



Munro and Lindenow Trading Zones Local Management Plan

Version 1

April 2023

Version Control

Version	Change summary	Date
1	Removed from previous Catchment Statement and presented as a standalone Local Management Plan for Munro and Lindenow Trading Zones. Minor administrative updates included.	April 2023

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Purpose of this document

This Local Management Plan documents the current management arrangements for the Lindenow and Munro Trading Zones. The objective of the plan is to ensure the equitable sharing and long-term sustainability of the groundwater resource.

The plan aims to clearly and simply explain how groundwater is managed in this area, this includes information on the boundaries and depth of the management area, the cap on total annual groundwater licensed volume, how groundwater licences can be accessed (via a trade of entitlement), and the metering requirements.

The Local Management Plan will be reviewed on an as needs basis. The aim of future reviews will be to improve existing management and where possible to make management less complex, while ensuring equitable sharing and long-term sustainability of the resource.



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General Manager Service Delivery

12 April 2023

Lindenow & Munro Trading Zones Local Management Plan

Objective of the Local Management Plan

The objective of the Local Management Plan is to make sure that the groundwater resources in the area covered by the Lindenow and Munro trading zones are managed in an equitable and sustainable manner.

Area description

The Lindenow and Munro trading zones are shown on Figure 1. The vertical depth boundaries of the trading zones are from the ground surface to 50 metres below the base of the Quaternary and Tertiary aquifers (50 m below the top of the older Basement Rocks).

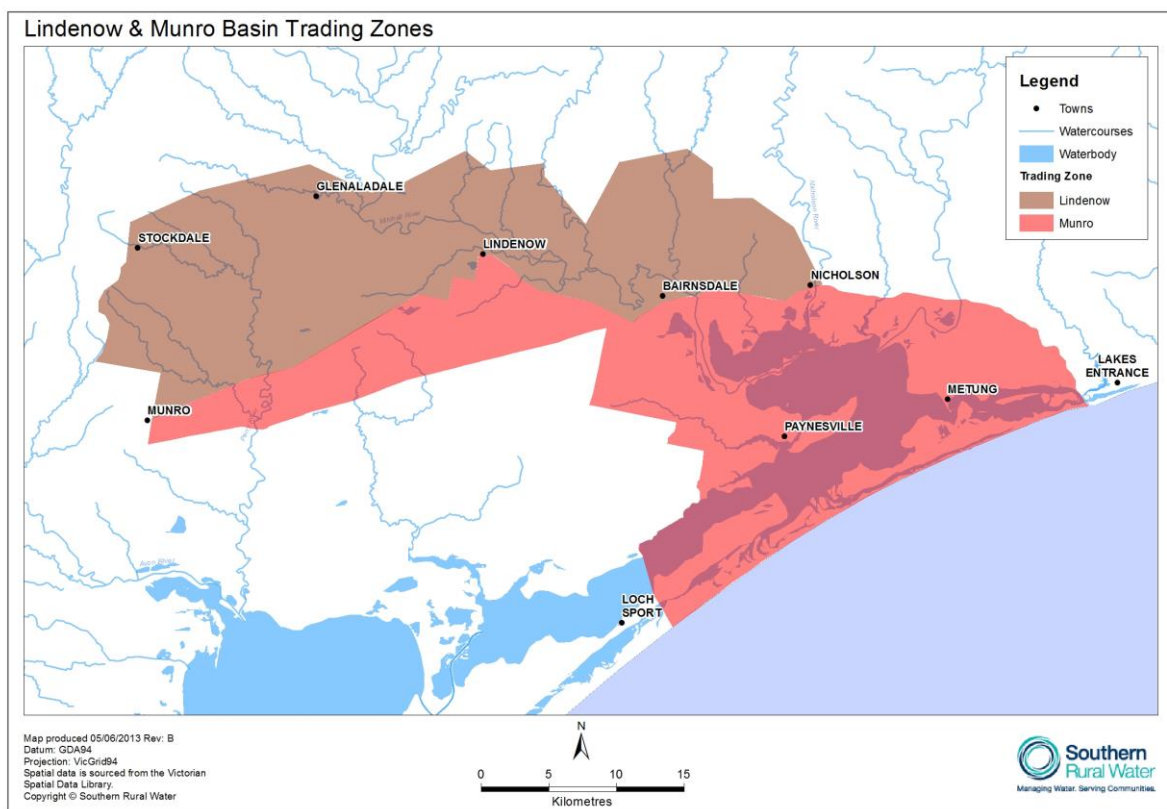


Figure 1. Map of Lindenow and Munro Trading Zones.

Water entitlements

The extraction of groundwater for purposes other than domestic and stock use is authorised under a groundwater licence. People have rights to take groundwater for domestic and stock use without a groundwater licence.

Licence holders must not take more than their annual licence volumes.

Restrictions

There is no PCV for this area and this LMP does not place specific restrictions on taking groundwater.

If necessary, Southern Rural Water (SRW) will temporarily qualify rights to groundwater under section 33AAA of the *Water Act 1989* if a water shortage occurs - for example, if regional drawdown is affecting access to groundwater by users.

Groundwater licences also allow SRW to restrict extraction if required - for example, to minimise the effect of extraction from specific sites if there is a significant impact on nearby users or the aquifer. If restrictions are necessary, SRW will notify licence holders in advance.

New licences

New groundwater licences (additional entitlement) will not be issued in the Lindenow and Munro trading zones because this may adversely impact on the sustainability of the groundwater resource, however temporary or permanent trade of existing entitlement is allowed.

Trading

In considering an application to transfer a licence temporarily or permanently, SRW must thoroughly assess the application. An application to transfer a licence is not automatically approved. In deciding whether or not to approve an application, SRW must consider section 40 of the Act, including:

- Availability of water now and projections of water availability in the future;
- Adverse effects that an approval may have on existing users, on waterways and aquifers and on the environment; and
- Existing and projected water quality in the GMA.

When an application is made, SRW will assess whether groundwater extractions at the new site will cause adverse and material interference to any nearby groundwater user. If interference is likely, SRW may set transfer conditions to minimise interference, or it may refuse the application. Approval of an application to transfer may be subject to technical assessments to determine bore interference and impact on surface water bodies.

In the Munro and Lindenow trading zones:

- Permanent transfers are permitted
- Temporary transfers are permitted for a period of up to five years

The following groundwater transfer rules apply to the Lindenow and Munro trading zones:

- Transfers from the Rosedale GMA, Sale WSPA and Stratford GMA are permitted into the Lindenow Trading Zone

- Transfers within the Lindenow Trading Zone are permitted
- Transfers from the Lindenow Trading Zone to capped GMAs and WSPAs are not permitted
- A limit of 1,900ML of entitlement applies to the Lindenow Trading Zone within the surface boundary of the Wy Yung WSPA.
- Transfers from the Wy Yung WSPA into Lindenow Trading Zone are not permitted
- Transfers from Sale WSPA into the Munro area immediately to the north, shallower than the Stratford GMA and south of Wy Yung WSPA, are permitted
- Transfers within Munro area are permitted
- Transfers from the Munro area are permitted to the Lindenow trading zone
- Transfers from the Munro area into capped GMAs and WSPAs are not permitted

Metering

SRW meters new and existing groundwater users with an annual volume greater than 20ML¹. This allows SRW to keep track of how much water is being used and enables licence holders to keep within their allocated volume.

The meters are supplied by SRW, and the licence holder is responsible for paying the full cost of the meter and initial installation. The meter remains the property of SRW and SRW is responsible for maintenance and replacement.

Meters are read at least twice per year.

Consultation

SRW will consult with licence holders and relevant stakeholders before making changes to the LMP, other than administrative changes or clarifications.

The LMP will be reviewed on an as needs basis.

¹ Except where metering is physically impractical, or where it is high risk from a health and safety perspective