WSPP

Water Service Providers' Partnership

Canungra Drought Response Plan

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UrbanUtilities

seqwater

WATER FOR LIFE

Contents

Introduction

Urban Utilities and Seqwater work together to supply reliable, affordable and sustainable drinking water to consumers in South East Queensland (SEQ), both now and in the future.

Seqwater owns and operates the region's bulk water supply system including dams and weirs; water treatment plants; and climate resilient water sources. The interconnected SEQ Water Grid forms the majority of the bulk water supply system and enables us to move drinking water to where it is needed. While most South East Queenslanders are serviced by the Water Grid, we also supply drinking water to about 55,000 people living in off-grid communities – rural towns and island communities that are not connected to the Grid, but form part of the bulk water supply system.

Each of these off-grid communities have their own local water source and management of this water is supported by a Drought Response Plan, which outlines how water will be managed when local supply becomes limited, to ensure levels of service are met.

This Drought Response plan outlines drought response measures that will be put in place to respond to drought.

Urban Utilities is the "Water Retailer" for Canungra, taking water from the bulk water supply system and delivering it to households and businesses in Canungra as well as the rest of the Scenic Rim, Brisbane, Ipswich, Lockyer Valley and Somerset local authority areas.

About Canungra

Canungra is located in the Gold Coast hinterland within the Scenic Rim Regional Council (SRRC) local government area. The primary water source for the town is Canungra Creek (refer Figure 1).

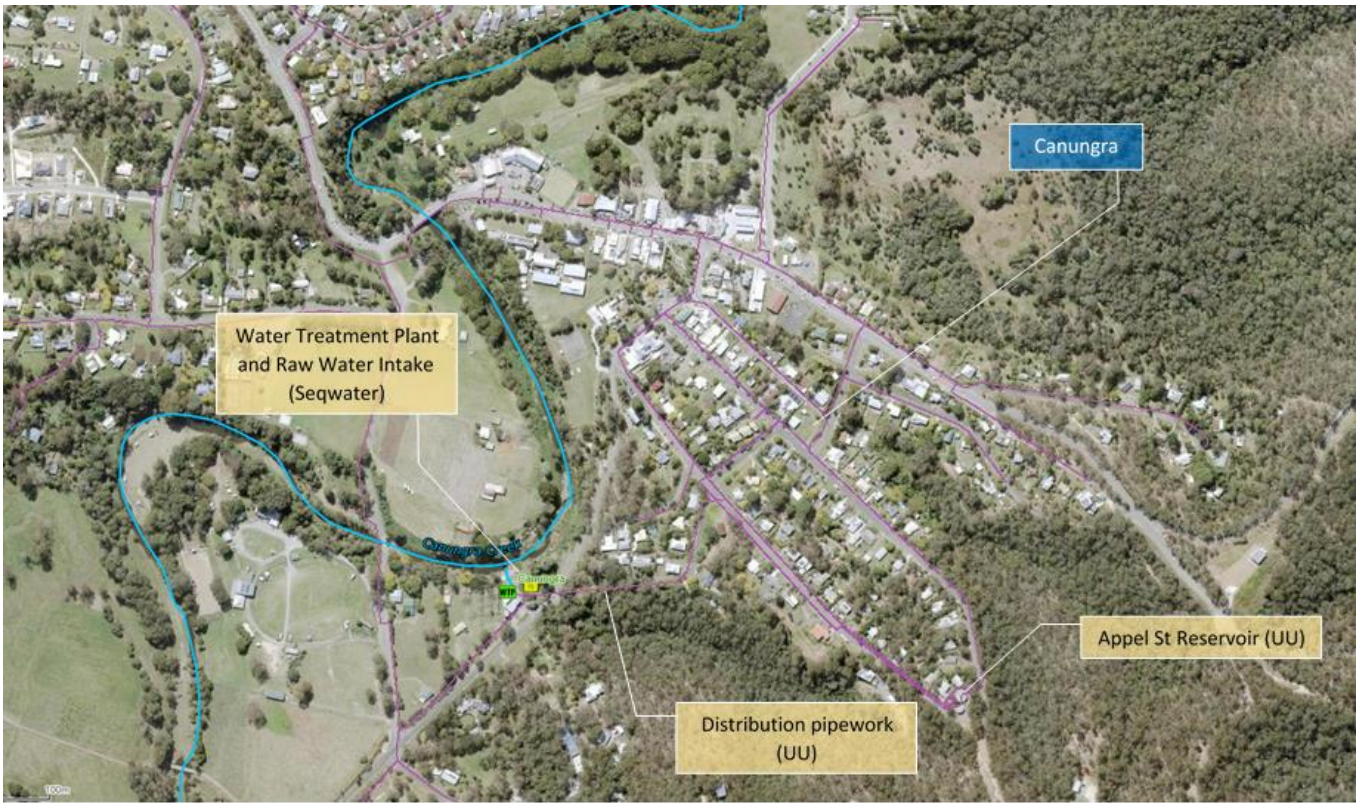

Figure 1 Canungra Water Supply Overview

Source: Seqwater Spatial

Canungra Creek is used to provide water to the Canungra township as well as local irrigators.

Canungra Creek is part of the Logan Water Basin. The Logan Basin Water Resource Plan is administered by the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (DRDMW), which is responsible for managing water resources across Queensland, including providing sustainable water allocation for the environment, agriculture, industries and population centers. DRDMW manages the water access entitlements from Canungra Creek and Seqwater holds a licence to take 150 ML/annum for the town water supply, as issued by DRDMW. Seqwater cannot divert more than this allocated volume in any year. All other entitlements (including irrigators) that fall under the Water Resource Plan are not included in this Drought Response Plan. DRDMW is responsible for imposing restrictions on these users during drought.

Seqwater treats water from its entitlement using a local Water Treatment Plant, to supply drinking water to the township of Canungra, including a local Tanker Filling Station. The Treatment Plant was upgraded in 2017 to a capacity of 1.5 ML/day and caters to current and future demand within the planning horizon. The Canungra township water supply is considered a run-of-river system, and although there is a pool which facilitates pumping to the water treatment plant, there is currently no storage for source water upstream of the treatment plant. As such, the full Treatment Plant capacity can only be realised when there is sufficient water available in Canungra Creek.

When there is insufficient water in the Creek for the Treatment Plant to run at the required flow rate, or at all, there is facility available at the Treatment Plant for treated water to be tankered in. The volume of water that tankers can supply to the town is based on potable water demand and the availability and capability of required assets, and can also be limited by potential impact to local traffic and the community.

Urban Utilities is responsible for delivering the treated water to the homes and businesses in Canungra. Urban Utilities also own a Tanker Filling Station that it is generally available for customer use. The Tanker Filling Station is located at the entrance to the Water Treatment Plant and the water purchased from it is included in the volume provided by the Treatment Plant and/or carted to the Plant during drought, and as such may be limited at times (this is described further in the Drought Response Plan).

Drought Response Plan: Canungra

Water supplies in drought will be managed through a combination of demand management and supplementing supplies with water carting. Specific triggers have been identified for drought response actions (Figure 2 and Table 1) to provide clarity for planning. The actions listed are not intended to be limiting – additional actions may be required for drought response. Seqwater will monitor the stream levels and advise Urban Utilities when each trigger is reached.

Demand Management

This Drought Response Plan outlines measures necessary to sustain water supplies to the local community in times of drought, due to a shortage in their local water supply availability.

From this perspective, it is not necessary for the local community to be subject to restrictions that apply to regional drought triggers, however, Urban Utilities will put water restrictions in place if Seqwater has to cart water into Canungra to maintain the supply.

Urban Utilities' Tanker Filling Station is currently located very close to the Canungra Water Treatment Plant and the fill point where tankers come to deliver water as a contingency supply. Generally, the Tanker Filling Station is available to provide treated water for local off-network households and commercial carters.

Due to the proximity issues, it is not feasible for commercial carters to access the Tanker Filling Station while Seqwater is carting to main supply. As such, from Drought Trigger level 3, commercial water carting companies will be required to source their water from elsewhere (such as Beaudesert or the SEQ water grid).

This is a transitional measure until the proximity conflict is resolved. Measures may also be implemented to limit the take from the Tanker Filling Station. However, the Canungra Tanker Filling Station will remain open for direct use by local off-network households.

Contingency Supply

Seqwater commits to tankering up to 420 kL/d when water is no longer available from Canungra Creek, and Urban Utilities commits to managing local demand within this volume.

The water carters engaged by Seqwater during times of drought source water from Beaudesert or the SEQ water grid and will follow a traffic management plan designed to limit the impact to traffic through the town of Canungra.

Future Drought Response Plans for Canungra

The Drought Response Plan has been developed based on currently available infrastructure. The Drought Response Plan will be updated every 5 years or if there are changes to the local infrastructure.

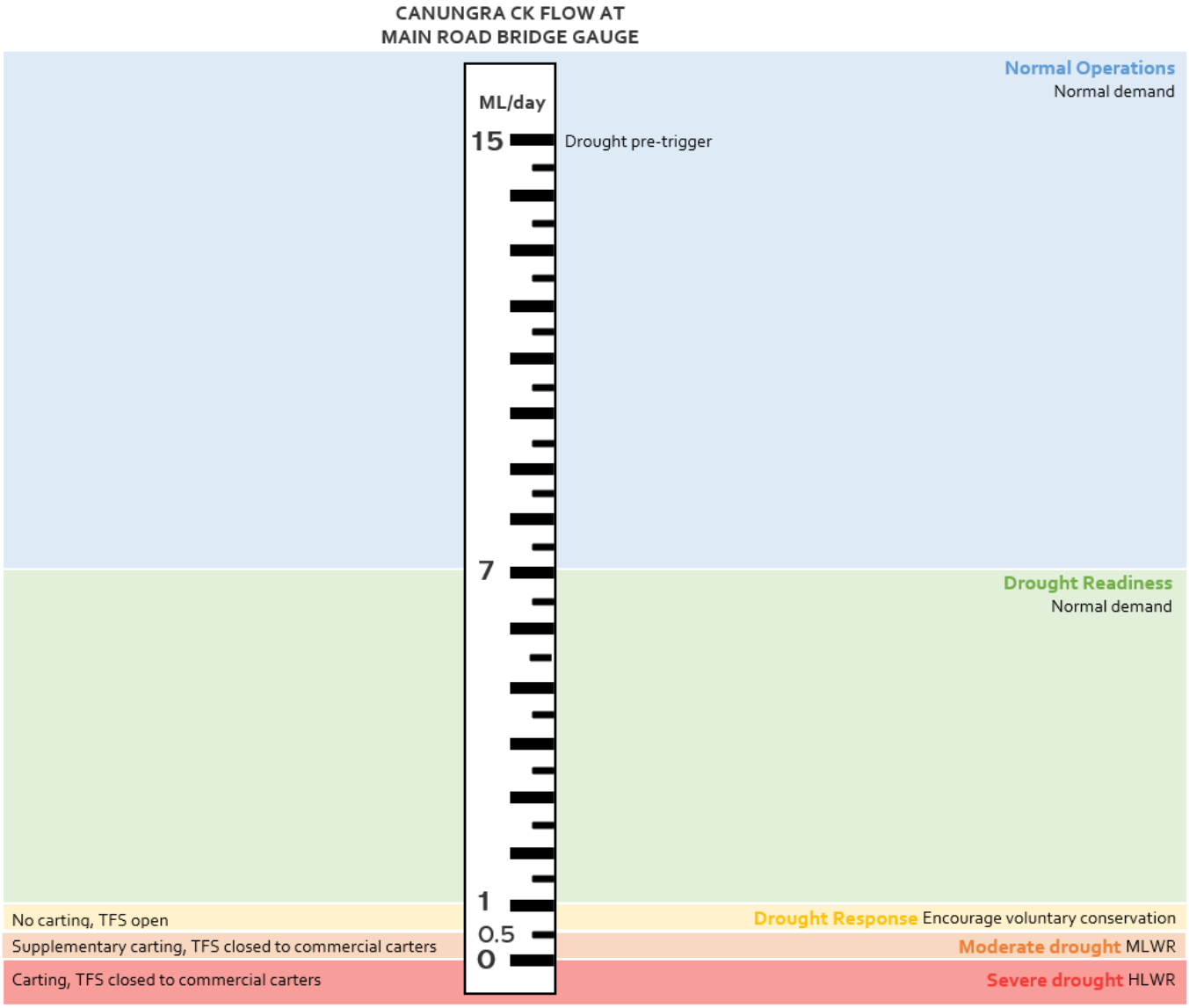

Figure 2 Canungra Drought Response Overview

TFS = Tanker Filling Station, MLWR = Medium Level Water Restrictions, HLWR = High Level Water Restrictions

Table 1 Canungra Summary Drought Response Plan

Level	Trigger (local supply level) *	Residential demand management	Water carting volume	Tanker Filling Station (TFS) / hydrant standpipe access	Monitoring local supply availability	Note
Responsibility	**Set by Seqwater**	**Urban Utilities**	**Seqwater**	**Urban Utilities**	**Seqwater**	
Normal operations	Above 15 ML/d at Main Bridge gauging station #145107A	Normal demand			Monthly	
Drought pre-trigger	15 ML/day	Normal demand			Weekly	
1 – Drought readiness	7 ML/day	Normal demand			Weekly	
2 – Drought response	1 ML/day	Communications encouraging voluntary conservation	Confirm carting source. Potential viable locations are from Beaudesert or the water grid.		Weekly	
3 – Moderate drought	0.5 ML/day	Medium Level Water Restrictions Encourage 140 L/p/d	Supplementary carting	• Will remain open for direct use by local off-network households for domestic purposes • Commercial water carters will be required to source water from elsewhere, such as Beaudesert	Daily	TFS restrictions are imposed until the system is upgraded (transitional measure)
4 – Severe drought	0 ML/day	High Level Water Restrictions Encourage 120 L/p/d	Carting up to 420 kL/d	As above	Daily	A plan will be put in place to ensure access to the water treatment plant and the tanker filing station will be appropriately managed at peak times

** Underlying flow, that is, eliminating short-term rainfall.*
Note: Drought exit will be staged as water supply achieves the level of each preceding drought trigger level, with removal of actions at each level as appropriate.