

Department of Water  
Government of Western Australia

## Plans for 2008 and beyond

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Department of Water

State Water Forum  
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## Role of the Department of Water

- to manage the State's water resources; and
- to ensure that Western Australians have access to water services

This is in the context of the States Water Reform Agenda

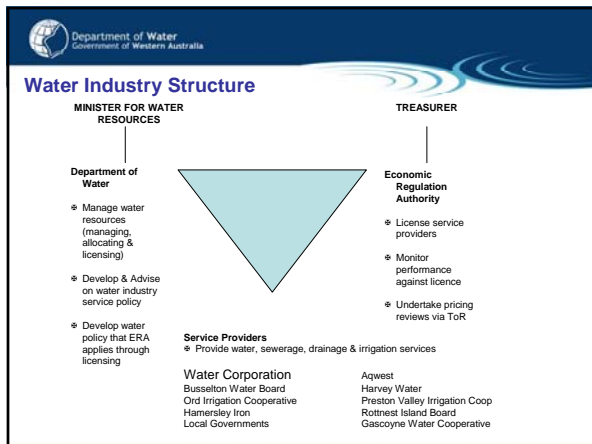
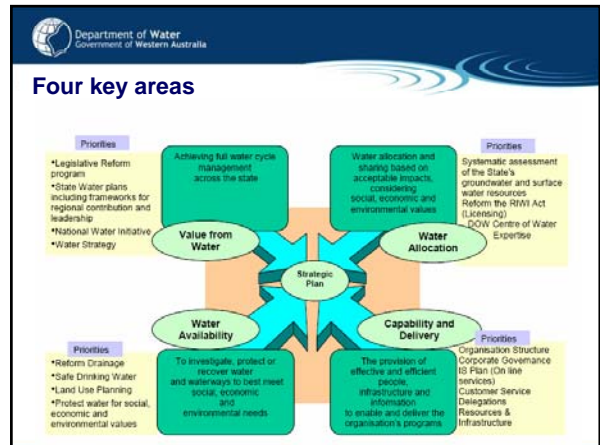
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## Mission

- ensure the best use of Western Australia's water resources

## Position

- looking after all our water needs



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## Achievements to date

- The launch of a 15-year, \$28 million dollar Statewide groundwater investigation program to increase our knowledge of the resource quality and quantity
- Installation of more than 560 meters on bores on the Gnangara Mound to help us better manager Perth's major groundwater source
- A new administration fee structure for water licences

### Achievements to date (continued)

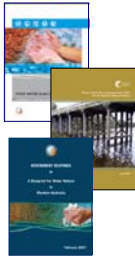
- A water planning framework for strategic and detailed water planning
- We also developed a Regional Water Plan for the South West
- Progressed the Gnangara Sustainability Strategy
- Continued to implement the Rural Water Plan and its programs in dryland areas of the State
- Progressed the development of the South West Ground Water Areas Management Plan

### Future Direction

#### Guided by:

- State Water Plan
- NWI Implementation Plan
- Government response to the Blueprint for Water Reform

### Guiding our Water Future



#### State Water Plan 2007 – Objectives 2007 to 2011

- Use and recycle water wisely
- Plan and manage water resources sustainably
- Invest in science, innovation and education
- Protect ecosystems, water quality and resources
- Enhance the security of water for the environment and use
- Develop water resources for a vibrant economy
- Deliver services for strong and healthy communities

### Benefits of Water Reform – for the Community

- Better information about amount of water available and how it is used
- Improved water planning and greater opportunity for the community to participate
- Better management of water resources to meet conflicting demands
- Improved water allocation and use
- Ensuring environment protected
- More efficient use of water

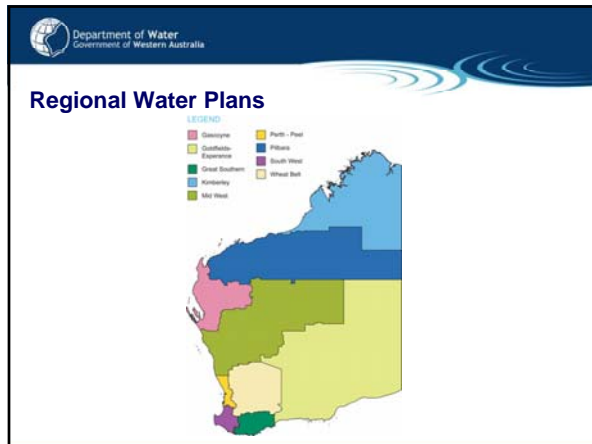
### Benefits of Water Reform – licensed water users

- Local statutory water management plans developed with local input
- More opportunities to trade water
- Greater security of access to water through different water entitlements (eg extending water licences up to 40 years)
- New water access entitlements, issued in perpetuity
- Better information about the amount of water used (metering)

### Planning Framework

#### Western Australian Water Planning Framework





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- ## Water Efficiency
- Progress the State Water Recycling Strategy
  - Continue work with industry to improve water efficiency
  - Continue to support Waterwise rebate scheme
- Examples:**
- Development of strategy to enhance water recycling
  - Managed Aquifer Recharge trial at Beenyup
  - State-wide metering

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- ## Cost recovery
- Introduction of water resource management charges are requirement of NWI
  - Water licensing administration fees from 29 December 2007
  - Money collected used solely for administration of water licences
  - Fees set by Government (to be reviewed by Economic Regulation Authority in two years)



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## Questions and comments