

30 May 2022

Belubula Regulated River Water Source

Water availability and allocation update

There is no additional allocation to general security entitlements in the Belubula regulated river water source at this time. The total cumulative allocation remains at 83% of entitlement for this water year. Total general security water availability, including carryover water in accounts, for this water year is 110% of entitlement. All higher priority licences, as well as supplementary entitlements, received a full allocation at the start of the 2021/22 water year.

Ongoing wet conditions have kept Carcoar Dam near full. Tributary flows, including spill from storage, are expected to continue to meet any water orders, including the end of system flow target at Helensholme until at least the end of June 2022. The necessary budget for essential requirements assumes that dry years will follow the current wet conditions.

Access to supplementary take has now ceased as account balances have been fully utilised. With effective general security water availability currently above 50% of entitlement, uncontrolled flow (without debit) take by general security water users is not permitted.

| 2021/22 | High Security | General Security |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Belubula Regulated River Water Source | 100% | 83% |

Resource outlook for 2022-23

This outlook for the likely 1 July 2022 water availability is based on several assumptions. Water users are advised that these forecast allocations are not certain, may change and should be used with caution.

- Water for all critical consumptive and non-consumptive needs is forecast secure until 30 June 2025.
- High priority water access licence holders, including stock and domestic, and high security licences, can expect their maximum (100%) allocations on 1 July 2022.
- At this stage, there is not enough resource to assure a new opening allocation for general security entitlements. However, unused water carried forward in general security accounts will be fully deliverable in 2022/23.
- Average general security carryover into 2022/23 is expected to be about 104% of entitlement, some 23.2 gigalitres (GL).
- Supplementary licences are likely to be allocated 100% of entitlement and can access flows when a supplementary event is announced.

- With effective general security water availability likely to be above 50% of entitlement, by virtue of large carryover volumes, uncontrolled flow access will not be available.

Storage levels (as at 30 May 2022)

Carcoar Dam – 100% full – steady – 36,130 megalitres (ML).

Seasonal climate outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal outlook for June to August indicates that rainfall is very likely to be above average across the catchment. Daytime temperatures are likely to be below average and overnight temperatures are likely to be warmer than average.

Further details at: www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary

Allocation tracking this year (2021/22) for Belubula

| Date | License Category | Increment | Total 2021/22 | Water Availability |
|--------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1-Jul | Domestic & Stock | 100% | 100%* | 100%* |
| 1-Jul | Local Water Utility | 100% | 100%* | 100%* |
| 1-Jul | High Security | 1.00 ML/unit share* | 1.00 ML/unit share* | 100%* |
| 1-Jul | General Security | 0.00 ML/unit share | 0.00 ML/unit share | 27% |
| 1-Jul | Supplementary | 1.00 ML/unit share* | 1.00 ML/unit share* | 100%* |
| 27-Aug | General Security | 0.12 ML/unit share | 0.12 ML/unit share | 39% |
| 10-Dec | General Security | 0.64 ML/unit share | 0.76 ML/unit share | 103% |
| 30-Mar | General Security | 0.07 ML/unit share | 0.83 ML/unit share | 110% |

*maximum possible

Next announcement

The next water allocation statement will be issued in August 2022, or earlier if conditions change significantly.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Planning and Environment website: www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water

Feedback on this work or any aspect of the department’s service can be provided using the widget at: www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/contact

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