

Alice Springs Water Resource Strategy 2005

Alice Springs Water Resource Strategy – Strategic Work Plan

The Strategic Work Plan is an important component of Alice Springs Water Resource Strategy that aims to identify priorities for future investment in water research and management. Priorities for investment will be influenced by the Beneficial Uses declared and water allocations determined for our water resources.

Leading the work plan

The NT Water Act provides for the establishment of a Water Advisory Committee which will represent the interests of water users in and around Alice Springs. This group along with the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (NRETA) and other agencies where appropriate, will develop and oversee the implementation of the work plan.

Work plan focus areas

Filling the knowledge gaps

Scientists have undertaken extensive assessments of the water resources in the Alice Springs region. However, the scientific knowledge is not complete and there is much more to learn. The volume of water in Alice Springs aquifers and the dynamics of water movement within and between them are subject to approximations, extrapolations and various assumptions. The work plan will identify the priority questions that need to be answered to better inform decision making and water management.

Improve information

Information (data) about water levels in bores and water extraction volumes has been collected in the Alice Springs region for many years – but could this be done better to improve our ability to share this information with the community and regulate the resource. The work plan will identify ways to enhance the management of monitoring and metering data and find better reporting tools that can be used by licensed water users and decision makers.



Improve management

The work plan will identify priority actions to assist the community to protect the values of water resources (Beneficial Uses), to act in accordance with water allocations and meet the terms of licence conditions.

Actions will include identifying options for improving water efficiency (demand management), adopting new standards for metering and reporting, public education programs and water quality protection.

