



February
2016

Drought Response Plan: Part B

A Water Sharing Plan for Licenced Water Users in the:

Watsons Creek catchment

To be read in conjunction with Part A: A Water Sharing Plan for all Licensed Water Users 2016

1. Catchment Description

Watsons Creek enters the Yarra River from the north near Wonga Park. The creek originates in the forested Kinglake National Park and quickly passes into cleared land at Christmas Hills and Kangaroo Ground. Watsons Creek has excellent channel form, good streamside vegetation and its headwater reaches have been defined as ecologically healthy. Tributaries of Watsons Creek include Long Gully, Five Mile, Stephenson's and Sugarloaf Creeks. Sugarloaf Reservoir is within this catchment.

The map on the following page shows the catchment



Confluence of Watsons and Stevensons Creek



Watsons Creek catchment

2. Ban Triggers

Flow levels are monitored by gauges (data logging stations) that provide continuous flow readings. The data logging station for Watsons Creek is located at [Kangaroo Ground \(229608\)](#). The trigger levels for the Watsons Creek catchment are as shown in the following table:

Period	Dates	Ban Trigger (ML)
Low Flow	1 Nov - 30 Jun	0.0
High Flow	1 Jul - 31 Oct	1.0

Bans are implemented or lifted when a catchment-specific trigger has been met, based upon the seven day rolling average stream flow.



Watsons Creek at Kangaroo Ground

3. Application of Plan

Irrespective of anything in this section, users must not exceed their annual allocation on their licence or take water outside of their authorised take period.

Active licence holders in the Watsons Creek with allocations greater than 5ML are metered by Melbourne Water.



Sugarloaf Reservoir

Document Versions

Revision	Date Issued	Issued To	Issued By
Version 1	2016	Melbourne Water Diversion Customers	Melbourne Water Diversion Team