



Media Statement

07 August 2008

Gnangara levels continue annual improvement trend

The Gnangara mound levels have continued to improve for the second month on last year's averages, the Department of Water's monitoring program has revealed.

The latest July figures, released last week, showed an across mound average improvement of 16cm or 160mm compared to the same time last year.

Gnangara mound levels for the month of June 2008 showed that there had been an average improvement of 9cm or 90mm across the mound compared to the figures of June 2007.

This average is created from measurements taken from 50 bores across Perth's major source of drinking water.

The department's director of water resource use, Rob Hammond, said the improved levels were significant in that they indicated that average rains were making their way into the aquifer system.

"The levels of the Gnangara mound – which supplies 60 per cent of the metropolitan area's drinking water – indicate that improved annual rainfall for the months of April and July may have assisted in the improved levels," Mr Hammond said.

"It is the second month in a row that the levels have climbed after reaching an all time low since records were kept."

But Mr Hammond also warned that levels were still quite low and that it was no reason for complacency in drawing on the Gnangara water source.

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