



Water Reporting Summary – Wimmera–Mallee Catchment

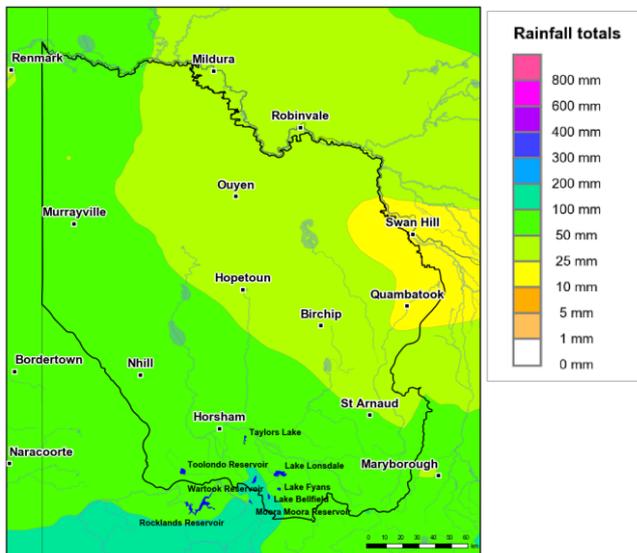
15 October 2020



Overview

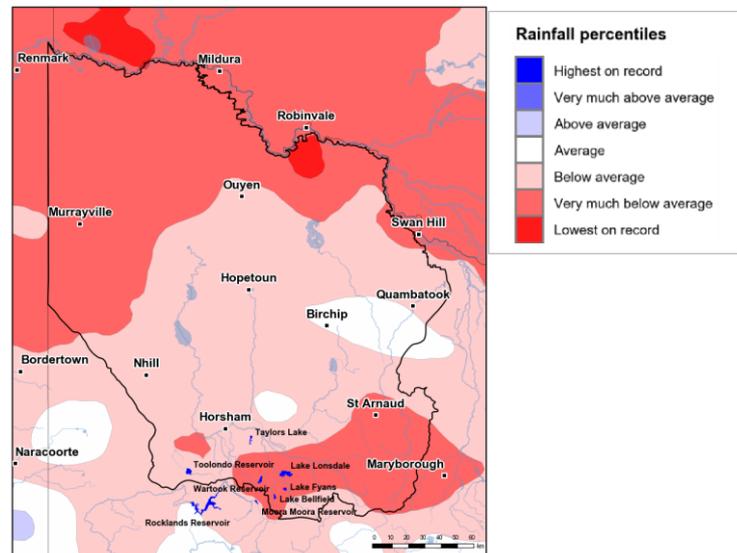
- In the last month, there has been widespread rainfall across the Wimmera–Mallee catchment. The southern and western areas of the catchment, including areas near Toolondo Reservoir, Lake Lonsdale, Lake Fyans and Lake Bellfield, received 50 to 100 mm of rainfall. A small area in the north-east near Swan Hill received 10 to 25 mm, while the central catchment received 25 to 50 mm of rainfall (Figure 1). The total area-average rainfall for the catchment was 52 mm. This recent rainfall is in the context of the extended dry period since January 2017 with rainfall for the central Wimmera–Mallee catchment being average or below average, and the remainder of the catchment being mainly very much below average (Figure 2).
- Rainfall in the last month has resulted in average root zone soil moisture for most of the Wimmera–Mallee catchment. Recent rainfall near storages has translated into some runoff and inflows into storages (Figure 3), allowing for an increase to allocations for some water entitlement holders (Figure 4).
- Seasonal allocations are currently 21%, an increase of 12% since 2 September (Table 1) (GWMWater Storage Manager).

Recent conditions



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



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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: Lake Bellfield, Lake Fyans, Lake Lonsdale, Moora, Rocklands, Taylor Lake, Toolondo and Wartook storages as at 30 September 2020

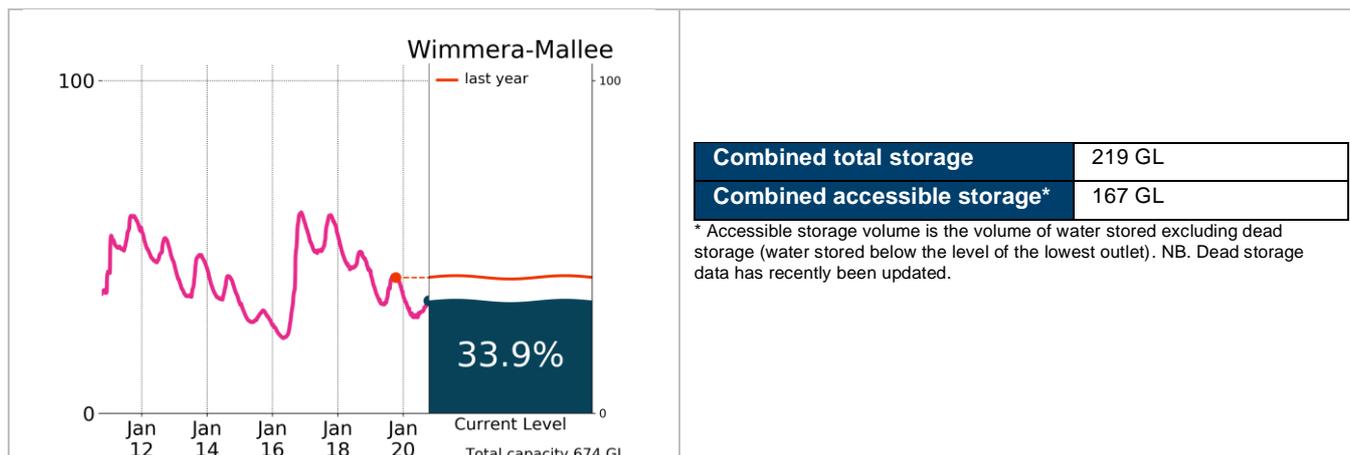


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) compared to the last ten years

Source: [BoM water storages dashboard](#)

Who is the water for?

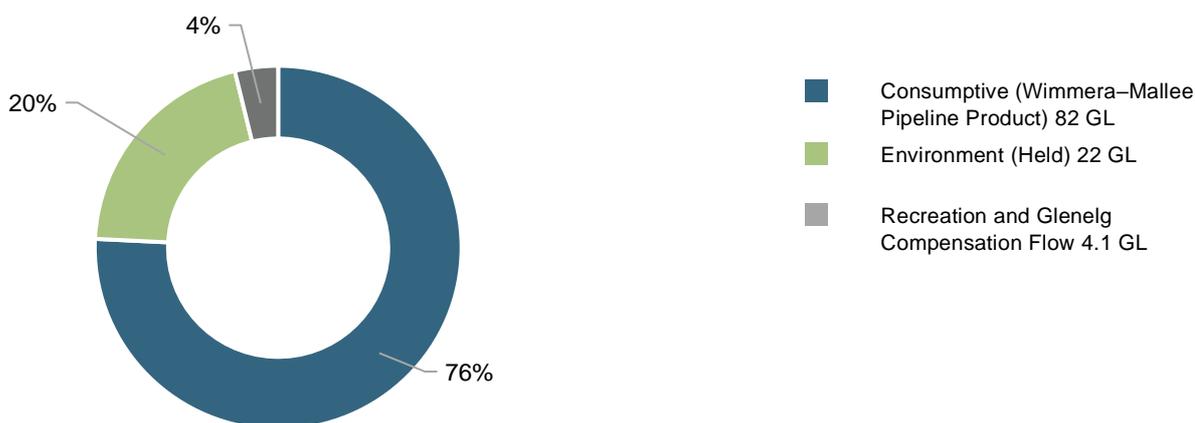


Figure 4: Volumes of water available, including carryover (% of total) (as at 7 October 2020)

Source: [GWMWater](#)

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)
Wimmera-Mallee Pipeline Product	21%	Similar to last year	n/a	n/a

Source: [GWMWater](#) and [BoM water markets dashboard](#)

FIND OUT MORE

For more information email water@bom.gov.au



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