Protecting your drinking water sources

The Derby plan was developed by the Department of Water in consultation with state and local government agencies and the Water Corporation.

The Department aims to publish protection plans for all of the 139 drinking water sources throughout Western Australia. So far more than 80 of these have been published.

The support we receive from local communities, state and local government authorities and other interested stakeholders, for both the preparation and implementation of these protection plans, will greatly assist in ensuring the availability of safe, good quality drinking water now and in the future.

How to obtain a copy of the Derby water reserves drinking water source protection plan

If you would like to view this protection plan please visit <http://drinkingwater.water.wa.gov.au/> and then scroll down to the link for drinking water source protection plans and assessments. If you are unable to access the internet, please call the Department of Water to arrange for a copy of the plan to be posted to you.

Where can I get more information?

A range of other publications, such as water quality protection notes, policies and guidelines, are produced by the department’s Water Source Protection staff. To find out if your property is in the area covered by this plan please use the Geographic Data Atlas. A registry of drinking water sources within each of the local government areas also exists. To access these resources please go to <http://drinkingwater.water.wa.gov.au/> then scroll down and click on the relevant link or contact the department’s Water Source Protection staff on 08 6364 7600.

Feedback

We welcome your comments and suggestions on the issues raised in this brochure and the associated drinking water source protection plan. Ultimately the quality of water provided to consumers will depend on everyone working together.

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Drinking water source protection plans

The Department of Water protects and manages public drinking water source areas in Western Australia. This involves developing and implementing policies and plans based on the Australian drinking water guidelines, 2004. To maintain the quality of these water supplies we must protect and manage not only the catchments and underground water sources, but also the associated storages, treatment plants and distribution systems.

A drinking water source protection plan has been developed for the proposed Derby water reserves. Risks to the water quality are considered to be low due to the confined nature and depth of this drinking water source. Notwithstanding this low risk, consumers in Derby should be aware of the source used for the drinking water supply as described in the Derby water reserves drinking water source protection plan 2008.

Where are the Derby water reserves?

Land use

The only land use in the Derby water reserves is:
- drinking water supply

Management practices will need to protect the quality of this drinking water source.

For more guidance on appropriate land uses refer to the water quality protection note: Land use compatibility in public drinking water source areas, produced by the Department of Water. To do this please visit <http://drinkingwater.water.wa.gov.au/> and then scroll down the link for water quality protection notes at the bottom of this page. If you are unable to access the internet please call the Department of Water to arrange for a copy of the note to be posted to you.

Contamination

Drinking water source protection plans identify sources of potential water contamination. There are negligible water quality risks for each of the Derby water reserves, however risks may include:
- contamination occurring in the immediate vicinity of the bore compound area
- salt-water intrusion.

Following careful assessment of all potential contamination risks, recommendations have been made that, if implemented will ensure the long-term protection of this vital water supply. The main recommendations include:
- proclamation of the water reserves under the Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947
- incorporation of the plan into the Shire of Derby West-Kimberley town planning scheme
- putting signs in place to make people aware of the reserve boundaries.