

# Season Summary 2013/14

30 June 2014



## Central Victorian Mineral Springs GMA

The Central Victorian Mineral Springs Groundwater Management Area (GMA) extends north from Daylesford and Woodend on the Great Dividing Range to the Cairn Curran Reservoir and Lake Eppalock near Bendigo.

Groundwater in the area is highly valued. It is shared between the environment, domestic and stock users, irrigated agriculture, commercial users and growing urban communities. The region is unique because of naturally occurring carbonated mineral water springs that have long been valued for health benefits, commercial bottling and tourism.

Groundwater resources in the area are managed under a Local Management Plan (the Plan) that was approved by Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) in 2013.



Figure 1 Kyneton mineral spring

### Groundwater entitlement and use

Total licence entitlement in the Central Victorian Mineral Springs GMA is 4,932 ML/year (Table 1). Zone entitlement limits allow for further development in the Coliban Zone.

Management zone	Licence Entitlement (ML/yr)	Entitlement limit (ML/yr)
Campaspe	1,150	1,150
Coliban	1,043	2,144
Loddon	2,739	2,730
Total	4,932	6,024

Table 1 Licence entitlement and zone limits

Metered groundwater use in 2013/14 was 464.1 ML, which is 9% of licensed entitlement (Figure 2).

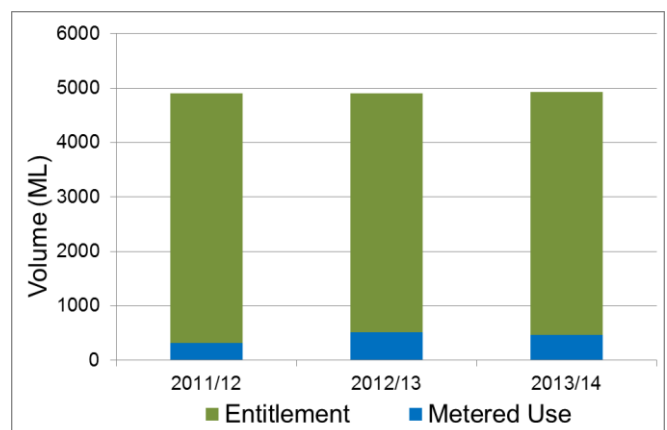


Figure 2 Metered groundwater extractions

### Trading

Temporary and permanent trading of licence entitlement is available in the Central Victorian Mineral Springs GMA. Trading enables the development of new opportunities and provides licence holders with greater flexibility to manage production in response to seasonal demands or climatic conditions.

There were no permanent trades in 2013/14. There was one temporary transfer for 2 ML within the Loddon Zone.

### Groundwater salinity

On request GMW will provide groundwater users with a bottle to sample groundwater and measure the groundwater salinity. There were no requests in 2013/14.

## Groundwater levels

Groundwater monitoring indicates that levels have remained relatively steady and are within observed historical ranges.

Hydrographs, which illustrate the change in groundwater level over time, are presented below for key bores in each management zone (Figure 3 to Figure 6).

If there is significant groundwater levels over time (i.e. greater than 5 m decline over 3 years), or large seasonal drawdown (i.e. greater than 10 m), then GMW will investigate the cause and, if necessary, engage with local groundwater users to assess the need for restrictions.

GMW will continue to support a baseline of groundwater level monitoring from state observation bores to assist with resource management decisions and use the data to inform a review the Plan.

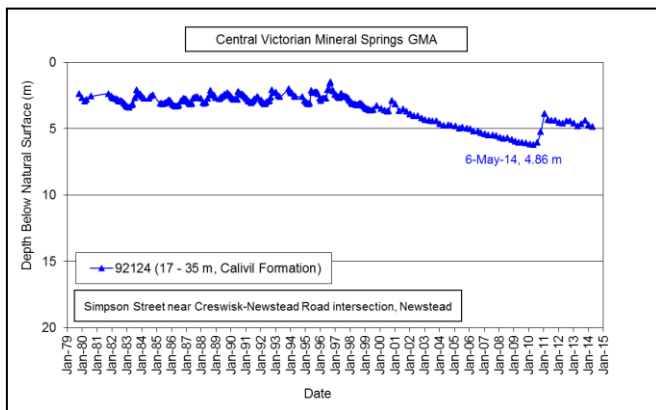


Figure 3 Loddon Zone 1122

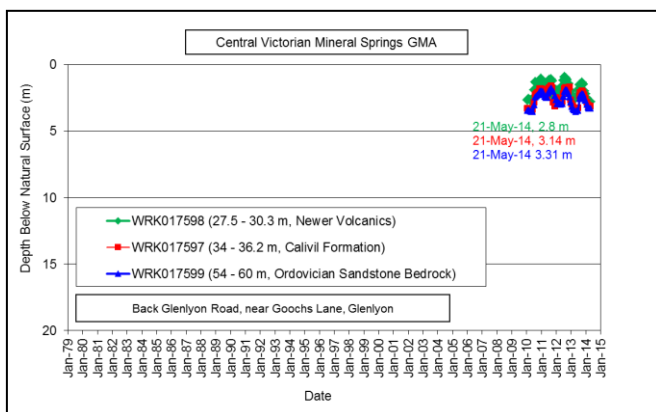


Figure 4 Loddon Zone 1122

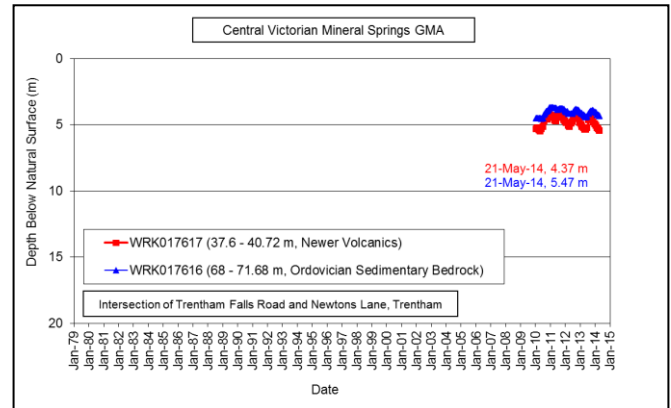


Figure 5 Coliban Zone 1121

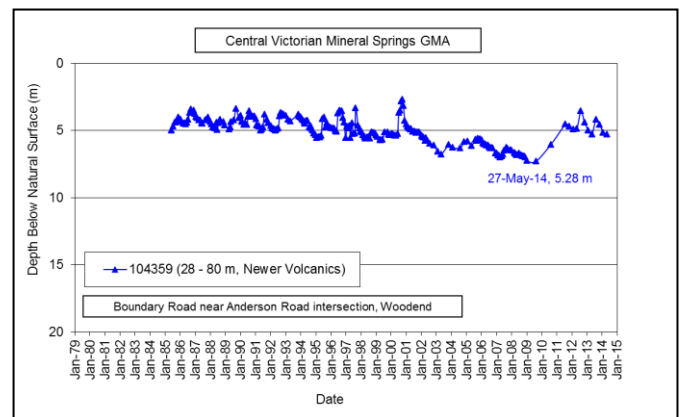


Figure 6 Campaspe Zone 1120

## Mineral springs

The mineral springs reserves are maintained by land managers (e.g. Hepburn Shire Council), not GMW. In December 2013 the Victorian Mineral Water Committee was appointed to assisting land managers by preparing a Victorian Mineral Springs Master Plan and seeking, assessing and recommending grant applications for activities to implement the Master Plan.

## Plan review

Each year, GMW considers the need for any amendments to the Plan. Any suggestions for how the Plan might be improved can be sent to GMW via our website [www.gmwater.com.au](http://www.gmwater.com.au) or by calling on 1800 013 357. No amendments were considered necessary following the review of the Plan for 2013/14.

## Where can I get more information?

You can download a copy of the Central Victorian Mineral Springs GMA Management Rules from the GMW website [www.gmwater.com.au](http://www.gmwater.com.au) or call Brendan Cossens on 1800 013 357.