



Department of Water  
Government of Western Australia



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## > Protecting your drinking water

Drinking Water Source Protection Plans are developed by the Department of Water in consultation with your local community, stakeholders and local government.

Government bodies such as the Department of Health, and water service providers such as Water Corporation are also consulted.

Currently, more than 60 Drinking Water Source Protection Plans have been published for Public Drinking Water Source Areas throughout Western Australia. The Department of Water aims to publish a Protection Plan for all of the State's 139 drinking water source areas.

The support we receive from your local community, State and local government and other stakeholders, for both the preparation and implementation of these Protection Plans, will greatly assist in ensuring the availability of safe, good quality drinking water now and in the future.

## > How to obtain a copy of the Dathagnoorara Protection Plan

If you would like to view this Protection Plan, please visit [www.water.wa.gov.au](http://www.water.wa.gov.au) and select 'Water quality', 'Publications', 'Plans and Assessments' – then scroll down to find the Dathagnoorara Water Reserve Plan. If you are unable to access the Internet, please call the Department of Water to arrange for a copy of the plan to be posted to you.

## > Where can I get more information?

There are a range of other publications, such as Water Quality Protection Notes, policies and guidelines, which are produced by the Department's Water Source Protection staff.

To find out if your property is in the area covered by this Protection Plan please use the 'Geographic Data Atlas' found on the Department of Water website under 'Maps data and atlases' or contact the Department's Water Source Protection staff on (08) 6364 7600.

## > Feedback

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this brochure and its associated Drinking Water Source Protection Plan.

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[www.water.wa.gov.au](http://www.water.wa.gov.au)

*Copies of this document can be made available in alternative formats if requested.*

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# Protecting your drinking water sources

## Dathagnoorara Water Reserve



## > Dathagnoorara Drinking Water Source Protection Plan

The Department of Water is responsible for protecting and managing drinking water catchments and water reserves in Western Australia. To do this, we develop and implement legislation, policies, plans, assessments, guidelines and informative brochures – to a large extent based on the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. A risk-based multiple barrier approach underlies these guidelines. The first barrier is water source/catchment management and protection, with other barriers at the storage, treatment and distribution stages of water supply systems.

A Drinking Water Source Protection Plan has been developed for the Dathagnoorara Water Reserve. The risks to the water quality have been identified with the community's help and management strategies recommended to tackle these risks (see the main risks outlined under 'Contamination').

## > Am I in the Dathagnoorara Water Reserve?



## > Land use

The main land uses in the Dathagnoorara Water Reserve include:

- Broad acre cropping; and
- Extensive animal grazing.



Importantly, all existing and legally established land uses will be able to continue. All land uses in the Water Reserve should adopt management practices that help to protect the quality of this drinking water source. New development or expansion of existing land uses should be guided by the Drinking Water Source Protection Plan's recommendations.

For more guidance on appropriate land uses please refer to the Water Quality Protection Note Land Use Compatibility in Public Drinking Water Source Areas, produced by this Department. To do this please visit [www.water.wa.gov.au](http://www.water.wa.gov.au) select 'Water quality', 'Publications' and then 'Water Quality Protection Notes'. If you are unable to access the Internet please call the Department of Water to arrange for a copy of the note to be posted to you.



## > Contamination

Drinking Water Source Protection Plans identify sources of potential water contamination. The main water quality risks for the Dathagnoorara Water Reserve include:

- Nutrients and pesticides from broad acre cropping;
- Nutrients and pathogens from animal excreta; and
- Hydrocarbons, pesticides or nutrients from accidents or spills on roadways within the Water Reserve.



All the potential contamination risks have been carefully assessed. Following this assessment, recommendations have been made that will provide for the long term protection of this vital water supply. The main recommendations include:

- Extension of the boundary of the Water Reserve to include the proposed wellhead protection zones;
- Incorporation of the plan into the Shire of Carnamah's Town Planning Scheme - to ensure that future land uses in the Water Reserve are compatible; and
- Adoption of best management practices for current or approved land uses within the Water Reserve.