

Katherine water allocation plan 2026-2036



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Front page photo: Katherine River Gorge

Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Lands, Planning and Environment respectfully acknowledges the Northern Territory's Aboriginal people and their rich culture and pays respect to the Elders past and present.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and custodians of the lands and waters of the Katherine water allocation plan area, and Aboriginal peoples with connections to the waterways of the Katherine River.

We recognise the intrinsic connection of Traditional Owners to Country and value their ongoing contribution to managing the lands and waters. We support the need for genuine and lasting partnerships with Traditional Owners to better understand cultural connections, and we will work to establish lasting partnerships to manage water together.



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Contents

1. Overview.....	4
2. Preliminary.....	6
2.1 Title.....	6
2.2 Purpose.....	6
2.3 Definitions.....	6
2.4 Water control district and Katherine plan area	7
2.5 Water subject to the plan	7
2.6 Term of the plan	7
3. How water is shared.....	8
3.1 Key definitions	8
3.2 Objectives for water sharing	9
3.3 Estimated sustainable yield	10
3.4 Allocations to beneficial uses.....	10
3.5 Aboriginal water reserve	11
4. Water management.....	12
4.1 Application of this section	12
4.2 Licensed take must not exceed allocated amount.....	12
4.3 Announced allocations	12
4.4 Water trading	13
4.5 Discharge protection zone.....	14
5. Review.....	15
5.1 Review	15
5.2 Water advisory committee	15
Schedule A. Dictionary.....	16
Schedule B. Abbreviations and acronyms.....	18
Schedule C. Daly Roper Beetaloo water control district and Katherine plan area	19
Schedule D. Katherine plan area.....	20
Schedule E. Government Gazette, declaration of water control district and beneficial uses	21
Schedule F. Katherine designated land eligible for the Aboriginal water reserve	24
Schedule G. Katherine designated land to which the Aboriginal water reserve applies	25
Schedule H. Katherine discharge protection zone	26

1. Overview

About the water allocation process

Water allocation is the process of determining how much water must stay in the environment to protect ecological functions and meet environmental requirements, and how much is available for drinking and regional economic priorities. Water allocation in the Northern Territory is undertaken at a regional level within defined areas known as water control districts, which are declared by the Minister for Water Resources (Minister) by *Gazette* notice.

Under section 23 of the Water Act (the Act), the Daly River water advisory committee (the committee) was appointed by the Minister in November 2024. The committee, comprised of 12 members representative of differing water-related interests, provided advice on the development of the plan through to its declaration in 2026.

Over the term of the plan, the area may be subject to other controls, including a Restricted Water Extraction Area (RWEA) declared under 14A of the Act.

About the Katherine plan area

The Katherine plan area lies within the Daly Roper Beetaloo water control district (the district), an area of 330,000 km² ([Schedule C](#)). The district includes a number of river basins and aquifers. Separate water allocation plans have been declared or are under development for different parts of the district.

The Katherine plan applies to an area of approximately 1,176 km² (Katherine plan area). The Katherine plan area includes the township of Katherine and the Rockhole community. Pastoral leases cover about 17% of the land and approximately 0.05% of the Katherine plan area is designated as Aboriginal Land.

The Tindall Limestone Aquifer is the most productive aquifer in the Katherine plan area. It is an important groundwater resource that is part of the larger Cambrian Limestone Aquifer, which underlies 15% of the Northern Territory and supplies base flows to many of the Top End rivers during the dry season. The Katherine plan manages the portion of the Tindall Limestone Aquifer which is responsible for sustaining baseflows in the Katherine River during the dry season. The plan also manages surface water from the Katherine River between the Ironwood and Wilden gauging stations. These groundwater and surface water resources are together referred to in this plan as the Katherine water resource. As the Territory's third largest town and a regional growth centre, Katherine depends on water to support liveability, community wellbeing, and recreation. The region's Aboriginal communities have strong cultural connections to water and aspirations for economic development. Katherine's economy is shaped by a mix of irrigated agriculture, tourism, defence, and public sector activity, each of which relies on a secure water supply.

About this document

This document is one of three core documents prepared as part of the water allocation process for the Katherine plan area. This document references other documents and guidelines that may relate to the Katherine plan area, but which do not form part of the core documents. The three core documents are:

Katherine water allocation plan 2026–2036 (this document, the plan). The plan is declared by the Minister under section 22B(1) of the *Water Act 1992* (the Act). The plan describes the estimated sustainable yield for the Katherine water resource within the Katherine plan area ([Schedule D](#)). The estimated sustainable yield is the volume of water that can be taken sustainably from the water resource to which this plan applies, and which is allocated amongst declared beneficial uses. The plan takes effect from the date it is published in the *Gazette* by the Minister and will remain in force for a period of 10 years.

Katherine background report 2026–2036 (the background report) provides details on the information and processes that informed the plan, including available data and research on the surface water and groundwater resources of the Katherine plan area. It also describes the key environmental values of the Katherine plan area and their dependency on water resources, and the social and economic context of the region, including existing water use and projections of future water demand. The report collates the information and knowledge regarding the Katherine plan area at the time of its preparation.

Katherine implementation actions 2026–2036 (the implementation actions) details how the requirements in section 34 of the Act, with respect to the water resources of the Katherine plan area, are proposed to be fulfilled. It sets out a continuous program for the ongoing assessment and monitoring of water resources in the Katherine plan area, including the investigation, collection and analysis of data concerning the occurrence, volume, flow,

characteristics, quality and use of water resources. That program is described as a series of implementation actions that includes research, monitoring, education, engagement and analytical work.

The Controller of Water Resources must consider any water allocation plan applying to the area in question under section 90(1AA) of the Act when making a decision. The Katherine background report, implementation actions and other factors may be taken into account where relevant to the decision.

2. Preliminary

Overview

Under section 22B of the Act, the Minister may declare one or more water allocation plans in respect of a water control district, or part of a district, for a period of up to 10 years. The Act requires that a review of a water allocation plan is conducted at intervals of no longer than 5 years.

This is the fifth water allocation plan to be declared for the Katherine plan area and replaces the previous water allocation plan that expired in February 2026. The first plan for the area was declared in 2009.

The Katherine plan provides for the protection, allocation, management and use of the groundwater and surface water resources within the Katherine plan area (the Katherine water resource). The groundwater resource managed through the plan is part of the regionally extensive and productive Tindall Limestone Aquifer. The Katherine plan manages the portion of the Tindall Limestone aquifer within the Katherine River catchment which is responsible for sustaining baseflows in the Katherine River during the dry season. The plan manages surface water from the Katherine River between the Ironwood and Wilden gauging stations. These groundwater and surface water resources are together referred to in this plan as the Katherine water resource.

The plan sets out the volume of water that can be sustainably extracted, such as for drinking water supply or to support regional economic opportunities, with consideration of the ecological constraints of the water resource and the water required to support the health of aquatic ecosystems.

Although the plan contains summaries of the effect of certain provisions of the Act, those summaries are provided for information only.

2.1 Title

This plan may be cited as the Katherine water allocation plan 2026–2036 (the plan).

2.2 Purpose

The plan establishes a framework to share and manage water resources in the Katherine plan area. The plan:

- a) establishes the estimated sustainable yield of water resources in that part of the district to which the plan applies, in accordance with section 22B(5) of the Act
- b) allocates water within the estimated sustainable yield to beneficial uses, including an allocation to the environment and an Aboriginal water reserve
- c) designates eligible land as land in respect of which an Aboriginal water reserve applies
- d) ensures that the total water use for all beneficial uses is less than the sum of allocations to each beneficial use

2.3 Definitions

The dictionary in [Schedule A](#) defines particular words used in the plan. Abbreviations and acronyms used in this plan are set out in [Schedule B](#).

Unless otherwise stated, terms defined in the Act have the same meaning when used in the plan.

2.4 Water control district and Katherine plan area

The plan applies to the Katherine plan area (plan area) shown in [Schedule D](#), within the Daly Roper Beetaloo water control district (the district).

2.5 Water subject to the plan

The plan applies to groundwater of the Tindall Limestone Aquifer within the plan area and surface water from the Katherine River between the Ironwood and Wilden gauging stations (together, the Katherine water resource).

The plan does not apply to surface water wet-season flows.

2.6 Term of the plan

The plan will remain in force for a period of 10 years, commencing from the date of the *Gazette* notice.

3. How water is shared

Overview

This section of the plan sets out how water is shared to maximise the economic and social benefits to the community created by the sustainable use of a water resource.

As the Territory's third largest town and a regional growth centre, Katherine depends on water to support liveability, community wellbeing and recreation. The region's Aboriginal communities have strong cultural connections to water and aspirations for economic development. Katherine's economy is shaped by a mix of irrigated agriculture, tourism, defence and public sector activity, each of which relies on a secure water supply.

The objectives of water sharing and associated outcomes have been developed through the Daly River water advisory committee to provide high level strategic direction on the management of the Katherine water resource.

The estimated sustainable yield (ESY) for the Katherine water resource has been established as 39,000 ML per year.

Aboriginal economic development in the Katherine plan area is supported with 3,220 ML per year allocated from the estimated ESY to the Aboriginal water reserve. Eligible people with access to the reserve are identified based on their land tenure.

3.1 Key definitions

The ESY is the volume of water that can be allocated from the water resource to beneficial uses, within ecological restraints.

In determining the ESY the following matters are considered:

- available data concerning aquifer inflows, recharge, outflows, evapotranspiration and existing storage, in order to reasonably estimate the water balance of the resource
- furthering the purposes of the Act stated in the Long Title¹, relevantly the 'allocation, use, control, protection, management and administration of water resources' by sustaining long-term development of water resources and ensuring environmental integrity
- the objective of the statutory scheme to protect environmental water quality
- the Territory's commitment to the Intergovernmental Agreement on a National Water Initiative 2014, which defines 'environmentally sustainable level of extraction' as 'the level of water extraction from a particular system which, if exceeded would compromise key environmental assets, or ecosystem functions, and the productive base of the resource'
- the requirement to allocate water to the 'environment' as a beneficial use of water in the Act, to provide water to maintain the health of aquatic ecosystems.

Beneficial uses of the water in the district are:

- pursuant to section 22A(2) of the Act: the environment and Aboriginal economic development
- pursuant to the notice in the *Gazette* published on 19 October 2022 ([Schedule E](#)).

¹ The Long Title of the *Water Act 1992* is: An Act to provide for the investigation, allocation, use, control, protection, management and administration of water resources, and for related purposes.

3.2 Objectives for water sharing

The overarching goal of water sharing is to maximise the economic and social benefits to the community that are created by the sustainable use of a water resource, while taking into account climate variability.

Water sharing objectives are intended to set the high-level strategic direction for water decisions and management of a water resource.

Each objective is underpinned by associated outcomes.

Section 3 of the Katherine implementation actions 2026-2036 details actions that will be undertaken in the term of the plan to contribute to achieving each of the objectives.

Objective 1: Maintain water quality and availability to support environmental values and beneficial uses

The associated outcomes are:

- a) groundwater and surface water quality is protected from contamination
- b) dry season baseflows and spring (groundwater) discharge in the Katherine River support environmental values
- c) water allocations support all declared beneficial uses of water.

Objective 2: Ensure Aboriginal people can contribute to water resource management to support their cultural values, practices and responsibilities to Country

The associated outcomes are:

- a) water supports Aboriginal spiritual, cultural and social relationships with Country
- b) culturally significant water-dependent sites, including sacred and burial sites, are protected and managed
- c) Aboriginal knowledge is integrated into water resource management.

Objective 3: Recognise and support the community's cultural and social connections to water, rivers and springs

The associated outcomes are:

- a) water supports liveability, recreation and amenity
- b) effective communication and engagement improve public understanding of water use, including the impacts of use on the environment.

Objective 4: Safeguard long-term water security for current and future generations through adaptive and informed management

The associated outcomes are:

- a) water supplies for public and essential services are prioritised and protected during dry periods
- b) adaptive management is informed by public reporting and participatory water resource management
- c) improved understanding and management of unlicensed water use leads to increased confidence in water resource management.

Objective 5: Maximise water availability to enable regional economic development

The associated outcomes are:

- a) confidence in water resource management enables Katherine's economic development
- b) access to the Aboriginal water reserve delivers economic benefits for Aboriginal people
- c) water is regulated and used in ways that are efficient and transparent.

3.3 Estimated sustainable yield

The estimated sustainable yield for the Katherine water resource is 39,000 ML per year.

In addition to the matters outlined in section 3.1, specific features of the Katherine water resource have informed the estimated sustainable yield. These features include:

- estimations of inflows, outflows and storage in the Katherine water resource based on real-world data and computer models (Table 1)
- variability of the Katherine water resource in response to climate, as illustrated by the difference between dry (25th percentile) and wet (75th percentile) conditions
- the absence of any observed regional ecological impacts as a result of water take under previous iterations of the plan
- higher aquifer storage than in the early 1970s, despite substantial increases in extraction.

Table 1. Key features of the natural water balance for the Katherine water resource (ML per year)

	ML per year (average)
Annual inflows (ML per year)	
recharge	61,000
throughflow in	20,000
Annual outflows (ML per year)	
Discharge to the Katherine River	69,000
throughflow out	10,000
evapotranspiration	10
Storage (ML)	4,021,000
Estimated sustainable yield (ML per year)	39,000

Further information is detailed in sections 4.2 and 7 of the Katherine background report 2026-2036.

3.4 Allocations to beneficial uses

The water allocated to beneficial uses² must be within the estimated sustainable yield³. The allocations under this plan are set out in Table 2.

Allocations seek to enable adequate water supply for the social, cultural and economic needs of Katherine, the Territory's third largest town, and recognise that this is one of the Territory's most significant agricultural production areas.

² The various beneficial uses of water are listed under section 4(3) of the *Water Act 1992* (NT)

³ *Water Act 1992*, section 22B(5)(a)

Table 2. Allocation of estimated sustainable yield to beneficial uses for the Katherine water resource (ML per year)

	ML per year
Beneficial uses:	
rural stock and domestic	2,700
public water supply	4,000
environment ⁴	100
Water for economic development:	
Aboriginal economic development through the Aboriginal water reserve ⁵	3,220
Other uses: agriculture, aquaculture, cultural, industry, mining activity and petroleum activity	28,980
Estimated sustainable yield (ML per year)	39,000

Further information is detailed in section 4.2 and section 5, in particular section 5.3 of the Katherine background report 2026-2036.

3.5 Aboriginal water reserve

People may apply to access the Aboriginal water reserve consistent with the provisions of the Act.

The land parcels in the Katherine plan area with access to the Aboriginal water reserve are shown in [Schedule F](#).

The eligible Aboriginal people⁶ associated with each land parcel and volume of water from the Aboriginal water reserve are shown in [Schedule G](#).

⁴ This amount is allocated to the environment to meet the requirement in section 22B(6) of the Act. This water is not extracted and is retained in the environment to maintain ecological functions and environmental values in the region. This volume is additional to the volume of water outside of the ESY that remains in the water resource and cannot be taken.

⁵ 10% of the total volume of water for economic development

⁶ Refer to section 71BA of the *Water Act 1992*

4. Water management

Overview

This section of the plan sets out how water is managed through water extraction licences taking water from the Katherine water resource. These management arrangements are in addition to other requirements under the Act, other laws of the Territory, and policies established by the Northern Territory Government.

Within the Katherine plan area, the volume of water licensed will not exceed allocations within the ESY.

In dry years, licensed water entitlements within the Katherine water resource may be adjusted to minimise the impact to flows in the Katherine River. This process is called 'announced allocations'.

A new process for announced allocations has been developed for this iteration of the plan in consultation with the Daly River water advisory committee. The plan provides certainty to licence holders that their licensed water entitlements should not be reduced by more than 30%. It provides a process for licence holders to nominate how required reductions can be applied. The plan also recommends targeted education of rural stock and domestic water users and public water supply users about the impacts of water use on flows in the Katherine River during periods when announced allocations are applied.

To encourage and simplify water trade in the Katherine plan area, criteria for processing applications within 10 business days are defined for the Katherine water resource.

A groundwater discharge protection area has been established to more closely manage water take in sensitive areas within 5km of the Katherine River.

4.1 Application of this section

This section applies to water extraction licences granted with respect to the water subject to this plan.

4.2 Licensed take must not exceed allocated amount

The Controller of Water Resources should not grant or amend a water extraction licence if the granting or amendment of the licence would result in the total volume of water, that may be taken from the water resource, exceeding the volume allocated to corresponding beneficial uses, as set out in section 3.4 of this document.

4.3 Announced allocations

The Katherine water resource is classified as a Top End system⁷. Water extraction licences for beneficial uses related to economic development (Table 2) are subject to announced allocations⁸. Announced allocations seek to manage extraction in response to climate variability, to minimise the impact to flows in the Katherine River during the upcoming dry season if conditions are drier than normal.

⁷ Further information about Top End resources is available in: [Short, M.A. and Bond, T.W. \(2021\). Classification of Top End and Arid Zone for Northern Territory Water Resources, Technical Report 55/2020](#). Water Resources Division, Northern Territory Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security, Northern Territory Government. Palmerston, Northern Territory

⁸ Information available at [Announced allocations | NT.GOV.AU](#)

River flow is modelled to predict natural flows⁹ at the Wilden gauging station for 1 November, representing the end of the coming dry season. If natural flows are predicted to be less than the announced allocations trigger (1.8 m³/s), announced allocations may be implemented to maintain the target proportion of flows in the river (87%) (Table 3).

Table 3. Announced allocation triggers and targets for the Katherine River at Wilden

	Announced allocation trigger (estimated natural flow)	Announced allocation target (proportion of flows maintained in the river)
Wilden gauging station, predicted for 1 November (G8140536)	1.8 m ³ /s	87%

Announced allocations are embedded in the conditions of water extraction licences. Announced allocations are expressed as a percentage, and the percentage is applied to the maximum licensed entitlement defined in a water extraction licence.

When applying announced allocations in Katherine, the following considerations are relevant:

- Any individual water licence's total maximum water entitlement should not be reduced by more than 30%.
- Licence holders should be provided the opportunity to work collaboratively and volunteer how reductions to water licences may be applied to meet the announced allocation target as early as is practicable in the process. If licence holders do not respond, or an agreement is not reached by 10 April, decisions may proceed in the absence of advice from licence holders.
- If reductions in licence entitlements are expected, education should be delivered to rural stock, domestic and public water supply users, who are not subject to announced allocations, to improve their understanding of how water use impacts flows in the Katherine River and encourage water efficiency.

The Controller of Water Resources makes the final decision about announced allocations, and this is communicated through an announcement to licence holders prior to 1 May each year.

If water licences are reduced through announced allocations, a meeting of the water advisory committee should be convened within 6 months, to identify key risks and community concerns with the process.

There is more information on how announced allocations have been refined in this iteration of the plan in section 11 of the Katherine background report 2026-2036.

4.4 Water trading

Licence holders may apply to trade water where the water licence of both the buyer and the seller are for the Katherine water resource. For the avoidance of doubt, surface water extraction licences and groundwater extraction licences may be traded where both are granted in respect of the Katherine water resource.

Licence holders may apply to trade water consistent with the Government's policy on trading licensed water entitlements¹⁰.

⁹ The department's integrated surface water-groundwater model is typically used in the announced allocations process (refer Schedule A).

¹⁰ <https://nt.gov.au/environment/water/management-security/water-policies-and-guidelines>

In addition, the target processing time for trade applications for the Katherine water resource is 10 business days, when applications meet all the following criteria:

- a) for a volume less than 500 ML per year
- b) for period of less than three years
- c) buyer is an existing groundwater extraction licence holder
- d) the buyers proposed water extraction bore(s) is further than 500 m from neighbours' bores
- e) the buyers proposed water extraction bore(s) is outside of the discharge protection zone ([Schedule H](#)).

Additional guidance for water trading within the discharge protection zone is provided in section 4.5.

4.5 Discharge protection zone

The Katherine Discharge Protection Zone applies to:

- groundwater extraction from the unconfined Katherine Tindall Limestone Aquifer within 5 km of the Katherine River
- all surface water extraction from the Katherine River between the Ironwood gauging station and the Wilden gauging station as shown in [Schedule H](#).

Within the Katherine Discharge Protection Zone, it is recommended that:

- a) New water extraction licences or ongoing trades should not be granted where they would result in total maximum water entitlements within the zone exceeding 13,816 ML/yr.¹¹
- b) Temporary trades into the zone should only be granted where the Controller is satisfied that total use of licensed entitlements is likely to remain below 13,816 ML/yr for the duration of the trade.

Additional information about management within the discharge protection zone is provided in section 5.6 of the Katherine Background Report.

¹¹ 13,816 ML/yr represents the total licenced water entitlements within the Katherine discharge protection zone at the time of declaration.

5. Review

Overview

Section 22B(3) of the Act provides that the Minister must ensure a review of a water allocation plan is conducted at intervals not longer than 5 years.

Section 23(1A) of the Act enables the Minister to establish a water advisory committee for a water allocation plan.

5.1 Review

In accordance with section 22B(3) of the Act, the Minister will ensure that a review of this plan is conducted at intervals of no longer than 5 years. The Minister has discretion to initiate a review of this plan at intervals of less than 5 years.

The review may be informed by the outcomes of the implementation actions, new data and research findings, and community consultation. The plan may be modified to reflect improved knowledge identified by the review.

The review will include assessing whether the water resource is responding as predicted in the modelling undertaken at the commencement of the plan, and in any subsequent modelling undertaken during plan implementation. The review will consider if it is necessary to restrict taking of water in the plan area through a restricted water extraction area under section 14A of the Act, in the context of new data and research findings.

5.2 Water advisory committee

Where the Minister considers it appropriate, a water advisory committee for the plan may be established to advise on the effectiveness of the plan in maximising economic and social benefits within ecological restraints. Appropriate considerations should be given to water resource management, including the actual volume of water taken under licences and any associated risks to the water resource.

The Daly River water advisory committee was appointed by the Minister on 14 November 2024 for a four-year term to advise the Minister on the effectiveness of water plans in the Daly Basin. The committee provided advice on developing and finalising the plan¹².

¹² <https://environment.nt.gov.au/boards-committees/water-advisory-committees/daly-river-water-advisory-committee>

Schedule A. Dictionary

Term	Definition or reference
Aboriginal water reserve	Aboriginal water reserve is a portion of water set aside in a water plan for the economic benefit of eligible Aboriginal people (refer <i>Water Act 1992</i> , section 4(1))
Act	the <i>Water Act 1992</i> ¹³
beneficial uses	the beneficial uses for the Daly Roper Beetaloo water control district declared by <i>Gazette</i> no. G41, 19 October 2022. A copy of the declaration is included in Schedule E of this plan
Cambrian Limestone Aquifer	collective term for an extensive groundwater system covering 570,000 km ² straddling the Northern Territory and Queensland border. The aquifer comprises the geological basins of the Daly, Georgina and Wiso. The aquifer consists primarily of limestone
Controller	the Controller of Water Resources appointed under the <i>Water Act 1992</i> , section 18
cumec	a cubic metre per second, a unit of measurement used to describe the flow rate in surface water systems; one cumec is equal to one thousand litres per second
department	the department with the responsibility for administering the <i>Water Act 1992</i> , according to the Northern Territory of Australia Administrative Arrangements Order
department's integrated surface water-groundwater model	The coupled surface-groundwater Daly-Roper (DR) model is a predictive tool designed to simulate hydrological flows through the Cambrian limestone Aquifer system and overlying units by incorporating surface-water/groundwater interactions at a regional scale. The model mesh has been refined in sensitive areas such as springs and discharge zones along drainage lines within the catchment, to provide greater predictive capability in areas that are managed by environmental controls. As best practise recommended in the Australian Groundwater Modelling Guidelines (Barnett, 2012) the model is recalibrated at key periods, generally not exceeding 5 years, once significant new data from monitoring and field studies have been collected and new research findings are available. The most recent re-calibration was undertaken in 2024, as part of a Commonwealth-funded research project: Knapton, A. (2024). Daly-Roper River Model (DR3) Recalibration. TR02/2025. Report by CloudGMS for Department of Lands, Planning and Environment, Northern Territory Government, Darwin, Australia
dry season	the period from 1 May to 30 September
water for economic development (beneficial uses)	water licences with beneficial uses listed as agriculture, aquaculture, cultural, industry, mining activity, petroleum activity, and Aboriginal economic development

¹³ <https://legislation.nt.gov.au/Legislation/WATER-ACT-1992>

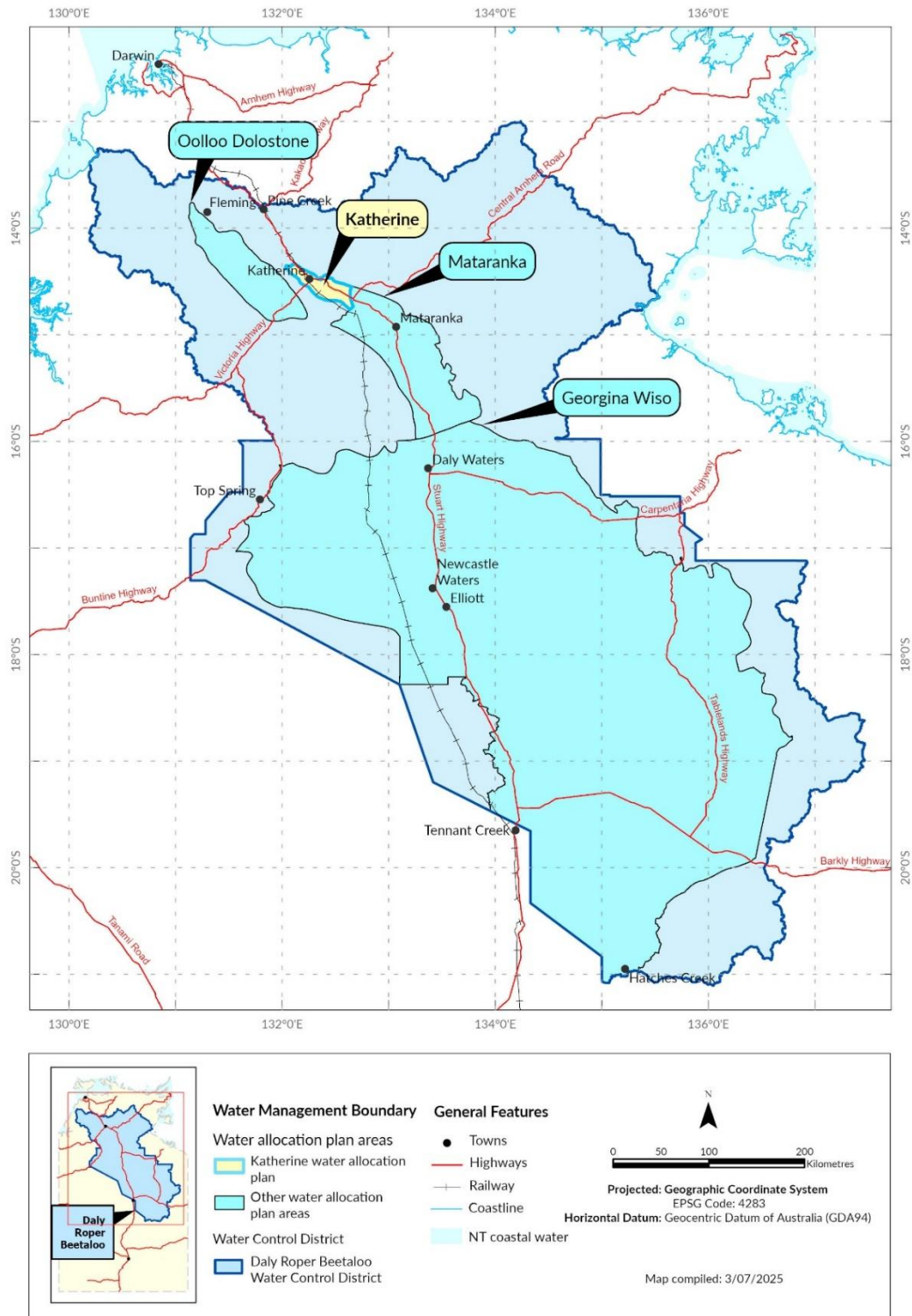
eligible Aboriginal people	see <i>Water Act 1992</i> , section 4(1)
eligible land	see <i>Water Act 1992</i> , section 4B
estimated sustainable yield	the amount of water that can be allocated from the water resource to support declared beneficial uses that is sustainable, section 4.2 of the background report refers
gauging station	Station that collects water level, flow and rainfall data; they can also collect discrete water quality data
groundwater	see <i>Water Act 1992</i> , section 4(1)
licence holder	the person granted a licence to take water under section 45 or section 60 of the <i>Water Act 1992</i>
Minister	the Minister ¹⁴ responsible for the <i>Water Act</i> under the Administrative Arrangements Order
plan area	the area to which this water allocation plan applies as shown in Schedule D
Tindall Limestone Aquifer	a regional limestone aquifer that extends from north of Katherine to southeast of Tennant Creek. Locally referred to as the Katherine and Mataranka Tindall Limestone aquifers in the Daly basin, Gum Ridge formation in the Georgina basin and Montejinni Limestone in the Wiso basin
total maximum water entitlement	the maximum volume of water entitled to be taken in a year that is set by the water extraction licence
water control district	the Daly Roper Beetaloo water control district, declared by <i>Gazette</i> no. G41, 19 October 2022 under section 22 of the <i>Water Act 1992</i> . A copy of the declaration is included in Schedule E of this document
water licence/water extraction licence	see <i>Water Act 1992</i> , section 4(1)
waterway	see <i>Water Act 1992</i> , section 4(1)
wet season	the period from 1 October to 30 April
wet season flows	increased surface water flow that occurs during the wet season in response to rainfall

¹⁴ Currently the Minister for Water Resources

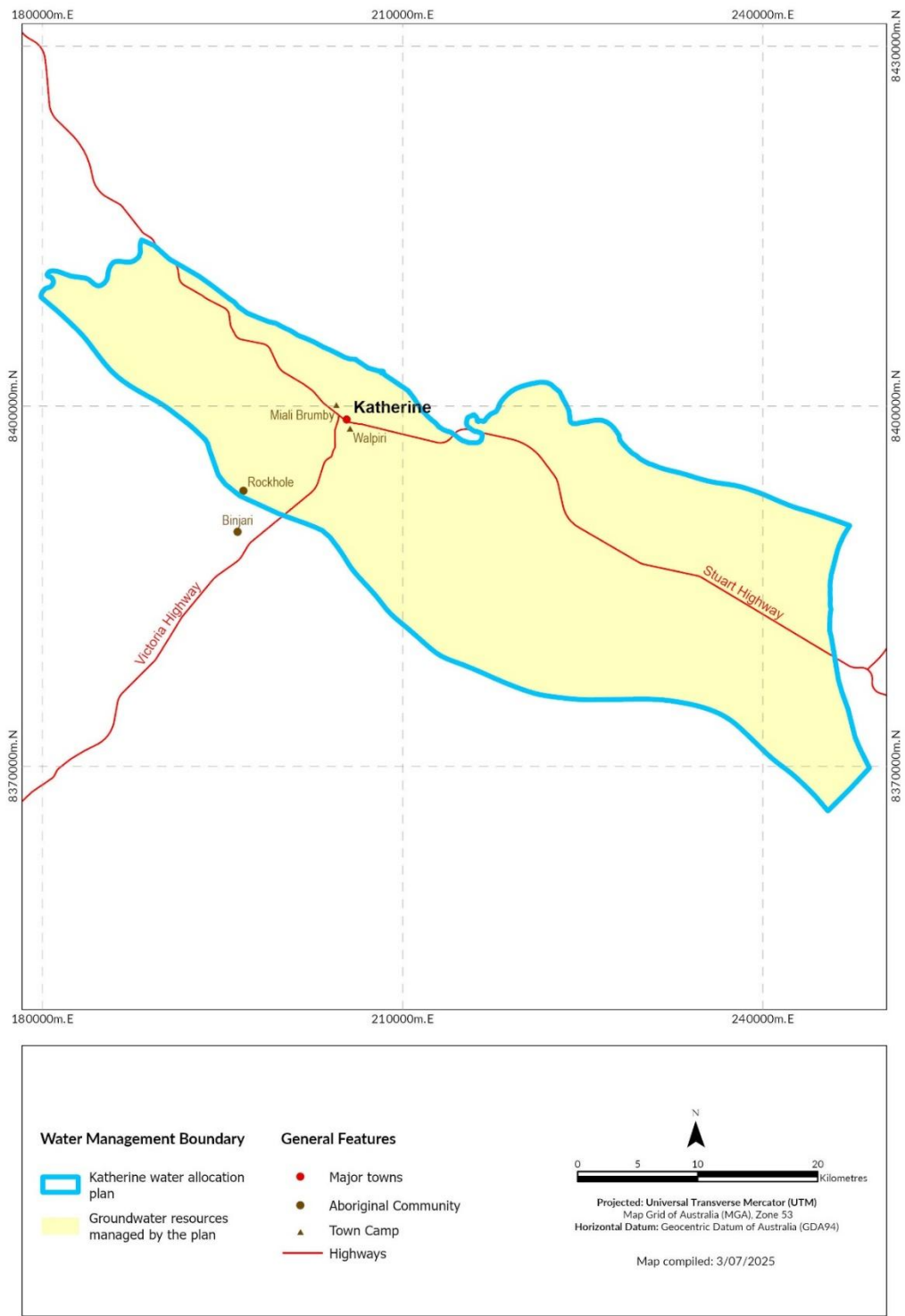
Schedule B. Abbreviations and acronyms

Term	Full form
ESY	estimated sustainable yield
km	kilometre
km ²	square kilometre
m ³ /s	cubic metre per second or cumec
ML	megalitre
NT	Northern Territory
RWEA	Restricted water extraction area
TLA	Tindall Limestone Aquifer

Schedule C. Daly Roper Beetaloo water control district and Katherine plan area



Schedule D. Katherine plan area



Schedule E. Government Gazette, declaration of water control district and beneficial uses

Northern Territory Government Gazette No. G41, 19 October 2022



Northern Territory of Australia

Water Act 1992

Revocation of Declaration and Declaration of Daly Roper Beetaloo Water Control District

I, Lauren Jane Moss, Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water Security:

- (a) under section 22 of the *Water Act 1992* and with reference to section 43 of the *Interpretation Act 1978*, revoke the declaration made by notice entitled "Revocation of Declaration and Declaration of Daly Roper Beetaloo Water Control District" dated 22 June 2018 and published in *Gazette* No. S58 of 20 July 2018; and
- (b) under section 22 of the *Water Act 1992*:
 - (i) declare the part of the Territory specified in the Schedule to be a water control district for surface water and groundwater management; and
 - (ii) allocate the name "Daly Roper Beetaloo Water Control District" to the water control district.

L. J. Moss

Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water Security

Dated 30 September 2022

Note: The Schedule is available online at <https://nt.gov.au/about-government/gazettes>



Northern Territory of Australia

Water Act 1992

**Revocation and Declaration of Beneficial Uses and Objectives in
Daly Roper Beetaloo Water Control District**

I, Vicki Susan O'Halloran, Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia,
acting with the advice of the Executive Council:

- (a) under sections 22A(1) and 73(1) of the *Water Act 1992* and with reference to section 43 of the *Interpretation Act 1978*, revoke the declarations made by instrument entitled "Revocation of Declaration and Declaration of Beneficial Uses and Objectives Daly Roper Beetaloo Water Control District" dated 2 April 2019 and published in *Gazette* No. G15 of 10 April 2019; and
- (b) under section 22A(1) of the *Water Act 1992*, declare the beneficial uses of all surface water and groundwater located in the Daly Roper Beetaloo Water Control District (the *District*) to be the following:
 - (i) agriculture;
 - (ii) aquaculture;
 - (iii) public water supply;
 - (iv) cultural;
 - (v) industry;
 - (vi) rural stock and domestic;
 - (vii) mining activity;
 - (viii) petroleum activity; and

- (c) under section 73(1) of the *Water Act 1992*, declare that the objectives that apply to:
- (i) water from all waterways located in the District are as described in Volume 1, Chapters 3, 4 and 5 of the Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (2000) (the *Guidelines*), published by the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council and Agricultural and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand; and
 - (ii) all groundwater located in the District are as described in Volume 1, Chapters 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the *Guidelines*.

Note for paragraph (b)

Section 22A(2) of the Act provides that each of the following is a beneficial use of water in a water control district:

- (a) *environment;*
- (b) *Aboriginal economic development.*

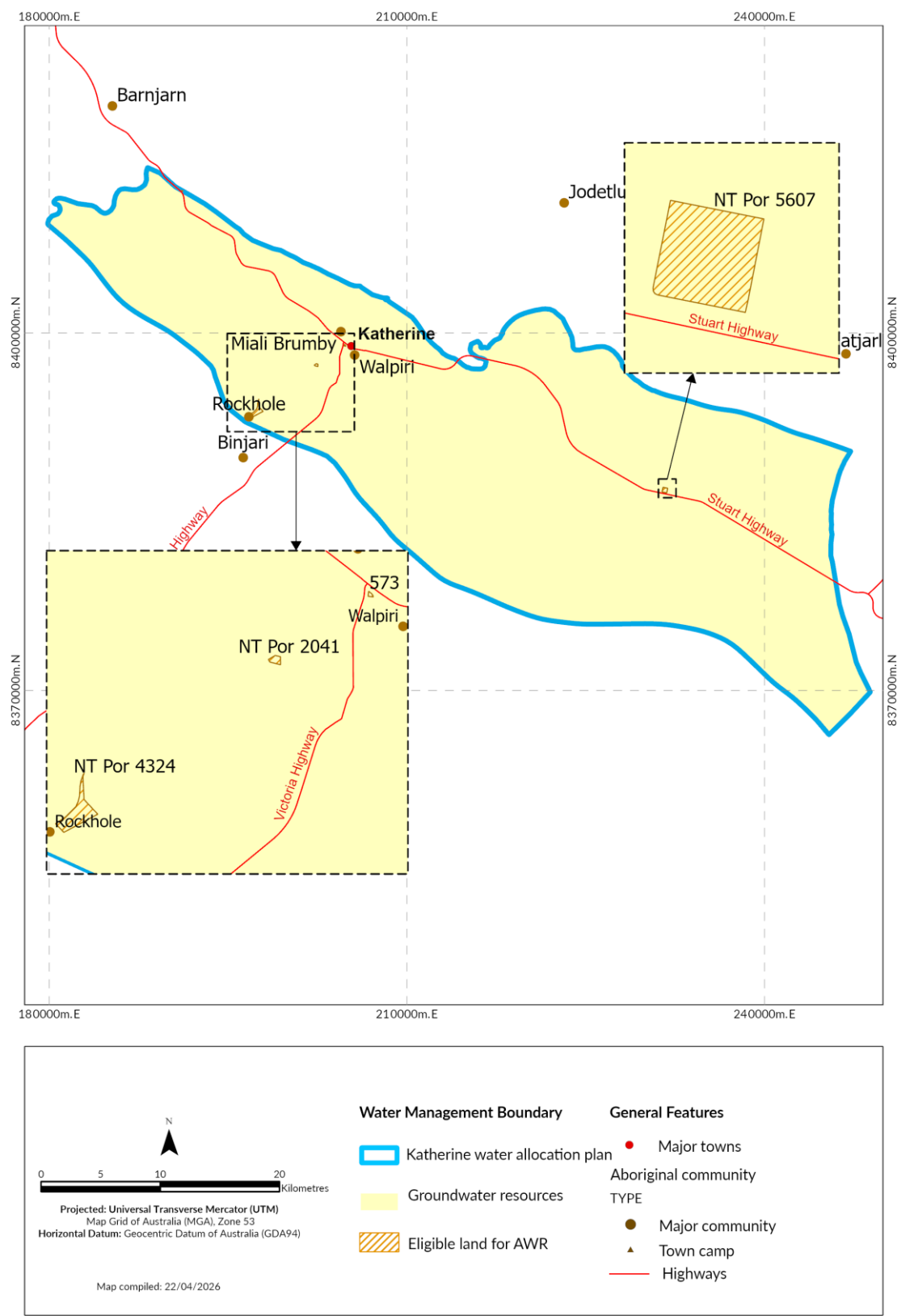
Responsible Minister:

L. J. Moss
Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water Security

V. S. O'Halloran
Administrator

Dated 13 October 2022

Schedule F. Katherine designated land eligible for the Aboriginal water reserve



Schedule G. Katherine designated land to which the Aboriginal water reserve applies

Eligible Aboriginal people / land description	Area (ha)	Percent of AWR	AWR allocation (ML/year)
Aboriginal Hostels Limited	4.76	7.40%	238.28
Mimi Ngurrdalingi Aboriginal Corporation (lcn 7654)	1.04	1.62%	52.16
Warlangluk Aboriginal Corporation	15.97	24.84%	799.85
Lorrl Aboriginal Land Trust	42.51	66.14%	2,129.71
Grand total	64.28	100%	3,220

Note: eligible Aboriginal people and land have been identified based on a systematic review of the Northern Territory Governments land database, and the National Native title register. Some parcels may have been inadvertently missed due to the complexity of land records Please contact the Water Resources Division if you would like your eligibility to be reviewed.

Schedule H. Katherine discharge protection zone

