

# Greater Sydney Operations Report

September 2021

## Contents

Key messages .....	3
Storage Levels .....	4
Rainfall.....	5
Inflows .....	6
Environmental releases .....	7
Water supplied to our customers.....	7
Forecast .....	9
More Information.....	10

## Key messages

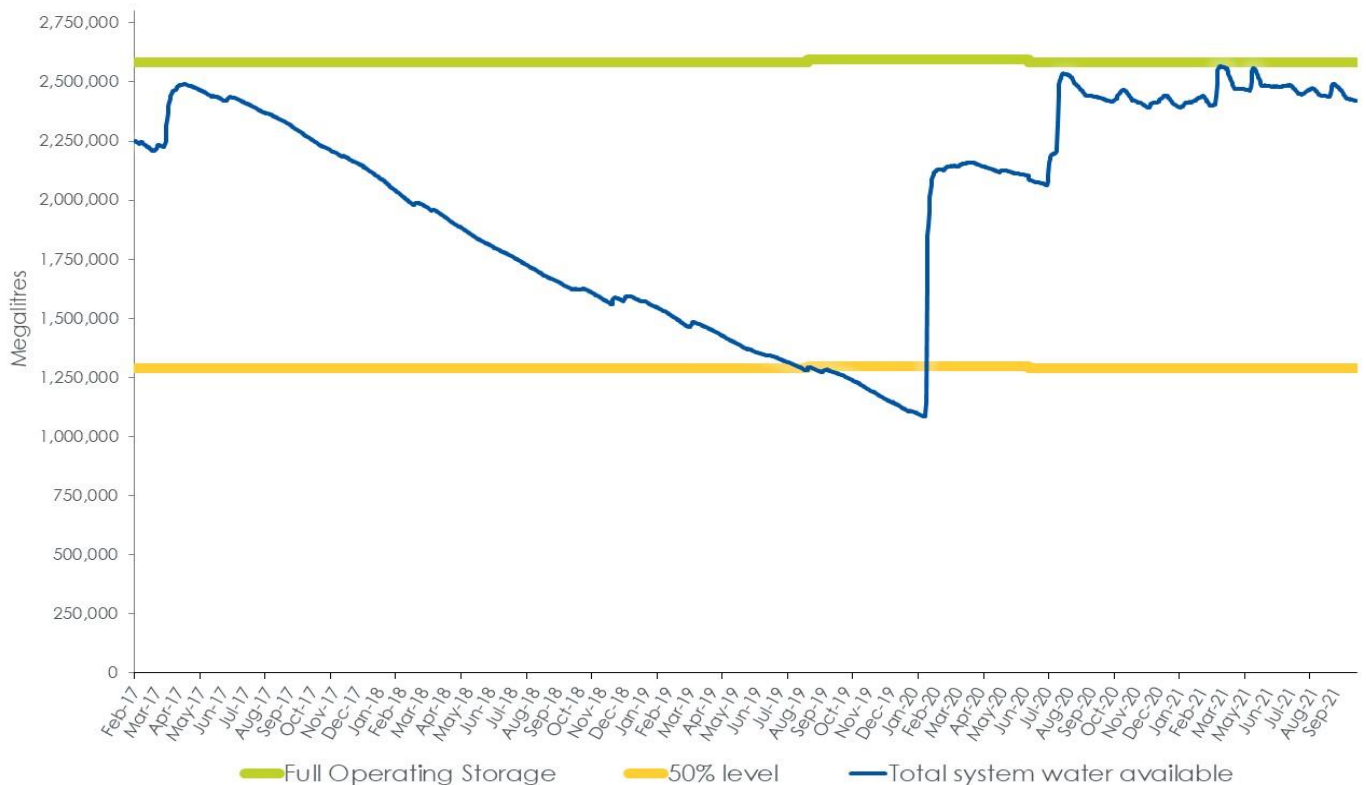
- As at 30 September 2021, the total available water held in Greater Sydney storages was **93.8%**, a decrease of 2.6 % from the previous month.
- The Greater Sydney catchments experienced below average rainfall for the month of September.
- Approximately 122 GL of water flowed into our dams this month compared to 85 GL for the same time last year. Due to high autumn rainfall, our total inflow this calendar year has reached 3,899 GL, which is already 57% more than 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 June 2022 at the earliest.



## Storage Levels

As at Thursday 30 September 2021 the total available water held in Greater Sydney storages was **93.8%**, a decrease of 2.6% from the previous month. For more information on Greater Sydney Dam levels please visit [www.watensw.com.au/sydneydamlevels](http://www.watensw.com.au/sydneydamlevels)

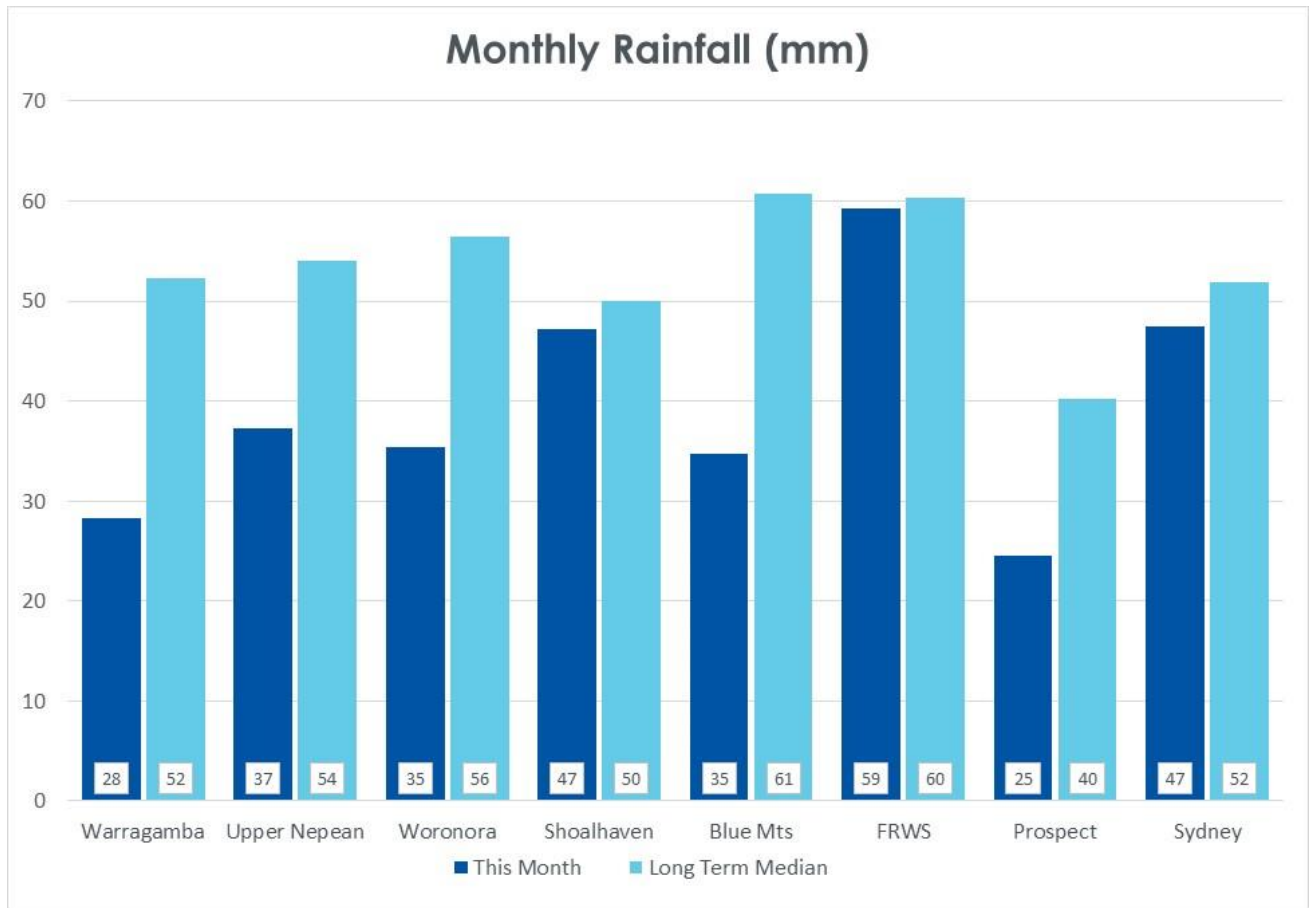
**Available storage 93.8% on 30 September 2021**



Storage	Capacity (ML)	Thursday 30 September 2021			Tuesday 31 August 2021		
		Level (m)	Available (ML)	Available (%)	Level (m)	Available (ML)	Available (%)
Cataract	97,190	-3.94	67,496	69.4	-3.02	74,060	76.2
Cordeaux	93,640	-1.06	85,621	91.4	-1.08	85,548	91.4
Avon	146,700	-1.22	134,041	91.4	-0.98	136,471	93.0
Nepean	67,730	-2.52	60,020	88.6	-2.22	60,926	90.0
Woronora	71,790	-4.59	56,153	78.2	-4.10	57,638	80.3
Warragamba	2,027,000	-1.02	1,951,338	96.3	-0.24	2,006,387	99.0
Prospect	33,330	-0.53	30,564	91.7	-0.50	30,716	92.2
Wingecarribee	24,130	-1.00	19,842	82.2	-0.73	20,978	86.9
Fitzroy Falls	9,950	-0.88	5,788	58.2	-0.60	7,187	72.2
Tallowa	7,500	0.04	7,500	100.0	0.17	7,500	100.0
Blue Mountains	2,890	-	2,165	74.9	-	2,299	79.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,581,850</b>		<b>2,420,528</b>	<b>93.8</b>		<b>2,489,710</b>	<b>96.4</b>

## Rainfall

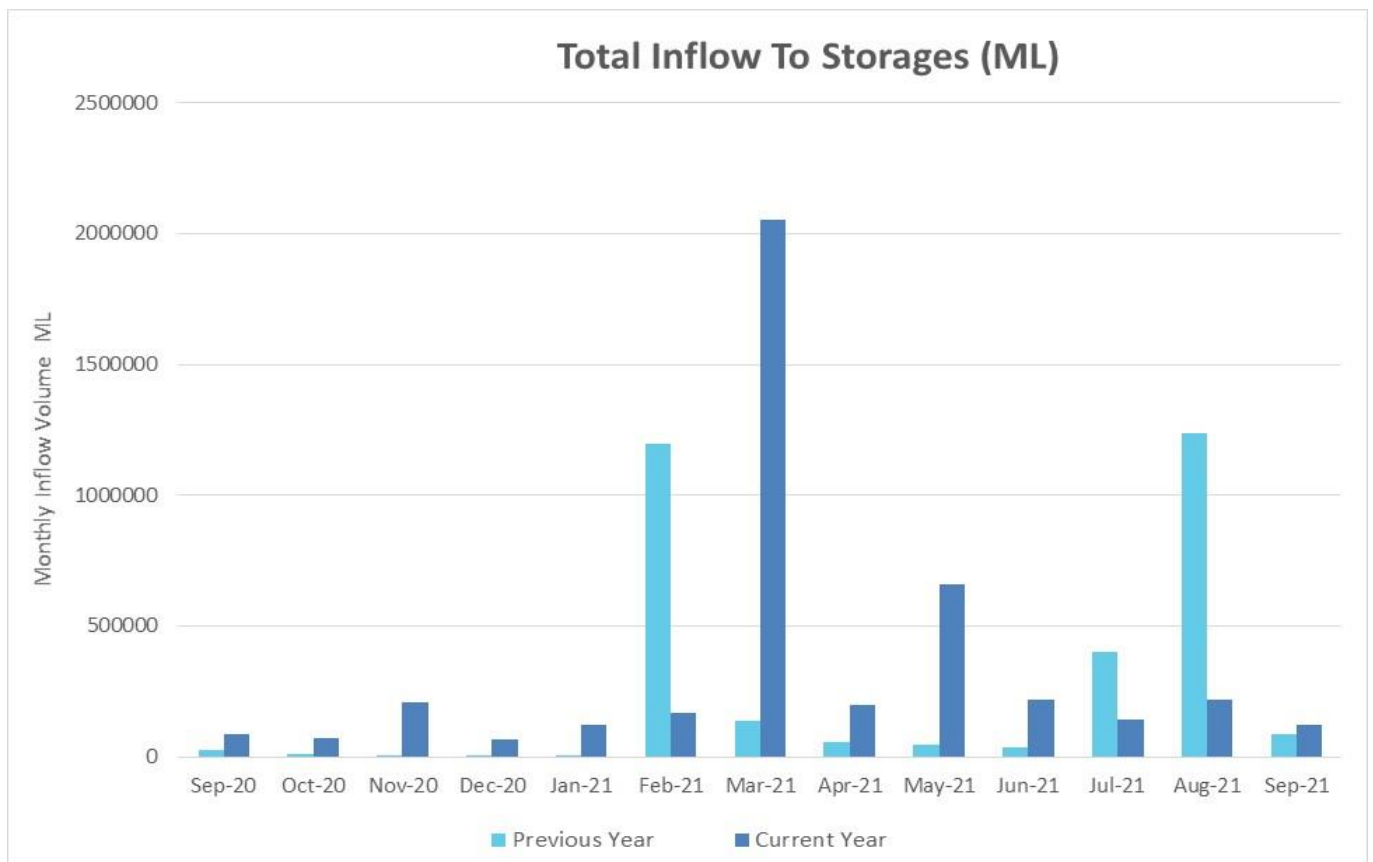
During September 2021, rainfall was below the long-term median for the month of September.



## Inflows

Sydney storages received minor inflows during September 2021. However, after only 9 months into the calendar year, the inflow for Warragamba has surpassed its long-term average annual inflow by 74%.

Monthly Inflow (ML)	Warragamba	Upper Nepean	Woronora	Tallowa	TOTAL
	63,467	2,912	165	55,789	122,332

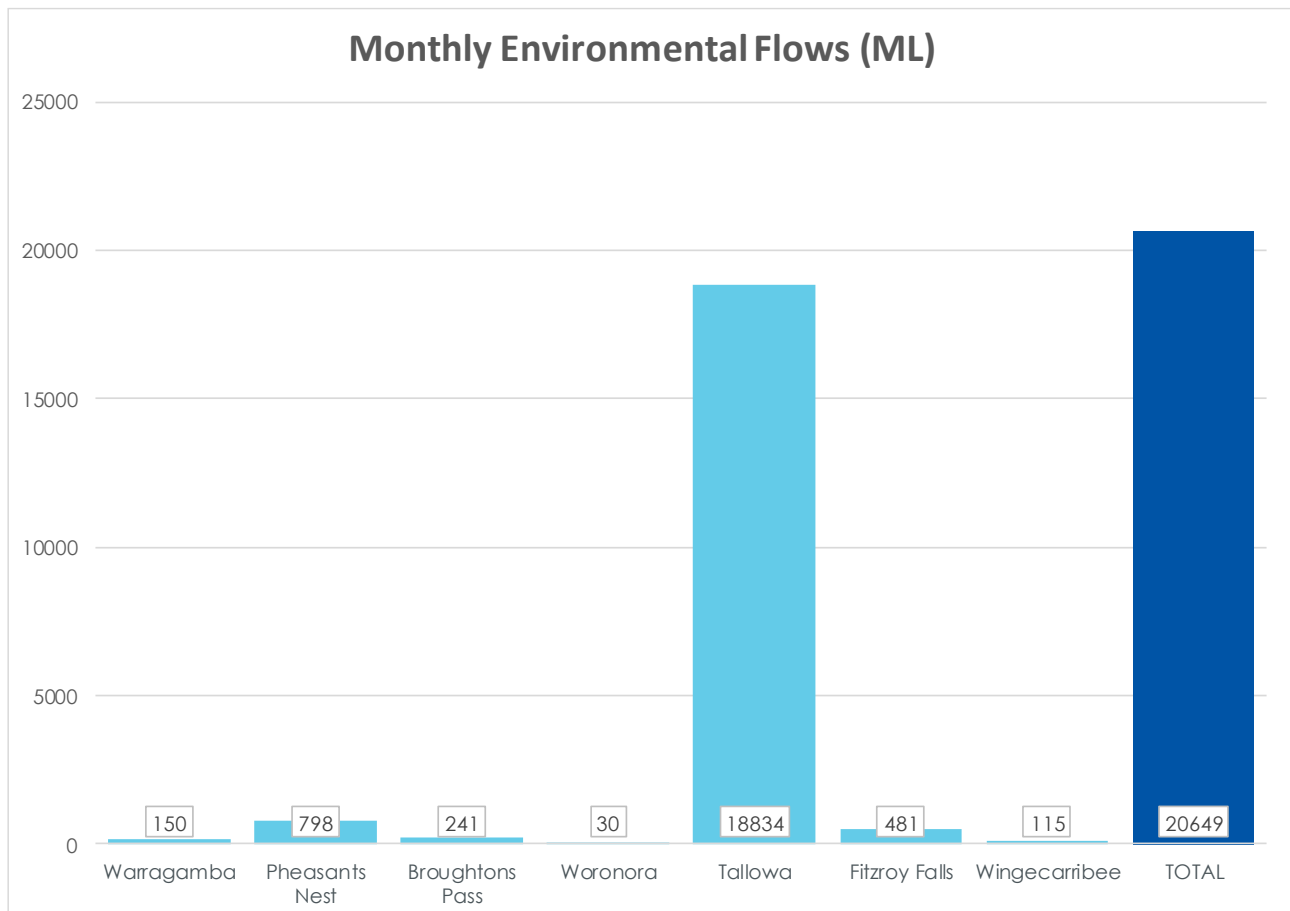


Calendar Year	Warragamba Inflow (ML)	Upper Nepean Inflow (ML)	Woronora Inflow (ML)	Tallowa Inflow (ML)	TOTAL
Average Annual	1,069,000	316,000	30,000	1,071,000	2,486,000
2018	103,234	32,199	2,433	136,559	274,425
2019	50,350	35,828	2,755	78,024	166,956
2020	1,745,619	276,838	34,570	1,487,432	3,544,459
<b>2021 to 30 Sep</b>	<b>1,857,617</b>	<b>251,628</b>	<b>15,480</b>	<b>1,773,911</b>	<b>3,898,636</b>

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

## Environmental releases

During September, a total of 20,649 ML was released from Sydney water sources for the environment.

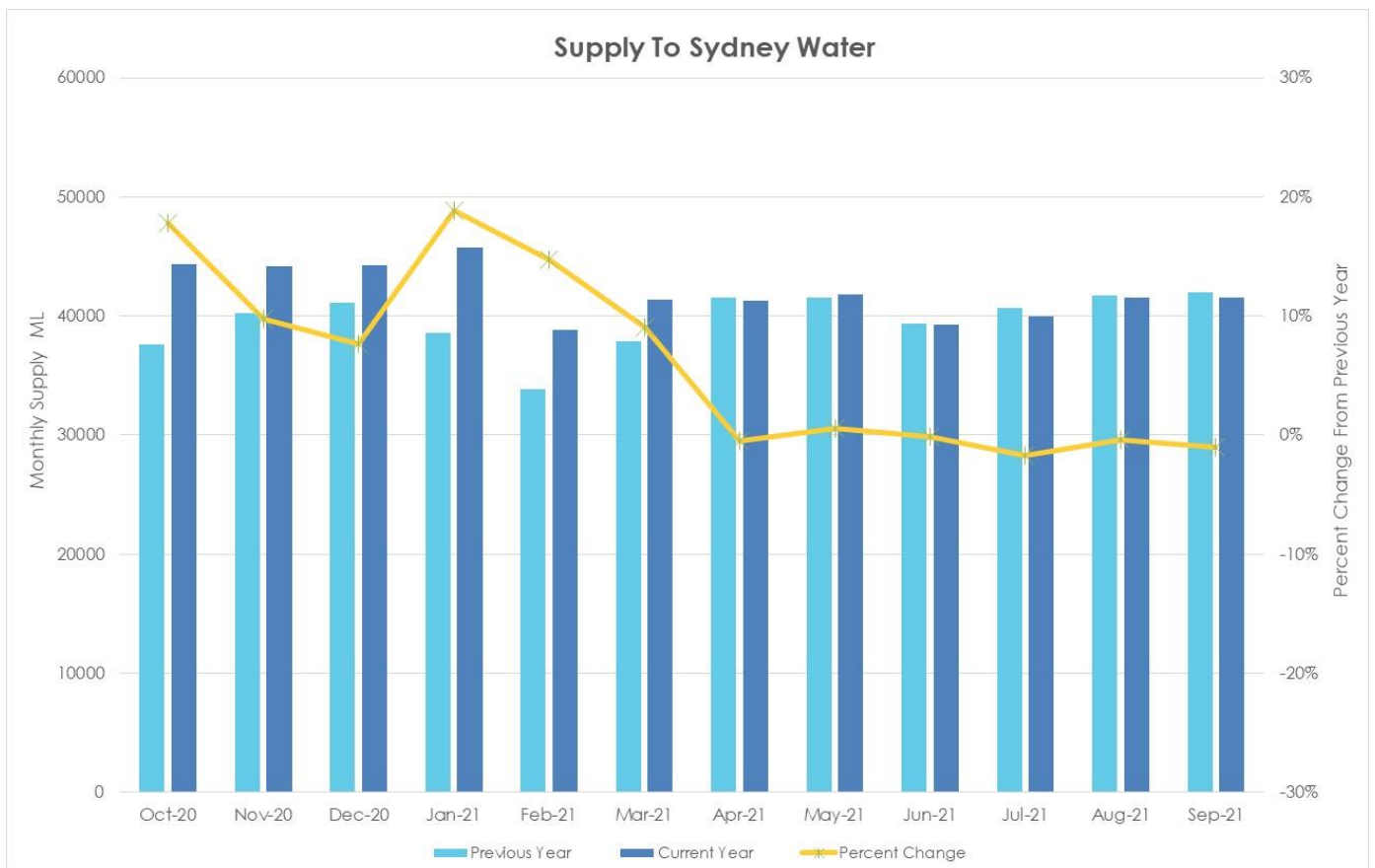


## Water supplied to our customers

In the Greater Sydney area, WaterNSW supplies raw water to over 60 customers including Sydney Water Corporation, Wingecarribee 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 41,553ML with a daily average supply of 1,385ML/D, which is slightly less than this time last year.



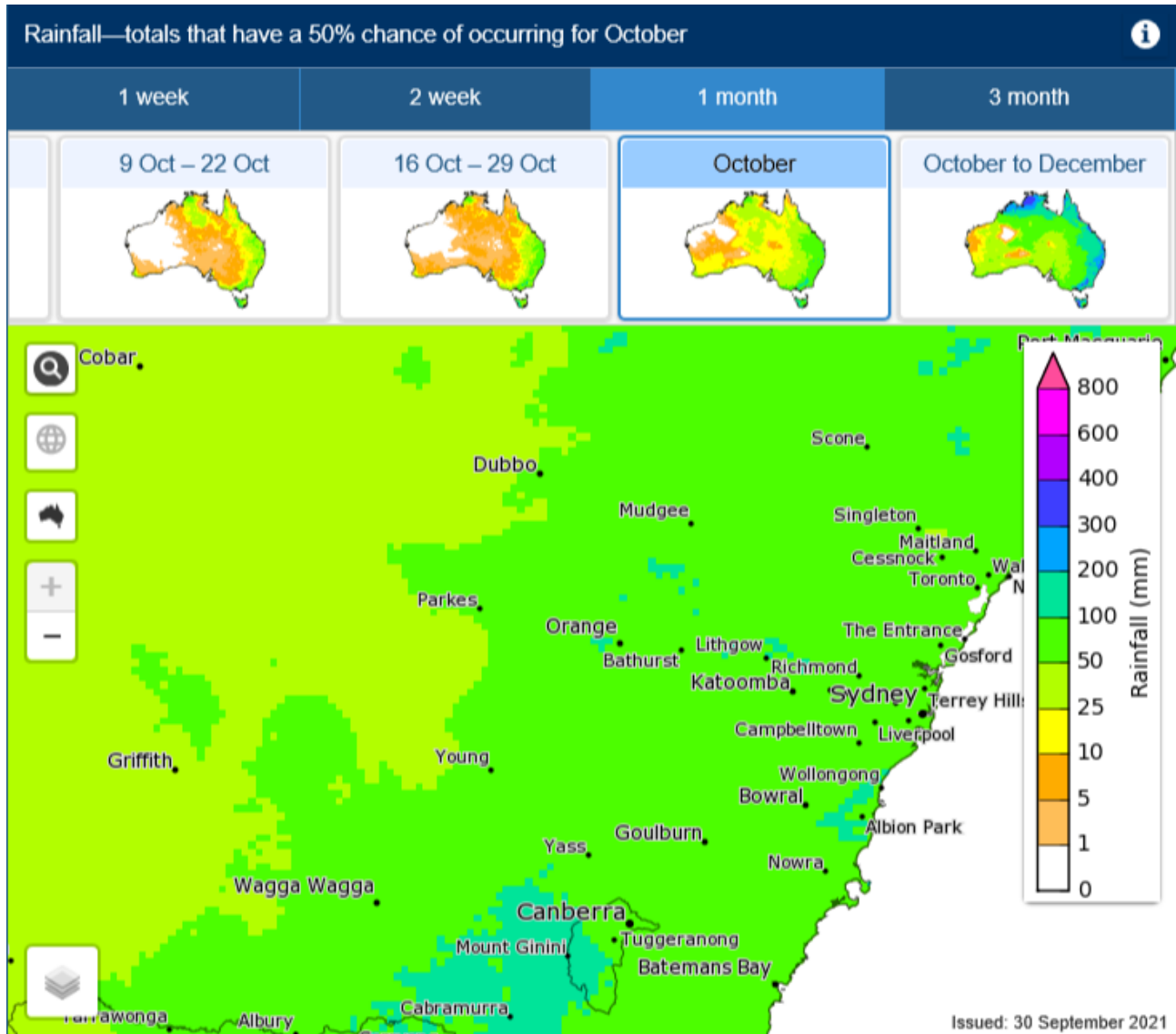
WaterNSW supplies raw, untreated water from our dams to the water filtration plants below:

Filtration Plant	Monthly Supply (ML)	Average Daily Supply (ML)
Cascade	373	12
Illawarra	2532	84
Macarthur	2636	88
Nepean	388	13
North Richmond	589	20
Orchard Hills	2033	68
Prospect	31435	1048
Warragamba	117	4
Woronora	1450	48
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41553</b>	<b>1385</b>



## Forecast

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, the remainder of October and the month of November are likely to be wetter than average 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>