



Water Reporting Summary - Goulburn Catchment

1 May 2020



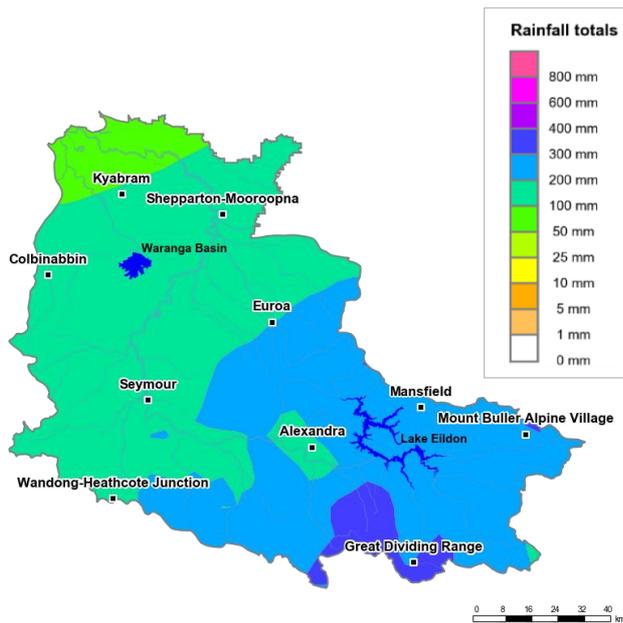
Photo: Goulburn River August 2018 by Nils Versemann



Overview

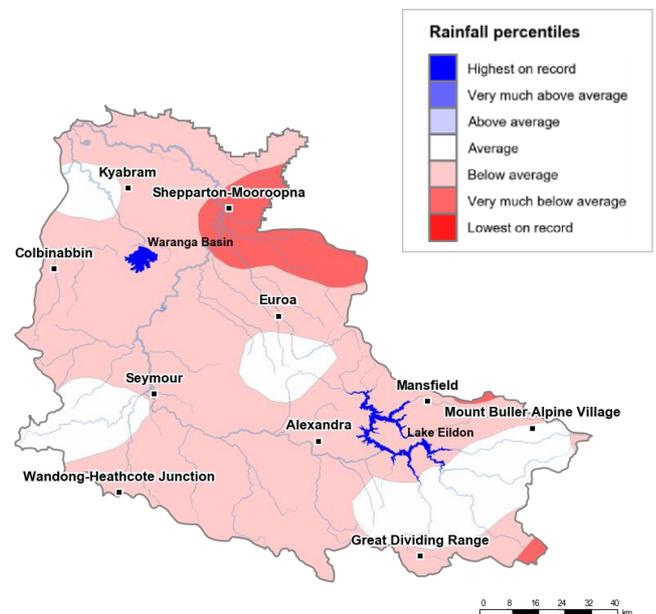
- In the last 30 days, most of the Goulburn catchment received 100 to 300 mm of rainfall, with some areas in the Great Dividing Range receiving up to 400 mm. However, lower parts of the catchment near Kyabram received less than 100 mm rainfall (Figure 1). The area-average rainfall for the catchment was 189 mm. In parts of the catchment, this recent rainfall has offset much 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 have 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 historically high (\$250 per ML) due to relatively low water availability but have eased 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 only be expected to reach 60% for high-reliability water shares. The next outlook update will be on 15 May 2020 (Northern Victoria Resource Manager).

Recent conditions



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Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days (2 April to 1 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 1 May 2020

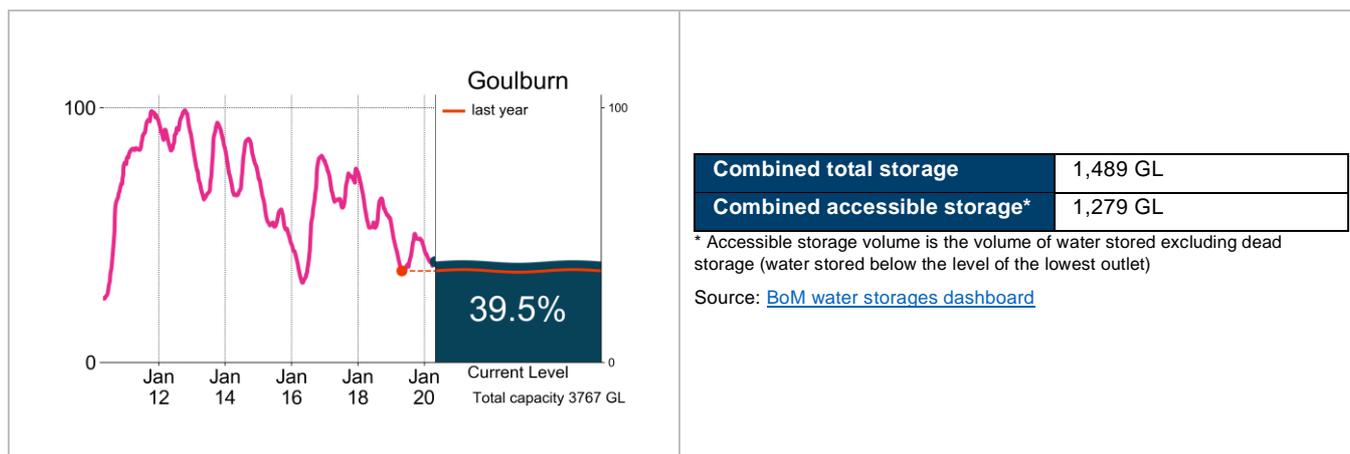


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) compared to the last ten years

Who is the water for?

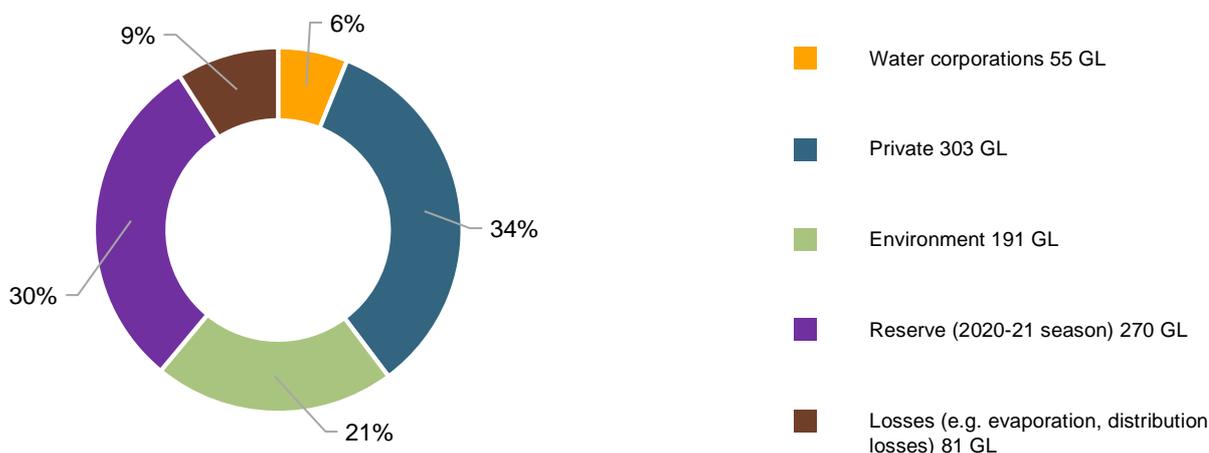


Figure 4: Volumes of water allocations currently available/remaining (% of total remaining) (last updated 1 April 2020)

Source: [Northern Victoria Resource Manager](#)

NB: Allocation information shows water available in allocation accounts and remaining commitments as at 1 April 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 1 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 since 2008-09	\$4,645/ML	\$250/ML
VIC Goulburn Low-Reliability Water Share	0%	Same as most years	\$380/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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