

12 January 2023

Namoi Regulated River Water Sources

Water allocation update

There has been enough regulated resource improvement in the Lower Namoi water source in December to allow the top-up of general security accounts, with an allocation increase of **16% of entitlement**. The increment keeps Lower Namoi general security accounts overall at 491.8 GL or about 200% of entitlement, which is the account limit.

All other licence categories in the Upper and Lower Namoi regulated systems have received their full allocation for the current water year.

This resource assessment is based on information to 31 December 2022. Any changes in resources from this date forward will be captured in the next resource assessment.

Current allocations

2022/23	General Security Allocation	General Security Account Balance
Upper Namoi Regulated River	100%	100%*
Lower Namoi Regulated River	86%	~200%*

* Maximum allowable account balance, excluding trade. Individual accounts may exceed this limit using temporary trade.

Dam levels (as of 10 January 2023)

- Split Rock Dam is about 100% full – holding around 397 gigalitres (GL).
- Keepit Dam is about 100% full – holding around 424 GL.

Key information

- During December 2022, the Upper Namoi catchment experienced below average to average rainfall, receiving approximately 25-100 mm of rain.
- Inflows from the upper catchment continued in December, with Keepit and Split Rock Dams receiving 27.8 GL and 5.8 GL, respectively.
- Approximately 16.5 GL was released from Keepit Dam and 4.1 GL was released from Split Rock Dam during December.
- Based on the current assessment, essential supplies are secure for 24 months and beyond. This includes demands from Manilla and Barraba townships.

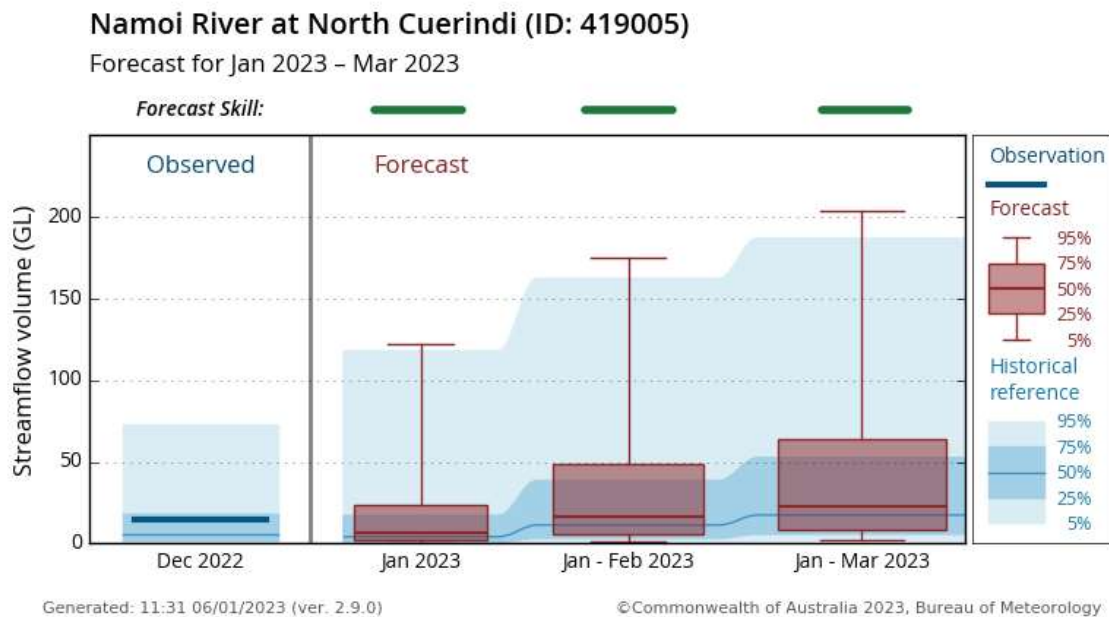
Climate and streamflow outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal outlook for February to April indicates that the Namoi valley will have an equal chance of below or above median rainfall. Over this period maximum and minimum temperatures here are likely to be warmer than median.

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

The Bureau of Meteorology issues a seasonal flow forecast for the unregulated Namoi River at North Cuerindi. This may indicate potential future inflows into Keepit Dam. All forecast quantiles of total streamflow volumes from January to March are higher than the historical quantile references, indicating likely higher flow than historically over the next few months.

Further details at: www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005



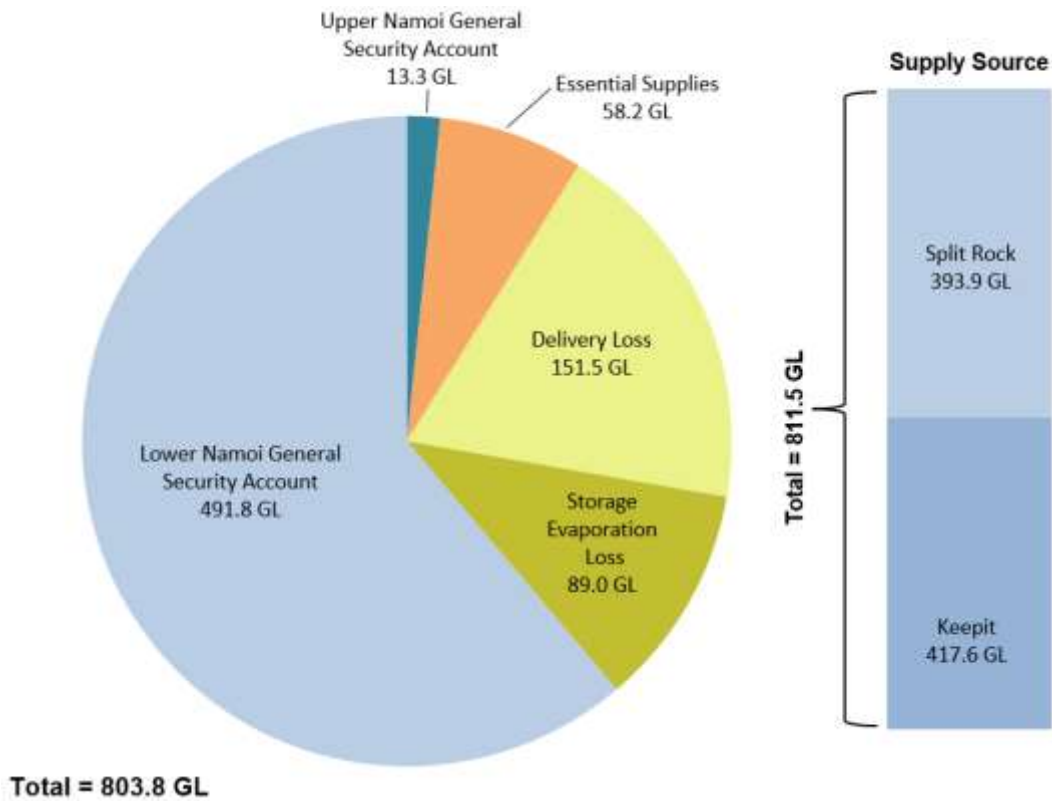
Resource assessment data sheet

Resource distribution (as at 31 December 2022)	Volume (GL)
Keepit Dam and Split Rock Dam active volumes	811.5
<i>less</i>	
Storage Evaporation Loss ⁽¹⁾	89.0
Essential Supplies ⁽²⁾	58.2
Lower Namoi General Security account balance	491.8
Upper Namoi General Security account balance	13.3
Delivery Loss ⁽³⁾	151.5
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (deficit) ⁽⁴⁾	7.7

Notes:

- (1) Storage Evaporation Loss: evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and maximum historical evaporation rates over 24 months.
- (2) Essential Supplies: water required to be set aside under the water sharing plan to provide for domestic, stock, towns, 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. This is the reserve for essential supplies for next 24 months.
- (3) Delivery Loss: this account reflects the water needed to deliver general security water. Traditionally, a 30% delivery loss has been budgeted for this river system. The budget is continually assessed and, if necessary, topped up as a priority from resource improvements to ensure that allocated water can be delivered.
- (4) This surplus remains after all categories of licences are fully allocated. The surplus is improving future water security and allocation potential.

**Resource Distribution as at 31 December 2022
Namoi Regulated River Water Sources**



Resource assessment data sheet as at 31 December 2022

Volumes in GL	Budget	Current	Additional	Balance
Storage Evaporation Loss	89.04	88.83	0.21	89.04
Essential Supplies for next 24 months (58.2 GL max)	58.24	57.80	0.44	58.24
General Security Delivery Loss	151.52	144.37	7.15	151.52
Upper Namoi General Security (12.07 GL max)*		13.27	0.00	13.27
Lower Namoi General Security (491.8 GL max)*		479.51	12.29	491.80
Additional Resource for Sharing		27.75	-20.09	7.66
Total		811.53	0.00	811.53

*Temporary trade may exceed this limit.

Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	12.29	GL
Available Water Determination	0.16	ML per unit share

Upper Namoi water allocation history for 2022/23

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	Account Balance
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/share*	100%*
1-Jul	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*	100%*

* Maximum allowable.

Lower Namoi water allocation history for 2022/23

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	Account Balance
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/share*	100%*
1-Jul	Supplementary	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*	100%*
7-Sep	General Security	0.05 ML/unit share	0.05 ML/unit share	178%

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	Account Balance
10-Oct	General Security	0.35 ML/unit share	0.40 ML/unit share	~195%^
7-Dec	General Security	0.30 ML/unit share	0.70 ML/unit share	~200%^*
12-Jan	General Security	0.16 ML/unit share	0.86 ML/unit share	~200%^*

* Maximum allowable.

^ Approximate account balance.

Water allocation guide

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment – Water has produced a series of guides to describe the water allocation methods for most NSW regulated river systems. The guide for the Namoi regulated river water source is available at:

www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process

Further information

The next monthly water allocation statement for the Namoi Regulated River Water Source will be available on **Tuesday 7 February 2023**.

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

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