

### **Critical Water Supply Arrangements**

The Burnett Basin ROP also details the critical water supply arrangements which make provision for the supply of water during periods of critical water shortage. Stage 1 of the Critical water supply arrangements commences when the storage level in Boondooma Dam is estimated to be less than or equal to EL 268.67m (approximately 70,000ML). The arrangements that are in place during Stage 1 are as follows:

- (a) Announced allocation percentages for high priority and medium priority water allocations will be calculated in accordance with the ROP;
- (b) High priority water allocations will be supplied; and
- (c) Medium priority access will be suspended except for water that can be accessed through bed sands and/or waterholes in accordance with the ROP (Attachment 4.4F, section 1.1)

These arrangements will be in place until such time as the announced allocation for medium priority water allocations, calculated in accordance with the ROP, is greater than 0% and the storage level in Boondooma Dam is greater than EL268.7m AHD (approximately 70,000ML).

### **Medium priority water access from bed sands and/or waterholes**

Once the trigger to cease releases for Medium Priority allocation occurs, water allocation holders may take water from waterholes only if the water level in the waterhole is above the level that is 0.5m below the level at which the waterhole naturally overflows or the Chief Executive (of the Department of Natural Resources and Mines) is satisfied the taking of water will not adversely affect the cultural and environmental values of the waterhole.

The *Water Regulation 2016*, made under the Water Act, declares water in the aquifer underlying the Boyne River and Tarong Water Supply Scheme, to be water in the respective watercourses. When SunWater cannot supply any supplemented water, water allocation holders may take water from the bed sands of the respective watercourses. The total volume of water taken in the relevant water year (including both announced allocation water released from the dam and the bed sands water) must not exceed the water allocation holder's nominal volume.

Customers wishing to access water from bed sands are advised to contact the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Water Services, Bundaberg on 07 4131 2374 to make arrangements for the appropriate permitting arrangements prior to excavation works and pumping of water from the bed sands.