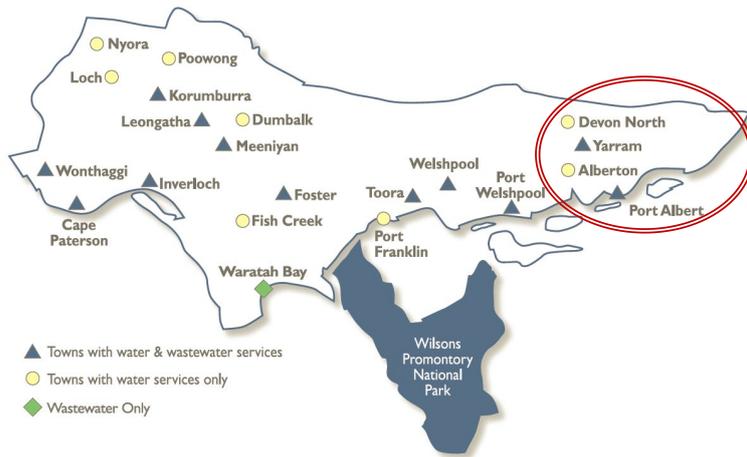


## Tarra River Water Supply System



The Tarra River Water Supply System supplies water to the townships of:

- Yarram;
- Alberton;
- Port Albert; and
- Surrounding rural communities.

Primary supply is from a diversion weir on the Tarra River, with backup supply from a groundwater bore. Both sources of water are transferred to a storage basin, with a capacity of 30 ML. This storage allows water supply to be maintained during short periods of low river flow during drought.

South Gippsland Water

1300 851 636

[www.sgwater.com.au](http://www.sgwater.com.au)

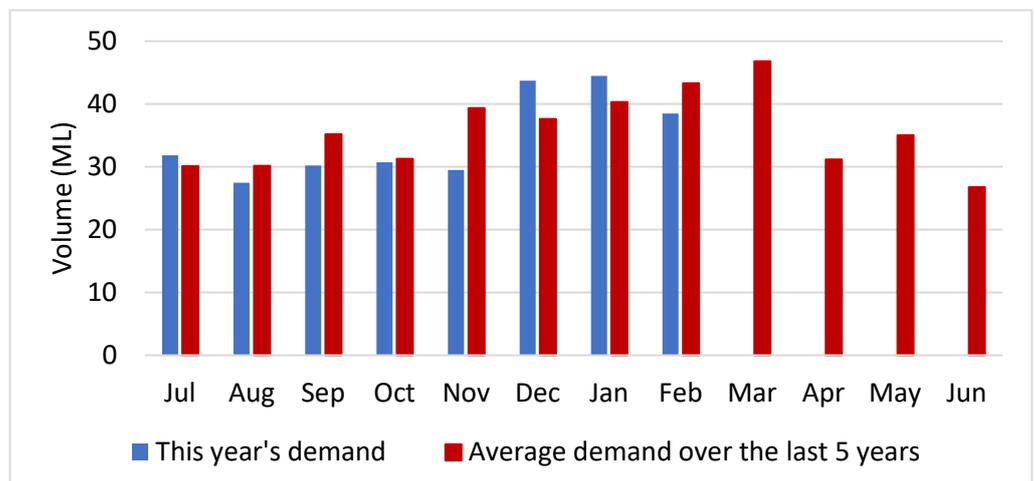
## Water Supply Information

Water resources held by South Gippsland Water for the Tarra River Water Supply System are shown below. Only 34% of the available annual entitlement has been used from the Tarra River in the current year to date (July 2025 to Feb 2026). 11 ML of groundwater was pumped over the same period. This entitlement is a legal right to access water, subject to availability.

Water Component	Maximum Annual Entitlement	Volume Extracted 2025-26	Volume Remaining 2025-26
Tarra River	853 ML	290 ML	563 ML
Groundwater Bore	214.2 ML	11 ML	203.2 ML

## Water Consumption

Monthly water consumption for the Tarra River Water Supply System in the year to date was slightly lower than the average demand over the last five years. July, December and January consumption was slightly higher than the average demand over the last five years. Water consumption is expected to remain close to the historical average for the remainder of the year.



### Further Information:

- The most recent records for the Tarra River upstream of the diversion weir show that it was flowing at an average of 18 ML/d during March. This is above the 5 ML/d flow threshold to activate groundwater pumping, which is used to deal with water shortages.
- The Yarram storage basin was 100% full at the end of March.
- Unregulated river flows are difficult to forecast. SGW has only forecast the next 3 months due to low forecast skill beyond 3 months. The graph is formatted to highlight low flow behaviour.
- Units are in megalitres per day (ML/d), where 1 ML is equivalent to 1 million litres.

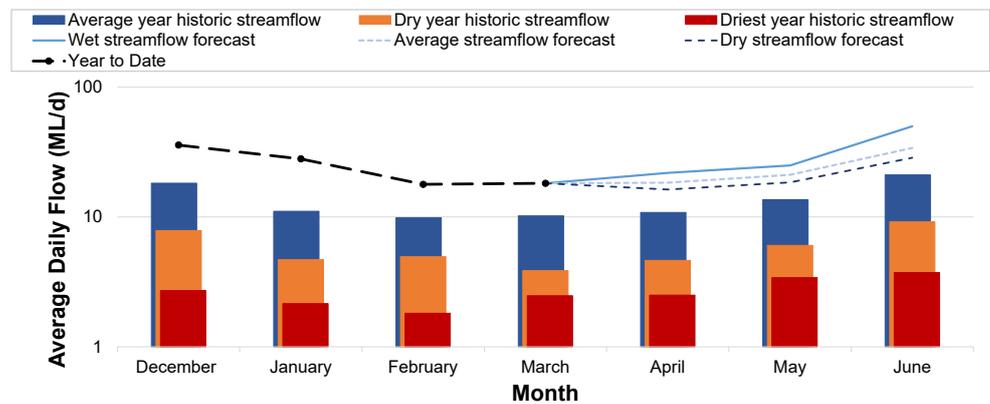
## Climate Conditions

Forecast climate conditions for the coming three months have considered the Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal climate forecast for the region and local climate conditions in the year to date. In the year to date, spring and summer rainfall was close to average, but the Bureau’s climate outlook indicates drier than usual conditions over the next three months. Air temperature is forecast over the next three months to be warmer than usual for this time of year, and this trend is expected to continue beyond this period. After taking these factors into account, South Gippsland Water is forecasting on the basis of a dry climate scenario.

Chance of Exceeding Median Rainfall	Chance of Exceeding Median Maximum Temperature	This Year’s Spring/Summer Rainfall	Likely Outlook Scenario
30-35%	Greater than 80%	Average	Dry

## Streamflow Outlook

Streamflow in the Tarra River is naturally highly variable. Since December 2025, streamflows have generally been above or close to the historical average (as previously forecast by SGW in November). Whilst precisely forecasting streamflow conditions is difficult, streamflow for the outlook period is currently expected to remain above the historical average for all climatic conditions.



## Urban Water Restrictions Outlook

Based on the streamflow outlook, the demands for water in the year to date, and the Bureau of Meteorology climate forecast, no water restrictions are anticipated for the remainder of the year at the current time. For the climate outlook expected, it is estimated that the groundwater bore entitlement is unlikely to be used much in 2025/26. South Gippsland Water’s Permanent Water Saving Rules applies to all customers over the outlook period.

Climate Scenario	Outlook		
	1 April 2026	1 May 2026	1 June 2026
Wet	PWSR	PWSR	PWSR
Average	PWSR	PWSR	PWSR
Dry	PWSR	PWSR	PWSR
Worst on Record	PWSR	PWSR	PWSR

## Action Plan

A list of priority actions for this supply system prior to the next update of the Urban Water Strategy in 2027 is presented below. Further information on actions can be found in our [2022 Urban Water Strategy](#) and our [Price Submission 2023-2028](#) publication on our website. Victoria's [permanent water savings rules](#) are always in place in South Gippsland, saving water on an ongoing basis. For additional tips about how to save water see our [smart water advice](#).

Action Name	Timing
Water awareness and efficiency programs	Ongoing
Leak reduction	Ongoing
Reuse opportunities	Ongoing
Update water security outlook	Every November
Planning for long term options as per the Urban Water Strategy	2022-2027

The information provided in this water security outlook is intended as a guide only. An update will be issued if conditions change during the outlook period.