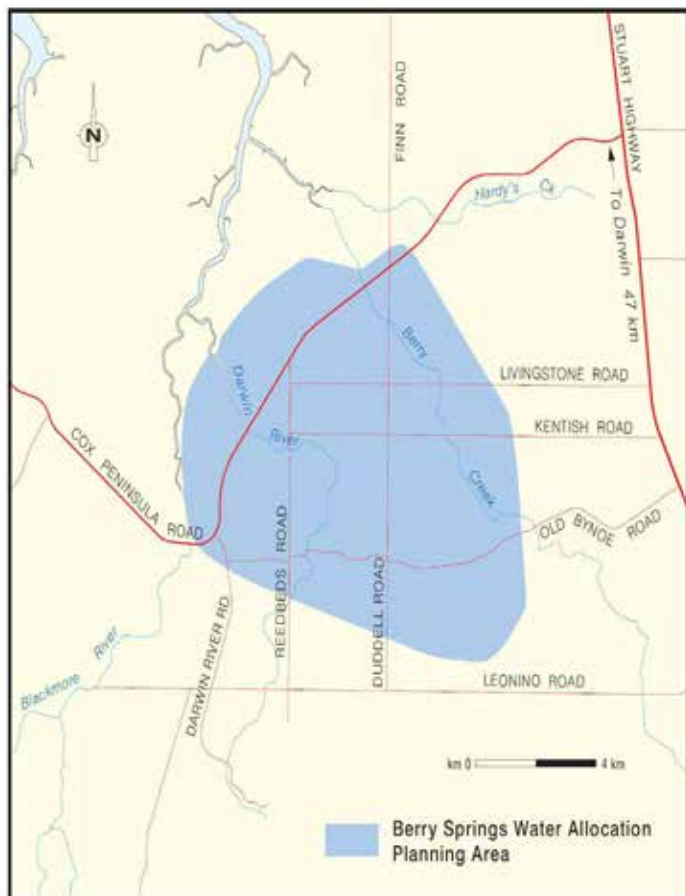




Berry Springs Dolostone Aquifer

The Facts

The Berry Springs Dolostone Aquifer is a small oval shaped basin structure made up of calcium magnesium carbonate sedimentary rock similar to limestone. The aquifer is approximately 90 km² in area with an average depth of 20 m below ground level. It can also be found at depths up to 199 m below the ground.



The general groundwater yield from the aquifer ranges between 1.5 and 5.0 L/s. However, fractures and weathering enhances yield and bores yielding over 25.0 L/s have been found.

There are currently over 326 registered bores extracting water from the Berry Springs aquifer. Groundwater is currently used for both domestic and commercial purposes including tourism, horticultural, agricultural and aquaculture operations.

This aquifer system sustains a number of local groundwater dependent ecosystems such as; Lake Deane, Berry Springs, Parson Springs and Twin Farm Springs. Berry Creek and the Darwin and Blackmore Rivers are also sustained by groundwater discharge early in the dry season.

Water quality indicates that recharge of the aquifer area is mostly by the local rainfall and the amount of recharge is considered to be about 30 to 40 % of the annual rainfall. The mean annual rainfall in the Berry Springs area is approximately 1636 mm per annum.



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