2022 Announced Allocation Decision

Daly Roper Beetaloo Water Control District – Upstream Katherine River

Water extraction licences granted for the area upstream Katherine river and outside the boundary of the Katherine Tindall Limestone Aquifer plan area are granted subject to annual announced allocation conditions. These conditions allow me, as the Controller of Water Resources, to reduce licensed water entitlements to protect the environmental, cultural and social values of water.

In determining whether to make an announced allocation resulting in a reduction of licensed water entitlements for the 2022-23 water year for this water resources, I considered the following:

- 88 per cent of the authorised allocated volume is public water supply and not subject to announced allocation conditions.
- The total entitlements remaining represent less than twelve percent of the overall licensed extraction, therefore it is considered reducing licensed entitlements will not influence flows to a significant extent.
- There is a low likelihood, due to the lack of development, infrastructure in place, and river height constraints that full entitlement will be extracted in the coming year.
- The average wet season rainfall is expected to sustain a level of flow in the river to meet environmental and other public benefit water provisions.

For these reasons, I have formed the opinion that making an annual announced allocation for the 2022-23 water accounting year is not necessary to protect the environmental, cultural or social values associated with this water resource.

Accordingly, I have determined not to reduce licensed water entitlements through the annual announced allocation condition. Therefore, all water extraction licence holders in the upstream Katherine River area within the Daly Roper Beetaloo Water Control District are permitted to extract 100 per cent of their maximum entitlement for the 2022-23 water accounting year, commencing on 1 May 2022.

Joanne Townsend
Controller of Water Resources

7 April 2022