How can we manage these water quality risks?
Recommended actions to help protect Halls Creek’s water supply include:
• Consider the 2002 plan and this 2011 review in the Shire of Halls Creek local planning scheme
• include the Halls Creek Water Reserve as a special control area in the local planning scheme
• refer all development proposals within the Halls Creek Water Reserve that are inconsistent with the Department of Water’s Water quality protection note no.25: Land use compatibility in public drinking water source areas or recommendations in the 2002 plan or this 2011 review, to the Department of Water for advice.

Working together to protect drinking water
Drinking water source protection documents are developed by the Department of Water in consultation with local communities, state and local government agencies, water service providers (such as the Water Corporation) and other interested stakeholders.

The support we receive from stakeholders through the development and implementation of these plans greatly assists in ensuring the ongoing availability of reliable, safe, good quality drinking water source now and in the future. Ultimately, the quality of water provided to consumers depends on everyone working together to keep the catchment clean.

There are nearly 150 public drinking water source areas in WA. We have completed 119 drinking water source protection reports for these sources, so far.

Want to know more?
If you would like a copy of the Halls Creek Water Reserve drinking water source protection review (2011) or the Halls Creek Water Reserve water source protection plan (2002) go to <http://www.water.wa.gov.au> Publications > Find a publication > Series browse > Water resource protection plans or contact us for a copy to be posted to you.

To read about best management practices to help protect water quality, go to <http://www.water.wa.gov.au> Publications > Find a publication > Series browse > Water quality protection guidelines, water quality protection notes, water quality awareness brochures and information sheets.

To find out more about how we protect drinking water, visit http://drinkingwater.water.wa.gov.au/ or contact us.
Where does Halls Creek’s drinking water come from?
Halls Creek’s drinking water comes from bores east of the town. The bores draw water from aquifers in the King Leopold Sandstone and Carson Volcanics. These are fractured rock aquifers, so they are vulnerable to contamination from overlying land uses. The Halls Creek Water Reserve (see images following) is the area declared to protect the bores from contamination threats.

The Halls Creek Water Reserve boundary has been determined based on the recharge area for the production bores and consideration of surrounding land uses and ownership. A recharge area is the land over which water infiltrates into the ground to replenish the aquifer used for production bores.

In July 2010 Government announced that seven new bore locations for Halls Creek had been identified, allowing up to 300 new services to be built in the town.

What are the risks to Halls Creek’s drinking water quality?
Much of the area covered by the Halls Creek Water Reserve is either unallocated crown land, crown reserves or crown leases.

Crown land pastoral grazing activities are a major land use in much of the aquifer’s recharge area. These non-intensive activities are not considered to pose a significant risk to water quality.

It should be noted that bores drilled near production bores need to meet minimum bore construction requirements, to prevent them becoming a conduit for surface contamination.

Some of the water quality contamination risks associated with the land uses/activities are:
- pathogens and nutrients from failing septic tanks and animal waste
- hydrocarbons and other chemicals from pipeline leaks and spills, storage tanks, industry, and vehicle wash-down.

The plan to protect Halls Creek’s drinking water
The Department of Water has developed a drinking water source protection review to protect the quality of water in the Halls Creek Water Reserve and to help ensure a reliable, safe, good quality drinking water supply to consumers.

The 2011 Halls Creek Water Reserve drinking water source protection review discusses changes since the publication of the Halls Creek Water Reserve water source protection plan in 2002. These documents should be read together. They discuss water quality risks and recommend management strategies to address them.

The 2011 review discusses water quality risks, and protection measures. It also shows the implementation status of recommendations in the 2002 plan. Importantly, the review does not recommend changes to the existing 2004 proclaimed water reserve boundary.