

9 April 2018

## Gwydir Valley

### Water allocation update

#### Allocations

The Gwydir regulated river general security allocation **remains unchanged at 17.59 per cent of entitlement**. Rainfall was limited in the catchment during March, with Copeton Dam receiving just 23mm during the month. Inflows were insufficient to provide any increase in allocation.

All other categories of licence in the regulated river valley have already received their maximum allocation for the 2017/18 water year.

	High Security	General Security
Gwydir Valley	100%	17.59%

#### Dam levels (as at 9 April)

Copeton Dam is approximately 29 per cent full – falling – holding around 408,000 megalitres (ML). This time last year the storage was about 46 per cent full.

#### Key facts

- The volume in Copeton Dam has decreased by 4,300 ML since the last assessment, mostly due to releases to meet downstream essential supply demand.
- Irrigation demand has now reduced, but environmental water delivery is expected in April/May.
- Significant demand is not expected through winter; however, should there be some demand for winter crops as a result of dry weather, these will be delivered in conjunction with stock & domestic and/or replenishment flows.
- If there are no significant inflows in coming months, a block release strategy will be used next season to maximise water delivery efficiencies.

#### Seasonal rainfall outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting equal likelihood of above or below median rainfall conditions during April to June for the catchment. Similarly, day-time and night-time temperatures are also forecast to be equally likely to be above or below median during this period.

LA NIÑA conditions have ended and the EL NIÑO–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) conditions are neutral. It is likely that climatic conditions in the Indian Ocean will also be neutral for the next three months, meaning there is no strong driver towards wetter or drier conditions for most of Australia.

#### Further information

The next allocation announcement for the Gwydir regulated river water source will be issued on **Monday 7 May 2018**.

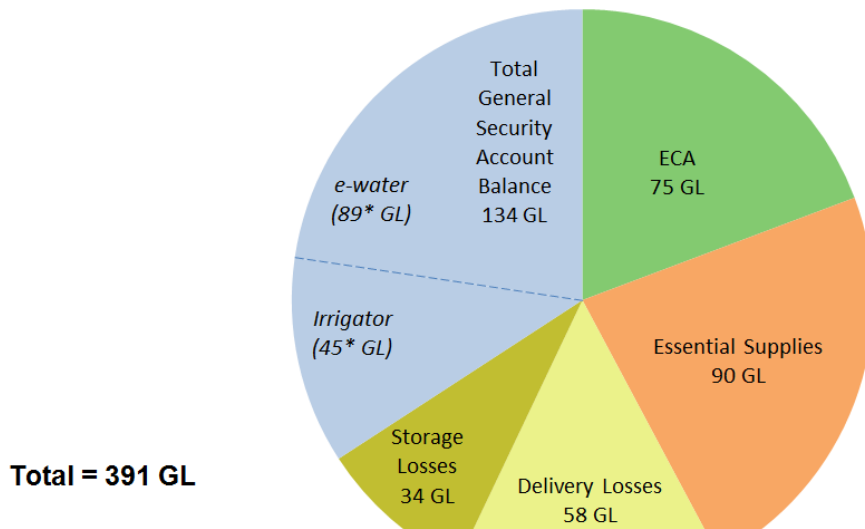
Information on Available Water Determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Industry - Water website - [www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au)

**Resource Assessment Data Sheet**

<b>Resource Distribution (as at 31 March 2018)</b>	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource <sup>(1)</sup>	390.86
<b>less</b>	
Storage Losses <sup>(2)</sup>	34.19
Essential Supplies <sup>(3)</sup>	89.65 (94.65% full)
ECA	75.33
Delivery Losses	58.10
General Security Account Balance <sup>(4)</sup>	133.59

See notes below.

**Resource Distribution as at 31 March 2018  
Gwydir Valley**



\* indicative breakdown of held environmental water holdings (OEH, CEWH), refer to note 4.

**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 to storage.
- (4) Held environmental water (HEW) –water administered by environmental water holders is being reported here, with the associated portions of general security allocation also identified in the above pie chart. This reporting of held environmental water is the total credited to accounts (not usage) and is estimated to be 89GL of GS and 1GL of HS. These entitlements are held and/or managed either individually or jointly by various environmental 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 water holdings.

## Gwydir resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 28 February 2018
- Current Assessment date: 31 March 2018

<b>Storage volume</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Storage Balance (GL)</b>
Total		409.86
Dead storage	19.00	390.86
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	34.36	356.50

<b>Essential Supplies</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	91.48	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-3.24	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	0.00	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	0.00	
Current balance	88.24	268.26

<b>Environmental Contingency Allowance (ECA)</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	75.33	
Orders from assessment period	0.00	
Current balance	75.33	192.93

<b>General Security Irrigation</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	134.91	
Orders from assessment period	-1.32	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to Low Security	0.00	
Reconciliation of accounts	0.00	
Current balance	133.59	59.34

<b>Delivery Loss</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	58.10	
Losses since last assessment	0.00	

<b>Delivery Loss</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.00	
Current balance	58.10	1.24

<b>Apparent Losses since last assessment</b>	<b>% of loss</b>	<b>GL</b>
Total		0.00
Essential Supply Loss	71%	0.00
General Security + ECA Loss	29%	0.00

<b>Resources available for sharing</b>	<b>GL</b>
Total	<b>1.24</b>

<b>New balances</b>	<b>Limit</b>	<b>Commitments</b>		<b>Balance</b>
		<b>Current</b>	<b>Additional</b>	
	GL	GL	GL	GL
Storage Loss	34.19	34.36	-0.18	34.19
Essential Supplies	94.72	88.24	1.42	89.65
Delivery Loss	256.35	58.10	0.00	58.10
ECA	90.00	75.33	0.00	75.33
General Security Irrigation	764.50	133.59	0.00	133.59
Uncommitted resources	-	1.24	-1.24	0.00
Total	-	390.86	0.00	390.86

<b>Recommendations (General Security)</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Unit</b>
Incremental Increase CREDITED	0.00	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0000	ML per unit share