

FARM WAP – AUDIT INFORMATION

31 May 2023

This information sheet outlines the irrigator's responsibilities during a Farm WAP audit, and the aspects or criteria that will be audited. If your Farm Water Access Plan (Farm WAP) is selected for an audit you will be notified by our Farm WAP team and an Audit Plan detailing the audit activities and arrangements will be provided to you.

The audit is a minimally invasive quality assurance check to verify that the management prescriptions outlined in the Farm WAP have been conformed with, to review any changed farm operations that pose potential risks to the environment and review any changed environmental aspects that may be affected and may be at risk from irrigation activities.

The audit process investigates activities undertaken by the auditee (land holder or delegated irrigator) to verify conformance with Farm WAP associated with the property.

Irrigator Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the irrigator (auditee) to prepare and provide documents for review by auditor. The auditee shall answer all interview questions as fully and correctly as possible and assist auditor with site inspection.

To reduce the potential for a non-conformance, it is recommended that you review the audit criteria and collate any relevant documents prior to your audit. If your Farm WAP needs amending, please contact our Farm WAP Team on (03) 6398-8433 or FarmWAP@tasirrigation.com.au.

Auditable Documents

If relevant for your Farm WAP, documents that may be required for during the audit include:

- Irrigation scheduling records / soil moisture monitoring records / rainfall records
- Crop records / paddock books
- Water / dam licences
- Soil analysis results / chemical application records / consultant reports

Audit Criteria

The audit focuses on conformance with the management prescriptions set out in the Farm WAP. Criteria address whether water has been applied in accordance with the Farm WAP, whether land capability limitations and biodiversity have been managed, ensuring monitoring has been undertaken, and required records are being kept.

Criteria for the audit are separated into four categories: general, water, soil/land capability and biodiversity. The audit criteria address the management prescriptions outlined in every Farm WAP.

Audit Criteria 1 – General



The irrigator has a current copy of the Farm WAP for the property.



The Farm WAP is verified / signed by the land holder or irrigator.



The property details are correct.



The irrigator understands their responsibilities outlined in the Farm WAP.



Previous audit actions have been completed and closed out.

Audit Criteria 2 – Water



On farm water storages are correct and current.



TI water has only been stored in approved dams identified in the Farm WAP.



Water volume purchased and used during the audit season does not exceed maximum water capacity of the land.



TI water has only been applied within the Farm WAP area.



Staff are aware that TI water is only to be stored and applied in accordance with the Farm WAP.

Audit Criteria 3 – Soil / Land Capability



Irrigation, land use and cropping frequency are consistent with the land capability for each soil type.



Any soil limitations are managed in accordance with Farm WAP.



Any required soil management actions of monitoring is being undertaken.

Audit Criteria 4 – Biodiversity



Vegetation communities on the property have been maintained.



Habitat for threatened species or threatened ecological communities is being managed appropriately.



Waterways (including groundwater) are being managed appropriately.



Weeds are being managed appropriately.



Any required biodiversity management actions or monitoring is being undertaken.