



WATER RESOURCES STOCKTAKE OF THE GREATER NORTHERN ADELAIDE REGION

The Northern Adelaide Plains is a major producer of fresh food in South Australia. Growing global demand for food presents a large economic opportunity but requires greater certainty on available water. Undertaking a stocktake of existing information regarding the region's current and future water supply and demand will support new development opportunities in the region.

PURPOSE

The Goyder Institute for Water Research is undertaking a stocktake of the available water resource information of the greater Northern Adelaide region. The purpose of this stocktake is to consolidate the current understanding of the existing and potential water available that could support regional economic development. The project will focus on aspects of water quantity, quality and constraints.

The objectives of the project are to:

- Consolidate the existing water resource information from across the greater Northern Adelaide region;
- Determine the current water balance for the Northern Adelaide Plains;
- Determine the potential opportunities to enhance the existing water resource availability in the broader region; and,
- Identify potential constraints and opportunities of utilising undeveloped water and land resources.

The results of the project will provide baseline knowledge to inform the consideration of different development options in the region and future regional planning. It is anticipated that there will be more detailed, follow on projects investigating specific questions and industry sectors once this project is complete.

ENGAGEMENT WITH STAKEHOLDERS

There has been significant investment in studies and investigations in the Northern Adelaide region by government and industry. The initial project tasks are to collate existing information and data in consultation with stakeholders within the region. Contact with stakeholders will be ongoing during the project in relation to accessing information and seeking feedback at critical stages as information is being consolidated. A number of products will be developed, and made publicly available, including GIS data, a summary report and technical report.

STUDY REGION

The Goyder Institute stocktake is collating existing knowledge, data and information with a focus on the Northern Adelaide Plains prescribed wells area as the first priority, with consideration of the potential growth zones in the future outside of this boundary also being considered. A map of the study region is presented on the following page. The broader study zone is a flexible boundary to enable a responsive approach as information becomes available to ensure that relevant information is captured.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

The Northern Adelaide Plains is one of South Australia's premier food producing regions. Fresh produce grown in the area is worth over \$250 million per annum to the State's economy, with crops such as tomatoes and capsicums from protected cropping facilities and potatoes and carrots from field horticulture supplying demand in domestic markets. There are increasing opportunities for growing the food production, value add processing and urban growth in the Northern Adelaide region.

Industry development in the region will require access to additional land, energy and water. Water has traditionally been sourced from aquifers in the Northern Adelaide Plains Prescribed Wells Area and recycled water from the Bolivar Wastewater Treatment Plant distributed via the Virginia Pipeline Scheme. Opportunities to increase access to water resources, at the right price and quality, are essential to support economic development. However, it is recognised from past experience that there are risks associated with increased water use, such as over extraction and waterlogging, that will need to be considered in development activities.

WHO IS INVOLVED?

The project is being led by the Goyder Institute for Water Research and involves several of its research and government partners: Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges NRM Board, Primary Industries and Regions South Australia, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, CSIRO, University of Adelaide, Flinders University, University of South Australia and SA Water.

FURTHER INFORMATION

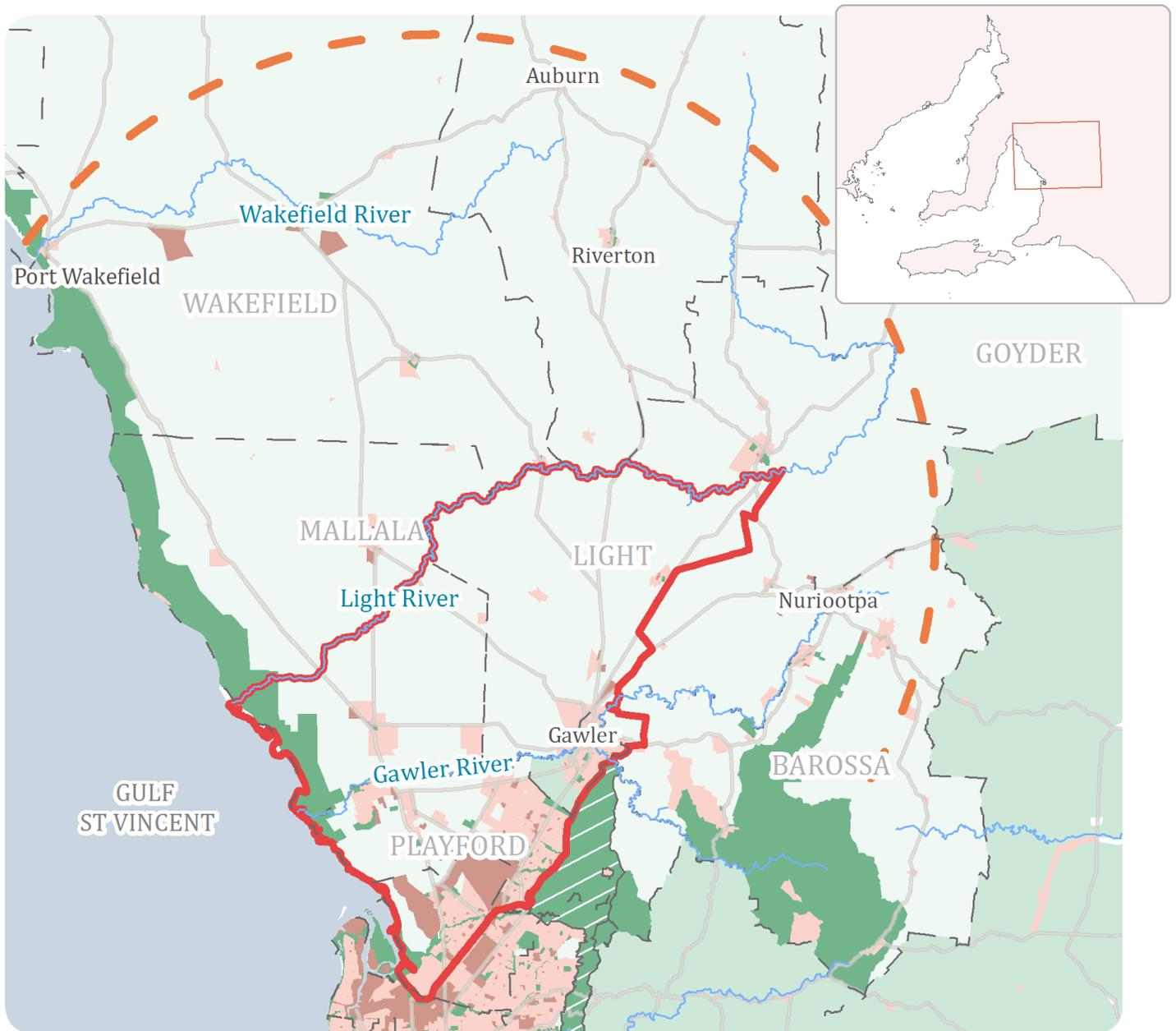
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The Goyder Institute for Water Research is a partnership between the South Australian Government through the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, CSIRO, Flinders University, University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia.



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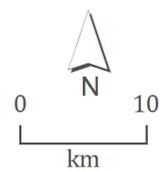


Development Zones

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Reserve, Community Facility |  Primary Production |
|  Commercial / Industrial |  Rural |
|  Residential |  Waterway |

Boundaries

- | |
|--|
|  Primary Study Area |
|  Greater Study Area |
|  LGA Boundary |



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