



Gingin Water Group Inc.

GINGIN WATER GROUP INC

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# Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Date:

## **WETLANDS UNDER THREAT**

Gingin Brook and its wetlands are under threat from reduced rainfall and increased water extraction. The Gingin groundwater catchment is particularly unique in that it contains the freshwater Gingin Brook and a complex association of wetlands. Currently Department of Water is preparing a groundwater allocation plan and an important issue in this planning is the adequate provision for groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDE).

David Rickson, Chairman of the Gingin Water Group, recently met with Department of Water to discuss this issue and has reservations about the process. "Department of Water has attempted to include GDEs in the planning but have restricted investigation to public land" said Mr Rickson "this is limiting

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their ability to effectively model impacts on GDEs and it is a concern of the Gingin Water Group the many wetlands on private land will be negatively impacted because they have been ignored."

"The Department is to be congratulated on the level of consultation to date," said Mr Rickson "and we are urging farmers and water users to get involved with the planning process and to make comment, either through the Gingin Water Group or directly to the Department of Water"

[needs photo of member/s near a 'stressed' wetland]

-End-

This media release was sent by the chairman to the editors of the Coastal Times and the Advocate which are both delivered free to the Gingin area.

Contact was made from both papers seeking photos and additional background information. Both were supplied in April 2012.

The aim was to support the Department of Water in its effort to complete the complex task of setting out a suitable water

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management program for the greater Gingin region which must include the local water quality and quantity issues of landholders and their unique water dependant swamps , soaks and streams. A system to document and report this data must be developed.