

Upper Goulburn Groundwater Management Area

The Upper Goulburn Groundwater Management Area (GMA) covers the Goulburn River catchment downstream of Lake Eildon to Seymour. It includes the townships of Kinglake, Yea and Alexandra (shown on map overleaf).

Groundwater resources are managed under the Upper Goulburn GMA Local Management Plan.

Groundwater resources

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

Groundwater licensed volume and use

There is currently 6,114.8 megalitres per year (ML/yr) of groundwater licensed entitlement volume (licensed volume) in the Upper Goulburn GMA with the majority held in the Goulburn and King Parrot management zones (Table 1).

Table 1.	Groundwater	licensed	volume	and	recorded		
use by management zone in 2019/20							

Management zone	Zone limit (ML/yr)	Licensed volume (ML/yr)	Recorded use (ML)
Acheron	876.0	294.0	70.6
Goulburn	3,891.0	3,100.0	192.5
Home	392.0	391.5	147.7
King Parrot	1,086.0	1,083.3	230
Lower Yea	863.0	362.0	122.9
Rubicon	307.0	0.0	0.0
Snobs	88.0	0.0	0.0
Upper Yea	789.0	789	163.9
Yarck	276.0	95.0	40
Total	8,568.0	6,114.8	967.6

Recorded use in the Upper Goulburn GMA in 2019/20 was 967.6 ML or 16 per cent of total licensed volume. This is similar to the volume used in the last three seasons (Figure 1).

In 2019/20 additional volume was issued in the Goulburn and Upper Yea Zones, resulting in the total licensed volume increasing since 2018/19.



Figure 1. Annual recorded use as a proportion of licensed volume in the Upper Goulburn GMA

Groundwater trading

Licence holders may transfer licensed volume on a temporary or permanent basis, within or between management zones, provided zone limits (listed in Table 1) are not exceeded.

One permanent transfer of 12 ML/yr was undertaken in the Upper Goulburn GMA in the 2019/20 season.

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 www.watermatch.com.au

Transferring licensed volume can provide an opportunity to generate income from unused water 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 <u>www.gmwater.com.au</u> or call GMW on 1800 013 357.

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