



Peel Main Drain

Peel Main Drain flows in a southerly direction and passes through several pools or wetlands (swamps) before discharging to the Serpentine River at Kerulup Pool.

Since July 2006, water quality has been monitored on a regular basis near the bottom of the catchment at the gauging station on Karnup Road (614121). Before this, samples were collected approximately 250 m upstream at Karnup Road Bridge (1990–93).

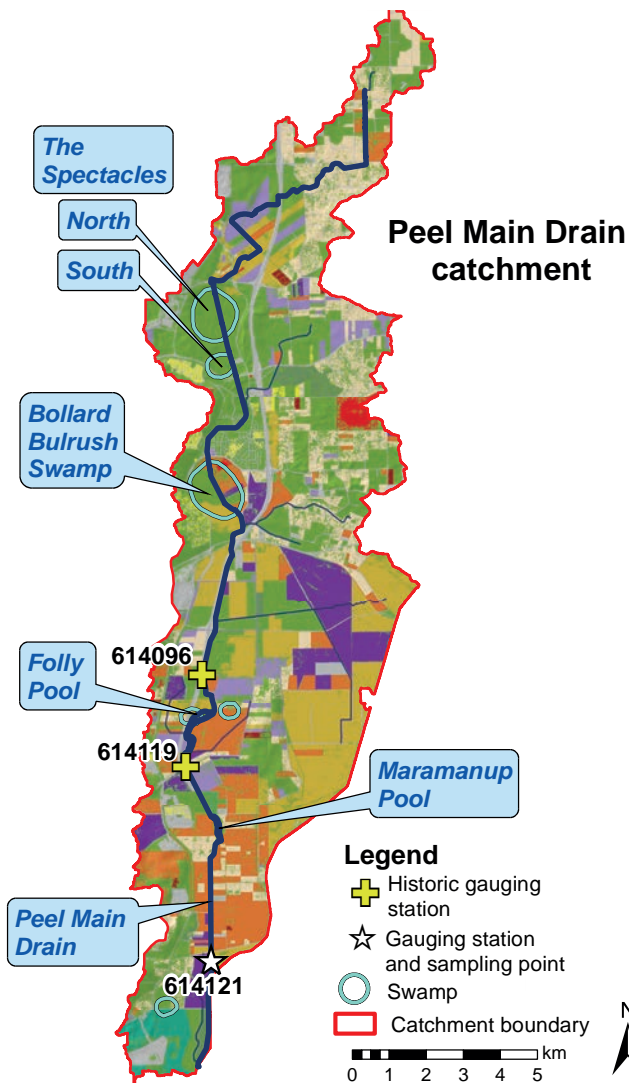
There have been several gauging stations located along Peel Main Drain:

- 1994–98 at Folly Road (614096)
- 2000–05 at Zig Zag Road (614119)
- 2005 onwards at Karnup Road (614121)

In wet years Peel Main Drain flows all year, however in dry years it can cease to flow between the months of November and May inclusive. In 2006 it also ceased to flow for two days in July.

Nearly half the Peel Main Drain catchment (mostly north of Bollard Bulrush Swamp) has leached sands and a high or very high risk of phosphorus loss to waterways. Land use in this area is dominated by bushland and residential and lifestyle blocks. To the south the land has been cleared, mostly for agriculture such as stock grazing.

In addition to a piggery and several poultry farms, the catchment also has two sheep feedlots and an aquaculture facility that have licence conditions governing discharge and report to the National Pollution Inventory (Department of Environment Regulation).



Land use classification (2006)	Area	
	(km ²)	(%)
Animal keeping – non-farming (horses)	12	10
Cattle for beef (predominantly)	16	13
Conservation and natural	47	39
Horticulture	5.6	4.6
Industry, manufacturing and transport	11	9.1
Intensive animal use	0.35	0.29
Lifestyle block	15	13
Mixed grazing	7.5	6.2
Offices, commercial and education	0.83	0.69
Plantation	1.9	1.6
Recreation	1.4	1.2
Residential	1.2	0.98
Total	120	100

Nutrient summary: median concentrations, loads and status classification at 614121

Year	1992	1993		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Annual flow (GL)				2.5	5.5	12	6.8	10*	2.7	6.0	12	7.3	1.8	6.7
TN median (mg/L)	2.0	2.0							1.6	1.9	2.0	2.3	1.1	1.5
TP median (mg/L)	0.31	0.19							0.08	0.28	0.37	0.32	0.09	0.18
TN load (t/year)									4.5	12	22	14	3.0	12
TP load (t/year)									0.69	1.7	3.1	1.9	0.43	1.7

Status classification: Low Moderate High Very high

Status reported for three-year period end (i.e. 2006–08 reported in 2008)

* best estimate using available data

TN = total nitrogen TP = total phosphorus