



11 April 2017

Lachlan Valley

Water availability and allocation update

Allocations

There is sufficient water available in the Lachlan regulated river water source to **increase allocation to general security licences by five per cent, bringing the total allocation for general security water users so far in the 2016/17 water year to 129 per cent of entitlement.**

Wyangala Dam received 13,700 megalitres of inflow during March 2017. Storage levels have remained steady since the last assessment at approximately 88 per cent of capacity; however, downstream tributary flows and storages have added to the resource improvement.

General security water users are reminded that the **Annual Use Limit** that will apply in the 2017/18 water year will be a volume equivalent to **100 per cent of entitlement**, plus any adjustments up or down for trade.

	High Security	General Security	Average Carryover
Lachlan valley	100%	129%	0%*

* Due to physical spill and reset of accounts 5 August 2016

Dam releases

The main irrigation season has now finished. It is unlikely that any annual Stock and Domestic (S&D) replenishment flows will be delivered during the remainder of the 2016/17 water year; however, tributary flows from may be available to top up these systems.

Dam levels (as at 10 April 2017)

- Wyangala Dam was 88 per cent full – steady - holding 1,073,000 megalitres (ML).
- Lake Cargelligo was 112 per cent full (40,000 ML).
- Lake Brewster was 77 per cent full (112,000 ML).

Climate outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has forecast likely drier than average conditions in the Lachlan Valley during the three month period April to June 2017.

The current outlook is influenced by warming of tropical Pacific sea surface temperatures, a cooler than average eastern Indian Ocean, and some cooling of the Coral Sea.

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www.water.nsw.gov.au

Next announcements

The next Water Allocation Statement is scheduled for June 2017. However resource availability will continue to be closely monitored and any significant resource improvements before then will be announced.

Further information

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

Lachlan Resource Assessment Data Sheet

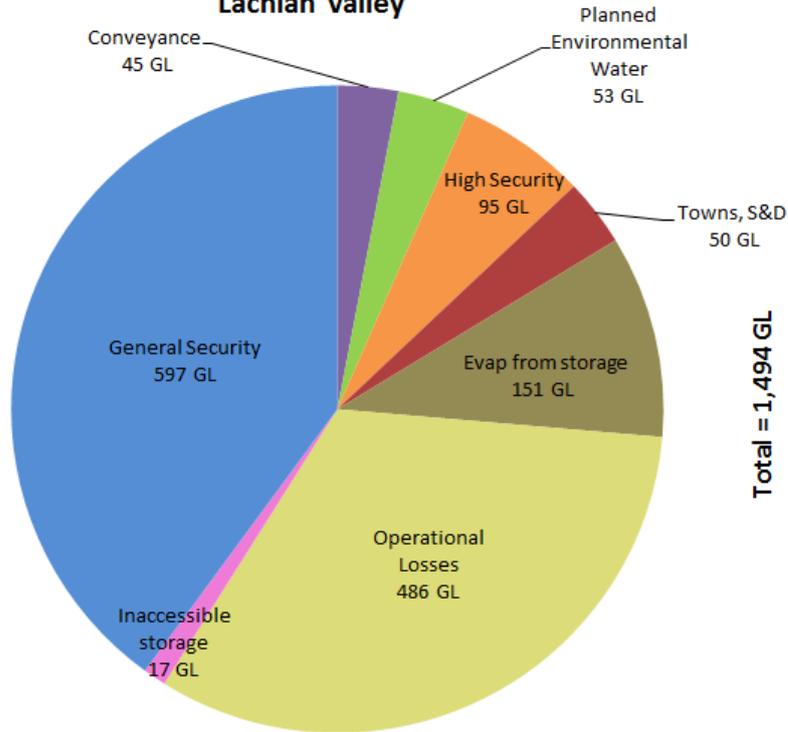
Resource Distribution: April 2017 to May 2019		
	Volume (GL)	
Total Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	1,494	
less		
General Security	597 (129%)	
Carryover remaining in accounts ⁽²⁾	0	
Conveyance	45	
Planned Environmental Water ⁽³⁾	53	
High Security ⁽⁴⁾	95 (100% + trade in)	
Towns, Stock, Domestic ⁽⁴⁾	50 (100%)	
Evaporation from storage ⁽⁵⁾	151	
Operational Losses (transmission, operations) ⁽⁶⁾	486	Total demand
Inaccessible storage	17	1,494

Notes:

- (1) Total available resource: End of March storage volume in Wyangala Dam, Lake Cargelligo and Lake Brewster, flows in transit for April and minimum forecast inflows from 1 May.
- (2) Carryover remaining in accounts: Zero following account reset.
- (3) Planned environmental water: water allocated to the Water Quality Allowance and/or the Environmental Contingency Allowances under the water sharing plan. Excludes 'licence-based' environmental water.
- (4) Towns, Stock, Domestic and High Security: reserves are set aside to meet 100% of entitlement through to 31st May 2019.
- (5) It is assessed that the lakes are likely to be drawn down slowly in the current water year and will hold significant water until next summer, increasing storage evaporation.
- (6) 'Operational Losses': best estimate of the volume required to run the river under dry conditions over the next 26 months to meet all demands. This mostly comprises natural transmission losses as water soaks into the river bed sands. This volume includes S&D replenishment flows in autumn 2018 and 2019. It is assumed that current tributary inflows will return to dry conditions from 1 April. This loss allowance is regularly refined as the year unfolds.

Resource Distribution April 2017 to May 2019

Lachlan Valley



Supply Distribution

