



Granite Belt underground water sub-area – Notification of works

INFORMATION SHEET

To better understand, manage and protect the Granite Belt underground water sub-area (GBUWA), the department is collecting information from landholders on existing works that take or interfere with underground water in the decomposed (weathered) granite.

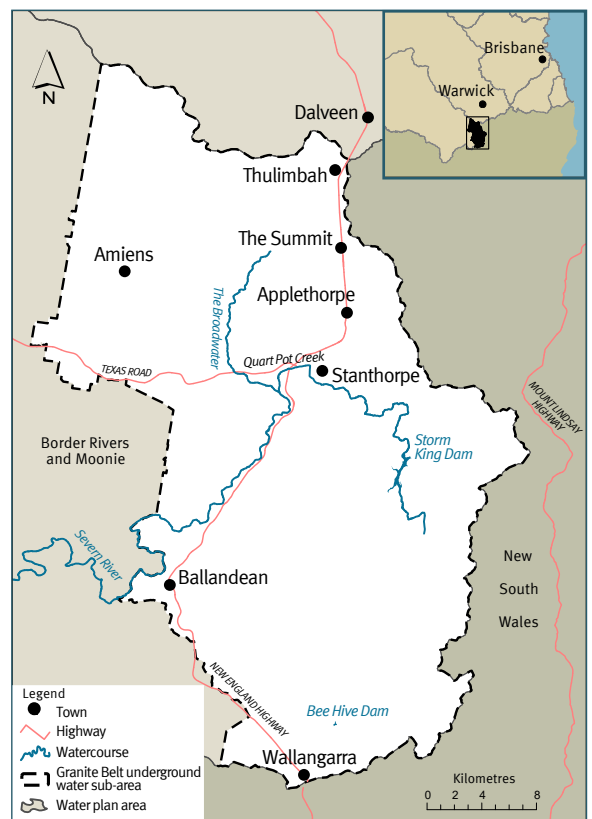
On 20 March 2022, we published a notice under section 36 of the *Water Act 2000* which requires landholders to submit details about existing works constructed before 6 July 2016, the date when a moratorium came into effect prohibiting new works of this nature unless for stock and domestic purposes.

If you have existing works as outlined below, you must respond to the notice by 20 September 2023.

Please complete and send in the notification form and include details for each of the works. Scan the QR code on the last page of this information sheet or visit www.rdmw.qld.gov.au and search 'GBUWA'. You can complete form [W2F168](#) online or download and print it. Please include details for each of the works.

Please note, it is an offence under the *Water Act 2000* if you fail to comply with the notice.

Figure 1: Granite Belt underground water sub-area



You can view the Granite Belt underground water sub-area on the [Queensland Globe](#) if you need to check if your property is within this area.

Which works must be notified?

Specific works to be notified are those which take, or interfere with, underground water contained within the weathered (decomposed) granite material not more than six metres below the ground surface (defined as declared overland flow water). Works that need to be notified include:

- › excavations, interception trenches, associated ring tanks and dams (including spring fed dams)
- › bores and wells
- › pumps that take water from the above works.

Please note that this notice does NOT apply to:

- › works that have previously been notified, for example overland flow dams
- › works to take water for stock or domestic purposes only.

If in doubt about whether or not you need to complete the notification form, please contact the department using the details on the next page. Examples of types of works to be notified are displayed in the diagrams below.

Figure 2: Excavation or interception trench capturing underground water

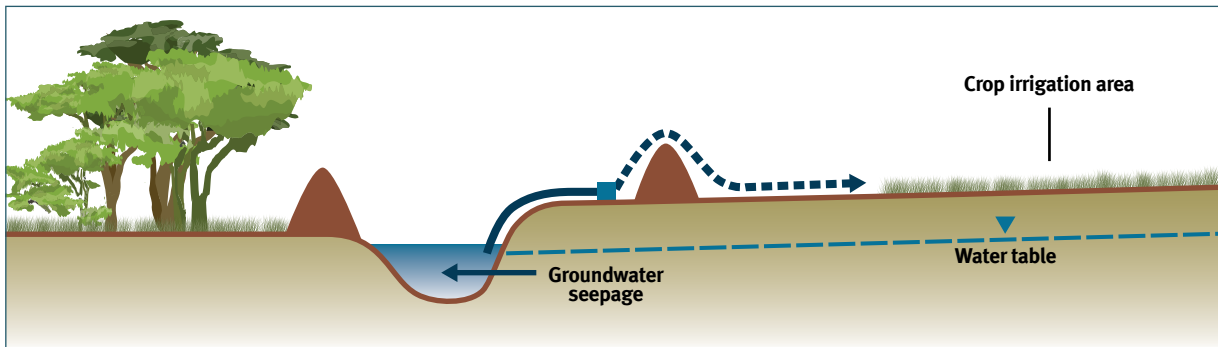


Figure 3: Excavation or interception trench capturing underground water with water pumped to a ring tank

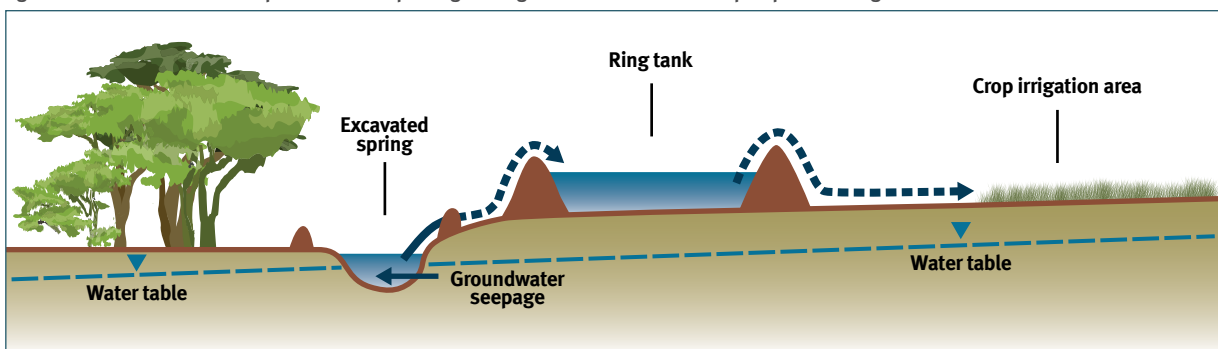
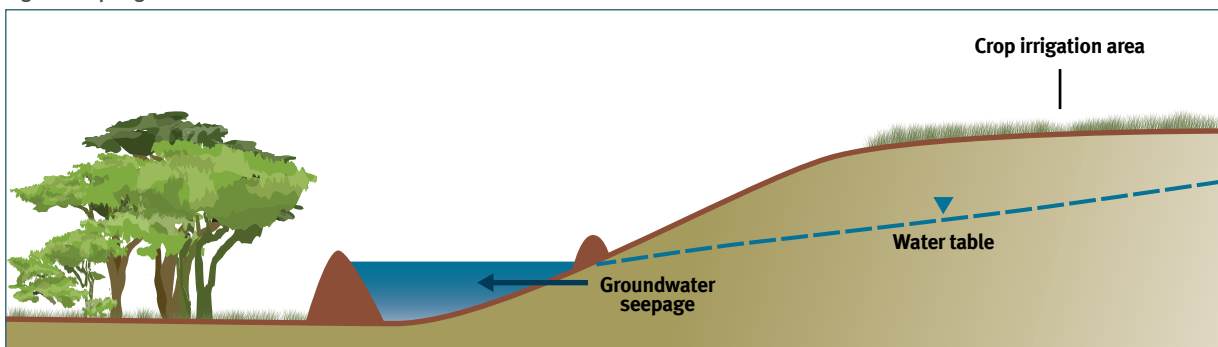


Figure 4: Spring fed dam



What are the benefits of notifying existing works?

By notifying the department, your existing works or infrastructure will be formally identified and taken into account when managing this water resource in a way that benefits existing water users.

These notifications will:

- ▶ help the department understand water take for ongoing resource management
- ▶ better protect your existing rights to continue to take this water in the GBUWA
- ▶ provide benefit to landholders and prospective buyers through the identification of existing authorised works on future property searches.

Why are we collecting this information?

The Border Rivers and Moonie water plan sets out how water is managed and the rules that govern access to water in the GBUWA. Due to high levels of connectivity between overland flow (surface water) and groundwater in the weathered layer of the granite geology, the water plan manages these as a joint resource.

No additional take or growth in take is permitted for this resource, except for stock or domestic purposes, which is managed to help protect the ability of existing authorised users to continue to take water.

The water plan contains a specific commitment to identify and capture details of relevant existing works. This will also ensure Queensland can meet its commitments under the Murray Darling Basin Plan 2012.

How will the department verify the information sent in?

High resolution satellite imagery was captured across the GBUWA at the date of the moratorium on the 6 July 2016. The imagery will provide a means of determining whether or not works are 'existing works' as defined under section 40 of the water plan.

You can view the GBUWA and the 2016 imagery on the Queensland Globe by scanning the QR code at the end of this document.

How do I complete and submit the notification form?

Visit www.rdmw.qld.gov.au and search 'GBUWA' for more details and to download Form W2F168. You can complete this form online and print for signing or print it and fill it in by hand.

All forms must be signed, and all signatures must be witnessed by a Justice of the Peace, solicitor or other person recognised under the *Oaths Act 1867*.

You can post your completed, signed and witnessed form to the Department of Regional Development Manufacturing and Water, South Region Water Planning, P.O. Box 318, Toowoomba, Qld, 4350.

Alternatively, you can scan and email your completed form to GraniteBeltNotice@rdmw.qld.gov.au.



Granite Belt region

Further information



Scan the QR code or go to www.rdmw.qld.gov.au and search for: 'GBUWA'



Face-to-face information sessions will be held in the Stanthorpe area over the next few months (contact us for details)



GraniteBeltNotice@rdmw.qld.gov.au



Toowoomba office (07) 4529 1347

