Department of Natural Resources and Mines

Groundwater Net Update

Autumn 2017

'The Chief' trades in his boots for boat shoes…

After 44 years with the DNRM, Chief Hydrogeologist David Free will trade his boots for boat shoes and set sail on a luxury cruise around the pacific.

David has extensive experience with most aquifer types in Queensland with a strong emphasis in the Great Artesian basin. He was a member of the team that developed the first GAB Water Resource Plan and Resource Operations Plan.

In recent years David has been focused on policy and operations around the potential impacts of the Coal Seam Gas Industry upon groundwater resources and landholder water bores.

David has headed up the Groundwater Investigation and Assessment team within the CSG Compliance Unit since its inception in 2012.

His guiding hand at the helm of the groundwater team will be sorely missed.

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Send in your records...

Reminder

Every record you submit will be added to the department's Groundwater Database and will appear on your bore card under 'water level' details. Bore cards from all registered bores can be accessed via the Queensland CSG Globe.

Enter your monitoring data directly online via My Groundwater Monitoring website www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/qld/my-groundwater-monitoring#view=login
Please contact the office if you need a login and password.

Manual monitoring record sheets can be submitted by email. Fax or post (see back page for details).

Funding for landholders to monitor groundwater

Bore holders in the Surat Basin can now access a new grant to help them buy and install equipment to monitor their groundwater levels.

Queensland Murray-Darling Committee (QMDC) Chief Executive Officer Geoff Penton said the new funding would encourage farmers and graziers to join CSG Net - a community-based groundwater monitoring scheme.

CSG Net is a Queensland Government Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) initiative and QMDC will administer the new funding program. Origin has provided $300,000 to the scheme to offset the cost of installing monitoring equipment in farmers' water bores.

CSG Net comprises 14 local groups across the Surat Basin and boasts more than 400 members.

Mr Penton said the additional funding would enable the expansion of the CSG Net data reporting area and provide financial assistance so more farmers can join the scheme.

"Potential groundwater impact is the first question farmers ask when CSG development is proposed on their properties. Monitoring helps landholders understand what's happening on their property and to contribute to a database that has company, government and landholder data all in the one place.

"The number of farmers providing regular bore monitoring data has grown steadily since the network was launched in 2014 and we'd like more to join us.

"By joining their local CSG Net group, farmers can play an active role in monitoring and reporting water bore levels and in doing so, make a valuable contribution to our knowledge and management of groundwater," Mr Penton said.

The data provides valuable information about the short and long-term impact of CSG development on local groundwater levels and is available publicly via the Queensland Government's CSG Globe and its Water Monitoring Information Portal (WMIP).

Millmerran landholder Craig Antonio is monitoring his groundwater and welcomed the funding.

"The CSG industry extracts quite a bit of water as they extract gas, so if that does start to affect an aquifer and you're monitoring your groundwater, you would see the decline. You have a baseline to make sure your information is correct," Mr Antonio said.

Origin Groundwater Manager Andrew Moser says grants to cover up to 75 per cent of bore monitoring preparation and installation costs should encourage more farmers to take part.

"We're very proud to be supporting this program and truly appreciate the involvement of landowners across the region," Mr Moser said.

CSG Net groups operate in the Wallumbilla South, Wallumbilla North, Injune East, Injune South-West, Eurombah Creek, Taroom, Wandoan, Noonga, Miles, Chinchilla, Condamine, Millmerran, Acland and Kumbarilla districts.

For more information visit: http://www.qmdc.org.au/what-we-do/land-water/groundwater-monitoring.html

Annual workshops/annual reports…

Annual Status reports for: Millmerran, Kumbarilla, Condamine, Chinchilla, Central Condamine Alluvium and Acland areas.

Oakey	Cecil Plains	Condamine	Chinchilla
Monday 15 May **1 – 3 pm**	**Tuesday 16 May** **1 - 3 pm**	**Wed 17 May** **1 – 3 pm**	**Thursday 18 May** **9 am – 11 am**
Community Hall	**Cecil Plains Hall**	**Sports Club**	**Bowls Club**

Meet the Landcare Team, providing Support for CSG NET

Name	CSG Net Group	Phone / Mobile
Claire York	Condamine; Miles, Noonga	0447 755 654
Judith Symonds	Wallumbilla (N&S)	0428 226 010
Sarah Brookes	Injune East	0427 056 443
Rebecca Kirby	Millmerran & Kumbarilla	0427 952 336
Terry Elliott	Chinchilla	0417 434 628
Andrea Beard	Wandoan & Taroom	0427 274 455

Meet the Groundwater Investigations and Assessment Team (GIAT)….

Ross Carruthers — A/Chief Hydrogeologist
Cameron Coles – Senior Hydrogeologist
Mabbie Elson – Senior Project Officer
Michelle Clarke — Project Officer
Tikiri Tennakoon — Hydrogeologist
Geordie Durack — Natural Resource Officer
Tony Andresen— Natural Resource Officer
Shawn Grall – Administration Officer

Contact Details

Phone: CSG Enquiries Hotline 4529 1500

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Fax: (07) 4529 1552

Post: Groundwater Investigations and Assessment
        CSGCU, DNRM.
        PO Box 318,

Useful websites

Water Monitoring Information Data Portal https://water-monitoring.information.qld.gov.au

Groundwater monitoring for resource impacts (including instructional videos) https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/mining-energy-water/resources/land-environment/landholders/groundwater-monitoring

Queensland Globe/CSG Globe https://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/support-assistance/mapping-data-imagery/maps/queensland-globe