

Greater Sydney Operations Report

March 2021

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Key messages

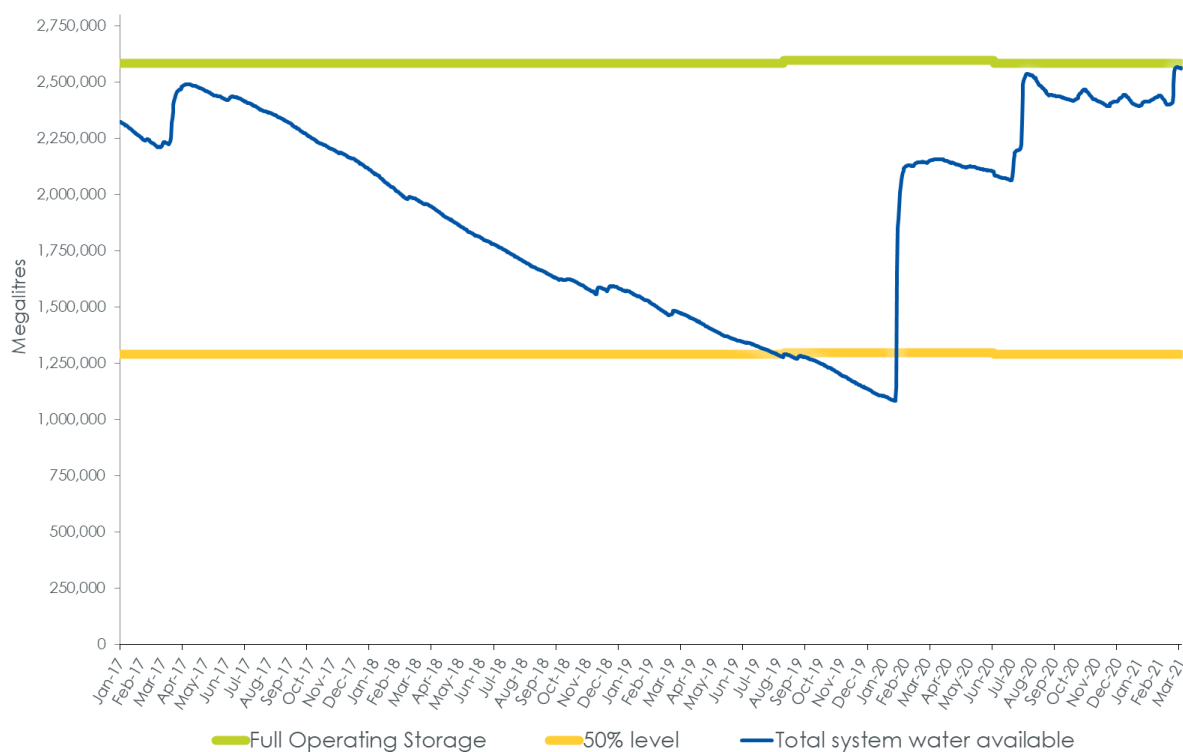
- As at 31 March 2021 the total available water held in Greater Sydney storages was **99.2%**, an increase of 4.7 % from last month.
- The Greater Sydney catchments received rainfall which was well above the long term average for the month of March. Observed rainfall exceeded 250mm across all catchments and resulted in the spill of eleven out of fifteen water supply dams. This month's rain event resulted in a major flood in the Hawkesbury Nepean similar to the event in August 1990.
- Warragamba Dam experienced its fourth highest peak lake level since built in 1960. The dam's peak inflow rate was 750 GL/d and the peak outflow rate was 500 GL/d.
- WaterNSW worked closely with its partner agencies BOM, SES and NSW Health to manage the incident efficiently and effectively. WaterNSW supplied water from the best sources in the system and our customers were able to produce water within the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines at all times.
- Our total inflow this month was 2052 GL, bringing our total inflow for this calendar year to 2338 GL. This amount is 94% of the annual long-term average.
- With our storages exceeding 75%, there were no transfers from the Shoalhaven System and Water Wise Guidelines are in place across Greater Sydney.
- As total system storage declines with normal supply, it is expected we will reach 75% (the trigger to re-commence Shoalhaven Transfers) in February 2022 at the earliest.



Storage Levels

As at Sunday 31 March 2021 the total available water held in Greater Sydney storages was **99.2%**, an increase of **4.7%** from last month. For more information on Greater Sydney Dam levels please visit www.watersnw.com.au/sydneydamlevels

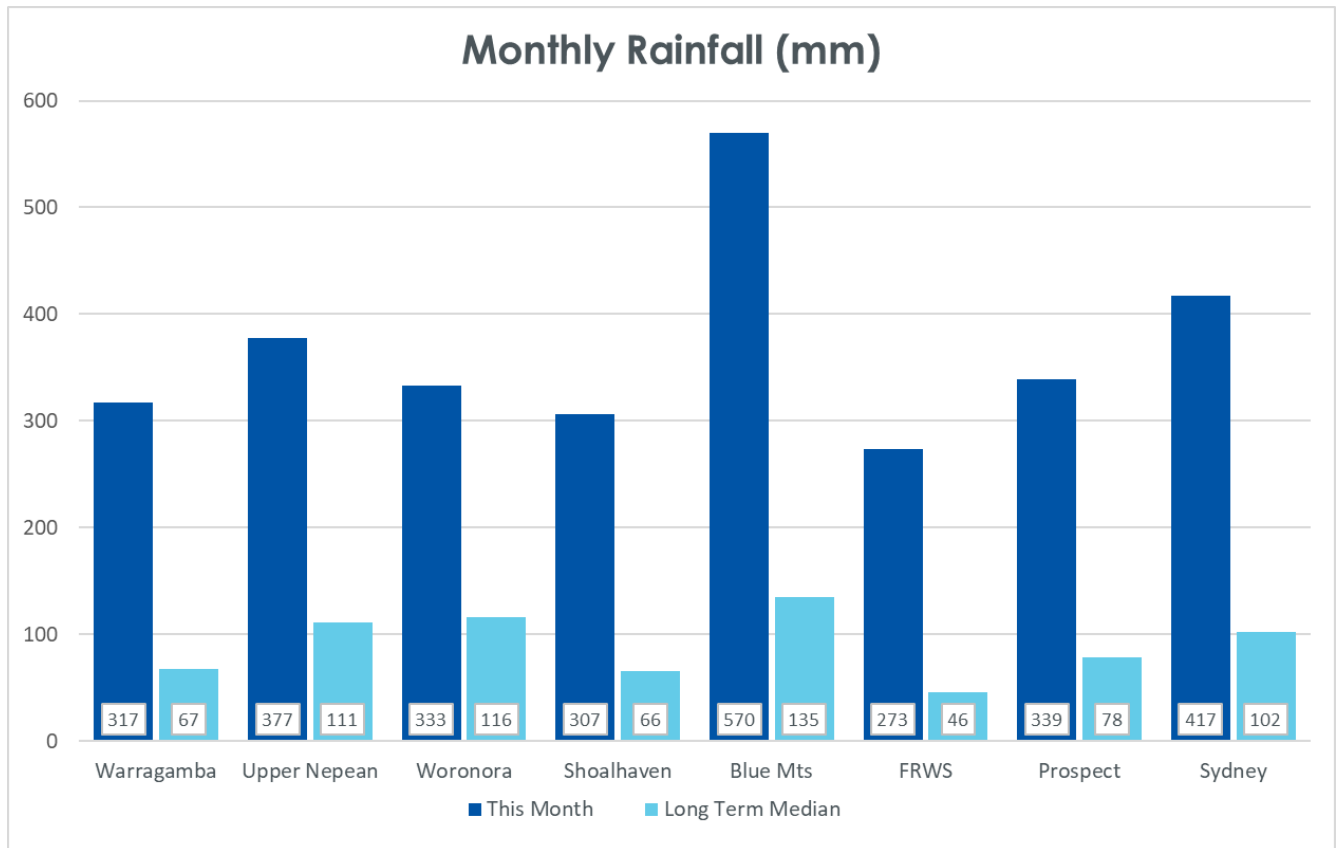
Available storage 99.2% on 31 March 2021



Storage	Capacity (ML)	Wednesday 31 March 2021			Sunday 28 February 2021		
		Level (m)	Available (ML)	Available (%)	Level (m)	Available (ML)	Available (%)
Cataract	97,190	-0.15	95,832	98.6	-2.26	79,443	81.7
Cordeaux	93,640	0.06	93,640	100.0	-1.94	79,439	84.8
Avon	146,700	0.01	146,700	100.0	-2.42	122,113	83.2
Nepean	67,730	0.16	67,730	100.0	-3.50	57,245	84.5
Woronora	71,790	-2.14	64,047	89.2	-6.08	51,674	72.0
Warragamba	2,027,000	0.08	2,027,000	100.0	-0.58	1,984,006	97.9
Prospect	33,330	-1.32	26,768	80.3	-0.83	29,059	87.2
Wingecarribee	24,130	-0.65	21,362	88.5	-0.96	20,009	82.9
Fitzroy Falls	9,950	-0.57	7,234	72.7	-0.47	7,706	77.4
Tallowa	7,500	0.22	7,500	100.0	0.06	7,500	100.0
Blue Mountains	2,890	-	2,742	94.9	-	2,500	86.5
TOTAL	2,581,850		2,560,555	99.2		2,440,694	94.5

Rainfall

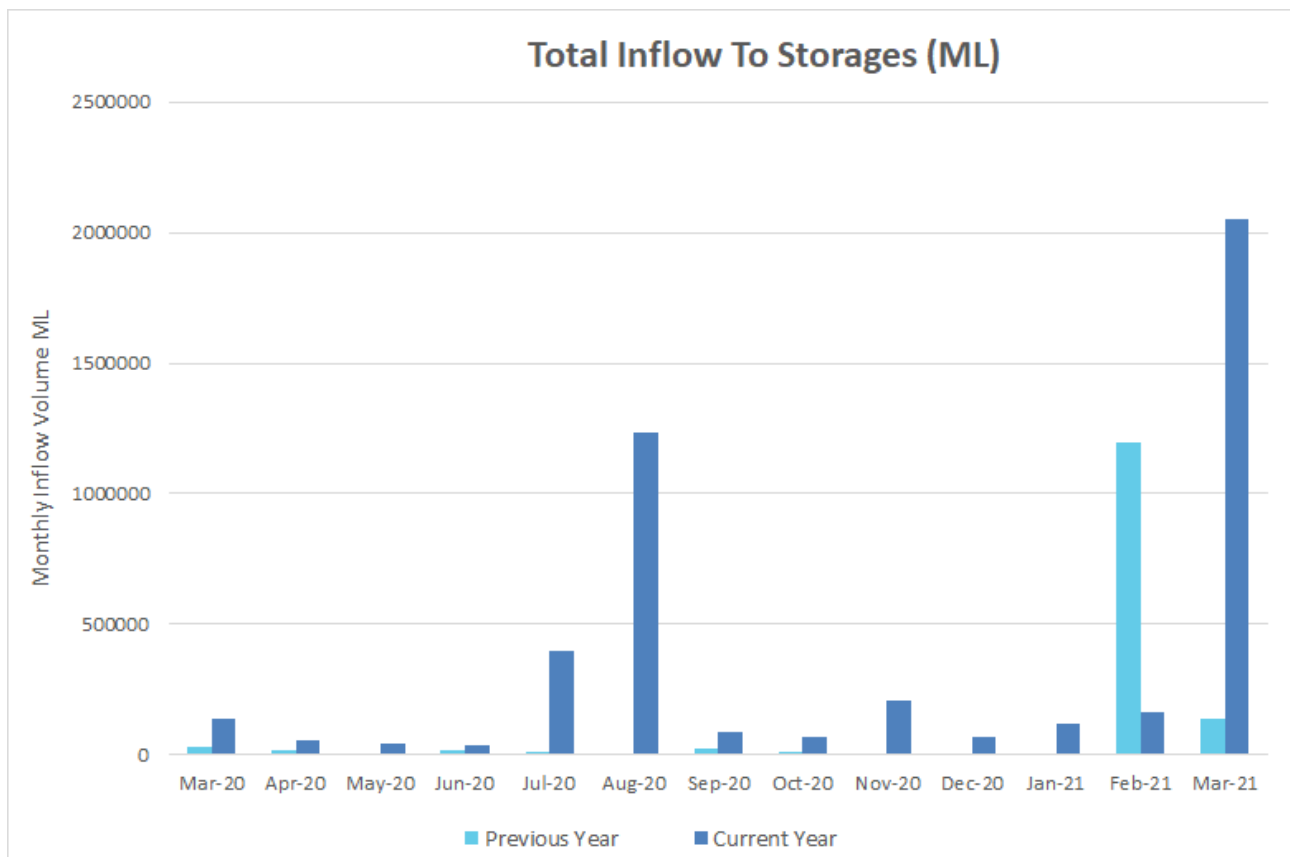
During March 2021, rainfall was well above the long-term median for the month of March.



Inflows

Greater Sydney storages received significant inflows during March 2021. After only 3 months into 2021 the inflow for Warragamba has surpassed its long term average annual inflow.

Monthly Inflow (ML)	Warragamba	Upper Nepean	Woronora	Tallowa	TOTAL
	1,142,362	122,068	9,091	777,951	2,051,471

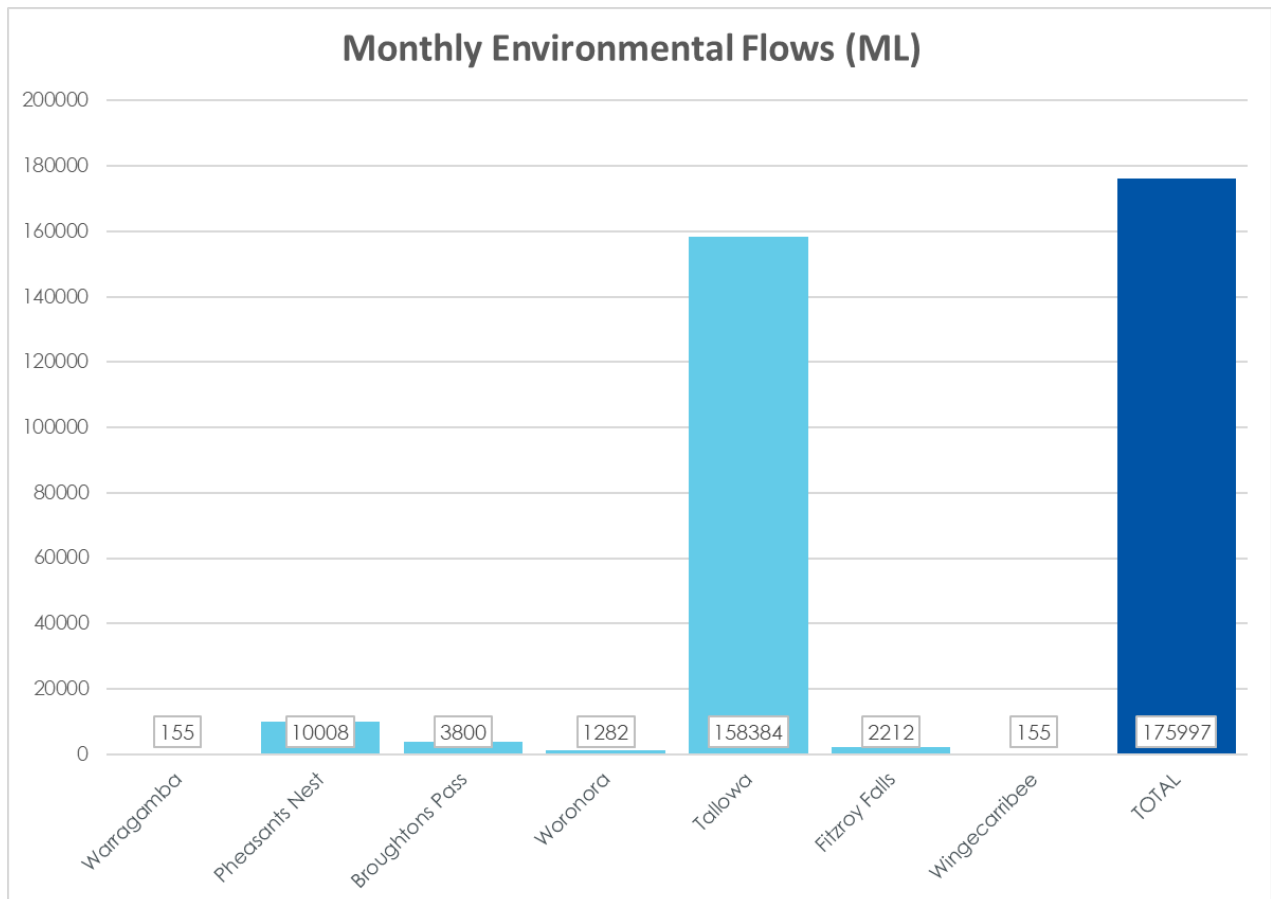


Calendar Year	Warragamba Inflow (ML)	Upper Nepean Inflow (ML)	Woronora Inflow (ML)	Tallowa Inflow (ML)	TOTAL
Average Annual	1,069,000	316,000	30,000	1,071,000	2,486,000
2018	103,234	32,199	2,433	136,559	274,425
2019	50,350	35,828	2,755	78,024	166,956
2020	1,745,619	276,838	34,570	1,487,432	3,544,459
2021 to 31 Mar	1,274,770	160,026	9,769	893,812	2,338,376

Note: The tables above do not include smaller inflows into storages such as Wingecarribee, Fitzroy Falls, Prospect or the Blue Mountains Dams.

Environmental releases

During March a total of 175,997 ML was released from Greater Sydney water sources for the environment.

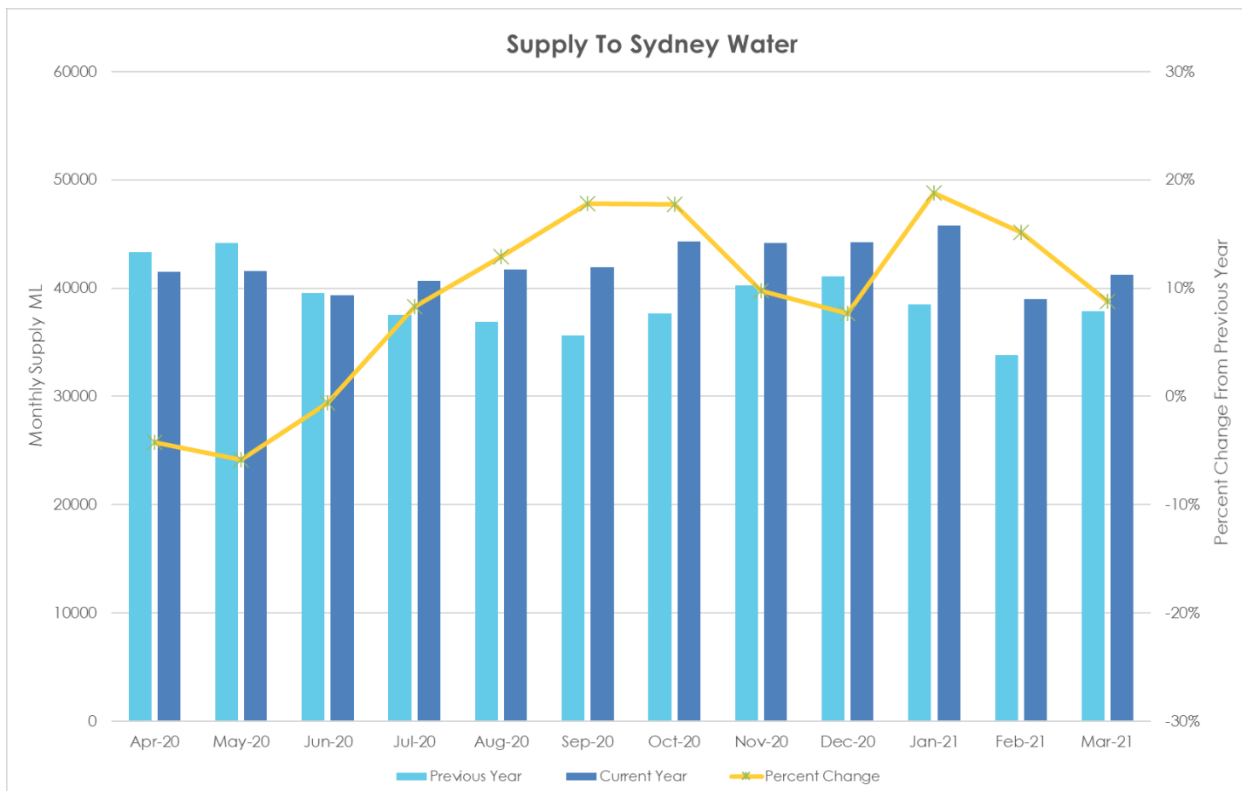


Water supplied to our customers

In the Greater Sydney area, WaterNSW supplies raw water to over 60 customers including Sydney Water Corporation, Wingecaribee Shire Council, Shoalhaven City Council, Goulburn Mulwaree Council and other minor customers.

Sydney Water supplies treated drinking water to the people of Sydney, Illawarra and the Blue Mountains and is our largest customer accounting for more than 99% of the total volume supplied from the Sydney system.

The volume supplied to Sydney Water this month was 41,233 ML with a daily average supply of 1,330 ML/D. This is an 9% increase from the same time last year.

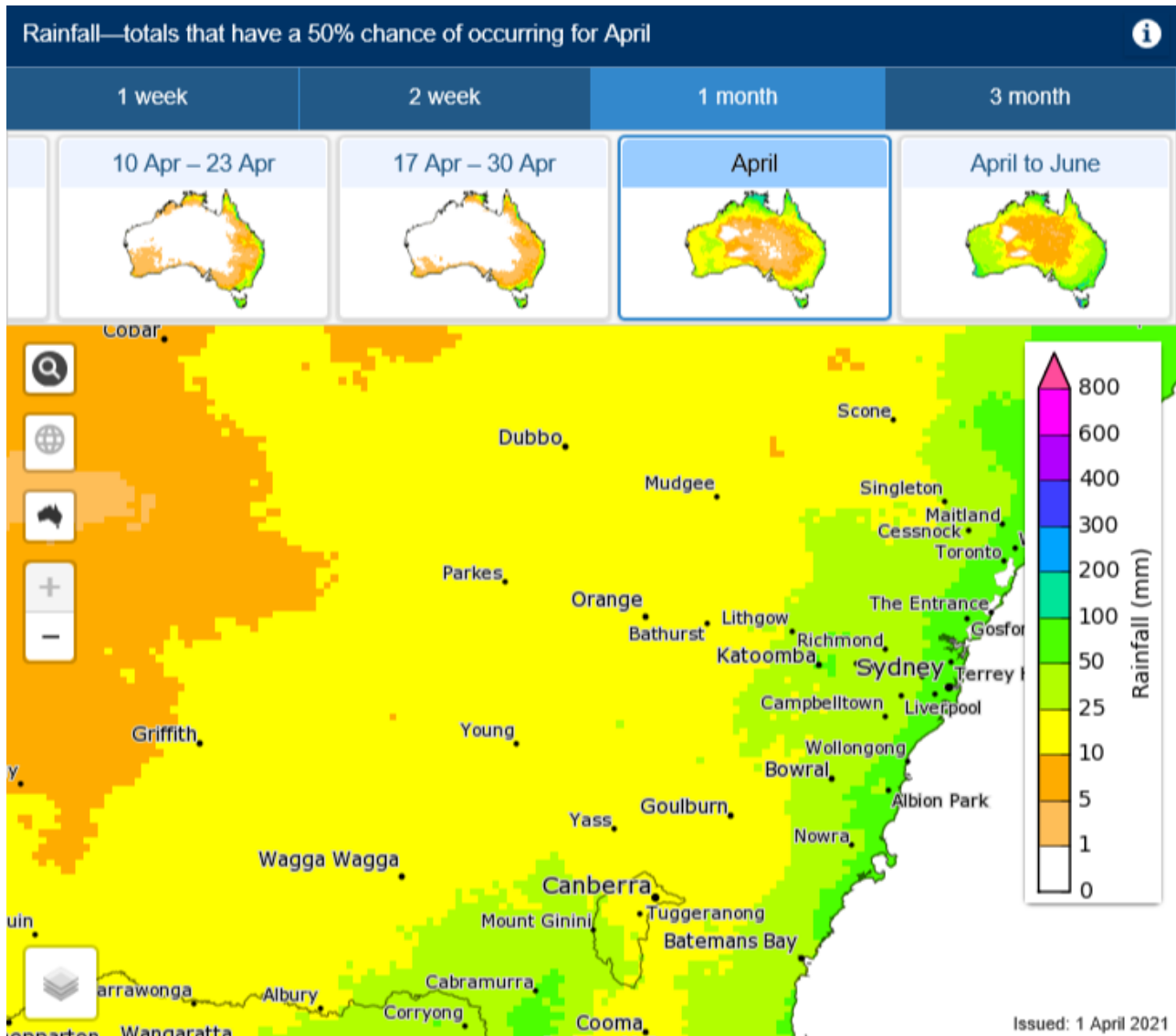


WaterNSW supplies raw, untreated water from our dams to the Sydney's water filtration plants below:

Filtration Plant	Monthly Supply (ML)	Average Daily Supply (ML)
Cascade	321	10
Illawarra	2570	83
Macarthur	2558	83
Nepean	466	15
North Richmond	530	17
Orchard Hills	1934	62
Prospect	31389	1013
Warragamba	96	3
Woronora	1369	44
TOTAL	41233	1330

Forecast

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, the remainder of April is likely to be neither wetter nor drier than usual for Sydney's catchment areas. BOM forecast rainfall amounts are shown below:



For more information on weather in NSW please visit the BoM <http://www.bom.gov.au/nsw/>

More Information

WaterNSW is a state-owned corporation established under the *Water NSW Act 2014* and operates under an Operating License issued and monitored by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

WaterNSW operate the state's rivers and water supply systems in accordance with the rules set out by regulators. With more than 40 dams across the state, we supply two-thirds of water used in NSW to regional towns, irrigators, Sydney Water Corporation and local water utilities. We also own and operate the largest surface and groundwater monitoring network in the southern hemisphere and build, maintain and operate essential infrastructure.

The Greater Sydney system includes 15 major dams that are interconnected by a complex system of rivers, weirs, canals and pipelines. WaterNSW manages this system in the most efficient way to provide the best quality raw water to our customers, whilst also ensuring long-term security of supply is maintained for the future.

Warragamba Dam is the largest dam in the system and provides around 80% of Sydney's water supply. When the total system storage falls below 75%, WaterNSW can transfer water from the Shoalhaven system into the Upper Nepean Dams or Warragamba Dam.

The total system storage for Greater Sydney (all our Dams combined):
2,581,850 ML (approximately 2 600 GL)

1 Kilotitre (KL) = 1000 litres

1 Megalitre (ML) = 1000 Kilotitres

1 Gigalitre (GL) = 1000 Megalitres

For more information, or to view our daily and weekly Greater Sydney catchment updates, please visit our website at <https://www.waternsw.com.au/greatersydney>