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Wednesday, 10 December 2014

## Changes to Licences for Barwon Darling Water Users

Acting Deputy Department of Primary Industries Director General Water, Michael Bullen, today announced changes to licenses for some water users in the unregulated Barwon-Darling River water source.

“Effective from Monday, 12 January 2015, there will be an adjustment to Barwon-Darling A,B and C class unregulated river licenses to increase the share component of entitlement by 9 percent,” Mr Bullen said.

“This means that an access licence with 100 shares of entitlement, will become a 109 share licence.”

Mr Bullen said that the adjustment was anticipated by the *Water Sharing Plan for the Barwon Darling Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2012* and has resulted from an increase in the long term annual average extraction volume (Cap).

“The change sees the share component of water licenses ( currently totaling about 173,000 shares) being increased to align with the new Cap limit (189,000 shares).”

“It is important to recognise that, whilst account limits are being increased, there is no additional water being allocated to these accounts at this time.”

Mr Bullen reminded licence holders that, despite having larger accounts, water usage would still be capped at sustainable levels by the annual use limit in the water sharing plan, thereby ensuring compliance with the Barwon-Darling Cap.

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