

Diamond Creek Local Management Plan

2020-21 Annual Update



Diamond Creek is a tributary of the Yarra River that starts at the southern edge of the Kinglake Plateau and flows through King Lake National Park in a south-westerly direction into the Yarra past St Andrews, Hurstbridge, Diamond Creek and Eltham.

Surface water resources in the Diamond Creek catchment are managed under a local management plan (LMP) developed by Melbourne Water in 2016. The aim of the LMP is to provide surface water users in the catchment with a detailed system-specific surface water management framework.

Melbourne Water reports annually on the implementation of the Diamond Creek LMP each year. This report includes information on total entitlements issued, surface water flows, restrictions on use, metered water use, trades and transfers, and water use compliance.

Surface Water Entitlements

An allocation limit of 1,109.1 ML/year and a winter-fill limit of 346 ML/year has been set for the Diamond Creek LMP catchment. As of 30 June 2021, total licensed allocated volume in the catchment was 1097.1 ML/year (Table 1), which remained unchanged from 30 June 2020.

Table 1: Surface Water Licensed Allocated Volume in Diamond Creek catchment.

Licence Type	No. of Licences	Allocated Volumes (ML)
All year	12	355.0
Winter-fill	7	275.0
Farm dam registration	58	445.1
Farm Dam	2	22.0
Total	79	1,097.1
Allocation Limit	-	1,109.1

Monitoring Surface Water Flows

Flow levels are monitored by gauges (compliance gauges) that provide continuous flow readings. The compliance gauge for Diamond Creek is located at [Hurstbridge \(229619B\)](#). During 2020-21, average daily flow rate was highest (127 ML/day) during Winter, compared to <1 ML/day from March to April during 2020-21 (Figure 1).

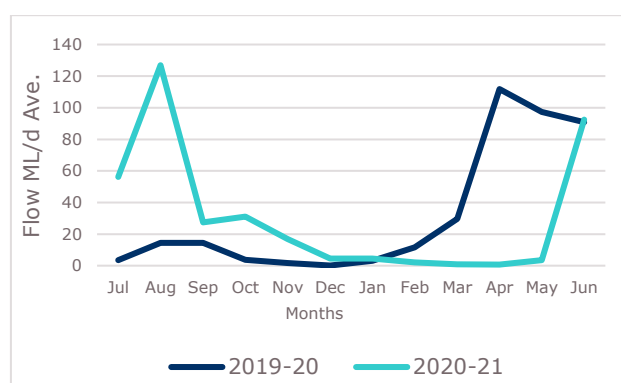


Figure 1: Average daily flow rate (ML/day) per month in the Diamond Creek (at Hurstbridge) during 2019-20 and 2020-21.

Restrictions on Take & Use

During 2020-21 Diamond Creek was on ban status for 103 days (Figure 2), 93 days less than the 2019-20 water year. Access to surface water in the catchment has improved during 2020-21.

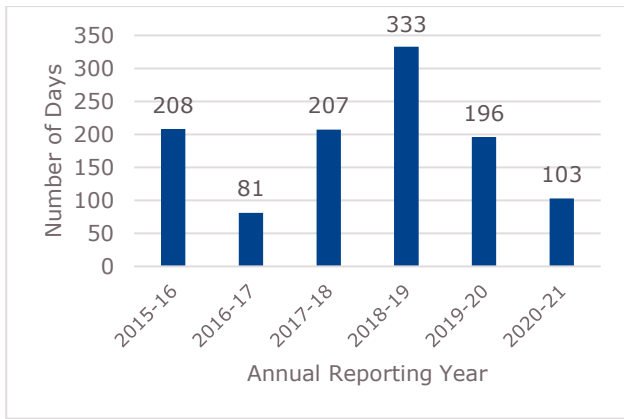


Figure 2: Number of days the Diamond Creek has been on Ban status between 2015-16 and 2020-21.

Monitoring Surface Water Use

During 2020-21, 8 licences with a total of 587 ML of licensed allocation were metered in the Diamond Creek catchment (Figure 3).

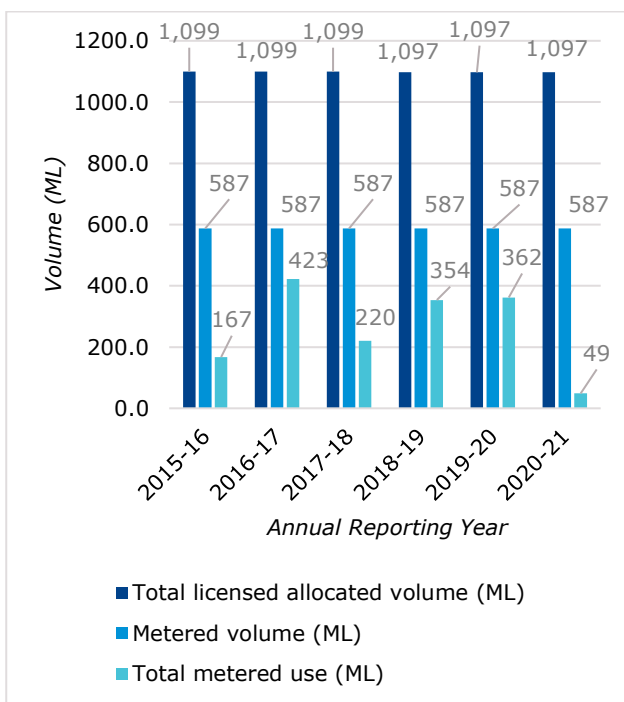


Figure 3: Total licensed allocated volume, metered volume and total metered use (ML) in the Diamond Creek catchment between 2015-16 and 2020-21

Total metered surface water use in 2020-21 within the Diamond Creek catchment was 48.6 ML, representing 4.4% of licensed allocation volume and 8.3% of metered volume in the catchment (Table 2). This is a significant

decrease from 2019-20, where total metered use of 361.8 ML was 33% of allocated licensed volume and 61.6 % of metered volume.

Table 2: Metered use in the Diamond Creek catchment in 2019-20 and 2020-21.

	2019-20	2020-21
Number of metered licences	12	12
Metered volume (ML)	587.0	587.0
Metered use as % of PCV	32.6%	4.4%
Metered use as % of licensed allocation volume	33.0%	4.4%
Metered use as % of metered (allocated) volume	61.6%	8.3%

Surface Water Trades & Transfers

Licence holders may transfer licensed volume on a permanent or temporary basis within the Diamond Creek catchment. During 2020-21, there were no licensed allocation permanently transferred within the catchment, compared to 40 ML in the 2019-20 water year. There were no temporary transfers, surrendered or newly issued allocation in 2020-21.

Table 3: Volume (ML) of licence transfers in the Diamond Creek catchment in 2019-20 and 2020-21.

Annual Reporting Year	Allocation surrendered	Permanent transfers	
	within WSPA (ML)	within WSPA (ML)	out of WSPA (ML)
2019-20	-	40.0	-
2020-21	-	-	-

Metering Activities

In 2020-21, there were 9 meters monitored in the Diamond Creek catchment, which were read 15 times (winter-fill licences were read twice), unchanged from 2019-20.

Table 4: Metering activity in the Diamond Creek catchment between 2019-20 and 2020-21.

	2019-20	2020-21
Number of meters	9	9
Number of inspections	10	-
Number of meter reads	15	15

Monitoring Water Use Compliance

In 2020-21, there were no licences with use greater than their allocation in the Diamond Creek catchment, compared to one in 2019-20.

Melbourne Water will continue to engage with licence holders to ensure they are aware of their responsibility to comply with their licence conditions, including Melbourne Water's obligations under the *Water Act 1989* (Vic) to assess water use compliance.

Review of Local Management Plan

Melbourne Water has determined that at this time no amendments are required to be made to the Diamond Creek LMP. For more information, the Diamond Creek LMP is available on the Melbourne Water website: www.melbournewater.com.au