



# Water Reporting Summary – Goulburn Catchment

2 November 2020

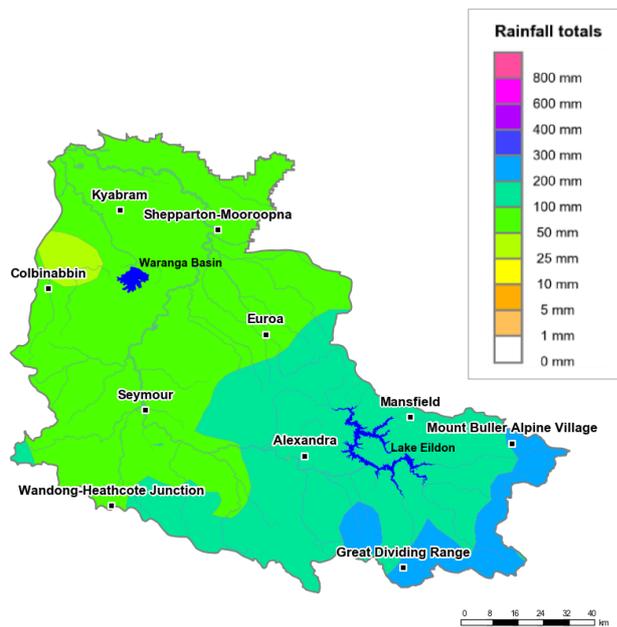


Photo: Goulburn River August 2018 by Nils Versemann

## Overview

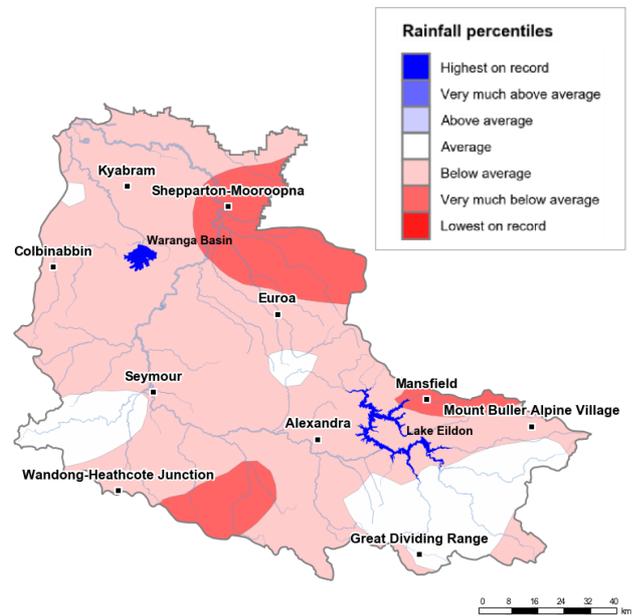
- In the last 30 days, the Goulburn catchment received widespread rainfall. The lower Goulburn catchment near Kyabram and Shepparton received 50 to 100 mm of rainfall, while central and upstream areas including catchment areas near Lake Eildon received 100 to 200 mm of rainfall and parts of the Great Dividing Range received up to 300 mm (Figure 1). The area-average rainfall for the catchment was 103 mm. In parts of the catchment, this recent rainfall has offset the rainfall deficiency experienced over the last three years. Rainfall from January 2017 to October 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, apart from above average soil moisture for the upper Goulburn 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 93%, an increase of 16% from 15 October (Figure 4). The large fortnightly increase means allocations are 40% higher than the same time last year and equal highest for this time of year since 2017–18.
- Allocation prices are currently \$147 per ML, which is lower than prices paid in September (\$180 per ML) and 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



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Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days (4 Oct to 2 Nov Oct 2020)



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

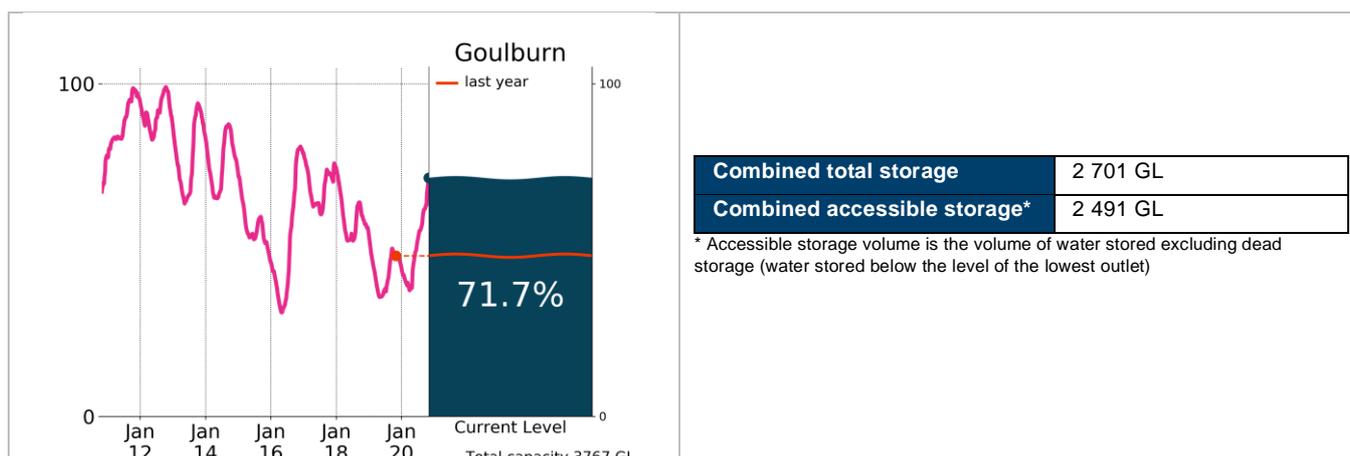


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) compared to the last ten years

Source: [BoM water storages dashboard](#)

## Who is the water for?

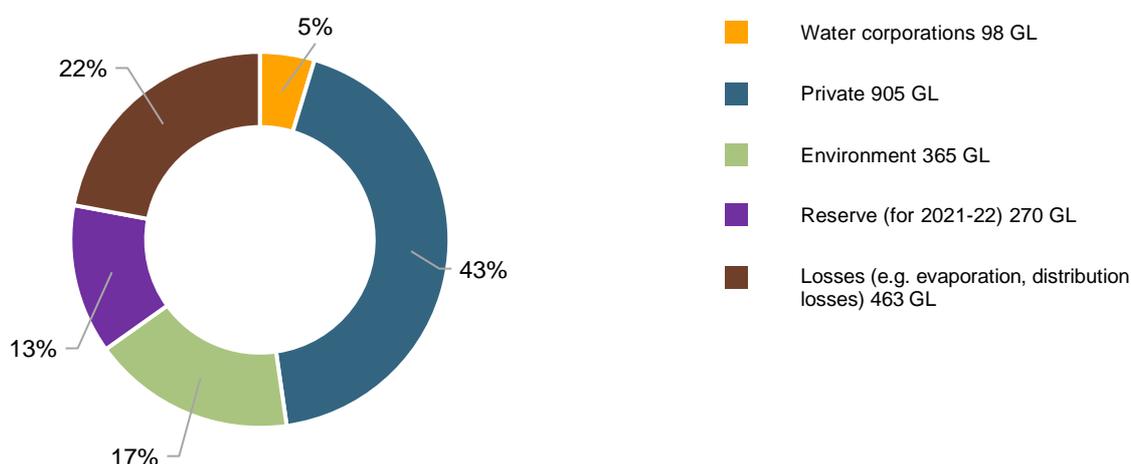


Figure 4: Volumes of water allocations currently available/remaining (% of total remaining) (as at 2 November 2020)

Source: [Northern Victoria Resource Manager](#)

NB: Allocation information shows water available in allocation accounts and remaining commitments at 2 November 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 2 November 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	93%	Higher than last year and similar to the previous four years to 2015–16	\$4 050/ML	\$147/ML
VIC Goulburn Low-Reliability Water Share	0%	Same as most years	\$350/ML	

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

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For more information email [water@bom.gov.au](mailto:water@bom.gov.au)



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