

# Groundwater Resource Report

Groundwater catchment: Goulburn - Broken

VICGRID94 Easting: 2602651 Northing: 2556947

Depth to water table: < 5m

Water table salinity (mg/L): 3501 - 7000

Groundwater layers (Aquifers and Aquitards)	Depth below surface (m)	Groundwater salinity (mg/L)
UTQA Upper Tertiary / Quaternary Aquifer layered clay, sands and silt	0 - 7	501 - 1000
BSE Mesozoic and Palaeozoic Bedrock (basement) sedimentary (fractured rock): Sandstone, siltstone, mudstone, shale. Igneous (fractured rock): includes volcanics, granites, granodiorites.	7 - 207	1001 - 3500

Groundwater management unit (GMU)	Depth below surface (m)	PCV (ML/yr)
BROKEN GMA	ALL	3,732

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Environment,  
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## Introduction

Groundwater is part of the water cycle. When rain or snow falls on land, some of it evaporates, some flows to streams and rivers, and some seeps into the soil. Some of the water in the soil is used by plants but some continues to move down through the soil and rock until all the pores and cracks are full of water. This is known as the water table and this water is called groundwater.

Groundwater is a finite resource that, like surface water, is allocated under the Water Act (1989). A Bore Construction Licence is required to drill for groundwater including for domestic and stock purposes. Taking and using groundwater for commercial or irrigation purposes requires an additional licence.

## Purpose of this report

This report has been prepared to provide potential groundwater users with basic information about groundwater beneath their property. This includes the different geological layers, the depths of the layers and the salinity of groundwater in the layers. Information on the groundwater management units (GMU) and any associated caps on the volume that can be licensed (the PCV) are also provided.

## Definitions and context

Term	Description
Groundwater Catchment	An identified area of the State within which groundwater resources are connected.
Easting / Northing	The VICGRID 94 coordinates of the spot that was selected on the interactive map.
Groundwater Salinity	Indicates the possible concentration of salts within the groundwater. The salt content indicates the possible uses of the water (see the Beneficial Use Table below). Fertilisers and other contaminants can also enter groundwater and affect its use. It is up to you to make sure that the groundwater you use is suitable for your purpose.
Aquifer	An aquifer is a layer of soil or rock which stores usable volumes of groundwater. Aquifers are generally limestones, gravels and sands, as well as some fractured rocks where the cracks in the rock are open and connected (some basalts, sandstones and limestones). How much water can be pumped from an aquifer depends on how much water is stored in pores and cracks, how well connected the pores and cracks are, and how thick the layer is. It is more likely that volumes of water for irrigation and urban water supply will come from gravels, sands, limestones and basalts that are at least 30 metres thick. Low volumes of water for domestic and stock use are likely from any aquifer greater than 10 metres thick. The advice above is a guide only, as the amount of water available can be highly variable. Actual pumping volumes can only be determined from drilling, appropriate construction and testing of a bore.
Aquitard	An aquitard is a layer of rock or soil that does not allow water to move through it easily, limiting its capacity to supply water. Aquitards are generally silts, clays and fractured rocks (where there are few cracks in the rock or the cracks are poorly connected).
Groundwater Management Unit (GMU)	A collective term for groundwater management areas (GMAs) and water supply protection areas (WSPAs). GMAs and WSPAs are defined areas and depths below the surface where rules for groundwater use may apply. WSPAs often have caps on groundwater use and plans describing how the resource is managed. GMAs usually have caps on groundwater use and may have local plans and rules. All other areas are managed directly through the Water Act (1989). Always check with your local Rural Water Corporation to be sure that the information on the GMU is correct for your specific location.
Permissible Consumptive Volume (PCV)	A cap that is set under the Water Act (1989) declaring the total volume of groundwater that may be taken from the area. Once the PCV is reached, no additional extraction can be licensed for use within the area unless traded from another groundwater licence holder.
Depth to Water Table	This is an indication of the depth at which groundwater might first be encountered when drilling a bore. The depth can vary from year to year, and from place to place and may vary significantly from that indicated in this report.

## Beneficial Use Table

Salinity range (mg/L TDS)	Beneficial use as described by State Environment Protection Policy (Groundwaters of Victoria) s160							
	Potable water - preferred	Potable water - acceptable	Potable mineral water	Irrigation	Stock water	Industry	Ecosystem protection	Buildings and structures
<500	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
501-1000		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1001-3500			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3501-13000					✓	✓	✓	✓
13001+						✓	✓	✓

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