2017 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



Upper Goulburn Groundwater Management Area

The Upper Goulburn Groundwater Management Area (GMA) covers the Goulburn River catchment from downstream of Lake Eildon to Seymour. It includes the townships of Kinglake, Yea and Alexandra (shown on map overleaf).

Groundwater resources are managed under the Upper Goulburn GMA Local Management Plan.

Groundwater resources

Groundwater level and rainfall charts are provided overleaf. Groundwater levels fluctuate seasonally in response to climatic conditions and groundwater extraction. Strong groundwater recovery occurred in response to above-average rainfall early in the 2016/17 water year.

Groundwater licensed volume and use

There is currently 6,026.1 megalitres per year (ML/yr) of groundwater licensed volume in the Upper Goulburn GMA with the majority held in the Goulburn and King Parrot management zones (Table 1).

Table 1 Groundwater licensed volume and metered use by management zone in 2016/17

Management zone	Zone limit (ML/yr)	Licensed volume (ML/yr)	Metered use (ML)
Acheron	876.0	294.0	112.8
Goulburn	3,891.0	3,082.0	306.5
Home	392.0	375.5	58.4
King Parrot	1,086.0	1,045.3	240.0
Lower Yea	863.0	362.0	127.9
Rubicon	307.0	0.0	0.0
Snobs	88.0	0.0	0.0
Upper Yea	789.0	781.3	182.0
Yarck	276.0	86.0	6.0
Total	8,568.0	6,026.1	1,033.6

Metered use in the Upper Goulburn GMA in 2016/17 was 1,033.6 ML or 17% of total licensed volume. This is very similar to the volume used in 2015/16 (1,087.2 ML) (Figure 1).

In 2016/17 a 36 ML/yr licence was surrendered and a new 5 ML/yr licence was issued; these resulted in the total licensed volume decreasing by 31.0 ML/yr since 2015/16.

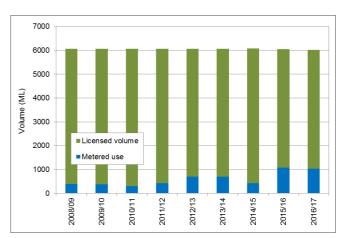


Figure 1 Annual metered use as a proportion of licensed volume in the Upper Goulburn GMA

Groundwater trading

Licence holders may transfer licensed volume on a temporary or permanent basis, within or between management zones, provided zone limits (listed in Table 1) are not exceeded.

In 2016/17 one permanent transfer was undertaken in the Upper Goulburn GMA; a 5 ML/yr transfer within the Upper Yea Zone. No temporary transfers were undertaken in 2016/17. There were two transfers in 2015/16 and one in 2014/15.

Looking to buy or sell licensed volume?

Watermatch is an online forum where licence holders can advertise their interest to buy or sell licensed volume; either groundwater or unregulated surface water.

Visit www.watermatch.com.au

Transferring licensed volume can provide an opportunity to generate income from unused water for sellers, or increase production for buyers.

Where can I get more information?

You can download a copy of the Local Management Plan from the Goulburn-Murray Water website www.gmwater.com.au or call GMW on 1800 013 357.

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