## **2023 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER**



# **Broken Groundwater Management Area**

The Broken Groundwater Management Area (GMA) extends from the upper Broken River catchment near Mansfield, in the south, to Tungamah in the north, and incorporates the towns of Benalla, Glenrowan and Dookie – refer map overleaf.

#### **Groundwater resources**

Groundwater resources within the GMA occur in either fractured bedrock aquifers; shallow shoestring sands of the Shepparton Formation; or buried gravels and sands of the Deep Lead. Charts showing groundwater levels and rainfall are provided overleaf.

During the 2022/23 water year, groundwater levels in the Shepparton Formation aquifer continued to fluctuate in response to climatic conditions. Levels in the Deep Lead and bedrock aquifers continued to follow a steadily rising trend.

#### Groundwater licence volume and use

As of 30 June 2022, there was 2,940.6 megalitres per year (ML/yr) of licence entitlement volume (licence volume) in the GMA (Table 1). This is 35 ML/yr less than 30 June 2022, resulting from the surrender of one licence within the GMA.

Total licence volume in the GMA is limited by a permissible consumptive volume of 3,732.0 ML/yr.

Table 1. Licence volumes and use in 2022/23

| Management zone                   | Total licence volume (ML/yr) | Recorded use (ML) |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Broken Highlands<br>Zone          | 1,856.6                      | 239.7             |
| Broken Sedimentary<br>Plains Zone | 1,084.0                      | 126.6             |
| Total                             | 2,940.6                      | 366.3             |

Recorded use in the GMA in 2022/23 was 366.3 ML; this equates to 12 per cent of the total licence volume (Table 1). This is slightly less than the volume of use recorded in 2021/22 which was 427.2 ML (Figure 1).

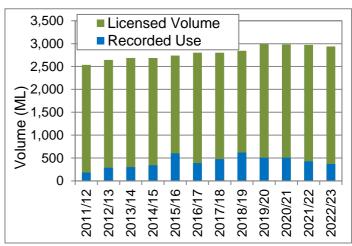


Figure 1. Annual licence and recorded use volumes

#### Licence transfers

Licence holders may transfer licence volume on a temporary or permanent basis within or between management zones in the GMA, and other groundwater management units, provided that it accords with rules outlined in the *Broken GMA Local Management Plan* (the Plan).

In 2022/23, no permanent or temporary transfer transactions occurred within the Broken Groundwater Management Area.

### Licence compliance

Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) has a zerotolerance approach to unauthorised take of nonurban water.

In 2022/23, there were no prosecutions or convictions relating to groundwater matters in the GMA.

Please visit <u>www.gmwater.com.au/compliance</u> for more information.

#### Where can I get more information?

You can download a copy of the Plan from the GMW website, <a href="www.gmwater.com.au">www.gmwater.com.au</a> or phone GMW on 1800 013 357.

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