

7 August 2017

Namoi Valley

Water allocation update

Allocations

Rainfall towards the end of June produced inflows to both upper storages in the Namoi Valley, even though July was mostly dry. As a result, the **Lower Namoi general security water allocation has increased from zero to 7.08 per cent of entitlement.**

All other licence categories in the Lower and Upper Namoi valleys have already received their maximum allocation for the 2017/18 water year.

	High Security	General Security
Upper Namoi valley	100%	100%
Lower Namoi valley	100%	7.08%

Dam levels (as at 7 August)

- Keepit Dam is 68 per cent full – rising – holding 289,920 megalitres (ML), compared to 27 per cent full at the same time last year.
- Split Rock Dam is 30 per cent full – steady – holding 123,000 ML, compared to 6 per cent full at the same time last year.

Key facts

- Essential supplies are secure for 2018/19.
- Inflows from the Peel Valley are contributing to flows and riverine health along the length of the river to Walgett.
- Irrigation releases will be made commensurate with water orders throughout the main growing season.
- Despite the current dry conditions, a return to block release strategies is not anticipated in the foreseeable future.

Seasonal rainfall outlook

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, the valley is likely to experience near average rainfall from August to October, with warmer than average temperatures.

The Bureau of Meteorology advises that currently the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) remain neutral. Local influences such as sea surface temperatures, changes in the location and strength of the subtropical ridge and soil moisture levels are likely to be affecting this outlook. Additionally, an increasing long-

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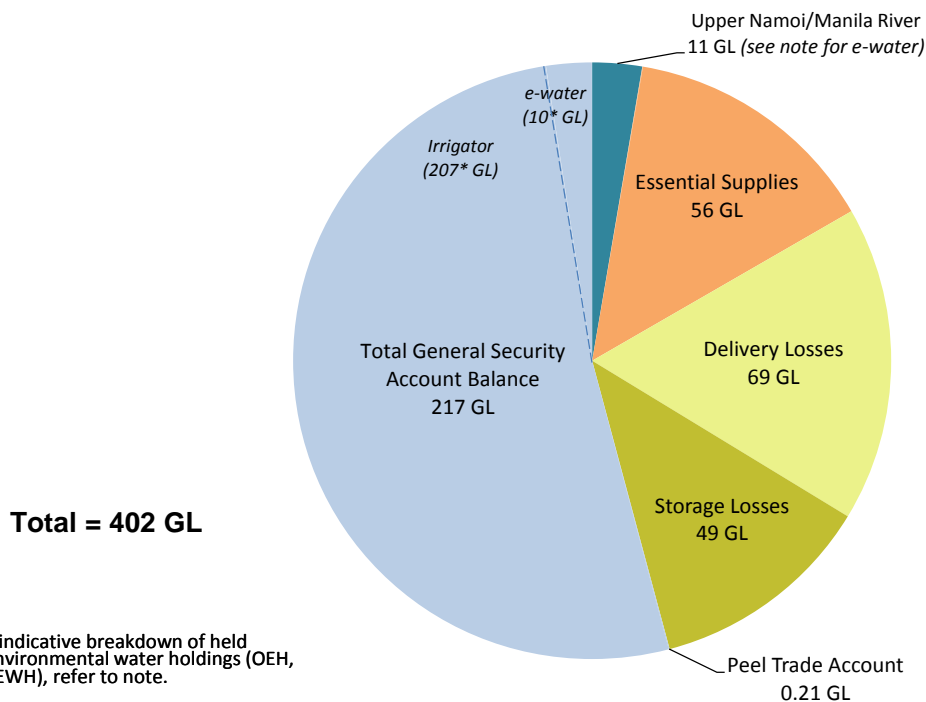
term trend in global air and ocean temperatures is also influencing Australia's climate patterns.

Namoi Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 31 July 2017)	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	401.59
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	48.64
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	56.00
General Security Account Balance ^{(4),(5)}	217.32
Upper Namoi/Manilla River accounts ⁽⁴⁾	10.90
Peel Trade Account ⁽⁶⁾	0.21
Delivery Loss Account	68.52

****See notes below.**

Resource Distribution as at 31 July 2017 Namoi Valley



Notes:

- (1) Available Resource (402 GL): includes total active storage (Split Rock & Keepit Dams).
- (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 water sharing plans to provide for Towns, Stock & Domestic, High Security and riverine environments. Includes Gunidgera/Pian stock and domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. This commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows into the storages.

- (4) Held environmental water (HEW) – as a trial, general security account water administered by environmental water holders has been identified in the above pie chart. This reporting of held environmental water is indicative only and, prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade, is estimated to be about 10 GL in the Lower Namoi and 0.11 GL in the Upper Namoi. These entitlements are held and/or managed either singly or jointly by various environmental water holder groups, including the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH). Interested parties should refer to individual Agency websites for more detailed information on held environmental holdings.
- (5) The opening Water Allocation statement published on 1 July 2017 incorrectly related the average carryover to the account limit rather than entitlement. The correct carryover amount is therefore 81% rather than the 41% published on 1 July 2017. The average carryover volume is unchanged.
- (6) Peel Trade Account: the Peel water sharing plan, at Clause 86(4), provides for limited allocation assignment (temporary trade) from the Peel to the Namoi valleys. It requires a volume to be set aside in Keepit resources equal to the AWD times 3,000 to support trade from the Peel valley. The trade account balance reduces as trade water is released from storage. The account increases with increases to Lower Namoi general security allocation. The current account balance is 210 ML.

Further information

The next allocation announcement for the Namoi regulated river water source will be issued on **Thursday 7 September 2017**.

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

Namoi resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 13 June 2017
- Current Assessment date: 31 July 2017

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total (Split Rock plus Keepit)		411.29
Dead storage	9.70	401.59
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	47.45	354.15

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	67.20	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-4.34	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	0.00	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	0.00	
Current balance	62.86	291.29

Upper Namoi/Manilla Rivers	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	1.67	
Ordered since last assessment	0.00	
Allocation Assignments from Upper Namoi to Lower Namoi	-0.59	
Current balance	1.08	290.21

General Security (D/S Keepit)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	200.23	
Orders since assessment period	-0.72	
Allocation Assignments into Lower Namoi (from HS & Upper Namoi & Peel Trade)	0.59	
Current balance	200.11	90.10

Peel Trade Account	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	0.00	
Trade to general security since last assessment	0.00	
Current balance	0.00	90.10

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	60.57	
Apparent losses since last assessment	0.00	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.00	
Current balance	60.36	29.74

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		0.00
Essential Supply Loss	86%	0.00
General Security Loss	14%	0.00

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	29.74

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
		GL	GL	
Storage Loss	48.64	47.45	1.19	48.64
Essential Supplies	56.00	62.86	-6.86	56.00
Upper Namoi / Manilla River	10.90	1.08	9.82	10.90
Delivery Loss	150.94	60.36	8.16	68.52
General Security Irrigation	493.40	200.11	17.21	217.32
Peel Trade Account	0.21	0.00	0.21	0.21
Uncommitted resources	-	29.74	-29.74	0.00
Total	-	401.59	0.00	401.59

Recommendations Upper Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	9.82*	GL
Available Water Determination	1.00*	ML per unit share

Recommendations Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	17.21	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0708	ML per unit share

* This has already been allocated as of 1 July 2017.