

Diamond Creek Local Management Plan

2021-22 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 2022, total licensed allocated volume in the catchment was 1097.1 ML/year (Table 1), which remained unchanged from 30 June 2021.

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 2021-22, average daily flow rate was highest (177 ML/day) during Spring, compared to <2 ML/day from February to May during 2021-22 (Figure 1).

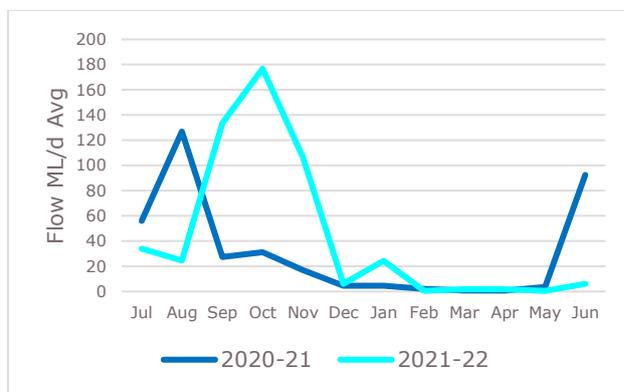


Figure 1: Average daily flow rate (ML/day) per month in the Diamond Creek (at Hurstbridge) during 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Restrictions on Take & Use

During 2021-22 Diamond Creek was on ban status for 141 days (Figure 2), 38 days more than the 2020-21 water year.

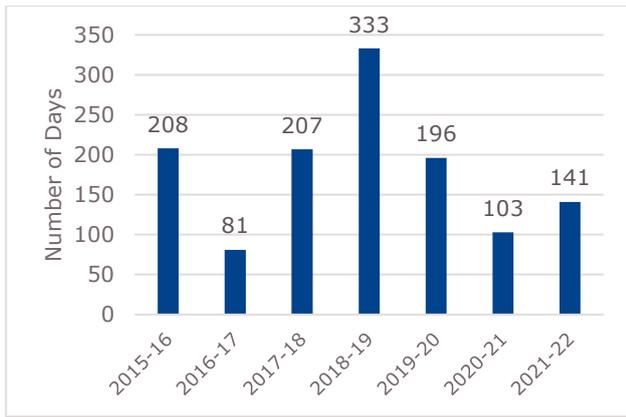


Figure 2: Number of days the Diamond Creek has been on Ban status between 2015-16 and 2021-22.

Monitoring Surface Water Use

During 2021-22, 9 licences with a total of 587 ML of licensed allocation were metered in the Diamond Creek catchment (Figure 3).

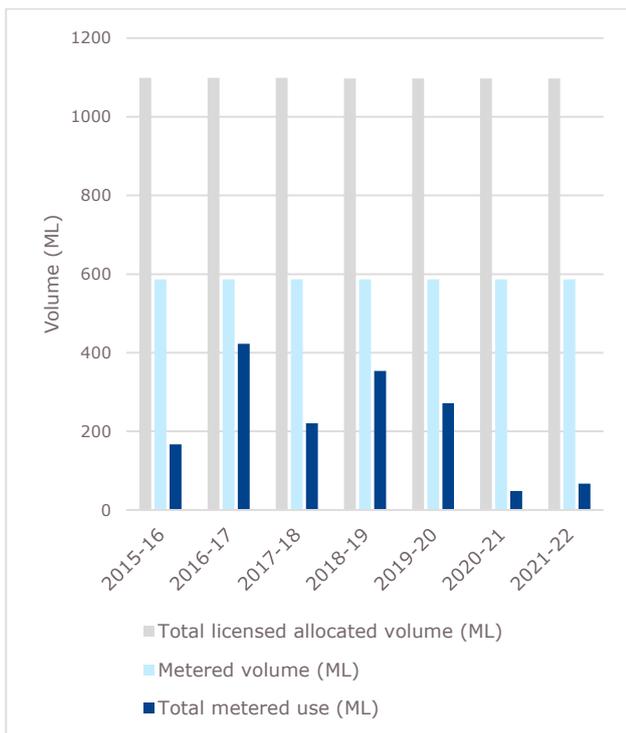


Figure 3: Total licensed allocated volume, metered volume and total metered use (ML) in the Diamond Creek catchment between 2015-16 and 2021-22

Total metered surface water use in 2021-22 within the Diamond Creek catchment was 67.1 ML, representing 6.1% of licensed allocation volume and 6.0% of metered volume in the

catchment (Table 2). This represents a small increase compared to 2020-21, where total metered use was 48.6 ML.

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

	2020-21	2021-22
Number of metered licences	9	9
Metered volume (ML)	587.0	587.0
Metered volume use (ML)	48.6	67.1
Metered use as % of PCV	4.4%	6.0%
Metered use as % of licensed allocation volume	4.4%	6.1%
Metered use as % of metered (allocated) volume	8.3%	11.4%

Surface Water Trades & Transfers

Licence holders may transfer licensed volume on a permanent or temporary basis within the Diamond Creek catchment. During 2021-22, there were no licensed allocation permanently transferred within the catchment. There were no temporary transfers, surrendered or newly issued allocation in 2021-22.

Table 3: Volume (ML) of licence transfers in the Diamond Creek catchment in 2019-20 and 2021-22.

Annual Reporting Year	Allocation surrendered	Permanent transfers	
	within WSPA (ML)	within WSPA (ML)	out of WSPA (ML)
2019-20	0	40.0	0
2020-21	0	0	0
2021-22	0	0	0

Metering Activities

In 2021-22, there were 9 meters monitored in the Diamond Creek catchment, which were read 15 times (winter-fill licences were read twice), unchanged from 2020-21.

Table 4: Metering activity in the Diamond Creek catchment between 2020-21 and 2021-22.

	2020-21	2021-22
Number of meters	9	9
Number of inspections	0	12
Number of meter reads	15	14

Monitoring Water Use Compliance

In 2021-22, there were no licences with use greater than their allocation in the Diamond Creek catchment, consistent with 2020-21.

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