheme, which was established in 1988.

Unlike the Farm Water Grants Scheme and the two rebate schemes described below, the principal aim of the Pastoral Water Grants Scheme is to encourage pastoralists to develop alternative watering points to enable a reduction of grazing intensity around existing water supplies.

Water supplies can be difficult to locate on pastoral leases and, the rangeland vegetation adjacent to existing watering points may be subject to high grazing pressure, which threatening the fragile rangeland environments.

The scheme is also designed to secure pastoral properties against water shortages in most years and to enhance homestead water supplies.

Grants up to a value of $20,000 are available to eligible pastoral leases for a range of works to upgrade water supplies. To be eligible for a grant pastoralists are required to contribute at least 50 per cent the cost of the works. Prior to 2006, the maximum rebate was $15,000.

More than 500 pastoral leases in the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne–Murchison and Goldfields regions have been eligible to seek assistance under the scheme.

Department of Agricultural and Food regional technical officer supported the operation of the scheme and are available to assist pastoralists to plan water supply improvements to their leases.

A review of the Pastoral Water Grants Scheme undertaken in 2004 emphasised the importance of ensuring that a higher priority be given to pastoral water grant proposals that form part of an overall property plan that features a total land and grazing management approach to the sustainable operation of a pastoral lease.

Pastoralists are expected to demonstrate that the works undertaken are consistent with the requirements of any rangeland condition reports and show evidence that overgrazed and degraded areas would be protected subsequent to the installation of new waters.

To date, 114 pastoral water grants have been awarded, totalling $1.3 million.

A map showing the distribution of all pastoral water grants from 1999–2010 is shown in appendix B.
4.3 Farm Water Supply Planning Scheme

The Farm Water Supply Planning Scheme (FWSPS) was launched in January 2009 following the closure of the FWGS in 2008.

The principal aim of the FWSPS is to encourage commercial farmers to participate in comprehensive on-farm water supply planning to provide a framework for an ongoing process to address serious water deficiency, improve water resource and demand management, and encourage efficient use of water.

The maximum aggregated support available under the scheme to any one farming business for a farm water supply plan is $500 for an initial farm visit and $250 for a follow-up visit up to 18 months after the plan is completed.

Farm water supply auditors who operate independently of the Department of Water assist landholders in the preparation of a farm water supply plan, and provide a callback service.

By the end of 2010, 206 plans were completed and a total of 149 FWSPS rebates approved, with a combined value of $56 000. The distribution of these plans is mapped in appendix C.

4.4 Farm Water Rebates Scheme

The Farm Water Rebate Scheme was launched in 2009 along with the FWSPS to replace the FWGS which had been operating between 1995 and 2008. The FWRS aims to encourage commercial farmers in dryland agricultural areas to invest in on-farm water supply improvements to address identified areas of water deficiency, better manage existing water supplies, reduce water wastage and better prepare them for extended periods of low rainfall and low water reserves.

In order to apply for a farm water rebate a farming business must first have completed a farm water supply plan under the FWSPS as outlined above.

The FWRS assists with the cost of on-farm work programs. Rebates of up to a maximum of $15 000 can be awarded to broadacre farmers in those dryland areas of the agricultural region that receive less than 600 millimetres of average annual rainfall. Rebates for on-farm work are calculated on the basis of the recipient contributing no less than 50 per cent of the cost of approved expenditure (based on accepted industry standards).

Since the launch of the scheme in January 2009, 64 rebates with a combined value of $503 000 have been awarded to farming businesses. A map showing the distribution of these approvals is attached in appendix D.

4.5 Community Water Supply Program

The Community Water Supply Program (CWSP) operates in dryland parts of the state that receive less than 600 mm average annual rainfall.
The program encourages rural local governments and farmland community groups to plan and participate in the construction of community water supplies by providing financial assistance in the form of community grants.

The key thrust of the CWSP 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 water supplies to fail, requiring landholders to travel outside the farm gate to collect water supplies.

Grants up to a maximum of $100,000 are available under the program for community non-pipeline water supply projects such as new community dams and catchments, development and equipping of bores and large storage tanks. Additionally, the refurbishment of existing strategic agricultural area dams (AA dams) and projects designed to augment non-potable rural town water supplies will also be considered for grants.

Subsidised pipeline projects that involve the extension of an existing Water Corporation piped service or the construction of new pipeline services have also been coordinated under the RWP. However, these are subject to the availability of capital funding from the Water Corporation. To qualify for consideration of a grant for a pipeline service, local government and community groups must be able to demonstrate that options for improving on-farm water supplies are severely limited or non-existent.

Since 1995, 61 individual stand-alone community water supply projects have been approved providing water supply for a range of community uses, from water for emergency use by farm livestock when on-farm supplies fail, domestic uses, firefighting, and water or playing fields and town gardens. The total value of the 61 projects is $2.6 million.

The average grant allocated to each of the 61 projects is $42,623.

A total of 36 pipeline projects funded by the Water Corporation have also been approved, providing a high-quality piped water supply to eight towns and 631 farms with a total of 1823 kilometres of new pipelines. The total value of the 36 projects is $33.5 million, which includes a community contribution of $10.2 million. In addition, three stand-alone town water projects were funded by the Water Corporation with a total value of $1.9 million.

The average capital investment in farmland pipeline extension projects for a new farm connection is estimated to be $36,952. Individual project costs per new farm connection range from $5,200 (Snake Soak project) to $68,162 (Yuna project estimate).

Although some of the $23.3 million investment by the state in pipelines was required to improve town water supplies to Burakin, Newdegate, Hyden, Karlgarin, Muntadgin, Sandstone, Jerramungup and Lake King, and provide emergency public water supply capacity at public standpipes in each of the farmland pipeline extensions, it is
estimated that more than 80 per cent of the funding was used for pipeline extensions to farmlands.

Maps showing the distribution of CWSP grants from 1995 to 2010 are shown at appendices E and F. Listings of the individual pipeline and non-pipeline projects undertaken are attached in appendix G and appendix H, respectively.

4.6 Rural water planning and technical support

The Department of Water is a lead-agency in farm and pastoral water planning activity, and is actively supported in this endeavour by the Department of Agriculture and Food and its regionally based technical support officers.

Rural water planning is an on-going activity. It recognises a rural hydrology which is variable from year to year, and is also changing permanently due to the influence of factors such as climate change, increasing salinity, reduced tillage in cropping programs, and replanting of arable land to tree crops.

These factors affect the amount and quality of surface runoff, and the depth and quality of groundwater. The impact is not only on the viability of existing on-farm and station water supplies, but also on the potential for new on-farm supplies. The management of these issues requires close liaison between the various stakeholders in farm water supply matters.

Zone and local government area maps depicting the Water Corporation pipeline network, agricultural area dams (AA dams) and other strategic off-farm water supplies are used as planning tools.

Local and regional emergency farmland water response plans are being developed in consultation with the Department of Agriculture and Food and local government. These plans identify local and regional emergency water sources together with a process to be followed during times of water deficiency.

In addition to assisting with water deficiency arrangements, the Department of Agriculture and Food also provides technical support to the rural community, and supports the operation of the various programs under the Rural Water Plan.

Farm water supply planning and assessment is provided by approved farm water supply auditors and planners. The farm water supply auditors group includes some private agricultural consultants with knowledge of farm water supply requirements and infrastructure development.

The involvement of agricultural consultants ensures the integration of farm water supply management into sustainable agricultural practices.

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 tank 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 has become 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.

This planning has been complemented with the development of emergency farmland water response plans for a number of shires in those parts of the dryland agricultural areas considered the most susceptible to serious water deficiency.

Eleven plans have been published and others are under development. Copies of these plans are available at the Department of Water’s web site, <www.water.wa.gov.au>.

4.7 Water deficiency arrangements

A declaration of ‘water deficiency’ is a government response to safeguard the commercial interests of farmers at times of very dry seasonal conditions, which cause five or more farmers within a 20 km radius to cart water from an off-farm source. A declaration requires the government to haul livestock water supplies to local communities so that no farmer has to travel more than 40 km in one direction from the farm gate to collect water.

The application process for a ‘water deficiency’ declaration requires a local government to make a formal request to the Department of Water and for the department to make a recommendation to the Minister for Water after consulting with the Department of Agriculture and Food.

Table 2 shows the annual expenditure on water deficiency arrangements from 1994–95 to 2009–10. Despite potentially serious and widespread water shortages on farms in south coast areas in 1994–95, 1996–97, 2002–03 and 2004–05, the cost of providing emergency water supplies was kept to a minimum. This was largely because effective use was made of local emergency water sources – such as AA dams and bores – and the availability of scheme water in some areas.
Table 1  Expenditure on water deficiency arrangements, 1994–95 to 2009–10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Shires or parts of shires declared ‘water deficient’</th>
<th>Water deficiency expenditure</th>
<th>Line haulage</th>
<th>Other expenditure</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>m³</td>
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<td>Esperance Ravensthorpe and Jerramungup</td>
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<td>61 000</td>
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4.8 Strategic community water supplies, agricultural area dams

More than 600 agricultural areas (AA) dams were constructed during the development of the agricultural region and have contributed to emergency water supply during periods of water deficiency. While a large number of these resources have been superseded by other water resources and are no longer in regular use by the farming community, there are others that continue to play a key role in maintaining regional water security.

Coupled with other work carried out under the Rural Water Plan, these dams have been rationalised to identify those that still have high value as a source of emergency farmland water, to ensure these sites are protected for this purpose in the future.

Those dams identified as high water value through this process have been secured by the Department of Water or are held by local government. These water assets have progressively been upgraded and improved to maximise their potential for use in an emergency.

As well maintaining the key AA dams, considerable work has been undertaken in collaboration with shires and the dryland rural community to establish other strategically located community water supplies to complement the pre-existing AA dams.

The work has been progressed under the Community Water Supply Program, as discussed earlier in this publication under section 4.5.

A network of strategic community water supplies now exists across many parts of the dryland agricultural area and serve as important sources of emergency farmland water.

4.9 Rural Water Advisory Committee

A Farm Water Coordinating Committee (FWCC) was formed in 1994 with the launch of the Rural Water Plan to provide advice on rural water supply matters to the Minister for Water Resources.

In 2000 the FWCC became known as the Rural Water Advisory Committee to more accurately reflect the state-wide role of the committee and its advisory function.

The committee was disbanded by the Minister for Water in July 2010.

From 1994 to 2010 the committee generally met at least four times a year, and consisted of seven farming representatives from the agricultural region – one from each of the seven farm water zones – a representative of the pastoral regions, and representatives from relevant government agencies. The committee provided a valuable means of direct contact with rural communities. Community representatives were appointed directly by the responsible government minister.
The committee’s major functions were to:

- provide a forum for community input into the development of state government water supply policy for dryland areas of the state
- provide strategic policy advice on farmland, pastoral, and community water demand and supply
- provide advice on the management and use of water resources in dryland areas of the state
- make funding recommendations for water supply initiatives in dryland areas
- advise on research and development into water science and the application of best practice in the management and use of water.

A full listing of the community members who have served on the committee over the term of its operation is shown in appendix I.
## 5 Major Rural Water Plan achievements, 1995–2010

Table 3 below provides a summation of the major Rural Water Plan achievements from 1995 to 2010.

### Table 2 Major Rural Water Plan achievements, 1995–2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Total value of grants $ million</th>
<th>Total value of community contributions $ million</th>
<th>Total project value $ million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farm Water Grants Scheme</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3313 grants awarded to individual farmers for on-farm water supply improvements</td>
<td>30.9</td>
<td>47.6</td>
<td>78.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Water Supply Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39 grants to rural communities for water supply projects, including extensions of piped water supply schemes to towns and farmlands</td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>35.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 stand-alone community water supply projects</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral Water Grants Scheme</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114 grants awarded to individual pastoralists for on-property water supply improvements</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>2.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farm Water Supply Planning Scheme</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>149 rebates to individual farmers for preparation of farm water supply plans</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farm Water Rebate Scheme</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64 rebates approved to individual farmers for on-farm water supply improvements</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTALS – Rural Water Plan</td>
<td>60.66</td>
<td>60.46</td>
<td>121.12</td>
</tr>
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</table>
6 Summary

Water supply improvements achieved over the 15 years since implementation of the Rural Water Plan was first initiated are impressive and have improved water security on a significant scale. More than $121 million has been invested in farmland water supplies over this period.

The 15-year total government assistance to on-farm water supply development under the FWGS and FWRS is $31.4 million, while the Water Corporation has contributed $25.3 million to pipeline projects to towns and/or farmlands (including $1.9 million for three stand-alone town water supply projects).

The average grant rebate to approved FWGS and FWRS applicants is $9180, compared to the estimated average contribution by the Water Corporation to pipeline extension projects of $37 000 per farm supplied with water. The very large difference in these amounts continues to serve as a reminder of the importance of the provision of financial incentives to farmers to develop on-farm water supplies as an alternative to piped water services. We must also acknowledge the funding farmers and rural communities have invested in the development of water supplies in their communities and on their properties. This partnership effectively doubles the value of the program.

In more recent years greater emphasis has been given to optimising on-farm and local community water supply options. Given the cost of connecting to a piped water supply and emerging difficulties in sourcing water for reticulated services there are compelling reasons on both an economic and environmental front to continue current endeavours to source independent farmland and community water supplies. Use of recycled effluent in towns, and capture of stormwater from streets for use on playing fields and in town beautification, are examples of the way in which additional water can be harnessed and used effectively.

Despite the improvement made to both on-farm and off-farm water supplies, the potential still exists for water shortages to occur on the many farms without the security of a connection to a piped water service. Farms without a piped water service will always rely on farm dams and tanks for livestock and domestic water supply.

Over more recent times, the adoption of best technical practice was afforded particular emphasis in the delivery of the initiatives under the plan and compliance with the standards in this regard has become an essential part of water supply improvement. Lack of regular maintenance of water supply assets such as improved catchments and of dams remains a problems however this is being tackled as part of the water supply planning process introduced with the new FWSPS.

The very noticeable improvement in the availability of on-farm and community water supplies in the 15-year period from 1995 to 2010 has, to a large extent, been the result of a coordinated and focused approach to addressing dryland water deficiency under the Rural Water Plan.
The farming and pastoral community have responded enthusiastically to the water supply initiatives under the Rural Water Plan.

While the implementation of the Rural Water Plan will continue to focus on improving the availability of on-farm water, maximising the use of existing supplies will also feature heavily. Particular effort will be placed on enhancing water supply and demand management, water use efficiency measures, farm water planning, regional emergency farmland water response planning and strategic community water supply projects.

It is noteworthy that in spite of some very dry seasons since 2004–05, dryland communities have coped very well and there have been no water deficiency declarations. To a large measure this can be attributed to the extent of water supply improvements made possible under the Rural Water Plan. Additionally, the community contribution to these improvements has also played a major part in those achievements.
Appendices
Appendix A – Farm Water Grant Scheme approvals, 1995–2008
Appendix B – Pastoral Water Grants Scheme approvals, 1995–2010
Appendix C — Farm Water Supply Planning Scheme approvals to December 2010

LEGEND

- Australian Coastline - Derived
- Farm Water Grants_1
- LGA *

* Project Data is denoted by asterisk. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.

Scale 1:5027072
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994
Note: the data in this map has not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

Prepared by: otterc
Prepared for: [Agency Acronym]
Date: 29/04/2011 11:29:08 AM

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.

Government of Western Australia
Department of Water
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Appendix D – Farm Water Rebate Scheme approvals to December 2010

Legend

* Project Data is denoted by asterisk. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.

**Map Description**
- **Project Map**: Displays the locations of various pipeline projects across the region, marked with numbers corresponding to the list below.

**Project List**
- Project 1: Sandstone Town Water Supply
- Project 2: Yuna Farmlands
- Project 3: Mullagee-Wongamby
- Project 4: Mingenew
- Project 5: West Bovillage
- Project 6: North Caramah
- Project 7: Round Hill
- Project 8: West Wongan
- Project 9: Goodlands Road
- Project 10: Peladon
- Project 11: Mount Collar
- Project 12: Goodlands Tank
- Project 13: Jingumya
- Project 14: Chown Tank Road
- Project 15: Cleary Rocks
- Project 16: North Gabbin
- Project 17: Scaddan West
- Project 18: North Beacon
- Project 19: Gabbinbing
- Project 20: North Waiaki
- Project 21: Snake Creek
- Project 22: Beringbooding
- Project 23: North Mulinbudin/Karionning
- Project 24: Warrakina-Boppokarin
- Project 25: George Road
- Project 26: Murladgin
- Project 27: Murladgin/South Burracoppin
- Project 28: North Karrarbin
- Project 29: Kondinin to Hyden
- Project 30: Pingaring
- Project 31: Stubba Catchment
- Project 32: Lake King Town Water Supply
- Project 33: Lake Grace to Newdegate
- Project 34: Lake Grace to Tarrick
- Project 35: Darratine
- Project 36: Nyabing/North
- Project 37: Lake Banks Stage 2
- Project 38: Lake Banks Stage 3
- Project 39: Jerramungup Town Water Supply

**Legend**
- Australian Coastline - Derived
- LGA
- Farm Water Plan Zones - DA 22/04/02
- Great Southern
- Midlands and Upper Great Southern
- No Mean
- North Eastern and Eastern Wheatbelt
- Northern Sandplains and Northern Wheatbelt
- Relocated Scheme Area
- South Coast Soilsplains
- South Eastern Wheatbelt and Salmon Divide

*Project Data is denoted by asterisk. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.*
## Appendix G — Listing — non-pipeline projects — approvals, 1995–2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Local Government</th>
<th>Funding Contributed</th>
<th>Community Subsidy</th>
<th>Total Project Cost</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Year of Funding Approval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luray Reservoir Expansion</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>Repurpose existing water intake</td>
<td>1995</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reedy Creek Reservoir Improvement</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Repurpose existing water intake</td>
<td>1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Lake Reservoir Rehabilitation</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>24,000</td>
<td>Repurpose existing water intake</td>
<td>1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westmoreland Reservoir Rehabilitation</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>26,000</td>
<td>Repurpose existing water intake</td>
<td>1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Reservoir Rehab</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>Repurpose existing water intake</td>
<td>1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Reservoir Rehab</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>Repurpose existing water intake</td>
<td>1995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes
- The table above lists non-pipeline projects approved between 1995 and 2010.
- Each project includes funding contributions from both the local government and community subsidy.
- The total project costs are the sum of local government contributions and community subsidies.
- The year of funding approval is indicated for each project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Local Government</th>
<th>Pipeline Length km</th>
<th>Number of Farms with direct connection</th>
<th>Total project costs $'000</th>
<th>Community in Kind $'000</th>
<th>Community in Cash $'000</th>
<th>OWR under Water Corp</th>
<th>Date of Funding Approval</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PIPELINE EXTENSIONS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Grace Stage 2</td>
<td>Kent</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>Apr-96</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinjarra</td>
<td>Lake Grace &amp; Mulin</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>Apr-95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Quelin</td>
<td>M Marshall</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>Apr-95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patuad</td>
<td>Waungathalia and Katungaluni</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>10-Jul-95</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Woomarg</td>
<td>Waungathalia and Muren</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>32</td>
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<td>693</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>881</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snake Brook</td>
<td>M Marshall</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>M Collar</td>
<td>Koorda</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>28-Oct-95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Grace to Newinga</td>
<td>Koorda</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>2,750</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>2,142</td>
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<td>Lake Grace to Twin Rock</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>377</td>
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<td>West Bridget</td>
<td>Esperance</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1,700</td>
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<td>Lake Grace Stage 3</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<td>Chown Tank Road</td>
<td>Koorda</td>
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<td>Narrogin</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>259</td>
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<td>North Carnamah</td>
<td>Carnamah</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>43</td>
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<td>352</td>
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<td>Kondinin to Hyden</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>3,753</td>
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<td>North Kalgan</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>273</td>
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<td>Kalamunda</td>
<td>Mount Magnet</td>
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<td>40</td>
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<td>233</td>
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<td>508</td>
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<td>63</td>
<td>15-Jun-95</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>294</td>
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<td>Narrabeen East</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>7 + C3L Ram</td>
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<td><strong>Jeremangup TWS - Catchment enlargement</strong></td>
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<td>Jeremangup</td>
<td>Jeremangup</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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**Totals:** 1823 651 $33 459 $40 310 $25 258
## Appendix I — Community members of the Rural Water Advisory Committee, 1994–2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Bill McNee MLA (Chair)</td>
<td>THREE SPRINGS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Barbara Dinnie (Chair)</td>
<td>BUNTINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Chris Croot</td>
<td>MORAWA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Malcolm Strahan</td>
<td>CADOUX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mike McFarlane</td>
<td>DOODLAKINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Fred Bremner</td>
<td>BEVERLEY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Doug Tierney</td>
<td>BINDI BINDI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Kelly O’Neill</td>
<td>ONGERUP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Paul Gillett</td>
<td>BENCUBBIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Robert Bayly</td>
<td>MUKINBUDIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Barry James</td>
<td>KARLGRARIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr LO (Keith) Stephens</td>
<td>ALBANY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr John McDougall</td>
<td>RAVENSTHORPE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ben Mouritz</td>
<td>HYDEN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Noel Dodd</td>
<td>KALANNIE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Romolo Patroni</td>
<td>SOUTHERN CROSS</td>
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