



Water Allocation Outlook

NSW Border Rivers; Gwydir, Namoi, Peel and Macquarie Rivers

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NSW Allocations Framework

- Allocations based on low risk, extremely dry outlook
 - Requirements codified in Water Sharing Plans
 - Priority of access/allocation (D&S, LWU, HS, GS)
 - Minimum release, flow targets
 - Planned Environmental Water – accrual and use
 - Level of risk to GS – design minimum inflow
 - Water year (1 July to 30 June)
 - Minimum inflow assumption, budgeted loss, user behaviour e.g. carry over
 - Restrictions used during extreme dry conditions to protect critical need from shortfalls
- D&S: domestic and stock
LWU: local water utilities
HS: high security
GS: general security

Current Allocations

Allocations < 100% are listed below

Regulated River Sources	License Type	2019/20 Allocation	Drought Stage
NSW Border Rivers	General Security A&B	Nil	3
Gwydir River	General Security	1.9%	2
Upper Namoi Water Source	General Security	50%	2
Lower Namoi Water Source	General Security	Nil	3
Peel River	General Security High Security Local Water Utility Domestic & Stock	Nil 50% 70% 70%	4
Macquarie River	General Security	Nil	3
Cudgegong River	General Security	Nil	2

NSW Border Rivers (2020/21 Outlook)

- All essential requirements are secured for next two years and beyond.
- Full 100% allocation to all higher priority license types D&S, LWU, HS.
- NSW share of resources is determined by the Border Rivers Commission.
- Low allocations to GS may be possible.
- Statement frequency generally quarterly or after resource improvements.
- Next announcement will be on 1 July 20 combined with other valleys.

Gwydir River (Copeton Dam)

Resource Distribution (as at 30 April 2020)	volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	169.01
<i>less</i>	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	19.65
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	94.72
Environmental Contingency Allowance (ECA)	18.96
Delivery Losses ⁽⁴⁾	12.61
General Security Held Environmental Water (HEW) Account Balance ⁽⁵⁾	11.62
General Security Irrigator Account Balance	11.45
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit)	Nil

Gwydir River (2020/21 Outlook)

- All essential requirements are secured for next 2 years and beyond.
- Full 100% allocation to all higher priority license types including D&S, LWU and HS.
- Delivery loss account has been replenished.
- GS is on continuous accounting, next allocation is subject to additional inflow.
- Good improvements in recent months however not ready to resume normal river operations. Drought Stage 2: *recovering*.
- Next statement on Friday 5 June 2020.

Namoi River (Split Rock & Keepit Dams)

Resource Assessment data sheet as at 30 April 2020

Volumes in GL	Budget	Current	Additional	Balance
Storage Evaporation Loss	26.73	25.94	0.79	26.73
Essential Supplies	58.24	31.61	0.12	31.72
Upper Namoi General Security		1.38	5.72	7.10
Delivery Loss	5.15	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lower Namoi General Security	10.06	10.06	0.00	10.06
Peel Trade Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Additional Resource for Sharing	-	6.63	-6.63	0.00
Split Rock and Keepit active volumes	-	75.61		75.61

Namoi River (2020/21 Outlook)

- Resource deficit of 37 GL (as published 7/5/20).
- GS delivery loss account remains empty.
- Shortfall to meet high priority uses for next 2 years under normal river operation.
- Manilla and Barraba townships are now secure for the next 24 months and beyond if budgeted inflow arrives.
- Full 100% allocation to D&S and LWU. Full or near full allocation to HS.
- GS is on continuous accounting, next allocation is subject to additional inflow.
- More details on next statement on Friday 5 June 2020

Peel River (2020/21 Outlook)

- No GS allocation will be possible on 1 July 20 and higher priority allocations will be same as the outgoing water year.
- Forecast allocation: HS will be 50%, D&S and LWU will be 70%.
- Water held in Chaffey Dam will continue to secure critical human needs.
- Water availability to critical need will not be limited by allocation.
- Allocations aim at giving right to extraction rather than limiting it.
- Delivery to HS, D&S and basic rights will be subject to operational constraints.
- Next announcement will be on 1 July 20 combined with other valleys.

Macquarie River (Burrendong)

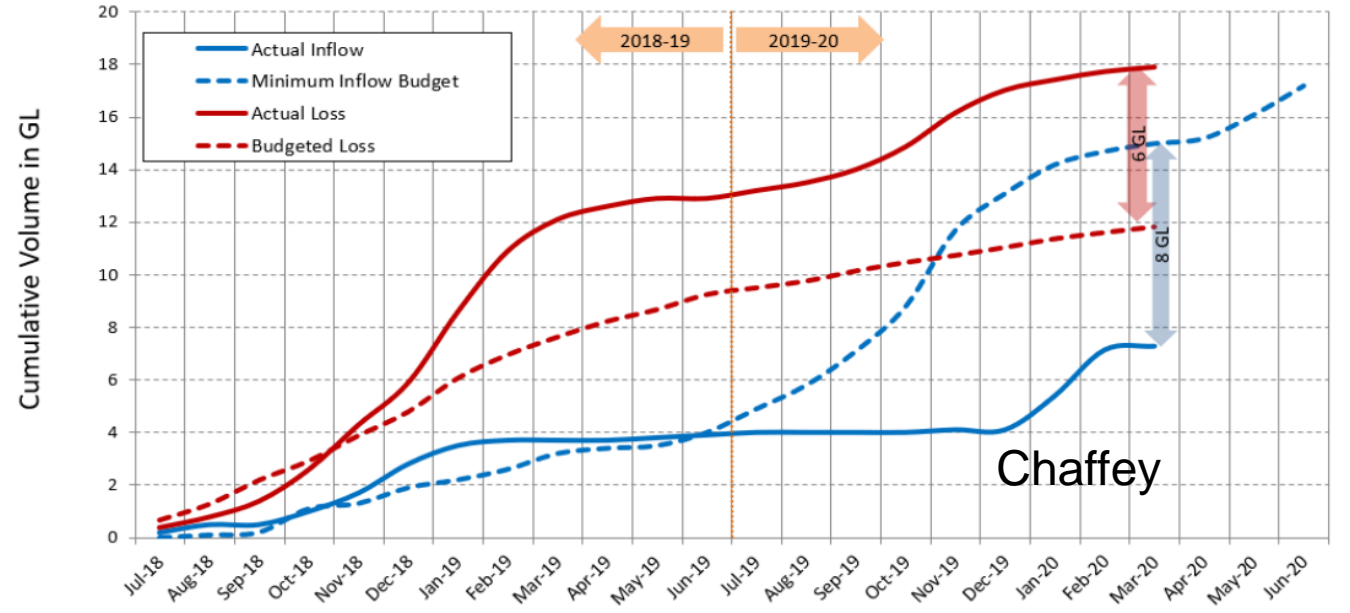
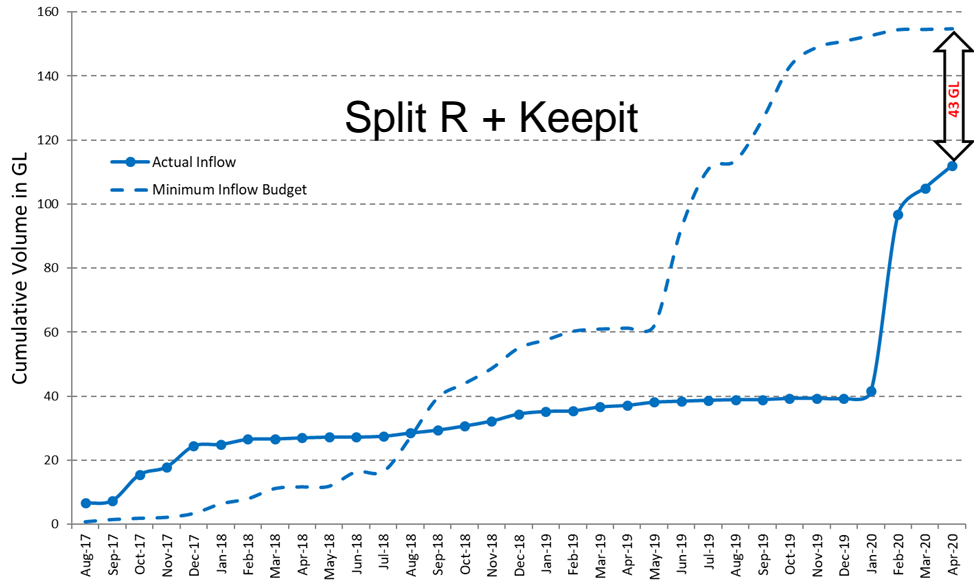
Resource Distribution (April 2020 to May 2021)	Volume (GL)	Volume (GL)
Total Available Resource ⁽¹⁾		259
<i>less</i>		
Carryover remaining in accounts ^{(2), (7)}	98	
Planned Environmental Water ⁽³⁾	69	
Towns, Stock, Domestic ⁽⁴⁾	24	
Inaccessible Storage ⁽⁶⁾	36	
High Security ⁽⁴⁾	16	
General Security 2019/2020 AWD ⁽⁷⁾	0	
Essential Requirements (transmission, operations) ⁽⁵⁾	145	
Evaporation from Storage	31	
<i>equals</i>		
Water available for allocation (or deficit)		(160)

Macquarie River (2020/21 Outlook)

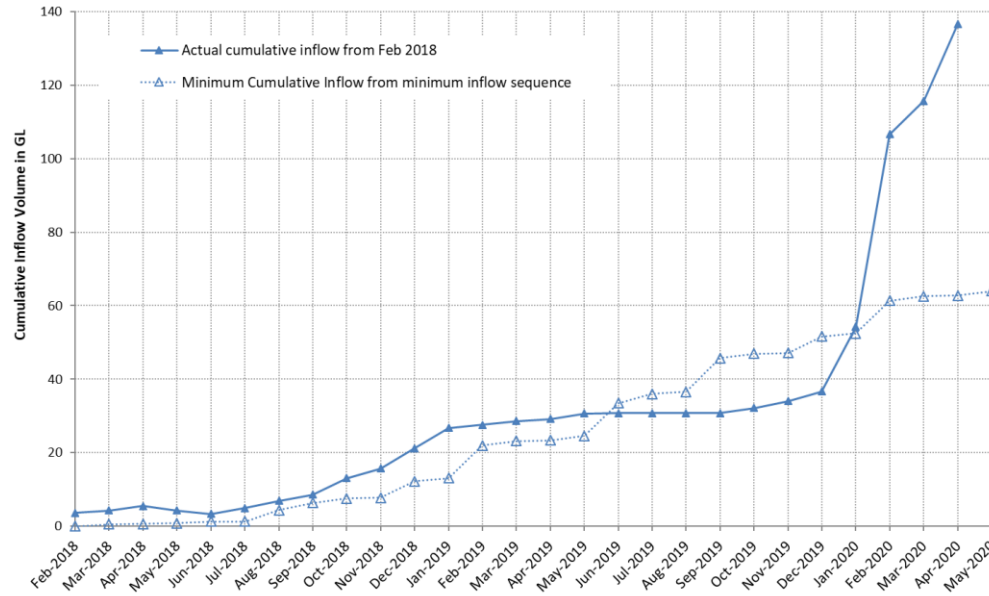
- All higher priority licence categories are forecast to receive full allocations on 1 July 2020.
- General Security licences below Burrendong Dam will soon be able to access 30% of the balance as of 1 July 2019.
- Water held in Environmental Water Allowance (EWA) will soon be fully available.
- GS and EWA carryover volumes will be immune to spill forfeiture until the end of February 2021.
- Unavailable GS carryover volumes in the suspended drought account will continue to be protected from evaporative reductions.
- Delivery of replenishment flows in 2021 will largely rely on tributary in preference to dam releases.
- Next statement on Thursday 11 June 2020.

Record Low Inflows to Northern Storages

- Previous worse: mostly WWI drought – not millennium.
- Both Pindari and Glenlyon Dams were experiencing their lowest 18-month inflow period on record to January 2020.
- Record low inflow to Copeton Dam from February 2018 to January 2020, third lowest inflow to Copeton Dam post February 2020 recovery.
- Record low inflows to Split Rock and Keepit Dams since the last water allocation in August 2017.
- Record low inflows to Chaffey Dam in last two water years.
- Record low inflows to Burrendong Dam since the last water allocation in August 2017.



Copeton Dam





Thank You

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