

Annual groundwater condition summary 2024-25

South West Limestone Groundwater Management Area

Introduction

This summary aims to provide an overview of groundwater levels and use of groundwater in the South West Limestone Groundwater Management Area.

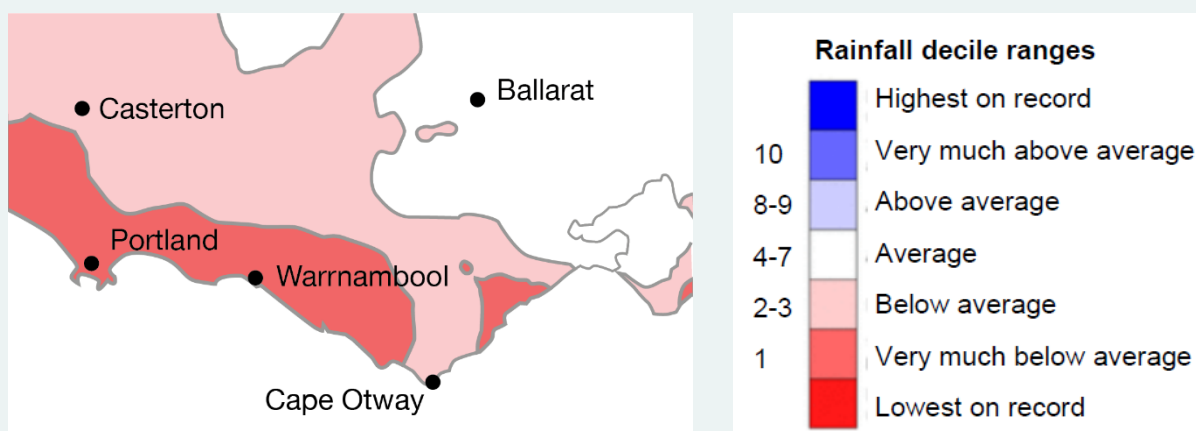
This summary complements our [interactive map](#) that allows water users to locate their area of interest accurately on the map.

Groundwater resource status

The South West of Victoria has experienced below average rainfall over the past four years, with southern coastal parts very much below average. Rainfall totals in 2024/2025 were in the lowest 10% of all years since 1900 across southern Victoria.

Current groundwater levels are around the long-term average level except for a few bores in the far south west and one bore in the central region where levels are below average (refer to the groundwater level hydrographs and maps on pages 3, 4 and 5).

Rainfall over last four years (up to June 2025) compared to long term average.

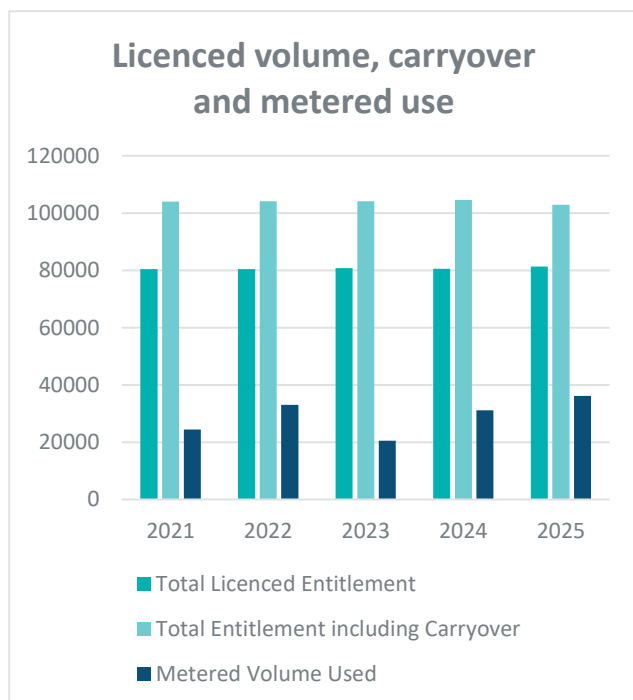


Source: Commonwealth of Australia 2025, Bureau of Meteorology Website. Available www.bom.gov.au

Licensed groundwater use

Groundwater usage in 2024/25 was 36,195 ML which was nearly 25% higher than the average use over the past five years of 29,073 ML.

Number of licences	Licensed volume (ML)	Metered usage (ML)
804	81,289.8	36,195



Carryover

Groundwater licence holders in the South West Limestone are allowed to carryover up to 30% of any unused annual licence volume into the next year.

Groundwater licence renewals

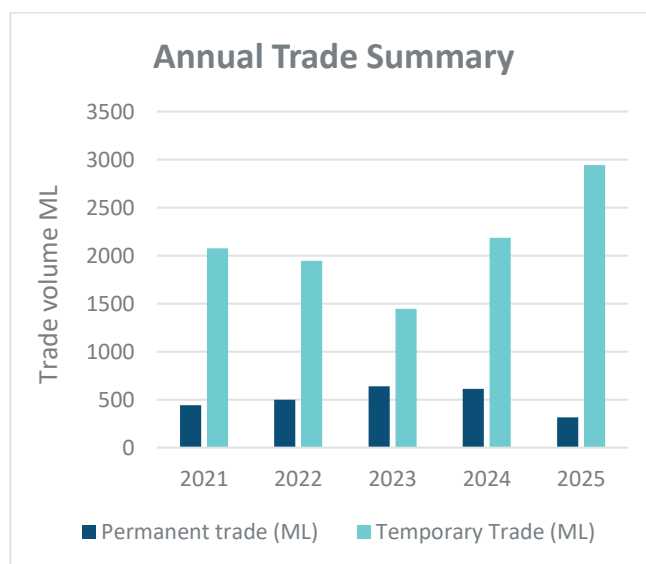
Groundwater licences can be issued for a maximum 15 year term before requiring renewal. Licence holders must apply to Southern Rural Water to renew their licence.

Of the total 804 licences within the groundwater management area, 64 groundwater licences were due for renewal in 2024/25. All applications for licence renewal were approved within the groundwater management area.

Groundwater trading

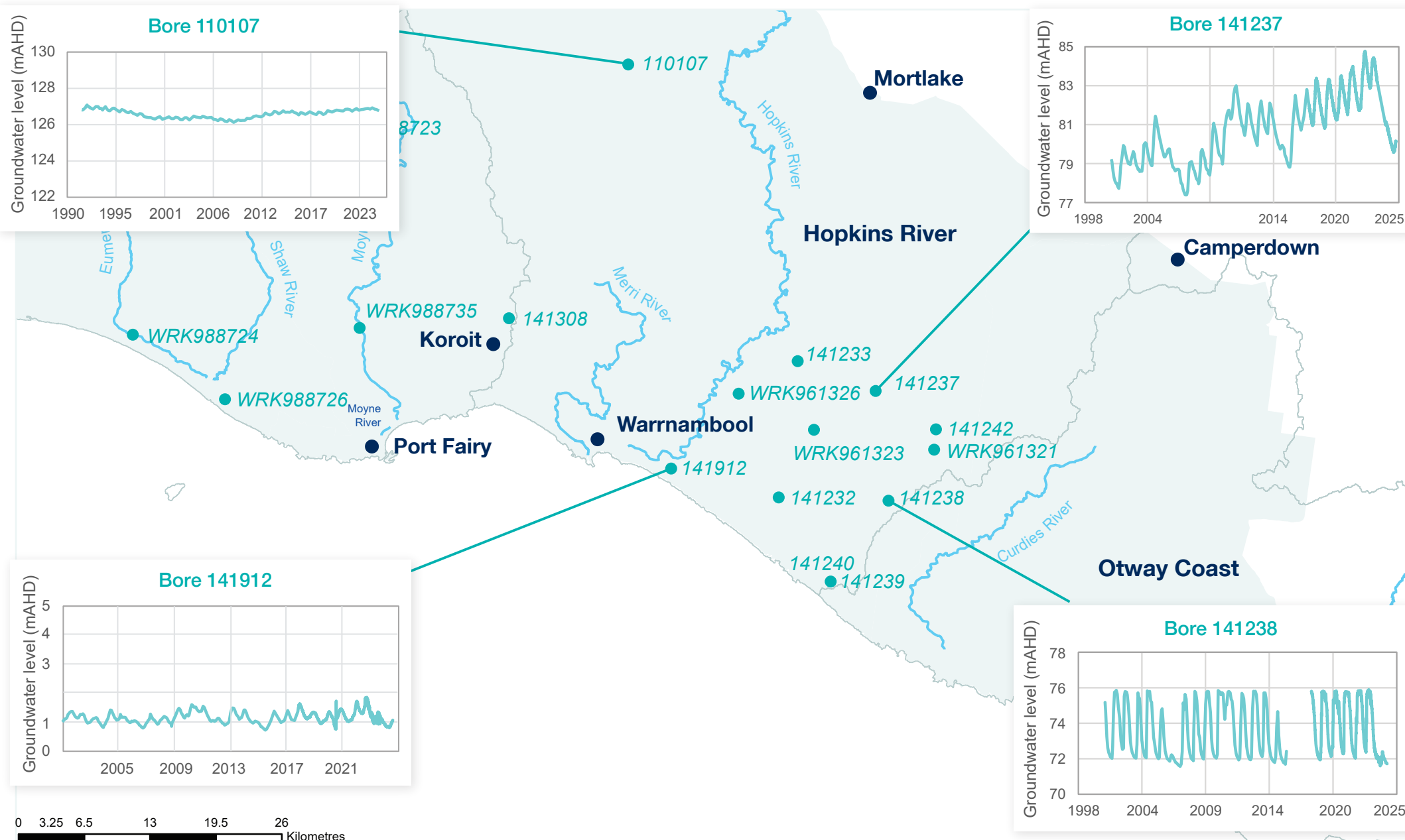
Water entitlements within the groundwater management area are capped. An applicant seeking a new licence or to increase an existing licence must undertake a trade with an existing licence holder. Trade can occur on a temporary or permanent basis within the groundwater management area in accordance with rules within the local management plan. This can be found on [our website](#).

In 2024/25 there were 8 permanent transfers of entitlement averaging 60 ML and totalling 316.2 ML. There were 28 temporary trades averaging 105 ML and totalling 2,940.9 ML.



For more information, please visit [Southern Rural Water's website](#) or contact us on 1300 139 510.

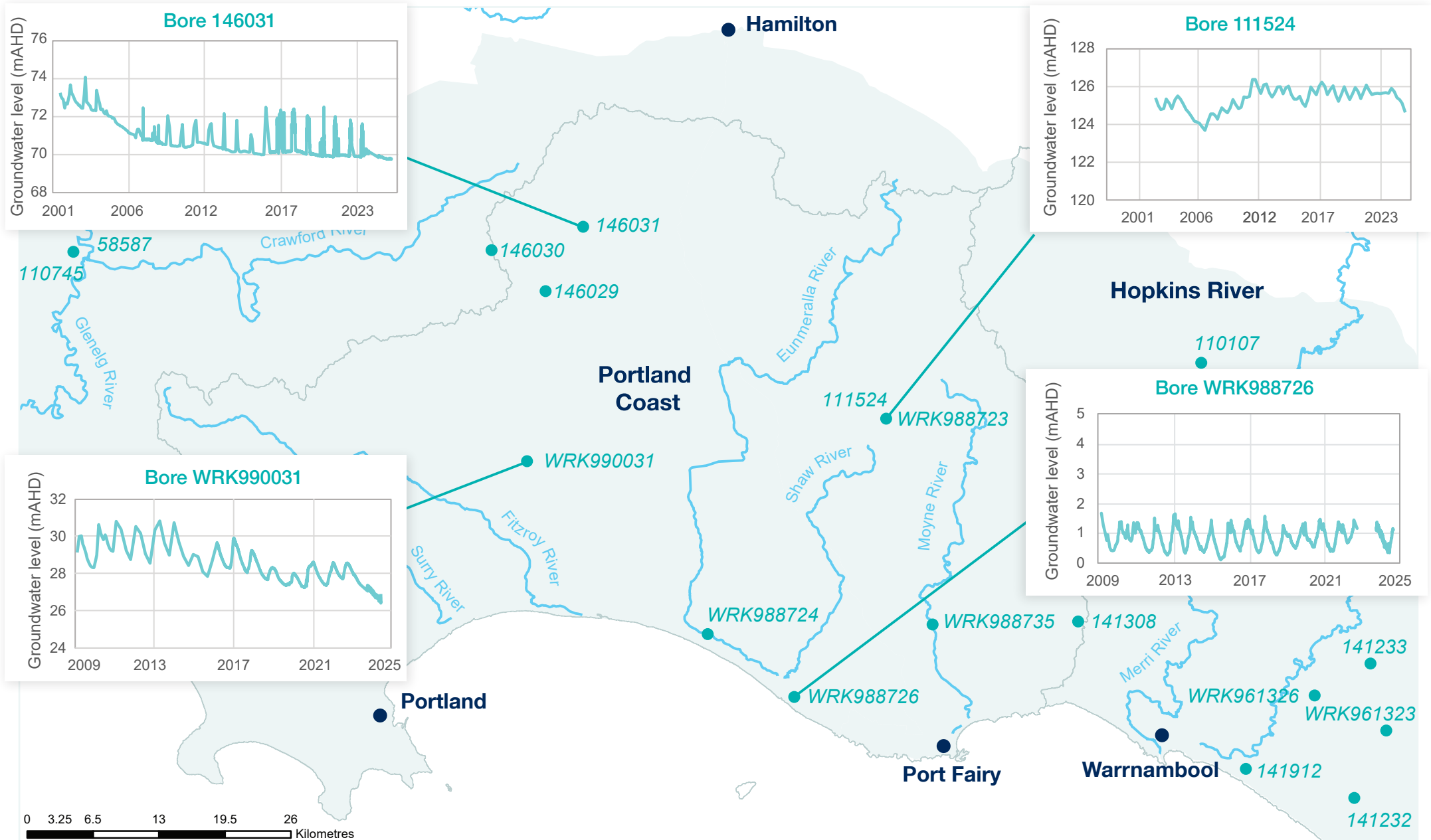
South west limestone groundwater levels: eastern region



Base information is primarily source from data supplied and used with the permission of the Department of the Natural Resources and Environment, Victoria. Care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this map, however Southern Rural Water does not accept responsibility for any errors or omissions.



South west limestone groundwater levels: central region



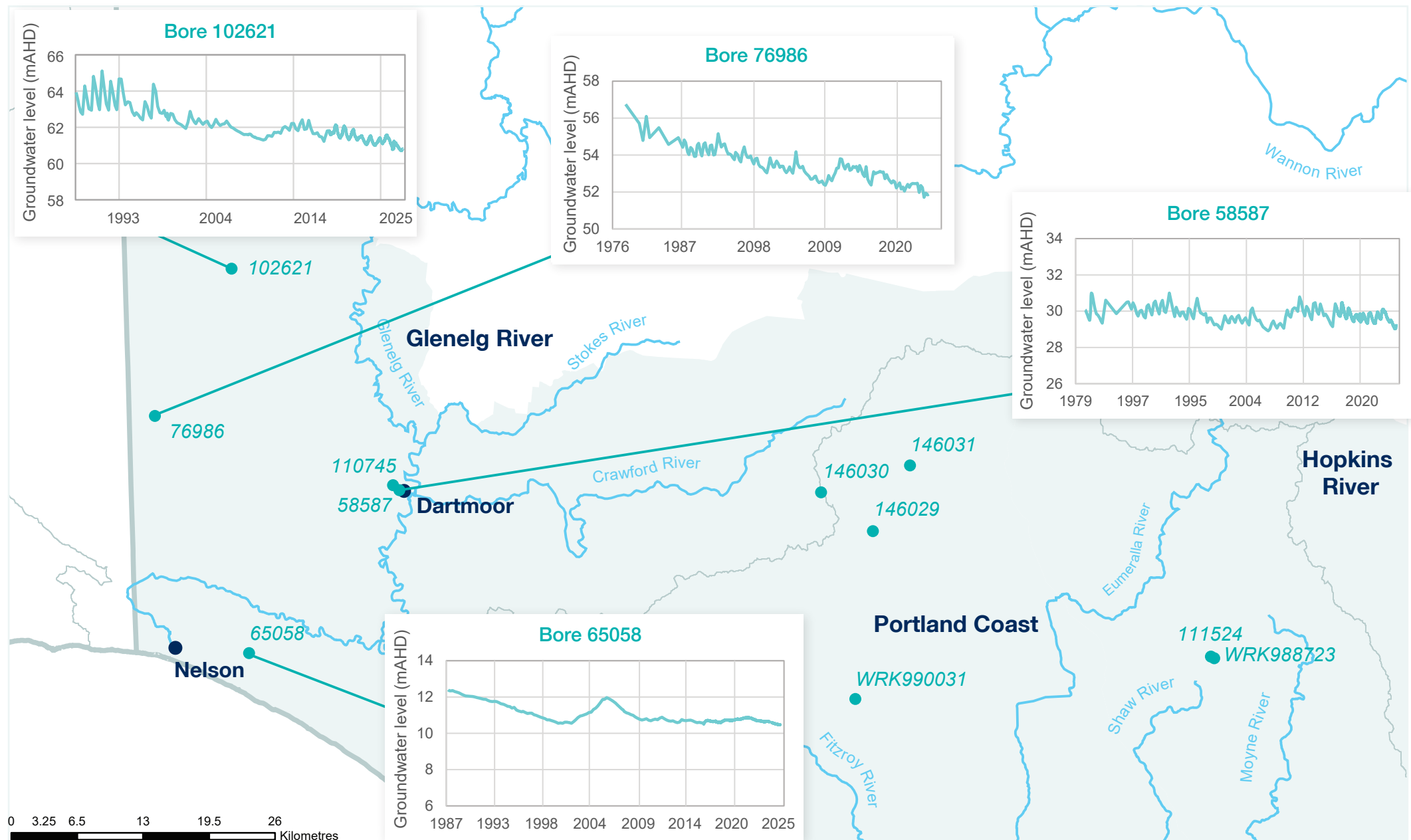
Legend

- Active SOBN
- Major localities
- Catchment boundary
- SW Limestone GMA

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South west limestone groundwater levels: western region



Legend

- Active SOBN
- Major localities
- Catchment boundary
- SW Limestone GMA

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