2018 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



Eildon Groundwater Management Area

The Eildon Groundwater Management Area (GMA) extends from the Great Dividing Range north to Mansfield and Merton. It incorporates the towns of Mansfield, Jamieson, Bonnie Doon and Eildon (shown on map overleaf).

Groundwater resources

Groundwater resources in the Eildon GMA are held within two types of aquifers; fractured bedrock and alluvial aquifers. The alluvial aquifers occur along waterways in the Eildon GMA.

There are no observation bores currently monitoring groundwater levels in the Eildon GMA.

Historical records indicate that groundwater levels in both aquifers are generally within 5 m of the ground surface and fluctuate in response to rainfall.

In the Eildon GMA, rainfall in 2017/18 was close to average (refer to chart overleaf).

Groundwater licensed volume and use

There is currently 597.5 megalitres per year (ML/yr) of groundwater licensed volume in the Eildon GMA (Table 1).

Table 1 Zone caps, licensed volume and recorded use in the Eildon GMA

Management zone	Zone Cap/ PCV (ML)	Licensed volume (ML/yr)	Recorded use (ML)
Alpine Southern Highlands	1,060	233.0	97.9
Eildon Northern Highlands	436	364.5	91.2
Total	1,496	597.5	189.1

Recorded use in the Eildon GMA in 2017/18 was 189.1 ML which is 32% of total licensed volume (Table 1).

Groundwater use in 2017/18 was similar to the volume used in 2016/17 (Figure 1). This is consistent with rainfall in both these years being close to average.

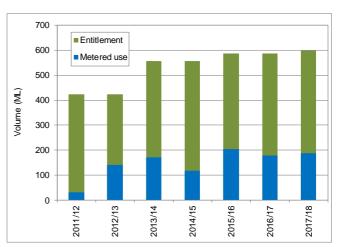


Figure 1 Annual recorded use as a proportion of licensed volume in the Eildon GMA

Groundwater trading

Licence holders may transfer licensed volume on a temporary or permanent basis, within the Eildon GMA or from other Groundwater Management Units, provided limits documented in the Local Management Plan are not exceeded.

No transfers were undertaken in the Eildon GMA in 2017/18.

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 <u>www.watermatch.com.au</u>

Transferring licensed volume can provide an opportunity to generate income from unused entitlement 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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