



Werribee Maribyrnong Basin

Local Water Report 2019-20

Introduction

This is our annual Local Water Report for our Werribee and Maribyrnong customers. This report provides information on:

- how our rivers fared last season (2019-20);
- groundwater level trends;
- the number of irrigation licences in each of our systems;
- how much water irrigators used last season compared with previous years; and
- emerging local water issues.

What's happened with your local rivers?

Werribee

The Werribee and Lerderderg systems experienced only slightly below average rainfall for the 2019-20 season. Restrictions were implemented on the Lerderderg River from 19 December 2019 and remained in place until 5 June 2020.

Stage	Total days on Restriction/ Ban
Lerderderg River System	169

The above table show the restrictions for the 2019-20 season.

Maribyrnong

The Maribyrnong Catchment was also stressed from the below average rainfall over the summer months. Creeks in the Maribyrnong Catchment (including Deep Creek and the Riddell's Creek System) started declining in early December. Stream levels were closely monitored however restrictions were required on 19 December 2019 and remained in place until 5 June 2020.

The Turitable and Willimigongon Creeks were subject to a Water Shortage Declaration from early January until the end of the season.

Stage	Total days on Restriction/ Ban
Maribyrnong, Riddell's Creek system	169

The above table shows the restrictions for the 2019-20 season:

¹Does not include farm dam registration licences.

Surface water figures

River system ¹	Number of licences #	Licensed volume (ML)#	Total Volume Extracted (ML)				
			2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Maribyrnong	102	1555	125	90	117	42	120
Werribee	35	884	3	12	27	8	5
Jacksons Creek	22	343	34	11	8	12	6
Totals		2782	162	113	152	62	131

The table above compares last season's usage with the previous four years.

¹Does not include farm dam registration licences

What happened with your local groundwater this season?

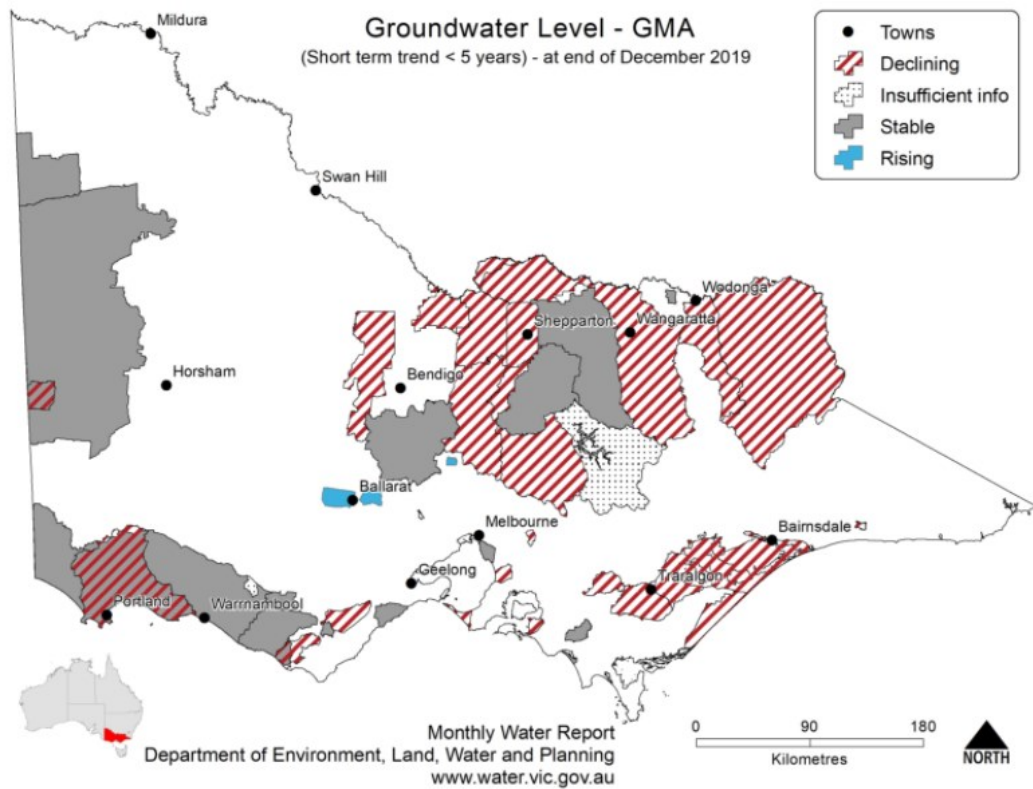
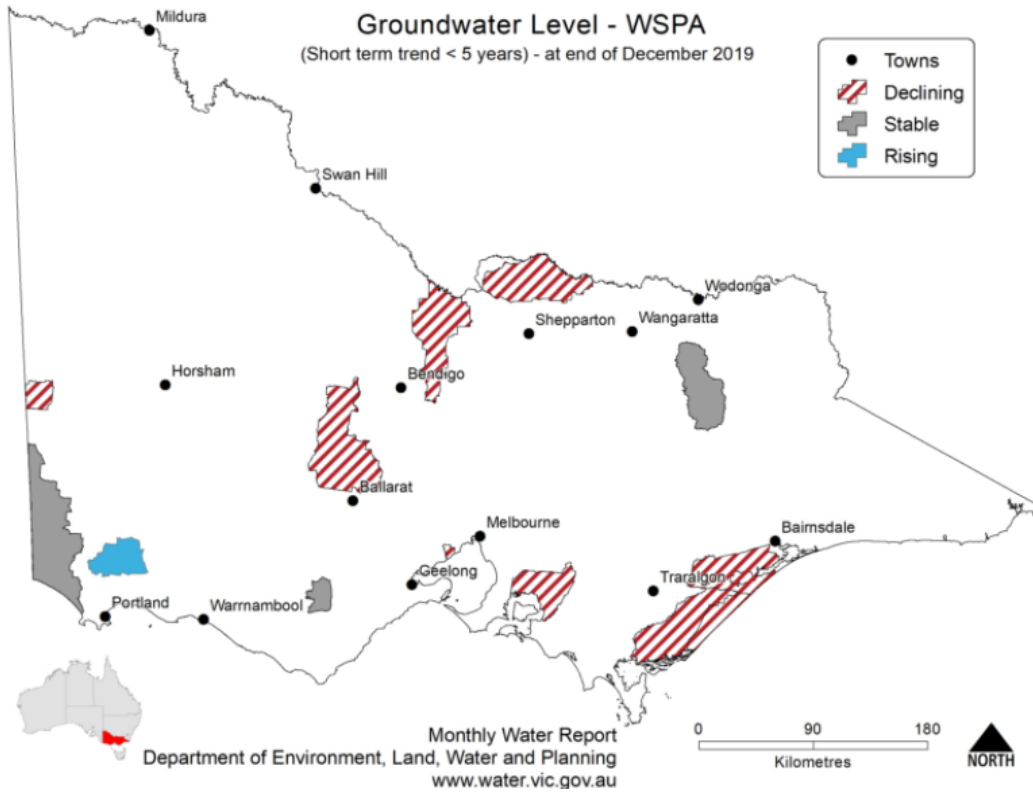
Overview

There are four groundwater management units within the Maribyrnong and Werribee basins (Cut Paw Paw, Deutgam, Lancefield and Merrimu). The Deutgam and Merrimu aquifers are thin shallow alluvial deposits that are associated with river valleys, and Lancefield is a basalt aquifer.

The deeper Werribee Formation aquifer is also present within the Merrimu and Cut Paw Paw management areas. The bedrock aquifer covers part of the basin, has limited quality and yields, and is generally only used for domestic and stock purposes.

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) has State Observation Bore Network coverage in this area.

Follow this [link](#) if you would like to know more about groundwater management in your area.



Use this [link](#) to view groundwater trends across Victoria.

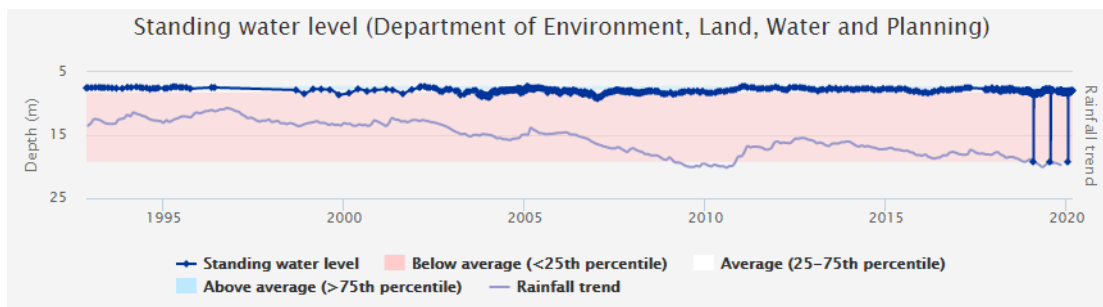
Cut Paw Paw

Cut Paw Paw GMA received 740mm of rain at the Flemington Racecourse rain gauge station which was approximately 150mm more than the long term average of 588mm. Groundwater usage last year was 0ML compared to the long term average of 110ML. There are no active monitoring bores within Cut Paw Paw GMA

Deutgam

Deutgam GMA received 527mm of rain at the Laverton RAAF rain gauge station which was approximately the same the long term average of 533mm. Groundwater usage last year was 275ML compared to the long term average of 720ML. Water levels this year are average to below average.

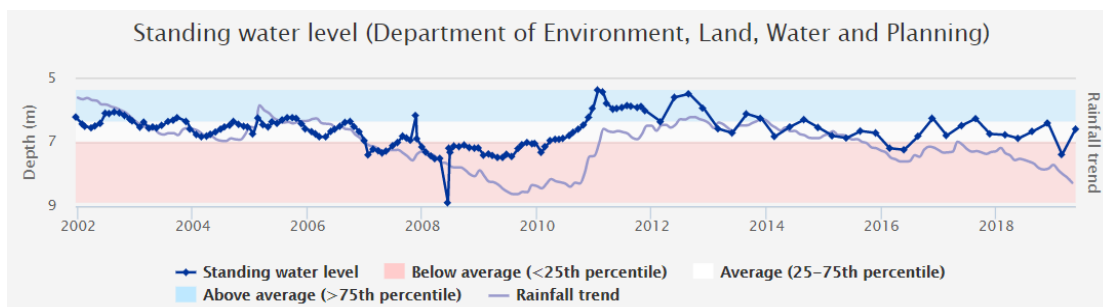
Allocations for the 2019/20 season were 25% of licenced volume.



112803 - Near Cuttriss Road Deutgam

Merrimu

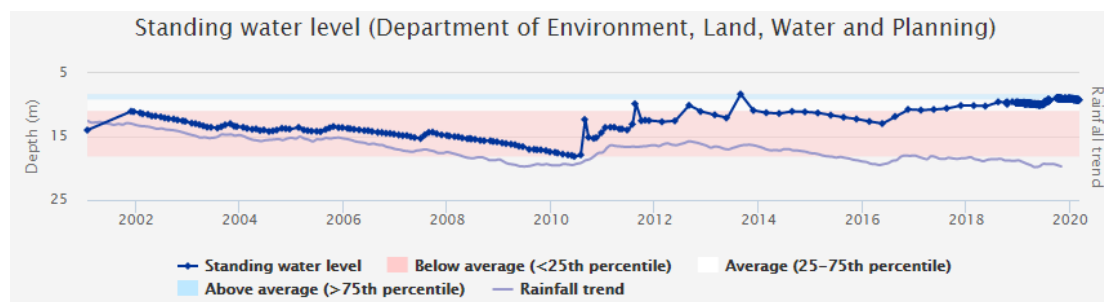
Merrimu GMA received 568mm of rain at the Merrimu Reservoir rain gauge station which was approximately 70mm more than long term average of 498mm. Groundwater usage last year was 0ML compared to the long term average of 120ML. Average water levels this year are within the long term average (within 25-75th percentile)



144972 – Woolpack Road

Lancefield

Lancefield GMA received 724mm of rain at the Romsey rain gauge station which was approximately 10mm more than the long term average of 712mm. Groundwater usage last year was 220ML compared to the long term average of 314ML. Average water levels this year are above the long term average (above 75th percentile)



144979 - Collivers Road Lancefield

To find out more information about the bore depths in your area visit https://www.vvg.org.au/vvg_map.php

Groundwater figures

The table below compares last season's usage with the previous years.

Groundwater system	Number of licences	License d volume (ML)	Total Volume Extracted (ML)				
			2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16
Deutgam WSPA	149	3461.8	275	796	912	527	1,278
Lancefield GMA	14	1,127.5	220	282	339	192	80
Merrimu GMA ¹	1	8.4	0	0	0	0	319
Cut Paw Paw GMA	4	523	0	0	18	26	65
Unincorporated	124	6,557	1,085	1,017	961	1,043	1,500
Parwan GMA	24	1822	571	918	575	695	541
Totals	312	15,249	2,151	3013	2,805	2,484	3,783

¹When Parwan GMA was established, most of the Merrimu entitlement was reallocated to this GMA, following a review of bore depths/geology

Water trading

The table below shows the number and volume (ML) of water trades. Temporary and permanent volume trades show water trades across different locations, as distinct from ownership changes that are part of land transfers.

Previous years water trade ML volumes, numbers and traded price can be found at: <http://waterregister.vic.gov.au/water-trading/take-and-use-licence-trading>

Basin / GMU	Permanent trade		Temporary trade	
	Number	Volume (ML)	Number	Volume (ML)
Deutgam WSPA	1	19.5	4	74
Lancefield GMA	0	0	0	0
Merrimu GMA	0	0	0	0
Cut Paw Paw GMA	0	0	0	0
Werribee Basin	0	0	1	2.2
Maribyrnong Basin	0	0	0	0

More information

For more information about rural water use in your area, please contact your local Field Officer **Alisha Clark** on **0411 107 810** or phone Southern Rural Water on 1300 139 510.

Southern Rural Water is publishing local water reports for all basins. You can view these online at our website (www.srw.com.au)

PLEASE DON'T DRINK OUR WATER

ANY water from sources managed or licensed by Southern Rural Water, including irrigation storages, channels, rivers and creeks, groundwater and farm dams, is untreated. It should not be considered safe for human consumption without proper treatment.