

1 July 2019

Opening water allocations for NSW Murray Valley and Lower Darling users

The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment today announced opening water allocations for licenced water users in the NSW Murray and Lower Darling regulated and unregulated water sources for the new 2019-20 water year, commencing 1 July 2019.

NSW Murray regulated river high security licence holders will commence on 0.97 megalitres per unit share of entitlement, while general security licence holders will receive zero allocation at this time.

General security licence holders in the NSW Murray will have full access to water carried over from 2018-19, which is about 18 per cent on average.

Carryover in general security accounts, plus the sum of allocations in 2019-20, cannot exceed the account limit of 110 per cent of entitlement.

Local water utility, domestic and stock and high security sub-categories (town water supply, research, and community and education) water access licence holders in the NSW Murray regulated river receive an allocation of 100 per cent of entitlement.

Supplementary water access licence holders receive an allocation of 1 megalitre per unit share of entitlement. Regulated river (conveyance) access licence holders will receive an allocation of 0.0606 megalitres per unit share of entitlement.

Lower Darling stock and domestic licence holders and local water utility licence holders will receive 50 per cent of entitlement.

Lower Darling high security will receive 0.30 megalitres per unit share of entitlement and supplementary licence holders receive 1 megalitre per unit share of entitlement, while general security licence holders receive zero allocation at this time.

Lower Darling water users are restricted to use water for critical human needs and permanent plantings only. The restriction will be eased or removed if flow situation improves in the future. The temporary water restriction can be viewed at - www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/temporary-water-restrictions

Licence holders are reminded that they are only permitted to take supplementary water from these water sources in accordance with announcements made by the Minister and the conditions of their access licence.

Domestic and stock, local water utility, unregulated river and aquifer access licence holders in the Murray unregulated and alluvial water sources receive an allocation of 100 per cent or 1 megalitre per unit share of entitlement.

Domestic and stock, local water utility, unregulated river and aquifer access licence holders within the area covered by the Lower Murray-Darling unregulated and alluvial water sharing plan will also receive an allocation of 100 per cent or 1 megalitre per unit share of entitlement.

NSW Murray inter and intra valley trade will be in accordance with existing procedures and protocols, including no net trade downstream of the Barmah choke. The 2018-19 Murrumbidgee inter valley trade (IVT) account balance carries into the 2019-20 water year until this water is delivered to the Murray.

Daily updates relating to the IVT account balance and opening or closing triggers are available through the WaterNSW website at - www.waternsw.com.au/customer-service/trading/murrumbidgee

The next water allocation announcement will be made on 15 July 2019.

Additional information on available water determinations can be found on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website at - www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water

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