



Water Reporting Summary - Goulburn Catchment

15 May 2020



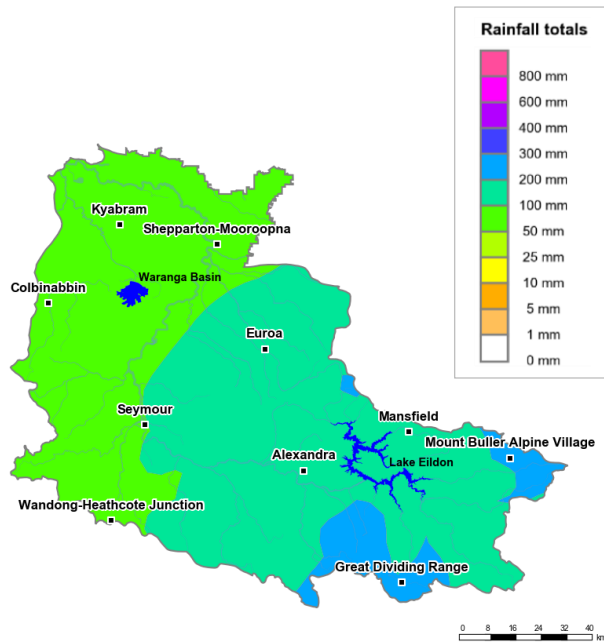
Photo: Goulburn River August 2018 by Nils Versemann



Overview

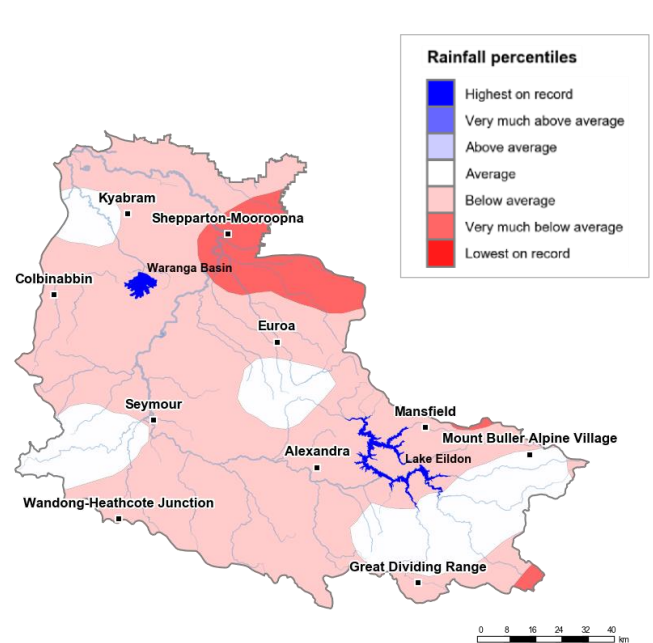
- In the last 30 days, the downstream parts of the Goulburn catchment received 50 to 100 mm of rainfall. Most of the central and upper parts of the catchment received 100 to 200 mm, with some areas around the Great Dividing Range and Mount Buller Alpine Village receiving up to 300 mm of rain and snow (Figure 1). The area-average rainfall for the catchment was 124 mm. In parts of the catchment, this recent rainfall has offset some of the rainfall deficiency experienced over the last three years. Rainfall from January 2017 to April 2020 is now considered to be average or below average for most of the Goulburn catchment (Figure 2). However, areas near Shepparton received very much below average rainfall during this period.
- The recent rainfall has improved soil moisture conditions and increased runoff and inflow into storages. As the last announced allocations (known as seasonal determinations) for the 2019-20 water year were provided on 1 April 2020, improvements in storage volumes will not be allocated this season but will contribute to water available next season (Figures 3 and 4). Announced allocations for high-reliability water shares have ended the water year at 80%, which was the lowest end of year allocations since 2008-09.
- Allocation prices remain relatively high for this time of year (\$230 per ML) due to low water availability but continue to decline from their peak of \$700 per ML in January 2020 (Table 1).
- Looking forward to the 2020-21 summer, if storages receive similar inflows to those received during 2019-20, announced allocations would be expected to reach 85% for high-reliability water shares (Northern Victoria Resource Manager).

Recent conditions



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



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Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017 (Compared to 1900-2019 long-term average) (Jan 2017 to Apr 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 May 2020

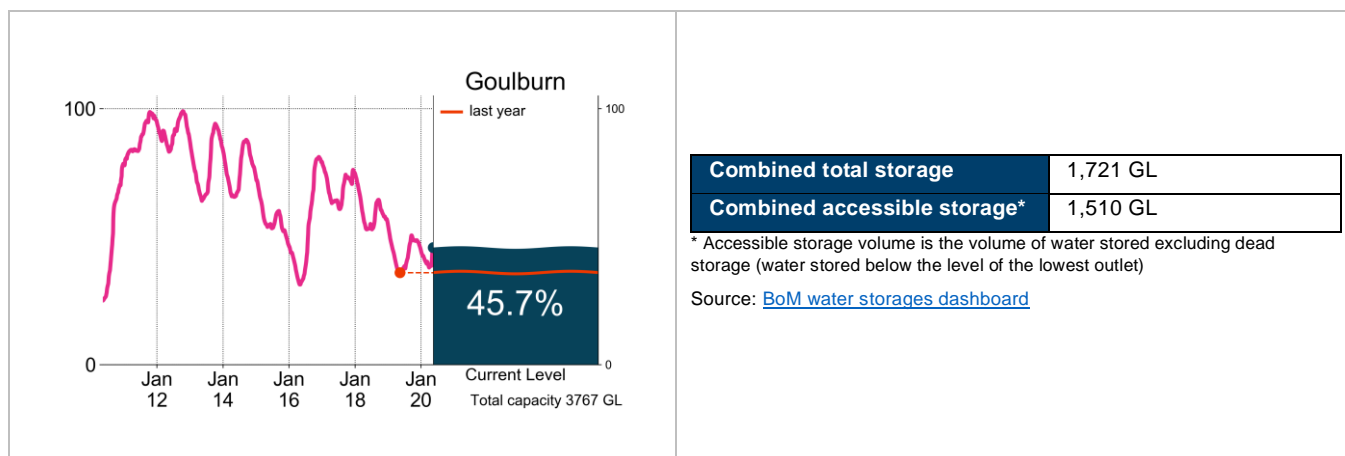


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) compared to the last ten years

Who is the water for?

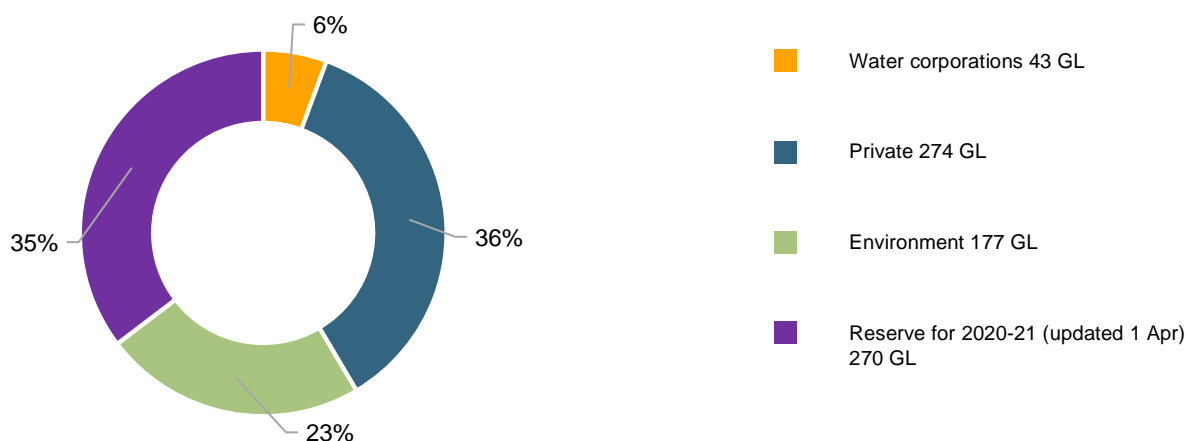


Figure 4: Volumes of water allocations currently available/remaining (% of total remaining) (as at 15 May 2020)

Source: [Northern Victoria Resource Manager](#)

NB: Allocation information shows water available in allocation accounts and remaining commitments at 15 May 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 May 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	80%	Lowest end of water year since 2008-09	\$4,140/ML	\$230/ML
VIC Goulburn Low-Reliability Water Share	0%	Same as most years	\$360/ML	

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

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For more information email water@bom.gov.au



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