Goulburn-Murray WATER

Water for a thriving Northern Victoria

Innovation Upper Murray

'Empowering Next Generation Agriculture'

Innovation Working Group Session

13 August 2024

Presentation Outline

- Goulburn-Murray Water Overview
- Groundwater Licensing and Availability
- Surface Water Licensing and Trading Rules

About GMW

- We manage 23 dams, lakes and reservoirs and 10,000km of delivery infrastructure.
- Role of the Resource Manager (seasonal water determinations and allocations).
- We manage boating activities on some of our dams, lakes and reservoirs.
- We undertake water licensing, resource planning and management functions as per the Water Act 1989.

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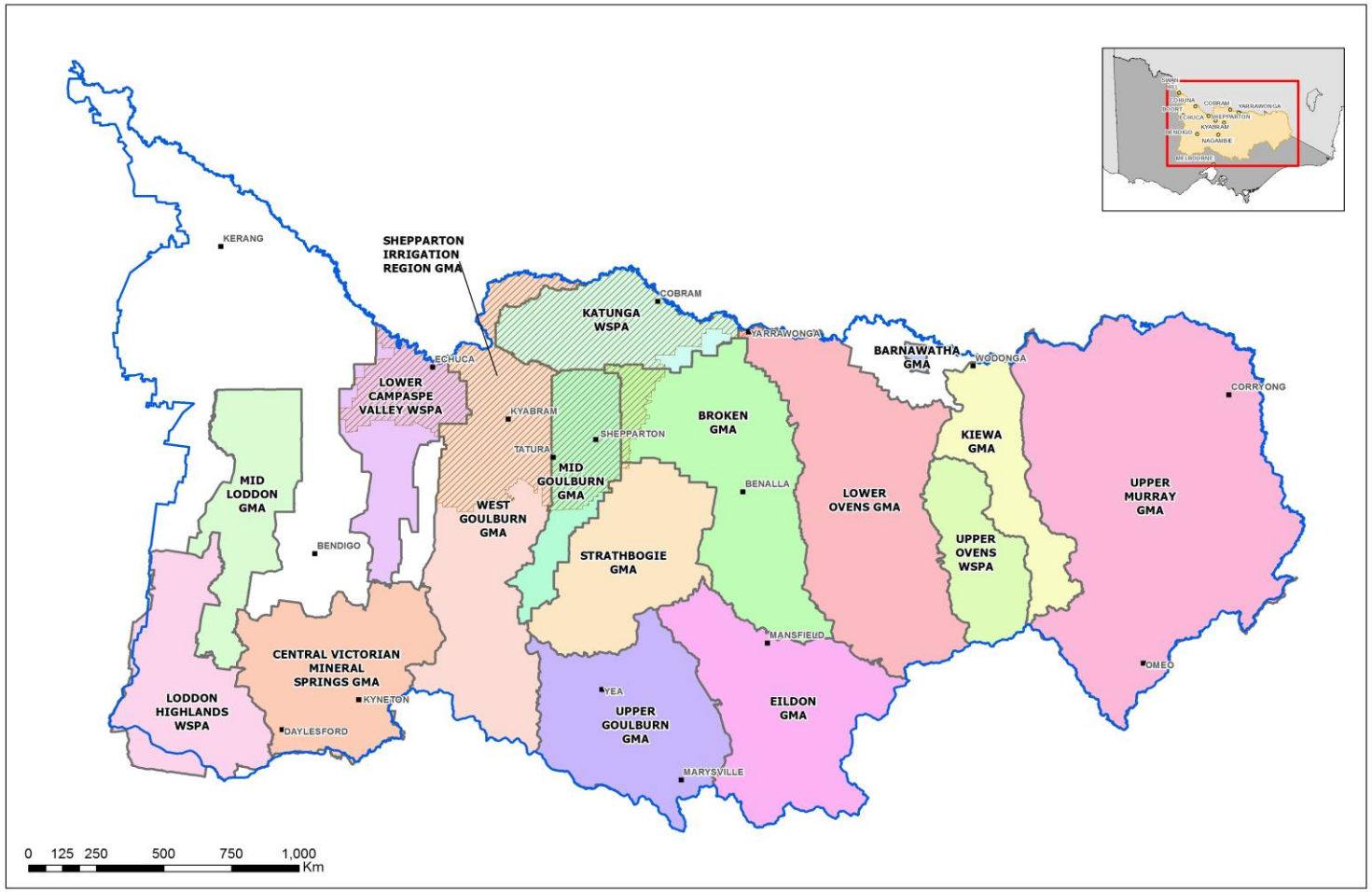
Our Role in Water Management

- Licence groundwater and surface water use under delegation from the Minister for Water (*Water Act 1989*)
- Undertake technical assessments and appraisals to improve our understanding of the groundwater and surface water resources
- Develop, administer and review groundwater management plans and surface water local management rules

Groundwater Management and Availability



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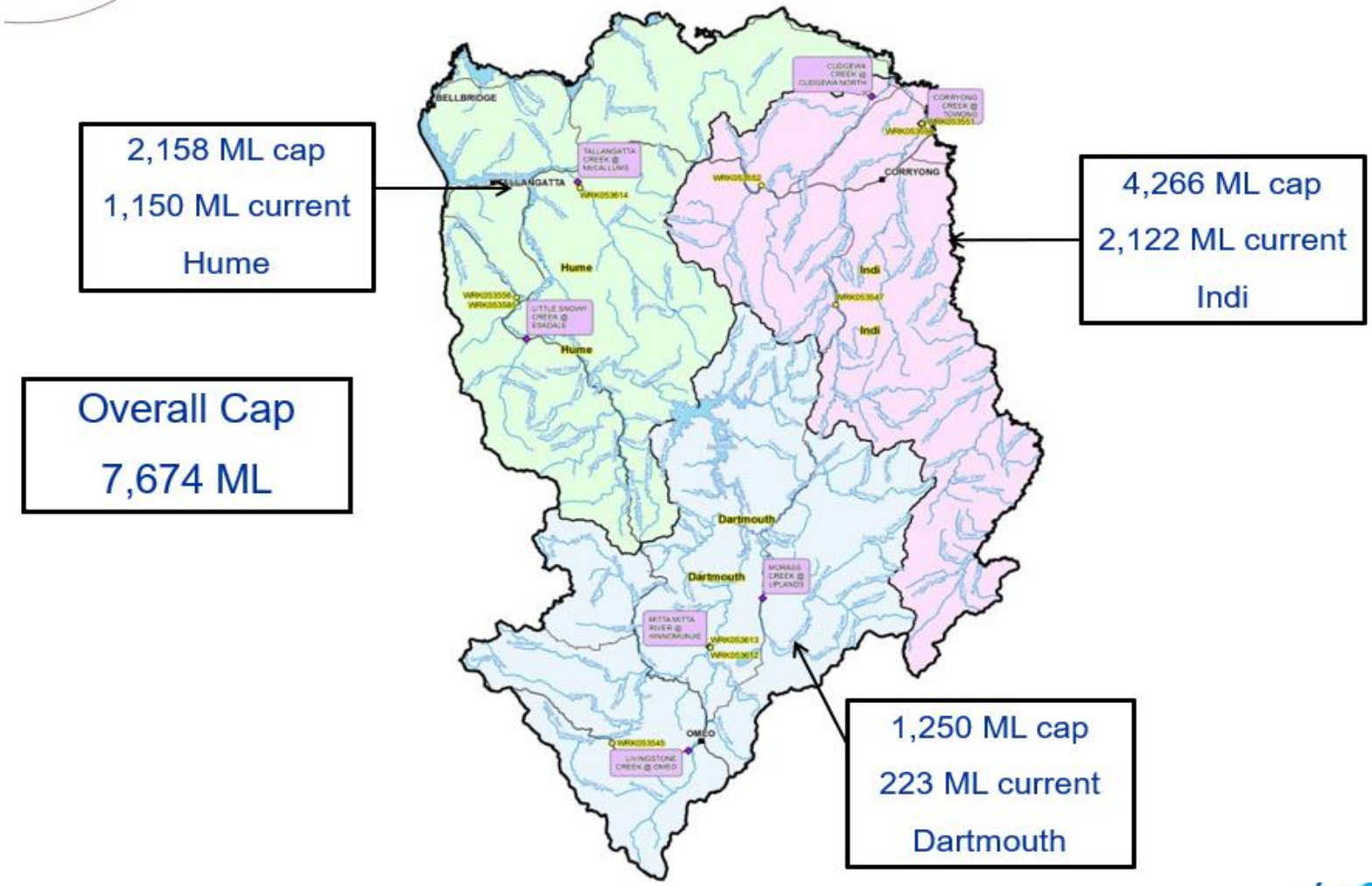
Groundwater Licensing and Availability

- Upper Murray Groundwater Management Area
  - Provide a clear and proactive management framework
  - Ensure that future groundwater development does not unacceptable impact on environmental assets
  - Improve community understanding of groundwater management issues
- Upper Murray GMA Local Management Plan

Upper Murray PCV & Trading Limits



Upper Murray PCV & Trading Limits

Management Zone	Maximum Licence Volume Permitted (ML/yr)	Current Licence Volume (ML/yr)	2022/23 Recorded Use (ML)
Hume	2,158.0	1,150.2	129.9
Dartmouth	1,250.0	223.0	74.3
Indi	4,266.0	2,122.4	220.8
Totals	**7674**	**3,495.6**	**425.0**

Trading Rules

- The buyer must have a bore with a metered diversion point
- Transfer must occur within the same management zone
- The transfer must not cause total entitlement to exceed the PCV

Surface Water Licensing and Trading Rules

Licence to Take and Use Surface Water & Operate Works

- Who needs one and what does it authorise?
- How do I get access to an entitlement?
- Trading Rules – Zone 160 (Upper Murray) & 161 (Main Stem)
- Landowner / Crown Land Manager consent
- Farm Dams

Entitlement Statistics

Stream Name	Take & Use Licences Irrigation / Other	Take & Use Licences Domestic and Stock	Total Volume (ML)
Upper Murray Main Stem	17 (933ML)	63 (136.8ML)	1069.8
Indi River	7 (1144ML)		1144.0
Cudgewa Creek	12 (476.8ML)	16 (50ML)	526.8
Nariel Creek	25 (1099.8ML)	14 (30ML)	1129.8

Licensing Considerations

Key matters to take into account (s40 of the *Water Act 1989*)

- Potential for impact on existing water uses
- Consider future water availability and quality
- Impacts on waterways and aquifers
- Environmental features (e.g. groundwater dependent ecosystems)
- Relevant groundwater management plan and objectives
- Permissible Consumptive Volume (i.e. a cap on licence entitlement)

Thank you

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Contact us

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