

Water Resource Plan assessment report

Consistency with the requirements in
Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan

October 2018

Published by the Murray–Darling Basin
Authority
MDBA publication no: 31/18
ISBN (online): 978-1-925762-00-6



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The Murray–Darling Basin Authority pays respect to the Traditional Owners and their Nations of the Murray–Darling Basin. We acknowledge their deep cultural, social, environmental, spiritual and economic connection to their lands and waters.

The guidance and support received from the Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations, the Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations and our many Traditional Owner friends and colleagues is very much valued and appreciated.

Aboriginal people should be aware that this publication may contain images, names or quotations of deceased persons.

Contents

Part 2 - Identification of water resource plan area and other matters	1
Section 10.02 – Identification of water resource plan area and water resources.....	1
Section 10.03 – Identification of SDL resource units and water resources	3
Section 10.04 – Form of water resource plan	4
Section 10.05 – Regard to other water resources.....	7
Section 10.06 – Matters relating to requirements of Chapter.....	8
Section 10.07 – Consultation to be demonstrated	9
Part 3 Incorporation and application of long-term annual diversion limit	10
Section 10.08 – Water access rights must be identified	10
Section 10.09 – Identification of planned environmental water and register of held environmental water.....	13
Section 10.10 – Annual determinations of water permitted to be taken.....	15
Section 10.11 – Rules for take, including water allocation rules	20
Section 10.12 – Matters relating to accounting for water	22
Section 10.13 – Limits on certain forms of take.....	24
Section 10.14 – Effects, and potential effects, on water resources of the water resource plan area.....	27
Section 10.15 – Determination of actual take must be specified	29
Part 4 The sustainable use and management of water resources.....	32
Section 10.16 – Sustainable use and management.....	32
Section 10.17 – Priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions.....	34
Section 10.18 – Priority environmental assets dependent on groundwater	36
Section 10.19 – Groundwater and surface water connections.....	39
Section 10.20 – Productive base of groundwater	41
Section 10.21 – Additional requirements for Western Porous Rock, Gunnedah-Oxley Basin MDB, Sydney Basin MDB and Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource units	44
Section 10.22 – Description of how requirements have been met	48
Part 5 Interception activities	49
Section 10.23 – Listing types of interception activity	49
Section 10.24 – Monitoring impact of interception activities.....	52
Section 10.25 – Actions to be taken.....	53
Part 6 Planning for environmental watering.....	55
Section 10.26 – Planning for environmental watering.....	55
Section 10.27 – Enabling environmental water between connected water resources	57

Section 10.28 – No net reduction in the protection of planned environmental water	58
Part 7 Water quality objectives	59
Section 10.29 – Water resource plan to include WQM Plan.....	59
Section 10.30 – WQM Plan to identify key causes of water quality degradation.....	60
Section 10.31 – Measures addressing risks arising from water quality degradation	61
Section 10.32 – WQM Plan to identify water quality target values.....	62
Section 10.33 – WQM Plan to identify measures	66
Section 10.34 – WQM Plan to identify locations of targets for irrigation water	69
Section 10.35 – Impact of WQM Plan on another Basin State.....	70
Section 10.35A – WQM Plan to identify key causes of water quality degradation	71
Section 10.35B – WQM Plan to identify water quality target values.....	72
Section 10.35C – Consideration to be given to rules or measures	74
Section 10.35D – Additional requirement for Western Porous Rock, Gunnedah-Oxley Basin MDB, Sydney Basin MDB and Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource units	76
Part 8 Trade of water access rights	77
Section 10.36 – Application of Part	77
Section 10.37 – Circumstances in which conditions in section 12.24 are met	78
Section 10.38 – Circumstances in which conditions in section 12.25 are met	81
Section 10.39 – Circumstances in which conditions in section 12.26 are met	83
Part 9 Risk assessment	86
Section 10.40 - Definitions	86
Section 10.41 – Risk identification and assessment methodology	87
Section 10.42 – Description of risks	92
Section 10.43 – Strategies for addressing risks	93
Part 10 Measuring and monitoring	95
Section 10.44 – Information relating to measuring take – water access rights.....	95
Section 10.45 – Supporting measuring	97
Section 10.46 – Monitoring water resources.....	99
Part 11 Review of water resource plans	100
Section 10.47 – Review of water resource plans	100
Section 10.47A – Additional requirements for Western Porous Rock, Gunnedah-Oxley Basin MDB, Sydney Basin MDB and Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource units	101
Section 10.48 – Amendment of water resource plan	103
Part 12 Information used to prepare water resource plan	104
Section 10.49 – Best available information.....	104
Section 10.50 – Methods used to develop water resource plan	105

Part 13 Extreme events	106
Section 10.51 – Measures in response to extreme events	106
Part 14 Indigenous values and uses	109
Section 10.52 – Objectives and outcomes based on Indigenous values and uses.....	109
Section 10.53 – Consultation and preparation of water resource plan	112
Section 10.54 – Cultural flows.....	114
Section 10.55 – Retention of current protection	115

Part 2 - Identification of water resource plan area and other matters

Section 10.02 – Identification of water resource plan area and water resources

- (1) A water resource plan must identify:
- (a) the water resource plan area; and
 - (b) the water resources;
- to which it applies.
- (2) The water resource plan area must be one of the water resource plan areas described in Part 2 of Chapter 3 and must be identified using the same description of that area as is set out in that Part, with any variations permitted by section 3.04.
- (3) The water resources must be those described in Part 2 of Chapter 3 as the water resources of the water resource plan area and must be identified using the same description of those water resources as is set out in that Part.

10.02	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP identifies:	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	(a) the applicable geographic area of the WRP				
	(b) all water resources in the plan area to which the WRP applies	Choose an item.			
2	A variation to boundaries under s3.04 applies to the WRP area	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	The WRP applies the variation under 3.04	Choose an item.			

10.02	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	The WRP states the WRP area as the applicable area using the same terms as in Part 2 of Chapter 3	Choose an item.			
3	The water resources to which this WRP applies are the same as the water resources described in Part 2 Chapter 3	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Section 10.03 – Identification of SDL resource units and water resources

- (1) A water resource plan must identify:
 - (a) each SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area; and
 - (b) the water resources within each SDL resource unit.
- (2) The SDL resource units must be those described in sections 6.02 and 6.03 and Schedules 2 and 4 as the SDL resource units within the water resource plan area, as applicable.
- (3) The water resources within each SDL resource unit must be those described in sections 6.02 and 6.03, and Schedules 2 and 4.

10.03 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP identifies:	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	(a) each applicable SDL resource unit in the WRP area				
	(b) the water resources within each SDL resource unit	Choose an item.			
2	The WRP applies to the SDL resource units are those described in ss6.02 and/or 6.03, and Schedules 2 and/or 4	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
3	The WRP applies SDL resource units to water resources are those described in ss6.02 and/or 6.03, and Schedules 2 and/or 4	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Section 10.04 – Form of water resource plan

Water resource plan constituted by 2 or more instruments

- (1) If a water resource plan is constituted by 2 or more instruments or texts, subsections (2) and (3) apply to it.

Note: Subsection 63(1) of the Act states that a water resource plan may be constituted by 2 or more instruments.

- (2) The water resource plan must identify the instruments or texts that constitute the water resource plan.

Note: The same instrument or text may be used for more than one water resource plan.

- (3) If an instrument or text applies only to some of the water resources of the water resource plan area, the water resource plan must:

- (a) identify the water resources or the parts of the water resources to which the instrument or text applies; and
- (b) include an indicative map of the water resources identified in paragraph (a).

Water resource plan to include list of requirements

- (4) A water resource plan must include a list that specifies:

- (a) each requirement set out in this Chapter (individually or by reference to a group of requirements); and
- (b) the part of the plan that addresses each requirement (or group of requirements); and
- (c) the parts of the plan that will cease to have effect or are to be reviewed, and the times at which those parts will cease to have effect or are to be reviewed.

Note: For paragraphs (a) and (b), the list may, for example, group multiple requirements in Chapter 10 together and specify that those requirements are addressed in a single document that deals with those requirements.

Material not forming part of the water resource plan

- (5) If a water resource plan is constituted by an instrument or text which contains additional material that is not part of the water resource plan, the water resource plan must identify that material.

Note: See paragraph (d) of the definition of water resource plan in section 4 of the Act.

10.04 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP index refers to 2 or more instruments or texts	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	If 'yes' establish that the WRP addresses the requirements in subsection (2) and (3)	Choose an item.			

10.04 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
2	The WRP identifies the instruments or texts that makes up the WRP package	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
3	The WRP includes an instrument or text that operates for or covers only some of the water resources in the WRP area	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	(a) The WRP identifies the water resources or the parts of water resources to which the instrument or text applies	Choose an item.			
	(b) The WRP includes an indicative map of the water resources identified in letter (a)	Choose an item.			
4	The WRP has an index that lists all the sections in Chapter 10	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	The list references the part of the WRP that addresses each Chapter 10 requirement	Choose an item.			
	The list specifies date of cessation or review for each part of the WRP that is subject to a time limit for operation	Choose an item.			

10.04 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
5	The WRP identifies which parts of instruments and other material are 'additional material' and excluded from accreditation	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Section 10.05 – Regard to other water resources

A water resource plan must:

- (a) be prepared having regard to the management and use of any water resources which have a significant hydrological connection to the water resources of the water resource plan area; and
- (b) describe the way in which paragraph (a) was complied with.

10.05 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
(a)	There are significant hydrological connections between water resources of the WRP area to water resources outside the WRP area	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	The WRP was prepared having regard to the management and use of the hydrologically connected water resources	Choose an item.			
(b)	The WRP describes how s10.05(a) was complied with	Choose an item.			

Section 10.06 – Matters relating to requirements of Chapter

- (1) For each matter that this Chapter requires to be dealt with in a water resource plan, the plan must specify the person responsible for the matter.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), if a water resource plan requires a measure or action to be undertaken, the plan must specify the person responsible for undertaking that measure or action.

10.06 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP identifies each matter arising from Chapter 10	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	Each matter nominates a responsible person or persons	Choose an item.			
2	The WRP nominates a party as 'responsible person' for each Chapter 10 section listed in Position Statement 1M	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Section 10.07 – Consultation to be demonstrated

- (1) A water resource plan prepared by a Basin State must contain a description of the consultation in relation to the plan (including in relation to any part of the plan), if any, that was undertaken before the State gave the plan to the Authority under subsection 63(1) of the Act.
- Note:** A water resource plan prepared by the Authority and adopted under section 69 of the Act is a legislative instrument. The Legislative Instruments Act 2003 requires that the explanatory statements for such plans describe the consultation undertaken in relation to the plans.
- (2) If a water resource plan is amended in accordance with section 65 of the Act, the plan must contain a description of the consultation in relation to the amendment, if any, that was undertaken before the relevant Basin State gave the proposed amendment to the Authority under subsection 65(2) of the Act.

10.07 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	Any consultation carried out in relation to all or part of the WRP is described	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
2	The WRP is being presented for the purpose of accreditation of an amendment under s65 of the <i>Water Act 2007</i>	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	The WRP describes the consultation undertaken in relation to the proposed amendment	Choose an item.			

Part 3 Incorporation and application of long-term annual diversion limit

Section 10.08 – Water access rights must be identified

(1) A water resource plan must identify:

- (a) each form of take from each SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area;
- (b) any classes of water access rights that apply to the forms of take identified under paragraph (a);
- (c) the characteristic of each class of right including, where appropriate, the number of rights and any conditions on the exercise of the rights.

(2) A water resource plan must require a holder of water access right to comply with the conditions of that right.

10.08 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1(a)	All the forms of take mentioned in Schedule 3 (4 for groundwater resource units) for the SDL resource unit are listed.	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	Additional forms of take apply to the SDL resource unit	Choose an item.			
	Additional forms of take in the SDL resource unit are identified	Choose an item.			
	Changes to the BDL estimate arising from any additional forms of take are stated	Choose an item.			
1(b)	Applicable class(es) of water access rights are identified ('attributed') for each form of take	Choose an item.			

10.08 subsection	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	(presence/absence <i>for each form of take</i>)			
1(c)	The characteristics of each class of water access right are identified ('attributed') for each form of take (presence/absence <i>for each form of take</i>)	Choose an item.		
	It is it appropriate for the WRP to include: (i) the number of rights for each class; (ii) the conditions on exercising rights that apply to each class	Choose an item.		
	The characteristics of each class of water access rights includes the number of rights and/or conditions on exercising those rights (presence/absence <i>for each form of take</i>)	Choose an item.		
	The rationale for why it is not appropriate has merit	Choose an item.		
2	The WRP provision obliges water access right holders to comply with the conditions of a right	Choose an item.		

Section 10.09 – Identification of planned environmental water and register of held environmental water

- (1) A water resource plan must identify the planned environmental water in the water resource plan area and associated rules and arrangements relating to that water.
- (2) A water resource plan must provide for the establishment and maintenance of a register, to be published on a website specified by the plan, of held environmental water for the water resource plan area which records:
 - (a) the characteristics of held environmental water in the water resource plan area (for example, quantity, reliability, security class, licence type, limitations); and
 - (b) who holds that water.
- (3) Subsection (2) is satisfied if the plan identifies a register of held environmental water which records the matters required by subsection (2) and is published on a website.

10.09 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	PEW is identified in the WRP area	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	There is no PEW in the WRP area, and the supporting evidence validates the claim	Choose an item.			
	The identified PEW is PEW as defined in the <i>Water Act 2007</i> (exhaustive - <i>all</i> PEW is identified)	Choose an item.			
	PEW rules and arrangements to protect PEW operate in the WRP area	Choose an item.			

10.09 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
2	A register of HEW for the WRP area is (and/or will be) established <i>OR</i>	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
3	An existing register is identified	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
If it is verified that a register of HEW is / will be established OR that an identified register of HEW exists: consider the further matters required by subsection (2)					
2 or 3 (delete as applicable)	Provides for the maintenance of a / the register	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	A website for publication is specified	Choose an item.			
	Characteristics and holders of water are (or will be) included in the register	Choose an item.			

Section 10.10 – Annual determinations of water permitted to be taken

- (1) For each SDL resource unit in a water resource plan area, and for each form of take, the water resource plan must set out the method for determining the maximum quantity of water that the plan permits to be taken for consumptive use during a water accounting period.
- (2) The method for subsection (1) may include modelling, and must be designed to be applied after the end of the relevant water accounting period, having regard to the water resources available during the period.
- (3) The method must:
 - (a) account for the matters in subsection 10.12(1); and
 - (b) be consistent with the other provisions of the water resource plan.
- (4) The plan must also set out a demonstration that the method relates to the SDL of each resource unit in such a way that, if applied over a repeat of the historical climate conditions, it would result in meeting the SDL for the resource unit, including as amended under section 23B of the Act.

Note 1: Under the Basin Plan, the SDL is the same as the long-term annual diversion limit because the temporary diversion provision for each SDL resource unit is zero. Section 6.04 and Schedules 2 and 4 set out the SDLs for each SDL resource unit.

Note 2: Amendments under section 23B of the Act are made following proposals for adjustment under Chapter 7.
- (5) If, as a result of an amendment under section 23B of the Act, the SDL for a surface water SDL resource unit is expressed as a formula that changes with time, the SDL for subsection (4) is taken to be:
 - (a) for a water accounting period beginning on or after 1 July 2019 – the SDL as it stood on 30 June 2019; and
 - (b) for a water accounting period beginning on or after 1 July 2022 – the SDL as it stood on 30 June 2022; and
 - (c) for a water accounting period beginning on or after 1 July 2024 – the SDL as it stood on 30 June 2024.

10.10 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	A method is set out that determines maximum quantity of water permitted to be taken for consumptive use for each form of take during a water accounting period for each SDL resource unit in the WRP area	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.

10.10 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	The BDL estimate has changed due to better methods	Choose an item.			
	The changes to the BDL estimate due to better methods are identified, <i>and</i>	Choose an item.			
	The changes are agreed to by MDBA, <i>and either</i>	Choose an item.			
	The SDL volume is based on the better estimate of the BDL, <i>and</i>	Choose an item.			
	The SDL volume is based on the applicable local reduction amount, <i>and</i>	Choose an item.			
	The SDL volume is based on the SDL resource unit shared reduction amount, <i>or</i>	Choose an item.			
	The SDL volume is based on the SDL adjustment amount written as a formula that changes over time to 2024	Choose an item.			
	The method represents and operates as 'best available information'	Choose an item.			
2	The method (which may be modelling) calculates max quantity of water available for consumptive take	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

10.10 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	at the end of the water accounting period				
	The method (or modelling) has regard to availability of water resources during the accounting period	Choose an item.			
3	All matters listed under s10.12 are identified as either relevant or not relevant, and relevant matters are accounted for in the method (exhaustive)	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	s10.12(1) letter (a) is relevant and accounted for	Choose an item.			
	s10.12(1) letter (b) is relevant and accounted for	Choose an item.			
	s10.12(1) letter (c) is relevant and accounted for	Choose an item.			
	s10.12(1) letter (d) is relevant and accounted for	Choose an item.			
	s10.12(1) letter (e) is relevant and accounted for	Choose an item.			
	s10.12(1) letter (f) is relevant and accounted for	Choose an item.			

10.10 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	s10.12(1) letter (g) is relevant and accounted for	Choose an item.			
	s10.12(1) letter (h) is relevant and accounted for	Choose an item.			
	s10.12(1) letter (i) is relevant and accounted for	Choose an item.			
	Other matters are accounted for in the model	Choose an item.			
	Acquisition and disposal of HEW is accounted for separately in a way that does not affect the method used for s10.10	Choose an item.			
	The method is consistent with other provisions of the water resource plan	Choose an item.			
4	The method has been applied over the historical climate conditions in the demonstration	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	The results show that the method will result in the SDL for the unit, (including as amended under s23B of the <i>Water Act 2007</i>) is met	Choose an item.			
5	An adjustment under <i>Water Act 2007</i> s23B has resulted in the SDL being	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

10.10 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	expressed as a formula that changes with time				
	The WRP area comprises surface water SDL resource units that constitute an 'affected unit' under the SDLAM	Choose an item.			
	The formula that comprises the method applies the water accounting dates and SDLs in letters (a-c)	Choose an item.			

Section 10.11 – Rules for take, including water allocation rules

- (1) A water resource plan must set out rules (including, if applicable, rules for water allocations) that ensure, as far as practicable, that the quantity of water actually taken from each SDL resource unit for consumptive use in a water accounting period that beginning on or after 1 July 2019 does not (after making any adjustments for the disposal or acquisition of held environmental water) exceed the unit's annual permitted take for the period.

Note 1: Water resource plans are not required to give effect to the long-term average sustainable diversion limits until 1 July 2019. Compliance with the long-term annual diversion limit will then be measured using the annual permitted take (see Part 4 of Chapter 6). The annual permitted take is defined in subsection 6.10(1) and 6.12B(1).

Note 2: Water allocations can be made during or before a water accounting period. The annual permitted take is usually worked out after the end of a water accounting period.

A water resource plan may provide for less water to be taken

- (2) To avoid doubt, the rules may be designed to ensure that the quantity of water that is actually taken for consumptive use from an SDL resource unit in a water accounting period is less than the annual permitted take.

10.11 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	Rules are included in the WRP	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	The rules ensure that the quantity of water actually taken does not exceed annual permitted take	Choose an item.			
	Rules for water allocation are included in the WRP	Choose an item.			

10.11 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	Rules for water allocation ensure that take does not exceed annual permitted take	Choose an item.			
	The rationale for not applying rules for water allocation has merit	Choose an item.			
	The rationale for 'as far as practicable' has merit.	Choose an item.			
2	The rules for take will result in actual take being less than permitted take	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	Actual take will realistically be less than permitted take	Choose an item.			

Section 10.12 – Matters relating to accounting for water

(1) For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for:

- (a) all forms of take from the SDL resource unit and all classes of water access right;
- (b) water allocations that are determined in one water accounting period and used in another, including water allocations that are carried over from one water accounting period to the next;
- (c) for a surface water SDL resource unit—return flows, in a way that is consistent with arrangements under the Agreement immediately before the commencement of the Basin Plan;
- (d) subject to subsection (3)—trade of water access rights;
- (e) water resources which have a significant hydrological connection to the water resources of the SDL resource unit;
- (f) circumstances in which there is a change in the way water is taken or held under a water access right;
- (g) changes over time in the extent to which water allocations in the unit are utilised;
Note: Paragraph (g) includes what is commonly known as a growth-in-use strategy.
- (h) water sourced from the Great Artesian Basin and released into a Basin water resource, by excluding that water;
- (i) water resources which are used for the purpose of managed aquifer recharge.

(2) Subject to this section, the method may account for other matters.

(3) For paragraph (1)(d), the water resource plan must account for the disposal and acquisition of held environmental water separately and in a way that does not affect the method under section 10.10.

10.12 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1 (a) – (i)	The WRP states which of the matters in letter (a) to (i) are and are not applicable	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	The WRP explains why the matters in letter (a) to (i) that are stated as 'not be applicable' do not apply	Choose an item.			

10.12 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	Each of the relevant matters in letters (a) to (i) is accounted for in s10.10(3)(a)	Choose an item.			
2	The method in 10.10 accounts for matters other than those under 10.12(1)	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	The other matter(s) accounted for under the section is (are) permissible and the accounting treatment appropriate	Choose an item.			
3	The method in s10.10 accounts for disposal and acquisition of HEW separately	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	The disposal and acquisition of HEW does not affect the method under s.10.10	Choose an item.			

Section 10.13 – Limits on certain forms of take

- (1) Subject to this section, a water resource plan must require that the long-term annual average quantity of water that can be taken from a surface water SDL resource unit for consumptive use by:
- (a) take under basic rights; or
 - (b) take by runoff dams; or
 - (c) net take by commercial plantations;
- does not exceed the level specified in column 2 of Schedule 3 for that form of take.
- (2) The quantity specified in subsection (1) for a form of take may be increased above the level specified in column 2 of Schedule 3 for that form of take if:
- (a) the long-term annual average quantity of water that can be taken by another form of take from the same SDL resource unit is changed at the same time so that there is no overall change in the total long-term annual average quantity of water that can be taken; and
 - (b) take by the forms of take affected by the changes are capable of:
 - (i) being accurately measured (for example, through the use of a meter); or
 - (ii) in the case of a form of take that is not capable of being accurately measured at the time the water resource plan is submitted for accreditation or adoption—being reasonably estimated using the best available method immediately before the water resource plan is submitted; and
 - (c) the changes are not expected to result in the take from the SDL resource unit ceasing to be an environmentally sustainable level of take.

10.13 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The LTAA quantity of take is stated as a volume for each form of take described in column 2 of Schedule 3 as follows:	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	take under basic rights	Choose an item.			
	take by runoff dams	Choose an item.			

10.13 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	net take by commercial plantations	Choose an item.			
	The limits (volume) for each form of take in subsection 1 letter (a) to (c) does not exceed the corresponding levels stated in column 2 of Schedule 3 for that form of take	Choose an item.			
	The provision states that the LTAA quantity (volume) does not (and will not) exceed the levels	Choose an item.			
	The provision states that one or more limits (volumes) exceeds the levels, and that s10.13(2) is applied	Choose an item.			
2	Section 10.13(1) identifies that the LTAA quantity (volume) (i.e. for basic rights, runoff dams and/or commercial plantations) has increased, and/or will increase over the life of the WRP	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
2(a)	The increase in take above the levels set out under s10.13(1) is offset in full by reduction in level for another form(s) of take in the same SDL resource unit	Choose an item.			

10.13 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
2(b)	Accurate measurement (metering) is applied to affected forms of take	Choose an item.			
	The method of estimate is reasonable; and applies best available information	Choose an item.			
2(c)	The increase to levels of take under subsection 1 are not expected to result in take above the limit for environmentally sustainable level of take	Choose an item.			
	A process to address future increases to the quantity of take under basic rights, by runoff dams, and/or net take by commercial plantations is provided over the term of the WRP	Choose an item.			
	The process to increase quantity is based on a risk assessment, and comprises a trigger for advice to the MDBA that the process will be triggered and that it is necessary	Choose an item.			

Section 10.14 – Effects, and potential effects, on water resources of the water resource plan area

- (1) A water resource plan must identify the effect, or potential effect, if any, of the following on the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area:
- (a) the taking of groundwater that is not a Basin water resource resulting in water being removed from a groundwater SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area because of a pre-existing hydrological connection or a hydrological connection created by the process of taking that groundwater;
 - (b) the taking of groundwater that is not a Basin water resource resulting in water that would otherwise flow directly or indirectly into an SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area no longer flowing into that unit.
- (2) If a water resource plan identifies an effect, or potential effect, of the kind referred to in subsection (1), the water resource plan must set out:
- (a) a process for monitoring that effect or potential effect; and
 - (b) actions that will be taken to respond to that effect or potential effect.
- (3) Without limiting paragraph (2)(b), the water resource plan may require a person to hold a water access right in the water resource plan area in relation to the effect, or potential effect, identified.

10.14 subsection	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	There are effects or potential effects of take from non-Basin groundwater resources upon the SDL resource unit water resources	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
1(a)	Effects or potential effects of take from a non-Basin groundwater resource with hydrological connection (pre-existing or arising post-take) are identified	Choose an item.		
1(b)	Effects or potential effects of take from a non-Basin groundwater resource resulting (directly or	Choose an item.		

10.14 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	indirectly) in water no longer flowing are identified				
	The rationale for 'no effect' as described in s10.14(1) has merit	Choose an item.			
2	Section 10.14(1) identifies effects or potential effects	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
2(a)	Monitoring of effects is set out	Choose an item.			
2(b)	Action to be taken is set out	Choose an item.			
3	The WRP provides that a person must hold a water access right in the WRP area in relation to the effect (in s10.14(1))	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Section 10.15 – Determination of actual take must be specified

- (1) A water resource plan must set out how the quantity of water actually taken for consumptive use by each form of take from each SDL resource unit will be determined after the end of a water accounting period using the best information available at the time.

Note: The annual actual take for the SDL resource unit is the sum of the quantity of water actually taken by each form of take for consumptive use: see subsection 6.10(2) and 6.12B(2). Paragraph 71(1)(c) of the Act requires the annual actual take to be set out in a report to the Authority within 4 months after the end of the water accounting period.

- (2) For a particular form of take, and subject to the requirement that a determination use the best information available at the time, a determination may be made by:
- (a) measuring the quantity of water actually taken; or
 - (b) estimating the quantity of water actually taken; or
 - (c) a combination of the above.
- (3) Where a determination for a form of take is made by estimating the quantity of water actually taken, the water resource plan must provide for the estimate to be done consistently with the method under subsection 10.10(1) that relates to that form of take.
- (4) The quantity of water actually taken must:
- (a) include water that was held environmental water which was disposed of and then used in the SDL resource unit for consumptive use; and
 - (b) exclude water sourced from the Great Artesian Basin and released into and taken from a Basin water resource.

10.15 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	A method for determining annual actual take is set out for each form of take from each SDL resource unit	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	The method applies best available information	Choose an item.			

10.15 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
2	For each form of take, the method for determining annual actual take is nominated as either 'measuring', 'estimating' or a combination	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
3	All forms of take that use estimation (including in combination) to determine the quantity of annual actual take are identified (exhaustive)	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	Where estimation is used (includes 'combined'), the estimation is consistent with the method in s10.10(1) for that form of take	Choose an item.			
4	The WRP describes whether the circumstances in letters (a) and/or (b) are relevant in the WRP area	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	The WRP provides a method that is capable of accounting for the quantity of actual annual take in a way that:	Choose an item.			
	includes HEW that was disposed of and used for consumptive use	Choose an item.			

10.15 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	excludes water sourced from the GAB and released into and taken from a Basin water resource	Choose an item.			

Part 4 The sustainable use and management of water resources

Section 10.16 – Sustainable use and management

This part sets out the requirements in relation to the sustainable use and management of water resources of the water resource plan area within the long-term annual diversion limit for an SDL resource unit.

NOT ASSESSED

Section 10.17 – Priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions

(1) A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to whether it is necessary for it to include rules which ensure that the operation of the plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements of priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions.

Note: The environmental watering requirements of priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions will be set out in long-term watering plans and may also be set out in the Basin-wide environmental watering strategy. Long-term watering plans are required to use the methods in Part 5 of Chapter 8 to identify those requirements.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), regard must be had to whether it is necessary for the rules to prescribe:

- (a) the times, places and rates at which water is permitted to be taken from a surface water SDL resource unit; and
- (b) how water resources in the water resource plan area must be managed and used.

(3) If the outcome of the requirement in subsection (1) is that such rules are necessary, the water resource plan must include those rules.

10.17 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP demonstrates that regard was had to the need for rules to ensure that the operation of the WRP does not compromise the desired flow regimes (as expressed by the environmental watering requirements) that are needed to protect PEAs/PEFs	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
2	Regard was had to the need for rules to prescribe:				Choose an item.
	(a) times, places and rates for permitted take from a surface water SDL resource unit	Choose an item.			

10.17 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	(b) how water resources in the WRP area must be managed and used	Choose an item.			
3	Rules are included	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	A rationale is provided for the application of section 10.17(2)	Choose an item.			
	A rationale is provided for why rules are not necessary	Choose an item.			
	A rationale is provided for why rules are not included	Choose an item.			

Section 10.18 – Priority environmental assets dependent on groundwater

(1) A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to whether it is necessary for it to include rules which ensure that, for priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions that depend on groundwater, the operation of the plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements.

Note: The environmental watering requirements of priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions will be set out in long-term watering plans and may also be set out in the Basin-wide environmental watering strategy. Long-term watering plans are required to use the methods in Part 5 of Chapter 8 to identify those requirements.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), regard must be had to whether it is necessary for the water resource plan to include rules that specify:

- (a) the times, places and rates at which water is permitted to be taken from a groundwater SDL resource unit; and
- (b) resource condition limits, being limits beyond which the taking of groundwater will, for a priority environmental asset that depends on groundwater, compromise an environmental watering requirement; and
- (c) restrictions on the water permitted to be taken (including the times, places and rates at which water may be taken) in order to prevent a resource condition limit from being exceeded.

(3) If the outcome of the requirement in subsection (1) is that such rules are necessary, the water resource plan must include those rules.

10.18 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP demonstrates that regard was had to the need for rules to ensure that the operation of the WRP does not compromise the surface water flow regimes, and/or groundwater PEW or groundwater HEW (as expressed by the environmental watering requirements) that are needed to protect groundwater dependent PEAs/PEFs	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.

10.18 subsection	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
2	Regard was had to the need for rules to specify:			Choose an item.
	(a) times, places and rates for permitted take from a groundwater SDL resource unit	Choose an item.		
	b) limits for groundwater take beyond which the condition of the groundwater resource would compromise the desired flow regimes, groundwater HEW and PEW (environmental watering requirements) needed to protect priority groundwater dependent PEAs	Choose an item.		
	(c) restrictions on water permitted to be taken (including times, places and rates of take) that prevents take from exceeding the resource condition limits	Choose an item.		
3	Rules are included	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
	A rationale is provided for the application of section 10.18(2)	Choose an item.		
	A rationale is provided for why rules are not necessary	Choose an item.		

10.18 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	A rationale is provided for why rules are not included	Choose an item.			

Section 10.19 – Groundwater and surface water connections

- (1) A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to whether it is necessary for it to include rules which ensure that, for groundwater that has a significant hydrological connection to surface water, the operation of the plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements (for example, base flows).
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), regard must be had to whether it is necessary for the water resource plan to include rules that specify:
 - (a) the times, places and rates at which water is permitted to be taken from a groundwater SDL resource unit; and
 - (b) resource condition limits, being limits beyond which the taking of groundwater will compromise the discharge of water into any surface water resource; and
 - (c) restrictions on the water permitted to be taken (including the times, places and rates at which water may be taken) in order to prevent a resource condition limit from being exceeded.
- (3) If the outcome of the requirement in subsection (1) is that such rules are necessary, the water resource plan must include those rules.

10.19 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP demonstrates that regard was had to the need for rules to ensure that the operation of the WRP does not compromise flows and recharge (environmental watering requirements) between groundwater and surface water including for groundwater HEW and PEW	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
2	Regard was had to the need for rules to specify:				Choose an item.
	(a) times, places and rates for permitted take from a groundwater SDL resource unit	Choose an item.			

10.19 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	(b) limits for groundwater take beyond which the condition of the groundwater resource would compromise the discharge of water into any surface water resource	Choose an item.			
	(c) restrictions on permitted take (including times, places and rates of take) that prevents take from exceeding the resource condition limits	Choose an item.			
3	Rules are included	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	A rationale is provided for the application of section 10.19(2)	Choose an item.			
	A rationale is provided for why rules are not necessary	Choose an item.			
	A rationale is provided for why rules are not included	Choose an item.			

Section 10.20 – Productive base of groundwater

- (1) A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to whether it is necessary for it to include rules which ensure that the operation of the plan does not compromise:
- (a) the overall structural integrity of the aquifer (whether within or outside the water resource plan area) arising from take within the long-term annual diversion limit for an SDL resource unit; or
 - (b) the overall hydraulic relationships and properties between groundwater and surface water systems, between groundwater systems, and within groundwater systems.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), regard must be had to whether it is necessary for the water resource plan to include rules that specify:
- (a) the times, places and rates at which water is permitted to be taken from a groundwater SDL resource unit; and
 - (b) any zones in the water resource plan area where continued groundwater extraction will result in a long-term decline in groundwater levels; and
 - (c) measures to prevent any long-term decline in groundwater levels in that zone, except where the groundwater is a non-renewable groundwater resource; and
 - (d) for a non-renewable groundwater resource—the planned rate of decline in groundwater levels and the anticipated groundwater levels after 50 years from the commencement of the water resource plan; and
 - (e) resource condition limits, being limits beyond which the taking of groundwater from the SDL resource unit will compromise the objectives in paragraphs (1)(a) and (b); and
 - (f) restrictions on the water permitted to be taken (including the times, places and rates at which water may be taken) in order to prevent a resource condition limit from being exceeded.
- (3) If the outcome of the requirement in subsection (1) is that such rules are necessary, the water resource plan must include those rules.

10.20 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP demonstrates that regard was had to the need for rules to ensure that the operation of the plan does not compromise:				Choose an item.
	(a) the overall structural integrity of the aquifer (whether within or outside the water resource plan area) arising from take within the	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	

10.20 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	long-term annual diversion limit for an SDL resource unit, <i>or</i>				
	(b) the overall hydraulic relationships and properties between groundwater and surface water systems, between groundwater systems, and within groundwater systems	Choose an item.			
2	Regard was had to the need for rules to specify:				Choose an item.
	(a) times, places and rates for permitted take from a groundwater SDL resource unit	Choose an item.			
	(b) zones where extraction will result in long-term decline in groundwater levels	Choose an item.			
	(c) measures to prevent long-term decline in groundwater levels in the zone, but with the exception provided in letter (d)	Choose an item.			
	(d) non-renewable groundwater resources that has a planned rate of decline in groundwater levels after 50 years (of the commencement of the WRP)	Choose an item.			

10.20 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	(e) limits for groundwater take beyond which the condition of the groundwater resource (resource condition limits) would compromise the objectives in subsection (1)	Choose an item.			
	(f) restrictions on permitted take in order to prevent exceedance of resource condition limit	Choose an item.			
3	Rules are included	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	A rationale is provided for the application of section 10.20(2)	Choose an item.			
	A rationale is provided for why rules are not necessary	Choose an item.			
	A rationale is provided for why rules are not included	Choose an item.			

Section 10.21 – Additional requirements for Western Porous Rock, Gunnedah-Oxley Basin MDB, Sydney Basin MDB and Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource units

- (1) A water resource plan for the NSW Murray-Darling Basin Porous Rock water resource plan area must, in relation to the Western Porous Rock, Gunnedah-Oxley Basin MDB and Sydney Basin MDB SDL resource units, include rules that are designed to ensure that the objectives set out in the following provisions are met:
 - (a) section 10.18;
 - (b) section 10.19;
 - (c) section 10.20.
- (2) A water resource plan for the Goulburn-Murray water resource plan area must, in relation to the Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource unit, include rules that are designed to ensure that the objective set out in section 10.20 is met.

Note: The objectives set out in the provisions referred to are the following:

- (a) in section 10.18—that for priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions that depend on groundwater, the operation of the plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements;
- (b) in section 10.19—that for groundwater that has a significant hydrological connection to surface water, the operation of the plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements;
- (c) in section 10.20—that the operation of the plan does not compromise:
 - (i) the overall structural integrity of the aquifer (whether within or outside the water resource plan area) arising from take within the long-term annual diversion limit for an SDL resource unit; or
 - (ii) the overall hydraulic relationships and properties between groundwater and surface water systems, between groundwater systems, and within groundwater systems.

10.21 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The applicable area for the WRP is the NSW Murray-Darling Porous Rock	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.

10.21 subsection	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	If 'yes' apply the following for the Western Porous Rock, Gunnedah-Oxley Basin MDB and Sydney Basin MDB SDL resource units:			
	The WRP includes rules to ensure that the objectives are met as follows:			
	(a) in section 10.18—that for priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions that depend on groundwater, the operation of the plan does not compromise ability to meet environmental watering requirements	Choose an item.		
	(b) in section 10.19—that for groundwater that has a significant hydrological connection to surface water, the operation of the plan does not compromise the ability to meet environmental watering requirements	Choose an item.		
	(c) in section 10.20—that the operation of the plan does not compromise:			
	(i) the overall structural integrity of the aquifer (whether within or outside the water resource plan area) arising from take within the long-term annual diversion	Choose an item.		

10.21 subsection	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	limit for an SDL resource unit; or			
	(ii) the overall hydraulic relationships and properties between groundwater and surface water systems, between groundwater systems, and within groundwater systems.	Choose an item.		
2	The applicable area for the WRP is the Goulburn-Murray	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
	If 'yes' apply the following for the Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource unit:			
	The WRP includes rules to ensure that the objectives in section 10.20—that the operation of the plan does not compromise:			
	(i) the overall structural integrity of the aquifer (whether within or outside the water resource plan area) arising from take within the long-term annual diversion limit for an SDL resource unit; or	Choose an item.		

10.21 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	(ii) the overall hydraulic relationships and properties between groundwater and surface water systems, between groundwater systems, and within groundwater systems.	Choose an item.			

Section 10.22 – Description of how requirements have been met

A water resource plan must:

- (a) describe what was done to comply with the requirements in this Part; and
- (b) if a risk of a kind referred to in subsection 10.41(1) has been identified in relation to the water resources of the water resource plan area—explain why rules addressing the risk have or have not been included in the plan.

10.22 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
(a)	The WRP describes what was done to comply with the requirements in sections 10.17 to 10.21	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
(b)	The WRP explains why rules have (or have not) been included in the WRP to address risks identified in s 10.41(1)	Choose an item.			

Part 5 Interception activities

Section 10.23 – Listing types of interception activity

- (1) A water resource plan must, having regard to the risk identification and assessment conducted for section 10.41, specify whether there are any types of interception activity in the water resource plan area which have the potential to have a significant impact on:
 - (a) the water resources of the water resource plan area; or
 - (b) water resources which are hydrologically connected to the water resources of the water resource plan area;whether on an activity-by-activity basis, or cumulatively.
- (2) If there are any such types of interception activity, the water resource plan must list those types.
- (3) For the purpose of determining whether a type of interception activity is of the kind referred to in subsection (1), regard must be had to the following factors:
 - (a) the location of particular activities of that type in the water resource plan area;
 - (b) the impact of the type of activity on the availability of:
 - (i) the water resources of the water resource plan area; and
 - (ii) any water resources which are hydrologically connected to the water resources of the water resource plan area;
 - (c) the projected growth of the type of activity over the period for which the water resource plan will have effect.

Note: The following are types of interception activity which may have the potential to have a significant impact on the water resources of a water resource plan area:

- (a) interception by runoff dams;
- (b) interception by commercial plantations;
- (c) interception by mining activities, including coal seam gas mining;
- (d) interception by floodplain harvesting.

10.23 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	Interception activities with the potential to have significant impacts within the WRP area and on any hydrologically connected water resources of the WRP area, have been identified	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	Regard was had to the risks identified and assessed under Part 9/s10.41	Choose an item.			
2	A list of interception activities which have the potential to have a significant impact as set out in (1) is provided	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
3	Each of the activities listed for s10.23(1) demonstrates regard as follows:	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	(a) The location of each type of interception activity was considered	Choose an item.			
	(b) The impact of each interception type of activity on water availability was considered	Choose an item.			

10.23 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	(c) The projected growth for each type of interception activity over the operational period of the WRP was considered	Choose an item.			

Section 10.24 – Monitoring impact of interception activities

If a water resource plan includes a list of the kind referred to in subsection 10.23(2), the plan must set out, in respect of each type of interception activity listed, a process for monitoring the impact of that type of activity on:

- (a) the water resources of the water resource plan area; and
- (b) water resources which are hydrologically connected to the water resources of the water resource plan area.

10.24 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	Processes for monitoring impacts of each type of interception activity listed for s10.23(2) are set out	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	The monitoring captures the impacts of the interception activities on water resources in the WRP area	Choose an item.			
	The monitoring captures the impacts of the interception activities on water resources hydrologically connected to the WRP area	Choose an item.			
	The processes for monitoring are capable of triggering action under s10.25	Choose an item.			

Section 10.25 – Actions to be taken

(1) A water resource plan must identify actions that will be taken in the event that monitoring under section 10.24 shows that:

- (a) an impact of a type of interception activity compromises the meeting of an environmental watering requirement; or
- (b) an impact of several types of activity together compromises the meeting of an environmental watering requirement; or
- (c) there is an increase in the quantity of water being intercepted by a type of activity;

after the commencement of the water resource plan.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the relevant outcome in paragraph (1)(a), (b) or (c) is accounted for by the method under subsection 10.10(1).

Note 1: This section provides a mechanism to address unanticipated effects of, or changes in, interception activity.

Note 2: Section 10.13 sets out the circumstances in which a water resource plan may allow for an increase in anticipated take by an interception activity.

10.25 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	Actions that will be taken in response to impacts described in letters (a) - (c) are identified	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	Actions that will be taken when monitoring shows that the impact of a type of interception activity compromises the meeting of an environmental watering requirement have been identified	Choose an item.			
	Actions that will be taken when monitoring shows that the impact of several types of interception activity compromises the meeting of an environmental watering requirement have been identified	Choose an item.			

10.25 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	Actions that will be taken when monitoring shows there is an increase in the quantity of water being intercepted by an activity have been identified	Choose an item.			
	A trigger for a responsible party to take action if monitoring shows impacts (as described in letters (a) - (c), is identified	Choose an item.			
	The trigger has effect for the operational period of the WRP	Choose an item.			
2	The method under s10.10(1) will account for interception activities that have the types of impacts specified in s10.25(1)(a)-(c)	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	Subsection 1 provides for action	Choose an item.			

Part 6 Planning for environmental watering

Section 10.26 – Planning for environmental watering

(1) A water resource plan must provide for environmental watering to occur in a way that:

(a) is consistent with:

(i) the environmental watering plan; and

(ii) the Basin-wide environmental watering strategy; and

(b) contributes to the achievement of the objectives in Part 2 of Chapter 8.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the water resource plan must be prepared having regard to:

(a) the most recent version of the long-term watering plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of Division 3 of Part 4 of Chapter 8; and

(b) the views of local communities, including bodies established by a Basin State that express community views in relation to environmental watering.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP provides for environmental watering that:				Choose an item.
	is consistent with the EWP and BWS	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	
	contributes to the overall environmental objectives for water-dependent ecosystems in Part 2 of Chapter 8	Choose an item.			

Sub-section	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
2	Regard was had in the preparation in the WRP to the matters in letters (a) and (b)	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
	(a) the most recent version of the LTWP	Choose an item.		
	(b) the views of local communities in relation to environmental watering	Choose an item.		

Section 10.27 – Enabling environmental water between connected water resources

(1) This section applies if:

- (a) there are 2 water resource plan areas that contain surface water; and
- (b) there is a surface water connection between the 2 areas.

(2) The water resource plan for each of the areas must provide for the co-ordination of environmental watering between the 2 areas.

10.27 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	In the WRP area, there is a surface water connection to surface water resources in other WRP areas	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
2	Arrangements for coordinating environmental watering are included in the WRP	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	The provision makes the case for why arrangements to coordinate environmental watering is not included in the WRP	Choose an item.			

Section 10.28 – No net reduction in the protection of planned environmental water

A water resource plan must ensure that there is no net reduction in the protection of planned environmental water from the protection provided for under State water management law immediately before the commencement of the Basin Plan.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
There have been changes to rules that protect PEW compared to those in place under State water management law on 23/11/2012	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement:	Choose an item.
The changes to PEW rules have not caused a net reduction in the protection of PEW compared to the protection under State water management law on 23/11/2012	Choose an item.			

Part 7 Water quality objectives

Section 10.29 – Water resource plan to include WQM Plan

A water resource plan must include a water quality management plan (WQM Plan). The WQM Plan must:

- (a) for water resource plan areas made up of only surface water SDL resource units—be made in accordance with Division 2;
- (b) for water resource plan areas made up of only groundwater SDL resource units—be made in accordance with Division 3;
- (c) for water resource plan areas made up of both surface water SDL resource units and groundwater SDL resource units—be made in accordance with:
 - (i) Division 2 in relation to surface water SDL resource units (as if a reference in Division 2 to the water resource plan area were a reference to the surface water SDL resource units of the water resource plan area); and
 - (ii) Division 3 in relation to groundwater SDL resource units (as if a reference in Division 3 to the water resource plan area were a reference to the groundwater SDL resource units of the water resource plan area).

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
A WQMP is included in the WRP	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement:	Choose an item.
The WQMP applies the relevant type(s) of SDL resource unit(s) as set out in letters (a), (b) or (c)	Choose an item.			
The WRP applies the relevant Part 7 division	Choose an item.			

Section 10.30 – WQM Plan to identify key causes of water quality degradation

The WQM Plan must identify the causes, or likely causes, of water quality degradation in the water resource plan area having regard to the key causes of water quality degradation identified in Part 2 of Chapter 9 and set out in Schedule 10.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
The WQMP identifies all causes and likely causes of WQ degradation in the WRP area	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
The causes and likely causes includes all the applicable key causes identified in Part 2/Chapter 9/Schedule 10	Choose an item.			

Section 10.31 – Measures addressing risks arising from water quality degradation

If a risk of a kind mentioned in paragraph 10.41(2)(d) has been identified in relation to the water resources of the water resource plan area, the WQM Plan must explain why measures addressing the risk have or have not been included in the water resource plan.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
For each risk listed under s10.41(2)(d):				Choose an item.
an explanation for why a measure is:				
(a) not included in the WQMP or	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	
(b) included in the WQMP	Choose an item.			
For risks that are identified as having measures, the measure are included	Choose an item.			

Section 10.32 – WQM Plan to identify water quality target values

(1) The WQM Plan must identify the water quality target values for the water resource plan area.

(2) The water quality target values are the following:

- (a) for fresh water-dependent ecosystems—the applicable target values referred to in section 9.16;
- (b) for irrigation water—the target values for water quality characteristics set out in section 9.17;
- (c) for water used for recreational purposes—the values set out in section 9.18.

Note: The ADWG sets out standards for the quality of raw water for treatment for human consumption.

(3) However, if the objectively determined actual value of a water quality characteristic at a site is better than the target value identified in subsection (2), then the target value is that better value.

Note: See the objective in section 9.08.

(4) The WQM Plan may specify an alternative water quality target value if:

- (a) it is consistent with the water quality objectives in Part 3 of Chapter 9; and
- (b) it is determined in accordance with the procedures set out in the ANZECC Guidelines; and
- (c) either:
 - (i) the alternative target value provides a better level of protection than the value that would apply under subsection (2) or (3), as applicable; or
 - (ii) the WQM Plan sets out reasons why the alternative target value will be as effective in achieving the objectives in Part 3 of Chapter 9; or
 - (iii) the WQM Plan sets out reasons why the target value in subsection (2) or (3), as applicable, is inappropriate for the water resource plan area; and
- (d) for a water resource that is also covered by a water resource plan area of another Basin State—it is developed in consultation with that State.

10.32 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP identifies water quality targets for the plan area	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	The WRP identifies which subsection approach is applied: s10.32(2), (3) or (4)	Choose an item.			

10.32 subsection	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
2	<i>Either</i> , the identified water quality targets are targets that apply:			Choose an item.
2(a)	(a) values for freshwater-dependent ecosystems as those values are described in s9.16/Schedule 11	Choose an item.		
2(b)	(b) values for irrigation water as those values are described in s9.17	Choose an item.		
2(c)	(c) values for recreational purposes as those values are described in s9.18	Choose an item.		
3	Objectively determined actual values of WQ characteristics at a site are better than the target value identified	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
	The water quality targets are values that are better than the values under subsection 2	Choose an item.		
4	<i>Or</i> , the alternative water quality target values apply:			Choose an item.
4(a)	Values that are consistent with the water quality objectives in Part 3 of Chapter 9 <i>and</i>	Choose an item.		

10.32 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
4(b)	The values are determined in accordance with the procedure in the ANZECC Guidelines <i>and</i>	Choose an item.			
4(c)	Either item (i), (ii) or (iii) is applied:				
4(c)(i)	<i>either</i> , the alternative target provides a better level of protection than the value that would apply under subsection (2) or (3), as applicable	Choose an item.			
4(c)(ii)	<i>or</i> , the WQMP sets out reasons why the alternative target value will be as effective in achieving the objectives in Part 3 of Chapter 9	Choose an item.			
4(c)(iii)	<i>or</i> , the WQMP sets out reasons why the target value in subsection (2) or (3), as applicable, is inappropriate for the water resource plan area	Choose an item.			
4(d)	The water resource is connected to water resources in another Basin state's WRP area	Choose an item.			

10.32 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	The applicable alternative was developed in consultation with the other Basin state(s)	Choose an item.			
	The WRP states that the water resources are not connected to another Basin state's WRP area	Choose an item.			

Section 10.33 – WQM Plan to identify measures

- (1) The WQM Plan must specify measures to be undertaken in or in relation to the water resources of the water resource plan area that contribute to the achievement of the objectives set out in:
- (a) section 9.04 (Objectives of water-dependent ecosystems); and
 - (b) section 9.05 (Objectives for raw water for treatment for human consumption); and
 - (c) section 9.06 (Objective for irrigation water); and
 - (d) section 9.07 (Objective for recreational water quality); and
 - (e) section 9.08 (Objective to maintain good levels of water quality);
- unless there are no such measures that can be undertaken cost-effectively.
- (2) The measures must be prepared having regard to:
- (a) the causes, or likely causes, of water quality degradation identified in accordance with section 10.30; and
 - (b) target values identified in accordance with section 10.32; and
 - (c) the targets in Division 4 of Part 4 of Chapter 9.
- (3) The measures may include land management measures.

Note 1: Chapter 9 contains both water quality objectives and water quality targets. A WQM Plan must specify measures that contribute to the achievement of the objectives. The targets are relevant only to the extent that subsection (2) requires that the measures be prepared having regard to the targets. This section does not require a WQM Plan to set out measures designed to achieve the targets.

Note 2: See also subsections 22(9) to (12) of the Act.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	Measures to be undertaken in or in relation to water resources in the WRP area are specified	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	The measures contribute to each of the objectives in letters (a) to (e):				

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1(a)	objectives of water-dependent ecosystems	Choose an item.			
1(b)	objectives for raw water treatment for human consumption	Choose an item.			
1(c)	objectives for irrigation waters	Choose an item.			
1(d)	objectives for recreational water quality	Choose an item.			
1(e)	objectives for maintaining good levels of water quality	Choose an item.			
	Where measures to be undertaken are not specified, a case is provided based on an assessment of cost-effectiveness	Choose an item.			
2	The measures had regard to each of the matters in (a) to (c)	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	Causes or likely causes of water quality degradation, as identified in section 10.30	Choose an item.			
	Target values, as identified in s10.32	Choose an item.			

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	The targets in Division 4 of Part 4 Chapter 9 (i.e. s9.19)	Choose an item.			
3	The WRP permits inclusion of land-based measures to achieve water quality objectives and targets	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Section 10.34 – WQM Plan to identify locations of targets for irrigation water

The WQM Plan must identify the sites in the water resource plan area at which the target values for irrigation water apply.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
The WRP has geographic information that enables identification of sites where the target values for irrigation water applies	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.

Section 10.35 – Impact of WQM Plan on another Basin State

The measures specified in the WQM Plan must be developed having regard to:

- (a) the impact those measures (including the absence of adequate measures) may have on the ability of another Basin State to meet water quality targets; and
- (b) any adverse impacts those measures may have on Basin water resources in the other Basin State.

Note: See also the consultation requirement in subsection 63(2) of the Act.

10.35 subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	The measures under s10.33 take account of the matters in letters (a) and (b)	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
(a)	The impact(s) of the measures (or absence of adequate measures) upon another Basin state's ability to meet WQ targets	Choose an item.			
(b)	Adverse impacts on water resources in other the Basin state	Choose an item.			

Section 10.35A – WQM Plan to identify key causes of water quality degradation

The WQM Plan must identify the causes, or likely causes, of water quality degradation in the water resource plan area having regard to the key causes of water quality degradation identified in Part 2 of Chapter 9 and set out in in Schedule 10.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
The WQMP identifies all causes and likely causes of WQ degradation in the WRP area	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
The causes and likely causes includes all the applicable key causes identified in Part 2/Chapter 9/Schedule 10	Choose an item.			

Section 10.35B – WQM Plan to identify water quality target values

- (1) The WQM Plan must identify the water quality target values for the water resource plan area.
- (2) The water quality target values are the following:
 - (a) for fresh water-dependent ecosystems—the applicable target values referred to in section 9.16;
 - (b) for irrigation water—the target values for water quality characteristics set out in section 9.17;
 - (c) for water used for recreational purposes—the values set out in section 9.18.
- (3) However, the WQM Plan may specify alternative water quality target values if they are consistent with the water quality objectives in Part 3 of Chapter 9.

10.35B subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP identifies water quality targets for the plan area	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	The WRP identifies which subsection approach is applied: s10.35B(2) or (3)	Choose an item.			
2	Either, the identified water quality targets are targets that apply:				Choose an item.
2(a)	(a) values for freshwater-dependent ecosystems as those values are described in s9.16/Schedule 11	Choose an item.			
2(b)	(b) values for irrigation water as those values are described in s9.17	Choose an item.			

10.35B subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
2(c)	(c) values for recreational purposes as those values are described in s9.18	Choose an item.			
3	<i>Or</i> , the alternative water quality target values are consistent with the water quality objectives in Part 3 of Chapter 9	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Section 10.35C – Consideration to be given to rules or measures

- (1) In preparing the WQM Plan, regard must be had to whether it is desirable for it to include rules or measures that support the maintenance of water quality within groundwater SDL resource units against the effects of elevated levels of salinity and other types of water quality degradation, taking into account the causes, or likely causes, of water quality degradation identified under section 10.35A and the water quality target values identified under section 10.35B.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), regard must be had to whether it is desirable for the WQM Plan to include rules or measures that specify:
 - (a) the times, places and rates at which water is permitted to be taken from a groundwater SDL resource unit; and
 - (b) resource condition limits, being limits beyond which the taking of groundwater from the groundwater SDL resource unit will result in an elevated level of salinity or another type of water quality degradation; and
 - (c) restrictions on the water permitted to be taken (including the times, places and rates at which water may be taken) in order to prevent a resource condition limit from being exceeded; and
 - (d) a requirement to establish and maintain a register which identifies the sites of bores used to monitor salinity or other water quality characteristics in the groundwater SDL resource unit.
- (3) If the outcome of the requirement in subsection (1) is that such rules or measures are desirable, the WQM Plan must include those rules or measures, or explain why they have not been included.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP includes rules or measures to manage salinity or other WQ degradation within the GW SDL unit(s)	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	The WRP explains how the rules/measures, or the rationale for not including rules or measures, take account of the causes and likely causes identified for s10.35A	Choose an item.			
	The WRP explains how the rules/measures, or the rationale for not including rules or measures,	Choose an item.			

Sub-section	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	take account of the WQ target values identified for s10.35B			
2	Regard was had to the need for rules to specify:			Choose an item.
	(a) times, places and rates for permitted take from a groundwater SDL resource unit	Choose an item.		
	(b) resource condition limits for salinity levels and other water quality degradation	Choose an item.		
	(c) restrictions on take to prevent exceedance of resource condition limit	Choose an item.		
	(d) establishment and maintenance of a register of bores to monitor water quality	Choose an item.		
3	Rules or measures are included	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
	A rationale is provided for why rules or measures are not desirable	Choose an item.		
	A rationale is provided for why rules or measures are not included	Choose an item.		

Section 10.35D – Additional requirement for Western Porous Rock, Gunnedah-Oxley Basin MDB, Sydney Basin MDB and Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource units

The WQM Plan for the following water resource plan areas must include rules or measures that are designed to ensure that the objective set out in section 10.35C is met:

(a) the NSW Murray-Darling Basin Porous Rock water resource plan area, in relation to the Western Porous Rock, Gunnedah-Oxley Basin MDB and Sydney Basin MDB SDL resource units;

(b) the Goulburn-Murray water resource plan area, in relation to the Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource unit.

Note: The objective set out in section 10.35C is that water quality within a groundwater SDL resource unit is maintained against the effects of elevated levels of salinity and other types of water quality degradation.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
The WRP area is one of listed in this section 10.35D letters (a) or (b)	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
The WRP/WQMP includes the rules or measures that achieves for the objectives in section 10.35C to be met	Choose an item.			

Part 8 Trade of water access rights

Section 10.36 – Application of Part

This Part does not apply to water access rights of a kind that are not able to be traded under State water management law.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
Water access rights of a kind that are able to be traded under State water management law are identified in the WRP	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
The WRP applies the circumstances in s10.37 to 10.39 to groundwater water access rights that are tradable under State water management law	Choose an item.			

Section 10.37 – Circumstances in which conditions in section 12.24 are met

- (1) A water resource plan must set out the circumstances in which trade between 2 locations within a groundwater SDL resource unit is permitted. In setting out the circumstances, a water resource plan must ensure that each condition set out in section 12.24 will be met in relation to the proposed trade.
- (2) If the water resource plan applies a conversion rate to meet the condition in paragraph 12.24(d), the water resource plan must either:
 - (a) specify the conversion rate; or
 - (b) set out the way in which the conversion rate will be determined from time to time and made generally available.

Subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP sets out the circumstances in which trade between 2 locations within a groundwater SDL resource unit is permitted	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	When a trade as described in this section occurs, each of the following conditions will be met in relation to that trade:				Choose an item.
	sufficient hydraulic connectivity between the 2 locations	Choose an item.			
	resource condition limits in the SDL resource unit specified in a water resource plan will not be exceeded as a result of the trade	Choose an item.			
	<u>and either:</u>				

Subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	water access rights in the 2 locations have substantially similar characteristics of timing, reliability and volume <i>or</i>	Choose an item.			
	measures are in place to ensure that the water access right to be traded will maintain its characteristics of timing, reliability and volume	Choose an item.			
	Measures in place to address the impact, as a result of trade, on water availability in relation to a water access right held by a third party	Choose an item.			
2	The WRP applies a conversion rate to meet the condition in s12.24(d)	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	<i>If 'yes' either of the following:</i>				Choose an item.
2(a)	The conversion rate is specified	Choose an item.			
2(b)	The way in which the conversion rate will be determined from time to time and made generally available is set out	Choose an item.			
	<i>The 'no' case is not necessary to re-state</i>				

Section 10.38 – Circumstances in which conditions in section 12.25 are met

- (1) A water resource plan must set out the circumstances in which trade between 2 groundwater SDL resource units is permitted. In setting out the circumstances, a water resource plan must ensure that each condition set out in section 12.25 will be met in relation to proposed trade.
- (2) If the water resource plan applies a conversion rate to meet the condition in paragraph 12.25(e), the water resource plan must either:
- (a) specify the conversion rate; or
 - (b) set out the way in which the conversion rate will be determined from time to time and made generally available.

Subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP sets out the circumstances in which trade between 2 groundwater SDL resource unit is permitted	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	When a trade as described in this section occurs, each of the following conditions will be met in relation to that trade:				Choose an item.
	sufficient hydraulic connectivity between the 2 units	Choose an item.			
	resource condition limits in the SDL resource units specified in a water resource plan will not be exceeded as a result of the trade	Choose an item.			
	the measures in place to account for trade are consistent with the method addressing s10.10	Choose an item.			

Subsection	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	<u>and either:</u>				
	water access rights in the 2 units have substantially similar characteristics of timing, reliability and volume	Choose an item.			
	measures are in place to ensure that the water access right to be traded will maintain its characteristics of timing, reliability and volume	Choose an item.			
	measures in place to address the impact, as a result of trade, on water availability in relation to a water access right held by a third party	Choose an item.			
2	The WRP applies a conversion rate to meet the condition in s12.25(e)	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	<i>If 'yes' either:</i>				Choose an item.
2(a)	The conversion rate is specified <i>or</i>	Choose an item.			
2(b)	The way in which the conversion rate will be determined from time to time and made generally available is set out	Choose an item.			
	<i>The 'no' case is not necessary to re-state</i>				

Section 10.39 – Circumstances in which conditions in section 12.26 are met

- (1) A water resource plan must set out the circumstances in which trade between a groundwater SDL resource unit and a surface water SDL resource unit is permitted. In setting out the circumstances, a water resource plan must ensure that each condition set out in section 12.26 will be met in relation to proposed trade.
- (2) If the water resource plan applies a conversion rate to meet the condition in paragraph 12.26(e), the water resource plan must either:
 - (a) specify the conversion rate; or
 - (b) set out the way in which the conversion rate will be determined from time to time and made generally available.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP sets out the circumstances that apply to trade being permitted between a groundwater SDL resource unit and a surface water SDL resource unit	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	When a trade as described in this section occurs, each of the following conditions will be met in relation to that trade:				Choose an item.
	sufficient hydraulic connectivity between the 2 units	Choose an item.			
	resource condition limits in the groundwater SDL resource unit specified in a water resource plan will not be exceeded as a result of the trade	Choose an item.			

	the measures in place to account for trade are consistent with the method addressing s10.10	Choose an item.			
	<u>and either:</u>				
	water access rights in the 2 units have substantially similar characteristics of timing, reliability and volume	Choose an item.			
	measures are in place to ensure that the water access right to be traded will maintain its characteristics of timing, reliability and volume	Choose an item.			
	measures in place to address the impact, as a result of trade, on water availability in relation to a water access right held by a third party	Choose an item.			
2	The WRP applies a conversion rate to meet the condition in s12.26(e)	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	<i>If 'yes' either:</i>	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
2(a)	The conversion rate is specified	Choose an item.			

2(b)	The way in which the conversion rate will be determined from time to time and made generally available is set out	Choose an item.			
	<i>The 'no' case is not necessary to re-state</i>				

Part 9 Risk assessment

Section 10.40 - Definitions

In this Part:

risk means a risk listed in a water resource plan in accordance with subsection 10.41(4).

level of risk has the meaning given in AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management—Principles and Guidelines.

NOT ASSESSED

Section 10.41 – Risk identification and assessment methodology

- (1) A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to current and future risks to the condition and continued availability of the water resources of the water resource plan area.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the risks include (where applicable):
 - (a) risks to the capacity to meet environmental watering requirements; and
 - (b) risks arising from the matters referred to in subsection 10.20(1); and
 - (c) risks arising from potential interception activities; and
 - (d) risks arising from elevated levels of salinity or other types of water quality degradation.
- (3) In identifying risks for the purposes of subsection (1), regard must be had to:
 - (a) risks identified in section 4.02; and
 - (b) any guidelines published by the Authority in relation to risk identification and risk assessment.
- (4) The water resource plan must list the risks identified for the purposes of subsection (1).
- (5) The water resource plan must assess each risk.
- (6) The water resource plan must define the level of risk of each risk, using the following categories:
 - (a) low;
 - (b) medium;
 - (c) high;
 - (d) if it is considered appropriate, any additional category.
- (7) The water resource plan must describe the data and methods used to identify and assess the risks.
- (8) The water resource plan must describe any quantified uncertainties in the level of risk attributed to each risk, including the results of any sensitivity analysis.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The development of the WRP had regard to current and future risks to the water resources in the WRP area	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Sub-section	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
2	The development of the WRP had regard to the risks in letters (a)-(d) that are relevant to the WRP area	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
	The list of risks in s10.41(4) includes each of the risks specified as follows			
	(a) Risks to the capacity to meet environmental watering requirements is listed in s10.41(4)	Choose an item.		
	(b) Risks arising from the matters referred to in subsection 10.20(1) are listed in s10.41(4), as follows:			
	Risks that may cause structural damage to an aquifer (within or outside the water resource plan area) arising from take within the long-term annual diversion limit for an SDL resource unit	Choose an item.		
	Risks that may cause damage to hydraulic relationships and properties between groundwater and surface water systems, between groundwater	Choose an item.		

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	systems, and within groundwater systems				
	(c) Risks arising from potential interception activities	Choose an item.			
	(d) Risks arising from elevated levels of salinity or other types of water quality degradation	Choose an item.			
3	Risk identification had regard to risks in letters (a) and (b) as follows:				Choose an item.
	Risks identified in s4.02:				
	Insufficient water available for the environment	Choose an item.			
	Water being of a quality unsuitable for use	Choose an item.			
	Poor health of water-dependent ecosystems	Choose an item.			
	Insufficient water is available, or water is not suitable for consumptive and other economic uses of Basin water resources	Choose an item.			

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	Insufficient water is available, or water is not suitable to maintain social, cultural, Indigenous and other public benefit values	Choose an item.			
	Guidelines published by the Authority in relation to risk identification and risk assessment	Choose an item.			
4	The list of risks includes all current and future risks as described in subsection (1)-(3)	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
5	Each of the risks listed in subsection (4) has been assessed according to the State's chosen risk assessment method	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
6	Each of the risks listed in subsection (4) is rated as 'low', 'medium' or 'high'	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	If used, additional categories of risk rating are appropriate to the State's chosen risk assessment method	Choose an item.			
7	The data and method used to identify and assess risks is described	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
8	Where uncertainties about risks are quantified, a description of the quantification methods is provided	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	Where sensitivity analysis is used, the results are provided	Choose an item.			

Section 10.42 – Description of risks

A water resource plan must describe:

- (a) each risk which is defined in accordance with subsection 10.41(6) as having a medium or higher level of risk; and
- (b) factors that contribute to those risks.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
(a)	The WRP describes each of the risks defined as having a medium or higher level of risk	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
(b)	The WRP describes the factors that contribute to those risks	Choose an item.			

Section 10.43 – Strategies for addressing risks

- (1) If a water resource plan defines a risk in accordance with subsection 10.41(6) as having a medium or higher level of risk, the water resource plan must either:
 - (a) describe a strategy for the management of the water resources of the water resource plan area to address the risk in a manner commensurate with the level of risk; or
 - (b) explain why the risk cannot be addressed by the water resource plan in a manner commensurate with the level of risk.
- (2) If the water resource plan identifies a risk which relates to a matter dealt with by a requirement in another Part of this Chapter, the strategy must take account of that requirement.
- (3) A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to:
 - (a) the strategies listed in subsection 4.03(3); and
 - (b) any guidelines published by the Authority in accordance with section 4.04.

Note: The Authority may publish guidelines in accordance with section 4.04 in relation to the implementation of strategies to manage or address risks identified in section 4.02.

Sub-section	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	Each risk rated as 'medium' or higher has either:		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	(a) a description of a strategy for management of the water resources that addresses the risk in a manner that is commensurate with the level of risk	Choose an item.		
	(b) an explanation of why the risk cannot be addressed by the WRP in a manner that is	Choose an item.		

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	commensurate with the level of risk				
2	All other parts under Chapter 10 that have provisions to deal with a risk are identified	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	The strategies in this s10.43(2) take account of the requirement under those other Chapter 10 parts	Choose an item.			
3	The preparation of the WRP had regard to:				Choose an item.
	(a) the strategies listed in subsection 4.03(3)	Choose an item.			
	<i>and</i>				
	(b) guidelines published by the Authority in accordance with section 4.04	Choose an item.			

Part 10 Measuring and monitoring

Section 10.44 – Information relating to measuring take – water access rights

A water resource plan must include the following information in relation to each class of water access right relating to the water resources of the water resource plan area:

- (a) the best estimate of the total long-term annual average quantity of water taken that is measured;
- (b) the best estimate of the total long-term annual average quantity of water taken that is not measured;
- (c) how the quantities under paragraphs (a) and (b) were calculated;
- (d) the proportion of the quantity referred to in paragraph (a) that is measured in accordance with standards for measuring agreed by the Basin States and the Commonwealth.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	The WRP includes the information as described in letters (a) to (d) for each class of water access right that apply to the water resources of the WRP area:				Choose an item.
(a)	(a) the best estimate of the total long-term annual average quantity of water taken that is metered	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	
(b)	(b) the best estimate of the total long-term annual average quantity of water taken that is not metered	Choose an item.			
(c)	(c) how the quantities under letters (a) and (b) were calculated	Choose an item.			
(d)	(d) the proportion of the quantity metered take of water that apply	Choose an item.			

Sub-section	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	the standards for metering agreed by the Basin States and the Commonwealth			

Section 10.45 – Supporting measuring

- (1) A water resource plan must specify measures for maintaining and, if practicable, improving:
- (a) the proportion of take that is measured in the water resource plan area; and
 - (b) the standard to which take is measured.
- (2) The water resource plan must specify the timeframe for implementing the measures.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP specifies arrangements that ensures metered take remains stable or improves over time, as follows:			Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
1(a)	(a) the proportion of take that is metered in the WRP area	Choose an item.			
1(b)	(b) the standard to which take is metered	Choose an item.			
	Where the WRP does not specify arrangements to improve metering in relation to letters (a) and (b), the WRP provides a logic and rationale that addresses practicality	Choose an item.			
2	Where arrangements to improve metering are not yet implemented, the WRP specifies the timeframes for implementation	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Section 10.46 – Monitoring water resources

- (1) A water resource plan must specify the monitoring of the water resources of the water resource plan area that will be done to enable the Basin State to fulfil its reporting obligations under section 13.14.
- (2) Nothing in this section limits the capacity of the Basin State to conduct other monitoring of the water resources of a water resource plan area.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP specifies monitoring of water resources	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	The monitoring is specified in terms of the State’s reporting obligation under s13.14/Schedule 12 (exhaustive)	Choose an item.			
	The monitoring specified will enable the State to fulfil its reporting obligations under s13.14/Schedule 12	Choose an item.			
2	Subsection 2 is not assessed				

Part 11 Review of water resource plans

Section 10.47 – Review of water resource plans

A water resource plan must require that if a review of the plan (or a part of the plan) is undertaken, the report of the review must be given to the Authority within 30 days after the report is completed.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
The WRP provides for a review report to be given to the MDBA within 30 days of the report being completed	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.

Section 10.47A – Additional requirements for Western Porous Rock, Gunnedah-Oxley Basin MDB, Sydney Basin MDB and Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource units

If a review of the relevant water resource plan in relation to any of the Western Porous Rock, Gunnedah-Oxley Basin MDB, Sydney Basin MDB or Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource units is undertaken, the review must assess:

- (a) the effectiveness of the implementation of the rules of the water resource plan; and
- (b) the extent to which the rules achieve the objectives mentioned in sections 10.21 and 10.35C.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
The WRP applies to any of the following SDL resource units: - Western Porous Rock - Gunnedah-Oxley Basin MDB - Sydney Basin MDB - Goulburn-Murray: Sedimentary Plain	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
If 'yes', the review of the WRP has assessed:				Choose an item.
(a) the effectiveness of the implementation of the rules of the water resource plan	Choose an item.			
(b) the extent to which the rules achieve the objectives mentioned in sections 10.21 and 10.35C	Choose an item.			

Section 10.48 – Amendment of water resource plan

A water resource plan must require a Basin State that proposes an amendment to the plan arising from a review to give the reasons for the amendment to the Authority.

Note: See also section 65 of the Act.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
The WRP provides for a proposed amendment to state the reasons for that amendment	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.

Part 12 Information used to prepare water resource plan

Section 10.49 – Best available information

(1) A water resource plan must be based on the best available information.

(2) The water resource plan must identify and describe the significant sources of information on which the water resource plan is based.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The development of the WRP has been based on the best available information	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
2	The WRP references the significant sources of information used to develop the plan	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Section 10.50 – Methods used to develop water resource plan

A water resource plan must identify any significant method, model or tool that has been used to develop the water resource plan.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
The WRP identifies the significant methods, models and tools used to develop plan	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.

Part 13 Extreme events

Section 10.51 – Measures in response to extreme events

- (1) A water resource plan must describe how the water resources of the water resource plan area will be managed during the following types of events:
- (a) an extreme dry period;
 - (b) a water quality event of an intensity, magnitude and duration that is sufficient to render water acutely toxic or unusable for established local uses and values;
 - (c) any type of event that has resulted in the suspension of a statutory regional water plan in the past 50 years (including a transitional water resource plan or interim water resource plan).
- (2) If an event of a type listed in subsection (1) would compromise a Basin State’s ability to meet critical human water needs in the water resource plan area, the water resource plan must set out measures to meet critical human water needs during such an event.
- (3) The water resource plan must provide that, if new scientific information suggests a change in the likelihood of an event of a type listed in subsection (1) occurring (for example, due to climate change), consideration must be given to whether, as a result of this new information, the water resources should be managed differently.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	The WRP describes how water resources will be managed during:			Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
1(a)	an extreme dry period	Choose an item.			
1(b)	a water quality event that is sufficient to render water acutely toxic or unusable for established local uses and values	Choose an item.			
1(c)	The WRP identifies that there has been an event in the past 50 years	Choose an item.			

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
	that resulted in the suspension of a statutory regional plan				
	If yes, the WRP describes how water resources will be managed during such events	Choose an item.			
	If no, the WRP states that such an event has not occurred.	Choose an item.			
2	One or more events listed under s10.51(1) have potential to compromise the State's ability to meet critical human water needs in the plan area				Choose an item.
	If yes, the WRP sets out measures that operate to meet critical human water needs during a type of event listed under subsection (1)	Choose an item.			
	If no, the WRP sets out the logic and rationale for why events listed under subsection (1) do not compromise the State's ability to meet critical human water needs in the plan area	Choose an item.			

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
3	The WRP provides for a trigger to consider changes to management of water resources in the event that new scientific information suggest a change in the likelihood of events under subsection (1)	Choose an item.			Choose an item.

Part 14 Indigenous values and uses

Note: If a water resource plan is prepared by a Basin State, it is expected that the Authority will consult with relevant Indigenous organisations in relation to whether the requirements of this Part have been met, for the purpose of paragraph 63(3)(b) of the Act.

Section 10.52 – Objectives and outcomes based on Indigenous values and uses

(1) A water resource plan must identify:

- (a) the objectives of Indigenous people in relation to managing the water resources of the water resource plan area; and
- (b) the outcomes for the management of the water resources of the water resource plan area that are desired by Indigenous people.

(2) In identifying the matters set out in subsection (1), regard must be had to:

- (a) the social, spiritual and cultural values of Indigenous people that relate to the water resources of the water resource plan area (**Indigenous values**); and
- (b) the social, spiritual and cultural uses of the water resources of the water resource plan area by Indigenous people (**Indigenous uses**);

as determined through consultation with relevant Indigenous organisations, including (where appropriate) the Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations and the Northern Murray-Darling Basin Aboriginal Nations.

(3) A person or body preparing a water resource plan may identify opportunities to strengthen the protection of Indigenous values and Indigenous uses in accordance with the objectives and outcomes identified under subsection (1), in which case the opportunities must be specified in the water resource plan.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1(a)	The objectives of Aboriginal people in relation to managing water resources in the WRP area are listed	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome	
1(b)	The outcomes of water resource management as desired by Aboriginal people are listed	Choose an item.				
2(a)	Supporting evidence demonstrates that the objectives and outcomes listed under subsection (1) had regard to the social, spiritual and cultural values of Aboriginal people	Choose an item.			Choose an item.	
	The social, spiritual and cultural values of Aboriginal people were determined through consultation with relevant indigenous organisations	Choose an item.				
2(b)	Supporting evidence demonstrates that the objectives and outcomes listed under subsection (1) had regard to Aboriginal people’s social, spiritual and cultural uses	Choose an item.				
	Aboriginal people’s social, spiritual and cultural uses were determined through consultation with relevant indigenous organisations	Choose an item.				

Sub-section	Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
3	Opportunities to strengthen the protection of Aboriginal values and Aboriginal uses are identified in the WRP	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
	The opportunities included under this subsection (3) operate to strengthen protections for Aboriginal values and uses	Choose an item.			

Section 10.53 – Consultation and preparation of water resource plan

(1) A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to the matters identified under section 10.52 and the following matters:

- (a) native title rights, native title claims and Indigenous Land Use Agreements provided for by the Native Title Act 1993 in relation to the water resources of the water resource plan area;
- (b) registered Aboriginal heritage relating to the water resources of the water resource plan area;
- (c) inclusion of Indigenous representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan;
- (d) Indigenous social, cultural, spiritual and customary objectives, and strategies for achieving these objectives;
- (e) encouragement of active and informed participation of Indigenous people;
- (f) risks to Indigenous values and Indigenous uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area.

Note: For examples of the principles that may be applied in relation to the participation of Indigenous people, see the document titled 'MLDRIN and NBAN Principles of Indigenous Engagement in the Murray-Darling Basin'.

(2) In this section, registered Aboriginal heritage means Aboriginal heritage registered or listed under a law of a Basin State or the Commonwealth that deals with the registration or listing of Aboriginal heritage (regardless of whether the law deals with the listing of other heritage).

Sub-section	Assessment test	Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
1	Regard was had to the views of relevant Aboriginal organisation with respect to matters identified in section 10.52	Choose an item.	Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column and advice from NBAN/MLDRIN meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
	Regard was had to each of the matters in letters (a) to (f):			
1(a)	native title rights, native title claims and Aboriginal Land Use Agreements	Choose an item.		

1(b)	registered Aboriginal heritage relating to the water resources of the WRP area	Choose an item.			
1(c)	inclusion of Aboriginal representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan	Choose an item.			
1(d)	Aboriginal social, cultural, spiritual and customary objectives and strategies for achieving these objectives	Choose an item.			
1(e)	encouragement of active and informed participation of Aboriginal people	Choose an item.			
1(f)	risks to Aboriginal values and Aboriginal uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the WRP area	Choose an item.			
2	<i>Subsection 2 is not assessed</i>				

Section 10.54 – Cultural flows

A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to the views of Indigenous people with respect to cultural flows.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
Cultural flows are relevant to this WRP area	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column and advice from NBAN/MLDRIN meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
The WRP has regard to the Aboriginal people's views about cultural flows	Choose an item.			


Section 10.55 – Retention of current protection

A water resource plan must provide at least the same level of protection of Indigenous values and Indigenous uses as provided in:

- (a) a transitional water resource plan for the water resource plan area; or
- (b) an interim water resource plan for the water resource plan area.

Assessment test		Where this was observed in the WRP package	Justification	Assessment outcome
There is a TWRP or IWRP for this WRP area	Choose an item.		Free text used by assessors to demonstrate how the evidence from the previous column meets / does not meet the requirement.	Choose an item.
The WRP provides the same or greater level of protection as the TWRP or IWRP	Choose an item.			

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