

Estimates Committee 2015
Questions Taken On Notice

(26/05/2015 to 4/06/2015)

Date: 28/05/2015

Output: Land Resource
Management

Sub Output: Water Resources

Subject: Water Extraction Licenses

From: Mr Gerry McCarthy to Hon Willem Westra Van Holthe
Land Resource Management

Question: **4-11**
Minister, for each NT aquifer, please provide details of sustainable yield, total volume of approved water extraction licenses and number of unprocessed water extraction licenses, including total volume of water applied for.

Answer:
Answered On: 16/06/2015

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

Date: 28 May 2015 **Output:** 5.3 Water Resources

Subject: Water Resources

From: Hon. Gerry McCarthy MLA

To: Hon. Willem Westra van Holthe MLA

Agency: Department of Land Resource Management

Number: 4.11

Question: Minister, for each NT aquifer, please provide details of sustainable yield, total volume of approved water extraction licenses and number of unprocessed water extraction licenses, including total volume of water applied for.

Answer: The details of sustainable yield, total volume of water extraction licences issued, number of pending applications including volume applied for is provided for each aquifer system.

The sustainable yield for some aquifers is identified as 'to be confirmed' where detailed analysis of previous calculations of aquifer storage, recharge and river baseflows is required and will be undertaken when licences are renewed or when new licence applications are received.

Where the sustainable yield for some aquifers is identified as 'Yet to determined' assessment of aquifer storage, recharge and river base flows has commenced as part of licence application processing.

The modelling of the Ooloo Dolostone in the Daly Roper Water Control District has identified that by applying the environmental flow rules proposed in the draft Ooloo Aquifer Water Allocation Plan the sustainable yield of this linked aquifer/river system is greater than 60,000ML/year. However, achieving extractions greater than 60,000ML is highly influenced by seasonal rainfall variability and the reliability of achieving full allocations needs to be considered by potential users. Advice on reliability is published with all licences granted. Annual announced allocations for all licences are made for the express purpose of ensuring scientifically established environmental flow thresholds are never threatened in the Katherine River and Daly River.

REGION/LOCALITY	AQUIFER	SUSTAINABLE YIELD ML/year	Total volume approved extraction ML/year	Number of licence applications pending processing	Total volume sought in licence applications ML/year
Great Artesian Basin Water Control District	DeSouza Sandstone	11,900	96	Nil	Nil
Yulara	Dune Plains Basin	To be confirmed	1,600	Nil	Nil
Alice Springs Water Control District Outside Water Allocation Plan Area	Amadeus Basin	To be confirmed	1205	Nil	Nil
	Mereenie Sandstone	To be confirmed	210	Nil	Nil
Alice Springs Water Control District Inside Water Allocation Plan Area	Pacoota Sandstone	1,072	4,000	Nil	Nil
	Shannon Formation	755	1,000	Nil	Nil
	Mereenie Sandstone	12,673	9,355	1	2,125
	Town Basin	1,000	1,262	Nil	Nil
	Wanngardi Basin (Alice Springs)	30	50	Nil	Nil
	Inner Farm Basin (Alice Springs)	70	60	Nil	Nil
	Outer Farm Basin (Alice Springs)	710	69	1	600
Ti Tree Water Control District	Ti Tree Basin	13,650	5,280	3	2,130
Western Davenport Water Control District	Southern Management Zone	6,800	36	Nil	Nil
	Central Plains Management Zone	10,590	5,880	4	7,684
	Davenport Ranges Management Zone	10,160	10	Nil	Nil
Tennant Creek Water Control District	Cabbage Gum	To be confirmed	200	Nil	Nil
	Kelly Well Dolomite	To be confirmed	2,000	Nil	Nil

Daly Roper Water Control District Outside Water Allocation Plan Area	Tindall Limestone Daly Waters / Larrimah	230	225	2	87
	Tindall Limestone Mataranka	36,800	25,400	1	1,090
	Tindall Limestone Flora	Yet to be determined	0	2	39,468
	Tindall Limestone Edith	3,500	0	1	1,250
	Tindall Limestone Douglas	Yet to be determined	1,632	1	6,593
	Jinduckin Formation Katherine	4,400	2,260	1	15
	Jinduckin Formation Tipperary	14,000	15,400	Nil	Nil
	Ten Small Scale Local Aquifers	Yet to be determined	96	12	2,285
	Oolloo Dolostone	>60,000	65,970	8	34,578
Daly Roper Water Control District Inside Water Allocation Plan Area	Tindall Limestone Katherine	35,361	35,293	3	1,110
Darwin Rural Water Control District	Whites Formation Acacia	1,900	662	Nil	Nil
	Berry Springs Dolomite	Yet to be determined	645	7	1,490
	Koolpinyah Dolomite	Yet to be determined	11,726	2	3,281
	Coomalie Dolomite Acacia	1,450	1,194	Nil	Nil
	Whites Formation Humpty Doo	400	0	1	700
Darwin Region Outside Water Control District	Coomalie Dolomite Batchelor	Yet to be determined	2,087	0	0
	Koolpinyah Dolomite Wildman River	Yet to be determined	8,021	Nil	Nil
	Local Aquifer Angurugu	Yet to be determined	0	1	543