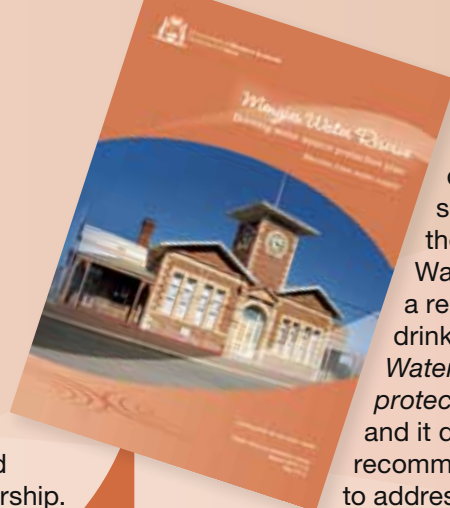


Where does Menzies's drinking water come from?

Menzies's drinking water comes from a wellfield located 5 km east of Menzies town. The wellfield consists of five production bores maintained and operated by the Water Corporation. These bores draw groundwater from an unconfined aquifer. As there is no confining layer of impermeable rock or soil between the water source and the land uses above it, contaminants are able to infiltrate this water source. The Menzies Water Reserve boundary has been determined based on the recharge area for the production bores and consideration of surrounding land uses and ownership. A recharge area is the land over which water infiltrates into the ground to replenish the aquifer.



The plan to protect Menzies's drinking water

The Department of Water has developed a drinking water source protection plan to protect the quality of water in the Menzies Water Reserve and to help ensure a reliable, safe, good quality drinking water supply. The *Menzies Water Reserve drinking water source protection plan* was completed in 2010 and it discusses water quality risks and recommends management strategies to address them. It also identifies priority areas and protection zones, which help guide decisions on what land uses and activities should occur in the water reserve to protect water quality.

What are risks to Menzies's drinking water quality?

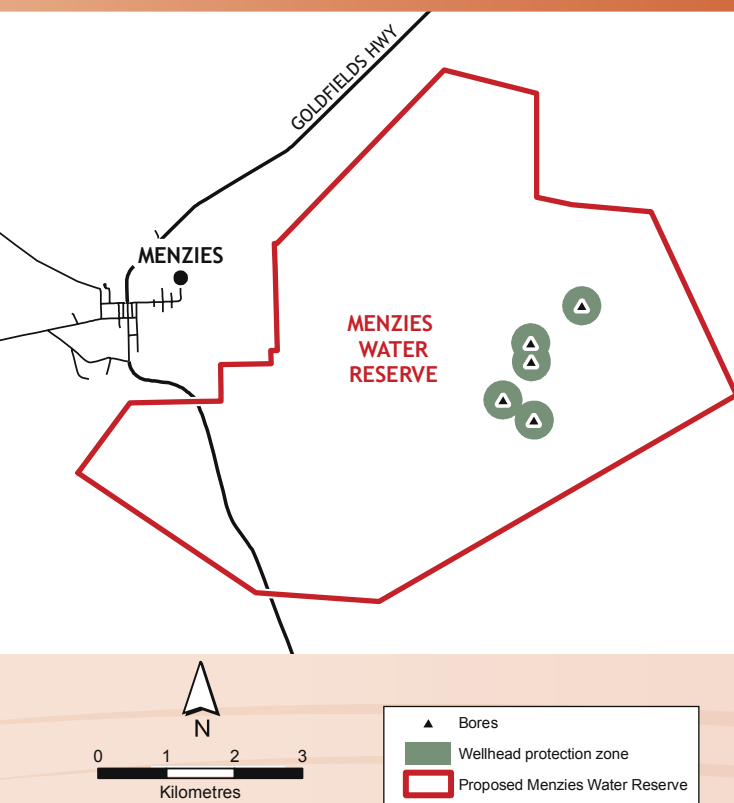
The main land uses in the Menzies Water Reserve are mining tenements and a low density pastoral lease. Some of the water quality risks associated with these land uses/activities are:

- pathogens and nutrients from people and animal waste
- hydrocarbons from vehicles via spills and leaks of fuel
- pathogens from animal access to open mine shafts and wells.



Abandoned mine shaft

Where is the Menzies Water Reserve



Sign on a fenced compound

How can we manage these water quality risks?

Recommended actions to help protect Menzies's water supply include:

- proclamation of the amended Menzies Water Reserve under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947 (WA)*
- to amend the Menzies Water Reserve boundary in the Shire of Menzies's local planning scheme
- lease owners and managers to adopt best management practices in the water reserve
- signage to make people aware of the water reserve boundary and why it is important to protect it.

What am I allowed to do in the water reserve?

All existing, approved land uses and activities are able to continue. We encourage land owners and managers 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, protection zones and recommendations in the *Menzies 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 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 150 nearly proclaimed drinking water sources in WA. We have completed around 100 of these drinking water source protection plans 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 *Menzies Water Reserve Area 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 Menzies's drinking water

Menzies Water Reserve



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Looking after all our water needs

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