



20 January 2020

## Media Release

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### Water restrictions extended to include most of Tasmania

TasWater is taking action to protect drinking water supplies across much of the state and to manage the uncertainty around rainfall in the immediate future.

From today, water restrictions will be implemented for all serviced communities from greater Hobart to Wynyard inclusive and are expected to remain in place until 31 March 2020.

Communities already on water restrictions remain unchanged except for Bridport which will be increased to stage 2.

Serviced areas which are exempt from any water restrictions are Circular Head, King Island, West Coast and Huon Valley Councils.

“Although these sorts of measures are a regular occurrence in other parts of Australia, this is the first time such widespread restrictions have been necessary for Tasmania,” said Ruth Dowty, Community Stakeholder and Customer Relations Department Manager said.

It comes in recognition that the outlined areas have experienced dry conditions and low rainfall for the past 36 months coupled with advice from the Bureau of Meteorology that these conditions are likely to persist through the cooler months.

“By implementing restrictions now, we can build up our storage and prepare greater safeguards against the possibility of dry conditions into next summer.

“We may experience some rainfall in the meantime, but the BOM advice is that it will take several months of above-average rain to make up the deficits in our waterways and reservoirs.

“We are asking community members to work together to help ensure there is enough for everyone,” Ms Dowty said.

Stage 1 water restrictions will be introduced for a number of communities including Deloraine, Campbell Town, Bothwell, Colebrook, Bicheno, Scottsdale, St Helens, Flinders Island, Burnie, Somerset, Wynyard, Launceston and its surrounding areas stretching from Hadspen and Longford out to Beauty Point and Low Head.

Stage 2 water restrictions will now be implemented for Bridport, Orford, Triabunna, Swansea, Oatlands, Ulverstone and Gawler from 20 January 2020 until 31 March 2020.

Hobart will remain on stage 1, Coles Bay will remain on stage 2, and Scamander will remain on stage 3 water restrictions.

“It is important to remember that even though areas west of greater Burnie and south of Huonville are not affected at this point, we are encouraging everyone to be mindful of their water use.”

TasWater appreciates the support of the Tasmanian community in assisting with ensuring the ongoing availability of safe and reliable drinking water.



More information about water restrictions, and a full list of areas affected, can be found on the TasWater website: [www.taswater.com.au/waterrestrictions](http://www.taswater.com.au/waterrestrictions)

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