Annual Newsletter 2014/15

September 2015



Upper Goulburn GMA

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 a Local Management Plan approved by Goulburn-Murray Water in 2013.

Licensed groundwater entitlement and use

There is currently 6,076 megalitres per year (ML/yr) of licensed groundwater entitlement in the Upper Goulburn GMA. The majority of entitlement is held in the Goulburn and King Parrot Zones (Table 1).

Table 1 Licensed groundwater entitlement and use in the Upper Goulburn GMA in 2014/15

Management zone	Entitlement (ML/yr)	Use (ML/yr)
Acheron	284.0	31.7
Goulburn	3,106.0	93.1
Home	375.5	75.9
King Parrot	1,086.3	106.3
Lower Yea	362.0	44.4
Upper Yea	781.3	72.7
Yarck	81.0	0
Total	6,076.1	424.1

Metered use in the Upper Goulburn GMA in 2014/15 was 424.1 ML or 7% of total licence entitlement, similar to metered use over the past seven years (Figure 1).

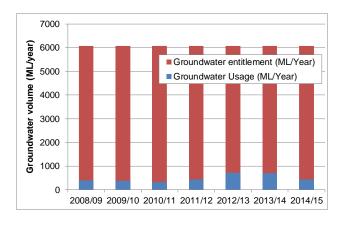


Figure 1 Metered groundwater use in the Upper Goulburn GMA

Groundwater trading

Customers may transfer entitlement on a temporary or permanent basis within or between zones provided entitlement caps documented in the Upper Goulburn GMA Local Management Plan are not exceeded. One permanent trade was undertaken within the Upper Yea Zone for a total of 16 ML/yr in 2014/15. No temporary transfers were undertaken.

Groundwater levels

Groundwater levels fluctuate seasonally in response to climate conditions and groundwater extraction. The hydrographs overleaf show groundwater levels have remained relatively stable since monitoring bores were installed in 2010 and 2011, despite less than average rainfall over the last three seasons (Figure 2).

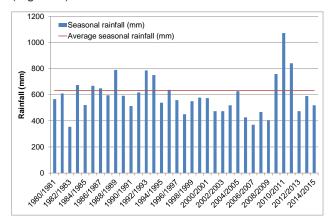


Figure 2 Rainfall at Yea (Bureau of Meteorology gauging station number 88067)

Further investigations

GMW has increased the frequency of groundwater monitoring in State observation bores located close to the Goulburn River in order to improve the current understanding of the interaction between groundwater and the river. This information will assist GMW to licence and manage groundwater in the Upper Goulburn GMA.

Where can I get more information?

You can download a copy of the Upper Goulburn Groundwater Management Local Management Plan from the GMW website www.gmwater.com.au or call Karina Joy at GMW on 1800 013 357

