

Diamond Creek Local Management Plan

2022-23 Annual Update



Diamond Creek is a tributary of the Yarra River Basin 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 a detailed system-specific surface water management framework.

Every year Melbourne Water monitors and reports the implementation of the Diamond Creek LMP. This annual report 2022-23 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 catchment. As of 30 June 2023, total licensed allocated volume in the catchment was 1097.1 ML/year (Table 1), which remained unchanged from 30 June 2022.

Table 1: Surface Water Licensed Allocated Volume in Diamond Creek catchment as of 30 June 2023.

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 \(Gauge station ID: 229619B\)](#). The highest mean flow rate per day for the year 2022-23 was 397.1 ML/d during spring compared to <19 ML/d from Feb-May (Figure 1).

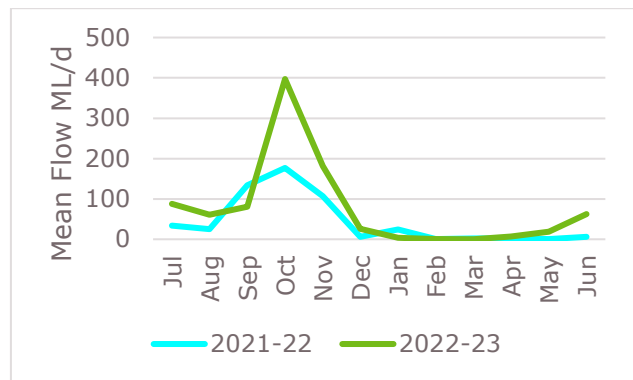


Figure 1: Monthly mean flow rate per day (ML/d) in the Diamond Creek (Hurstbridge Gauge station ID: 229619B) during 2021-22 and 2022-23.

Restrictions on Take & Use

During 2022-23 Diamond Creek was on ban status for 103 days (Figure 2), 38 days less than the 2021-22 water year.

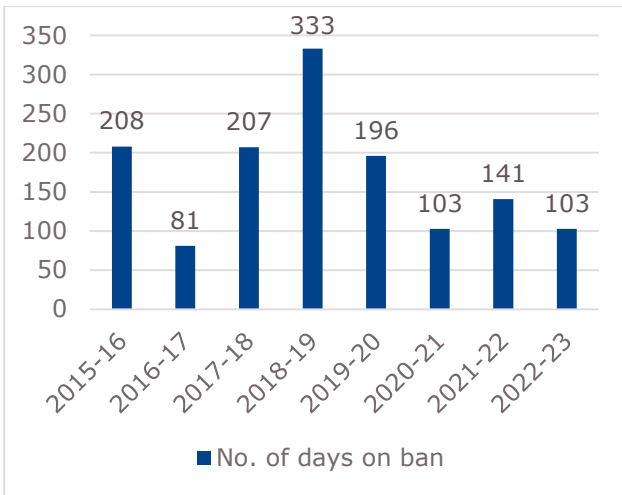


Figure 2 Number of days the Diamond Creek has been on Ban status from 2015-16 and 2022-23.

Monitoring Surface Water Use

During 2022-23, nine licences with a total of 587 ML of licensed allocation were metered in the Diamond Creek catchment (Figure 3).

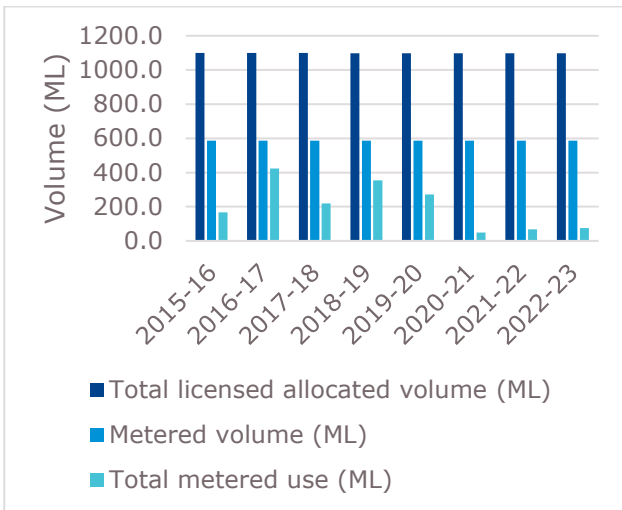


Figure 3 Total licensed allocated volume, metered volume and total metered use (ML) in the Diamond Creek catchment from 2015-16 to 2022-23

Total metered surface water use in 2022-23 in the Diamond Creek catchment was 75.28 ML, representing 6.9% of licensed allocation volume and 6.8% of metered volume in the catchment (Table 2). There is a small increase (8.2 ML) in the total metered use volume for the water year 2022-23 when compared to 2021-22.

Table 2: Metered use in the Diamond Creek catchment in 2020-21 and 2022-23.

	2021-22	2022-23
Number of metered licences	9	9
Metered volume (ML)	587.0	587.0
Metered volume use (ML)	67.1	75.3
Metered use as % of PCV	6.0%	6.8%
Metered use as % of total licensed allocation volume	6.1%	6.9%
Metered use as % of metered (allocated) volume	11.4%	12.8%

Surface Water Trades & Transfers

Licence holders may transfer licensed volume on a permanent or temporary basis within the Diamond Creek catchment. During 2022-23, there were no licensed allocation permanently transferred within or out of the catchment (Table 3). There were no temporary transfers, surrendered or newly issued allocation in 2022-23.

Table 3: Volume (ML) of licence transfers in the Diamond Creek catchment in 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23

Annual Reporting Year	Allocation surrendered	Permanent transfers	
	within Diamond Creek catchment (ML)	within Diamond Creek catchment (ML)	out of Diamond Creek catchment (ML)
2020-21	0	0	0
2021-22	0	0	0
2022-23	0	0	0

Metering Activities

In 2022-23, there were 9 meters monitored in the Diamond Creek catchment, which were read 18 times (winter-fill licences were read twice), with four reads higher than 2021-22 (Table 4).

Table 4: Metering activity in the Diamond Creek catchment between 2021-22 and 2022-23.

	2021-22	2022-23
Number of licenced meters	9	11
Number of inspections	12	0*
Number of meter reads	14	18

* Meter validation inspection is conducted every three year, therefore there is no inspection for the year 2022-23.

Monitoring Water Use Compliance

In 2022-23, there were no licences with use greater than their allocation in the Diamond Creek catchment, consistent with 2021-22.

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 *Victorian Water Act 1989* 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: [Stream flow management | Melbourne Water](#)