

## Where does Coral Bay's drinking water come from?

Coral Bay's drinking water comes from a deep artesian bore located about 1.5 km south of the town. The bore draws groundwater from a confined aquifer. As there is a confining layer of impermeable rock present between the water source and the land uses above it, there is a low risk of this source becoming contaminated. The Coral Bay Water Reserve boundary comprises a small area surrounding the bore (the Water Corporation compound) to protect it from direct contamination threats.

## Where is the Coral Bay Water Reserve?



Coral Bay power station (left) and water treatment plant (right)

## The plan to protect Coral Bay's drinking water

The Department of Water has developed a drinking water source protection plan to protect the quality of water in the Coral Bay Water Reserve and to help ensure a reliable, safe, good quality drinking water supply. The *Coral Bay Water Reserve drinking water source protection plan* discusses water quality risks and recommends management strategies to address them. It also identifies priority areas, which help guide decisions on what land uses and activities should occur in the water reserve to protect water quality.

## What are the risks to Coral Bay's drinking water quality?

The main land uses in the Coral Bay Water Reserve are water supply and treatment. Some of the water quality risks associated with these activities are:

- hydrocarbons via spills and leaks of fuel
- spills and leaks of other chemicals.



## How can we manage these water quality risks?

Recommended actions to help protect Coral Bay's water supply are to:

- proclaim the *Coral Bay Water Reserve* under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947 (WA)*
- incorporate the Coral Bay Water Reserve boundary into the Shire of Carnarvon's local planning scheme
- adopt best management practices in the water reserve
- put signs in place to make people aware of the water reserve boundary and why it is important to protect the water reserve.

## What am I allowed to do in the catchment area?

All existing, approved land uses and activities are able to continue. We encourage land owners and operators to adopt best management practices to protect the quality of this important drinking water source.

We have a range of publications that provide advice on best management practices. See [Want to know more?](#) on the back of this brochure.

New developments, or expansion of existing land uses or activities will need to consider the priority areas and the recommendations in the *Coral Bay Water Reserve drinking water source protection plan* and our *Water quality protection note no. 25: Land use compatibility in public drinking water source areas*.



## Working together to protect drinking water

Drinking water source protection plans are developed by the Department of Water in consultation with local communities, state and local government agencies, water service providers (such as the Water Corporation) and other interested stakeholders.

The support we receive from stakeholders through the development and also implementation of these plans greatly assists in ensuring the availability of reliable, safe, good quality drinking water now and in the future. Ultimately, the quality of water provided to consumers depends on everyone working together to keep the water reserve clean.

There are over 150 drinking water sources in WA. We have completed around 100 drinking water source protection plans for these sources, so far.

## Want to know more?

Further information can be found at <http://www.water.wa.gov.au> then select > Publications > Find a publication > Series browse and click on:

- Water resource protection plans for a copy of the *Coral Bay Water Reserve drinking water source protection plan*
- *Water quality awareness, Water quality protection guidelines* or *Water quality protection notes* for information on best management practices to help protect water quality.

Alternatively, contact us if you would like information to be mailed to you.

To find out more about how we protect drinking water, visit <http://drinkingwater.water.wa.gov.au>.



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Water

## Protecting Coral Bay's drinking water

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Looking after all our water needs

October 2010

Coral Bay power station and water treatment plant (right)