



Water Reporting Summary – Goulburn Catchment

15 October 2020

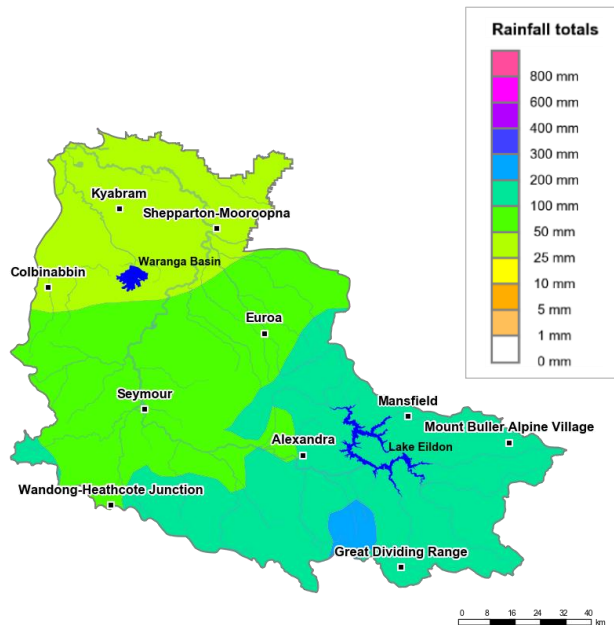


Photo: Goulburn River August 2018 by Nils Versemann

Overview

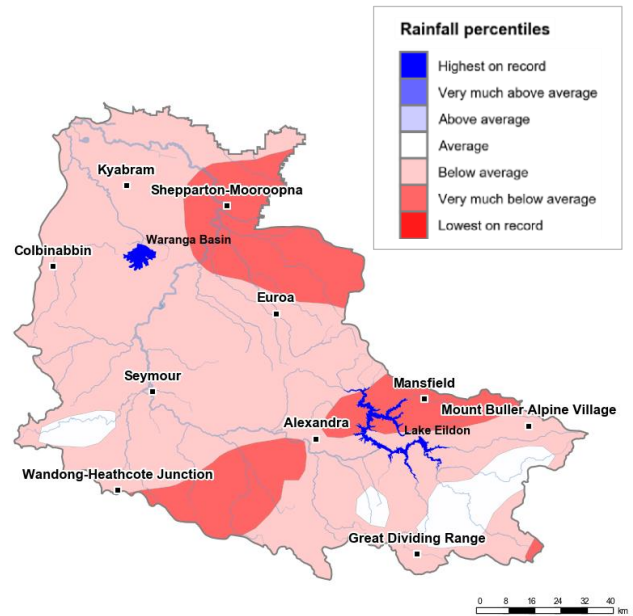
- In the last 30 days, the lower Goulburn catchment near Kyabram and Shepparton received 25 to 50 mm of rainfall, while the central areas near Seymour received 50 to 100 mm. The catchment areas near Like Eildon received 100 to 200 mm of rainfall, with parts the Great Dividing Range receiving up to 300 mm (Figure 1). The area-average rainfall for the catchment was 95 mm, with just under half of this rain received in a two-day period (8th and 9th October). In parts of the catchment, this recent rainfall has offset the rainfall deficiency experienced over the last three years. Rainfall from January 2017 to August 2020 is now considered to be average or below average for most of the Goulburn catchment (Figure 2). However, areas near Shepparton and Mansfield received very much below average rainfall during this period.
- The recent rainfall has helped to maintain average root zone soil moisture conditions for most of the catchment. Rainfall received in the last month has translated into some runoff and inflow into storages (Figure 3). Announced allocations for high-reliability water shares are currently 77%, an increase of 19% from 1 October (Figure 4). The large fortnightly increase means allocations are 27% higher than the same time last year and are in a similar range to the previous four years (range of 72% to 86% between 2015–16 and 2018–19 for the same time of year).
- Allocation prices are currently \$180 per ML, which is similar to prices paid last month (\$185 per ML) but significantly lower than the peak of \$700 per ML in January 2020 (Table 1).
- Looking forward to the 2020–21 summer, if storages experience average inflows similar to those received during 2013–14, announced allocations are expected to reach 100% for high-reliability water shares by February 2021 (Northern Victoria Resource Manager).

Recent conditions



<http://www.bom.gov.au>
© Commonwealth of Australia 2020, Bureau of Meteorology

Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days (16 Sept to 15 Oct 2020)



<http://www.bom.gov.au>
© Commonwealth of Australia 2020, Bureau of Meteorology

Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017 (compared to 1900–2019 long-term average) (Jan 2017 to Sept 2020)

Note: Rainfall percentiles for the period from January 2017 are shown as the Bureau of Meteorology considers January 2017 to be the start of the current dry period for eastern Australia.

How much water is in the storages?

Storage volume: Eildon and Waranga basin storages as at 15 October 2020

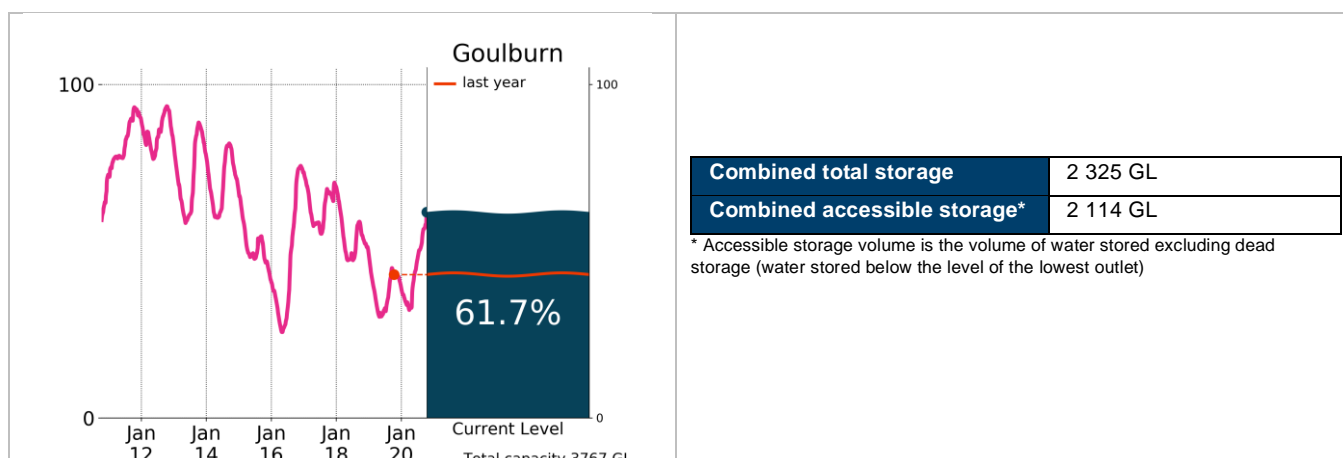


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) compared to the last ten years

Source: [BoM water storages dashboard](#)

Who is the water for?

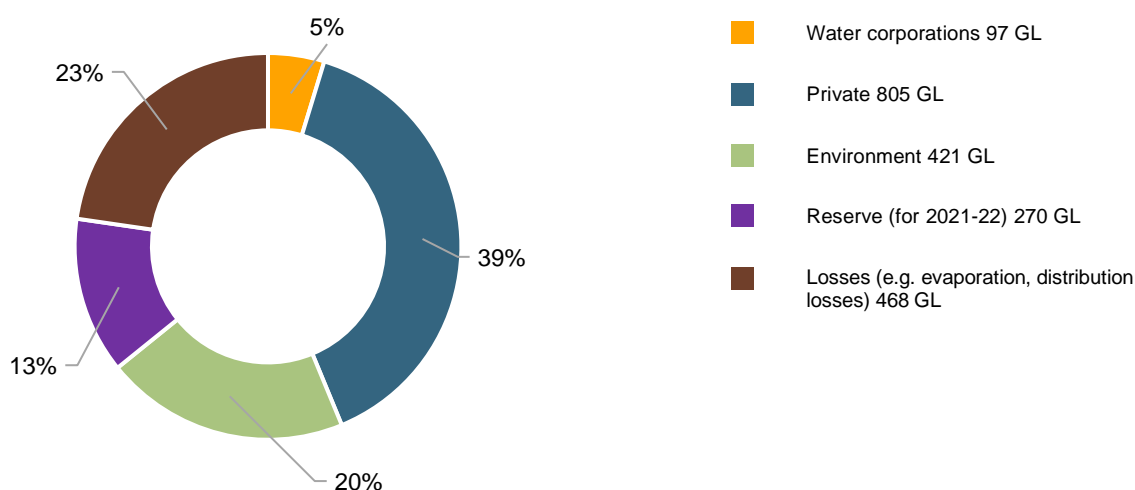


Figure 4: Volumes of water allocations currently available/remaining (% of total remaining) (as at 15 October 2020)

Source: [Northern Victoria Resource Manager](#)

NB: Allocation information shows water available in allocation accounts and remaining commitments at 15 October 2020. Information published by the Northern Victoria Resource Manager differs from information published on the Victorian Water Register as the former includes preliminary environmental water holder use and volumes of operational use by Goulburn-Murray Water private water shareholders.

Table 1: Allocation announcements (%) and market prices – selected licence categories as at 15 October 2020

Licence category	Announced allocation	Historic comparison (same time of year)	Entitlement prices (monthly median)	Allocation price (median – last 7 days)
VIC Goulburn High-Reliability Water Share	77%	Higher than last year and similar to the previous four years back to 2015–16	\$4 000/ML	\$180/ML
VIC Goulburn Low-Reliability Water Share	0%	Same as most years	\$350/ML	

Source: [Victorian Water Register](#) and [BoM water markets dashboard](#)

FIND OUT MORE

For more information email water@bom.gov.au



With the exception of logos, photography and data referenced as being from other organisations, this publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia Licence. The terms and conditions of the licence are available at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au>. Attribution for this publication should be: © Commonwealth of Australia (Bureau of Meteorology) 2020.