



MEDIA RELEASE

Town under water target

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WEEKLY water use in Seaspray has dropped by about 85,000 litres since Stage Two Water Restrictions were introduced in the town last Saturday.

Gippsland Water managing director David Mawer congratulated the community on its initial response to the restrictions and encouraged customers to continue saving water where they can.

In addition to introducing low level restrictions, Gippsland Water set the town a target for weekly water use to help prevent the need for higher restrictions to be implemented before the end of summer.

The corporation encouraged customers to scale back their use to maintain an overall 'town target' of 600,000 litres a week.

But according to Mr Mawer, customers went well under this mark in the last week, using just 503,000 litres for period from Thursday 11 to Wednesday, 17 February.

"The community has achieved a great result. The drop in water use is likely due to a combination of factors, including the introduction of water restrictions, recent rainfall, and the community's efforts to use water only when needed. Hopefully this reduction in use will be maintained over coming weeks," Mr Mawer said.

Stage Two Water Restrictions were introduced in Seaspray following a month of very low streamflows in Merrimans Creek, which eventually stopped flowing entirely. While recent rainfall has seen minor flows return to the creek, Mr Mawer said restrictions would remain in place until the system recovered and stabilised.

"Gippsland Water will continue to closely monitor streamflows and water consumption in Seaspray over the coming weeks and we will keep the community informed on how both are tracking."

Meanwhile, Gippsland Water has undertaken work in Seaspray this week to improve water quality issues caused by the low flows in Merrimans Creek. This has involved the flushing of water mains, however, Gippsland Water is always careful to use the minimum amount of water required.

For more information on Stage Two Water Restrictions, visit www.gippswater.com.au or call Gippsland Water on 1800 066 401.

All other towns in Gippsland Water's service area remain on Permanent Water Saving Rules.

Authorised: **David Mawer, Managing Director**