

Acute Water Supply and Demand Update - 1/11/24

Risk summary

Current Level

1

Only use sprinklers every second day

Chance of Level 2 this summer

40%

If we move to level 2 this summer we will give approx. 7 days notice

Chance of Level 3 this summer

14%*

Our latest modelling shows the highest risk period is early Feb*

Chance of Level 4 this summer

4%*

Our latest modelling shows the highest risk period is early Feb*

Buffer Average past 7 days

38%

Buffer is at or above 15%**

We are at Level 1

Buffer Forecast next 7 days

31%

Forecast buffer is at or above 15%**

We can stay at Level 1

What triggers a shift in Water Restriction Levels?

Wellington Water’s Drought Management Group regularly monitors a range of factors, including river and aquifer levels, weather forecasts, operational activities and water demand.

One of the key factors is the ‘buffer’. This is the space (or headroom) between the maximum amount of water we can supply, and how much we all use and lose through leaks.

We keep an eye on the buffer, and it helps us know when to recommend a change in water restrictions to help the public better manage their water use.

As there are a range of factors to consider, the buffer is used as a guide only and does not automatically trigger a shift in water restriction levels.

*This modelling is reviewed each month, updated as necessary and subject to change.

*The efforts of the public following water restrictions can reduce this chance, but this requires everyone to do their bit.

**The buffer is one key indicator of risk, and is offered as a guide only. Other factors are monitored as part of level risk assessment.