

Katunga Water Supply Protection Area

The Katunga Water Supply Protection Area (WSPA) is located in the Murray and Goulburn river valleys, extending from Yarrawonga in the east to Barmah in the west. It includes the townships of Numurkah, Cobram, Nathalia, Katunga and Katamatite (shown on map overleaf).

Groundwater resources are managed under the Katunga WSPA groundwater management plan (the Plan).

Allocations

Katunga groundwater licence holders were able to access 100% of their licence volume in 2017/18 for the first time since the Plan was implemented in 2006.

The allocation for 2018/19 has been announced at 100%. This means that licence holders can use their full entitlement volume this season.

Groundwater salinity

Groundwater salinity is now monitored in selected State observation bores annually.

If you would like your groundwater tested for salinity, please contact GMW to request a bottle.

Groundwater levels

Groundwater level and rainfall charts are provided overleaf. Groundwater levels fluctuate seasonally in response to groundwater extraction.

Groundwater licensed volume and use

There is currently 60,218.9 megalitres per year (ML/yr) of groundwater licensed volume in the Katunga (Table 1).

In 2017/18 the allocation was 100% for the first time since the Plan was implemented.

Recorded use in the Katunga WSPA in 2017/17 was 31,973.2 ML or 53% of total licensed volume. This is an increase of 16% in use since 2015/16. (Figure 1).

Looking to buy or sell licensed volume?

Table 1 Groundwater licensed volume and recorded useby management zone in 2017/18

Management zone	Licensed volume (ML/yr)	Total use (ML)	Proportion of licensed volume used
Northwest Dryland Zone – 1061	4,937.2	3,397.8	69%
Numurkah- Nathalia Zone – 1062	34,590.7	16,294.0	47%
Cobram Zone – 1063	20,691.0	12,281.4	59%
Total	60,218.9	31,973.2	53%

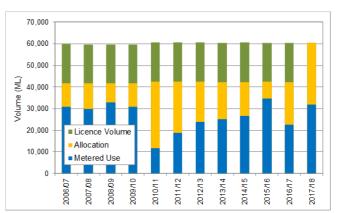


Figure 1 Total licensed volume, allocation and recorded use in the Katunga WSPA

Groundwater trading

Licence holders may transfer licensed volume on a temporary or permanent basis.

During 2017/18 there were five more transfers than in 2016/17 however the total volume transferred decreased from 1,075.0 ML to 883.0 ML.

Where can I get more information?

You can download a copy of the plan and a comprehensive annual report from the Goulburn-Murray Water website <u>www.gmwater.com.au</u> or call GMW on 1800 013 357.

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

A3327761; September 2018

