

7 June 2017

Gwydir Valley

Water allocation update – to end May 2017

Allocations

Gwydir Valley general security water licence holders have received a **small increase in allocation of 0.79 per cent, bringing the total allocation for general security water users in 2016/17 to 78.63 per cent of entitlement.**

This increase in allocation is the result of inflows into Keepit Dam from rainfall events in the last week of May 2017.

All other categories of licence in the valley have already received their maximum allocation for the 2016-17 water year.

	High Security	General Security
Gwydir valley	100%	78.63%

Dam levels (as at 5 June)

Copeton Dam is 47 per cent full – rising – and holding 652,390 megalitres (ML). This time last year the storage was 16 per cent full.

Key facts

- The storage volume in Copeton Dam increased by around 5,700 ML during May 2017.
- All available water in General Security (GS) and Environment Contingency Accounts (ECA) is expected to be carried over into the new water year, equating to about 60 per cent for GS and 155 per cent for ECA.
- Irrigation deliveries in the coming water year are forecast to commence in late September to early October 2017, although there may be some minor environmental and High Security (HS) deliveries before then.
- If dry conditions continue to persist in the months ahead, a block release strategy may need to be considered to extend longevity of critical water supplies.

Seasonal rainfall outlook

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, the valley is likely to be drier than average in the three months from June to August, with warmer than average daytime temperatures.

The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains neutral, with the Bureau indicating around a 50 per cent chance of El Niño developing in 2017 – double the normal likelihood. However, several indicators have shown little or no increase for several weeks, suggesting El Niño development has stalled for now.

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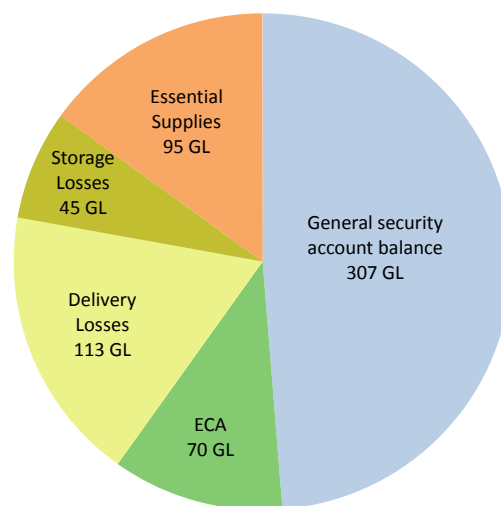
www.water.nsw.gov.au

Gwydir Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution as at 31 May 2017	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	630.96
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	45.07
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	94.72 (100% full)
ECA	70.41
Delivery Losses	113.35
General Security Account Balance	307.42

*See notes below.

Resource Distribution as at 31 May 2017 Gwydir Valley



Total = 630 GL

Notes:

- (1) Available Resource: is the total active storage at Copeton Dam at the time of assessment.
- (2) Storage Losses: evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and maximum historical evaporation rates over 2 years.
- (3) Essential Supplies: water required to be set aside under the water sharing plan 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 storage.

Further information

The next allocation announcement for the Gwydir regulated river water source will be the announcement of opening allocations for the 2017-18 water year that will be issued for all NSW valleys on **Monday 3 July 2017**.

Information on Available Water Determinations and water sharing plans is available on the DPI Water website - www.water.nsw.gov.au

Gwydir resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 30 April 2017
- Current Assessment date: 31 May 2017

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total		649.96
Dead storage	19.00	630.96
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	44.84	586.13

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	94.72	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-0.39	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	0.00	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	0.00	
Current balance	94.33	491.79

Environmental Contingency Allowance (ECA)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	70.05	
Orders from assessment period	0.00	
Current balance	70.05	421.74

General Security Irrigation	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	303.56	
Orders from assessment period	-0.17	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to Low Security	0.00	
Reconciliation of accounts	0.00	
Current balance	303.39	118.35

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	112.08	
Losses since last assessment	0.00	

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.00	
Current balance	112.08	6.27

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		0.00
Essential Supply Loss	70%	0.00
General Security + ECA Loss	30%	0.00

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	6.27

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
	GL	GL	GL	GL
Storage Loss	45.07	44.84	0.23	45.07
Essential Supplies	94.72	94.33	0.39	94.72
Delivery Loss	256.35	112.08	1.27	113.35
ECA	90.00	70.05	0.36	70.41
General Security Irrigation	764.50	303.39	4.03	307.42
Uncommitted resources	-	6.27	-6.27	0.00
Total	-	630.96	0.00	630.96

Recommendations (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	4.03	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0079	ML per unit share