

Table 7. Plenty River SFMP Annual Report Checklist

Reporting Period

2016 - 2017

Prescription No.	Prescription	Compliance	Supporting Data	Comments
8	<p>PERMISSIBLE CONSUMPTIVE VOLUME</p> <p>8.1 The recommended permissible consumptive volume of surface water in the Protection Area is 669 ML. This includes the volume of registration licences and any licences issued under section 51A.</p> <p>Note: Section 22A gives the Minister power to declare a permissible consumptive volume from time to time by Order published in the Government Gazette.</p> <p>Section 51(1A) allows a person to apply for a registration licence during the period 1 July 2002 and 30 June 2003. Section 51A allows a person to surrender a registration licence and apply for a licence under section 51(1)(a) or (ba) and Melbourne Water must within 14 days issue a licence for the same annual volume as the registration licence.</p>	Yes	2016-17 PAV	
9	<p>PROHIBITIONS ON GRANTING NEW LICENCES</p> <p>9.1 Melbourne Water must refuse an application under section 51(1)(a) or (ba) of the Act in the Protection Area, if in its opinion, the approval of the application will or may cause:</p> <p>(a) subject to clause 9.2, the total volume of water taken and used in the Protection Area in any year under all-year licences to exceed 316 ML (which includes the volume of registration licences and any licence issued under section 51A); or</p> <p>(b) the total volume of water taken from waterways or collected in dams in the Protection Area under any winter-fill licences during a winter-fill period, to exceed 353 ML.</p> <p>Note: Section 55(2B) of the Act also prevents Melbourne Water from granting a licence if, in its opinion, the allocation or use of water under the licence will or may result in the permissible consumptive volume for that year or a future year, being exceeded.</p> <p>9.2 The volume referred to in 9.1(a) will reduce to reflect the volume of all-year licence transferred out of or within the protection area.</p> <p>9.3 The volume referred to in 9.1(b) will increase to reflect the volume of all-year licences transferred out of or within the protection area.</p>	Yes	Allocation granted in 2016-17	
10	<p>TRANSFERRING LICENCES</p> <p>Note: Section 62 of the Act empowers Melbourne Water to approve an application temporarily or permanently to transfer a licence upstream or downstream after having regard for the matters mentioned in Section 53, and Section 40 (1) of the Act.</p> <p>10.1 Subject to clause 10.2, Melbourne Water must approve an application to transfer a licence, to take water from a waterway, or to collect water in a dam if the proposed transferee will take or collect water under the transferred licence downstream of the original licence location.</p> <p>10.2 Melbourne Water may approve the transfer of a licence resulting from the transfer or conveyance of land providing the location at which water is taken or collected will not, change.</p>	Yes	Licence transfers in 2016-17	Only transfers that occurred in the catchment were related to sale of land and transfer to the new owner.
11	<p>ROSTERS AND RESTRICTIONS</p> <p>11.1 Melbourne Water may, from time to time, prepare and implement rosters or restrictions or other arrangements for taking and using water.</p>	Yes	Days on bans and restrictions	
12	<p>LICENCE CONDITIONS</p> <p>For the purposes of section 32A(12) of the Act, a licence granted under section 51(1)(a) or (ba) or renewed under section 58 of the Act for a purpose specified in Schedule 3 is subject to each condition set out in that Schedule, in relation to that purpose.</p>	Yes	Victorian Water Register	

13	<p>STREAM FLOW MONITORING PROGRAM</p> <p>Melbourne Water must:</p> <p>(a) continuously record the flows at the Mernda gauging station; and</p> <p>(b) periodically inspect the condition of the Mernda gauging station; and</p> <p>(c) maintain the Mernda gauging station in good condition; and</p> <p>(d) keep a record of each inspection and all work undertaken under paragraph (a), (b) or (c).</p>	Yes		Melbourne Water monitors flows continuously at Mernda gauging station (229616A). Other flow stations on the Plenty River include Lower Plenty gauging station (229614A) and Greensborough gauging station (229615A).
14	<p>INSTALLING METERS</p> <p>14.1 After the commencement of this Plan, Melbourne Water must, within two years, ensure that a flow meter is installed to measure water taken for irrigation or commercial purposes under any licence greater than 5 ML volume which has been or is thereafter granted within the Protection Area under section 51(1)(a) or (ba) or 51(1A) of the Act.</p> <p>14.2 Melbourne Water must:</p> <p>(a) periodically inspect the condition of each flow meter installed under sub clause 14.1; and</p> <p>(b) maintain each flow meter in good condition; and</p> <p>(c) replace any damaged flow meter; and</p> <p>(d) keep a record of all work done under paragraph (b) and (c).</p>	No ²	Number of metered licences	<p>Meters have been fitted to all¹ active' commercial or irrigation licensees' equipment greater than 5ML. <i>This does not include registered farm dams.</i></p> <p>The practicality of installing meters on registered catchment dams is assessed on a cost / benefit analysis. It is not practical and is of limited benefit, to meter these licences at present.</p> <p>Meter maintenance data captured in Melbourne Water's Asset Management system (Maximo). Maintenance of meters is scheduled every 3 years. Program available from Diversions team.</p>
15	<p>READING METERS</p> <p>Melbourne Water must:</p> <p>(a) read each meter referred to in sub-clause 14.1 at least:</p> <p>(i) once in every year in the case of an all year licence; and</p> <p>(ii) shortly after the beginning and end of the winter-fill period in every year, in the case of a winter fill licence; and</p> <p>(b) record, for each meter:</p> <p>(i) the reading obtained; and</p> <p>(ii) the number of the relevant licence; and</p> <p>(iii) the date on which the meter is read; and</p> <p>(iv) any information about the accuracy of the meter which Melbourne Water considers relevant; and</p> <p>(c) if a meter becomes defective, registers incorrectly or is removed for any reason, estimate the correct registration in any of the following ways:</p> <p>(i) by comparison with the quantity of water taken under similar conditions during some other period; or</p> <p>(ii) by comparison with the quantity of water taken after the meter has been restored to proper order; or</p> <p>(iii) by comparison with the registration of a substitute meter used temporarily in place of the defective meter; or</p> <p>(iv) by applying a correction factor if the meter is found to have a consistent error of registration.</p>	Yes	Diversions Database	

16	<p>MAINTAINING ENVIRONMENTAL FLOWS</p> <p>16.1 For the purposes of this clause, a licensee is the holder of a licence issued under section 51(1)(a) of the Act for any purpose other than domestic and stock use.</p> <p>16.2 1 December to 31 May Melbourne Water must do its best to ensure that, during the period 1 December to 31 May in any year, a licensee does not take any water from a waterway when the average stream flow at Mernda gauging station is 1.5ML or less per day.</p> <p>16.3 1 June to 30 November Melbourne Water must do its best to ensure that, during the period 1 June to 30 November in any year, a licensee does not take any water from a waterway when the average stream flow at Mernda gauging station is 2 ML or less per day.</p>	Yes		<p>Compliance with licence conditions is monitored using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usage data from meters in the catchment; • Acting on reports of non-compliance from the public; and • Undertaking spot checks
17	<p>MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN</p> <p>17.1 Within 12 months after the commencement of this Plan, Melbourne Water must propose to the Minister a program to monitor the implementation of the Plan.</p> <p>17.2 A program proposed under sub-clause 17.1 must include arrangements to monitor:</p> <p>(a) the effects of the Plan on the reliability of supply to licensees within the Protection Area; and</p> <p>(b) the ability of the provisions to maintain environmental flows set out in clause 16; and</p> <p>(c) in-stream environmental indicators within the Protection Area; and</p> <p>(d) indicators against which Melbourne Water’s performance in implementing this Plan can be measured.</p> <p>17.3 The Minister may:</p> <p>(a) approve a plan proposed under sub-clause 17.1; or</p> <p>(b) approve that plan, subject to amendments made by the Minister; or</p> <p>(c) refuse to approve the plan.</p> <p>17.4 Melbourne Water must implement a plan in the form approved by the Minister under sub clause 17.3.</p>	Yes		<p>The Minister approved the Stream Flow Monitoring Plan for Melbourne Water’s eight SFMP catchments in 2013.</p> <p>The monitoring plan is implemented annually.</p>
18	<p>REPORTING</p> <p>Note: Section 32C and 32D of the Act requires Melbourne Water to report on its activities in carrying out its duties in relation to this Plan in each financial year and to:</p> <p>(a) give the report to the Minister and the Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority by 30 September in each year; and</p> <p>(b) make a copy available for public inspection at its offices.</p>	Yes		
19	<p>REVIEW OF PLAN</p> <p>Melbourne Water must:</p> <p>(a) review the operation of this Plan:</p> <p>(i) not more than 5 years after it commences; and</p> <p>(ii) thereafter, at intervals of no more than 5 years; and</p> <p>(b) propose any consequential amendment (if any) to the Minister.</p> <p>Note: Sections 29, 31 and 32G of the Act provide for the constitution and convening of a consultative committee to develop any proposed amendment and the process to be followed by the Minister before approving it</p>	Yes		<p>Melbourne Water reviewed this Plenty Creek SFMP in 2013.</p>

Note 1: Melbourne Water considers a licence active when a pump is in place and water is extracted. Inactive licences are monitored to determine if they become active through:

- Licence holders applying to install a pump, thereby indicating their intention to take water
- Routine property inspections every five years, and
- Reviewing aerial images that indicate if irrigation may be occurring within the catchment.

Metering dam registrations and inactive licences does not consider the capital cost of installation or the ongoing operation costs associated with reading and maintenance.

The benefit of metering these licences is not evident and does not justify the cost, which would be passed on to licence holders.

Note 2: The feasibility of amending this prescription so that only active waterway licenses are required to be metered should be considered in future SFMP reviews.