LOWER LODDON RIVER LOCAL MANAGEMENT RULES



1. Catchment Information

The Lower Loddon River flows into Murray River approximately 5km north of Benjeroop, and

encompasses an area of approximately 55 km². The mean annual flow at the bottom of the Lower Loddon River catchment is approximately 389,970 ML/yr. The North Central River Health Strategy lists the Lower Loddon Program Area as it contains significant environmental values. These values include significant flora and fauna, invertebrates, wetland rarity and significance, Golden Perch and Murray Cod. Key issues identified within the catchment are instream barriers, exotic flora, stock access, water quality, loss of instream habitat, flow deviation, algal blooms and introduced fauna.

The catchment is bound to the east by the Campaspe River catchment, the north by the Murray River, and the west by Avoca River catchment. Significant tributaries of the Lower Loddon River include Bannagher, Pyramid, Twelve Mile and Sheep Wash Creeks. The major townships within the catchment include Kerang, Appin South and Fernihurst.

2. Licences

Licence Allocation in Lower Loddon River and Tributaries

Licence Type	Number of Licences	Volume (ML)
Irrigation	21	1659
Registered Dams	16	426.3
Total	37	2085.3

3. Management of Licences

Restriction Triggers for each stage of restriction.

Restriction Stages	Trigger Values for Introduction of Next Stage of Restriction	Percent Restrictable Demand
Stage 5	<=50 ML/Day at	100%
(Suspension)	Fernihurst Weir	
or		
Stage 5	<=20 ML/Day at	100%
(Suspension)	Kerang Weir	

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.

Two separate restrictions points are in place due to the environmental requirements of the system. The 20 ML/day requirement at Kerang Weir allows water to reach the Murray River downstream, while a flow of 50 ML/day allows flows to reach the regulated section of the Loddon River where the Macorna channel crosses the Loddon River.

4. 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 Lower Loddon River and Tributaries:

4070600

Sustainable Diversion Limit zones

Sustainable Diversion Limit zones used in the management of surface water trade within the Lower Loddon River catchment: No zones associated

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