



Shire of Carnamah

non-potable strategic community water supplies plan

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For more information about this plan, contact Rural Water Planning on 1800 780 300.

Cover photograph: Carnamah Stockyard Tanks

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Summary

Water supply planning is essential in rural areas and requires collaboration, involvement and participation from all stakeholders, including farmland communities, local government authorities (LGAs) and State Government agencies as part of an integrated approach to sustainable water supply for the future.

This plan provides information for the Shire and farmers on the location of strategic community water supplies (SCWS). It advises how to access non-potable water for emergency stock watering and firefighting purposes, including the facilities available at each site.

Introduction

Over the past 40 years, recurrent water supply problems have affected the dryland agricultural region. Emerging climate changes are likely to increase the occurrences of low rainfall years, resulting in water shortages and restrictions in rural communities.

As farmers face long-term water security challenges, they are encouraged to proactively develop and maintain on-farm water infrastructure to better prepare for dry periods.

Rural water planning recognises the importance of preparing for these events to increase the opportunities for delivering an assured water supply to farmland communities in the dryland agricultural areas of Western Australia (WA).

Strategic community water supply (SCWS) planning is one of the key roles of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's rural water program. The aim is to safeguard dryland agricultural areas wherever possible against serious water deficiencies.

While landholder self-sufficiency must remain the primary objective, the rural water program recognises the importance of emergency off-farm water supplies to farming communities. It also builds on the SCWS network across the dryland agricultural area through the Community Water Supplies Partnership (CWSP) program and the Agricultural areas (AA) dam works program.

Both programs establish and improve non-potable water supplies to ensure that water is available for emergency livestock watering and firefighting. The CWSP program aims to reduce reliance on potable scheme water supplies for non-potable needs, and to increase water availability for public amenities such as sportsgrounds.

This SCWS plan has been compiled for the Shire of Carnamah to provide a clear description of each of the SCWS in the Shire available for firefighting purposes, and to farmers and farming communities in times of emergency.

Strategic community water supplies and agricultural area dams

A network of SCWS has been developed across WA's dryland agricultural areas to provide an important source of non-potable water for farming and firefighting needs.

These supplies are for emergency use in times when low rainfall causes on-farm supplies to become depleted, and farmers need to travel to access water for livestock and essential farming purposes.

Vesting of the strategic dams and bores in each LGA varies, with some sites owned by government agencies (including the department), Water Corporation, the LGA itself, or by private entities where an agreement has been made to allow access.

It is important that these water supplies are carefully managed to ensure water is available during times of emergency.

The department keeps in regular contact with rural communities to monitor the condition of SCWS and identify and address any maintenance issues.

Each year, the department's rural water program undertakes works to maintain and upgrade sites vested with it, and sites in priority areas vulnerable to dry conditions.

AA dams have been developed since the early 1990s to provide water and support the growth of farming in the dryland agricultural area. There are about 480 of the original 681 AA dams that range from high value to no value in terms of their condition and serviceability.

SCWS is a subset of the AA dams that are reliable, in good to excellent repair and retain a high value. The department uses LGA maps to determine which sites are worth upgrading and to identify priority areas to develop new SCWS.

Figure 1 shows the location of the SCWS and AA dams in the Shire of Carnamah, with symbols indicating the capacity, vesting and values of each site.

Shire of Carnamah map

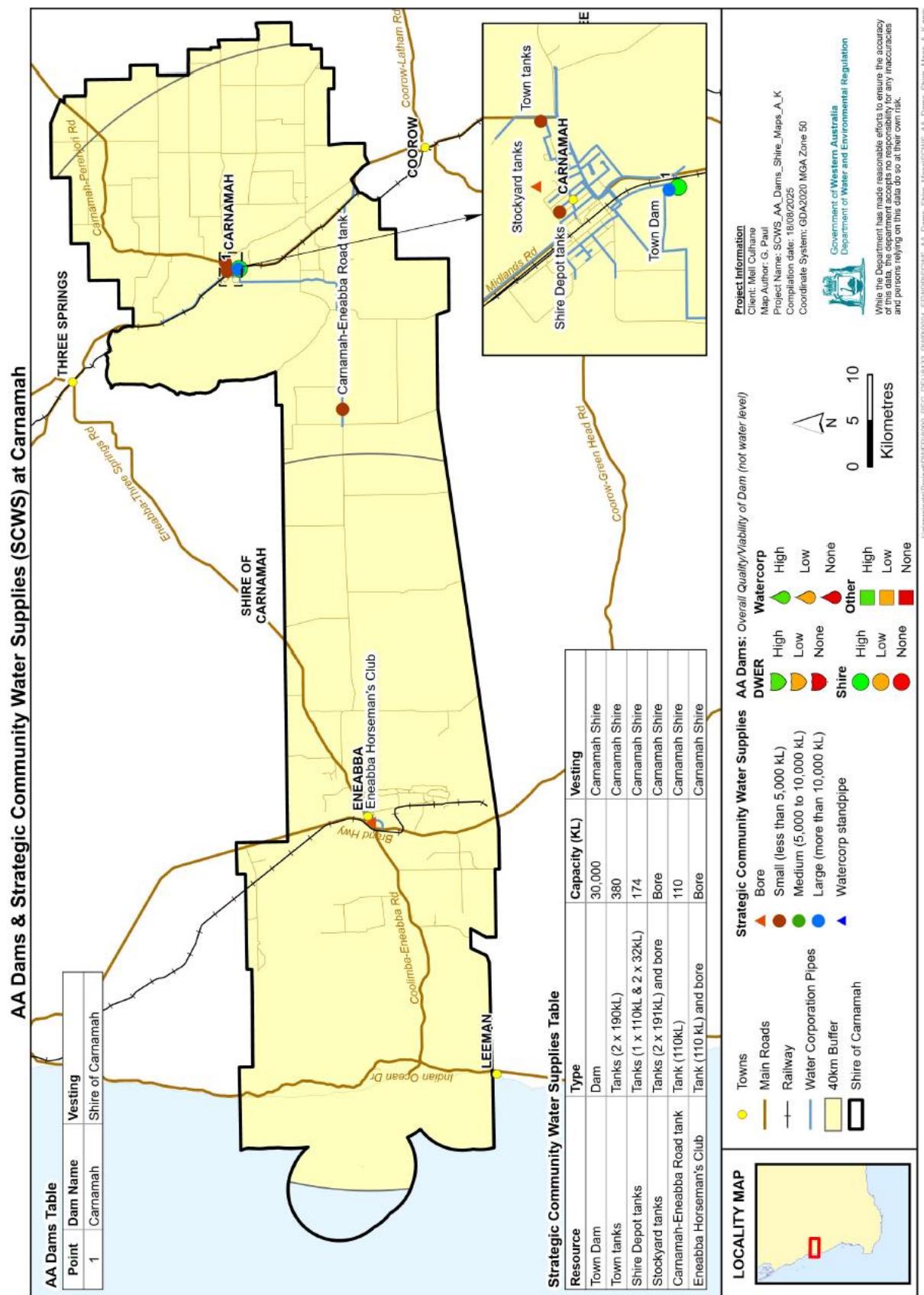


Figure 1 - Location of Strategic Community Water Supplies (at 18 August 2025)

Strategic community water supply access

Overview of different fill points

Each SCWS will have a fill point to allow access to water supply for agricultural purposes. Each fill point will have a camlock fitting. Standard sizes of camlocks include 50 mm (2 inch), 80 mm (3 inch) fitting and in some cases a 100 mm (4 inch) connection is fitted for firefighting purposes. These camlock fittings will be available where there is a tank, standpipe, swipe card system or bore fill point. When accessing water directly from dams without tank storage, you will need to bring your own pump to extract water.

Swipe card systems

Swipe card systems are metered fill points that require a swipe card or fob from your LGA to access the water supply. Contact your LGA office to obtain a swipe card to access these water supplies.

Some locations may have a swipe card system. Where these are installed, the Shire can switch the system to allow access without a swipe card during emergencies. The emergency access contacts are the Manager of Works and Services 0447 284 226 or Chief Bush Fire Control Officer 0403 260 145.

Farm bots

Some tanks are fitted with farm bots, which regularly record the water level and feed this information into a website. You can access this website at app.farmbot.com.au (Login ID: **public.access** Password: **access1**) to view water tank levels for tanks fitted with farm bots.

Below are examples of different fill points you may come across in your shire.



Tank standard camlock fitting



Farm bot positioned on top of tank



Swipe card standpipe system



Tank, electric swipe card and pump for bore

Shire of Carnamah SCWS sites

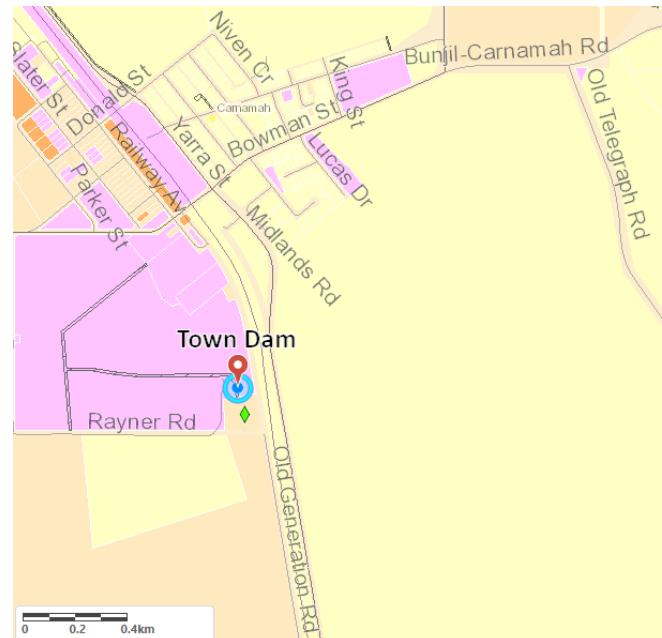
Site name	Location
Carnamah town dam	Old Generation Road ~ 680m south of Railway Avenue
Carnamah town tanks	Carnamah-Perenjori Road, Carnamah ~ corner MacPherson Street
Shire depot tanks	6 Caron Street, Carnamah
Stockyard tanks	Niven Crescent, Carnamah
Carnamah-Eneabba Road tank	Carnamah-Eneabba Road ~ 1.6km east of Brand Mudge Road
Eneabba Horseman's Club	Eneabba Drive ~ 80m south of Johnson Street behind toilet block

Description of community water supplies

Carnamah town dam



Aerial view of town dam



Location map



Above left: town dam

Above right: outlet

Left: pump and filtration system

Carnamah town dam site description

Vesting	Shire of Carnamah
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	24234
Catchment type	Earth
Catchment area (ha)	~ 31.4 ha

Location and coordinates

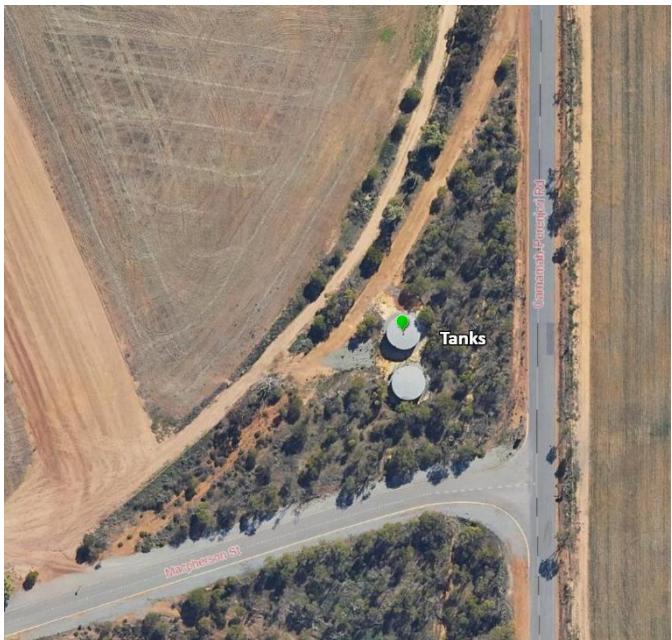
Location: Old Generation Road ~ 680m south of Railway Avenue

Latitude	-29.6979
Longitude	115.8877
Eastings	392399.0117
Northings	6714167.9967

Water supply and access

Structure type	Dam
Dam capacity	30,000kL
Standpipe Y/N	No, two-inch coupling at site outside dam fence
Pump Y/N	Yes
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Supply information	Requires access through locked dam gate to turn outlet pump on. Dam feeds town tanks on corner of MacPherson Street and Carnamah-Perenjori Road
Emergency access contacts	Manager of Works and Services 0447 284 226

Carnamah town tanks



Aerial view of Carnamah town tanks



Location map



Above: Tanks

Left: Outlet

Carnamah town tanks site description

Vesting	Shire of Carnamah
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	Road reserve
Catchment type	Fed from town dam
Catchment area (ha)	N/A

Location and coordinates

Location: Carnamah-Perenjori Road, Carnamah corner of MacPherson Street

Latitude	-29.68542
Longitude	115.89562
Eastings	393147.370
Northings	6715561.795

Water supply and access

Structure type	Tanks
Capacity	2 x 190,000 litres
Standpipe Y/N	No, 2-inch coupling off tank
Pump Y/N	No
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	No, but drive through access
Emergency access contacts	Manager of Works and Services 0447 284 226

Shire depot tanks



Aerial view of shire depot tank



Location map



Above left: steel tank
Above right and left:
Poly tanks (two)
Right: pump connecting
to steel tank



Shire depot tanks site description

Vesting	Shire of Carnamah
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	Lot 43 on Plan 3397
Catchment type	Roof runoff
Catchment area (ha)	N/A

Location and coordinates

Location: 6 Caron Street, Carnamah

Latitude	-29.68720
Longitude	115.88541
Eastings	392161.354
Northings	6715355.071

Water supply and access

Structure type	Tanks
Tank capacity	Steel tank 110,000 litres and two 32,000 litre poly tanks
Standpipe Y/N	No, 100mm suction hose outlet
Pump Y/N	Yes
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Emergency access contacts	Manager of Works and Services 0447 284 226

Stockyard tanks



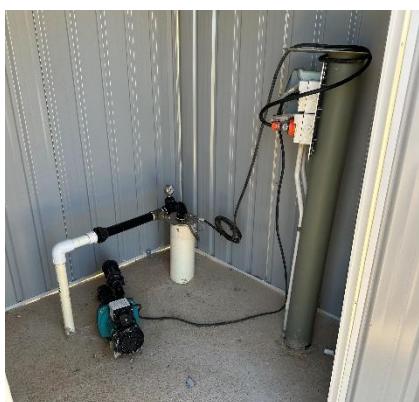
Aerial view of Recreation Centre tanks



Location map



Steel tanks (installed 2024)



Left: bore and pump
Right: 100mm suction outlet
Below: 50mm outlet



Stockyard tanks site description

Vesting	Shire of Carnamah
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	Lot 3 on plan 54055
Catchment type	Bore and recreation centre roof runoff
Catchment area (ha)	N/A

Location and coordinates

Location: Niven Crescent, Carnamah

Latitude	-29.68486
Longitude	115.88825
Eastings	392433.655
Northings	6715617.019

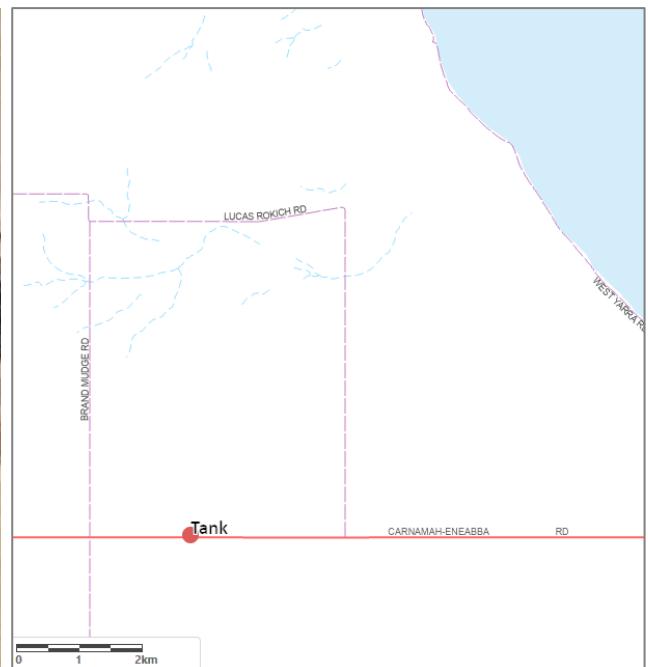
Water supply and access

Structure type	Tanks and bore
Tank capacity	2 x 191,000 litres
Standpipe Y/N	No, four-inch suction hose and two-inch couplings on tank
Pump Y/N	Yes, transfer pump
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Emergency access contacts	Manager of Works and Services 0447 284 226

Carnamah - Eneabba Road tank



Aerial view of tank



Location map



Steel tank



Tank outlet and hose



Standpipe

Carnamah - Eneabba Road tank site description

Vesting	Carnamah Shire
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	Road Reserve PIN 11597954
Catchment type	Bore
Catchment area (ha)	N/A

Location and coordinates

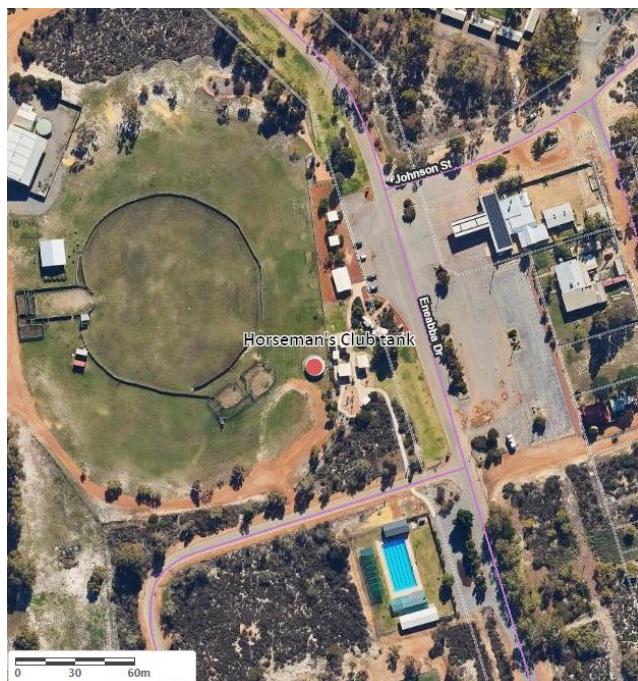
Location: Carnamah-Eneabba Road ~ 1.6km east of Brand Mudge Road

Latitude	-29.79859
Longitude	115.72920
Eastings	377182.403
Northings	6702855.234

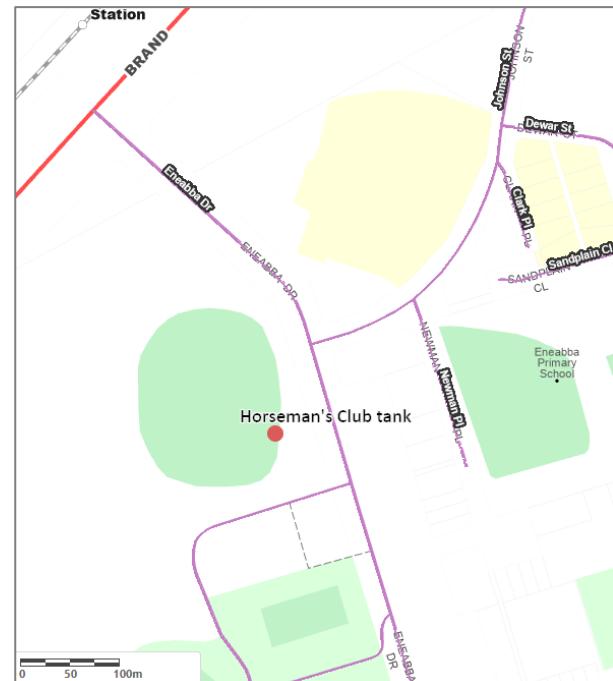
Water supply and access

Structure type	Tank
Tank capacity	110,000 litres
Standpipe Y/N	Yes – two-inch coupling on standpipe under pressure, four-inch hose from tank gravity fed
Pump Y/N	No
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Emergency access contacts	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer 0403 260 145

Eneabba Horseman's Club



Aerial view of Horseman's Club tank



Location map



Steel tank behind public toilets



*Far left: Bore
Left: 100mm suction
hose outlet*

Eneabba Horseman's Club site description

Vesting	Shire of Carnamah
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	26044
Catchment type	Bore
Catchment area (ha)	N/A

Location and coordinates

Location: Eneabba Drive ~ 80m south of Johnson Street behind toilet block

Latitude	-29.8208
Longitude	115.2650
Eastings	332350.448
Northings	6699804.963

Water supply and access

Structure type	Bore and tank
Tank capacity	110,000 litres
Standpipe Y/N	No, four-inch coupling at site
Pump Y/N	No
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Emergency access contacts	Manager of Works and Services 0447 284 226

Glossary

Camlock	A male hose coupling fixed for connection of a water hose. Camlocks can be attached to fill points such as tanks, or standpipes to allow access to water supply. Camlock sizes vary from site to site and generally include 50 mm (2 inch), 80 mm (3 inch) as a standard. At some sites a 100 mm (4 inch) camlock has been included for firefighting purposes.
Catchment types	<p>Earth – land cleared, cambered, and compacted to provide a catchment area for surface water.</p> <p>Bitumen – catchment lined with bitumen to allow capture of surface water.</p> <p>Rock catchment – rock that slopes, has containment walls to capture surface water to a storage source (e.g. a tank or a concrete dam).</p> <p>Bore – a drilled casing that accesses ground water to provide a water supply.</p> <p>CBH – water is captured from CBH grain silo storage facility and stored in a dam or tank.</p>
Farm bot	A device fitted to some tanks to regularly record the water level and feed this information into a website. You can access this website at app.farmbot.com.au (Login ID: public.access Password: access1) to see water tank levels for tanks fitted with farm bots.
Fill point	Location where a water supply can be accessed from using camlock fittings either via standpipe, swipe card system, tank or bore.
Non-potable	Water not suitable for human consumption.
Solar pump	A pump powered via solar energy that pumps water from one location to another (e.g. from dam to dam or from dam to tank).
Staff gauges	A marker measuring tool positioned at surveyed depths in a dam to indicate water levels.
Standpipe	A pipe overhead, on a plinth or raised off the ground to provide a fill point for water supply.
Swipe card	A metered fill point requiring a card to be swiped to start pumping system. Contact the LGA for further information.
Vesting	Person or governing agency with responsibility for managing land.

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