2021 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



Eildon Groundwater Management Area

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

Groundwater resources

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

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

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

Above average rainfall was recorded In the GMA, in 2020/21.

Groundwater licence volume and use

There is currently 644.5 megalitres per year (ML/yr) of groundwater licence entitlement volume (licence volume) in the GMA (Table 1). This is an increase from 2019/20 as a result of 40 ML/yr of new entitlement being issued during 2020/21.

Table 1. Licence volumes, use and limits for 2020/21

Management zone	Zone cap/ PCV (ML/yr)	Licence volume (ML/yr)	Recorded use (ML)
Alpine Southern Highlands Zone	1,060.0	273.0	115.7
Eildon Northern Highlands Zone	436.0	371.5	64.3
Total	1,496.0	644.5	180.0

Recorded use in the GMA in 2020/21 was 180 ML which is 28 per cent of total licensed volume (Table 1).

Groundwater use in 2020/21 decreased by eight per cent compared to use 2019/20 (Figure 1).

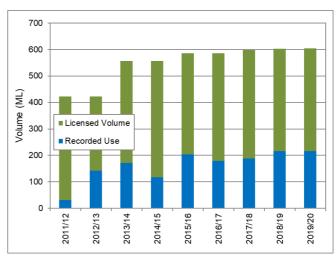


Figure 1. Annual recorded use as a proportion of licence volume

Licence transfers

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

No transfers were undertaken in the GMA during the 2020/21 water year.

Licence compliance

In 2020/21 there were no reported instances of alleged unauthorised take of groundwater 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 Local Management Plan from the GMW website, www.gmwater.com.au or phone GMW on 1800 013 357.

September 2021; A4097645

