HUGHES CREEK CATCHMENT LOCAL MANAGEMENT RULES



1. Catchment Information

The Hughes Creek joins the Goulburn River downstream of Lake Eildon and upstream of Goulburn Weir, near the township of Avenel and encompasses an area of approximately 558 km². The mean annual flow at the bottom of the catchment is approximately 88,200 ML/yr. The Hughes Creek Catchment is predominantly cleared with small pockets of natural bushland. Flows in the lower catchment of Hughes Creek are seasonal, with flow ceasing during dry periods. The Goulburn Broken Regional River Health Strategy lists the Hughes Creek as a high value asset as it is contains Macquarie Perch and Murray Cod.

The catchment is bound to the south by the Goulburn River catchment and the east by the Home Creek. Significant tributaries of Hughes Creek include Ponkeen, County, Boundary, Woolshed, Stewarts, Buckland and Bunding Creek. The main townships within the catchment are Avenel and Ruffy. Within the catchment the predominant industry is dryland farming in the lower and middle catchment, and some intensive viticulture in the upper catchment.

2. Management of Licences

Restriction Triggers for each stage of restriction

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Restriction	Trigger Values for	Percent	
Stages	Introduction of	Restrictable	
	Next Stage of	Demand	
	Restriction		
Stage 5	<=5 ML/day	100%	
(Suspension)			

Note: Restrictions are implemented during dry periods prior to flows reducing to the trigger value. For example, if a river flow is reducing rapidly, a higher stage or suspension will be put in place before the trigger level is reached to provide for adequate flow for domestic and stock use and the environment.

3. Compliance Point

Hughes Creek is visually assessed at the Goulburn Valley Highway upstream of Avenel.

4. Licences

Licence Allocation in Hughes Creek and Tributaries

Licence Type	Number of Licences	Volume (ML)
Irrigation	21	1360.7
Registered Dams	56	960
Total	77	2320.7

5. Additional Information

Stream codes and sustainable diversion limit zones are provided within this document for identification purposes when discussing the catchment diversion management with Goulburn-Murray Water Officers.

Stream Codes

Stream codes used in the management of the Hughes Creek and Tributaries.

4050236 4050206

Sustainable Diversion Limit zones

Sustainable Diversion Limit zones used in the management of surface water trade within the Hughes catchment.

4051606, 4051605, 4051604, 4051603, 4051602, 4051601

For general information call or visit 1800 013 357

