

17 July 2018

## Lachlan Valley

### Water allocation update and outlook

The Lachlan regulated river general security allocation began the 2018-19 water year on 1 July 2018 at zero per cent of entitlement. **There has been no improvement and remains at zero per cent.**

Currently it is estimated that a combined dam and tributary inflow volume of over 50 gegalitres (GL) will be required in July before a further general security allocation can be made in August. Dry conditions have produced inflows of just 1.9 GL so far in July 2018.

Total Wyangala Dam inflows from 1 January 2018 to date are about 20 GL. A total of 250 GL of inflow is required in a calendar year before any translucent environmental flows are released from Wyangala Dam.

General security water users are reminded that the Annual Use Limit that will apply in the 2018/19 water year will be a volume equivalent to 100 per cent of entitlement, plus any adjustments up or down for trade.

	High Security	General Security	Average Carryover
Lachlan	100%	0%	62%

### Storage levels (as at 16 July 2018)

- Wyangala Dam is 61 per cent full – steady – currently at 746 GL.
- Lake Cargelligo is 97 per cent full – rising – currently at 35.6 GL.
- Lake Brewster is now effectively empty.

### Climatic outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology outlook for August to October indicates likely dry conditions and temperatures most likely to be above average for the region.

The Bureau's climate models show that the El Nino-Southern Oscillation and Indian Ocean Dipole indicators are likely to remain neutral over the forecast period, but having a greater than usual chance of an El Nino event forming later in the year.

### Next announcement

The next water allocation statement for the regulated Lachlan Valley will be on Wednesday **15 August 2018.**

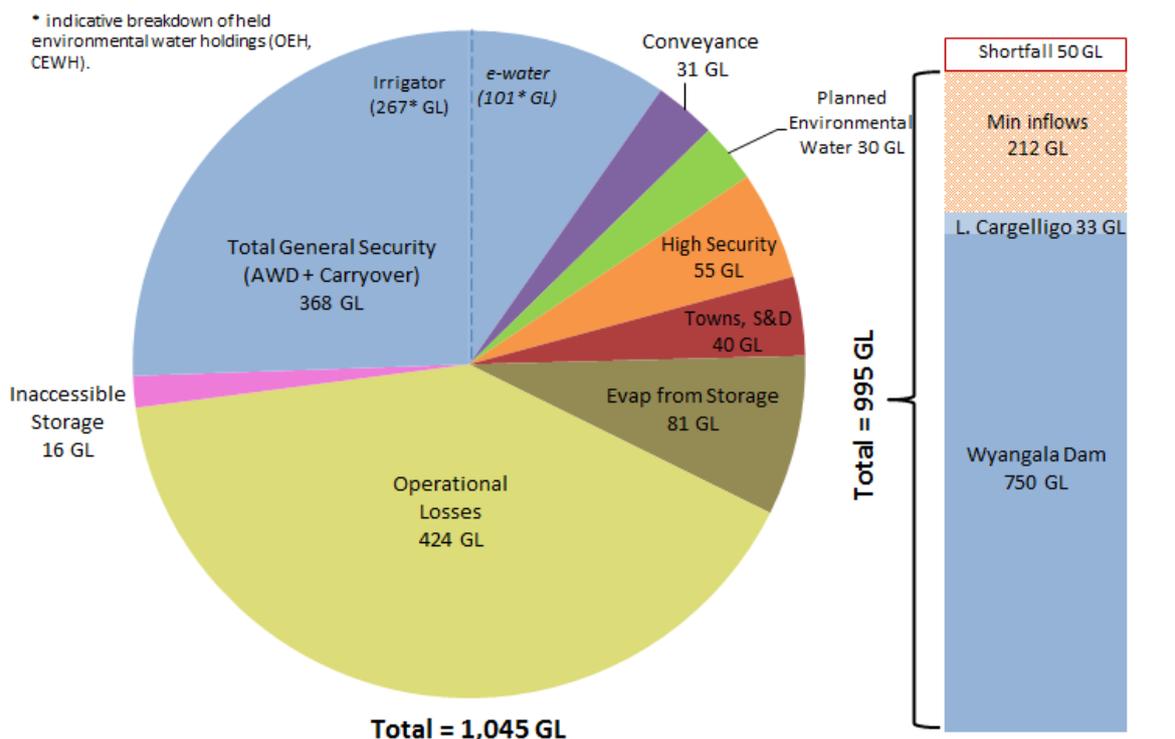
## Lachlan Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (July 2018 to May 2020)	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource <sup>(1)</sup>	995
<b>less</b>	
General Security 2017/2018 AWD <sup>(7),(8)</sup>	0 (0%)
Carryover remaining in accounts <sup>(2),(8)</sup>	368
Conveyance	31
Planned Environmental Water <sup>(3)</sup>	30
High Security <sup>(4)</sup>	55 (100%)
Towns, Stock, Domestic <sup>(4)</sup>	40 (100%)
Evaporation from storage <sup>(5)</sup>	81
Operational Losses (transmission, operations) <sup>(6)</sup>	424
Inaccessible storage	16

\*See notes below.



### Resource Distribution: July 2018 to May 2020 Lachlan Valley



## Notes:

- (1) Total available resource: End of June storage volume in Wyangala Dam, Lake Cargelligo and Lake Brewster, plus minimum forecast inflows from now to May 2020.
- (2) Carryover remaining in general security accounts, including held environmental water.
- (3) Planned environmental water: water allocated to the Water Quality Allowance and/or the Environmental Contingency Allowances under the water sharing plan. Excludes 'licence-based' environmental water.
- (4) Towns, Stock, Domestic and High Security: reserves are set aside to meet 100% of these high priority entitlements to 31 May 2020. Balances in high security accounts include water traded in from general security licences.
- (5) It is assessed that the lakes are likely to be drawn down slowly in the current water year, increasing storage evaporation.
- (6) Operational Losses: best estimate of the volume required to run the river under dry conditions through May 2020 to meet all demands. This mostly comprises natural transmission losses as water soaks into the river bed sands. This volume includes S&D replenishment deliveries in autumn 2019 and 2020. It is assumed that current tributary inflows will return to dry conditions from now onward. This loss allowance is updated across the year.
- (7) Volume represents the total cumulative AWD made to GS licences in the current water year.
- (8) Held environmental water (HEW): as a trial, reporting of held environmental water administered by environmental water holders is being reported here, with the associated portion of general security allocation also identified in the above pie chart. This reporting is indicative only, prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade, and is estimated to be 101 GL of GS, and 0 GL of HS. These reported entitlements are managed by various environmental holder groups, including the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH). Details on environmental holdings can be found on individual agency websites.
- (9) The supply source of total available water, explained in Note (1) above, is provided. Note that Lake Brewster is empty now. It also indicates the current shortfall required before a further AWD can be made.