

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 delayed the introduction of the new Water Administration Ministerial Corporation (WAMC) prices until 1 October 2025, which means the existing 2024-25 prices will continue to apply from 1 July 2025 through to 30 September 2025. WAMC and meter charges are subject to change when the 2025 WAMC Determination is released and takes effect from 1 October 2025. This booklet therefore contains the rural bulk water 2025-26 pricing, effective 1 July 2025 and the WAMC pricing effective until 30 September 2025.

Rural bulk water prices (Regulated)

1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026

All rural bulk water charges apply from this date until otherwise specified. Entitlement charges are billed per share and usage charges are billed per megalitre extracted.

***Please note:** IPART has delayed the introduction of the new WAMC prices until 1 October 2025, which means the existing 2024-25 prices will continue to apply from 1 July 2025 through to 30 September 2025. These charges are set under the 2021 Determination and will be subject to increase when the 2025 WAMC Determination is released.

Valley/River	Details	High security	General security	Usage
Border	WaterNSW charges	\$8.31	\$3.04	\$8.87
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$2.21	\$2.21	\$1.77
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.63	\$0.63	\$0.30
	WAMC Border Rivers Commission charges ^{4*}	\$1.51	\$1.51	\$0.72
	Rural Border Rivers Commission charges ⁴	\$5.84	\$2.13	\$1.04
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$18.50	\$9.52	\$12.70
Gwydir	WaterNSW charges	\$21.96	\$5.10	\$21.70
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.55
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.84	\$0.84	\$0.51
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$24.30	\$7.44	\$23.76
Hunter and Paterson	WaterNSW charges	\$25.16	\$19.55	\$24.15
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$4.07	\$4.07	\$2.77
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$29.23	\$23.62	\$26.92
Lachlan and Belubula	WaterNSW charges	\$31.67	\$4.68	\$39.33
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.39	\$1.39	\$2.21
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.38	\$0.38	\$0.36
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$33.44	\$6.45	\$41.90

Valley/River	Details	High security	General security	Usage
Lowbidgee ~levied on supplementary licences	WaterNSW charges	NA	\$2.17	NA
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	NA	NA	\$0.89
	Rural Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges	NA	NA	NA
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	NA	NA	\$0.33
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	NA	\$2.17	\$1.22
Macquarie	WaterNSW charges	\$25.47	\$4.97	\$27.31
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.69	\$1.69	\$2.04
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.52	\$0.52	\$0.37
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$27.68	\$7.18	\$29.72
Murray and Lower Darling	WaterNSW charges	\$2.85	\$1.25	\$3.69
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.40	\$1.40	\$1.01
	Rural Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges	\$10.37	\$4.56	\$2.22
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.73	\$0.73	\$0.31
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$15.35	\$7.94	\$7.23
Murrumbidgee (excluding Yanco and Colombo Creek users)	WaterNSW charges	\$5.26	\$1.81	\$6.27
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.20	\$1.20	\$0.89
	Rural Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges	\$2.23	\$0.77	\$0.44
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.76	\$0.76	\$0.33
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$9.45	\$4.54	\$7.93
Murrumbidgee (Yanco and Colombo Creek users only)	WaterNSW charges	\$5.26	\$1.81	\$6.27
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.20	\$1.20	\$0.89
	Rural Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges	\$2.23	\$0.77	\$0.44
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.76	\$0.76	\$0.33
	Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council (YACTAC) charges ²	\$0.92	\$0.92	NA
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$10.37	\$5.46	\$7.93

Valley/River	Details	High security	General security	Usage
Namoi	WaterNSW charges	\$36.51	\$12.75	\$38.98
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$2.24	\$2.24	\$1.79
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.96	\$0.96	\$0.45
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$39.71	\$15.95	\$41.22
North Coast	WaterNSW charges	\$15.30	\$11.86	\$22.64
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$5.77	\$5.77	\$7.34
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$21.07	\$17.63	\$29.98
Peel	WaterNSW charges	\$77.43	\$7.34	\$30.93
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$3.66	\$3.66	\$5.71
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.29	\$0.29	\$0.27
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$81.38	\$11.29	\$36.91
South Coast	WaterNSW charges	\$40.04	\$20.99	\$22.43
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$4.50	\$4.50	\$6.76
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$44.54	\$25.49	\$29.19

Charges where a floodplain harvesting regulation has been made in respect of the relevant water source¹

If the floodplain harvesting regulation is operational as of 30 June 2025, the below charges will take effect and replace the above charges between 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

Floodplain harvesting licences will be billed usage charges only, entitlement charges are not applicable. Floodplain harvesting 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.

Valley/River	Details	High security	General security	Usage
Border	WaterNSW charges	\$8.31	\$3.04	\$8.87
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$2.21	\$2.21	\$1.39
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.63	\$0.63	\$0.23
	WAMC Border Rivers Commission charges ^{4*}	\$1.51	\$1.51	\$0.57
	Rural Border Rivers Commission charges ⁴	\$5.84	\$2.13	\$1.04
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$18.50	\$9.52	\$12.10
Gwydir	WaterNSW charges	\$21.96	\$5.10	\$21.70
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.10
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.84	\$0.84	\$0.36
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$24.30	\$7.44	\$23.16
Macquarie	WaterNSW charges	\$25.47	\$4.97	\$27.31
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$1.69	\$1.69	\$1.76
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.52	\$0.52	\$0.33
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$27.68	\$7.18	\$29.40
Namoi	WaterNSW charges	\$36.51	\$12.75	\$38.98
	WAMC charges collected by WaterNSW*	\$2.24	\$2.24	\$1.36
	WAMC Murray-Darling Basin Authority charges ^{3*}	\$0.96	\$0.96	\$0.35
	Total charges collected by WaterNSW	\$39.71	\$15.95	\$40.69

The estimated proportion of voluntary telemetry uptake submitted to IPART for FY26 is 0% - 25% (for regulated water only), therefore the following charge applies.

Annual scheme management charge ⁶	
Proportion of voluntary telemetry uptake	Charge
0% - 25%	\$85.35
Minimum annual charge ⁵	
\$277.89	

Notes for regulated river charges

- All prices are \$ per megalitre of entitlements and megalitre of usage for the fixed and variable charges.
 - **Charges collected on behalf of WAMC.**
 - These prices are determined by IPART for WAMC costs.
 - 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](#).
 - Despite anything on this website, the maximum price for Monopoly Services under the WAMC and WaterNSW Rural Valley Bulk Water Determination in respect of an Aboriginal Cultural Licence is zero.
 - WAMC charges are determined by IPART under the *Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992* (IPART Act) and the WAMC determination.
 - **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. IPART have set specific fixed and variable charges in relevant river valleys and groundwater sources that are triggered when the **floodplain harvesting regulation** is operational. In the event these charges are triggered, they will replace the existing fixed and variable charges.
 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 **Annual 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 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) where the licence holder has a meter: the sum of the following (2-part tariff):
 - (A) an entitlement charge calculated in accordance with the WAMC determination; and
 - (B) the usage charge calculated in accordance with the WAMC determination;
 - (3) where the Licence Holder does not have a Meter: the entitlement charge (1 Part tariff) calculated in accordance with the WAMC determination; and
 - (4) where the Licence Holder does not have a Meter and does not have a mechanism for extracting water: the entitlement charge calculated in accordance with clause 3, as though the Licence Holder had a Meter; and
- (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 fee for service charges (consent transaction charges, water take assessment charge, old meter service charge and the new metering charge (new meter service charge, scheme management charge, telemetry non/telemetry charge, and exit fee, and ancillary charges) are levied in addition to the fixed and variable charges (and the MAC) contained in this letter 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 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 an MDBA customer, the applicable MDBA usage charge for the relevant water source and relevant year; and

(c) for a BRC customer, the applicable 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 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:

- 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 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 July 2025 to 30 June 2026

Please note: The meter charges and associated notes listed below are subject to change from 1 October 2025, due to the delay in the WAMC pricing determination.

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.

Current government-owned meter service charges

The below table represents **current 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.

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

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 water.nsw.gov.au/metering

Type of charge	Annual charge per meter
Operating costs (non channel meter)	\$1,047.16
Operating costs (channel meter)	\$7,346.54
Capital costs	\$0.00
Exit fee	\$0.00

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:
 - a. the day the meter becomes compliant with the metering requirements; and
 - b. 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:
 - a. 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
 - b. 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:
 - a. 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:
 - i. government-owned meter as against the number of days in the financial year; and
 - ii. privately-owned meter as against the number of days in the financial year.
4. The telemetry and non-telemetry charges apply based on overall voluntary telemetry uptake to both privately-owned meters and government-owned meters (the telemetry service charge will apply to government-owned meters, if all government-owned meters are telemetry). The telemetry/non-telemetry charges apply as follows:
 - a. for a government-owned meter installed in respect of a licence holder, on and from the New Government Meter Charge Trigger Day, the:
 - i. meter service charge in the government-owned table will cease to apply in respect of that government-owned meter; and
 - ii. charges in the annual government-owned table will instead apply in respect of that government-owned meter.
 - b. 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:
 - i. reading / assessment charge will cease to apply in respect of that privately-owned meter; and 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:
 - a. new Government Meter Charge Trigger Day means, in respect of a government-owned meter, the later of:
 - i. the day the meter becomes compliant with the metering requirements; and
 - ii. 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.
 - b. 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.

Telemetry and non-telemetry service charge

1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026

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

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.

The estimated proportion of voluntary telemetry uptake submitted to IPART for FY26 is 0% - 25% (for regulated water only), therefore the following charge applies.

Proportion of voluntary telemetry uptake	Annual telemetry service charge per meter	Annual non-telemetry service charge per meter
0% - 25%	\$263.86	\$263.86



Did you know?

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. **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 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

Application fees for water access licences, dealings and approvals

1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026

Please note: The following charges and associated (exc. water allocation assignments – regulated water trade) notes listed below are subject to change from 1 October 2025, due to the delay in the WAMC pricing determination.

Type of application	Fee
New water access licences	
Zero share	\$834.57
Controlled allocation	\$811.95
Specific purpose – no groundwater assessment required	\$846.83
Water access licence dealings	
Dealings – regulated rivers	\$833.28
Water allocation assignments	\$59.56
Approvals	
New or amended works and/or use approvals (All unless specified below as low risk, basic landholder rights or administrative) – groundwater assessments not required	\$5,240.96
New or amended works and/or use approvals low risk – groundwater assessments not required	\$2,839.71
Amended approval administrative – groundwater assessments not required This applies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a replacement bore consistent with water sharing plan rules (no hydro assessment) Remove lands/works Consolidate approvals ONLY where there is no change to the existing works Subdivide an approval Make a work/s inactive or withdraw inactive status 	\$624.95
Extension of approval – lodged before expiry date	\$601.11
Extension of approval – lodged after expiry date	\$1,110.97

Notes for application fees

- These fees are determined by IPART.
- 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:
 - a. the making available of water;
 - b. the making available of the Corporation's water supply facilities; or
 - c. 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:
 - a. 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
 - b. 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

Licence category	Tariff category
Floodplain harvesting (regulated river)	Water take charge only
Major utility (Barnard)(regulated river)	Minimum charge only
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
Floodplain harvesting (unregulated river)	Water take charge only
Major utility (Grahamstown)	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

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 [watersnsw.com.au/managedetails](https://www.watersnsw.com.au/managedetails)

Find out more:

waternsw.com.au/pricing

ipart.nsw.gov.au

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Disclaimer

The information contained in this booklet is based on WaterNSW knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (June 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 relevant until 30 September 2025.

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