

6 September 2016

Gwydir Valley Water allocation update – to end August 2016

Allocations

Sufficient resources are available to announce an **additional allocation of 18.51 per cent of entitlement for general security** licence holders in the Gwydir Valley.

This brings the total allocation for the 2016/17 water year to 20.70 per cent of entitlement.

Significant rainfall across the upper catchments area during the past month has caused Copeton Dam to increase to 30 per cent of capacity, a 10 per cent rise since 1 August 2016.

	High Security	General Security
Gwydir Valley	100%	20.70%

Key facts

- Delivery of all existing commitments is guaranteed for the 2016/17 water year.
- Until there is further improvement, effluent streams (Mehi River, Moomin and Carole Creeks) are expected to require a block release strategy consisting of two limited periods of access for general security water. This will continue to be reviewed as conditions improve.
- Water user groups will continue to be consulted about their water requirements to ensure that targeted deliveries can meet priority needs.

Dam levels (end of August)

Copeton Dam is 30 per cent full – rising - holding 414,630 megalitres (ML), at the end of August, compared to about 315 GL (22 per cent full) at the same time last year.

Seasonal rainfall outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) climate outlook for spring (September to November 2016) indicates the chances of a wetter or drier spring are about equal. October is likely to be wetter in localised areas. Warmer spring days and nights are likely across western fringes and the eastern catchments have roughly equal chances of warmer or cooler spring days.

The current outlook reflects a weakening negative Indian Ocean Dipole and tropical Pacific Ocean temperatures potentially approaching La Niña thresholds.

Further information

The next monthly Water Allocation Statement for the Gwydir regulated river water source is scheduled for **Friday 7 October 2016**.

DPI Water website - www.water.nsw.gov.au

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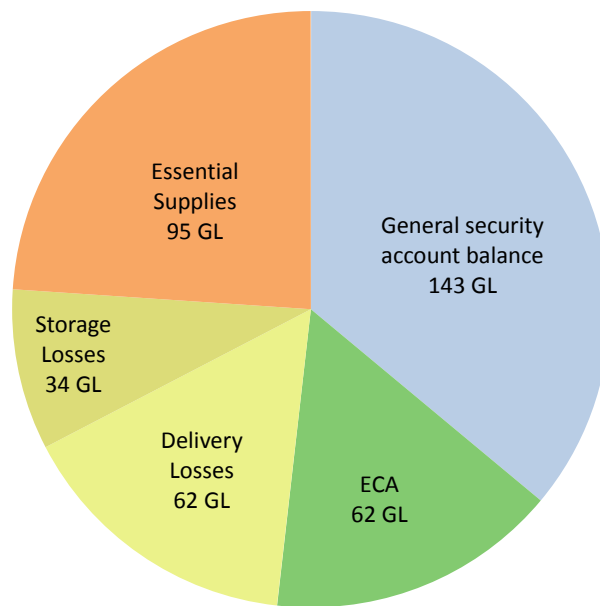
www.water.nsw.gov.au

Gwydir Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as end August) for 2016-17	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	395.63
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	34.44
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	94.72 (100%)
ECA	62.34 (69%)
Delivery Losses	61.50 (100%)
General Security Account Balance	142.64

*See notes below.

**Resource Distribution Sep 2016 to Jun 2017
Gwydir Valley**



Total = 396 GL

Notes:

- (1) Available Resource (396 GL) – is total active storage at Copeton Dam at the time of assessment.
- (2) Storage Losses – evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour over 2 years.
- (3) Essential Supplies – water required to be set aside under water sharing plans to provide for Towns, Stock, Domestic, High Security and riverine environments. Includes stock and domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. This commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows into the storages.

Gwydir resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 31 July 2016
- Current Assessment date: 31 August 2016

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total		414.63
Dead storage	19.00	395.63
Storage Loss Committed (projected 2 years)	25.98	369.64

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	94.72	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-0.40	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	0.00	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	0.00	
Current balance	94.32	275.32

Environmental Contingency Allowance (ECA)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	54.01	
Orders from assessment period	0.00	
Current balance	54.01	221.31

General Security Irrigation	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	48.30	
Orders from assessment period	0.00	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to Low Security	0.00	
Reconciliation of accounts	0.00	
Current balance	48.30	173.01

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	30.69	
Losses since last assessment	0.00	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.00	
Current balance	30.69	142.33

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		0.00
Essential Supply Loss	99%	0.00
General Security + ECA Loss	1%	0.00

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	142.33

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
		GL	GL	
Storage Loss	34.44	25.98	8.45	34.44
Essential Supplies	94.72	94.32	0.40	94.72
Delivery Loss	256.35	30.69	30.81	61.50
ECA	90.00	54.01	8.33	62.34
General Security Irrigation	764.50	48.30	94.34	142.64
Uncommitted resources	-	142.33	-142.33	0.00
Total	-	395.63	0.00	395.63

Recommendations (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	94.34	GL
Available Water Determination	0.1851	ML per unit share