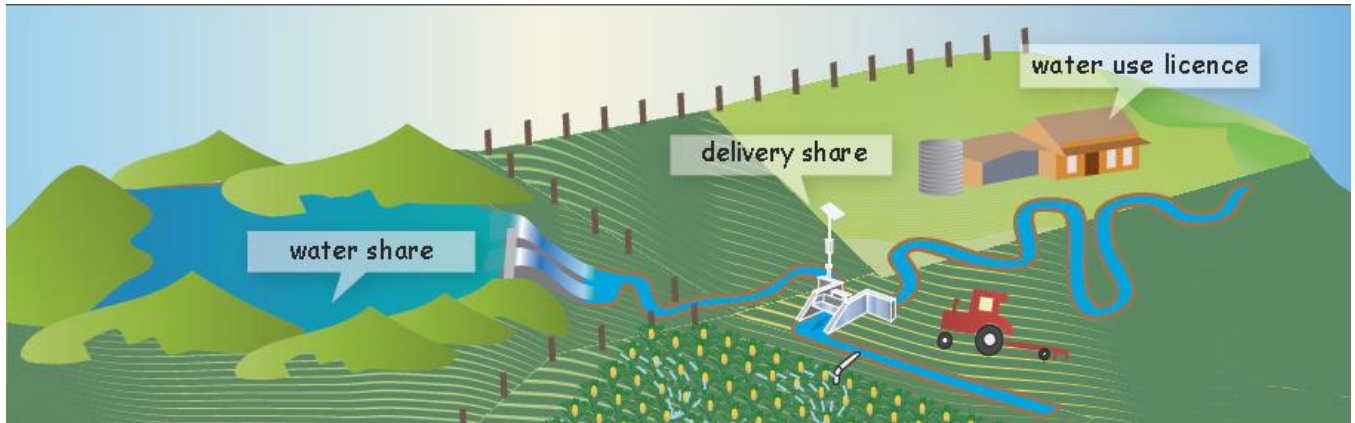


Introduction to delivery share use in Northern Victoria



What is a delivery share?

A delivery share is an entitlement to have water delivered to land in an irrigation area.

It is one of the three entitlements you can hold in irrigation areas to access and use water for irrigation:

- Delivery share – entitles you to have water supplied to a property through a channel or piped network. Delivery share is tied to the land and stays with that land if the property is sold.
- Water share – is an ongoing right to a share of the water available in your water system and to water stored in the dams. Water share is not tied to the land and can be freely traded.
- Water-use licence – sets out the specific parcels of land that can be irrigated and how much water can be used on that land in a single season. The licence is tied to the land.

Having delivery share does not entitle you to use water.

You need to own water shares or buy allocation water each year through the water market to use water.

Your property will need a water-use licence before you can use water for irrigation.

What does delivery share provide?

Delivery share gives you access to a share of the available capacity in the channel or piped network that can supply water to your property.

It gives you the security of having water delivered when there is demand from other landholders to access water on the same channel system or network.

How does delivery share work?

A delivery share is defined by a rate of megalitres (ML) over time. This rate puts an obligation on the water corporation to maintain the infrastructure capacity for water to be delivered. When there is high demand or rationing, water delivery is managed based on delivery share.

Holding delivery share means that:

- Your water corporation has a clear obligation to maintain a delivery service to the property
- The connected service can supply water to the specified delivery rate
- Infrastructure access can be shared fairly, including rationing if there are restrictions or high demand
- The fixed costs of irrigation infrastructure are shared based on delivery obligations
- Prices remain steady through changes in water ownership and use.

Each rural water corporation has their own processes for managing delivery share.

Where is delivery share used?

Delivery share is used in designated irrigation areas. In northern Victoria these include the Goulburn-Murray Irrigation District (pumped and gravity irrigation) and Lower Murray Water's pumped irrigation districts.

Who owns delivery share?

A delivery share is tied to land and stays with the land when a property is sold. A delivery share can be split across different service outlets on the one property.

If you sell your property, the delivery share automatically transfers to the new owner. The seller and land / real estate agent must declare any delivery share to prospective purchasers of a property.

When a water share is sold or temporarily traded, the water share goes to the new owner, but the delivery share stays with the property. Delivery share charges keep applying to the property unless the delivery share is terminated or transferred.

What fees are involved?

It is important to check with your rural water corporation about the fees associated with your delivery share.

Delivery share is linked to fixed charges that must be paid regardless of water ownership or use. Your water corporation collects the fees and charges.

The property owner is accountable for all fees associated with the delivery share linked to that property. These fees are significant in some cases and can be the main item on your water corporation bill.

Charges linked with delivery share are the main way the costs of operating and maintaining the channels, pumps, pipes and automated gates are shared.

How can you adjust your delivery share?

You may be able to transfer delivery share to increase or decrease the amount on a property to match your needs. You can also remove all or part of the delivery share by termination.

Delivery share can be bought or sold and transferred between properties within the same irrigation district and where infrastructure connections make it possible.

You can remove delivery share by terminating it, which incurs termination fees. Your rural water corporation can advise you on the costs and process.

Water corporation-specific information

Goulburn-Murray Water

- Delivery share is used in the Goulburn-Murray Water gravity and pumped irrigation areas and is expressed as a volume in megalitres per day (ML/day).
- Your **annual delivery allowance** is volume in megalitres that can be delivered in a year. Any deliveries above this allowance will incur a **casual use fee**.
- The annual delivery allowance is determined by taking the delivery share rate (ML/day) multiplied by 270 for irrigation areas and by 365 for pumped irrigation districts.
- Delivery share is part of the basis of your annual fixed charges account, known as the **infrastructure access fee**.

Lower Murray Water

- Delivery share in the Sunraysia irrigation districts is expressed as a volume in megalitres over a 7-day period.
- Your ability to apply for **annual use limit (AUL)** may be restricted by the delivery capacity in your area.
- Fixed charges for delivery share apply through the **delivery share fee** that contributes to fixed infrastructure and maintenance costs.

Contact your rural water corporation for more information or help to adjust your delivery share.

For more information about delivery share and Victoria's water entitlement system go to www.waterregister.vic.gov.au.

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