



## **Rous Regional Supply:**

## **Future Water Project 2060**

Integrated Water Cycle Management  
Development: Assessment of Augmentation  
Scenarios



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**20-017: ROUS FUTURE WATER PROJECT 2060**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Rous Future Water Project 2060 identifies new water supply sources to ensure long-term water supply security for the region. This project builds on extensive investigations undertaken by Rous County Council (RCC) over the last few decades to identify potential source augmentation options and enable selection of a preferred long-term strategy. This report documents the outcomes of detailed investigations undertaken regarding potential source augmentation options and implementation scenarios.

Future demand predictions have been developed from the growth predicted in the region. The dry year demand for water at 2060 is predicted to be between 16,000 ML/a and 16,700 ML/a, an increase of approximately 5,000 ML/a over current (2020) dry year demand. The water supply demand has been compared to the secure yield of the system (13,350 ML/a) which has shown that a new water source will be required from 2024. The yield deficit is predicted to be 5,630 ML/a at 2060.

A coarse screening assessment considered a range of new as well as previously identified supply options. The following options passed the coarse assessment and are discussed in detail in this report:

1. Dunoon Dam (20 GL – 50 GL).
2. Connection to Marom Creek WTP (upgraded) with or without local groundwater supplies.
3. Groundwater harvesting – Woodburn, Tyagarah, Newrybar and Alstonville.
4. Desalination.
5. Indirect potable reuse (treated wastewater from constituent council wastewater treatment plants transferred to RCC surface water supplies).

A summary of the options is provided in the following table.

**Table 1: Summary of source augmentation options**

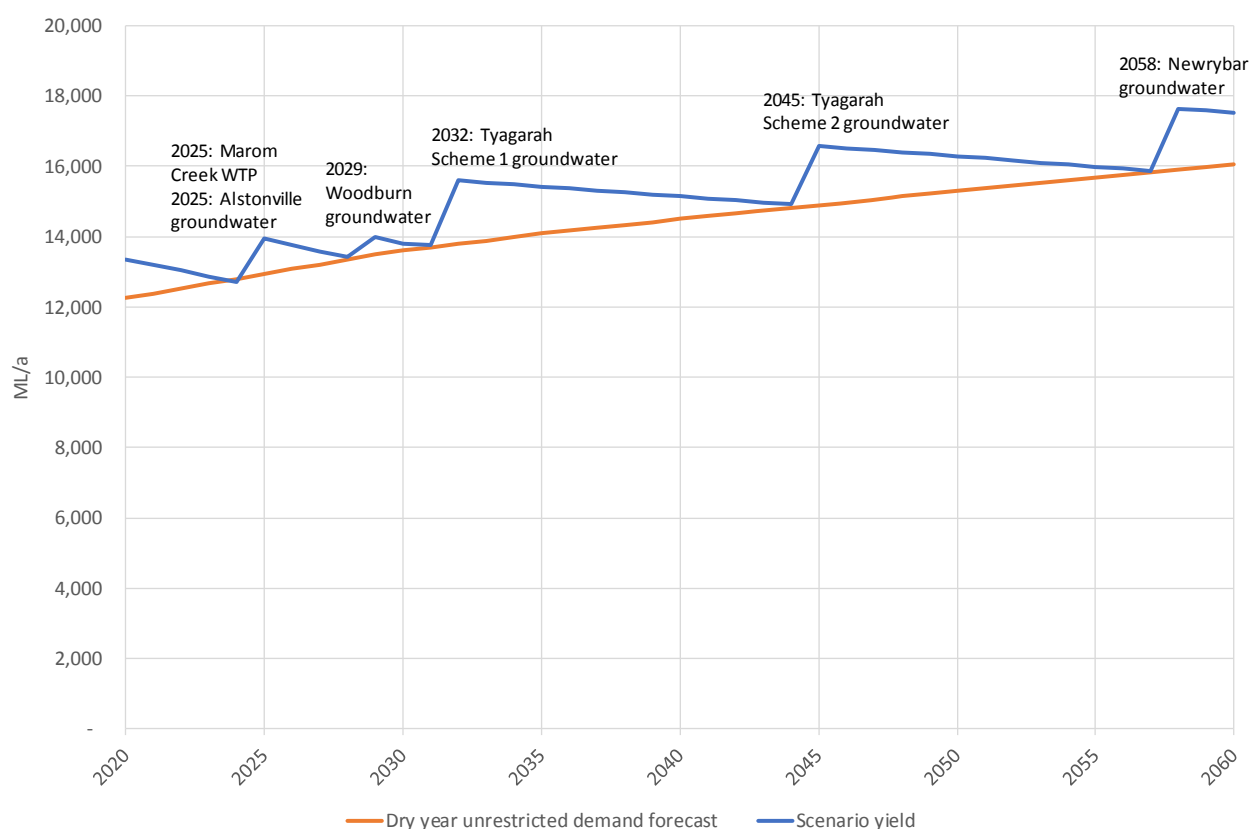
Option	Yield benefit (2020 – 2060) ML/a	Net present value (NPV, 2020 \$, 80 years @ 5%)	NPV (2020 \$, 40 years @ 5%) per ML secure yield <sup>1</sup>
20 GL Dunoon Dam	7,179	\$204,346,000	\$15,000
50 GL Dunoon Dam	15,057	\$234,597,000	\$27,300
Marom Creek WTP	198	\$24,562,000	\$111,600
Woodburn (5.0 ML/d)	698	\$55,817,000	\$73,400
Newrybar (7.2 ML/d)	1,883	\$98,567,000	\$49,700
Tyagarah (12.5 ML/d)	3,448	\$146,240,000	\$38,200
Alstonville (4.0 ML/d)	916	\$44,110,000	\$43,700
Desalination (10 ML/d)	1,550	\$84,663,000	\$51,000
Indirect potable reuse (10 ML/d)	1,272	Not estimated	Not estimated

1. Calculated from the 40-year NPV @ 5% and the yield benefit at 2060.

This report compares two potential source augmentation scenarios to provide water security to 2060:

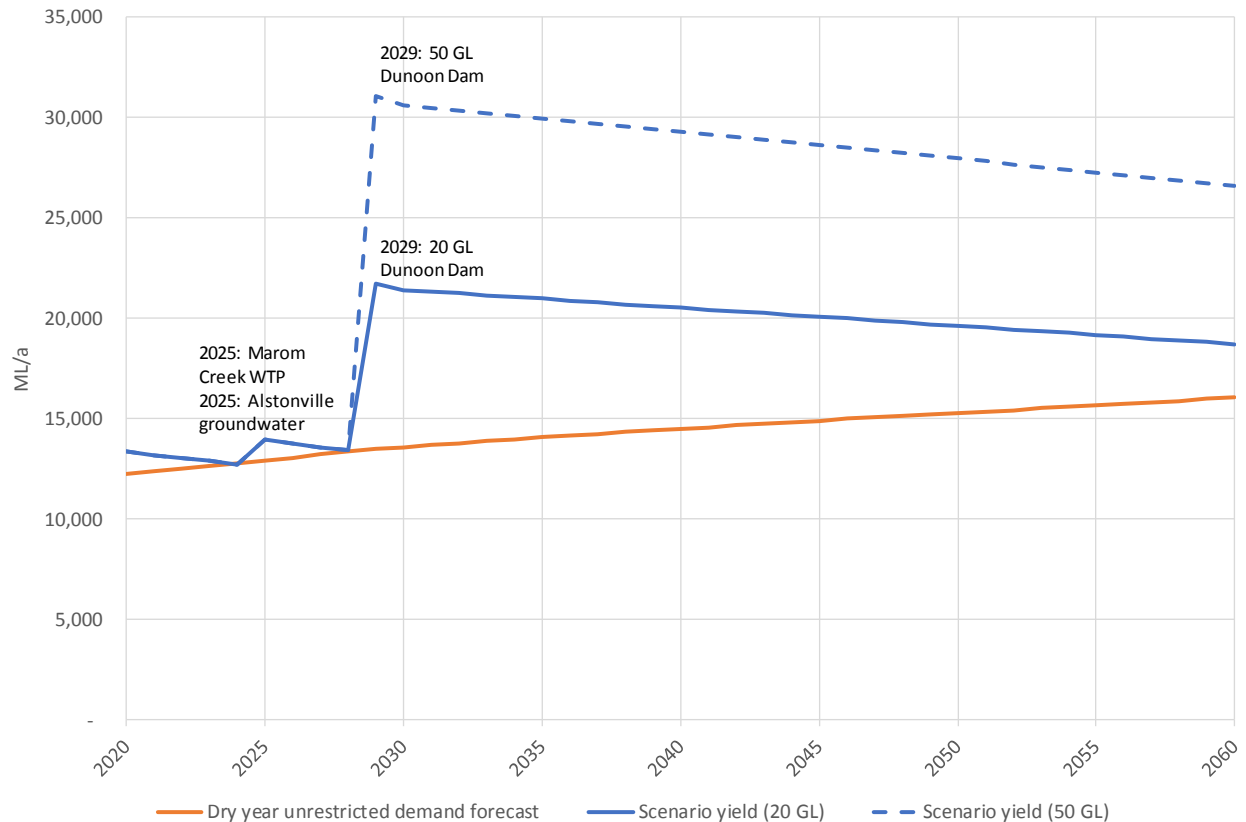
- **Scenario 1 – Groundwater (with Marom Creek).** Scenario 1 includes the connection of Marom Creek WTP to the Rous regional supply in the short term with staged implementation of groundwater schemes and treatment plants until the required supply yield is achieved.
- **Scenario 2 – Dunoon Dam.** Scenario 2 includes the connection of Marom Creek WTP to the Rous regional supply in the short term with construction of a new dam at Dunoon. Scenario 2A considers a 20 GL dam designed to allow for future augmentation to 50 GL (expected to be required at approximately 2080). Scenario 2B considers a 50 GL dam. Both scenarios include initial implementation of the Marom Creek and Alstonville groundwater options. The Dunoon Dam scenarios include the upgrade of Nightcap WTP in 2034 from 70 ML/d to 100 ML/d.

RCC has developed these two scenarios as they are the only combinations of feasible options that passed the coarse screening and can provide the required secure yield over the long term. The staging and secure yield for each scenario are shown in the following figures compared to the dry year unrestricted demand forecast.



**Figure 1: Secure yield and staging for scenario 1: Groundwater**

The groundwater schemes identified for Scenario 1 will be able to meet demand until approximately 2072 assuming a similar rate of growth in demand is experienced beyond 2060.



**Figure 2: Secure yield and staging for scenario 2: Dunoon Dam**

Scenario 2A (20 GL Dunoon Dam) would require augmentation to the 50 GL dam in approximately 2080 assuming a similar rate of growth in demand is experienced beyond 2060 and assumptions about future yield are realised. The 50 GL Dunoon Dam (Scenario 2B) will be able to meet demand until approximately 2115.

Whole of life and NPV cost estimates for the water supply scenarios are shown in the following table.

**Table 2: Scenario cost estimates**

Component	Scenario 1: Groundwater (2020 \$)	Scenario 2A: 20 GL Dunoon Dam (2020 \$)	Scenario 2B: 50 GL Dunoon Dam (2020 \$)
Whole-of-life (80 years)	\$836,397,007	\$619,141,183	\$658,907,966
NPV (80 years @ 5%)	\$195,922,792	\$242,778,718	\$267,518,613
NPV (40 years @ 5%)	\$169,299,256	\$228,151,363	\$252,602,785
Yield benefit (2020 – 2060)	4,170	5,370	13,249
NPV/ML secure yield (40 years)	\$40,597	\$42,484	\$19,066

The scenarios have also been compared using a multi-criteria analysis (MCA) considering environmental, social and financial outcomes. A summary of MCA outcomes is provided in the following table.

**Table 3: Summary of MCA outcomes**

Scenario	Environmental score (/5)	Social score (/5)	Total score (per \$ NPV)	Rank (based on MCA)
1: Groundwater	3.05	3.50	16.2	1
2A: Dunoon Dam (20 GL)	2.65	1.98	9.9	2
2B: Dunoon Dam (50 GL)	2.30	1.65	7.8	3

Based on the MCA, the most favourable scenario is groundwater. The groundwater scenario has a lower NPV (lower initial capital cost but higher and increasing recurrent costs with implementation of each stage) as well as less significant environmental and social impacts. However, the groundwater scenario has a higher whole-of life cost (total cost over 80 years in present dollars) and a higher NPV per ML of secure yield as shown in Table 2. Implementation of the groundwater scenario will require ongoing investigations (and associated costs and problem-solving) for the four groundwater schemes.

Although the MCA is informative, it is focussed on the 2060 planning horizon and RCC should consider longer-term issues such as potential source options beyond that timeframe and financial commitment and funding requirements imposed by the schemes. Dams have a long design life and there is excess secure yield in the Dunoon Dam options well beyond the 2060 timeframe considered by this study. When the long-term yield benefit provided by the scenarios is considered, the 50 GL dam option (with high initial cost and lower recurrent costs) with the higher yield benefit is more cost-effective. Although there is a large upfront investment, the dam options can provide long-term certainty and cost efficiencies. The largest dam for the given physical constraints, with planned staging and upgrades, provides only a small incremental risk over the smaller dam. There is a trade-off between the high initial cost and environmental/social impact of the dam and the long-term cost-effectiveness and certainty provided.

Implementation risks have been identified in this report for both scenarios. RCC should continue to conduct detailed investigations for its preferred scenario and address these risks. Although the yield information suggests that definitive action is required in the short-term, adaptive management approaches should also be identified.



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Rous County Council (RCC) provides bulk water to four local water utilities (LWUs) on the far north coast of NSW, servicing the urban areas of the following constituent council local government areas (LGA):

- Ballina Shire Council (BaSC), excluding Wardell and surrounds.
- Byron Shire Council (BySC), excluding Mullumbimby.
- Lismore City Council (LCC), excluding Nimbin.
- Richmond Valley Council (RVC), excluding Casino and all land west of Coraki.

RCC also provides water supply services to rural and urban connections direct from the bulk supply trunk main system (retail customers).

The Rous Future Water Project 2060 identifies new water supply sources to ensure long-term water supply security for the region. This project builds on extensive investigations undertaken by RCC over the last few decades to identify potential source augmentation options and enable selection of a preferred long-term strategy. This report documents the outcomes of detailed investigations undertaken regarding potential source augmentation options and implementation scenarios. The scenarios have been compared using a multi-criteria analysis considering environmental, social and financial outcomes.

## 2. BACKGROUND

### 2.1 History of Strategy Development

In 1995 RCC adopted the following long-term water supply strategy after investigation of a range of options and consultation with stakeholders:

1. Implementation of demand management strategies to promote efficient water use among consumers (implemented through the Regional Demand Management Plan).
2. Promotion of alternative water supply initiatives, such as dual reticulation of recycled water in new urban developments (implemented through the Regional Demand Management Plan).
3. Development of the Wilsons River Source (WRS), drawing freshwater from the upper limits of the Wilsons River tidal pool, upstream of Lismore.
4. Nomination of the proposed Dunoon Dam, to be developed if and when required to maintain water supply security following the implementation of the other options.

Detailed investigations into options for Dunoon Dam, a concept design, environmental and cultural heritage assessments commenced in 2008 and were completed in 2013 (refer Section 7). Public consultation undertaken at the time indicated that the community's preference was for RCC to consider the future water supply issues more broadly before proceeding with Dunoon Dam. As a result, RCC commenced work on the Future Water Strategy (FWS). The available information at that time indicated that existing water supplies would be sufficient to meet annual demand until 2024 and by 2060 there would be a likely secure yield shortfall of approximately 6,500 ML/a (considering climate change). The background information and the decision-making process for the development of the FWS were captured in the integrated water planning (IWP) process (MWH, 2014). The integrated planning approach involved (MWH, 2014):

- Identification of future water management issues over a long-term planning horizon.
- Development of strategy assessment triple-bottom-line objectives and criteria in response to the water management issues.
- Assessment of options and scenario development in order to address the water management issues.
- A participatory approach with stakeholder feedback.
- Recognition of future uncertainties and implementation risks, requiring ongoing monitoring and review.

The FWS was adopted in 2014 with three key actions – demand management, increased use of groundwater and potentially water re-use. Since the adoption of the FWS, RCC has undertaken extensive investigations into groundwater as an additional source. These studies included extensive reviews and consultation with stakeholders to identify appropriate groundwater investigation areas as well as conducting groundwater drilling programs (refer Section 9). These studies found that groundwater sources investigated in Newrybar (coastal sands), Woodburn (coastal sands) and Dunoon (fractured rock aquifers) will require higher cost than previously estimated, additional treatment and may not be as reliable as assumed in the FWS IWP process. In addition, the *Water Sharing Plan for the North Coast Fractured and Porous Rock Groundwater Sources* excludes additional aquifer access licences in the Alstonville Basalt Plateau groundwater source as the long-term average annual extraction limit is less than existing water requirements. Potential groundwater schemes have been further investigated as part of the Rous Future Water Project 2060 (refer Section 9).

## 2.2 Demand Management

Demand management has been an integral part of planning and management of water supply assets and ongoing supply management in the region since 1995 and these initiatives have been successful in reducing water demand. The demand per connection has decreased with these water conservation measures as well as pay-for-use pricing and water restrictions imposed during the 2002/03 drought. In recent times, the rate of reduction in per connection consumption has reduced as the level of water conservation in the community already achieved means that there is less opportunity for further reduction in consumption. Although further reduction in per connection demand is likely to be more difficult to achieve in the future, the water utilities in the region are committed to responsible water use and ongoing reduction in demand. Enhanced demand management initiatives presented in the FWS were reviewed in 2018 to build on the successes of previous demand management initiatives and continue to deliver comprehensive and effective water conservation programs throughout the region. The Regional Demand Management Plan (RDMP, Hydrosphere Consulting, 2018b) describes the water supply demand management initiatives to be implemented by RCC and its constituent councils between 2019 and 2022. Demand management actions adopted in the plan area are as follows:

- Monitoring, evaluation and reporting.
- Water loss management.
- Sustainable water partner program (businesses and community groups).
- Smart metering.
- Recycled water.
- Rainwater tank rebates.
- Community engagement and education – households, schools and high residential water users.

## 2.3 Specialist Studies

As part of the Rous Future Water Project 2060, specialist studies have been undertaken to further investigate the following source augmentation options:

- Groundwater supplies.
- Indirect potable reuse.
- Desalination.
- Dunoon Dam.

A revised demand forecast (Section 0) and assessment of secure yield of the above options were also undertaken. The findings of these studies are documented in this report.

## 2.4 Regional Investigations

### 2.4.1 Northern Rivers Regional Bulk Water Supply Study (2013)

In 2013, the Northern Rivers Regional Organisation of Councils (NOROC, now the Northern Region Joint Organisation) developed a long-term (50-year) regional water supply strategy in order to evaluate the potential benefits to future water supply security resulting from a regionally integrated system. The study (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2013b) investigated numerous interconnection and supply scenarios to identify options that warrant further investigation in future stages of the strategy development. To progress the development of a regional water supply strategy, the study recommended various investigations including:

- Regional investigations that are specific to the regional approach and would require cooperation between the Local Water Utilities (LWUs, RCC; Tweed Shire Council, TSC; Kyogle Council, KC; BaSC, BySC, LCC and RVC).
- Strategic planning including yield studies, monitoring, water loss management and demand management.

The 2013 study found that major additional water supplies will be required to meet the growth in demand within the RCC bulk supply area and the TSC Bray Park system and actions to address the yield deficit in these systems have not yet been finalised. TSC is pursuing investigations relating to the raising of Clarrie Hall Dam and the drought security connection to South-east Queensland (SEQ) water link. RCC's priority from the FWS was the investigation of groundwater supplies and more recently, the potential for indirect potable reuse or the Marom Creek (Wardell) water supply to partially meet water supply needs within the bulk supply area (refer Section 8).

The 2013 study concluded that a regional approach may provide improved financial outcomes through economies of scale as well as access to a wider range of options to improve efficiency, system resilience and operational flexibility. The interconnection of RCC and TSC systems is considered to be a major component of a true regional approach. The potential non-regional supply options (raising Clarrie Hall Dam, SEQ link and groundwater supplies) have not yet been developed to a point where the future TSC and RCC supplies can be considered secure. TSC has confirmed that its current priority is the investigations for the raising of Clarrie Hall Dam and an emergency connection to SEQ water grid, with the resulting augmented supply expected to be sufficient to 2046. A review of the action plan (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2018a) found that the recommendations of the 2013 study in relation to interconnection of the RCC and TSC systems were still considered to be appropriate, even if they are not implemented in the short-medium term.

#### **2.4.2 Toonumbar Dam**

Local councils have been in discussions with Water NSW during 2019 about the potential to access additional releases from Toonumbar Dam. Utilisation of water from Toonumbar Dam is generally low as existing licence holders do not fully exhaust their entitlements as unregulated surface water and groundwater sources are also available and these are preferred by the major water users due to lower water usage charges. Licence holders use from 55 to 950 ML/a from Toonumbar Dam (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2020b). Anecdotal evidence suggests that surface water licences are currently used as a drought security measure. During summer 2019/20, the level in Toonumbar Dam was very low which is attributed to increased use of Toonumbar Dam licences and low inflows.

Toonumbar Dam has 3,000 ML/a of available general security supply which is predicted to be equivalent to 1,250 ML/a of high security town supply (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2020b). However, it is not possible to convert existing water entitlements to town water supply licences under the existing Water Sharing Plan for the Richmond River. The Water Sharing Plan is due for review and update by June 2022.

WaterNSW is currently undertaking modelling to confirm the available capacity for allocation of additional extraction licences as part of the 20-year infrastructure options study and the NSW Government may consider options involving increased use of Toonumbar Dam for town water supply as part of that study. Options involving raising of Toonumbar Dam and increased access to water for town water supply needs are potentially viable source augmentation options for the RCC regional supply although there is insufficient information available at present to pursue these options (refer Section 6).



### 3. EXISTING BULK WATER SUPPLY

The RCC bulk and retail water supply transfer network is shown on Figure 3. The supply network extends from Ocean Shores in the north and Byron Bay in the east, west to Lismore and south to Evans Head. Surface waters are the primary water resource utilised by RCC although there are also some groundwater sources available for use during dry periods (Table 4). The principal component of the RCC bulk supply is Rocky Creek Dam (RCD) situated 25 km north of Lismore near the village of Dunoon. Water from RCD is treated at the Nightcap Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and is distributed through three trunk mains owned and operated by RCC. One trunk main supplies treated water to Lismore and to the Richmond Valley area. The other two mains supply Byron Bay and Ballina Shires. Water from the WRS upstream of Lismore is pumped directly from the Wilsons River to the Nightcap WTP for filtration and distribution to consumers. Water from Emigrant Creek Dam (ECD) is treated at the Emigrant Creek WTP and is distributed to supplement supplies to Ballina and Lennox Head.

**Table 4: RCC raw water sources**

Details	Rocky Creek Dam	Emigrant Creek Dam	Wilsons River Source	Converys Lane bore	Lumley Park bore	Woodburn bores
Water Source <sup>1</sup>	Terania Creek	Alstonville Area	Wyrallah Area (Wilsons River)	Bangalow Groundwater	Alstonville Groundwater	Richmond Coastal Sands
Source Type	Large in-stream storage	Large in-stream storage	Run-of-river abstraction	Groundwater extraction	Groundwater extraction	Groundwater extraction
Storage capacity	14,000 ML	820 ML	-	-	-	-
Area served	Lismore City, Richmond Valley, Ballina and Byron Shires	Ballina and Lennox Head	Lismore City, Richmond Valley, Ballina and Byron Shires	Alstonville, Wollongbar	Alstonville, Wollongbar (dry periods)	Woodburn, Evans Head, Broadwater (dry periods)
Water Treatment	Nightcap WTP (68 ML/d)	Emigrant Creek WTP (7.5 ML/d)	Nightcap WTP	Chlorination	Chlorination	Chlorination
Licence entitlement	12,358 ML/a <sup>2</sup>	2,620 ML/a <sup>2</sup>	5,400 ML/a <sup>2</sup>	150 ML/a <sup>3</sup>	530 ML/a <sup>3</sup>	242 ML/a <sup>4</sup>

1. As specified in the relevant Water Sharing Plan.

2. Water Sharing Plan for the Richmond River Area Unregulated, Regulated and Alluvial Water Sources (2010).

3. Water Sharing Plan for the Alstonville Plateau Groundwater Sources (2003).

4. Not subject to a Water Sharing Plan.

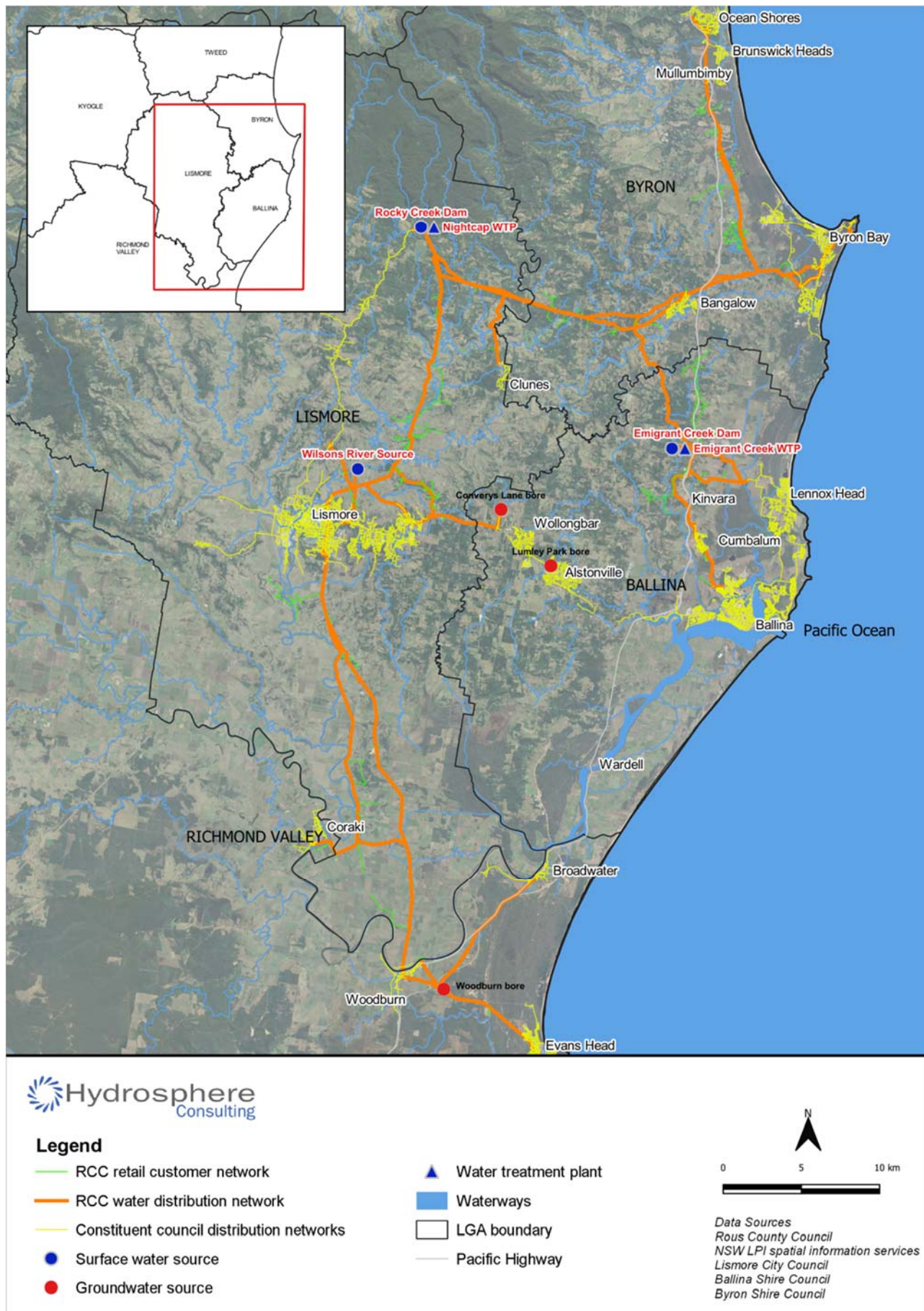


Figure 3: Regional bulk supply network

Table 5 summarises the current operating rules for the regional supply which are based on RCD storage levels.

**Table 5: Bulk water supply operating rules**

RCD supply level (% of full supply volume)	Status	Source Usage
100%	Normal Operation	RCD only
95%		Start WRS and ECD
60%	Dry Period Operation	Start Woodburn bores, Converys Lane bore
30%		Start Ballina Shire Council's plateau bores
20%	Emergency Operation	Start emergency supply source
15%		
10%		

#### 4. DEMAND FORECAST

RCC previously developed a long-term water supply demand forecast as part of the development of the 2014 FWS (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2013a). The demand forecast has been updated as part of the Rous Future Water Project 2060 (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2020a).

The Rous regional bulk supply currently services 41,870 connected residential properties and 5,110 connected non-residential properties (total 46,980 connections). By 2060, the Rous regional bulk supply is predicted to serve 57,560 connected residential properties (based on estimated lot yields) and 9,360 connected non-residential properties (total 66,920 connections). The Rous regional bulk supply currently produces 11,300 ML/a (five-year average). The predicted average demand per connection has been estimated for each connection type in each supply area. Dry year demand per connection has also been estimated based on climate correction of the bulk supply demand.

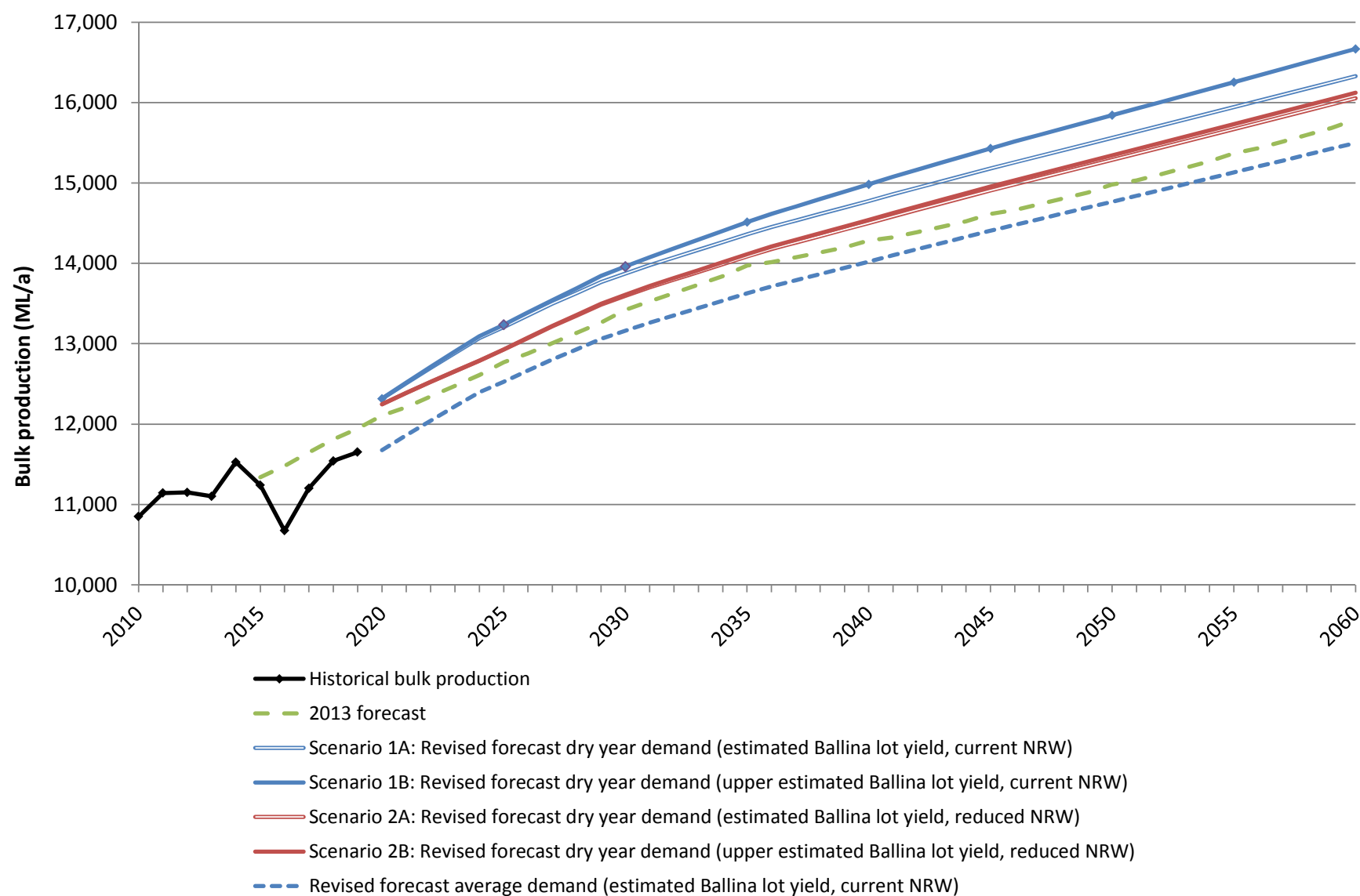
Future demand predictions have been developed from the growth predicted in the region (two growth scenarios for Ballina Shire and one growth scenario for other supply areas as provided by the constituent councils) and predicted water loss reduction (nil savings – using current water losses and savings predicted by the council water loss management plans) as follows:

- Demand Scenario 1A: Revised forecast dry year demand (estimated Ballina lot yield, current water losses).
- Demand Scenario 1B: Revised forecast dry year demand (upper estimated Ballina lot yield, current water losses).
- Demand Scenario 2A: Revised forecast dry year demand (estimated Ballina lot yield, reduced water losses).
- Demand Scenario 2B: Revised forecast dry year demand (upper estimated Ballina lot yield, reduced water losses).

The dry year demand for water at 2060 is predicted to be between 16,000 ML/a and 16,700 ML/a, an increase of approximately 5,000 ML/a over current dry year demand. The four demand scenarios are compared to the 2013 forecast demand in Figure 4.

The annual demand in each five-year period for each scenario (current supply area) and the local supply areas are provided in Table 6.

RCC has indicated that water loss reduction actions will be implemented, therefore Scenario 2A will be used for future water supply planning.



**Figure 4: Forecast demand (bulk production) scenarios and comparison with the 2013 forecast – Rous bulk supply area**

**Table 6: Demand forecast scenarios – Rous bulk supply area (ML/a)**

Scenario	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2055	2060
<i>Existing bulk supply area</i>									
Scenario 1A: Revised forecast dry year demand (estimated Ballina lot yield, current water losses)	12,315	13,208	13,872	14,359	14,775	15,179	15,560	15,943	16,328
Scenario 1B: Revised forecast dry year demand (upper estimated Ballina lot yield, current water losses)	12,319	13,236	13,959	14,512	14,982	15,429	15,842	16,253	16,667
<b>Scenario 2A: Revised forecast dry year demand (estimated Ballina lot yield, reduced water losses)</b>	<b>12,247</b>	<b>12,925</b>	<b>13,595</b>	<b>14,084</b>	<b>14,500</b>	<b>14,905</b>	<b>15,286</b>	<b>15,669</b>	<b>16,054</b>
Scenario 2B: Revised forecast dry year demand (upper estimated Ballina lot yield, reduced water losses)	12,247	12,930	13,610	14,112	14,540	14,954	15,342	15,731	16,121



## 5. SECURE YIELD

### 5.1 Secure Yield Methodology

The current NSW Security of Supply Methodology in NSW has been in use for over 25 years and modelling approaches have been developed to determine the secure yield based on this methodology. The security of supply basis has been designed to cost-effectively provide sufficient storage capacity to allow a water utility to effectively manage its water supply in future droughts of greater severity than experienced over the past 100 or more years. 'Secure yield' is now defined as the highest annual water demand that can be supplied from a water supply headworks system while meeting the '5/10/10 design rule'. This rule dictates that water restrictions must not be too severe, not too frequent, nor of excessive duration, hence under the NSW Security of Supply requirement, water supply headworks systems are normally sized so that:

- a) Duration of restrictions does not exceed 5% of the time; and
- b) Frequency of restrictions does not exceed 10% of years (i.e. 1 year in 10 on average); and
- c) Severity of restrictions does not exceed 10%. Systems must be able to meet 90% of the unrestricted dry year water demand (i.e. 10% average reduction in consumption due to water restrictions) through simulation of the worst recorded drought, commencing at the time restrictions are introduced.

This enables water utilities to operate their systems without restrictions until the volume of stored water approaches the restriction volume. If at this trigger volume, the utility imposes drought water restrictions which reduce demand by an average of 10%, the system would be able to cope with a repeat of the worst recorded drought, commencing at that time, without emptying the storage. Water security is achieved if the secure yield of a water supply is at least equal to the unrestricted dry year annual demand (NSW Office of Water, 2013).

Estimating the yield of a headworks system involves two stages:

- Stream flow estimation: Developing an appropriate sequence of stream flows for the water sources; and
- System behaviour modelling: Modelling the behaviour of the headworks system subject to operating constraints using the stream flows to assess what demand subject to reliability or security criteria can be satisfied.

Consideration also needs to be given to possible impacts of climate change. Draft *Guidelines on Assuring Future Urban Water Security* (NSW Office of Water, 2013) provide guidance to NSW local water utilities on assessing and adapting to the impact of variable climatic patterns on the secure yield of urban water supplies. The methodology in these guidelines enables local water utilities to estimate their future secure yield taking into account the expected impact of future climatic patterns.

Determining the impact of climate change on the secure yield of a water supply system involves two modelling steps:

- Modification of daily rainfall and evapotranspiration data and calibrated rainfall-runoff models to produce climate changed daily stream flows; and
- The daily climate changed streamflow, rainfall and evapotranspiration are input into the water supply system simulation models to determine climate changed secure yields.

The methodology has been developed from a pilot study (Samra and Cloke, 2010) which involved undertaking hydrological and system modelling to determine the impact of climate change on secure yield. The pilot study incorporates the scientific logic of the CSIRO's Murray Darling Basin Sustainable Yields

Project which used daily historical data from 1895 to 2006 and applied the relevant global climate models (GCMs) to provide projected (~2030) climate changed data for each GCM for this period.

The rainfall-runoff model is used to estimate daily stream flows for each GCM and for the historical data provided with the GCM data. The current system simulation model is used to determine the secure yield for each of the 15 GCMs, as well as for the above historical data on the basis of the 5/10/10 design rule.

Whilst the 15 GCMs represent a range of plausible climate futures for around the year 2030, there is some uncertainty which needs to be acknowledged when considering the full range of possible outcomes. The secure yield is determined for all 15 GCMs under the 5/10/10 design rule as well as the secure yield for the GCM with the lowest yield for a more severe restriction regime (10/15/25). The critical results are for:

- GCM with the median secure yield under the 5/10/10 design rule.
- GCM with the lowest secure yield under the 5/10/10 design rule.
- GCM with the lowest secure yield under the 10/15/25 design rule.

## 5.2 Secure Yield of Existing System

The secure yield assessment has been undertaken using the RCC Bulk Water Supply Security Model which was developed by Engeny Water Management in 2019 using GoldSim 12.1. The secure yield of the existing system for the climate experienced over the last 120 years and with 1°C climate warming is presented in Table 7.

**Table 7: Secure yield – existing system**

Historic climate (5/10/10)	Reduction factor	1°C climate warming
13,350	0.882	11,776

Source: Engeny (2020)

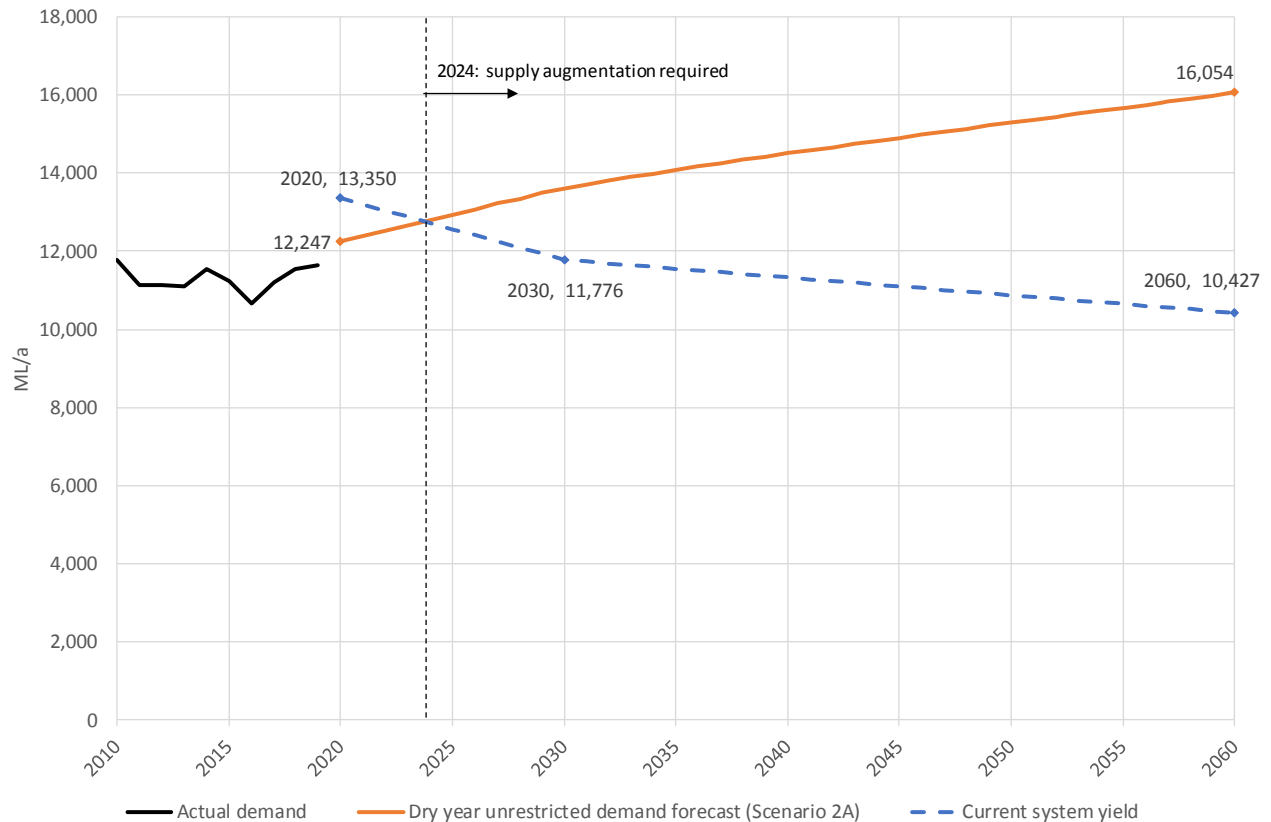
The guidelines do not specify the year to apply the yield with the climate experienced over the last 120 years, the decline in yield to the projected 1°C climate warming and the decline in yield beyond that time. The following assumptions have been made:

- The secure yield with the current climate is assumed to represent the available supply in 2020.
- The secure yield with projected 1°C climate warming is assumed to represent the available supply in 2030.
- Between 2020 and 2030, there is assumed to be a linear reduction in secure yield.
- Beyond 2030, the secure yield is assumed to reduce at a slower rate until 2060.

The dry year unrestricted demand forecast (Demand Scenario 2A: estimated Ballina lot yield, reduced water losses) is shown in Figure 5 compared to the secure yield. Figure 5 shows that the existing system yield will be sufficient to supply the dry year unrestricted demand until approximately 2024. The yield deficit at 2060 is 5,630 ML/a.

The above secure yield estimates do not consider the impact of changed environmental flow regimes as discussed in Section 5.3.





**Figure 5: Comparison of existing system secure yield and demand forecast**

### 5.3 Review of Environmental Flow Regimes

Hydrosphere Consulting (2020c) documents a review of environmental flow regimes for each existing surface water source and Dunoon Dam to identify any potential implications for the operation of the supply sources and hence determine the impact of changed regimes on the secure yield. The desktop review documents the likely extent of influence of current riverine extractions on downstream environments considering the influence of other catchment impacts on these reaches. Recommended environmental flow requirements were developed through critical review of available information, previous studies of downstream environments and the likely impacts of extraction assessed through analysis of modelled hydrological data and reference to other relevant literature. Key outcomes of the review for the existing surface water sources are summarised as follows:

Rocky Creek Dam (RCD):

- There are no currently provisions for environmental flow releases from RCD and it is not a requirement of the current water access licence. Downstream flow in Rocky Creek below the dam occurs as a result of overflows (spilling) of the dam during high flow conditions and seepage through the dam wall (approx. 0.7 ML/d). These conditions have been in place for approximately 70 years since dam construction in the early 1950s.
- RCD is having a large hydrological impact on all flow components in Rocky Creek, except for the highest flood flows (> 500 ML/d). Impacts are particularly pronounced during low flow periods occurring from late winter, through spring into early summer when the dam spills very infrequently. Previous assessments have identified that there are downstream ecological impacts due to RCD and associated water extraction and that these impacts are exacerbated by modified catchment conditions downstream of the dam (e.g. catchment clearing and altered land use leading to water quality decline and habitat degradation).

- Previous assessment of pre-determined environmental flow scenarios for RCD determined that none of the scenarios were adequate to protect aquatic ecosystems, a conclusion that is supported by the 2020 review.
- Any future environmental flow scenario for RCD would need to be formulated and justified through a robust assessment of existing environmental conditions and associated flow requirements. It is acknowledged that provision of environmental flows at RCD is likely to significantly affect secure yield of this water source and require infrastructure modifications to allow for regulation of releases and physical monitoring of dam inflows and outflows. Therefore, the environmental benefits for Rocky Creek will need to be considered holistically in comparison to the impacts of alternative source augmentation to determine an appropriate balance.

#### Emigrant Creek Dam (ECD):

- The current water access licence requires that when flow is entering ECD, the flow in the downstream watercourse should be equivalent to the flow entering the storage or sufficient to maintain visible flow at Tintenbar downstream of the dam, whichever is the lesser.
- Environmental flow releases at ECD occur via a water outlet pipe in the base of the dam which remains open with an estimated discharge of approximately 0.8 ML/d. This is the only current provision for environmental flow during low flow (non-spilling) periods.
- The modified hydrology as a result of ECD operations appears to be having the greatest impact on low to moderate flows in Emigrant Creek with a pronounced impact on moderate flow events which occur during late spring and early summer. During these times naturally occurring peaks in flow or 'fresches' are not passed downstream of ECD, due to dam filling after a prolonged dry period. This is expected to impact downstream water quality, overall water levels and habitat availability as well as fish passage and enhance drying of habitat and substrate. The modelling indicates that high flows and flood flows are not greatly impacted by current water supply operations and therefore impacts on channel geomorphological processes and high flow biological triggers for species are expected to be minimal in Emigrant Creek.
- The current environmental flow regime, with a minimum estimated flow of 0.8 ML/d has been in place for many years. This flow is likely to exceed natural flows at some times of the year when there is no inflow to ECD, however given the modified nature of the catchment, it is considered that this elevated baseflow during these periods is beneficial, particularly in relation to water quality, and it is likely that the aquatic environment now has some dependence on this minimum flow. Despite this, the current provision for base environmental flow at ECD of 0.8 ML/d is regarded as unlikely to be sufficient to fully protect downstream aquatic ecosystems and is likely to be leading to sub-optimal outcomes for the ecological functioning of the creek.
- It is acknowledged that the provision of more onerous environmental flows for ECD is likely to reduce overall water supply security and increase or bring forward the need for additional water supply sources. In this case, the environmental benefits for Emigrant Creek will need to be considered holistically in comparison to the impacts of source augmentation to determine an appropriate balance.

#### Wilson River Source (WRS):

- Environmental flow requirements for the WRS are built into the water access licence pumping rules that are based on Wilsons River flows. Abstractions from the WRS tidal pool cause changes to flow rates in the Wilsons River below the abstraction point creating a slight decrease in the rate of low to moderate flows. This causes minor upstream movements of saline water under average and low flow conditions.

## 6. COARSE SCREENING ASSESSMENT

The coarse screening assessment undertaken for the 2014 FWS has been updated (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2020b). The source augmentation options considered included all options from the 2014 FWS as well as new options identified since then. The outcomes of the coarse screening assessment are given in Table 8.

**Table 8: Coarse assessment outcomes – supply options**

No.	Option	Description	Conclusion	Result
<i>1 - Do nothing – status quo</i>				
1	River/creek raw water extraction (current system)	Existing RCC supply – RCD, ECD and WRS.	Existing sources will not meet future demand.	Fail
<i>2- Existing source augmentation</i>				
2a	Raise RCD	Raising the existing dam by up to 8 metres to a height of up to 36 metres and increasing the storage capacity from 14,000 ML to 35,000 ML. Because of the need to provide environmental flows, this would only increase the yield of the dam by about 1,200 ML/a.	High capital cost and environmental impact for low future yield.	Fail
2b	Raise ECD	Raise the existing dam.	Site geology significantly limits the height to which the dam could be raised, and the relatively small catchment area results in only a very small increase in yield.	Fail
<i>3 - Toonumbar Dam</i>				
3a	Purchasing or trading existing water entitlements from Toonumbar Dam	Accessing existing low security water entitlements within the Toonumbar regulated water source. Water would be transferred to the Casino WTP for treatment to potable standards and then pumped into the RCC supply.	RCC may be able to buy existing licences, but these would not provide the level of security required.	Fail
3b		New town water supply licence within the Toonumbar regulated water source under existing Water Sharing Plan. Water would be transferred to the Casino WTP for treatment to potable standards and then pumped into the RCC supply.	Town water supply licences are not permitted under the existing Water Sharing Plan. High security water available from Toonumbar Dam is not sufficient to meet supply deficit (estimated 300 ML/a).	Fail

No.	Option	Description	Conclusion	Result
3c	Pipeline from Toonumbar Dam or Eden Creek to Casino or RCD	Water Sharing Plan modified to allow town water supply licences.	High security water available from Toonumbar Dam is not sufficient to meet supply deficit (estimated 300 ML/a).	Fail
3d	Raising Toonumbar Dam	10 m or 20 m raising has previously been considered. Water would be transferred to the Casino water treatment plant and then pumped into the RCC supply.	Availability of high security water is unknown.	Pass
<b>4 - Dunoon Dam</b>				
4a	Staged Dunoon Dam (20 GL – 50 GL)	Initial 20 GL storage on Rocky Creek with provision for future raising to 50 GL. Water would be treated at Nightcap water treatment plant.	Provides long-term yield benefit. Environmental and cultural heritage impacts will need to be assessed and potentially offset.	Pass
4b	Toonumbar Dam environmental flows to offset Dunoon Dam release requirements	Operational changes may be considered by the NSW Government.	No details available. Further consideration is recommended as a complementary action with Dunoon Dam.	Pass
<b>5 - Regional interconnection</b>				
5a	Connection to Tweed Shire Bray Park system and Dunoon Dam	Interconnection of the Rous and Bray Park systems with source augmentation (raising Clarrie Hall Dam with Dunoon Dam).	Tweed Shire Council is planning to raise Clarrie Hall Dam as a short-term augmentation option for the Bray Park water supply and therefore does not support this option. This is a long-term (>30 years) option only.	Fail
5b	Connection to Tweed Shire Bray Park system and Toonumbar Dam	Interconnection of the Rous and Bray Park systems with source augmentation (raising Clarrie Hall Dam with Toonumbar Dam).	Tweed Shire Council is planning to raise Clarrie Hall Dam as a short-term augmentation option for the Bray Park water supply and therefore does not support this option.	Fail
5c	Connection to Casino (Jabour Weir)	Interconnection of the Rous supply with the Casino water supply sourced from Jabour Weir.	Has been considered by Richmond Valley Council to augment Casino water supply but provides insufficient yield for Rous bulk supply.	Fail
5d	Connection to Marom Creek water treatment plant	Raising of Marom Creek Weir and reinstatement of aquifer supplies and upgraded WTP to supply Alstonville/Wollongbar with excess to Lismore.	Offers diversification of surface water sources for RCC with expected secure yield of approximately 800 – 1,000 ML/a (NUWS, 2018).	Pass

No.	Option	Description	Conclusion	Result
6 - Groundwater				
6a	Groundwater extraction	Various groundwater supplies have been considered (reinstatement of bores at Woodburn and Alstonville, new borefields at Tyagarah, Newrybar and Alstonville)	Scheme costs are likely to be higher than first thought but localised groundwater supplies can provide a diversified supply to some areas of the bulk supply network. However, the Water Sharing Plan limits new licences in some groundwater sources.	Pass
7 - Stormwater				
7a	Urban stormwater irrigation	Collection and storage of urban stormwater runoff, followed by treatment and irrigation of the treated water onto open space areas.	Due to climate dependence, stormwater reuse does not provide a significant yield benefit.	Fail
7b	Non-potable urban stormwater reuse (dual reticulation)	Dedicated reticulation system to supply treated stormwater for outside use and toilet flushing within new urban development areas.		Fail
7c	Indirect potable urban stormwater reuse	Stormwater collected and transferred to an existing water treatment plant (e.g. Nightcap or Emigrant Creek) for subsequent supply to consumers.		Fail
8 - Desalination				
8a	Desalination	Conversion of saline water to fresh water suitable for potable use. Potentially staged desalination plant capacity.	Climate resilient water source but with significant power requirements and brine management constraints to be addressed.	Pass
9 – Wastewater recycling				
9a	Indirect potable reuse to surface waters	Highly treated reclaimed water supply into RCD, ECD or WRS for subsequent extraction, treatment and transfer using existing infrastructure.	Climate resilient water source. Quantity of water available has not been confirmed. NSW government policy has not been developed for planned indirect potable reuse.	Pass
9b	Dual reticulation (urban)	Dedicated reticulation system to deliver treated reclaimed water for outside use and toilet flushing within new urban development areas.	Included in Regional Demand Management Plan (Ballina Shire and Byron Bay).	Pass

No.	Option	Description	Conclusion	Result
9c	Managed aquifer recharge with treated wastewater effluent.	Intentional recharge of an aquifer under controlled conditions, either by injection or infiltration, in order to store a water source for later abstraction and use (indirect reuse), or for environmental benefits.	RCC does not currently utilise groundwater apart from emergency sources. Groundwater options including aquifer recharge may be considered feasible pending outcomes of the current studies. This will be treated as a groundwater supply option (similar to the 2014 FWS) as aquifer recharge is not an augmentation option by itself.  Based on recent investigations, groundwater options are expected to be limited by location and water quality rather than quantity and therefore aquifer recharge may not be required.	Fail
9d	Potable reuse	Treating sewage effluent to produce reclaimed water of a quality that would be suitable for drinking purposes. This water would then be provided direct to consumers.	The community/regulators are unlikely to support/approve this option while other options are feasible, even though they may have a greater whole-of-life cost.	Fail

The following options were not considered in detail in the development of the 2014 FWS (due to low yield benefit and/or other risks). The findings of the original IWP process are still considered valid and these options will not be considered further in this report:

- Raise RCD.
- Raise ECD.
- Purchasing or trading existing water entitlements from Toonumbar Dam.
- Regional interconnection with Casino water supply (Jabour Weir).
- Managed aquifer recharge with treated wastewater effluent.
- Direct potable reuse.
- Stormwater reuse.

The following new options have been considered but did not pass the coarse assessment and will not be considered further in this report:

- Pipeline from existing Toonumbar Dam or Eden Creek to Casino or RCD.
- Regional interconnection with the Tweed Shire Bray Park system.

The “do nothing” option (reliance on existing surface water sources) will not form part of the long-term strategy but will be used to compare the benefits and costs of supply scenarios.

The following options passed the coarse assessment and are discussed in detail in this report:

1. Staged Dunoon Dam (20 GL – 50 GL).
2. Connection to Marom Creek WTP (upgraded) with or without local groundwater supplies.

3. Groundwater harvesting – Woodburn, Tyagarah, Newrybar and Alstonville.
4. Desalination.
5. Indirect potable reuse (treated wastewater from constituent council wastewater treatment plants transferred to RCC surface water supplies).

Options involving use of water from Toonumbar Dam will not be considered in the Rous Future Water Project as the NSW Government's infrastructure options study will not be completed within the required timeframe.

Demand management will not be considered as a source augmentation option but will be an integral part of the long-term strategy through the implementation of the RDMP (Section 2.2).

## 7. OPTION 1: DUNOON DAM

### 7.1 Concept Design

The Dunoon Dam site is located on Rocky Creek downstream of the existing RCD. The site is approximately 2.5 km west of the village of Dunoon. The dam would store inflows from its catchment up to the existing RCD and from spills over the RCD spillway. Water from Dunoon Dam would be pumped to the Nightcap WTP and subsequently used for town water supply throughout the RCC service area.

Three possible dam types were considered in an Options Study (Public Works Dams and Civil, 2013a). The two options considered viable were:

- Earthfill type embankment across the creek with an excavated spillway in the left abutment.
- Roller compacted concrete gravity structure where spill flows are accommodated over the central part of the wall into the creek below.

Although the roller compacted concrete dam would involve a much larger haulage of materials from off-site locations, it requires a significantly smaller footprint on the site, reducing both the physical and visual impact on the local environment and was therefore preferred in the Options Study. A concept design for a 50 GL roller compacted concrete has been prepared (Public Works Dams and Civil, 2013b) including:

- A roller compacted concrete gravity structure with a 30 m wide central overflow spillway.
- A concrete dissipator at the toe of the spillway to collect spill flows and prevent erosion of the foundation and potential undermining of the dam wall.
- An intake structure attached to the upstream face of the wall with facilities for selective withdrawal of water from the storage.
- A conduit located in the creek bed under the dam wall, used initially for creek diversion during construction and then converted to a permanent outlet pipe connecting the base of the intake structure to the valve house immediately downstream of the dam.
- A valve house structure housing the main guard valves and downstream discharge valves as well as the main branch line to the adjacent raw water pumping station.
- A concrete dissipator at the downstream end of the valve house to accommodate outlet flows and avoid erosion of the foundation.
- A pumping station and associated equipment to enable the transfer of raw water from the toe of the dam to existing water mains at Dorroughby.
- 8 km long rising main from the pumping station to Dorroughby.
- 3.3 km of new access road (including two bridges) plus 9 km of upgraded road.
- Power supply, electrical and telemetry facilities.

A 50 GL storage provides a full supply level (FSL) at RL 82.25 mAHD. The maximum flood level (MFL) is at RL 90.02 mAHD with the dam crest level at RL 90.60 mAHD which allows for appropriate freeboard as required by the NSW Dams Safety Committee (Public Works Dams and Civil, 2013b).

A 20 GL storage has also been investigated as a possible staged approach to construction of the dam (Public Works Dams and Civil, 2013c). As for the 50 GL arrangement, the 20 GL dam would incorporate a concrete gravity structure with a 30 m wide spillway at the centre of the dam and plunge pool at the downstream toe. A diversion tunnel would be located at creek bed level, just left of the spillway through the dam wall. This would be converted to an outlet tunnel once construction of the dam has been completed. An



intake structure would be attached to the back of the wall while an outlet/valve house would be located at the downstream end together with an associated pumping station. Design features would be incorporated in the 20 GL arrangement to facilitate future raising of the dam:

- The positions of the valve house and pumping station are located downstream of the dam to suit a larger dam.
- Sizing of the pumping station, valve house, pipework and associated equipment has been determined to suit a larger dam.
- The section dimensions for the intake tower allow for possible future raising of the storage to 50 GL.

The 20 GL storage provides a FSL at RL 67.20 mAHD, MFL at RL 74.36 mAHD and the dam crest level at RL 74.96 mAHD.

Figure 6 shows the dam inundation area for the two storage options. The surface area at FSL is 1,650,000 m<sup>2</sup> and 2,430,000 m<sup>2</sup> for the 20 GL and 50 GL storage volumes respectively (based on dam stage storage data provided in Public Works Dams and Civil (2013a)). Figure 6 also shows the route of the rising main to Nightcap WTP and the new access road.

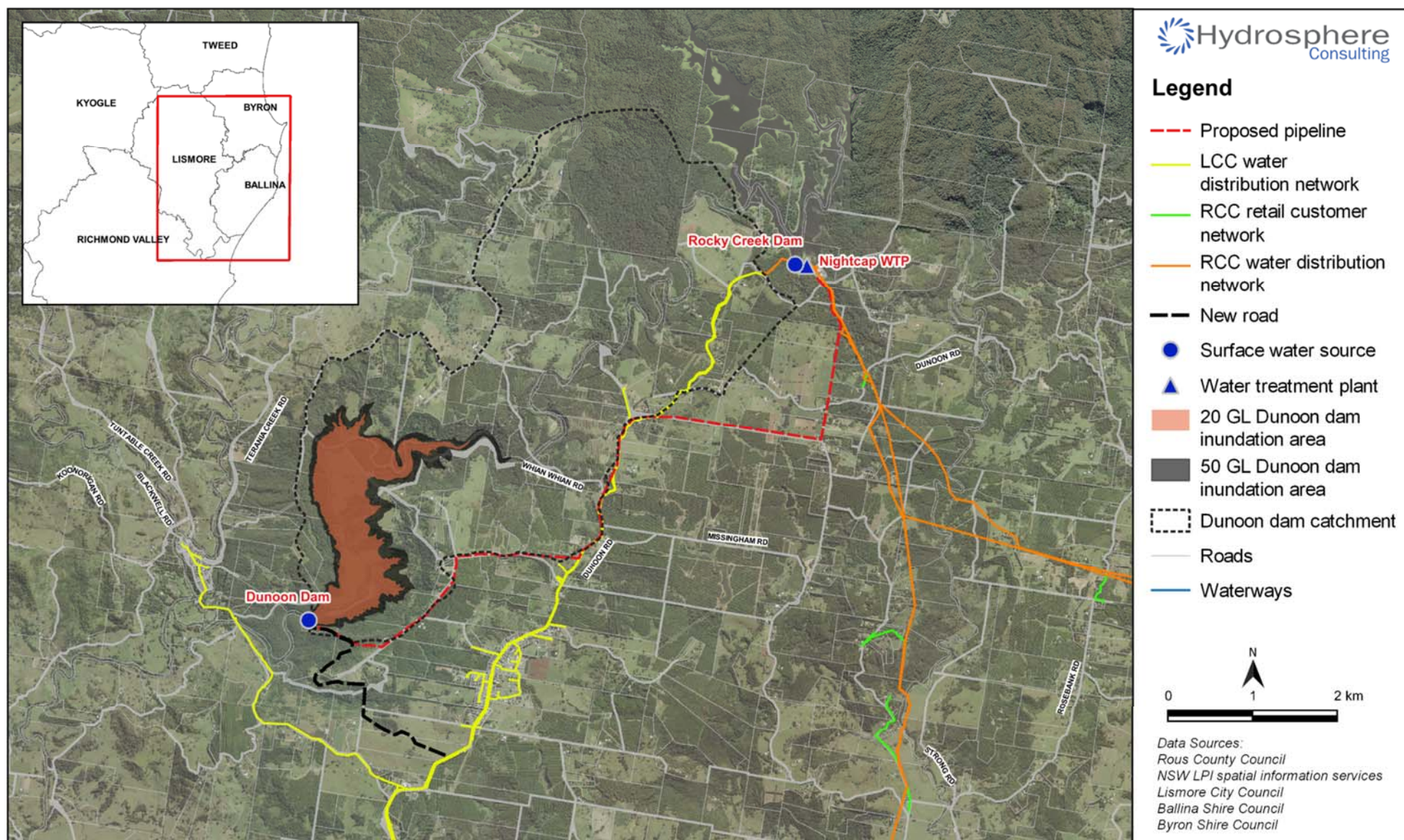
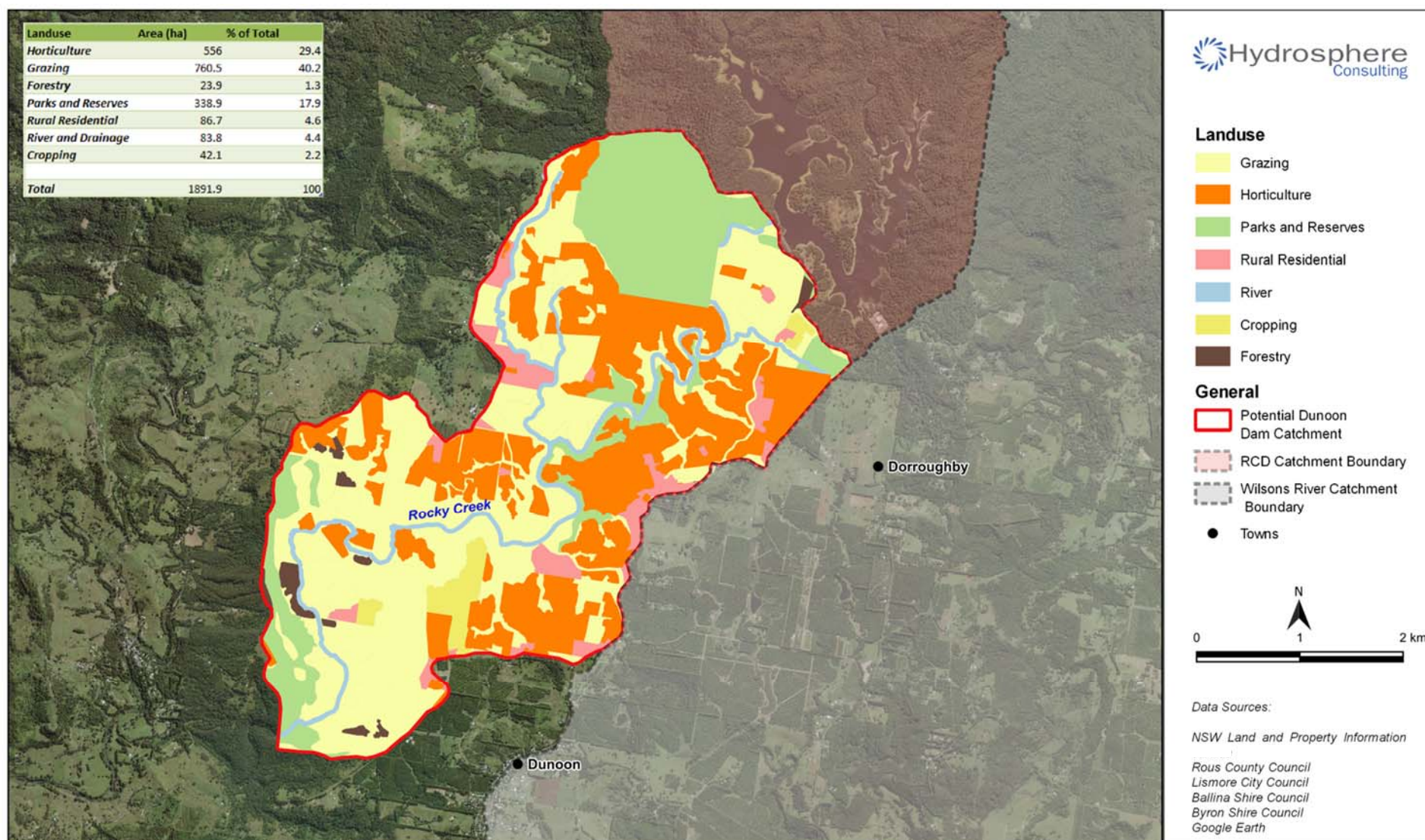


Figure 6: Dam location and inundation area for 20 GL and 50 GL storage options

## 7.2 Catchment Description

The Dunoon Dam would have a catchment area of approximately 19 km<sup>2</sup>. Dunoon Dam would also receive overflows from RCD and therefore when RCD is spilling, the Dunoon Dam catchment area also incorporates the RCD catchment, giving a total catchment area of 50 km<sup>2</sup> (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2020d). Figure 7 provides an overview of mixed land use in the catchment. RCC currently owns several parcels of land within the Dunoon Dam catchment and would seek to purchase the remaining land within the buffer zone surrounding the dam, should this option be adopted for future water supply. The remaining catchment areas are either protected as parks and reserves or are under private ownership. Whian Whian Falls is a popular recreational location with easy access from the public road. If constructed, the upstream extent of the 50 GL Dunoon Dam would be just downstream of the base of the falls. Currently, cleared grazing land makes up approximately 40% of the catchment, horticulture (primarily macadamia farms) occupy 30%, and approximately 18% of the catchment is classified as parks and reserves (the majority of which is within Nightcap National Park). The remaining land uses comprise rural residential lots (4.6%), cropping (2.2%), forestry (1.3%) and rivers and drainage channels (4.4%) (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2020d).





**Figure 7: Dunoon Dam catchment and existing land use**

Source: Hydrosphere Consulting (2020d)

### 7.3 Planning and Approvals Pathway

RCC has obtained preliminary planning pathway advice for the Dunoon Dam proposal (Public Works Advisory, 2020a). *State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) SEPP 2011* designates development that is state significant development, state significant infrastructure, critical state significant infrastructure and regionally significant development. The Dunoon Dam would be State Significant Development in accordance with the requirements of the State and Regional Development SEPP as the development has a capital investment value of more than \$30 million and is permitted with development consent in land use zone W1 Natural Waterways under the Lismore Local Environmental Plan 2012 and permitted without consent in land use zone RU1 Primary Production under SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007 (as per current land zonings under the LEP). The Minister for Planning (or the Independent Planning Commission) would be the consent authority.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would need to be prepared in accordance with Schedule 2 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation, 2000*. The approvals expected to be required are summarised in Table 9.

**Table 9: Summary of likely approvals required**

Agency	Requirements	Reference
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)	Development consent	Pt 4, Division 4.7, <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1974</i>
Department of Primary Industries - Fisheries	Notification to the Minister for the construction of a new dam	Section 218, <i>Fisheries Management Act, 1994</i>
	Permit for dredging or reclamation work undertaken by a local government authority	Section 200, <i>Fisheries Management Act, 1994</i>
Environment Protection Authority (EPA)	Environment protection licence for extractive activities and concrete works (possible)	Chapter 3, <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act, 1997</i>
DPIE - Water	Water Access Licence for water use	<i>Water Management Act, 2000</i>
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (Commonwealth)	Referral for significant impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES)	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999</i> (Commonwealth)

Source: Public Works Advisory (2020a)

### 7.4 Terrestrial Ecology

A survey and assessment of the terrestrial ecology for the footprint of the dam, the buffer region surrounding this footprint and associated access to the dam wall area (SMEC, 2011) was undertaken to identify ecological constraints to inform feasibility assessments and concept planning for the dam. The study consisted of a desktop assessment and seasonal flora and fauna surveys undertaken between April and October 2010. A summary of the findings of the terrestrial ecological assessment from SMEC (2011) is provided below.

The study area is characterised by extensively cleared agricultural land containing remnant fragments of native vegetation occurring primarily along riparian corridors and a larger fragment within the sandstone escarpments of the west and south of the proposed dam wall. The condition of native vegetation and habitat varied from poor (areas infested with exotic species) to good (less accessible areas around the proposed

dam wall), depending on the level of historic clearing and disturbance from agricultural activities (SMEC, 2011).

One endangered ecological community (EEC), Lowland Rainforest which is listed under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (TSC Act), was recorded during field investigations. In addition, nine flora and 17 fauna species (including one frog, one mammal, one fruit-bat, six microbats and eight birds) listed as threatened in NSW under the TSC Act were also recorded. Of these species, eight flora and one fauna species are also listed nationally under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* (EPBC Act). An additional seven fauna species listed as migratory or marine under the EPBC Act as well as two Rare or Threatened Australian Plants (RoTAP) and three regionally significant plant species were also recorded (SMEC, 2011).

The proposed dam would clear a total of 272 ha of vegetation, of which 57 ha is predominantly native (Warm Temperate Rainforest, Subtropical Rainforest with 34 ha of Lowland Rainforest EEC, Tallowood Open Forest and Flooded Gum-Tallowood-Brush box Open Forest). The loss of rainforest communities is considered to be particularly significant, given the regional history of clearance for timber and plantations and thus fragmented nature of the remnants of these communities (SMEC, 2011).

The dam would remove important habitat features and local linkages for threatened fauna species. In particular, movement pathways for the threatened Koala will be impeded from the installation of the dam wall, spillway and the inundation area. Loss of feeding resources for the listed Grey-headed Flying Fox, Rose-crowned Fruit-dove and White-eared Monarch and nesting resources for migratory birds from the removal of rainforest and Camphor laurel communities is also likely to be significant within the study area. Further, the loss of foraging resources provided within the dry sclerophyll forests, which are rare in the region, will impact on the threatened Glossy-black Cockatoo and Scarlet Robin. Loveridges Frog (*Philoria loveridgei*) was also found just outside the footprint of the proposed dam at a lower elevation and more southerly point than has been previously recorded. Habitat for this species may also be impacted by the proposal (SMEC, 2011).

The works will also remove threatened flora species within the inundation and dam infrastructure areas and their habitat. There is also the potential for indirect impacts through key threatening processes such as the spread of *Lantana camera* and dieback caused by the root-rot fungus (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*) (SMEC, 2011).

Assessment of the impacts (without mitigation) has determined that the works would significantly impact all threatened flora species detected (nine species) and 15 of the recorded threatened fauna species and their habitat within the study area. Mitigations measures have been identified to minimise impacts on terrestrial ecology including design considerations, pre-construction and construction phase actions. Measures to minimise wildlife connectivity impacts, removal of threatened flora and endangered ecological communities and minimising impacts on fauna habitat have also been identified including fauna bridges.

However, residual impacts that cannot be minimised to acceptable levels through mitigation will still be present. Significant impacts are still likely to occur as a result of:

- Loss of Lowland Rainforest EEC.
- Loss of threatened flora species and RoTAP species.
- Loss of threatened fauna habitats.
- Severance of local wildlife corridors.

Habitat and conservation offsets are an option to compensate for these significant impacts to terrestrial biodiversity as a result of the proposed dam. The buffer area surrounding the dam could be used as an offset for the dam, however additional areas may also be required to be reserved for conservation, managed and improved as part of an offset package for the dam, should it proceed. SMEC (2011) recommended that an



Offset Strategy is prepared detailing the location of offsets, ecological restoration requirements, and ongoing management requirements and to investigate opportunities to improve the habitat linkage between Nightcap National Park (5 km to the north and a listed World Heritage Area) along Rocky Creek to the dam site. Although the proposal is likely to have a significant impact on important vegetation within the study area (both endangered ecological communities and habitat for threatened species), there are also large areas within the study area and around it that were once rainforest or wet sclerophyll forest but are now infested with weeds (SMEC, 2011). These areas could benefit from improved management as part of offsets for the project. This has the potential to reduce the significance of the impact of the dam, if managed appropriately. Further assessment of these options would be required prior to seeking project approval.

An assessment of terrestrial ecology impacts will be required in accordance with the provisions of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act, 2016* including requirements of the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme using the Biodiversity Assessment Method.

## 7.5 Buffer Zone Planning

The establishment of vegetated buffer zones around water supply reservoirs is a recognised catchment management strategy which helps to protect the water quality and reduce risks to water supply. Hydrosphere Consulting (2009) developed a Buffer Zone Strategic Plan through a desktop assessment which analysed the environmental requirements for the buffer zone of the proposed Dunoon Dam (50 GL) through an evaluation of industry standards, catchment conditions and water quality risk.

Hydrosphere Consulting (2009) recommends a three-part approach to water quality management in the catchment involving the protection of high-risk areas with the storage buffer, targeted riparian management in the upstream catchment and community education to encourage improved farming practices and land management in the catchment.

The recommended buffer zone identified by the assessment has an average width of approximately 180 m from the maximum inundation area and covers approximately 224 ha of land surrounding the storage. The boundaries for the proposed buffer zone are shown in Figure 8. Despite a high degree of existing vegetation within the proposed buffer zone, there is also a large amount of weed infestation. Significant weed management and/or native planting effort will be required to maximise the biodiversity benefits and water quality protection characteristics of the buffer zone (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2009).

The extent of individual landholdings that form part of the buffer zone would need to be acquired by RCC to implement the buffer zone strategy.



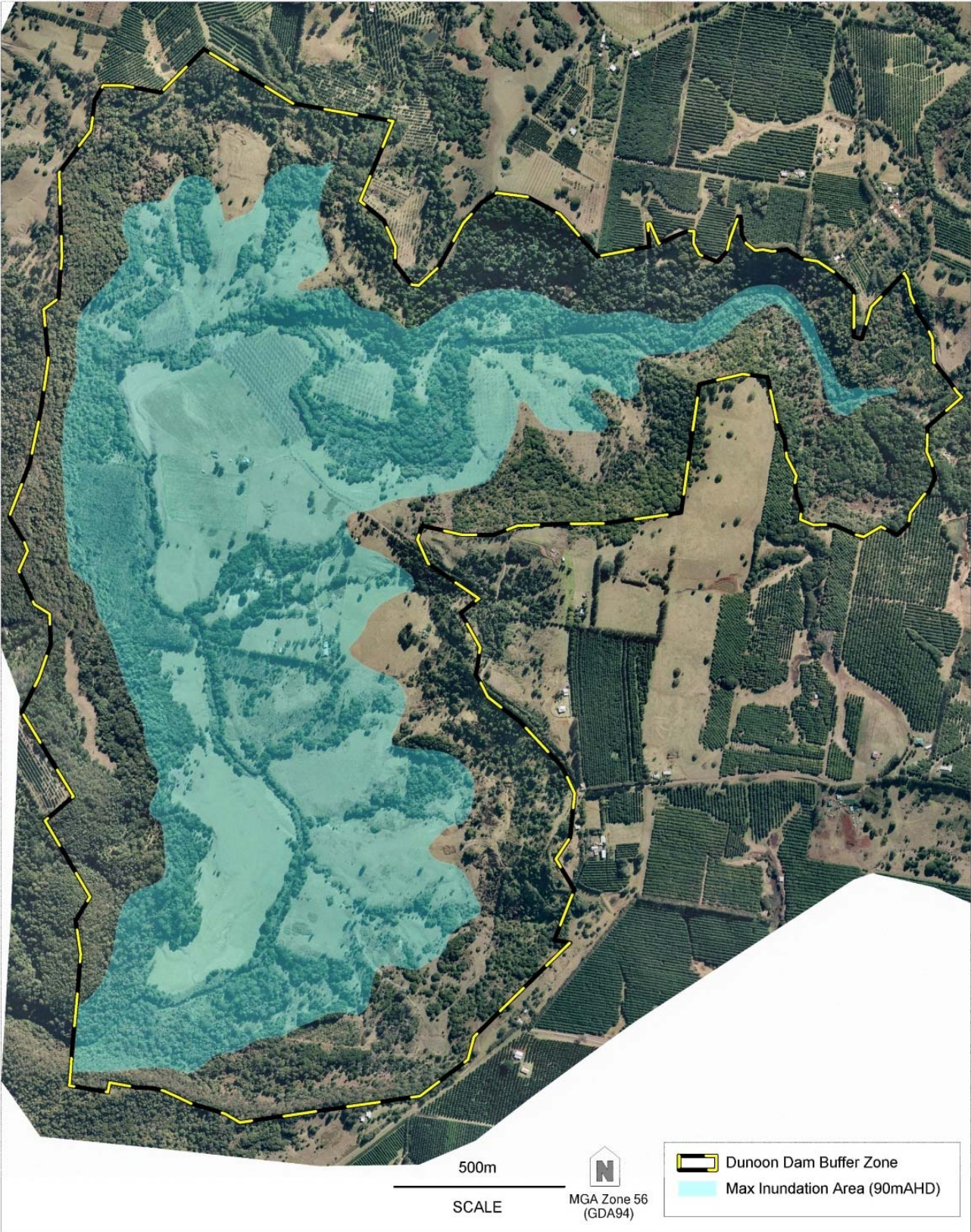


Figure 8: Proposed Dunoon Dam (50 GL) buffer zone

Source: Hydrosphere Consulting (2009)



## 7.6 Aquatic Ecology

An aquatic ecology assessment was undertaken to examine the potential impacts of the proposed dam on aquatic habitats and communities upstream, within and downstream of the proposed dam inundation area (ELA, 2012a). The assessment was updated following a peer review (SMEC, 2012). A summary of the findings of the aquatic ecological assessment from ELA (2012a) is provided below.

A detailed program of desktop and field-based survey was undertaken to examine key aspects of the aquatic ecology. Desktop surveys included review of previous studies in and around the study area and searches of the relevant databases for potential threatened species presence. Field studies included assessment of aquatic and riparian flora, aquatic and riparian habitat, water quality and fauna surveys including fish, other vertebrates (primarily birds, platypus and amphibians) and macroinvertebrates (ELA, 2012a).

The desktop assessment, including database searches, found one EEC, 30 flora, six frog, 24 bird and three mammal species listed as threatened within or around the study area. Three fish species, Eastern Freshwater Cod, Purple Spotted Gudgeon and Oxleyan Pygmy Perch were identified as potentially occurring in the study area (ELA, 2012a).

Flora surveys showed variable habitat condition along the reach with poorer condition generally relating to the level of disturbance or clearing in the immediate catchment surrounding the site. Areas with more intact tree cover showed few exotic species and better overall condition. The number of exotic species showed a general increase downstream from RCD to the Terania Creek sites. Small-leaved Privet, Camphor Laurel and Lantana were significant weed species found in several riparian zones. Brazilian Watermilfoil was identified as a potentially significant exotic macrophyte (ELA, 2012a).

The water quality assessment identified that the current water quality is good with most key parameters falling within or below the ANZECC specified range. The large pool below the proposed dam wall remained weakly thermally stratified for the entire survey period and there were several short periods where the temperature difference between the surface and bottom temperatures was greater than 1°C, indicating that stratification is a normal part of the function of that pool. Flows of approximately 20 ML/d (at RCD) for several days were sufficient to reduce thermal stratification to less than 1°C. Water quality is maintained in this system by low and even base flow levels (ELA, 2012a).

Aquatic macroinvertebrates surveys recorded 5,055 individuals from 73 families and 23 orders. Vertebrate surveys identified 13 fish species, two frog species and 28 bird species, with no rare or threatened species recorded. No introduced fish species were found. Platypus surveys identified individuals at several sites during various surveys and burrow clusters were found at the three sites surveyed (ELA, 2012a).

Wildlife database searches identified that the Eastern Freshwater Cod, Purple Spotted Gudgeon, Oxleyan Pygmy Perch and Black Necked Stork may occur in the study area, however, these species were not recorded during the field surveys. An assessment of significance determined that the proposed dam is unlikely to have a significant impact on these species (ELA, 2012a). Given records and potential habitat for this species in the area, ELA (2012a) recommended that additional survey work undertaken for a more detailed impacts assessment should consider the occurrence of these species and whether assessment under the EPBC Act is required.

Mitigation measures and monitoring requirements were recommended to address the impacts on aquatic ecology resulting from the altered flow patterns in Rocky Creek as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed dam. As there are no current provisions for controlled release of water from RCD, there are few if any flow related management measures that can be implemented upstream of Dunoon Dam. The channel form and ecological function of impacted reaches has stabilised following the adjustment to the impact of the current operation of RCD and has an armoured bed, as such this reach is resistant to impacts from change in flow regime including the reduction in spilling flows from RCD. ELA (2012a) recommended that practical management upstream of the Dunoon Dam should focus on improving general catchment and riparian condition to minimise sedimentation processes through stock exclusion and the planting of riparian

endemic native species. Minor flow-based management may be achieved through refinement of operating rules to achieve balance between sustainable yield of both dams and minimise hydrological impacts on this reach may be possible.

Potential mitigation measures within the inundation area were also identified including stratification, algae control, sediment and nutrient trapping, foreshore management and offsetting the loss of aquatic and riparian habitat within the inundation area. Offsetting and/or conservation options within the larger Terania Creek catchment are recommended in the assessment of environmental flows (ELA, 2012b).

The assessment of environmental flows (ELA, 2012b) discussed in Section 7.7 has proposed an environmental flow regime for the proposed dam to protect the key aspects of creek hydrology, ecology, process and function. Maintaining (or improving) the environment through the environmental flow regime will largely negate the requirements for further significant mitigation measures. The low flow contingency releases will act to improve the environment for key species with connecting releases and other habitat provision when the current flow regime would remain unconnected (ELA, 2012a).

The construction of a fish ladder or lift is not recommended by ELA (2012a) as it would likely only provide artificial lake habitat for migrating species as Whian Whian Falls at the upstream end of the proposed dam lake acts as a natural migration barrier to habitats further upstream. If species were able to migrate beyond Whian Whian Falls they could only access the additional reach to the RCD wall. In this case the potential habitat quantity and quality above the proposed dam wall does not justify the expense of a fish ladder (ELA, 2012). In preference to a fish ladder, options to improve the aquatic and riparian habitat in the larger Terania catchment through fencing from stock and establishment of an endemic native riparian buffer are preferred by ELA (2012a). This buffer will act to improve the riparian and aquatic habitat through the reduction of inflowing sediment and nutrients, improve water quality through shading and provision of endemic organic material and the creation of habitat for riparian and semi-aquatic species.

Hydrosphere Consulting (2020c) considered that the proposed dam will present a barrier to both upstream and downstream fish migration. It is important that environmental flow design is undertaken with due consideration of fish passage and options for integrated design to achieve optimum outcomes. For example, there is potential for any environmental flows to attract fish to the base of the dam and without a fishway to facilitate movement further upstream, the fish may aggregate at this location and be susceptible to increased predation and potentially poor water quality which could result in fish kills. Additionally, fishways require water to run, which provides opportunities for using this operational water to provide a base environmental flow.

The aquatic ecology and environmental flows assessment may also require more detailed assessment to focus on the proposed dam disturbance and inundation area. ELA (2012a) also recommended that the Offset Strategy (refer Section 7.4) should include mitigation of potential impacts on aquatic and riparian habitat.

## 7.7 Environmental Flows

An environmental flow assessment was undertaken to determine if an environmental flow regime within the Rocky Creek system could be developed that would maintain and/or improve the downstream environment, in consideration of ecological needs and the current legislative framework (ELA, 2012b). The assessment was updated following a peer review (SMEC, 2012). A summary of the findings of the environmental flow assessment from ELA (2012b) is provided below.

A holistic study was undertaken to examine the environmental flow requirements of the current system. This approach integrated information from a range of disciplines including ecology, hydrology, water quality and geomorphology. A combination of desktop review, hydrological and geomorphic modelling and field studies was undertaken by ELA (2012b) to determine the key flow requirements of the system.

Modelled flows at a daily time-step at several points along Rocky Creek, Terania Creek and Leycester Creek using the Integrated Quantity Quality Model (IQQM) were used in the review for a 114-year period. Flow data for the natural and current (with RCD online and current system operating rules) were compared to determine the nature of the hydrological regime in the creek system. Assessment and comparison of data was undertaken via examination of hydrographs for different periods, key flow statistics such as mean, maximum and minimum, flow duration analysis, flood frequency analysis and determination of the rates of rise and fall of flood events.

Field investigations undertaken by ELA (2012b) included detailed survey of the physical stream environment including channel morphology and the relationship between flow and physical processes. Ecological and environmental surveys were undertaken to detail key species (flora and fauna), water quality and habitat at three time periods from October 2010 to June 2011 to capture seasonal variations. Field surveys were conducted at a range of locations to facilitate comparison between different potential impact zones and an unimpacted control area.

Hydrological assessment showed that both the natural and current Rocky Creek flow regimes are highly variable with extended periods of low flows and floods occurring at any time of the year. RCD has reduced flows downstream of the dam from the base flow to moderate flow range, but larger flood events are largely unaffected as they tend to fill and spill the dam. Data for natural flows show key flow components of base flows (2-6 ML/d), low flows (6-30 ML/d) and moderate flows (30-200 ML/d) are responsible for maintaining key ecological, water quality and channel functions. High flows (>200 ML/d) including floods greater than 17,000 ML/d provide for channel disruption and formation processes through movement of large cobbles and high energy flows (ELA, 2012b).

Geomorphic assessments showed that Rocky Creek below RCD is largely confined, with limited potential for erosion. The main unarmoured zone of Rocky Creek will be inundated by the proposed dam. Below RCD, the character of the channel is dominated by boulder and bedrock structures. These channel types are predominantly controlled by large flood events (ELA, 2012b).

Water quality in the system was indicative of good condition throughout the survey period. Nutrients, turbidity and chemical characteristics were all either well within the recommended ANZECC guidelines or where these guidelines were not met were in a range that is not critical to biota, ecological processes or physical function or the creek system (ELA, 2012b).

The flora and fauna in Rocky Creek are adapted to a flow regime dominated by disruptive high flows that move large and small sediments, and scour in-stream and riparian vegetation. Maintenance of a flow regime that provides for irregular high flows and maintains base to moderate flow variability, including natural rates of rise and fall, should maintain and/or improve channel habitats and ecological condition in the Rocky Creek system downstream of the proposed Dunoon Dam. At the key flow level of 100 ML/d the main fish barriers downstream of the proposed Dunoon Dam infrastructure are open for migration to all potential fish species including the threatened Eastern Freshwater Cod (ELA, 2012b).

Following detailed survey and assessment of the hydrology, geomorphology, water quality and aquatic ecology of the Rocky Creek system a set of environmental flow rules was established by ELA (2012b) with the specific objective to maintain or improve the environmental and habitat values downstream of the proposed dam. These flow rules provide for a largely unchanged flow regime for flows up to 100 ML/d with contingency flows provided for prolonged dry periods. The general flow rules are:

- Transparency of inflows up to 100 ML/d at Dunoon Dam.
- If inflow to Dunoon Dam exceeds 100 ML/d, maintain release of 100 ML/d.
- When inflow to Dunoon Dam drops below 100 ML/d, allow natural rates of fall.
- If the unregulated spill exceeds 100 ML/d, no transparent release.

Further a set of contingency rules was developed by ELA (2012b) to permit longitudinal channel connection in key fish migration periods during prolonged dry periods. These rules are:

- If inflow to Dunoon Dam is less than 0.7 ML/d, maintain release from Dunoon Dam of 0.7 ML/d.
- If, by March 1, there has been < 3 days of inflows  $\geq 100$  ML/d (either as one or multiple events) over the preceding 60 days, release 100 ML/d for 3 consecutive days.
- If, by August 1, there has been < 3 days of inflows  $\geq 100$  ML/d (either as one or multiple events) over the preceding 60 days, release 100 ML/d for consecutive 3 days.
- If, by October 1, there has been < 3 days of inflows  $\geq 100$  ML/d (either as one or multiple events) over the preceding 50 days, release 100 ML/d for consecutive 3 days.

These general environmental and contingency flow rules provide for a largely unchanged flow regime for flows up to 100 ML/d. Field assessment undertaken by ELA (2012b) showed that at this level all key barriers downstream of the main proposed dam infrastructure are open to Eastern Freshwater Cod movement. In addition, flows in this range (base to moderate flows) provide for the other key environmental processes of fauna habitat provision, movement of smaller fish and other vertebrates, fine sediment flushing and water quality maintenance. Contingency flows potentially enhance the system by introducing flow pulses in periods where the current system had sustained low flows (ELA, 2012b).

Detailed assessment of the potential impacts of the proposed dam on the flow regime of the Rocky Creek system considering the proposed environmental flow regime and changes to the operation of other water supply resources was undertaken by ELA (2012b). The environmental flow regime provides a substantial mechanism to minimise the impacts of dam operation on the Rocky Creek system while maintaining the downstream environment. Whole-of-catchment solutions will also assist in mitigating impacts of the proposed dam. The conservation of native vegetation riparian zones, including the buffer zone surrounding the dam as well as the creeks that make up the Terania system (i.e. Rocky Creek, Tuntable Creek and Terania Creek) will help to maintain and improve water quality and habitat for aquatic species, including those identified threatened species (ELA, 2012b).

The environmental flows assessment also recommended that mitigation measures should be incorporated into environmental management plans relating to both construction and operation to manage impacts on the system as a result of the proposed environmental flow regime. Monitoring of hydrology, water quality and aquatic ecology during the pre-construction and operational phases of the project was also recommended.

The review of environmental flow regimes (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2020c) concluded the following in relation to Dunoon Dam:

- Previous assessment of environmental flows by ELA (2012b) followed a holistic approach incorporating multi-faceted ecosystem components and supported by field survey data and modelled flow data under a range of flow scenarios. The study was completed over 8 years ago but the methods employed remain valid and reflect contemporary environmental flow assessment methods.
- One exception was the reliance on a small number of benchmark fish species to establish environmental flow requirements. Further investigation of fish species within the subject site and connected aquatic environments is recommended to update species information and allow for a comprehensive assessment as to the suitability of the environmental flow regime proposed by ELA (2012b). This would include providing more information to determine whether the presence of key species used in determining environmental flows (e.g. Eastern Freshwater Cod) occur naturally or only exist through artificial stocking.
- Should Dunoon Dam be considered further as a future source, there may be opportunities for development of a balanced system of synergistic operating rules and environmental flow releases from RCD to Dunoon Dam, providing benefits for Rocky Creek in the reach between the two dams (approximately 8 km).

## 7.8 Cultural Heritage

A preliminary Heritage Impact Assessment was undertaken for the proposed Dunoon Dam (Ainsworth Heritage, 2013). The assessment was updated following a peer review (Australian Museum Business Services, 2012). A summary of the findings of the heritage assessment from Ainsworth Heritage (2013) is provided below.

Ainsworth Heritage (2013) reviewed the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal history of the Dunoon area. Settlement of the area was undertaken first by the Widjabul people of the Bundjalung Nation, who were then displaced from the land by white settlers. The arriving white settlers first cleared and then cultivated the land for various crops, a process that has continued to the current day.

Based on the information gleaned from the research phase of the assessment, a field survey was undertaken which sought to identify and record both Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal sites. Thirteen Non-aboriginal sites were located, which were assessed to have varying significance of a local nature. The most notable sites were the Depression era causeway and the Fraser Road and McPherson Homesteads. Numerous Aboriginal sites were located, consisting of scarred trees, grinding grooves, artefacts and a collection of burials. The collection of Aboriginal sites together is generally of State significance, allowing assumptions on how the Widjabul utilised and accessed the valley over time. Large sections of the dam area were inaccessible due to a combination of thick vegetation and steep terrain in conjunction with inclement weather patterns. The recommendations of the assessment have outlined where additional research will be required to ensure that any future impact is properly assessed and mitigated if the proposed dam is to go ahead.

Due to the nature of the proposed development, the vast majority of sites will undergo high impact which will result in the loss of most of the sites unless mitigation measures are put in place. As part of the review of the draft report, the views of both the Aboriginal Stakeholders and the wider community was sought in order to ensure that the management and mitigation measures, largely concerned with recording and recovery, are undertaken in consultation and conjunction with the relevant stakeholders. This is in accordance with OEH guidelines and will provide much greater certainty for the recommendations and conclusions of the report.

Non-Aboriginal heritage within the proposed dam site which would see high impact has been determined to be of little or no significance and presents no impediment to any future plans for the site. However, management recommendations have been developed by Ainsworth Heritage (2013b) for individual sites

Ainsworth Heritage (2013b) considers that there remains a risk that the approval of the proposed development may be refused on heritage grounds. The assessment recommends that further investigations of the burials with limited excavation is undertaken, subject to relevant approvals and not before all other water augmentation options have been considered. Areas for future assessment for Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs) have also been identified. Continued consultation with Aboriginal stakeholder groups as to the best methods of protection for all identified sites is also required (Ainsworth Heritage, 2013).

Based on the inundation area (Figure 6), most cultural heritage sites are likely to be impacted through inundation for both the 20 GL and 50 GL storages (apart from the eastern-most site and the historic site to the south-east) although the elevation of the sites has not been documented. The two historic sites to the north may be outside the inundation area for the 20 GL dam. The Aboriginal marked trees in the dam infrastructure area could potentially be protected. Inundation of the sites with a smaller dam (FSL at lower elevation) has not been determined.

## 7.9 Secure Yield

NSW Urban Water Services (2013) assessed the yield benefit from the 20 GL and 50 GL Dunoon Dam for the current climate and 1°C warming as part of the IWP process (Table 10).

**Table 10: Increase in system secure yield with Dunoon Dam**

Option	Historic climate (5/10/10)	Reduction factor <sup>1</sup>	1°C climate warming
20 GL Dunoon Dam	9,750	0.858	8,366
50 GL Dunoon Dam	20,450	0.858	17,546

Source: NSW Urban Water Services (2013)

1. Reduction factor was not calculated for the 20 GL option and the factor for the 50 GL option has been applied.

The secure yield will be re-assessed using the RCC Bulk Water Supply Security Model to optimise transfer and operating rules. The 2020, 2030 and 2060 secure yield of the Dunoon Dam options is shown in Figure 9, using a similar approach as for the current system (Section 5.2).



**Figure 9: Secure yield estimates – Dunoon Dam options**

## 7.10 Cost Estimates

Preliminary cost estimates have been developed by NSW Public Works Advisory (2020b) for the capital and operating costs of the 50 GL and 20 GL Dunoon Dam options as detailed in Table 11. Net present value (NPV) calculations are included in Appendix 1. The cost estimates for the 20 GL dam assume that it will be raised in future to a 50 GL dam (i.e. transfer systems and other infrastructure are sized for the 50 GL dam). The cost of a 20 GL dam without provision for the dam raising has not been estimated.



**Table 11: Dunoon Dam preliminary cost estimate**

Component	20 GL dam, (2020 \$)	50 GL dam, (2020 \$)
Roller compacted concrete dam	\$80,473,250	\$112,275,735
Pumping station	\$16,091,790	\$16,091,790
Rising main	\$18,901,740	\$18,901,740
Roadworks	\$17,345,900	\$17,345,900
Indirect costs	\$55,384,835	\$55,384,835
Total initial capital cost	\$188,197,515	\$220,000,000
Renewal costs (80 years)	\$53,660,100	\$54,280,200
Maintenance costs (80 years)	\$11,750,275	\$12,190,755
Operating costs (80 years)	\$110,083,461	\$110,515,416
Whole-of-life (80 years)	\$363,691,351	\$396,986,371
NPV (80 years @ 5%)	\$204,345,989	\$234,596,513
NPV (40 years @ 5%)	\$196,325,548	\$226,526,974
Yield benefit (2020 – 2060) ML/a	7,179	15,057
NPV/ML secure yield (40 years)	\$27,347	\$15,045

## 7.11 Data Gaps and Key Risks

To progress the development of the Dunoon Dam option, data gaps and risks need to be addressed as discussed in the following table. These would be undertaken as part of planning stages and would be completed prior to a decision to proceed with the planning and approvals for the dam option (outlined in Section 7.3).

**Table 12: Data gaps and project risks – Dunoon Dam**

Item	Discussion	Action required
Additional concept design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preliminary longitudinal elevation plans for the proposed rising main and construction and easement acquisition costs.</li> <li>Infrastructure maintenance and renewal requirements.</li> <li>Design basis for all aspects of the project to provide the basis for detailed design.</li> <li>Destratification options.</li> <li>Review of capacity of Corndale quarry to supply aggregate.</li> <li>Dam amenities, site security landscaping and revegetation.</li> <li>Confirmation of power supply arrangements.</li> <li>Environmental monitoring requirements.</li> <li>Construction strategy.</li> <li>Procurement and contracting strategy.</li> <li>Detailed project program.</li> </ul>	RCC has commenced these investigations.
Dam break study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dam design in accordance with the latest (2019) Dam Safety Regulations and ANCOLD Guidelines.</li> </ul>	RCC has commenced these investigations.

Item	Discussion	Action required
Road upgrade requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment of road transport network and road improvements required.</li> </ul>	RCC has completed these investigations.
Cost estimates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of total project (capital) cost estimations for both the 20 GL and 50 GL dam.</li> <li>Peer review of capital and recurrent costings.</li> <li>Identification of RCC costs.</li> <li>Risk and opportunity assessment to identify contingency allowances.</li> </ul>	RCC has commenced these investigations.
Hydrology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised flood hydrology to provide updated loading on the dam structures for the dam break study with additional hydrographs to assess downstream flood impact.</li> <li>A review of all hydrology in accordance with Australian Rainfall and Runoff (2016/2019).</li> <li>Flood impact assessment.</li> </ul>	RCC has commenced these investigations.
Mini hydropower	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment of economic viability of downstream discharge structure to incorporate mini-hydroelectricity generation plant feeding power to the site and/or the electricity grid.</li> </ul>	RCC has commenced these investigations.
Geotechnical investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehensive geotechnical investigations are required for the storage basin and the roller compacted concrete wall and all appurtenant structures to refine the geological model and to prove the properties of construction materials.</li> <li>Geotechnical investigations are also required for the raw water rising main and new access road.</li> </ul>	Detailed design stage - while the geotechnical conditions of the site represent significant risk to the project, the intrusive nature of the investigations precludes further work at this stage.
Community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development and implementation of a community engagement strategy is required.</li> </ul>	Strategy to be developed as part of Future Water Project 2060.
Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed survey of the pipeline route, access road and dam infrastructure locations is required.</li> <li>Downstream development data would also be required for the dam break study.</li> </ul>	Detailed design stage.
Detailed design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed design of all infrastructure.</li> <li>An updated seismic hazard assessment and time history analysis should be obtained from the Seismic Research Centre from which appropriate earthquake load accelerations and parameters could be derived.</li> </ul>	Detailed design phase
Biodiversity offset strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of Biodiversity Development Assessment Report in accordance with <i>the Biodiversity Conservation Act, 2016</i>.</li> <li>Review of offset requirements to include mitigation of potential impacts on aquatic and riparian habitat.</li> <li>Development of an offset strategy and potential stewardship arrangements.</li> </ul>	Specialist studies



Item	Discussion	Action required
Aquatic ecology and environmental flows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A fishway is not currently included in the concept design. More detailed investigation of fish species within the subject site and connected aquatic environments, the interactions between the environmental flow regime, upstream and downstream environments and aquatic ecology is required.</li> <li>• Development of a balanced system of synergistic operating rules and environmental flow releases from RCD to Dunoon Dam may provide benefits for Rocky Creek in the reach between the two dams.</li> <li>• The ELA (2012b) recommends further study of the increase in the peak magnitude of flood events given that the current modelling of flow regimes that included RCD and Dunoon Dam at full capacity indicated that some flow events may lead to increased flood peaks above those that might have occurred in a natural regime. This model should include capacity to model water temperature, sediment and other water quality parameters to provide for a detailed hydro-dynamic assessment of the proposed dam.</li> <li>• Consultation with DPI-Fisheries.</li> </ul>	Specialist studies
Buffer zone planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land acquisition of buffer zone area.</li> <li>• Vegetation survey to confirm the level of rehabilitation work required in the area.</li> <li>• Development of management plans for the water quality protection areas and for the remaining catchment outside of the buffer zone.</li> <li>• Development of a water quality management system for the Rocky Creek/Dunoon Dam system.</li> </ul>	Specialist studies
Cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ainsworth Heritage (2013b) recommends that further investigations of the burials with limited excavation is undertaken, subject to relevant approvals and not before all other water augmentation options have been considered.</li> <li>• Areas for future assessment for PADS have also been identified.</li> <li>• Continued consultation with Aboriginal stakeholder groups.</li> </ul>	Specialist studies

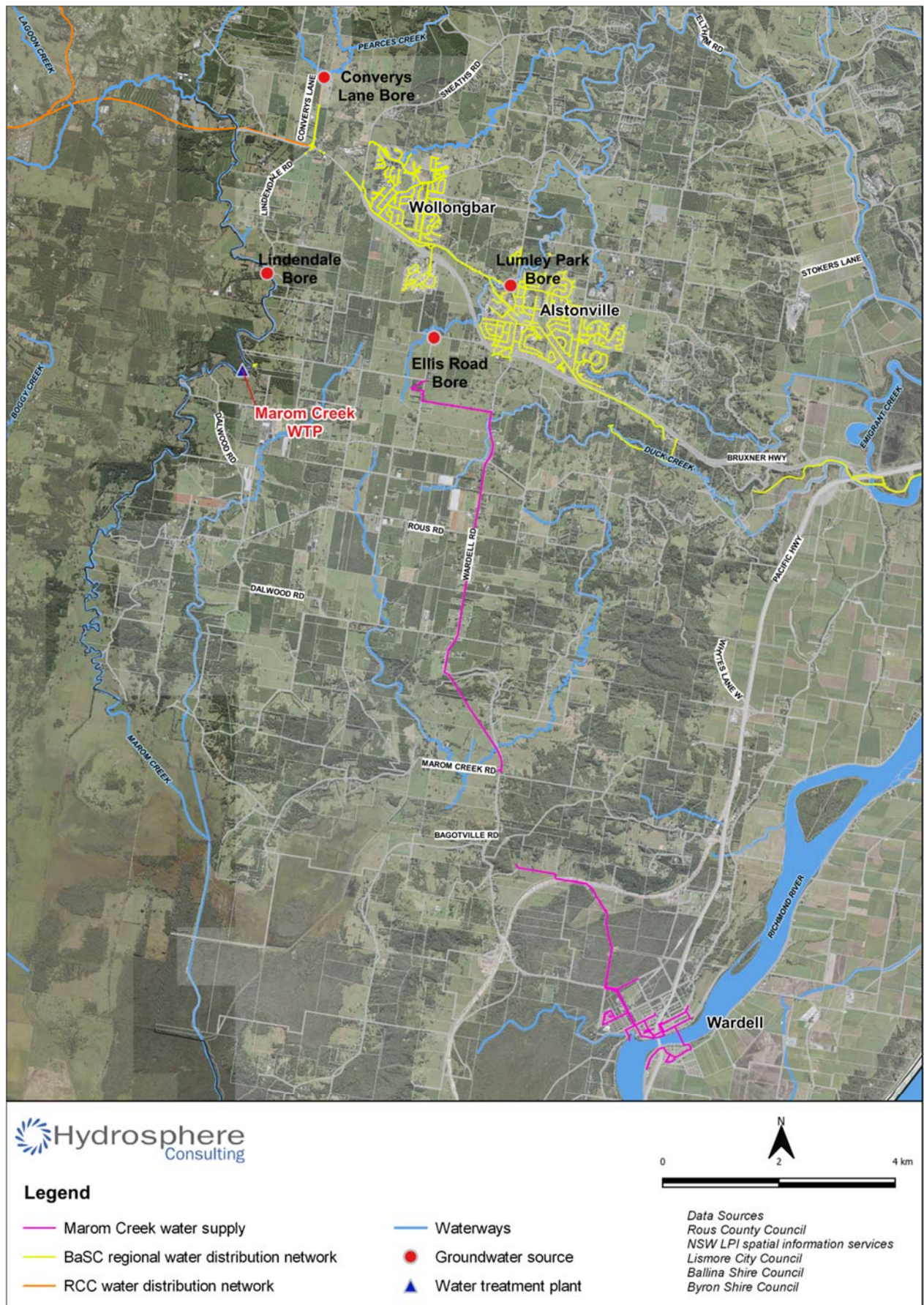
## **8. OPTION 2: MAROM CREEK WTP**

### **8.1 Background**

The Marom Creek water supply and WTP are owned and operated by BaSC. The Marom Creek water supply serves Meerschaum Vale, Wardell, Cabbage Tree Island and some rural customers. Water is sourced from a weir pool on Marom Creek. The water access licence entitles BaSC to extract 200 ML/a. The Ellis Road and Lindendale bores were formerly used to supply drinking water however they have been decommissioned. BaSC has existing licences to extract groundwater from these supplies (350 ML/a and 200 ML/a respectively).

Marom Creek WTP currently supplies a population of approximately 830 people with a maximum demand of up to 550 kL/d. The WTP has a capacity of 2.3 ML/d, limited by the capacity of the clear water pumps (CWT, 2018). The existing plant and raw water source have the capacity to supply the existing BaSC service area until 2036 (750 kL/d), however the WTP requires upgrading in order to be able to meet water quality targets. The existing surface water licence (548 kL/d) is sufficient to supply the current demand.

BSC has developed a 20-year Master Plan for the Marom Creek WTP and related assets (City Water Technology, 2018). The Master Plan identifies WTP improvements required to address operational issues, process performance and monitoring, maintaining compliance with drinking water quality standards, refurbishment or replacement of existing assets and maintaining capacity to meet current and future demands. The Master Plan covers the Marom Creek catchment and supply from Marom Creek Weir including demand requirements for existing Wardell customers and potential servicing of Alstonville and Wollongbar (currently served by the RCC bulk supply system).



**Figure 10: Marom Creek water supply**

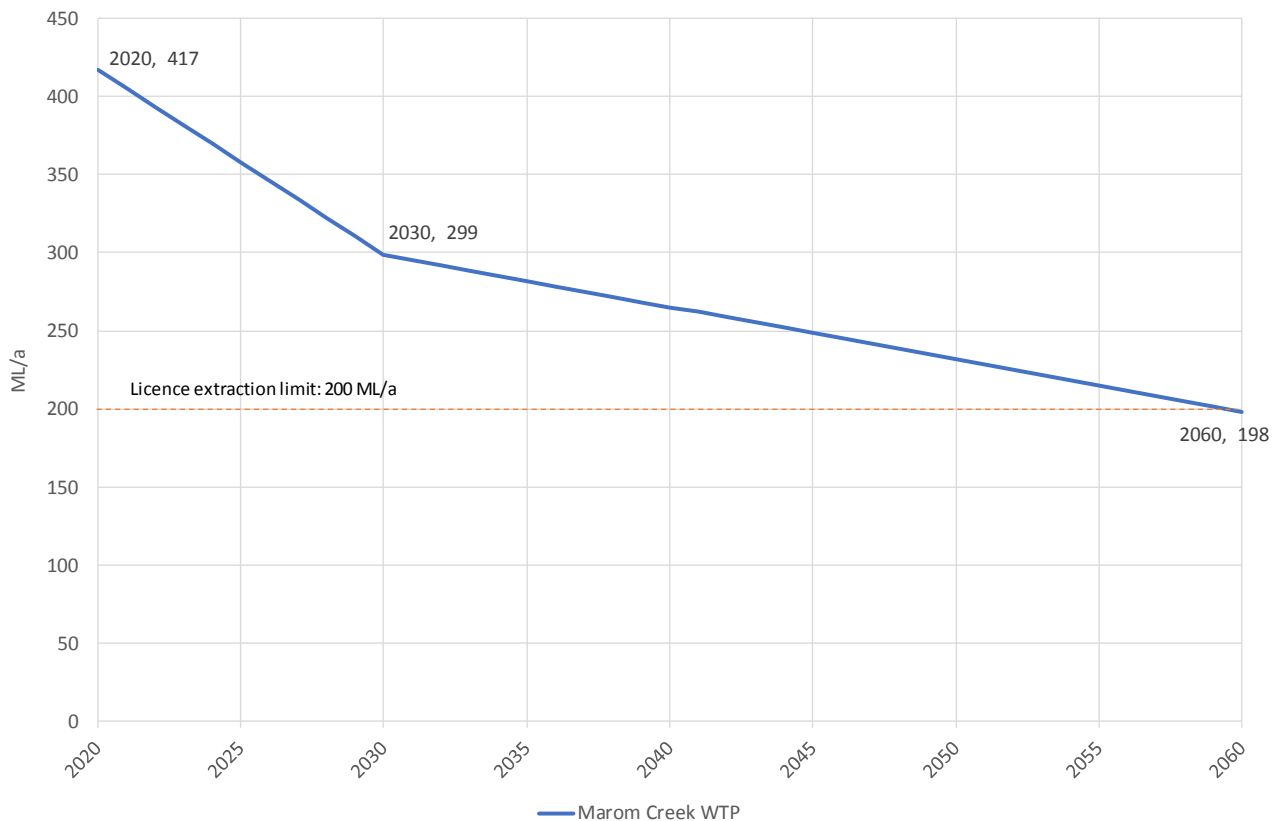
GIS data for the groundwater transfer and treated water distribution pipelines provided by BaSC appear to be incomplete.



## 8.2 Secure Yield

Data on current secure yield of Marom Creek Weir assumed in the Master Plan was based on a secure yield study (NSW Urban Water Services, 2017). This study assesses the current and future secure yield from the weir storage with capacity of 66 ML and 420 ML (based on two different estimates of existing storage capacity), Marom Creek WTP capacity (existing 225 kL/d and upgraded to 4.75 ML/d) and the licence extraction limit (200 ML/a).

The yield of the existing Marom Creek weir has been assessed as sufficient to service Wardell into the future (City Water Technology, 2018). The yield of the surface water with storage capacity of 66 ML with no limit on raw water transfer was found to be 417 ML/a, reducing to 299 ML/a with climate change (NSW Urban Water Services, 2017). However, the yield is limited by the existing licence limit of 200 ML/a. Source augmentation would be required to service other areas e.g. Alstonville or parts of Lismore. The existing yield of the Marom Creek water supply is shown on Figure 11.



**Figure 11: Secure yield estimates – Marom Creek**

Options considered in the Master Plan (City Water Technology, 2018) to increase the supply of water were:

- Raising Marom Creek weir to increase storage to 420 ML.
- Gum Creek Weir - a small, disused weir located near the intersection of Gum Creek and Dalwood Road.
- Lindendale bores - aquifer supply previously used for drinking water.
- Ellis Road bore - aquifer supply previously used for drinking water.

The Master Plan recommended a supply strategy including raising Marom Creek Weir and increasing the licence extraction limit to 1,258 ML/a (future demand of Wardell, Alstonville and Wollongbar is predicted to

be 1,126 ML/a) and refurbishment of Ellis Road bore and connection to Marom Creek WTP (to be upgraded).

The RCC yield study report (NSW Urban Water Services, 2018) assessed the yield of the RCC bulk supply system with Marom Creek water supply included and found that the secure yield with historic climate would increase by 932 – 1,011 ML/a depending on the Wardell demand (not considering the existing licence limit or WTP capacity).

The option considered in this report involves transfer of the Marom Creek WTP to RCC with the excess capacity used to serve Alstonville, Wollongbar and potentially Lismore. The current spare capacity of the WTP is 0.8 ML/d (198 ML/a). Future augmentation of the Marom Creek WTP is possible (e.g. to 4.3 ML/d as proposed by CWT (2018)). This relies on increasing the surface water licence limit to supply the extra raw water demand. WTP upgrades would also be required to meet water quality requirements.

### 8.3 Cost Estimates

Preliminary cost estimates have been developed by CWT (2018) for the capital and operating costs of the Marom WTP upgrade as detailed in Table 13. NPV calculations are included in Appendix 1.

**Table 13: Marom Creek WTP upgrade preliminary cost estimate**

Component	Cost Estimate (2020 \$)
Engineering	\$1,831,750
WTP upgrade	\$7,327,000
Total initial capital cost	\$9,158,750
Renewal costs (80 years)	\$5,641,791
Maintenance costs (80 years)	\$49,365,702
Operating costs (80 years)	\$19,402,383
Whole-of-life (80 years)	\$83,568,626
NPV (80 years @ 5%)	\$24,561,843
NPV (40 years @ 5%)	\$22,088,688
Yield benefit (2020 – 2060) ML/a	198
NPV/ML secure yield (40 years)	\$111,559

## 8.4 Data Gaps and Key Risks

To progress the development of the Marom Creek option, data gaps and risks need to be addressed as discussed in the following table. These would be undertaken as part of planning stages and would be completed prior to a decision to proceed with the planning and approvals for the option.

**Table 14: Data gaps and project risks – Marom Creek**

Item	Discussion	Action required
Licence limit	Increased extraction limit will be required to meet future demand	RCC has had preliminary discussions with DPIE – Water which indicate that it will be possible to increase the extraction limit. Further liaison with DPIE-Water is required.
Asset ownership	Assets are currently owned by BaSC.	RCC will liaise with BaSC regarding the potential for transfer of assets.
Secure yield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing system – storage volume is to be confirmed and yield to be re-assessed if required.</li> <li>Groundwater options – requires assessment.</li> <li>Weir raising – requires re-assessment following detailed storage survey.</li> <li>Optimisation of yield with connection to existing regional supply.</li> </ul>	RCC will liaise with BaSC regarding the investigations required.
Concept development	Confirmation of water source, WTP, service area and transfer system concept.	RCC will liaise with BaSC and regulatory agencies regarding the investigations required.
Community engagement	Development and implementation of a community engagement strategy is required.	Strategy to be developed as part of Future Water Project 2060.
Detailed design	Detailed design of all infrastructure.	Detailed design phase
Cost estimates	Review of total project cost estimates	Detailed design phase

## 9. OPTION 3: GROUNDWATER

### 9.1 Background

Detailed investigations into the identification and assessment of groundwater sources were undertaken in 2015 (Jacobs, 2015a; Jacobs, 2015b; Jacobs, 2015c; Jacobs, 2015d; Jacobs, 2015e) to review the available data and information on regional groundwater sources. Based on an assessment of the geology and hydrogeology, the initial studies identified three areas with the potential to host groundwater supply schemes at North Lennox Head-Newrybar (coastal sands aquifer), Woodburn (coastal sands aquifer) and Dunoon (basalt). In 2016, three stages of drilling programs were undertaken in these three areas to further investigate the groundwater yields and water quality (Jacobs, 2017a; Jacobs, 2017b; Jacobs, 2017c). As a result, the investigations were expanded to include the Tyagarah area and the basalt aquifer in the Alstonville area. Further desktop, surface geophysical and hydrogeological investigations of the areas identified at Tyagarah and Newrybar were undertaken to identify the areas with the potential to provide groundwater supply (Groundwater Imaging, 2017).

The final locations for groundwater supply options have been identified in the detailed investigations as follows:

1. Woodburn.
2. Newrybar.
3. Tyagarah.
4. Alstonville.

The water quality risk assessment carried out for each of these areas provided guidance for development of these options including the appropriate drinking water treatment processes that should be applied in each area to deliver water that complies with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and the level of risk mitigation required to address the potential hazards identified due to the location of the bores and the nature of the borefield recharge areas.

### 9.2 Environmental, Land Use and Heritage Considerations

Jacobs (2015b) provided a high-level review of environmental, land use and heritage issues within the study area to provide context to potential source areas and schemes. Issues covered included:

- Planning and statutory requirements – there were no issues identified that would present a risk to approvals for investigation or development stages for the final locations.
- Land contamination – no areas of contamination were identified that would make the final sources unsuitable as a source of water.
- Heritage – potential impacts on known heritage sites were considered.
- Environmental issues that may impact on the sustainability of different sources. Environmental issues considered for the development of the permanent bores were:
  - Potential impact on groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs) and flows in waterways where groundwater contributes significantly. While these impacts can generally be managed, potential impacts were avoided.
  - Proximity to acid sulphate soil areas – lowering of groundwater tables may result in the oxidation of these soils and associated impacts.

- Direct and indirect impacts of supporting infrastructure to permanent bores. This includes pipelines to connect the bores to regional water reticulation networks, pumping stations, water treatment facilities etc. In terms of direct impacts, the supporting infrastructure may have more substantial impacts than the actual bore infrastructure. This may include impacts on threatened ecological communities, flora and fauna, Aboriginal heritage and cultural sites, non-Aboriginal heritage sites, acid sulphate soils and sensitive receptors for noise and waterways

Jacobs (2015d) provided a multi-criteria assessment of all potential groundwater options considering the impact on GDEs at the proposed depth, the likelihood of increasing acid sulfate soil risk and known heritage issues. The results of the assessment for the Woodburn, Newrybar, Tyagarah and Alstonville options are summarised in Table 15. Further assessment will be required, however significant impacts can be avoided through site selection.

**Table 15: Environmental and heritage assessment outcomes – groundwater options**

Criteria	Woodburn	Newrybar	Tyagarah	Alstonville
Impact on GDEs at the proposed depth	Few GDEs but impacts manageable	Some GDE impacts, management unknown	Several GDEs, management difficult	Some GDE impacts, management unknown
Likelihood of increasing acid sulfate (ASS) soil risk	Medium probability of ASS <3m. Receptors >300m distance. Management required	Low probability of ASS <3m. Receptors >500m distance. Minor management required	Medium probability of ASS <3m. Receptors >300m distance. Management required	No known ASS to occur, no nearby receptors, no management required
Known heritage issues	No listed heritage sites, no management required	Known heritage in source area but impacts can be managed	No listed heritage sites, no management required	Some heritage areas but not adjacent to bore sites, no management required

Source: Jacobs (2015d)

The groundwater options are discussed in the following sections.

### 9.3 Option 3-1: Woodburn

There is an existing bore supply at Woodburn consisting of three bores (No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3) in the coastal sands aquifer which augments the supply to the Lower Richmond River supply area (Woodburn, Broadwater, Evans Head and Coraki) during dry periods (Section 3). In 2007/08 the borefield produced 46 ML. The existing borefield has a licence entitlement of 726 ML/a. Bores 1 and 2 have been compromised by the development of the Pacific Highway and are no longer used. Bore 3 has been replaced and is used as an emergency supply.

Based on the findings of the initial groundwater investigations, desktop investigations were undertaken for a potential new borefield scheme at Woodburn. Jacobs (2017d) provided preliminary aquifer modelling and determined borefield production estimates for the coastal sands aquifer in the Woodburn area and found that the Woodburn aquifer is capable of supplying the 2060 annual day demand for the Lower Richmond River supply area. Water quality was determined to be suitable for drinking water if appropriate treatment is implemented (iron and manganese removal) (Jacobs, 2018a). A concept design and capital cost estimate have been prepared for the scheme (Jacobs, 2018b).



The concept design for the Woodburn borefield includes four production bores (existing No. 3 and new No. 4, No. 5 and No. 6) which would operate 22 hours per day at 16 L/s providing a maximum borefield capacity of 5.0 ML/d. Bore pumps would be designed to operate with a 10 m maximum draw down in each bore (Jacobs, 2018b).

Treated water would be transferred to the existing Lower Richmond River supply system. The groundwater WTP would be located on the site of the existing chlorination facility and have a daily production capacity of 5.0 ML/d (Figure 12). The WTP would require the following treatment processes:

- Aeration unit with provision for pre-chlorination.
- Pre lime dosing for pH correction and alkalinity (if necessary) for reliable coagulation.
- Chemical coagulation with alum and flocculation.
- Upflow clarification to settle and remove floc (as waste sludge).
- Filtration of clarified water through multi-media gravity filter with filter air and water backwash.
- Collection of clarifier waste sludge and filter backwash water to enable recovery of washwater for blending.
- Thickening and disposal of sludge.
- UV disinfection designed for 4.0 log removal for *Cryptosporidium*.
- Post soda ash dosing for pH correction, and fluoridation.
- Chlorination to provide effective disinfection and a free chlorine residual to protect the treated water transfer system against recontamination.

If required ozonation and biologically activate carbon (BAC) filtration would be included between filtration and UV disinfection as a barrier to potential organic pollutant and taste and odour precursors.



**Figure 12: Woodburn groundwater WTP inlet and layout**

Source: Jacobs (2018b)

## 9.4 Option 3-2: Newrybar

Two options for groundwater supply at Newrybar have been identified (north and south) which may be combined to reduce capital costs. Concept designs and cost estimates for the Newrybar groundwater scheme are provided in Jacobs (2020b). The groundwater supply from these two sources would be combined with existing supplies to the Knockrow reservoir.

Based on the results from test bores in the vicinity, the total dissolved solids (TDS) of the water drawn from continuous operation of bores at the Newrybar south site would be around 5,000 mg/L resulting in the need for brackish water desalination of the groundwater to produce drinking water quality. The groundwater would require conventional treatment to clarify the water before reverse osmosis (RO) to remove salinity (Jacobs, 2020b). The method and costs associated with waste disposal from this treatment process have not yet been determined.

Up to 5 production bores and a standby bore each capable of producing 15 L/s (75 L/s in total) for a period of 22 hrs/day resulting in a daily brackish groundwater production of capacity of 6.0 ML/d from the south borefield. The estimated final output is 5.4 ML/d of drinking water discharged to the Knockrow reservoir and 0.6 ML/d of brine. A supply of low TDS groundwater is proposed in north Newrybar from 5 production bores and one standby bore each capable of producing 5 L/s (25 L/s in total) for 22 hrs/day with a daily production capacity of 2.0 ML/d. It is proposed to combine the two borefield supplies with treatment at a single WTP. The integrated Newrybar groundwater scheme would require a WTP comprised of a conventional clarifier and RO.

## 9.5 Option 3-3: Tyagarah

Concept designs and cost estimates for the Tyagarah groundwater scheme are provided in Jacobs (2020b). There are two schemes which have been identified for utilising the groundwater produced at Tyagarah. Scheme 1 would transfer the treated groundwater to the Ocean Shores reservoirs (Saddle Road, Yamble and Warrambool) and Rous retail customers and Scheme 2 to the St Helena reservoir.

Jacobs (2020b) considered that the schemes could be constructed in two stages:

- Scheme 1:
  - Stage 1 - supply 6.4 ML/d of treated water from four production bores and one standby bore. Groundwater treated at a new WTP with the capacity to treat both stages.
  - Stage 2 - construction of an extra bore to supply 7.5 ML/d.
- Scheme 2:
  - Stage 1 - supply 10.8 ML/d of treated water from six production bores and one standby bore. Groundwater treated at a new WTP with the capacity to treat both stages.
  - Stage 2 - construction of an extra bore to supply 12.5 ML/d

The option considered in this report includes initial construction of Scheme 1, stage 1 with future expansion to include Scheme 2 with an ultimate capacity of 12.5 ML/d. The future scheme would supply all of the Byron Shire apart from Bangalow with treated water distributed to the Ocean Shores reservoirs, retail customers along the Brunswick 300 trunk main and St Helena reservoir (servicing Byron Bay and Rous retail customers).

## 9.6 Option 3-4: Alstonville

The existing Alstonville borefield consists of 2 production bores, one at Lumley Park and one at Converys Lane which extract groundwater from fractured basalt to augment supply during dry periods (Section 3). This option proposes that the bore at Lumley Park be retained while the bore at Converys Lane would be replaced with a new bore adjacent to the existing bore. Concept designs and cost estimates for the Tyagarah groundwater scheme are provided in Jacobs (2020b). The two bores would operate 22 hours per day and a minimum of 320 days per year. This option proposes the construction of a standby bore at Elvery Lane to provide operational security. The existing water licence for the Converys Lane bore can be transferred to the replacement bore providing it is constructed within 20m of the existing bore. A new WTP and a transfer pump station and pipeline to transfer the groundwater to the Wollongbar reservoir would be required. The estimated long-term capacity of the two bores is 4.5 ML/d

Jacobs (2020b) also considered the option of utilising the existing Marom Creek WTP (refer Section 8) to treat groundwater from the Alstonville borefield. The existing Marom Creek surface water supply would be blended with the groundwater supply. Cost savings would be achieved by utilising the existing Marom Creek WTP and the existing pipeline from the Marom Creek WTP to Wollongbar reservoir (not presently used) to transfer groundwater to the WTP. A new pipeline from the Marom Creek WTP to Wollongbar reservoir would be required.

The option considered in this report is the new bores (CL1 and AL2) at Wollongbar and Alstonville, with groundwater transferred to the Marom Creek WTP with distribution to customers from the Wollongbar reservoir.

## 9.7 Summary of Groundwater Options

### 9.7.1 Borefield and WTP capacity

A summary of the four groundwater options considered in this report is given in Table 16.

**Table 16: Summary of groundwater options**

Borefield	Groundwater inflow to WTP (ML/d)	WTP capacity (ML/d)	Treatment process
Woodburn	5.0	5.0	Conventional
Integrated Newrybar	8.0	7.2	Conventional and RO
Tyagarah (Scheme 1, Stage 1)	7.5	6.4	Conventional
Tyagarah (Scheme 2)	13.9	12.5	Conventional
Alstonville	4.5	4.0	Conventional

Source: adapted from Jacobs (2020b)

### 9.7.2 Secure yield

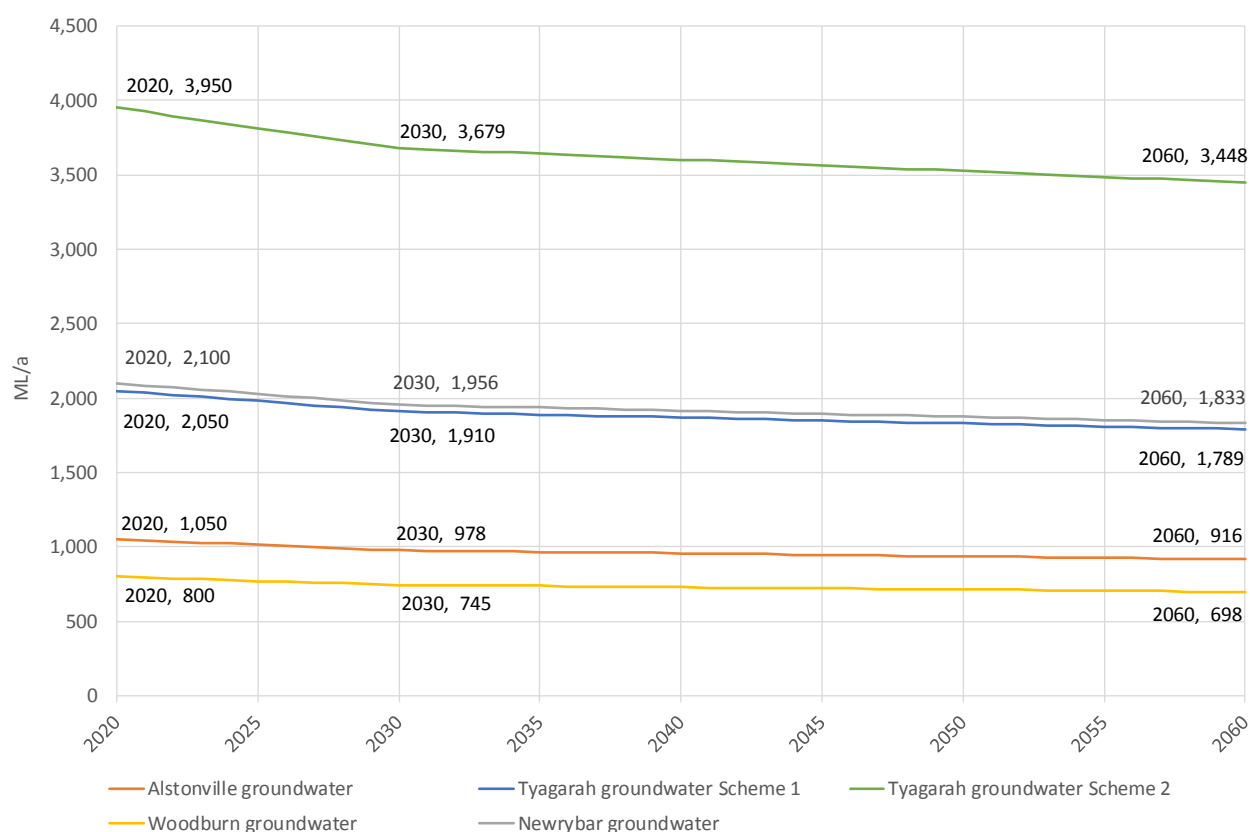
The secure yield of the groundwater schemes has been assessed using the RCC Bulk Water Supply Security Model (Engeny, 2020) with results shown in Table 17. The 2020, 2030 and 2060 secure yield of the groundwater options is shown in Figure 13, using a similar approach as for the current system (Section 5.2).

**Table 17: Increase in system secure yield with groundwater schemes**

Option	Historic climate (5/10/10)	Reduction factor <sup>1</sup>	1°C climate warming
Woodburn	800	0.932	745
Integrated Newrybar	2,100		1,956
Tyagarah (Scheme 1, Stage 1)	2,050		1,910
Tyagarah (Scheme 2)	3,950		3,679
Alstonville	1,050		978

Source: Engeny (2020).

1. Reduction factor was only calculated for the combined groundwater schemes and has been applied to each scheme.

**Figure 13: Secure yield estimates – groundwater options**

### 9.7.3 Cost estimates

Preliminary cost estimates for each groundwater option have been provided by Jacobs (2020b) as detailed in Table 18. NPV calculations are included in Appendix 1.

**Table 18: Groundwater preliminary cost estimate**

Component	Woodburn (2020 \$)	Integrated Newrybar (2020 \$)	Tyagarah (Scheme 1, Stage 1) (2020 \$)	Tyagarah (Scheme 2) (2020 \$) <sup>1</sup>	Alstonville (2020 \$)
Pre-construction costs	\$3,812,000	\$14,535,000	\$11,355,000	\$2,930,000	\$7,612,000
Construction costs	\$31,685,000	\$47,160,000	\$37,250,000	\$25,206,250	\$31,190,000
Integration costs	\$985,000	\$1,460,000	\$1,175,000	\$635,000	\$985,000
Total initial capital cost	\$36,482,000	\$63,155,000	\$50,852,000	\$30,462,250	\$25,941,000
Renewal costs (80 years)	\$67,928,077	\$79,534,935	\$96,773,395	\$127,695,494	\$67,433,077
Maintenance costs (80 years)	\$13,104,300	\$18,984,800	\$9,242,510	\$23,261,600	\$4,546,510
Operating costs (80 years)	\$52,288,000	\$113,316,000	\$72,420,960	\$108,479,120	\$45,843,200
Whole-of-life (80 years)	\$169,802,377	\$274,990,195	\$229,288,865	\$277,659,139	\$143,763,787
NPV (80 years @ 5%)	\$55,817,346	\$98,566,607	\$76,008,100	\$70,231,337	\$44,109,829
NPV (40 years @ 5%)	\$51,230,292	\$91,091,988	\$69,888,062	\$61,558,652	\$40,065,265
Yield benefit (2020 – 2060) ML/a	698	1,883	1,789	3,448	916
NPV/ML secure yield (40 years)	\$73,396	\$49,696	\$39,065	\$38,213	\$43,739

1. RCC has adjusted costs presented in Jacobs (2020b) to allow for the staged construction of the Tyagarah scheme. The ultimate scheme would provide a yield benefit of 3,448 ML/a with costs from both stages.

## 9.8 Data Gaps and Key Risks

To progress the development of these four groundwater options, the items outlined in Table 19 should be addressed by RCC. These would be undertaken as part of planning stages and would be completed prior to a decision to proceed with the planning and approvals for the groundwater options.

**Table 19: Data gaps and project risks – groundwater**

Item	Discussion	Action required
Concept development	Further bore testing to confirm the sustainable yields, impacts on other water users within the aquifers and water quality.	Bore testing
Wastewater disposal	Development of options for disposal of brine waste from Newrybar RO plant.	Concept development
Concept design	Concept designs for Newrybar, Tyagarah and Alstonville groundwater options (bores, collector systems, treatment and integration with existing network) are required.	Concept designs
Detailed design	Detailed design of all infrastructure.	Detailed design phase
Cost estimates	Review of total project cost estimates.	Detailed design phase
Environmental investigation	Detailed investigation of the environmental impacts of bore construction and associated infrastructure.	Specialist studies
Land acquisition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment of property acquisition costs (land and administration charges) under the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i>.</li> <li>Subsequent purchase of land.</li> </ul>	Land valuation and acquisition
Community engagement	Development and implementation of a community engagement strategy is required.	Strategy to be developed as part of Future Water Project 2060.

## 10. OPTION 4: DESALINATION

Desalination is the process of removing salt and other minerals from water. Desalination of seawater provides an unlimited, climate independent and reliable new water supply. However, energy consumption is very high.

### 10.1 Site and Treatment Options

Detailed investigations into desalination investigations were undertaken by GANDEN (2020). The investigations included a review of previous studies, confirmation of plant capacity and identification and assessment of potential locations of the plant considering network connectivity, power supply, social and environmental factors. Various desalination technologies, intake and outlet structures were considered. Single facilities of 5-10 ML/d capacity were considered to ensure economic viability.

The following three potential site locations were identified for the assessment based on previous information and in consultation with RCC:

- Byron Bay (adjacent to the existing West Byron wastewater treatment plant (WWTP)).
- Lennox Head (adjacent to the existing WWTP).
- South Ballina.

These locations were selected based on the following considerations:

- Proximity to seawater sources.
- Water supply demand in areas of large population growth or existing high population to justify the capital expenditure.
- Proximity of electrical infrastructure and water reticulation networks that can support the proposed facilities.

The opportunities, risks and constraints identified for each location in the desktop study are outlined in Table 20.

**Table 20: Risk and opportunities of different desalination plant locations**

Location	Opportunities	Risks and Constraints
Lennox Head	<p>Location of large population growth.</p> <p>Likely good access to land adjacent to existing WWTP.</p> <p>Co-location of existing WWTP ocean outfall.</p> <p>Simple to connect to power.</p>	<p>Expensive to connect intake underneath Skennars Head properties.</p> <p>Connection to East Ballina reservoirs would be required as current population does not warrant a new 5 – 10 ML/d plant.</p> <p>Emigrant Creek WTP and Knockrow reservoir already provide more supply redundancy than other LGAs (e.g. Byron Shire).</p>



Location	Opportunities	Risks and Constraints
South Ballina	<p>Large baseline population in Ballina Shire.</p> <p>Cheaper land compared to alternative locations.</p> <p>5 ML/d would serve current population and 10 ML/d would serve Ballina, Skennars Head and Lennox Head.</p>	<p>Expensive to connect power and treated water pipeline across the Richmond River, adding \$5.0 - \$10 million using horizontally direct drilling.</p> <p>Would require connection to Skennars Head and Lennox Head to justify 10 ML/d capacity.</p> <p>Location at risk of inundation and being isolated during floods.</p> <p>Intake/outfall in area of high erodibility.</p> <p>Water quality risk due to flood waters creating sediment plume at the Richmond River mouth.</p> <p>Additional expense to extend intake/outfall past observed Richmond River sediment plume.</p>
Byron Bay	<p>High demand area with high population growth.</p> <p>RCC may operate the facility to deal with additional potable demand associated with seasonal events and tourism influx.</p> <p>Simple connection to existing electrical infrastructure and potable water mains.</p> <p>No perceived risk of flood inundation.</p>	<p>Potentially expensive building envelope.</p> <p>Tyagarah Nature Reserve runs along coast and is highly sensitive to erosion.</p> <p>Community perception would need to be managed carefully.</p>

Source: GANDEN (2020)

Based on the risks and opportunities identified in Table 20, Byron Bay was chosen as the preferred location as it located in an area with large projected growth with the future projected demand of the wider area (Byron Bay, Suffolk Park, Ocean Shores, Brunswick Heads and Bangalow) predicted to grow to 11 ML/d by 2036 making it a suitable area to be served by a 10 ML/d desalination plant (Figure 14). Furthermore, the site is located close to power supplies and the existing water reticulation network (GANDEN, 2020).

Multi-criteria analysis was undertaken to compare a range of desalination technologies and a range of seawater intake technologies able meet the following three mandatory criteria:

- Achieves water quality objectives (i.e. will meet the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines).
- Possible to implement in Rous regional supply area.
- Practical to implement in Rous regional supply area.

The MCA assessed the technologies on their whole life cost, proof of the technology, resourcing, support and process resilience (considering environmental changes such as beach erosion, salinity and turbidity resulting from heavy rain) and their value for money. Seawater Reverse Osmosis (SWRO) was chosen over Electrodialysis Reversal as the preferred desalination technology. Offshore Open Intake was chosen over a Subsurface Ranney Collector as the preferred seawater intake technology. Other desalination (nanofiltration, Capacitive Deionisation/ Membrane assisted Capacitive Deionisation, Ion exchange and thermal and solar distillation) and seawater intake technologies were assessed by GANDEN (2020) however they did not meet the mandatory criteria.





**Figure 14: Proposed desalination plant location in Byron Bay**

Source: GANDEN, 2020

A cost comparison was used to compare conventional pre-treatment (coagulation-flocculation-media filtration) and microfiltration (MF) and ultrafiltration (UF) systems. MF/UF filtration was provisionally recommended by GANDEN (2020) however the report acknowledges this preference is based on limited data on feedwater quality.

## 10.2 Preliminary Concept Design

A concept design layout and cost estimates were provided by GANDEN (2020) for the preferred option which includes a seawater desalination plant with a production capacity of 10 ML/d. The plant would be constructed in stages of 5 ML/d initially followed by two incremental increases of 2.5 ML/d to achieve the ultimate capacity of 10 ML/d.

The preliminary concept design was developed by GANDEN using Suez Water Technologies & Solutions' 'skid-based' technology to allow for a staged construction approach. The concept design comprises the following components:

- Ocean offshore seawater intake system.
- Pre-treatment screens.
- Chemical dosing.
- UF/MF pre-treatment filtration.
- 4 x 2.5 ML/d scalable 'SeaPAK' (A Suez Water product) trains.
- High pressure pumps, membrane pressure vessels and energy recovery devices.

- Post treatment systems, including pH adjustment and fluoridation requirements.
- Backwash wastewater settling tank, belt press and sludge disposal systems.
- Brine outfall systems.
- Building and amenities.

The concept design for the seawater intake and waste outfall has not been finalised as these are dependent on the final site selection. However, as they would be located in the Cape Byron Marine Park, potential impacts and approval requirements would need to be addressed. The intake would most likely comprise a directionally drilled pipeline with a dual intake/outfall system.

Chemicals such as sodium hypochlorite, anti-scalant, biocide, sodium bisulphite, sulphuric acid, remineralisation chemicals and 'clean in place' solution are required for dosing and would be stored in either 20 L drums, itemised bulk containers or small tanks and directly dosed from the storage device. Disinfection of the treated water would be undertaken at the treated water reservoir/chlorine contact tank. Concentrate disposal would be achieved by depositing the reject concentrated brine water through the outfall system and hence treatment chemicals would be selected to allow for environmental discharge (to be confirmed during detailed environmental assessment and monitoring). Pre-filtration of the intake water would be achieved using membrane ultrafiltration. Cartridge filters would be situated between the UF units and RO membranes to act as a second line of defence in case of UF filtration failure.

The SWRO membranes would be fixed inside fiberglass reinforced plastic pressure vessels (normally between 5 and 7 membranes per vessel). Multiple pressure vessels would be located on a rack, called "arrays" or modules. The RO permeate would then be transferred to post treatment and the concentrate to disposal via an ocean outfall. The feed water would pass through the RO membranes once (i.e. a one-pass system) to produce approximately 40% RO permeate and 60% concentrate. Approximately 252 membranes and 36 RO pressure vessels would be required for each 2.5 ML/d train.

The desalination plant concept design is shown in Figure 15. The concept design includes future filtration and RO membranes which would be installed when the capacity of the plant is required to be increased.

Source: GANDEN, 2020

Desalination schemes that have been implemented in Australia have generally been met with significant community resistance and criticism (GeoLink, 2011, GANDEN, 2020). GeoLink (2011) suggested that for a desalination scheme in the Rous supply area to be accepted by the community, a multi-criteria assessment that is effectively communicated to the community would be necessary.

Based on a review of existing literature GANDEN (2020) identified and documented the following environmental challenges and potential impediments associated with developing desalination facilities:

- 
- Hydrosphere Consulting

- Potential environmental and ecological impacts associated with brine discharge.
- Potential environmental impacts on coastal land.
- Native title considerations.
- Energy consumption.

An environmental impact assessment would be required to assess environmental conditions and establish design parameters. A Marine Parks permit would be required to construct an intake/outfall pipeline at the Byron Bay site (permissibility of this activity has been assumed).

The *Northern Rivers Regional Bulk Water Supply Study* (Hydrosphere Consulting, 2013) found that the incorporation of marine water desalination would be an attractive source augmentation option for a regional scheme (including interconnection with the Tweed Bray Park system) as this is easily scalable to match demand and is independent of climate, thus providing a highly secure water supply. Desalination provides climate independence that is currently missing from the region's water supplies. Desalination schemes have been successfully developed elsewhere and improvements in technology are likely to improve the attractiveness in future.

## 10.4 Secure yield

The secure yield of the desalination option has been assessed using the RCC Bulk Water Supply Security Model (Engeny, 2020) with results shown in Table 21.

**Table 21: Increase in system secure yield with desalination**

Option	Historic climate (5/10/10)	Reduction factor <sup>1</sup>	1°C climate warming
Desalination (10 ML/d)	1,550	1.0	1,550

Source: Engeny (2020).

1. Desalination is independent of climate.

## 10.5 Cost Estimates

The capital cost for the proposed plant was developed by GANDEN (2020) by benchmarking against a desalination plant in Agnes Waters as the most representative example of a similar sized desalination project executed in Australia (Table 22). NPV calculations are included in Appendix 1.

**Table 22: Desalination preliminary cost estimate**

Component	Cost Estimate (2020 \$)
Stage 1 – 5 ML/d capital cost	\$47,000,000
Stage 2 – 2 x 2.5 ML/d capital cost	\$7,000,000
Renewal costs (80 years)	\$36,794,547
Maintenance costs (80 years)	\$20,765,000
Operating costs (80 years)	\$103,138,940
Whole-of-life (80 years)	\$214,698,487
NPV (80 years @ 5%)	\$84,662,855
NPV (40 years @ 5%)	\$78,991,236
Yield benefit (2020 – 2060) ML/a	1,550

Component	Cost Estimate (2020 \$)
NPV/ML secure yield (40 years)	\$50,962

## 10.6 Data Gaps and Key Risks

To progress the development of Byron Bay desalination option, the items outlined in Table 23 should be addressed by RCC. These would be undertaken as part of planning stages and would be completed prior to a decision to proceed with the planning and approvals for the desalination options.

**Table 23: Data gaps and project risks – Byron Bay desalination**

Item	Discussion	Action required
Location	Further investigation is required to confirm the most suitable plant location including further environmental assessment.	Detailed design phase
Integration	Further assessment of network integration and electrical headworks is required.	Detailed design phase
Cost estimates	Review of total project cost estimates.	Detailed design phase
Environmental investigation	Investigation of the environmental impacts	Specialist studies
Marine Park impacts	Investigation and consultation regarding impacts on Cape Byron Marine Park and approvals required.	Specialist studies
Land acquisition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment of property acquisition costs (land and administration charges) under the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991</i>.</li> <li>Subsequent purchase of land.</li> </ul>	Land valuation and acquisition
Community engagement	Development and implementation of a community engagement strategy is required. RCC considers that community opposition to desalination on the basis of high energy consumption is a significant risk.	Strategy to be developed as part of Future Water Project 2060
Detailed design	Detailed design of all infrastructure.	Detailed design phase



## 11. OPTION 5: INDIRECT POTABLE REUSE

### 11.1 Indirect Potable Reuse Scheme Options

This option involves reusing advanced treated wastewater effluent by transferring it to the surface water sources. The feasibility of indirect potable reuse (IPR) options was explored in a desktop study which considered opportunities to reuse wastewater effluent to reduce or replace potable water demand within the bulk supply area (CWT, 2020). The study considered the following six WWTPs for their potential to provide effluent for water reuse:

- Ballina WWTP (BaSC).
- Lennox Head WWTP (BaSC).
- Alstonville WWTP (BaSC).
- Bangalow WWTP (BySC).
- South Lismore WWTP (LCC).
- East Lismore WWTP (LCC).

CWT considered the current wastewater production, existing recycled water schemes and the location of each of the plants to consider how a reuse scheme could be configured. The potential quantity of source wastewater provided by each WWTP is provided in Table 24.

**Table 24: Current wastewater production and recycling levels at WWTPs**

Treatment plant	Annual Wastewater production (ML)	Current water reuse scheme	Current reuse rate/amount	Additional wastewater yield
Ballina WWTP	2,400 – 3,400	Dual reticulation recycled water scheme	NA	1,300 ML/a <sup>1</sup>
Lennox Head WWTP	1,400 – 1,700		10-80%	
Alstonville WWTP	600 – 750	Local recycled water scheme	Average- 50% Dry weather periods- 70-90%	70-120 ML/a <sup>2</sup>
Bangalow WWTP	140 - 170	Previous scheme- recycled water for bamboo crop irrigation	0% Previously 13%	70-110 ML/a <sup>2</sup>
South Lismore WWTP	NA	None	0	2,700 ML/a <sup>1</sup>
East Lismore WWTP	NA		0	

Source: CWT (2020), MWH (2014)

1. These values were assumed in the IWP process (MWH, 2014) but should be confirmed through further investigation.

2. These values have been estimated by CWT.

3. LCC data were not provided for the study.

Based on the potential additional yield, Ballina and Lennox Head (combined) and South Lismore and East Lismore (combined) were considered to be potential options for providing source effluent. The treated effluent from these sources may be transferred to a potable water supply source (ECD or Wilson River Source) where it would be further treated in an advanced water recycling plant (AWRP) or the existing



WWTPs could be upgraded and the effluent treated to a high standard before being transferred to the water supply source. Table 25 outlines the potentially feasible schemes for utilising these effluent sources to provide additional potable water supply (CWT, 2011). Cost estimates have not been prepared for the schemes.

**Table 25: Summary of potentially feasible scheme options**

Water source	Scheme description	Source(s)	Infrastructure cost
WRS	Pump treated effluent to WRS at treat in a common AWRP	East Lismore and South Lismore WWTP	High
	Individual AWRP upgrades at existing WWTPs then pumping recycled water to WRS	South Lismore WWTP	High
		East Lismore WWTP	High
ECD	Pump treated effluent to ECD and treat in a common AWRP	Ballina and Lennox Head WWTP	High
	Individual AWRP upgrades at existing WWTPs then pump recycled water to ECD	Ballina WWTP	Medium
		Lennox Head WWTP	Medium

Source: CWT, 2020

CWT (2020) identified the preferred IPR scheme to be the transfer of treated effluent from Ballina WWTP to Lennox Head WWTP where the two effluent sources would be combined and further treated in an upgraded AWRP at Lennox Head before being transferred to ECD. This arrangement was considered to result in the lowest infrastructure cost for the most potable water replacement. Figure 16 shows the arrangement of the scheme.

Further investigation is required to determine the potential additional yield that could be achieved by recycling the effluent from the East Lismore and South Lismore WWTPs and the best potential site for an AWRP. CWT (2020) anticipates that the best option would be to transfer effluent from East Lismore WWTP to South Lismore WWTP where the combined effluent would undergo advanced treatment before being transferred to the WRS.

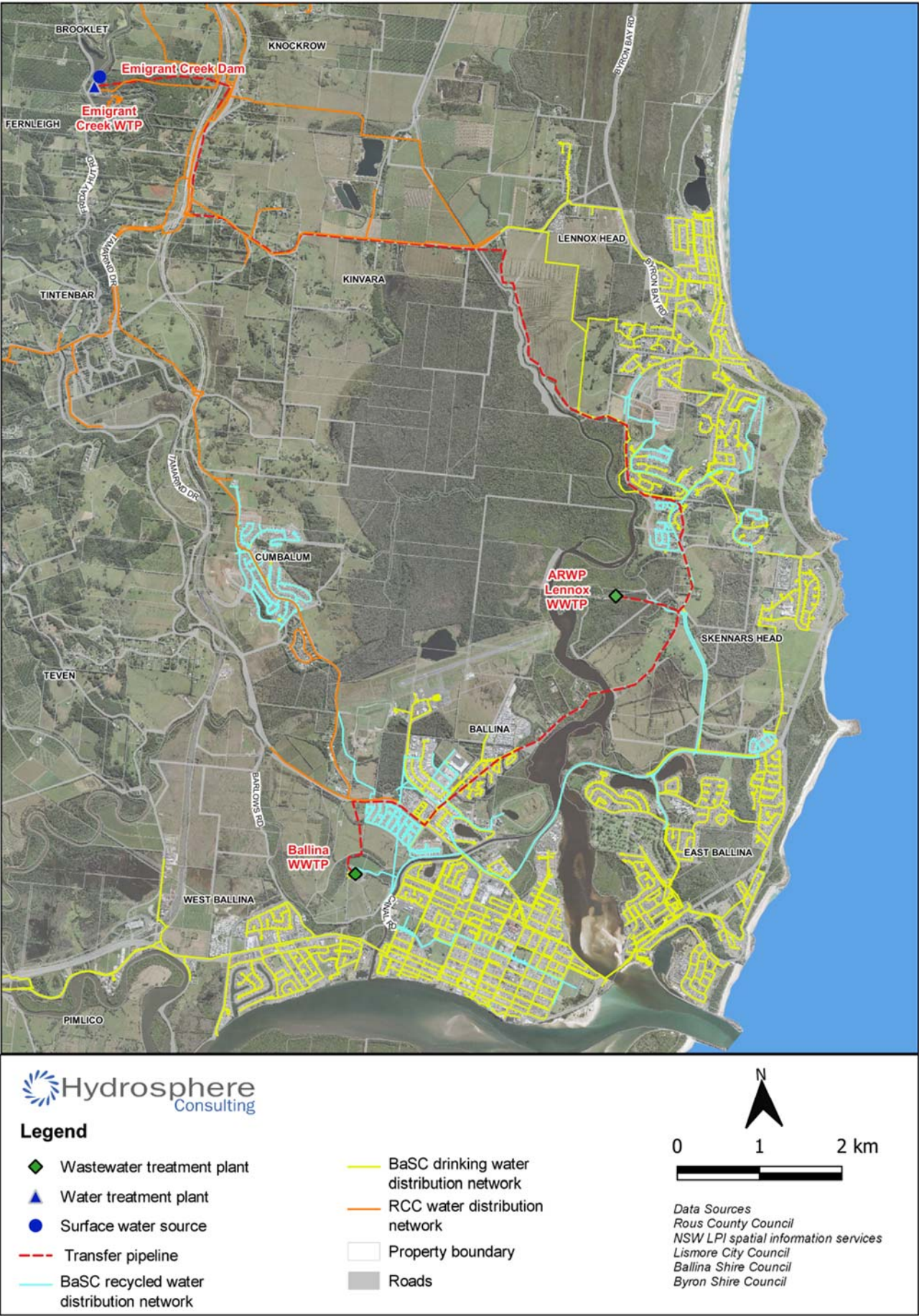


Figure 16: Ballina IPR scheme

## 11.2 Secure Yield

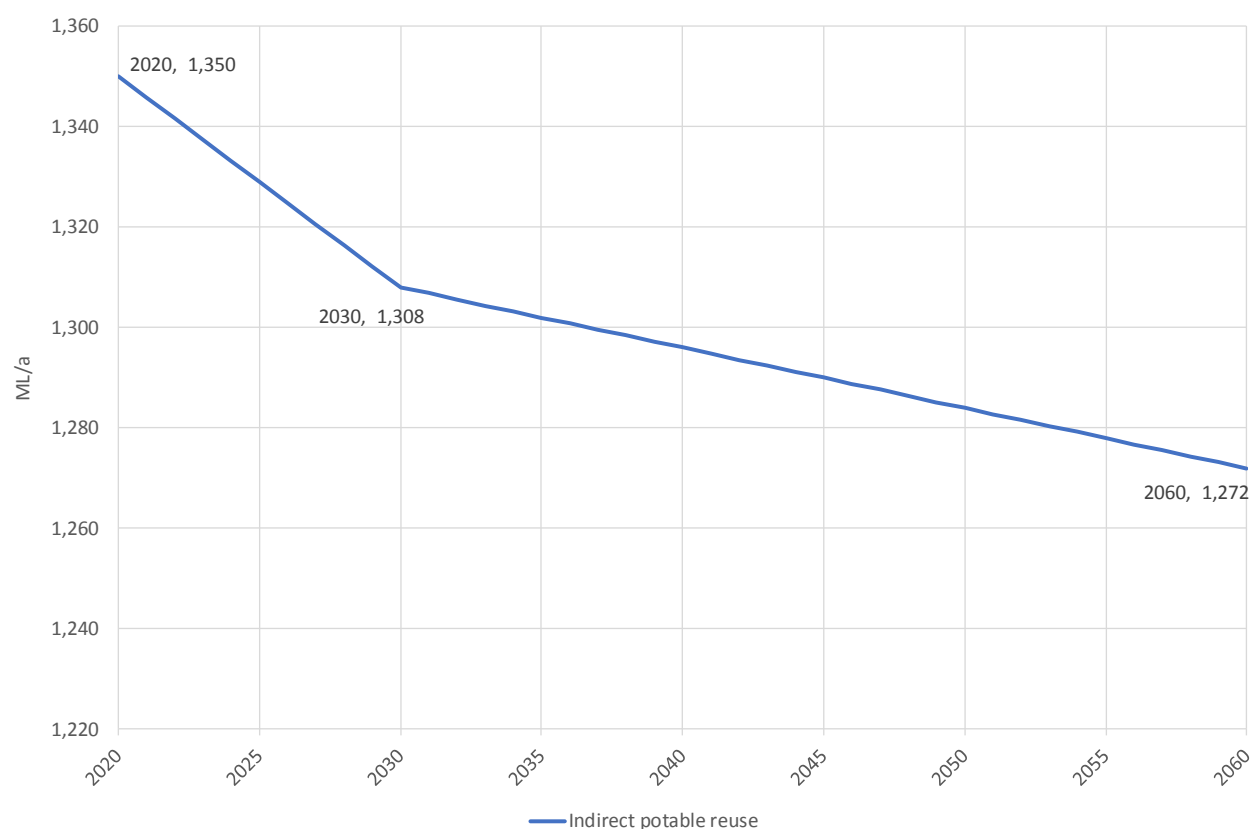
The secure yield of the IPR options has been assessed using the RCC Bulk Water Supply Security Model (Engeny, 2020) with results shown in Table 26. The 2020, 2030 and 2060 secure yield of the IPR options is shown in Figure 17, using a similar approach as for the current system (Section 5.2).

**Table 26: Increase in system secure yield with IPR**

Option	Historic climate (5/10/10)	Reduction factor <sup>1</sup>	1°C climate warming
East and South Lismore AWRP (5 ML/d to WRS)	750	0.969	727
Lennox Head AWRP (5 ML/d to ECD)	900		872
Combined schemes	1,350		1,308

Source: Engeny (2020).

1. Reduction factor was only calculated for the combined IPR schemes and has been applied to each scheme.



**Figure 17: Secure yield estimates – IPR option**

### 11.3 Data Gaps and Key Risks

To progress the development of the IPR options, the items outlined in Table 27 should be addressed by RCC. These would be undertaken as part of planning stages and would be completed prior to a decision to proceed with the planning and approvals for the IPR options.

**Table 27: Data gaps and project risks – IPR**

Item	Discussion	Action required
Concept development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirmation of wastewater volumes</li> <li>Treatment plant concepts</li> <li>Transfer system concepts</li> </ul>	Concept design
Cost estimates	Development of total project cost estimates. The cost of the scheme is likely to be high.	Concept design phase
Detailed design	Detailed design of all infrastructure.	Detailed design phase
Environmental investigation	Investigation of the environmental impacts including the impact on water quality.	Specialist studies
Regulator consultation	Investigation of compliance with the Public Health Act, 2010 and ADWG. One of the critical considerations for this option is the approval by NSW Health that the scheme complies with public health requirements.	RCC has commenced consultation with NSW Health.
Community engagement	Development and implementation of a community engagement strategy is required. RCC considers that community opposition to IPR on the basis of public health concerns is a significant risk.	Strategy to be developed as part of Future Water Project 2060.



## 12. SOURCE AUGMENTATION SCENARIOS

### 12.1 Scenario Development

Despite the risks and data gaps identified in this report, Option 1 (Dunoon Dam), Option 2 (Marom Creek) and Option 3 (groundwater) are considered to be feasible and will be included in the source augmentation scenarios:

- Option 1 - implementation of Dunoon Dam will have a lead time of approximately 9 years (to allow for additional investigations, approvals, construction and filling of the dam). Hence a scenario including Dunoon Dam will require an interim solution to meet demand until approximately 2029.
- Option 2 - Connection to the Marom Creek water supply has a low initial cost with minimal planning and development required. The WTP is an existing asset (requiring upgrade). However, asset ownership and future supply to Wardell will need to be resolved with BaSC. This option is considered to be worth pursuing to meet the short-term demand deficit.
- Option 3 - implementation of groundwater options will have a lead time of approximately 2.5 to 4.5 years (to allow for additional investigations, approvals and construction). Groundwater options may be implemented in stages and the following have been considered in the development of staging for a groundwater scenario:
  - Alstonville groundwater – optimises Marom Creek option and expands on an existing scheme and licences but has low yield.
  - Woodburn groundwater – expands on an existing scheme, licences and land but has low yield and high cost.
  - Tyagarah groundwater – relatively low-cost groundwater, with high yield but requires a new scheme and potential impacts on GDEs need to be managed.
  - Newrybar groundwater - relatively high cost groundwater, high yield, but requires a new scheme and potential risk with wastewater disposal need to be addressed.

RCC considers that Option 4 (desalination) and Option 5 (IPR) are not as attractive due to operational constraints and expected stakeholder opposition:

- Option 4 - desalination has a high yield, is independent of climate but has a high cost. In addition, the energy consumption is very high due to the treatment processes required (2.5 times the energy consumption of a groundwater scheme with conventional treatment, based on data provided in MWH (2014)). Impacts on the Marine Park and approval requirements have not yet been determined.

The preferred desalination scheme would supply Byron Shire. Hence a groundwater scheme in Tyagarah and a desalination scheme in Byron cannot be included in the same scenario as local demand would be provided by only one option.

As discussed in Section 10.3, a regional desalination facility with interconnection of the Tweed and Rous regional supplies may be considered in future. This provides additional options regarding service area, site location and capacity which may make this option more attractive.

- Option 5 - IPR schemes have a low yield benefit and a potentially high cost. There is also a significant risk that the scheme would not meet public health requirements. Hence IPR has not been considered further.

## 12.2 Source Augmentation Scenarios

This report compares two potential source augmentation scenarios to provide water security to 2060:

- Scenario 1 – Groundwater (with Marom Creek). Scenario 1 includes the connection of Marom Creek WTP to the Rous regional supply in the short-term with staged implementation of groundwater schemes and treatment plants until the required supply yield is achieved. The components of Scenario 1 are shown on Figure 18.
- Scenario 2 – Dunoon Dam. Scenario 2 includes the connection of Marom Creek WTP to the Rous regional supply in the short-term with construction of a new dam at Dunoon. Scenario 2A considers the 20 GL dam with potential future augmentation to 50 GL. Scenario 2B considers the 50 GL dam. Both scenarios include initial implementation of the Marom Creek and Alstonville groundwater options. The Dunoon Dam scenarios include the upgrade of Nightcap WTP in 2034 from 70 ML/d to 100 ML/d. The components of Scenario 2 are shown on Figure 19.

If further investigations find that Marom Creek is not a viable option, the Woodburn groundwater scheme could be reinstated in the short-term.



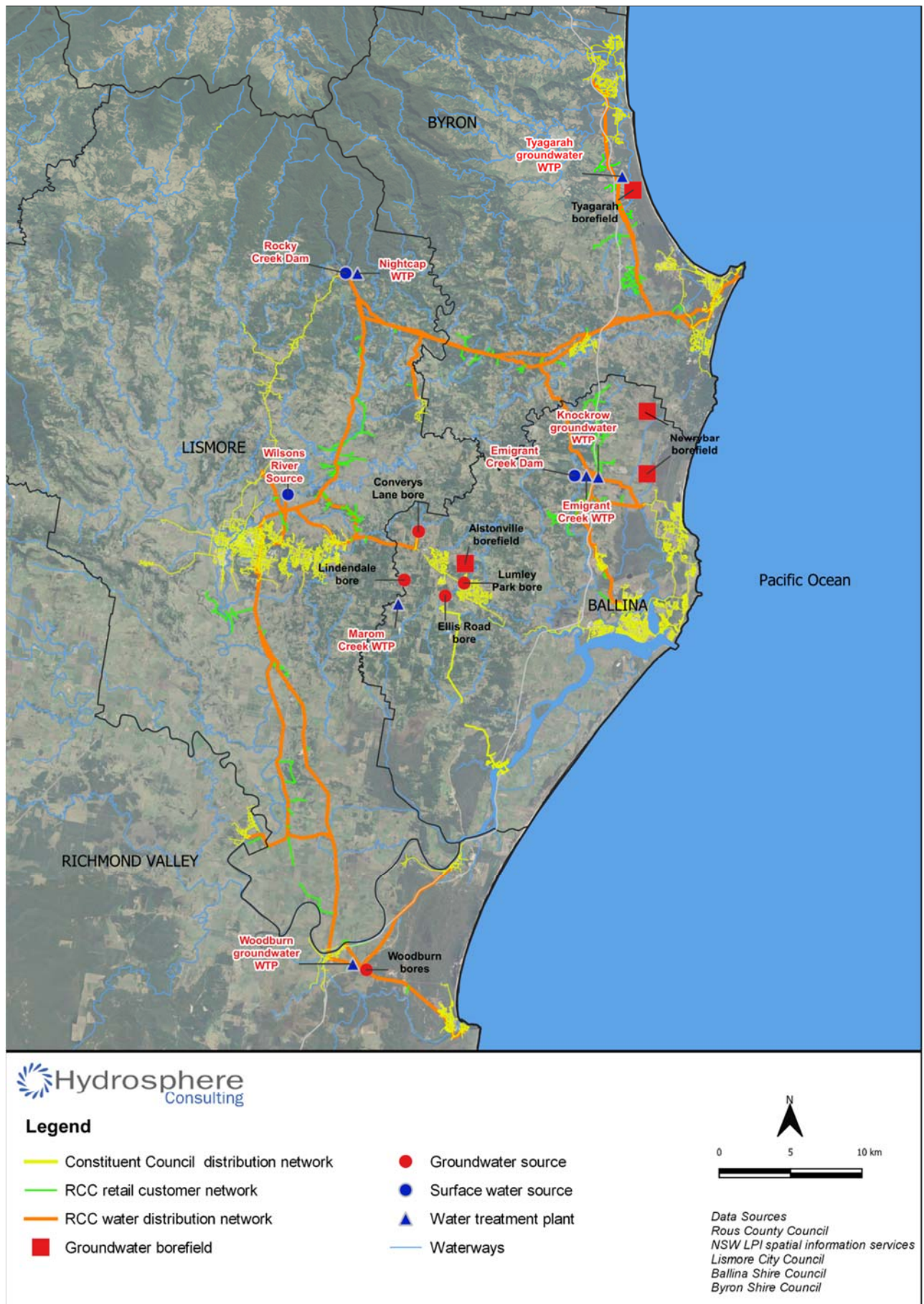


Figure 18: Scenario 1: Groundwater (with Marom Creek WTP)



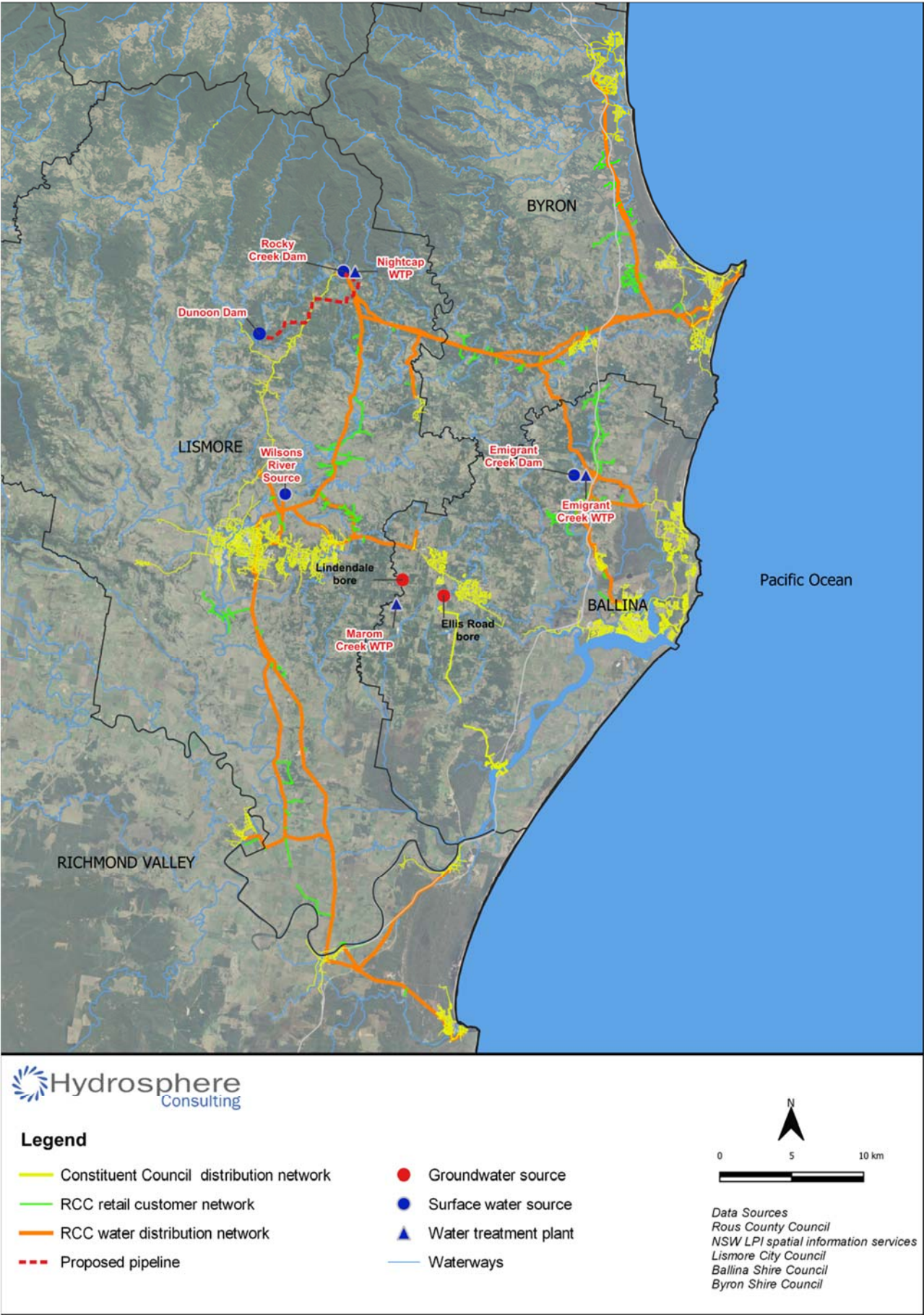
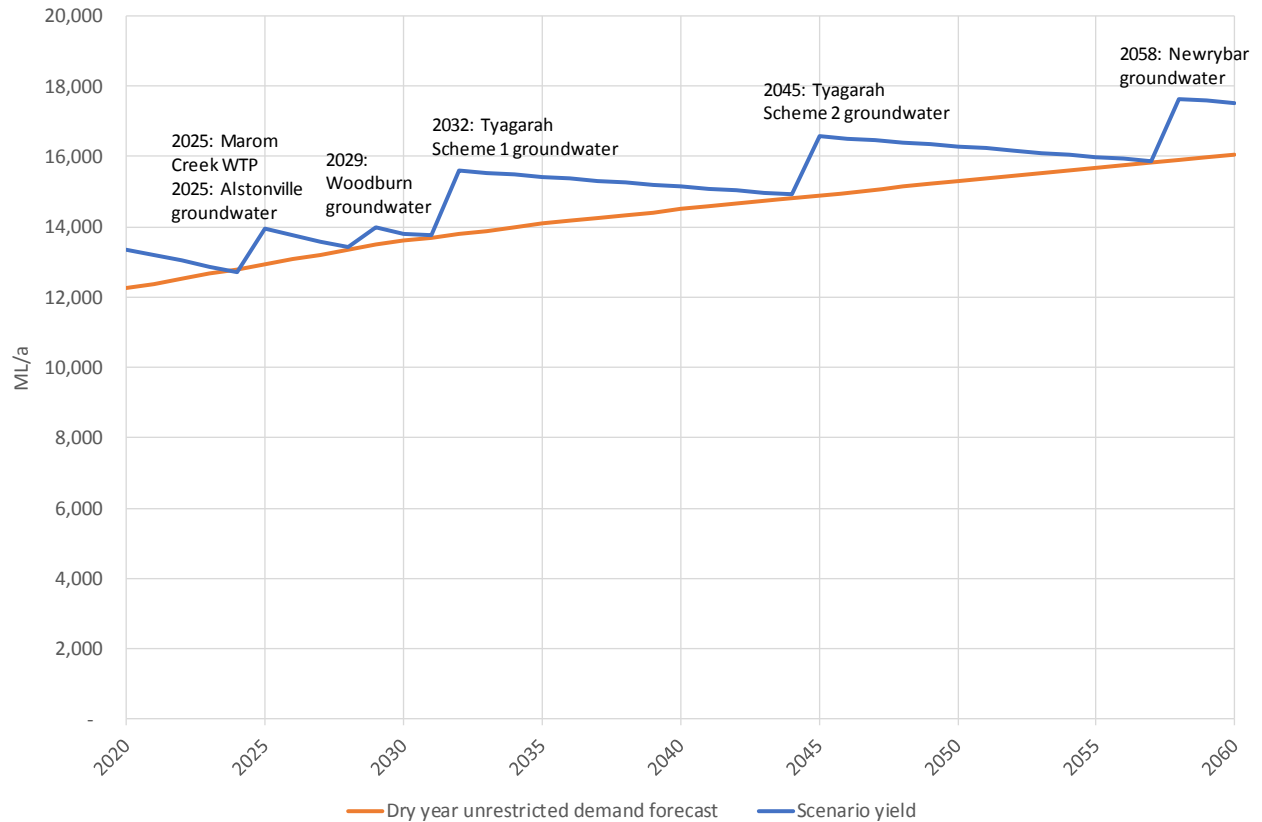


Figure 19: Scenario 2: Dunoon Dam (with Marom Creek WTP)

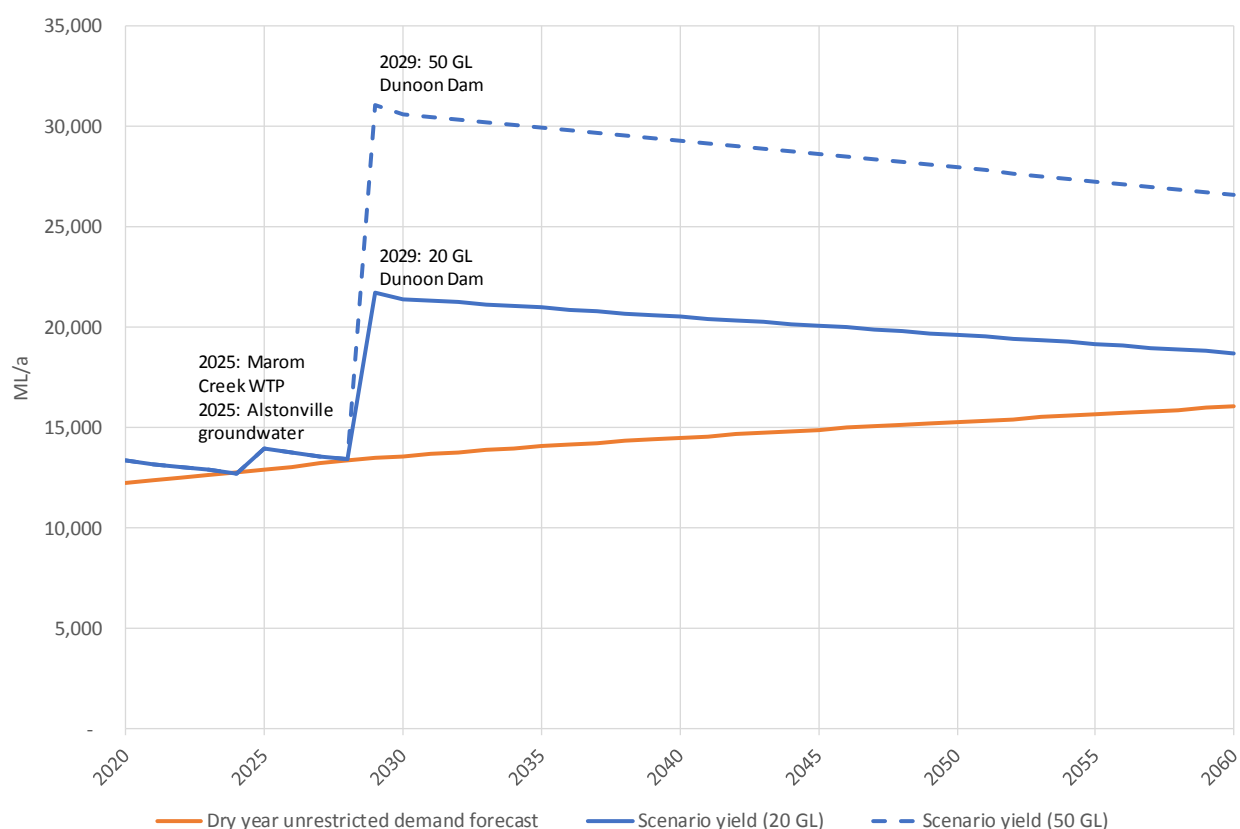
### 12.3 Secure Yield

RCC has developed these two scenarios as they are the only combinations of feasible options that passed the coarse screening and can provide the required secure yield over the long term. The staging and secure yield for each scenario are shown in the following figures compared to the dry year unrestricted demand forecast.



**Figure 20: Secure yield and staging for scenario 1: Groundwater**

The groundwater schemes identified for Scenario 1 will be able to meet demand until approximately 2072 assuming a similar rate of growth in demand is experienced beyond 2060.



**Figure 21: Secure yield and staging for scenario 2: Dunoon Dam**

Scenario 2A (20 GL Dunoon Dam) would require augmentation to the 50 GL dam in approximately 2080 assuming a similar rate of growth in demand is experienced beyond 2060 and assumptions about future yield are realised. The 50 GL demand (Scenario 2B) will be able to meet demand until approximately 2115.

## 12.4 Multi-Criteria Analysis

### 12.4.1 Methodology

The multi-criteria analysis (MCA) methodology used in this project has been developed with consideration of previous studies undertaken by RCC in 2014, the coarse assessment (Section 0) and the IWCM Information Sheet 2 – *Evaluation of integrated water cycle management scenarios* (NSW Department of Industry, 2019).

The triple-bottom-line (TBL) assessment criteria are discussed in Table 28. Assessment criteria have been arranged into environmental and social groups.

**Table 28: TBL assessment criteria**

Criteria	Description	Information used
<i>Environmental (ranked considering the biodiversity management hierarchy – avoid, minimise, rehabilitate, offset)</i>		
Aquatic	Impact on groundwater and surface water quality and aquatic ecology and measures to offset those impacts.	Aquatic biodiversity impacts (e.g. high value aquatic ecosystems, threatened species, water quality, groundwater dependent ecosystems) and offsets proposed (e.g. environmental flows).

Criteria	Description	Information used
Terrestrial	Impact on terrestrial ecology and measures to offset those impacts.	Terrestrial biodiversity impacts (e.g. high value terrestrial ecosystems, threatened species) and offsets proposed (e.g. stewardship/ compensation).
Energy consumption	Operational energy consumption per kL of water produced.	Operational energy consumption (kWh/kL).
<i>Social</i>		
Typical residential bill	Impact on the typical residential bills for each Council from the revised notional cost.	Change in notional cost of bulk water supplied (\$/ML) and predicted impact on typical residential bills.
Water users	Impact on other water users and measures to offset those impacts.	Changes to groundwater and surface water flow regime and water available for other users.
Heritage	Impact on cultural heritage and measures to offset those impacts.	Aboriginal and European heritage impacts (sites, artefacts and significance) and management measures.
<i>Economic</i>		
NPV	NPV of capital and operating costs (80 years) at 5% discount rate.	Capital and operating costs.

The environmental and social criteria are further discussed in the following sections.

A weighted score has been calculated for each scenario. Ranking has been calculated as follows:

$$(Environmental\ Score + Social\ Score)/NPV$$

Weightings are assigned to each criterion based on relative importance so that the sensitivity of the weightings can be tested.

### 12.4.2 Environmental Criteria

Terrestrial and aquatic impacts have been based on the available information as summarised in this report. Detailed studies have been undertaken for the Dunoon Dam options (Section 7) and significant impacts on terrestrial and aquatic ecology have been identified. Actions to reduce these impacts (environmental flow regime and terrestrial biodiversity offsets) and the costs of these actions have been included in the dam scenarios. RCC considers that suitable measures can be put in place to obtain planning approval and ensure stakeholder acceptance of the dam scenarios.

While limited environmental investigations have been undertaken for groundwater options, identified impacts are considered to be manageable (potential impacts on GDEs in Tyagarah area require further assessment). RCC considers that suitable measures can be put in place to obtain planning approval and ensure stakeholder acceptance of the groundwater scenarios.

The energy consumption for each option has been estimated from data used in previous reports (Table 29).

**Table 29: Energy consumption rates assumed for MCA**

Option	Source	Energy Consumption (kWh/kL)	Production rate
Dunoon Dam	MWH (2014)	1.6	Annual production rate has been identified by RCC to supplement RCD extraction.
Marom Creek	CWT (2018)	0.91	1,570 ML/a
Groundwater – Alstonville	MWH (2014)	0.52	1,280 ML/a
Groundwater – Woodburn	MWH (2014)	0.30	1,600 ML/a
Groundwater – Tyagarah	MWH (2014)	0.70	4,000 ML/a (ultimate)
Groundwater – Newrybar	MWH (2014)	0.40	2,304 ML/a
Conventional groundwater WTP	CWT (2018)	0.91	As for Woodburn and Tyagarah
Conventional groundwater WTP with RO	Estimate	1.82	As for Newrybar

### 12.4.3 Social Criteria

The impact on customer bills has been assessed using the estimated increase in the notional cost of bulk water (the charge applied to bulk water sales to the constituent councils) at 2060 as a result of funding requirements for the scenarios as estimated by RCC using its financial planning model. The impact of the increase in the cost of water on the typical residential bill charged by the constituent councils at 2060 has been estimated based on the current costs for purchase of water and total expenses for each council. This assumes that the portion of bulk sales to each council remains the same. Other changes to council expenses have also not been considered.

Water sharing plans under the *Water Management Act, 2000* govern the sharing of water in a water source between water users and the environment and rules for the trading of water in the water source. Water access licences (WALs) entitle licence holders to specified shares in the available water within a particular water management area or water source (the share component) and to take water at specified times, rates or circumstances from specified areas or locations (the extraction component). WALs may be granted to access the available water governed by a water sharing plan under the Act.

Rocky Creek is subject to the *Water Sharing Plan for the Richmond River Area Unregulated, Regulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2010*. Use of water captured by Dunoon Dam would be subject to a WAL and may require a new or amended licence. The environmental flow regime proposed for the Dunoon Dam options is a key consideration for the water use and works approvals. RCC considers that suitable measures can be put in place to obtain approval and ensure stakeholder acceptance of the dam scenarios.

Similarly, for groundwater use, water sharing plan provisions are in place for environmental water allocations, basic landholder rights, domestic and stock rights and native title rights. RCC considers that suitable measures can be put in place to obtain approval and ensure stakeholder acceptance of the groundwater scenarios.

Cultural heritage impact assessments undertaken for Dunoon Dam have identified significant Aboriginal cultural heritage values and sites. This remains a key risk to be addressed for this scenario.

Preliminary assessment of cultural heritage impacts undertaken for the groundwater options have not identified any impacts that cannot be managed.



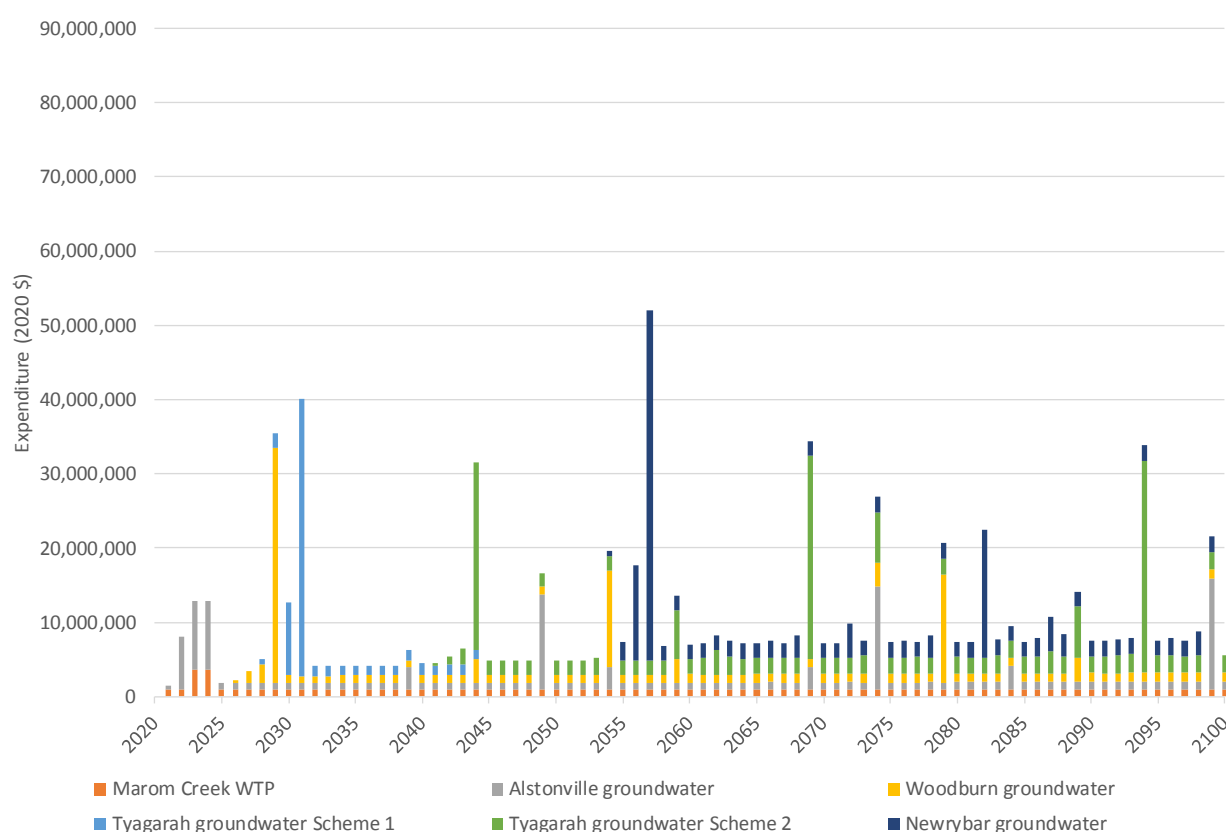
### 12.4.4 Cost Estimates and Expenditure Profile

Whole of life and NPV cost estimates for the water supply scenarios are shown in the following table. NPV calculations are included in Appendix 1.

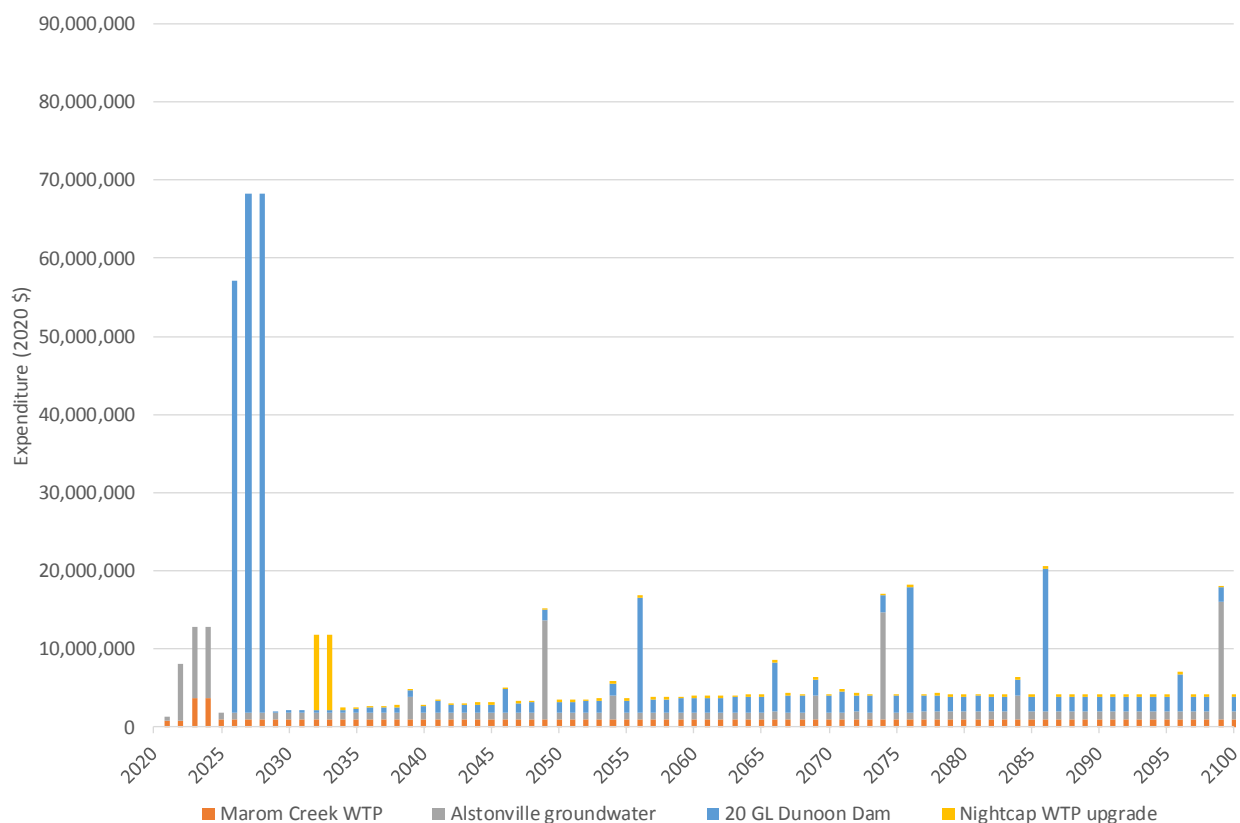
**Table 30: Scenario cost estimates**

Component	Scenario 1: Groundwater (2020 \$)	Scenario 2A: 20 GL Dunoon Dam (2020 \$)	Scenario 2B: 50 GL Dunoon Dam (2020 \$)
Whole-of-life (80 years)	\$836,397,007	\$619,141,183	\$658,907,966
NPV (80 years @ 5%)	\$195,922,792	\$242,778,718	\$267,518,613
NPV (40 years @ 5%)	\$169,299,256	\$228,151,363	\$252,602,785
Yield benefit (2020 – 2060) ML/a	4,170	5,370	13,249
NPV/ML secure yield (40 years)	\$40,597	\$42,484	\$19,066

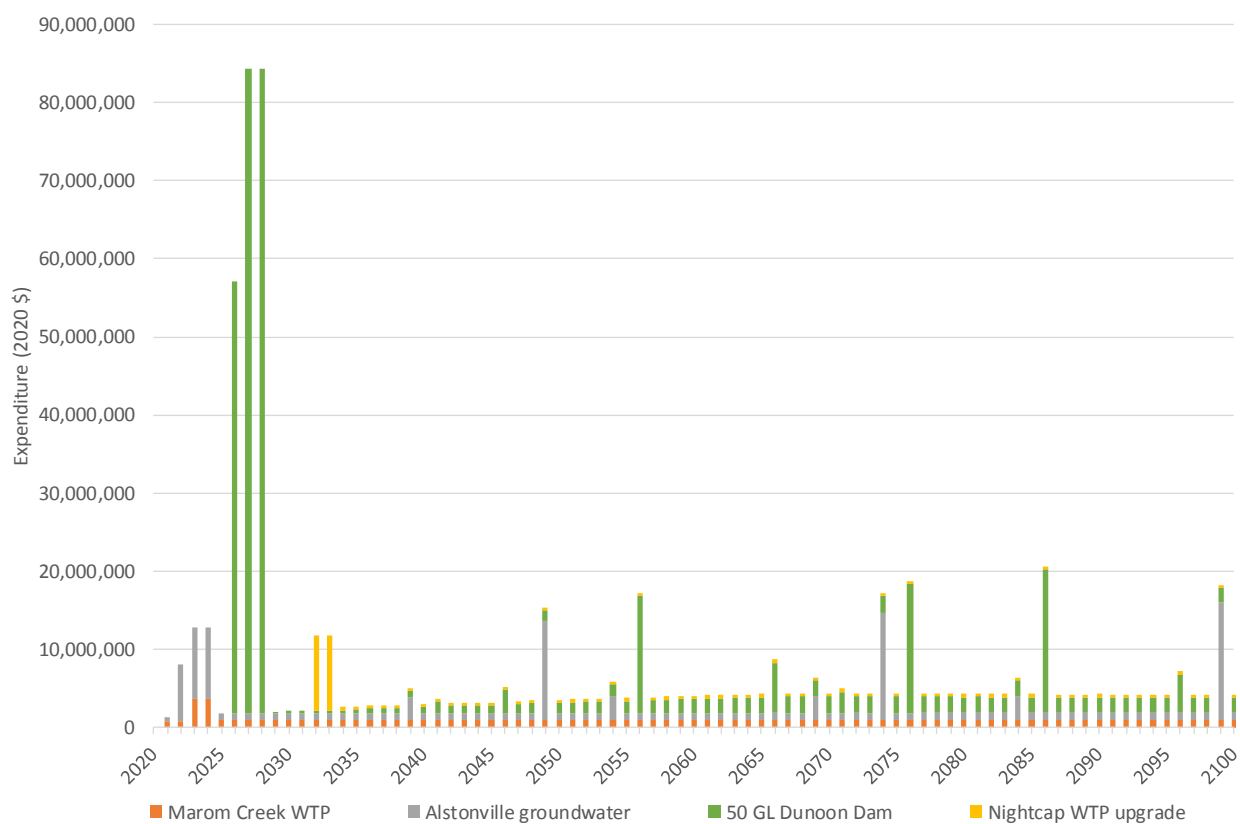
The expenditure profile of each scenario and a comparison of the scenarios is shown in the following figures.



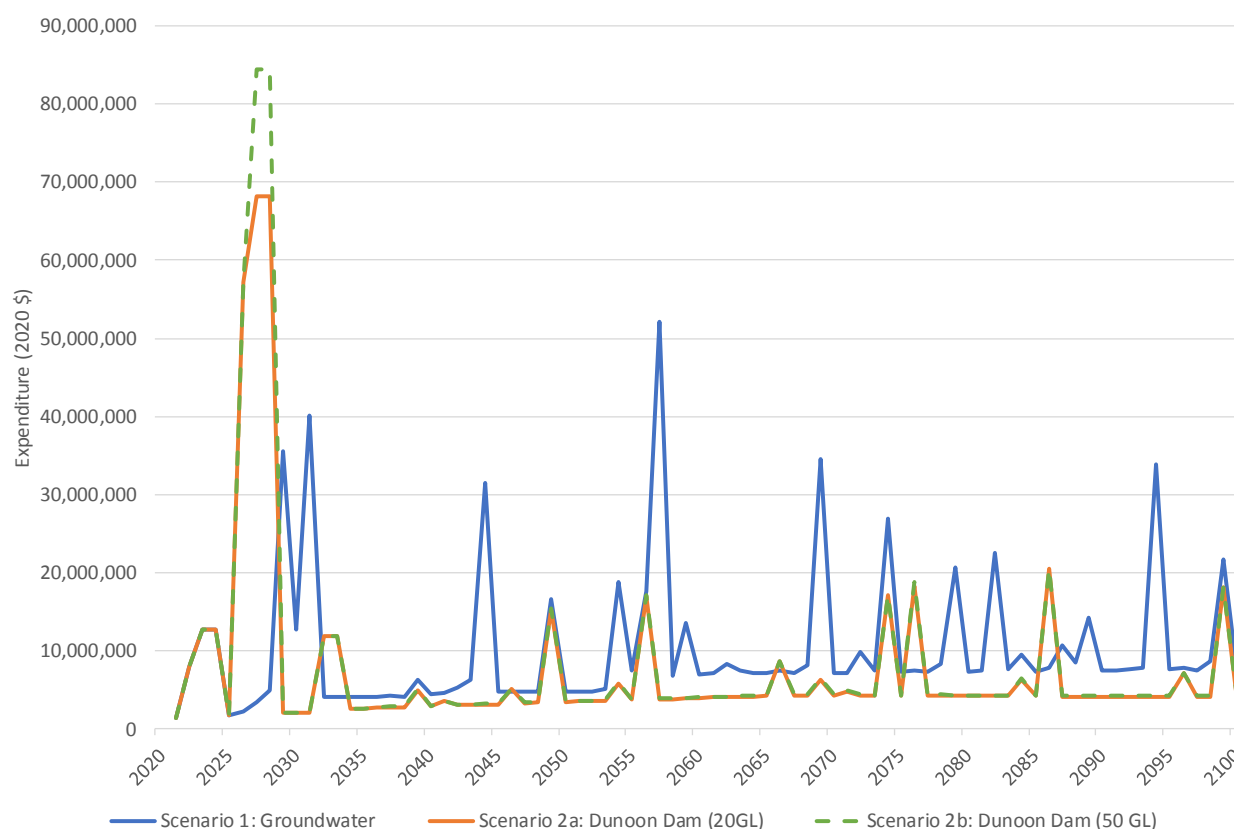
**Figure 22: Expenditure profile – Scenario 1: groundwater**



**Figure 23: Expenditure profile – Scenario 2A: Dunoon Dam (20 GL)**



**Figure 24: Expenditure profile – Scenario 2B: Dunoon Dam (50 GL)**



**Figure 25: Expenditure profile – scenario comparison**

### 12.4.5 Results

The full MCA is included in Appendix 2. A summary of MCA outcomes (with equal weighting for each criteria) is provided in the following table. Changing the weightings does not change the outcomes of the MCA ranking.

**Table 31: Summary of MCA outcomes**

Scenario	Environmental score (/5)	Social score (/5)	Total score (per \$ NPV)	Rank (based on MCA)
1: Groundwater	3.05	3.50	16.2	1
2A: Dunoon Dam (20 GL)	2.65	1.98	9.9	2
2B: Dunoon Dam (50 GL)	2.30	1.65	7.8	3

Based on the MCA, the most favourable scenario is groundwater. The groundwater scenario has a lower NPV (lower initial capital cost but higher and increasing recurrent costs with implementation of each stage) as well as less significant environmental and social impacts. However, the groundwater scenario has a higher whole-of life cost (total cost over 80 years in present dollars) and a higher NPV per ML of secure yield as shown in Table 30. Implementation of the groundwater scenario will require ongoing investigations (and associated costs and problem-solving) for the four groundwater schemes.

Although the MCA is informative, it is focussed on the 2060 planning horizon and RCC should consider longer-term issues such as potential source options beyond that timeframe and financial commitment and funding requirements imposed by the schemes. Dams have a long design life and there is excess secure yield in the Dunoon Dam options well beyond the 2060 timeframe considered by this study. When the long-term yield benefit provided by the scenarios is considered, the 50 GL dam option (with high initial cost and

lower recurrent costs) with the higher yield benefit is more cost-effective. Although there is a large upfront investment, the dam options can provide long-term certainty and cost efficiencies. The largest dam for the given physical constraints, with planned staging and upgrades, provides only a small incremental risk over the smaller dam. There is a trade-off between the high initial cost and environmental/social impact of the dam and the long-term cost-effectiveness and certainty provided.

Implementation risks have been identified in this report for both scenarios. RCC should continue to conduct detailed investigations for its preferred scenario and address these risks. Although the yield information suggests that definitive action is required in the short-term, adaptive management approaches should also be identified.

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## GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADD	Average day demand
AHD	Australian height datum
ASS	Acid sulfate soil
BASIX	Building Sustainability Index
BaSC	Ballina Shire Council
BySC	Byron Shire Council
DPIE	(NSW) Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment
ECD	Emigrant Creek Dam
EEC	Endangered ecological community
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPBC	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999</i> (EPBC Act)
FSL	Full supply level
FWS	Future Water Strategy
GDE	Groundwater dependent ecosystem
GL	Gigalitres (one million litres)
IWP	Integrated Water Planning (process)
kL	Kilolitres
kL/a	Kilolitres per annum
L	Litres
L/d	Litres per day
LCC	Lismore City Council
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
MCA	Multi-criteria analysis
MFL	Maximum flood level
ML	Megalitres
ML/a	Megalitres (one thousand litres) per annum
ML/d	Megalitres per day
NOROC	(former) Northern Rivers Regional Organisation of Councils
NPV	Net present value - the present value of a series of future payments
OEH	Office of Environment and Heritage
PADs	Potential archaeological deposits
PDD	Peak day demand
RCC	Rous County Council

RCD	Rocky Creek Dam
RDMP	Regional Demand Management Plan
RL	Reduced level (relative to Australian height datum)
RO	Reverse osmosis
RoTAP	Rare or Threatened Australian Plants
RVC	Richmond Valley Council
Secure yield	The highest annual water demand that can be supplied from a water supply headworks system while meeting the '5/10/10 design rule'
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SEQ	South-east Queensland
TSC	Tweed Shire Council
WRS	Wilsons River Source
WTP	Water treatment plant
WWTP	Wastewater treatment plant

## Appendix 1. NET PRESENT VALUE CALCULATIONS

Rous Future Water Project 2060

Estimated costs (2020 \$)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
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## Rous Future Water Project 2060

Estimated costs (2020 \$)		Total 80 years																																							
Initial acquisition costs (non-recurring)																																									
Capital costs																																									
Engineering (20%)																																									
Construction costs (asset renewal life)																																									
Marom Creek WTP upgrade																																									
Total initial capital costs																																									
Estimate (2% p.a.)																																									
Total renewal costs																																									
Total acquisition costs																																									
Trade-in of item being replaced																																									
Net acquisition costs																																									
Ongoing operating and maintenance (recurring)																																									
Maintenance costs																																									
Maintenance																																									
Total maintenance costs																																									
Operating costs																																									
Marom Creek WTP																																									
Chemicals																																									
Total operating costs																																									
Total operating and maintenance costs																																									
Total Cost Over 80 years																																									
Total Annualized costs over 80 years																																									
Total Costs																																									
80 year whole-of-life cost																																									
80 year NPV																																									

[illegible]



Rous Future Water Project 2060

Life cycle cost analysis - Woodburn Option (based on costing for Alstonville)																																												
Estimated costs (2020 \$)		Source	Total 80 years	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	
Initial acquisition costs (non-recurring)	Capital costs	Scheme investigation costs	Jacobs 2020	\$ 492,000	492,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Design and documentation costs	Jacobs 2020	\$ 1,720,000	-	1,720,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Environmental approval costs	Jacobs 2020	\$ 985,000	-	-	985,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Project management costs	Jacobs 2020	\$ 615,000	-	-	615,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		land acquisition costs	existing site	\$ -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Construction costs (asset renewal life)		\$ -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Bores (50 years)	Jacobs 2020 cost for 2 bores x3/2	\$ 1,485,000	-	-	-	1,485,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mechanical (25 years)	Jacobs 2020	\$ 6,740,000	-	-	-	6,740,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Electrical (25 years)	Jacobs 2020	\$ 5,120,000	-	-	-	5,120,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Civil including Pipelines (85 years)	Jacobs 2020	\$ 16,250,000	-	-	-	16,250,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Integration costs		Instrumentation Control Communications (15 yrs)	Jacobs 2020	\$ 2,090,000	-	-	-	2,090,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Existing supply network modifications		\$ 985,000	-	-	985,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Existing facility modifications		\$ -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		Other capital costs (specify)		\$ -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Renewals		Total initial capital costs		\$ 36,482,000	\$ 492,000	\$ 1,720,000	\$ 2,585,000	\$ 31,685,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
		Repairs/unscheduled maintenance	Jacobs 2020	\$ 15,823,077	-	-	-	-	140,000	141,400	142,814	144,242	145,685	147,141	148,613	150,099	151,600	153,116	154,647	156,194	157,756	159,333	160,926	162,536	164,161	165,803	167,461	169,135	170,827	172,535	174,260	176,003	177,763	179,540	181,336	183,149	184,981	186,831	188,699	190,586	192,492	194,417	196,361	198,324
		Upgrades and refurbishments	Jacobs 2020	\$ 600,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Spare parts and accessories	Jacobs 2020	\$ 3,990,000	-	-	-	-	15,000	16,000	17,000	18,000	19,000	20,000	21,000	22,000	23,000	24,000	25,000	26,000	27,000	28,000	29,000	30,000	31,000	32,000	33,000	34,000	35,000	36,000	37,000	38,000	39,000	40,000	41,000	42,000	43,000	44,000	45,000	46,000	47,000	48,000	49,000	50,000
		Bores Renewals (50 years)	Jacobs 2020	\$ 1,485,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Mechanical Renewals (25 years)	Jacobs 2020	\$ 20,220,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Electrical Renewals (25 years)	Jacobs 2020	\$ 15,360,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Civil including Pipelines Renewals (85 years)	Jacobs 2020	\$ -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Instrumentation Control Communications (15 yrs)	Jacobs 2020	\$ 10,450,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Other repair costs (specify)		\$ -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Ongoing operating and maintenance (recurring)	Maintenance costs	Scheduled/preventative maintenance	Jacobs 2020	\$ 12,040,300	-	-	-	-	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	158,425	
		Waste disposal	Jacobs 2020	\$ 1,064,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000		
		Other maintenance costs (specify)		\$ -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Total maintenance costs		\$ 13,104,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425	\$ 172,425		
	Operating costs	Staffing costs - Borefield and Transfer	Jacobs 2020	\$ 4,560,000	-	-	-	-	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	
		Staffing costs - GWTP	Jacobs 2020	\$ 9,880,000	-	-	-	-	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	
		Utilities - Borefield and Transfer	Jacobs 2020	\$ 9,120,000	-	-	-	-	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	
		Utilities - GWTP	Jacobs 2020	\$ 10,944,000	-	-	-	-	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000	144,000		
		Chemical Supplies and consumables	Jacobs 2020	\$ 12,160,000	-	-	-	-	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000		
		Training	Jacobs 2020	\$ 114,000	-	-	-	-	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500			
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## Rous Future Water Project 2060

Life cycle cost analysis - Altonville Option																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
Estimated costs (\$'a)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
Initial acquisition costs (non-recurring)		Total all years	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40																																																																																																																																																																																							
Capital costs																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
Scheme investigation costs		Jacobs 2020	\$	492,000	492,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Design and documentation costs		Jacobs 2020	\$	1,720,000	-	1,720,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Environmental approval costs		Jacobs 2020	\$	985,000	-	985,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Project management costs		Jacobs 2020	\$	615,000	-	615,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
land acquisition costs		Jacobs 2020	\$	3,800,000	-	3,800,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Construction costs (asset renewal life)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
Bores (50 years)		Jacobs 2020	\$	990,000	-	-	495,000	495,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Mechanical (25 years)		Jacobs 2020	\$	6,740,000	-	-	3,370,000	3,370,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Electrical (25 years)		Jacobs 2020	\$	5,120,000	-	-	2,560,000	2,560,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Civil including Pipelines (85 years)		Jacobs 2020	\$	16,250,000	-	-	8,125,000	8,125,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Instrumentation Control Communications (15 yrs)		Jacobs 2020	\$	2,090,000	-	-	1,045,000	1,045,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Existing supply network modifications		Jacobs 2020	\$	985,000	-	-	492,500	492,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Existing facility modifications		Jacobs 2020	\$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Other capital costs (specify)		Jacobs 2020	\$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
land acquisition savings		Jacobs 2020	\$	2,531,000	-	-	(1,265,500)	(1,265,500)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
conventional water treatment plant savings		Jacobs 2020	\$	6,650,000	-	-	(3,325,000)	(3,325,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Ozone/hab Process after conventional water treat		Jacobs 2020	\$	6,995,000	-	-	(3,497,500)	(3,497,500)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
clear water storage		Jacobs 2020	\$	2,750,000	-	-	(1,375,000)	(1,375,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
disinfection		Jacobs 2020	\$	1,520,000	-	-	(760,000)	(760,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Treated water pipeline		Jacobs 2020	\$	6,600,000	-	-	3,300,000	3,300,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Total initial capital costs			\$	25,941,000	\$	492,000	\$	7,120,000	\$	9,164,500	\$	9,164,500	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-																																																																																																																																																																																					
Repairs/unscheduled maintenance		Jacobs 2020	\$	15,823,077	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-																																																																																																																																																																																					
Upgrades and refurbishments		Jacobs 2020	\$	3,600,000	-	-	-	-	140,000	141,400	142,814	144,242	145,685	147,141	148,613	150,099	151,600	153,116	154,647	156,194	157,756	159,333	160,926	162,536	164,161	165,803	167,461	169,135	170,827	172,535	174,260	176,003	177,763	179,540	181,336	183,149	184,981	186,831	188,699	190,586	192,492	194,417	196,361	198,324																																																																																																																																																																																					
Spares parts and accessories		Jacobs 2020	\$	3,990,000	-	-	-	-	15,000	16,000	17,000	18,000	19,000	20,000	21,000	22,000	23,000	24,000	25,000	26,000	27,000	28,000	29,000	30,000	31,000	32,000	33,000	34,000	35,000	36,000	37,000	38,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																								
Bores Renewals (50 years)		Jacobs 2020	\$	990,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Mechanical Renewals (25 years)		Jacobs 2020	\$	20,220,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Electrical Renewals (25 years)		Jacobs 2020	\$	15,360,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Civil including Pipelines Renewals (85 years)		Jacobs 2020	\$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Instrumentation Control Communications (15 yrs)		Jacobs 2020	\$	10,450,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Other repair costs (specify)		Jacobs 2020	\$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Major filter renewals		Jacobs 2020	\$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Total renewal costs			\$	67,433,077	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-																																																																																																																																																																																					
Total acquisition costs			\$	93,374,077	\$	492,000	\$	7,120,000	\$	9,164,500	\$	9,164,500	\$	155,000	\$	157,400	\$	159,814	\$	162,242	\$	164,685	\$	167,141	\$	169,613	\$	172,099	\$	174,600	\$	177,116	\$	179,647	\$	232,194	\$	184,756	\$	187,333	\$	2,279,926	\$	192,536	\$	195,161	\$	247,803	\$	200,461	\$	203,135	\$	205,827	\$	208,535	\$	211,260	\$	264,003	\$	12,076,763	\$	219,540	\$	222,336	\$	225,149	\$	227,981	\$	2,370,831	\$	233,699	\$	236,586	\$	239,492	\$	242,417	\$	245,361	\$	298,324																																																																																																																																													
Ongoing operating and maintenance (recurring)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
Maintenance costs																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
Scheduled/preventative maintenance		Jacobs 2020	\$	3,482,510	-	-	-	-	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823	45,823

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Rous Future Water Project 2060

Life cycle cost analysis - Tyagarah Scheme 1 Option, 6.4 ML/d																																																				
Estimated costs (2020 \$)				Source	Total	Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40						
Initial acquisition costs (non-recurring)																																																				
Capital costs																																																				
Scheme investigation costs (2%)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	600,000	590,000																																													
Design and documentation costs (7%)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	2,087,000		2,055,000																		10,000																										
Environmental approval costs (4%)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	1,193,000			1,175,000																		32,000																									
Project management costs (2.5%)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	746,000			735,000																			18,000																								
Land acquisition costs				Jacobs, 2020	\$	7,020,000			6,800,000																				220,000																							
Construction costs (least renewal life)				Jacobs, 2020	\$																																															
Bore (50 years)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	1,015,000					845,000																																									
Mechanical (25 years)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	9,940,000					9,720,000																																									
Electrical (25 years)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	7,045,000					6,925,000																																									
Civil including Pipelines (85 years)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	17,000,000					16,770,000																																									
Instrumentation Control Communications (15 yrs)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	3,013,000					2,990,000																																									
Integration costs (4%)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	1,193,000			1,175,000																																											
Existing supply network modifications				Jacobs, 2020	\$																																															
Existing facility modifications				Jacobs, 2020	\$																																															
Other capital costs (specify)				Jacobs, 2020	\$																																															
Total initial capital costs				Jacobs, 2020	\$	50,852,000	\$ 590,000	\$ 2,055,000	\$ 9,885,000	\$ 37,250,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 267,000	\$ 763,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
Repairs/unscheduled maintenance				Jacobs, 2020	\$	22,604,395					200,000	202,000	204,020	206,000	208,121	210,202	212,304	214,427	216,571	218,737	220,924	223,134	225,365	227,619	229,895	232,194	234,516	236,861	239,229	241,622	244,038	246,478	248,943	251,431	253,947	256,486	259,051	261,642	264,258	266,901	269,570	272,265	274,988	277,738	280,515	283,321	286,150	289,000	291,870	294,760	297,670	300,600
Upgrades and refurbishments				Jacobs, 2020	\$	1,050,000																																														
Spare parts and accessories				Jacobs, 2020	\$	4,370,000				20,000		21,000	22,000	23,000	24,000	25,000	26,000	27,000	28,000	29,000	30,000	31,000	32,000	33,000	34,000	35,000	36,000	37,000	38,000	39,000	40,000	41,000	42,000	43,000	44,000	45,000	46,000	47,000	48,000	49,000	50,000	51,000	52,000	53,000	54,000	55,000	56,000	57,000	58,000	59,000		
Bore Renewals (50 years)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	1,015,000																																														
Mechanical Renewals (25 years)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	29,600,000																																														
Electrical Renewals (25 years)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	21,015,000																																														
Civil including Pipelines Renewals (85 years)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	69,000																																														
Instrumentation Control Communications (15 yrs)				Jacobs, 2020	\$	14,950,000																																														
Other repair costs (specify)				Jacobs, 2020	\$																																															
Major filter renewals				Jacobs, 2020	\$	2,100,000																																														
Total renewal costs				Jacobs, 2020	\$	96,773,395	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 220,000	\$ 223,000	\$ 226,020	\$ 229,000	\$ 232,121	\$ 285,202	\$ 238,304	\$ 241,427	\$ 244,571	\$ 247,737	\$ 250,924	\$ 304,134	\$ 257,365	\$ 260,619	\$ 3,263,895	\$ 267,194	\$ 270,516	\$ 323,861	\$ 577,229	\$ 280,622	\$ 284,038	\$ 287,478	\$ 290,943	\$ 394,433	\$ 16,942,947	\$ 301,486	\$ 305,051	\$ 308,642	\$ 612,258	\$ 3,405,901	\$ 319,570	\$ 323,265	\$ 349,988	\$ 330,738	\$ 334,515	\$ 438,321	\$ 338,000	\$ 341,770	\$ 345,540	\$ 349,310	\$ 353,080	
Total acquisition costs				Jacobs, 2020	\$	147,625,395	\$ 590,000	\$ 2,055,000	\$ 9,885,000	\$ 37,250,000	\$ 220,000	\$ 223,000	\$ 226,020	\$ 229,000	\$ 232,121	\$ 285,202	\$ 238,304	\$ 241,427	\$ 244,571	\$ 247,737	\$ 250,924	\$ 304,134	\$ 257,365	\$ 260,619	\$ 3,263,895	\$ 267,194	\$ 270,516	\$ 323,861	\$ 577,229	\$ 280,622	\$ 284,038	\$ 287,478	\$ 290,943	\$ 394,433	\$ 16,942,947	\$ 301,486	\$ 305,051	\$ 308,642	\$ 612,258	\$ 3,405,901	\$ 319,570	\$ 323,265	\$ 349,988	\$ 330,738	\$ 334,515	\$ 438,321	\$ 338,000	\$ 341,770	\$ 345,540	\$ 349,310	\$ 353,080	
Less Trade-in of item being replaced				Jacobs, 2020	\$																																															
Net acquisition costs				Jacobs, 2020	\$	147,625,395	\$ 590,000	\$ 2,055,000	\$ 9,885,000	\$ 37,250,000	\$ 220,000	\$ 223,000	\$ 226,020	\$ 229,000	\$ 232,121	\$ 285,202	\$ 238,304	\$ 241,427	\$ 244,571	\$ 247,737	\$ 250,924	\$ 304,134	\$ 257,365	\$ 260,619	\$ 3,263,895	\$ 267,194	\$ 270,516	\$ 323,861	\$ 577,229	\$ 280,622	\$ 284,038	\$ 287,478	\$ 290,943	\$ 394,433	\$ 16,942,947	\$ 301,486	\$ 305,051	\$ 308,642	\$ 612,258	\$ 3,405,901	\$ 319,570	\$ 323,265	\$ 349,988	\$ 330,738	\$ 334,515	\$ 438,321	\$ 338,000	\$ 341,770	\$ 345,540	\$ 349,310	\$ 353,080	
Leasing costs																																																				
Lease payments				Jacobs, 2020	\$																																															
Residual lease payments				Jacobs, 2020	\$																																															
Total leasing costs				Jacobs, 2020	\$																																															
Ongoing operating and maintenance (recurring)																																																				
Maintenance costs																																																				
Scheduled/preventative maintenance				Jacobs, 2020	\$	6,785,510					186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250	186,250		
Waste disposal				Jacobs, 2020	\$	2,456,000					14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,00								

## Rous Future Water Project 2060

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## Rous Future Water Project 2060

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## Rous Future Water Project 2060

Detailed cost analysis - Byron Desalination		Estimated costs (2020 \$)																																												
Source		Total 80 years	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40				
Initial acquisition costs (non-recurring)		Capital costs																																												
Integration costs	Capital cost - SeaPak 2600	GANDEN, 2020	\$ 54,000,000	47,000,000																																										
		\$ -																																												
	Existing supply network modifications	\$ -																																												
	Existing facility modifications	\$ -																																												
	Other capital costs (specify)	\$ -																																												
Total initial capital costs			\$ 54,000,000	\$ 47,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
Renewals	Replacement UF Modules (6 years)	GANDEN, 2020	\$ 23,760,000																																											
	Replacement RO modules (5 years)	GANDEN, 2020	\$ 13,034,547																																											
		\$ 36,794,547	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,880,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
Total renewal costs			\$ 36,794,547	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,880,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Total acquisition costs			\$ 90,794,547	\$ 47,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 465,520	\$ 990,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,880,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 931,039	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 931,039	\$ 1,980,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Ongoing operating and maintenance (recurring)		Maintenance costs																																												
	Membrane replacement	Noted in renewal costs	\$ -																																											
	Labour (maintenance & management)	GANDEN, 2020	\$ 15,405,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000		
	Product support	GANDEN, 2020	\$ 15,000,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
	Environmental monitoring	GANDEN, 2020	\$ 2,765,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	
	Water quality monitoring	GANDEN, 2020	\$ 1,860,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	
	Total maintenance costs			\$ 20,765,000	\$ -	\$ 350,000	\$ 325,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	
Operating costs	Electricity	GANDEN, 2020	\$ 84,096,000	584,000	584,000	584,000	584,000	584,000	584,000	584,000	584,000	584,000	584,000	584,000	584,000	584,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	1,168,000	
	Chemical consumption	GANDEN, 2020	\$ 68,640	480	480	480	480	480	480	480	480	480	480	480	480	480	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	960	
	Consumables	GANDEN, 2020	\$ 14,300	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200		
	Labour (operator)	GANDEN, 2020	\$ 18,860,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	
	Total operating costs			\$ 109,124,940	\$ -	\$ 824,880	\$ 824,880	\$ 824,880	\$ 824,880	\$ 824,880	\$ 824,880	\$ 824,880	\$ 824,880	\$ 824,880	\$ 824,880	\$ 824,880	\$ 824,880	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	
Total operating and maintenance costs			\$ 123,989,340	\$ -	\$ 1,174,580	\$ 1,149,580	\$ 1,124,580	\$ 1,099,580	\$ 1,099,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,668,580	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160		
Total Costs			\$ 214,694,487	\$ 47,000,000	\$ 1,174,580	\$ 1,149,580	\$ 1,124,580	\$ 1,099,580	\$ 1,099,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,084,580	\$ 1,668,580	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160	\$ 1,669,160		
80 year whole of life cost: \$			214,694,487																																											
80 year NPV: \$			187,611,954		40 year NPV: \$		91,485,683																																							
			\$ 8,662,855		2000 yield		1,530		ML/d																																					
			\$ 78,093,125		NPV/ML yield: \$		50,962																																							
			\$ 78,093,125		78,093,125		78,093,125																																							

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## Rous Future Water Project 2060

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[illegible]



## Rous Future Water Project 2060

[illegible]



## Appendix 2. MULTI-CRITERIA ANALYSIS





Criteria	Environmental Criteria			Environmental Score	Environmental Weighting	Social Criteria			Social Score	Social Weighting	Net present value (\$ million)	Total Score per \$NPV	
Description	Aquatic	Terrestrial	Energy consumption	Weighted criteria score	Weighting compared to social criteria	Typical residential bill	Water users	Heritage	Weighted criteria score	Weighting compared to environmental criteria	NPV of capital and operating costs (80 years) at 5% discount rate	10 <sup>3k</sup> (Environmental Score + Social Score)/NPV	
Criteria weighting	33%	33%	33%	100%	50%	33%	33%	33%	100%	50%			
Scenario 1: Groundwater													
Result	Some potential impacts on GDEs. Impacts can be minimised through site selection and monitoring	Impacts can be minimised through site selection	154,000	3.00		1.21	Impacts can be minimised through site selection and monitoring	Impacts can be minimised through site selection	3.35			196	16.2
Score	3	4.0	2.0			2.55	3.5	4.0					
Scenario 2A: Dunoon Dam (20 GL)													
Result	Significant impacts are partially offset by environmental flow regime	Significant impacts are partially offset by compensatory measures	127,000	2.67		1.30	Significant impacts are partially offset by environmental flow regime and extraction rules	Significant impacts are unlikely to be mitigated	2.16			243	9.9
Score	2.5	2.5	3.0			2.48	2.5	1.5					
Scenario 2B: Dunoon Dam (50 GL)													
Result	Significant impacts are partially offset by environmental flow regime	Significant impacts are partially offset by compensatory measures	127,000	2.33		1.30	Significant impacts are partially offset by environmental flow regime and extraction rules	Significant impacts are unlikely to be mitigated	1.83			268	7.8
Score	2.0	2.0	3.0			2.48	2.0	1.0					
Score out of 5	5 - highest												