

Rural bulk water prices

2025-2026



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Did you know?

WaterNSW's prices are set by the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

Find out more about the IPART determination at ipart.nsw.gov.au

Prices are also available on our website at waternsw.com.au/pricing



Read the notes sections throughout this booklet to find out more information about the prices.

Please note: IPART has released the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation (WAMC) 2025 Determination. Rural bulk water prices took effect on 1 July 2025, and the new WAMC prices will apply from 1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026. This booklet outlines both the current rural bulk water 2025-26 pricing and the new WAMC pricing.

Regulated river prices

for rural bulk water from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 and
for Water Administration Ministerial Corporation (WAMC)
from 1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026

Disclaimer: Due to the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation (WAMC) IPART determination delay, all WAMC fees will be pro-rated.

What does this mean for you as a regulated water customer?

- All WAMC annual charges stated below are for the pro-rated period of 1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026, unless otherwise specified. WAMC pricing for the period of 1 July 2025 to 30 September 2025 are stated on our website.
- All WaterNSW/Rural charges listed below are consistent across both 2025-2026 price sections on this webpage. This is because they fall under the Rural Bulk Water Determination and therefore apply from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026, unless otherwise specified.

Entitlement charges are billed per share and usage charges are billed per megalitre extracted or water taken.

Valley/River	Details	High security	General security	Usage
Border	WaterNSW charges	\$8.31	\$3.04	\$8.87
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$2.43	\$2.43	\$1.53 [^]
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.67	\$0.67	\$0.30
	WAMC Border Rivers Commission charges ^{4*}	\$0.61	\$0.61	\$0.27
	Rural Border Rivers Commission charges ⁴	\$5.84	\$2.13	\$1.04
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$17.86	\$8.88	\$12.01
Gwydir	WaterNSW charges	\$21.96	\$5.10	\$21.70
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.65	\$1.65	\$1.21 [^]
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.88	\$0.88	\$0.48
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$24.49	\$7.63	\$23.39
Hunter and Paterson	WaterNSW charges	\$25.16	\$19.55	\$24.15
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$4.48	\$4.48	\$3.05 [^]
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$29.64	\$24.03	\$27.20

Valley/River	Details	High security	General security	Usage
Lachlan and Belubula	WaterNSW charges	\$31.67	\$4.68	\$39.33
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.53	\$1.53	\$2.43^
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.41	\$0.41	\$0.44
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$33.61	\$6.62	\$42.20
Lowbidgee ~levied on supplementary licences	WaterNSW charges	NA	\$2.17	NA
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	NA	NA	\$0.98^
	Rural Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	NA	NA	\$0.34
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	NA	\$2.17	\$1.32
Macquarie	WaterNSW charges	\$25.47	\$4.97	\$27.31
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.86	\$1.86	\$1.94^
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.55	\$0.55	\$0.43
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$27.88	\$7.38	\$29.68
Murray and Lower Darling	WaterNSW charges	\$2.85	\$1.25	\$3.69
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.54	\$1.54	\$1.11^
	Rural Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges	\$10.37	\$4.56	\$2.22
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.77	\$0.77	\$0.33
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$15.53	\$8.12	\$7.35
Murrumbidgee (excluding Yanco and Colombo Creek users)	WaterNSW charges	\$5.26	\$1.81	\$6.27
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.32	\$1.32	\$0.98^
	Rural Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges	\$2.23	\$0.77	\$0.44
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.79	\$0.79	\$0.34
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$9.60	\$4.69	\$8.03

Valley/River	Details	High security	General security	Usage
Murrumbidgee (Yanco and Colombo Creek users only)	WaterNSW charges	\$5.26	\$1.81	\$6.27
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.32	\$1.32	\$0.98^
	Rural Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges	\$2.23	\$0.77	\$0.44
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.79	\$0.79	\$0.34
	Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council (YACTAC) charges ²	\$0.92	\$0.92	NA
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$10.52	\$5.61	\$8.03
Namoi	WaterNSW charges	\$36.51	\$12.75	\$38.98
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$2.47	\$2.47	\$1.50^
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.46
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$39.98	\$16.22	\$40.94
North Coast	WaterNSW charges	\$15.30	\$11.86	\$22.64
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$6.35	\$6.35	\$8.08^
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$21.65	\$18.21	\$30.72
Peel	WaterNSW charges	\$77.43	\$7.34	\$30.93
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$4.03	\$4.03	\$6.28^
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.31	\$0.31	\$0.31
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$81.77	\$11.68	\$37.52
South Coast	WaterNSW charges	\$40.04	\$20.99	\$22.43
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$4.95	\$4.95	\$7.44^
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$44.99	\$25.94	\$29.87

IPART has set new floodplain harvesting charges. WAMC's proposed new floodplain harvesting charge is intended to enable recovery of costs from issuing and managing floodplain harvesting licences. These costs, which relate to customer support and information technology platforms, are not covered by the existing water management activity codes. The new floodplain harvesting charge is in addition to water take charges that already apply to floodplain harvesting licences, including water management and any applicable Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) and Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission (BRC) charges. The charge is \$3.62 per ML of water take for licences with all complaint storages, and a floodplain harvesting water entitlement charge of \$1.09 per ML for licences with non-complaint storages as shown following etc.

Floodplain harvesting licence charges - with ALL compliant storage/s

Valley/River	Details	High security	General security	Usage
Border	WaterNSW charges	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	NA	NA	\$1.53 [^]
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	NA	NA	\$0.30
	WAMC Border Rivers Commission charges ^{4*}	NA	NA	\$0.27
	Rural Border Rivers Commission charges ⁴	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC floodplain harvesting - additional charge*	NA	NA	\$3.62
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.72
Gwydir	WaterNSW charges	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	NA	NA	\$1.21 [^]
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	NA	NA	\$0.48
	WAMC floodplain harvesting - additional charge*	NA	NA	\$3.62
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.31
Macquarie	WaterNSW charges	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	NA	NA	\$1.94 [^]
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	NA	NA	\$0.43
	WAMC floodplain harvesting - additional charge*	NA	NA	\$3.62
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.99
Namoi	WaterNSW charges	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	NA	NA	\$1.50 [^]
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	NA	NA	\$0.46
	WAMC floodplain harvesting - additional charge*	NA	NA	\$3.62
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.58

Floodplain harvesting licence charges - with ONE or MORE non-compliant storage/s

Valley/River	Details	High security	General security	Usage
Border	WaterNSW charges	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	NA	NA	\$1.53 [^]
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	NA	NA	\$0.30
	WAMC Border Rivers Commission charges ^{4*}	NA	NA	\$0.27
	Rural Border Rivers Commission charges ⁴	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC floodplain harvesting - additional charge*	\$1.09	\$1.09	NA
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$1.09	\$1.09	\$2.10
Gwydir	WaterNSW charges	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	NA	NA	\$1.21 [^]
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	NA	NA	\$0.48
	WAMC floodplain harvesting - additional charge*	\$1.09	\$1.09	NA
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$1.09	\$1.09	\$1.69
Macquarie	WaterNSW charges	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	NA	NA	\$1.94 [^]
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	NA	NA	\$0.43
	WAMC floodplain harvesting - additional charge*	\$1.09	\$1.09	NA
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$1.09	\$1.09	\$2.37
Namoi	WaterNSW charges	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	NA	NA	\$1.50 [^]
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	NA	NA	\$0.46
	WAMC floodplain harvesting - additional charge*	\$1.09	\$1.09	NA
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$1.09	\$1.09	\$1.96

Scheme management charge⁶

\$113.58

Minimum annual charge⁵

\$295.66

Notes for regulated river charges

- All prices are \$ per megalitre of entitlements and megalitre of usage for the fixed and variable charges.
 - Charges are billed quarterly in arrears, payment terms for all invoices are 30 days from the date of issue. For more information on our billing terms and conditions, or if you are having difficulties paying your water bill, please refer to [Accounts and billing](#).
 - WAMC charges are determined by IPART under the *Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992* (IPART Act) and the WAMC determination.
 - The maximum prices in the IPART Determinations do not include GST. For the avoidance of doubt, where GST is lawfully applied to the maximum prices set out in the IPART determinations, the resulting GST inclusive price is consistent with the determination and in this event, WaterNSW would levy additional price component for GST consistent with the determination during the financial year.
 - Supplementary licences (excluding Lowbidgee) will be billed usage charges only, entitlement charges are not applicable. supplementary licences will be billed the minimum annual charge if their annual usage charges (for WAMC usage charges only, excluding the MDBA/BRC usage charges) are less than the minimum annual charge. The MDBA/BRC usage charges apply irrespective of whether the minimum annual charges applies.
1. All WAMC 1 Oct 2025 to 30 June 2026 Annual Charges will be pro-rated in accordance with clause 31.6(2) of Part 8 of the 2025 WAMC Determination. These WAMC Annual Charges include:
- Minimum annual charge
 - WAMC entitlement charges
 - The additional water entitlement charge for Regulated Rivers for a floodplain harvesting access licence customer who has one or more storages one or more of which are non-complaint storages
 - The additional water entitlement charge for Unregulated Rivers for a floodplain harvesting access licence customer who has one or more storages one or more of which are non-complaint storages
 - Additional entitlement charge for WaterNSW in Unregulated South Coast
 - Additional entitlement charge for Hunter Water in Unregulated Hunter Valley
 - Meter service charges
 - Water take reading/Assessment charge
 - Scheme management charge
 - Government-owned meter service charge
 - Telemetry service charge
 - LID download/validation charge
 - MDBA entitlement charges
 - BRC entitlement charge

Clause 31.6(2) of Part 8 states that in respect of any period after the Commencement Date that is less than a full year, the annual charges in this determination will be pro-rated for that period, based on the proportion that the number of days in that period bears to the number of days in the year.

Note: For example, if this WAMC determination commences on 1 October 2025 the annual charges in this determination will be pro-rated based on the number of days in the period from 1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026 as a proportion of the total number of days in the financial year from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

The annual charges for the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 September 2025, will be determined under the 2021 WAMC Determination and pro-rated in accordance with that determination.

(3) Different annual charges apply to government-owned meters and privately-owned meters. Where a person switches from a government-owned meter to a privately owned meter (or vice versa), the annual charges will be pro-rated based on the proportion of days in the year that the person had a:

- (a) government-owned meter installed; and
- (b) privately-owned meter installed.

2. Yanco Colombo System Levy – an additional charge applies to Yanco Colombo System licences – charged in final quarter invoice based on per ML/unit share of entitlement.

The **Murray-Darling Basin Authority Charges (MDBA) / Border River Commissions (BRC) WAMC pass-through charge** is a recovery of NSW Government contribution to MDBA and BRC (fixed and variable) for WAMC. IPART sets the charges to recover the NSW Government's contribution to funding the MDBA & BRC to undertake activities under the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement and the agreement with the Border Rivers Commission at the amount set by IPART. IPART sets these government charges every four years via a public consultation process. It updates these government charges annually during this period to reflect changes in the consumer price index and changes in demand for WaterNSW's services. These charges will apply to all water users in NSW's sections of the Murray-Darling Basin and Border Rivers systems.

These charges will apply to MDBA WAMC customers and BRC WAMC customers as follows:

- 3 **MDBA customer** means a holder of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of water from regulated Rivers in the – Border,

Gwydir, Namoi, Peel, Lachlan, Macquarie, Murray and Murrumbidgee valleys.

- 4 **BRC customer** means a holder of a Water Licence that authorises the taking of water from regulated Rivers in the – Border valley.
 - 5 Please note the **Minimum annual charge** applies in relation to the WAMC charges. For avoidance of doubt, Rural Valley Bulk Water Charges (under Rural Valley Determination) are levied irrespective of whether the WAMC minimum annual charge applies under the WAMC Determination.
 - 6 **The Scheme management charge** is levied on all billable licences including floodplain harvesting licences.
- * Charges collected on behalf of WAMC. These prices are determined by IPART for WAMC costs.

Nil price for Aboriginal Cultural Licences

Despite the information on this webpage, the maximum price for Monopoly Services under the WAMC determination in regard to an Aboriginal Cultural Licence is zero.

Under the WaterNSW Rural Valley Bulk Water Determination an Aboriginal Cultural Licence and an Aboriginal community development licences is zero.

An **Aboriginal Cultural Licence** means any of the following categories of access licence referred to in schedule 3 of the Water Management Regulation:

- (a) regulated river (high security) Aboriginal cultural licence;
- (b) unregulated river Aboriginal cultural licence; and
- (c) aquifer Aboriginal cultural licence.

An **Aboriginal Community Development Licence** means any of the following categories of access licence referred to in schedule 3 of the Water Management Regulation:

- (a) regulated river (high security) Aboriginal Community Development licence;
- (b) regulated river (general security) Aboriginal Community Development licence; and
- (c) unregulated river Aboriginal Community Development licence; and
- (d) Aquifer Aboriginal Community Development licence;

WAMC charges are determined by IPART under the IPART Act and the WAMC determination.

The reasons are:

1. Section 11 of the *Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992* (IPART Act) gives IPART a standing reference to conduct investigations and make reports to the Minister administering the IPART Act on the determination of the pricing for a government monopoly service supplied by a government agency specified in Schedule 1 of the IPART Act.
2. WAMC is listed in Schedule 1 of the IPART Act.
3. The WAMC charges recover the costs of water management and planning activities and services which are declared as government monopoly services under clause 3 of the *Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (Water Services) Order 2004*. These involve:
 - (1) the making available of water;
 - (2) the making available of the Corporation's water supply facilities; or
 - (3) the supplying of water, whether by means of the Corporation's water supply facilities or otherwise, (together, the Monopoly Services).
4. Under section 4(6) of the IPART Act, the Corporation is taken to be the supplier of the services for which fees and charges are payable under Chapter 3 of the *Water Management Act 2000* (Water Management Act).
5. In practice, charges for such water resource management activities are made as charges under licences, permits, approvals or authorities granted by:
 - (1) the Minister under Chapter 3 of the Water Management Act (in areas of NSW in which proclamations under sections 55A and 88A of the Water Management Act are in force); and
 - (2) the Corporation under the *Water Act 1912* (Water Act) (in other areas of NSW).

The activity costs associated with the WAMC charges are described in the IPART Final Decision, IPART Draft Decision and accompanying reports. They include:

Surface water quantity monitoring, Surface water data management and reporting, Surface water quality monitoring, Surface water algal monitoring, Surface water ecological condition monitoring, Groundwater quantity monitoring, Groundwater quality monitoring, Groundwater data management and reporting, Water take data collection, Water take data management and reporting, Surface water modelling, Groundwater modelling, Water resource accounting, Systems operation and water availability management, Blue-green algae management, Environmental water management, Water plan performance assessment and evaluation, Water plan development, Floodplain management plan, Drainage management plan development, Regional planning and management strategies, Development of water planning and regulatory framework, Cross border and national commitments, Water management

works, Regulation systems management, Consents management and licence conversion, Compliance management, Water consents overhead, Water consents transactions, Customer management, Business governance and support, Billing management.

These services are currently delivered by NSW DCCEE, NRAR and WaterNSW on behalf of WAMC. For more information, please refer to the [IPART website](#).

The maximum annual price that WAMC may charge for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a water licence, which applies only for WAMC charges, is the sum of:

(a) the higher of:

- (1) the minimum annual charge; and
- (2) the sum of the following:
 - (A) an entitlement charge calculated in accordance with the WAMC determination; and
 - (B) the usage charge[^] calculated in accordance with the WAMC determination;
- (b) for an MDBA customer, the applicable MDBA entitlement charge and MDBA usage charge for the relevant water source and relevant year; and
- (c) for a BRC customer, the applicable BRC entitlement charge and BRC usage charge for the relevant water source and relevant year.

The maximum annual price that may be levied by WAMC for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Supplementary Water Access Licence or a Floodplain Harvesting Access Licence that authorises the taking of water from a regulated river is the sum of:

(a) the higher of:

- (1) the minimum annual charge; and
- (2) the usage charge[^] calculated in accordance with the WAMC determination;
- (b) for a Floodplain Harvesting Access Licence Customer who has one or more storages:
 - (i) all of which are Compliant Storages, the additional water take charge set out in the pricing schedule (Floodplain Harvesting Licences) for the relevant river valley and the relevant year multiplied by the Licence Holder's water take for that year;
 - (ii) one or more of which are Non-compliant Storages, the additional entitlement charge set out in the pricing schedule (Floodplain Harvesting Licences) for the relevant river valley and the relevant year
- (c) for an MDBA customer, the applicable MDBA usage charge for the relevant water source and relevant year; and
- (d) for a BRC customer, the applicable BRC usage charge for the relevant water source and relevant year.

Note: for "Low Risk Water Users", the licence holders entitlement holding is used to calculate the usage charge[^]. A 'low risk water user' is defined as a user of works exempted by any of the following provisions of the Water Management Regulation: (a) Schedule 7, Part 2 clauses 6, 7 or 8; or (b) Schedule 7, Part 3 clause 11, and in relation to which relevant and reliable metering information is not reasonably available to WAMC.

The fee for service charges (consent transaction charges, water take assessment charge, meter service and other charges and the new metering charge (government-owned meter service charge, scheme management charge, telemetry/non-telemetry/LID charge, and ancillary charges) are levied in addition to the fixed and variable charges (and the MAC) contained in this webpage are not used to calculate the MAC threshold.

The maximum annual price that may be levied by WAMC for the Monopoly Services provided in respect of a Major Utility (Barnard) Access Licence that authorises the taking of water from a Regulated River is:

(d) the minimum annual charge.

MDB Charges – Bulk Water Determination (referred in the above schedule as "WaterNSW Charges")

The maximum prices set out in Parts 2-5 of the IPART determination are set under the IPART Act and cover bulk water services that WaterNSW supplies in regulated rivers to the following MDB valleys: (1) Border (2) Gwydir (3) Namoi (4) Peel (5) Lachlan (6) Macquarie (7) Murray (8) Murrumbidgee (9) Lowbidgee, (10) Fish River Scheme.

The reason why MDB bulk water services are determined under the IPART Act is because the ACCC has formed the view that Water NSW ceases to be a Part 6 operator under rule 23 of the *Water Charge Rules 2010* (Cth) (WCR) after 30 June 2025, such that fees and charges for services provided by Water NSW may not be approved or determined in accordance with the WCR and must be set under NSW law. Section 11 of the IPART Act provides IPART with a standing reference to conduct investigations and make reports to the Minister on the determination of the pricing for a government monopoly service that is supplied by a government agency specified in Schedule 1 to the IPART Act. Note that WaterNSW is listed as a government agency in Schedule 1 to the IPART Act, but excluding the services provided by WaterNSW in respect of which fees or charges may be approved or determined in accordance with Parts 6 or 7 of the WCIR, or the applied provisions under Part 3B of the IPART Act.

Section 4(1) of the IPART Act provides that a government monopoly service is a service supplied by a government agency and declared to be a government monopoly service. Section 4(7) of the IPART Act provides that WaterNSW is taken to be the supplier of

any government monopoly services for which fees and charges are payable under the Water NSW Act.

The water services order declares certain services provided by the 'State Water Corporation' to be government monopoly services, namely:

- the making available of water;
- the making available of the State Water Corporation's water supply facilities; or

the supplying of water, whether by means of the State Water Corporation's water supply facilities or otherwise, (together, Monopoly Services). References to the former State Water Corporation in the Water Services Order are to be read as references to WaterNSW, in accordance with clause 24 of Schedule 2 of the Water NSW Act.

Accordingly, under the IPART Act, IPART is to conduct an investigation and make a report to the Minister that determines maximum prices for Monopoly Services supplied by WaterNSW,

WaterNSW sets its charges to recover charges at the amount set by IPART. MDB charges are generally determined by IPART every 3-5 years under the IPART Act and IPART's water pricing framework. WaterNSW updates these charges annually during this period to reflect changes in the consumer price index and other price changes specified in the IPART Determination (which may include real prices increases and changes in demand forecast)

The MDB current pricing arrangements have been determined by IPART under the 2025 Rural Valley IPART determination released in June 2025. These arrangements apply until 30 June 2026 at which point, they will be reviewed by IPART and expected to be replaced by a new IPART Determination. For further information on the 2025 Rural Valley Price Review, please visit IPART's website.

Under the IPART 2025 Rural Valley determination, IPART has determined the regulated charges set out in Parts 2-5 of the IPART 2025 Rural Valley determination. The regulated charges set out in Parts 2-3 of the IPART determination apply to rural bulk water services that WaterNSW supplies to MDB Valleys including the Fish River Water Supply Scheme. The regulated charges set out in Part 4-5 of the IPART determination apply to metering services and miscellaneous rural bulk water services that WaterNSW supplies in the MDB Valleys.

These regulated charges are the maximum amounts that WaterNSW may charge.

The activity costs associated with the bulk water charges are described in the IPART Final Decision, IPART Draft Decision and accompanying reports. They include: Customer support, Customer Billing, Metering & Compliance, Water delivery and Other Operations, Corrective Maintenance, Routing Maintenance, Asset Management Planning, Insurance, Hydrometric monitoring, Flood Operations, Water Quality Monitoring, Dam Safety Compliance, Environmental Planning & Protection, Dam Safety Compliance Capital Projects pre-1997, Asset Management Planning, Routine Maintenance, Structural and Other Enhancement, Corporate Systems, Office Accommodation Capital Projects, Information Management Projects, Drought Projects, Water Delivery and Other Operations.

Coastal Valley Charges – Bulk Water Determination (referred in the above schedule as "WaterNSW Charges")

The maximum prices set out in Parts 2-5 of the IPART determination are set under the IPART Act and cover bulk water services that WaterNSW supplies in regulated rivers in the following Coastal valleys: (1) North Coast (2) Hunter (3) South Coast.

The reason why Coastal valley water supply services are determined under the IPART Act is because section 11 of the IPART Act provides IPART with a standing reference to conduct investigations and make reports to the Minister on the determination of the pricing for a government monopoly service that is supplied by a government agency specified in Schedule 1 to the IPART Act. WAMC is a government agency specified in Schedule 1 of the IPART Act.

WaterNSW is listed as a government agency in Schedule 1 to the IPART Act, but excluding the services provided by WaterNSW in respect of which fees or charges may be approved or determined in accordance with Parts 6 or 7 of the Water Charge Rules 2010 (Cth), or the applied provisions under Part 3B of the IPART Act.

Section 4(1) of the IPART Act provides that a government monopoly service is a service supplied by a government agency and declared to be a government monopoly service. Section 4(7) of the IPART Act provides that WaterNSW is taken to be the supplier of any government monopoly services for which fees and charges are payable under the Water NSW Act.

The water services order declares certain services provided by the 'State Water Corporation' to be government monopoly services, namely:

1. the making available of water;
2. the making available of the State Water Corporation's water supply facilities; or
3. the supplying of water, whether by means of the State Water Corporation's water supply facilities or otherwise, (together, Monopoly Services). References to the former State Water Corporation in the Water Services Order are to be read as references to WaterNSW, in accordance with clause 24 of Schedule 2 of the Water NSW Act.

Accordingly, under the IPART Act, IPART is to conduct an investigation and make a report to the Minister that determines maximum prices for Monopoly Services supplied by WaterNSW for which fees and charges may not be determined under the WCIR (IPART Act Services).

WaterNSW sets its charges to recover charges at the amount set by IPART. Coastal Valley charges are generally determined by IPART every 3-5 years under the IPART Act and IPART's water pricing framework. WaterNSW updates these charges annually during

this period to reflect changes in the consumer price index and other price changes specified in the IPART Determination (which may include real prices increases and changes in demand forecast)

The current pricing arrangements have been determined by IPART under the 2025 Rural Valley IPART determination released in June 2025. These arrangements apply until 30 June 2026 at which point, they will be reviewed by IPART and expected to be replaced by a new IPART Determination. For further information on the 2025 Rural Valley Price Review, please visit IPART's website.

Under the IPART 2025 Rural Valley determination, IPART has determined the regulated charges set out in Parts 2-5 of the IPART 2025 Rural Valley determination. These regulated charges are the maximum amounts that WaterNSW may charge.

The activity costs associated with the bulk water charges are described in the IPART Final Decision, IPART Draft Decision and accompanying reports. They include: Customer support, Customer Billing, Metering & Compliance, Water delivery and Other Operations, Corrective Maintenance, Routing Maintenance, Asset Management Planning, Insurance, Hydrometric monitoring, Flood Operations, Water Quality Monitoring, Dam Safety Compliance, Environmental Planning & Protection, Dam Safety Compliance Capital Projects pre-1997, Asset Management Planning, Routine Maintenance, Structural and Other Enhancement, Corporate Systems, Office Accommodation Capital Projects, Information Management Projects, Drought Projects, Water Delivery and Other Operations.

The regulated charges set out in Parts 2-3 of the IPART determination apply to rural bulk water services that WaterNSW supplies in the Coastal Valleys. The regulated charges set out in Part 4-5 of the IPART determination apply to metering services and miscellaneous rural bulk water services that WaterNSW supplies in the Coastal Valleys.

Yanco Creek Levy

This levy is passed on directly to customers in the Yanco Creek system. The Yanco Creek levy was approved by IPART as a pass-through levy to recover the cost associated with the Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council.

The Yanco Creek Natural Resources Management Levy was initially approved by IPART in its 2006 review of bulk water charges and has been included in each subsequent pricing reviews—by IPART in 2010, the ACCC in 2014, and again by IPART in 2017, 2021, and now as part of the 2025 IPART price review.

WaterNSW understands that the levy is intended to fund the rehabilitation plan of the Yanco Columbo system to improve flows and provide significant water efficiencies for the system and the Murrumbidgee valley.

Metering service charges

1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026

The metering service charge (MSC) is calculated and invoiced annually in arrears. You will receive a separate WaterNSW invoice for your metering charges as they are calculated based on your work approval while your entitlement/usage charge is based on your water access licence.

Call our Customer Service Centre on [1300 662 077](tel:1300662077), if you have a concern regarding the accuracy of the meter. If you elect to have your meter tested, a deposit of **\$1,750.00** is payable and payment is required prior to testing. If the meter is found to be inaccurate, your deposit will be refunded in full. However, if the meter is found to be within accuracy standards then the total meter accuracy testing charge will be invoiced.

Note, the meter laboratory verification charge at request of customer is **\$10,099.56** and **\$7,329.81** for meter in-situ validation charge – where a meter is relocated or disturbed.

Non-compliant government-owned meter service charges

The below table represents **non-complaint government-owned MSC**. Once a government-owned meter becomes compliant under the reform, the annual government-owned MSC comes into effect based of the compliance date associated with the meter.

Please note: A non-compliant government-owned meter charges remain under the Rural Bulk Water Determination prices – 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026

Meter size	Annual charge per meter	Meter size	Annual charge per meter
50mm	\$574.00	450mm	\$659.51
80mm	\$576.68	500mm	\$677.08
100mm	\$576.67	600mm	\$699.59
150mm	\$583.44	700mm	\$726.33
200mm	\$586.79	750mm	\$763.79
250mm	\$589.90	800mm	\$789.10
300mm	\$597.91	900mm	\$797.12
350mm	\$633.93	1000mm	\$811.93
400mm	\$655.38	Channel	\$7,522.87

Once a government-owned meter becomes compliant under the reform, the annual government-owned meter service charge comes into effect based on the compliance date associated with the meter. Charges will be pro-rated, where applicable, under the Rural Determination prices from 1 July 2025 to 30 September 2025, and will then transition to the WAMC Determination from 1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026.

WAMC* annual government-owned meter service charge – non-urban metering reform

The below table represents the government-owned MSC **once a government-owned meter becomes compliant** under the NSW Government's non-urban metering reform. The list of rollout dates are available at waterNSW.com.au/metering

Type of charge	Annual charge per meter
Operating costs (non channel meter)	\$1,015.56
Operating costs (channel meter)	\$7,522.86

Telemetry and LID download/validation charge

1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026

Disclaimer: Annual telemetry service and LID download/validation charges stated below are for the pro-rated period of 1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026, unless otherwise specified. WAMC pricing for the period of 1 July 2025 to 30 September 2025 telemetry & non-telemetry charges are stated in the above section of this webpage.

The telemetry and non-telemetry service charge applies to both government-owned and privately-owned meters.

Annual telemetry service charge per meter
\$255.22

The LID download/validation charge is a replacement of the non-telemetry charge that previously applied for those customers with complaint works but their metering equipment does not need telemetry. This charge would apply to all users with mandatory telemetry reporting requirements which are unable to transmit data due to telemetry blackspots or equipment issues. The charge is intended to cover costs for site visits to manually download usage data or validate meter information.

LID download/validation charge per meter
\$617.40

NSW Government telemetry rebate

***Please note this rebate will not be applied where a local intelligence device (LID) has not been installed or ordered by 30 June 2024.**

The NSW Government will provide a rebate of **\$975.00 to all privately-owned meters when a working telemetry device is installed**. This will offset the telemetry service charge until the rebate is exhausted.

This rebate will only apply where you have installed or ordered your local intelligence device (LID) prior to 01 July 2024. Your annual telemetry service charge listed above will be automatically credited on your WaterNSW bill each year until you reach the total rebate amount of \$975.00 – just over four years.

- The rebate is not available to water users with a government-owned meter.
- For more information on metering and the telemetry rebate, visit waterNSW.com.au/metering

Notes for metering service charges

Metering charges are calculated annually in arrears.

The MSC will be triggered as follows:

1. New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day means, in respect of a government-owned meter, the later of:
 1. the day the meter becomes compliant with the metering requirements; and
 2. if there is a date specified in clause 230 of the Water Management Regulation from which a temporary exemption from the mandatory metering equipment condition would cease to have effect in respect of the meter, that date.
2. There will be a pro rata between the existing and new MSC as follows:
 1. for a government-owned meter installed in respect of a licence holder, on and from the New Government Meter charge Trigger Day, the charges set out in the current government-owned table will cease to apply and the charges in the annual meter service charges table and the telemetry and non-telemetry service charge table will instead apply; and
 2. for a privately-owned meter installed in respect of a licence holder, on and from the New Private Meter Charge Trigger Day, unless the meter is not subject to the metering requirements, will be charged the telemetry and non-telemetry charges.
3. If customers move from government-owned meter to privately-owned meter, the government meter charges and privately-owned meter charges will be pro rated as follows:
 1. different annual charges apply to government-owned meters and privately-owned meters. Where a licence holder switches from a government-owned meter to a privately-owned meter (or vice versa), the annual charges that will be applicable will be pro-rated based on the proportion of days in the financial year that the licence holder used a:
 1. government-owned meter as against the number of days in the financial year; and
 2. privately-owned meter as against the number of days in the financial year.
4. The telemetry and non-telemetry charges apply as follows:
 1. for a government-owned meter installed in respect of a licence holder, on and from the New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day, the:
 1. meter service charge in the government-owned table will cease to apply in respect of that government-owned meter; and
 2. charges in the annual government-owned table will instead apply in respect of that government-owned meter.
 2. for a privately-owned meter installed in respect of a licence holder, on and from the New Private Meter Charge Trigger Day, unless the meter is not subject to the metering requirements, the:
 1. reading / assessment charge will cease to apply in respect of that privately-owned meter; and
 2. the annual telemetry and non-telemetry charges will instead apply in respect of that privately-owned meter.
5. The trigger for these new charges are as follows:
 1. new Government Meter Charge Trigger Day means, in respect of a government-owned meter, the later of:
 1. the day the meter becomes compliant with the metering requirements; and
 2. if there is a date specified in clause 230 of the Water Management Regulation from which a temporary exemption from the mandatory metering equipment condition would cease to have effect in respect of the meter, that date.
 2. new Private Meter Charge Trigger Day means, in respect of a privately-owned meter, the date specified in clause 230 of the Water Management Regulation from which a temporary exemption from the mandatory metering equipment condition would cease to have effect in respect of the meter.

Irrigation corporation district rebates

1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026

Irrigation corporation	Total annual rebate
Coleambally Irrigation	\$290,875
Eagle Creek Scheme	\$7,351
Jemalong Irrigation	\$59,371
Moirra Irrigation Scheme	\$20,536
Murray Irrigation	\$778,175
Murrumbidgee Irrigation	\$678,714
West Corugan	\$38,914
Western Murray	\$19,659

The rebates are paid annually to irrigation corporation districts (ICDs) in the form of rebates as set by IPART, with the value of the rebates collected from other users in accordance with the IPART determination.

Application fees for water access licences, dealings and approvals

1 October 2025 to 30 June 2026

Type of application	Fee
New and surrender water access licences	
Zero share	\$887.05
Controlled allocation	\$863.43
Specific purpose – no groundwater assessment required	\$898.82
Specific purpose – groundwater assessment required	\$4,391.41
Surrender water access licence – non-complex - Zero share - SPAL's S&D	\$382.00
Surrender water access licence – complex - WAL attached to a dam - WAL for dewatering	\$522.34
Water access licence dealings	
All dealing applications for regulated river – 71Q, 71P, 71O, 71R, 71S, 71W, s74	\$922.57

Type of application	Fee
Low risk fees apply to these transactions only: 71Q Assign share components between water access licences where the receiving water access licence has no nominated works 71Q Assign share components between water access licences where the receiving water access licence nominates ground water works with a bore extraction limit 71W Remove a nominated work on a water access licence ONLY 71P(a) Subdivide a water access licence ONLY with no change in the nominated work or removing of work only 71P(b) Consolidate water access licences ONLY with no change in the nominated works or removal of work	\$1,335.72
High risk fees apply to these applications unless they are listed as low risk with Groundwater assessment: - Subdivide (s71P (a)) a water access licence where there is a change to the nominated work - Consolidate (s71p(b)) water access licences where there is a change in nominated works 71W to nominate any works including miscellaneous works 71W to nominate an interstate work on a NSW licence 71Q permanently assign share to another licence (permanent trade of water) 71O conversion of licence to new category 71R amendment of a licence for a share component to a new water source or management area 71S amendment of an extraction component around times, rates, circumstance etc of a licence	\$6,440.27
Water allocation assignments Please note: application fee(s) for water trade will NOT be refunded if an allocation assignment application is unsuccessful, withdrawn or incomplete.	\$64.12
Approvals	
Combined approvals – high risk: Combined approvals (works & use)	\$6,582.46
New or amended work and/or use approvals - Use approval only - Water supply work approval only – pumps, channels, dams, storages, floodplain harvesting (FPH) amendments - Increase pump/work size, add additional work Note – does not include combined approval	\$5,489.44
Combined approvals – low risk Application has current GTA's for Works only provided through IDAS process	\$3,579.12
New or amended approvals – low risk: Application has current GTA's for Works only provided through IDAS process	\$2,981.38

Type of application	Fee
Administrative amendment – No groundwater assessment required - Remove land (lot/DP) or work(s) - Consolidate approvals no change to the existing works or use area - Subdivide an approval no change to the existing works or use area - Reduce pump size	\$652.75
Specialised assessment fee Additional assessment required by a consultant; these could be for noise assessment, water quality, ecohydrologist assessment, flood study for works on a floodplain	\$1,559.63
Change of application fee (after assessment commenced) Changes to the application or adds locations/works after assessment has commenced	\$1,024.41
Surrender approval – non complex - Pumps - Use approval - Non constructed works – bores/flood work/dams	\$123.17
Surrender approval – complex - Combined approvals - Constructed dams/flood works/floodplain harvesting/bores	\$273.44
Extension pre-expiry fee	\$627.85
Extension post expiry fee – less than 60 days from expiry date	\$627.85
Extension post expiry fee – more than 60 days from expiry date	\$1,160.39

Extension fees are charged to recover WaterNSW costs. The difference in the fee for applications to extend an approval after the expiry date is to cover the additional administrative and assessment costs as WaterNSW may need to reassess the application to ensure that it meets the relevant legislation. The late application fee has been reviewed and determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART). Under the *Water Management Act 2000*, approval holders are responsible for ensuring their approvals are valid and up to date. The approval holder is responsible for applying to extend the approval prior to its expiry.

Notes for application fees

These fees are determined by IPART.

* This fee is currently waived due to recent amendments to the non-urban metering regulation.

WaterNSW collects the groundwater assessment fee on behalf of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW DCCEEW). NSW DCCEEW hydrogeologists are responsible for undertaking the groundwater assessment, when required.

WaterNSW charges fees to cover the assessment and processing costs of applications for access licences, water supply work approvals, water use approvals and access licence dealings lodged under the *Water Management Act 2000* (Water Management Act). These fees will increase annually, based on changes in the consumer price index. Fees are exempt from GST.

A 'new' work approval means any work proposed which is not currently listed on a water approval or is replacing an existing work which is listed on a water approval.

Consent transactions in relation to Monopoly Services provided by WAMC.

Consent transactions in relation to drillers licences, floodwork approvals, and solicitor enquiries and special meter reads are not disclosed, as they have not been regulated by IPART and are deemed to be unregulated services.

Impact and rules-based assessments:

Applications generally require a detailed impact assessment. This includes case by case investigation to consider potential local impacts and determine whether those impacts require refusal or consent, or consent subject to conditions.

Depending on the type of transaction, impact assessment can include identifying and addressing impacts on adjoining pumps or bores, Aboriginal heritage sites, native vegetation, threatened species, wetlands, land degradation, salinity, soil compaction, geomorphic instability, hydrology, water logging, acidity, contamination and water quality, in addition to consideration and resolution of any lodged objections. In some cases where significant risks are identified, WaterNSW may require the applicant to commission third-party experts to determine the extent of those risks and how they might be mitigated.

Applications determined by IPART which are identified as 'low risk' are processed with a rules-based assessment which does not require the above detailed impact assessment.

Lower fees are charged for transactions which are identified as 'low risk'.

WAMC charges are determined by IPART under the IPART Act and the WAMC determination.

The reasons are:

1. Section 11 of the IPART Act gives IPART a standing reference to conduct investigations and make reports to the Minister administering the IPART Act on the determination of the pricing for a government monopoly service supplied by a government agency specified in Schedule 1 of the IPART Act.
2. The Water Administration Ministerial Corporation (Corporation) is listed in Schedule 1 of the IPART Act.
3. The services which are declared as government monopoly services under clause 3 of the *Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (Water Services) Order 2004* are services supplied by the Corporation which involve:
 1. the making available of water;
 2. the making available of the Corporation's water supply facilities; or
 3. the supplying of water, whether by means of the Corporation's water supply facilities or otherwise, (together, the Monopoly Services).
4. Under section 4(6) of the IPART Act, the Corporation is taken to be the supplier of the services for which fees and charges are payable under Chapter 3 of the Water Management Act.
5. In practice, charges for such water resource management activities are made as charges under licences, permits, approvals or authorities granted by:
 1. the Minister under Chapter 3 of the Water Management Act (in areas of NSW in which proclamations under sections 55A and 88A of the Water Management Act are in force); and
 2. the Corporation under the Water Act (in other areas of NSW).
6. Accordingly, in determining maximum prices for the Monopoly Services, IPART has determined maximum prices payable for these services under various licences, permits, approvals or authorities granted under the Water Management Act and the Water Act.

Regulated water sharing plans

The table below defines the water sharing plans relevant to each valley or river.

Valley/River	Water Sharing Plans
Border	NSW Border Rivers Regulated River Water Source 2021
Gwydir	Gwydir Regulated River Water Source 2016
Hunter and Paterson	Hunter Regulated River Water Source 2016 Paterson Regulated River Water Source 2019
Lachlan and Belubula	Lachlan Regulated River Water Source 2016 Belubula Regulated River Water Source 2012
Macquarie	Macquarie And Cudgegong Regulated Rivers Water Source 2016
Murray and Lower Darling	New South Wales Murray And Lower Darling Regulated Rivers Water Sources 2016
Murrumbidgee (incl Lowbidgee)	Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source 2016
Namoi	Upper Namoi And Lower Namoi Regulated River Water Sources 2016
North Coast	Richmond River Area Unregulated, Regulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2023
Peel	Peel Regulated River Water Source 2022
South Coast	Bega River Area Regulated, Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2024



Water sharing plans are determined by the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW DCCEEW) and are subject to change. The plans listed are current at the time of publication.

Special licence categories

WAMC charges only

Licence category	Tariff category
Supplementary water (regulated river)	Water take charge only
Supplementary water environmental access (regulated river)	Water take charge only
Supplementary water (Lowbidgee)(regulated river)	Water take charge only
Major utility (Grahamstown)(unregulated river)	Minimum charge only
Major utility (Barnard)(regulated river)	Minimum charge only
Supplementary Aboriginal environmental water access (unregulated river)	Water take charge only
Unregulated river (regulated supply)	Minimum charge only
Unregulated river (regulated supply – local water utility)	Minimum charge only
Unregulated river (special additional high flow)	Water take charge only
Salinity and water table management (groundwater)	Minimum charge only
Floodplain harvesting (regulated river)	Refer to floodplain harvesting pricing
Floodplain harvesting (unregulated river)	Refer to floodplain harvesting pricing

IPART has made the decision to maintain the above special licence categories and tariff structures for WAMC charges. Only the usage charge is levied on supplementary licence holders (with exception of Lowbidgee supplementary licences where WaterNSW levy a fixed charge under the Rural Valley Determination). MDBA/BRC usage charges are applied additionally & irrespective of whether the minimum annual charges applies.



Are your details up to date?

To notify you of any changes that may impact your water availability and water quality, we need your up-to-date contact details.

It's easy to update them online at waterNSW.com.au/managedetails

Find out more:

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Disclaimer

The information contained in this booklet is based on WaterNSW knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (October 2025) and should not be considered to be error free or to include all relevant information.

The prices in this booklet are for the Rural Bulk water services for the 2025–26 financial year as determined by the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART). The Water Administration Ministerial Corporation (WAMC) services prices stated in these booklet are effective from 1 October 2025.

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