

Extension of temporary suspension of processing plant operations

14 April 2011

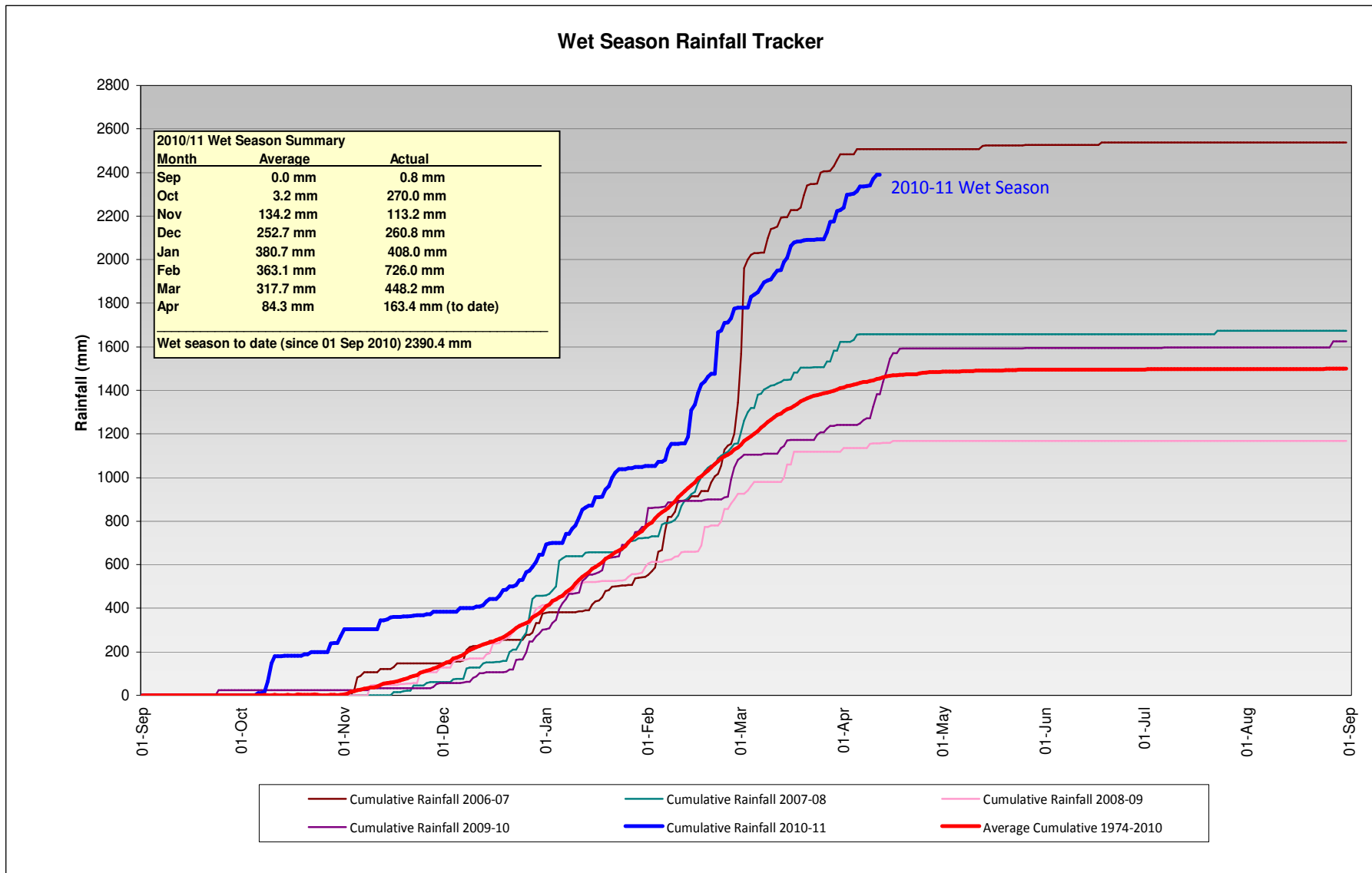
Los Angeles, USA.



Extension of temporary suspension of process plant operations

- On 28 January 2011 ERA commenced an orderly suspension of plant processing operations, for a period of 12 weeks as a precautionary measure to ensure that levels in the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) remained below the authorised operating limit.
- The TSF remains below the authorised operating limit but total process water inventory at Ranger has recently exceeded the level at which operations are able to re-commence.
- ERA announced on 12 April 2011 that it will extend the suspension of processing plant operations until late July to allow the total process water inventory at Ranger mine to reduce. This is highly dependant on future rainfall.
- ERA has advised regulatory authorities and key stakeholders daily on TSF levels.
- Due to the large volume of pond water currently in Pit 3, mining operations in the pit have recently ceased and will resume on the upper benches when the water level recedes.
- ERA does not expect to obtain access to the high grade ore at the bottom of Pit 3 until at least late 2011.
- ERA is commissioning additional pond water treatment capacity to expedite access to the bottom of Pit 3.

Rainfall tracker



Pit 3 – dry season 2010



Pit 3 – 12 April

