



Water Reporting Summary - Murrumbidgee Catchment

15 April 2020



Overview

- In the last 30 days, most parts of the Murrumbidgee catchment received 25 to 100 mm rainfall, although parts of the upper catchment near Cooma received less than 25 mm (Figure 1). The catchment area-average rainfall was 59 mm (Figure 1). This recent rainfall is in the context of the extended dry period since January 2017 with rainfall across the Murrumbidgee catchment mainly being very much below average (Figure 2).
- Recent rainfall has improved soil moisture conditions, with root zone soil moisture being above average or very much above average in most of the Murrumbidgee catchment to date in April. However, the recent rainfall has not translated into significantly higher runoff and inflows into storages, with no change in allocation volumes for entitlement holders (Figures 3 and 4).
- Allocations for general security entitlement holders remain at 6%, which is the lowest level for this time of year since 2007-08 (Table 1). Allocation prices remain historically high (\$425 per ML) due to relatively low water availability but have eased from their peak of over \$750 per ML in January 2020 (Table 1).
- For information on 1 July 2020 allocation outlooks, refer to the [Murrumbidgee Water Allocation Statement \(15 April 2020\)](#).

Recent conditions

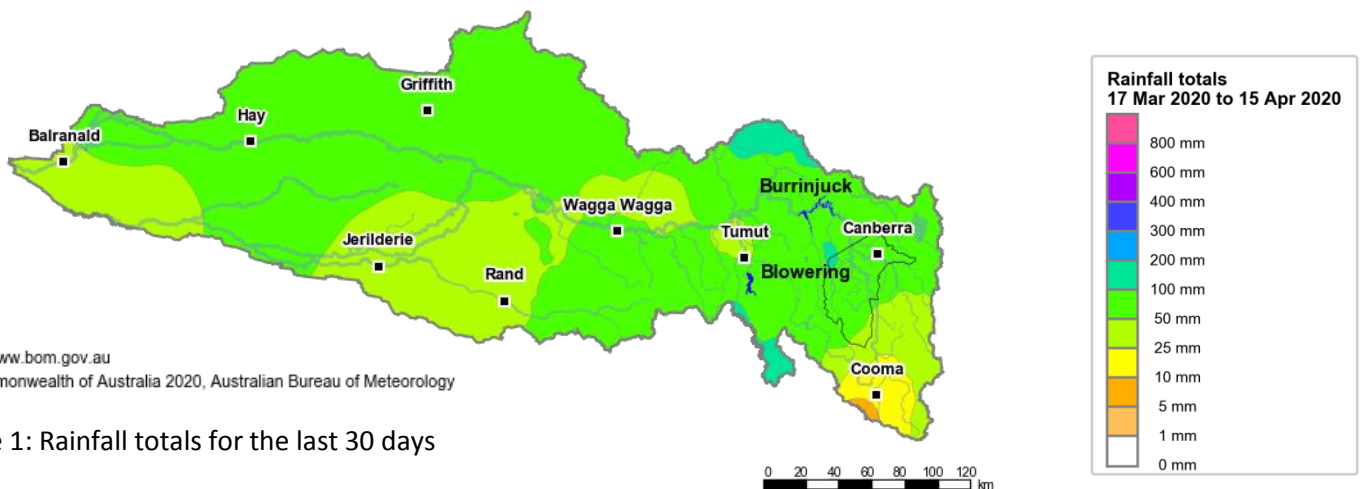


Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days

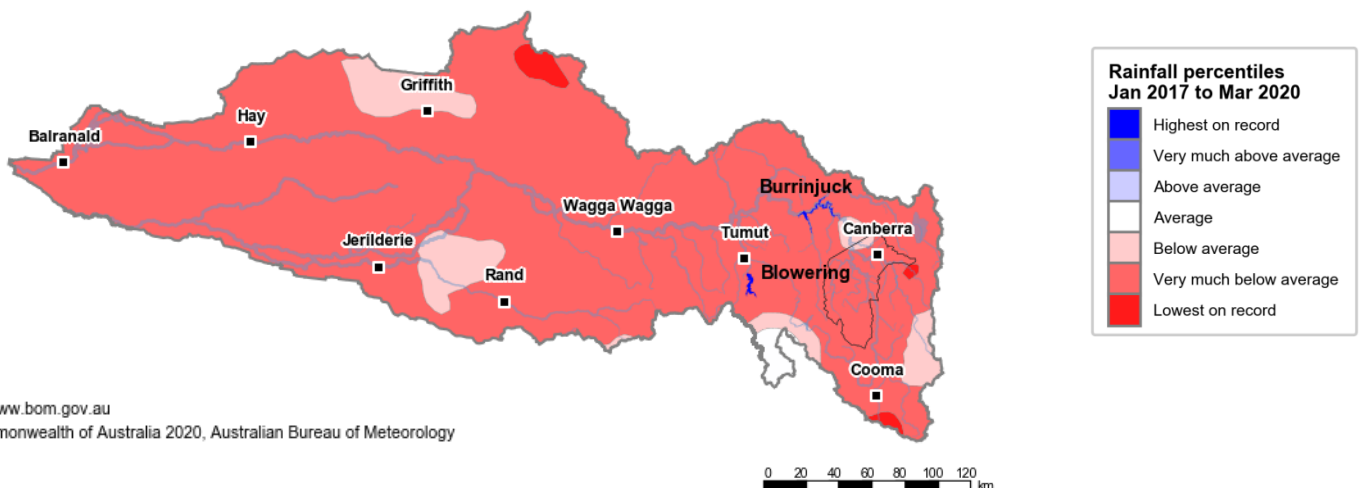


Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017 (Compared to 1900-2019 long-term average). Note: Rainfall percentiles for the period from January 2017 are shown as the Bureau of Meteorology considers January 2017 to be the start of the current dry period for eastern Australia.

How much water is in the storages (as at 15 April 2020)?

Storage volume: Burrinjuck, Blowering storages

Combined total storage	1,146 GL
Combined accessible storage*	1,119 GL

*Accessible storage volume is the volume of water stored excluding dead storage (water stored below the level of the lowest outlet)

Source: [BoM water storages dashboard](#)

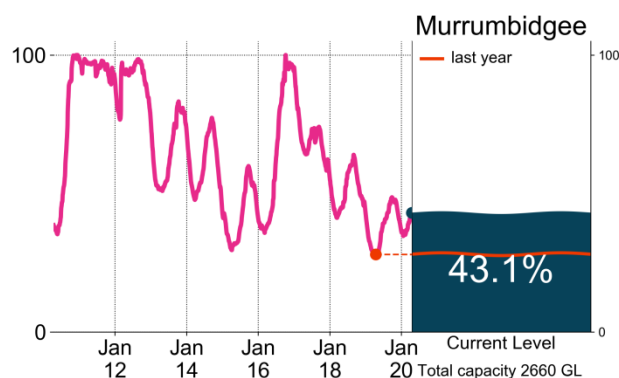
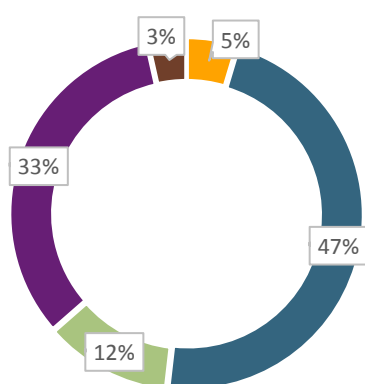


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) compared to the last ten years

Who is the water for?



- Towns, Domestic and Stock 74 GL
- Consumptive
 - Allocation 418 GL
 - Carryover 112 GL
 - Conveyance 222 GL
- Environment
 - Held allocation 86 GL
 - Held carryover 40 GL
 - Planned 61 GL
- Reserve (critical needs, 2020-21 high priority needs) 525 GL
- Losses (e.g. evaporation, transmission) 56 GL

Figure 4: Volumes of water allocated (% of total) for the 2019-20 water year (as at 15 April 2020)

Source: [Water Allocation Statement- NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment](#)

NB: Allocation information shown here is water allocated for various purposes as at 15 April 2020. It does not represent remaining available allocated water as it does not allow for water used, traded or new storage inflows (in excess of minimum assumptions). Water allocation figures shown here differ to those on WaterNSW's [Water Insights](#), which shows estimated water available over a two-year planning period (2019 to 2021).

Table 1: Allocation announcements (%) and market prices - Selected licence categories as at 15 April 2020

NSW Murrumbidgee licence category	Announced allocation	Historic comparison (same time of year)	Entitlement Prices (monthly median)	Allocation Price (median- last 7 days)
Stock and Domestic	100%	Same as most years	n/a	\$425/ML
High Security	95%	Same as most years	\$8,000/ML	
General Security	6%	Lowest since 2007-08	\$1,915/ML	
Average Carryover (General Security)	8%	13% lower than last year	n/a	

Source: [Allocation dashboard- NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment](#) and [BoM water markets dashboard](#)

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For more information email water@bom.gov.au



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