

Upper Murray Groundwater Management Area

The Upper Murray Groundwater Management Area (the GMA) covers the Upper Murray River catchment from Omeo north to Corryong and Tallangatta and includes the Mitta Mitta, Corryong and Murray catchments – *map provided overleaf*.

Groundwater resources in the GMA are managed under a Local Management Plan which was approved by Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) in 2014 (the Plan).

Groundwater licence volume and use

The total licensed groundwater entitlement volume (licence volume) in the GMA is 3,531.6 megalitres per year (ML/yr). The majority is held within the Indi Zone (Table 1).

The permissible consumptive volume (PCV) for the GMA is 7,674 ML/yr. No licence volume can be issued in excess of the PCV.

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

Management zone	Zone cap/ PCV (ML/yr)	Licence volume (ML/yr)	Recorded use (ML)
Dartmouth Zone	1,250.0	223.0	50.2
Hume Zone	2,158.0	1,150.2	109.4
Indi Zone	4,266.0	2,158.4	306.8
Total	7,674.0	3,531.6	466.4

The total recorded use in the GMA in 2020/21 was 466.4 ML, or 13 per cent of the total licence volume, which is the same as 2019/20 (Figure 1).

Licence transfers

Under the Plan, licence holders in the GMA may transfer volume on a temporary or permanent basis, within or between management zones, provided zone caps are not exceeded – *refer Table 1*.

No permanent or temporary transfers occurred within the GMA in the 2020/21 season.

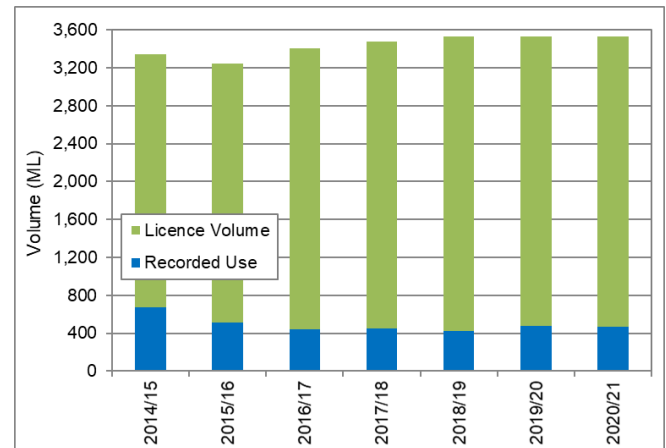


Figure 1. Recorded use as a proportion of licence volume in the Upper Murray GMA

Groundwater levels

Groundwater levels are monitored in 10 State observation bores located across the GMA. Groundwater levels in this area are predominantly climate driven and therefore fluctuate seasonally.

In 2020/21, groundwater levels were recovering in the observation bores at Omeo and Corryong due to higher rainfall during 2019/20 and 2020/21 – *refer groundwater-level charts overleaf*.

Licence compliance

In 2020/21 there were two reported instances of alleged unauthorised take of groundwater (incl. overuse) in the GMA.

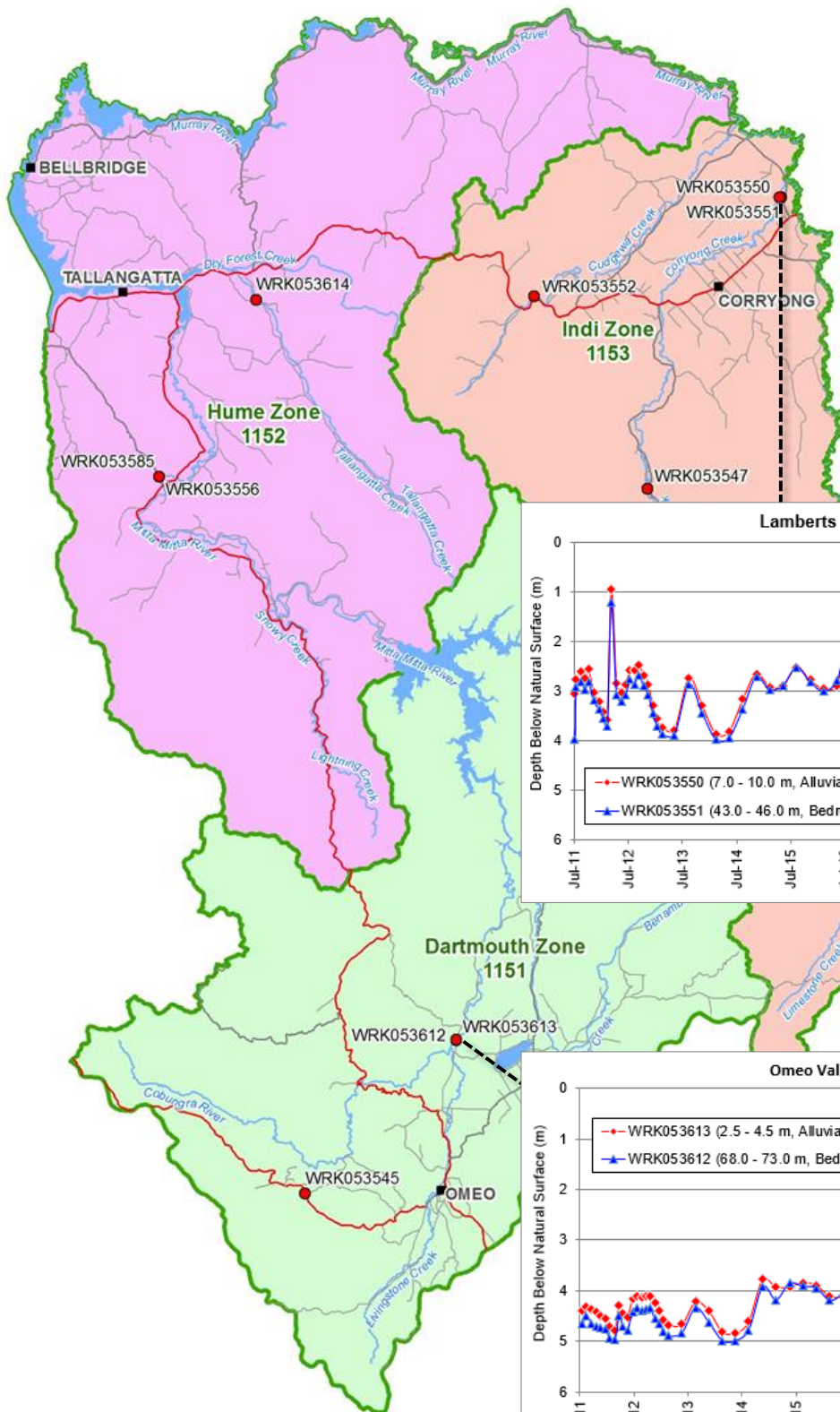
GMW has a zero-tolerance approach to unauthorised take of non-urban water. Relevant actions, if required, will be taken in accordance with GMW's Risk-Based Compliance and Enforcement Framework.

Please visit www.gmwater.com.au/compliance 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.

UPPER MURRAY GMA WATER LEVEL MONITORING



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Legend

- State Observation Bore
- Major Road
- Highway
- Minor Road
- Waterway
- Waterbody

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September 2021; A4097653