

18 January 2022

Lachlan Regulated River Water Source

Water allocation update

There is a **3% increase to general security** entitlement holders this month. This brings the total cumulative allocation to general security licences to 119% of entitlement for this water year.

Throughout December, approximately 310 GL flowed into Wyangala Dam and the tributaries, however with little airspace in the storages, the majority of this water could not be captured and stored for future use. The allocation has been enabled through a combination of factors including increased usage, a reduced budget for evaporation and losses, and Wyangala Dam being held at a slightly higher storage level throughout December than previous months.

Flows remain high along the river and there are still surplus flows, with both Lake Brewster and Lake Cargelligo surcharged to capture the maximum amount of water. Translucent flow obligations have been fully met for this water year. Supplementary access is currently available for Booberoi Creek users until the 25 January 2022. Updates on supplementary access and airspace operations can be found at <https://waterinsights.watarnsw.com.au/11983-lachlan-regulated-river/updates>.

Water users are advised that there will be no further account reset before 21 March 2022, six months after the last reset, regardless of whether the system fills and spills before this date. The annual use limit of 100% of entitlement for general security entitlement holders still applies for the 2021/22 water year, plus any adjustments for trade.

2021/22	High Security	General Security
Lachlan Regulated River Water Source	100%	119%

Storage levels (as at 17 January 2022)

- Wyangala Dam is 97% full – steady – holding around 1,180,000 ML.
- Lake Cargelligo is 113% full – rising – holding around 41,000 ML.
- Lake Brewster is 114% full – rising – holding about 174,000 ML (10 January 2022).

Seasonal climate outlook

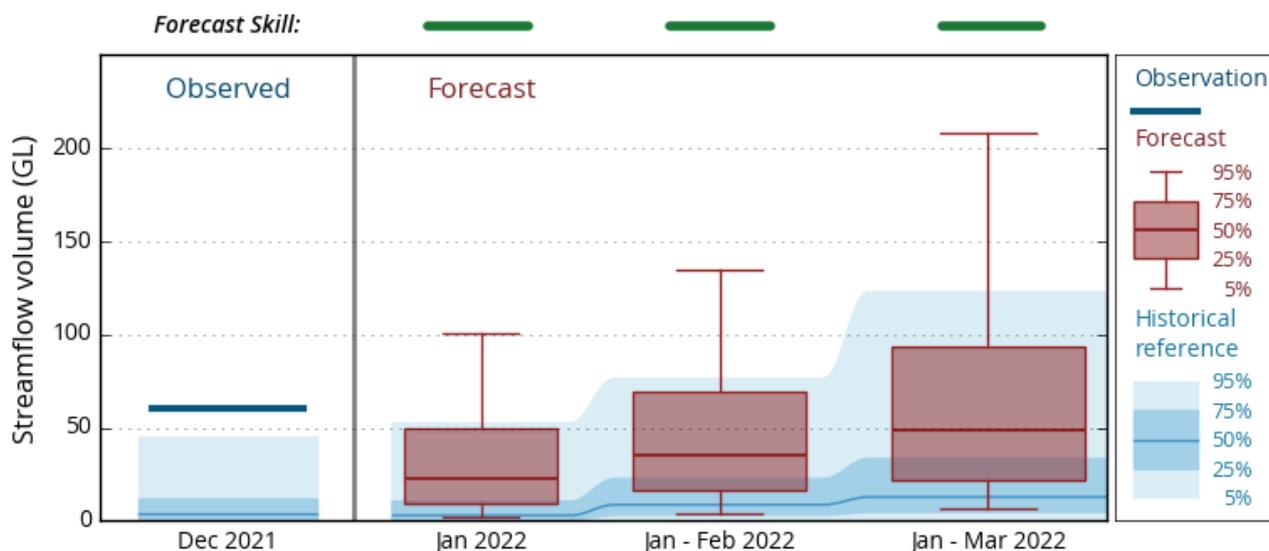
The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for February to April indicates rainfall is likely to be around median conditions and temperatures are likely to be warmer than average.

For further details: www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary

The Bureau of Meteorology also issues a seasonal flow forecast of the Abercrombie River that drains into Wyangala Dam (see the figure below). This provides an indicative distribution of potential inflows. All forecast flow quartiles are higher than the historical quartiles, indicating that inflow over these months is likely to be higher than median historical inflow.

Abercrombie River at Abercrombie (ID: 412028)

Forecast for Jan 2022 – Mar 2022



For further details: <http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/?ref=ftr#id=412028>

Lachlan Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (January 2022 to May 2024)

Current and Future Resources ⁽¹⁾ 1,706

less

General Security account balance ⁽⁶⁾ 635

Conveyance 50

Planned Environmental Water ⁽²⁾ 77

High Security ^{(3) (6)} 98

Towns, Stock, Domestic ⁽³⁾ 83

Evaporation from storage ⁽⁴⁾ 205

Essential Requirements and Losses ⁽⁵⁾ 540

Inaccessible storage 18

equals

Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁷⁾ 0

Notes:

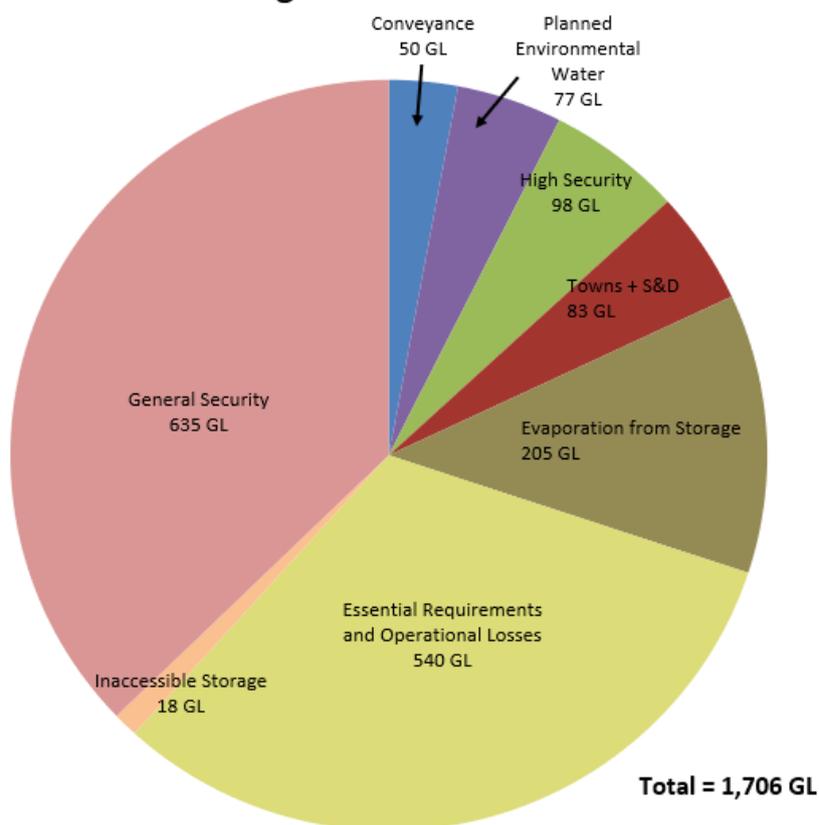
(1) End of December 2021 storage volume in Wyangala Dam, Lake Cargelligo, and Lake Brewster, and the expected minimum inflows from January 2022 to May 2024 and flow in transit.

(2) Water allocated to the Water Quality Allowance and the Environmental Water Allowances (EWA). The volume represents the balance of the allocated volumes to WQA and EWAs. The Wyangala and Brewster EWAs have been

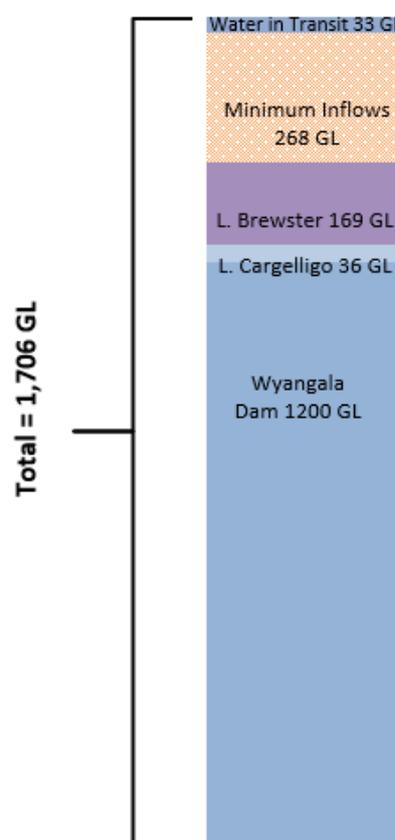
allocated 10 GL each for the 2021/22 and 2022/23 water years, and Wyangala EWA has been allocated 10 GL for the 2023/24 water year, with some usage occurring this water year. In addition, 10 GL per year is allocated to the WQA for 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24.

- (3) Towns, Stock, Domestic and High Security: reserves are set aside to meet full allocation of these licences to 2023/24. Balances in high security accounts also include water traded in from general security licences, if any.
- (4) The evaporation volumes from all three storages are based on the forecast storage levels over the assessment period.
- (5) Essential requirements include basic rights, end of system flows, losses and any replenishment deliveries required. The loss budget (transmission and operational) is based on the best estimate of the volume required to run the river under dry conditions through to May 2024. This mostly consists of natural transmission losses as water soaks into riverbed sands. The loss allowance is updated regularly.
- (6) This may include held environmental water (HEW) as shown in the pie chart. The reporting of HEW is indicative only, prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade, and is estimated 126 GL of GS, and 23 GL of HS. These reported entitlements are managed by agencies holding environmental water accounts. They include the NSW DPE - Environment, Energy and Science (EES) and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH).
- (7) All available water resources have been fully allocated. The system is secure to May 2024 and beyond.

Resource Distribution: January 2022
Lachlan Regulated River Water Source



Supply Source



Next announcements

The next routine water allocation announcement for the Lachlan Regulated River Water Source will be issued on **Tuesday 8 February 2022**.

Water Allocation Statement

Water availability and allocation update



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