2021 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



Broken Groundwater Management Area

The Broken Groundwater Management Area (the GMA) extends from the upper catchment near Mansfield, north to Tungamah 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 deep gravel and sands of the Deep Lead. Charts showing groundwater levels and rainfall are provided overleaf.

In 2020/21 groundwater levels in the Shepparton Formation aquifer continued to fluctuate in response to climatic conditions.

The Deep Lead and bedrock aquifers continue to follow a steadily rising trend.

Groundwater licence volume and use

There is currently 2,985.6 megalitres per year (ML/yr) of groundwater licence entitlement volume (licence volume) in the GMA (Table 1). Licence volume in the GMA is limited by a permissible consumptive volume (PCV) of 3,732.0 ML/yr.

Table 1. Licence volumes and recorded for 2020/21

Management zone	Licence volume (ML/yr)	Recorded use (ML)
Broken Sedimentary Plains Zone	1,082.0	73.0
Broken Highlands Zone	1,903.6	434.4
Total	2,985.6	507.4

Recorded use in the GMA in 2020/21 was 507.4 ML, which is 17 per cent of total licensed volume (Table 1). This is comparable to the total recorded use in 2019/20 (Figure 1).

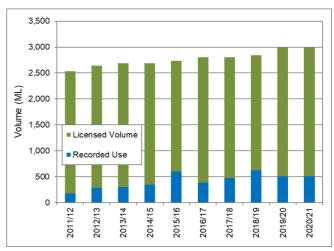


Figure 1. Annual recorded use as a proportion of licence volume

Licence transfers

Licence holders may transfer licensed 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 Local Management Plan.

There were no permanent or temporary trades in the GMA during the 2020/21 water year.

Licence compliance

In 2020/21 there was one reported instance of alleged unauthorised take of groundwater (incl. overuse) in the GMA.

Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) has a zerotolerance approach to unauthorised take of nonurban water. Relevant actions, if required, are taken in accordance with GMW's Risk-Based Compliance and Enforcement Framework.

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 Broken GMA Local Management Plan from the GMW website, www.gmwater.com.au or phone GMW on 1800 013 357.

September 2021; A4097649

