

13 April 2022

Peel Regulated River Water Source and Peel Alluvium Groundwater Source

Water allocation update

Wet conditions have continued since the last statement in December 2021 and Chaffey Dam remains full. All entitlements received their full allocation on 10 August 2021 and remain unchanged. At the same time, environmental contingency allowance (ECA) was credited in full 5 gigalitre (GL).

The Peel catchment experienced very high rainfall in March 2022. Inflow into Chaffey Dam in March was about 6.5 gigalitres (GL) and downstream tributary flows contributed about 19.7 GL to the system.

The history of allocations is shown in tables below. Note: increments to aquifer (general security) are related to increments to general security allocations.

Water allocations for the Peel Regulated River Water Source in 2021-22

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 21/22
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*
1-Jul	General Security	0.43 ML/unit share	0.43 ML/unit share
9-Jul	General Security	0.24 ML/unit share	0.67 ML/unit share
10-Aug	General Security	0.33 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*

*maximum allowable

Water allocations for the Peel Alluvium Groundwater Source in 2021-22

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 21/22
1-Jul	Aquifer (general security)	0.72 ML/unit share	0.72 ML/unit share
9-Jul	Aquifer (general security)	0.12 ML/unit share	0.84 ML/unit share
10-Aug	Aquifer (general security)	0.16 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*

*maximum allowable

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 this forecast information is not guaranteed and should be used with caution.

- Water for all critical consumptive and non-consumptive needs including local water utility, are secure for the 2022-23 water year.
- High priority water access licence holders including **domestic and stock, local water utility and high security** can expect their maximum (100%) allocations on 1 July.

- The allocation for **general security** entitlement holders and the **environmental contingency allowance (ECA)** account will depend on several factors, including inflows and usage for the remainder of this water year. Current forecast is predicting the opening **general security** allocation to be as high as **80%**, subject to several assumptions.

Climate outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal outlook for May to July indicates above median rainfall for the Peel catchment. Additionally, daytime temperatures are likely to be neither below nor above median and minimum temperatures are likely to be warmer than median for the catchment.

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

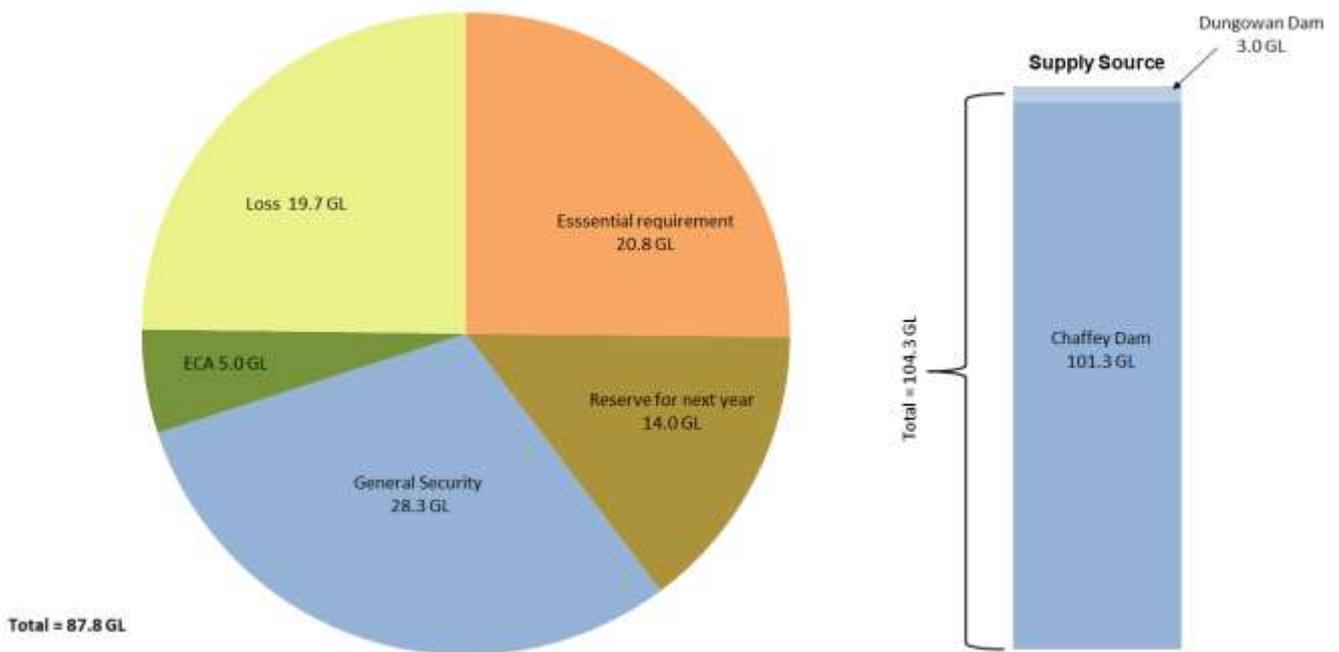
Resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 31 March 2022)	Volume (GL)
Current and Future Resources ⁽¹⁾	104.4
less	
Essential Supplies ⁽²⁾	20.8
Reserve for 2022-2023 ⁽³⁾	14.0
General security balance	28.3
ECA balance ⁽⁴⁾	5.0
Evaporation, operational and transmission loss ⁽⁵⁾	19.7
Total resources committed	87.8
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁶⁾	16.6

Notes:

- Chaffey Dam above dead storage, Dungowan Dam above 50% and minimum inflow expected to June 2022.
- Water set aside to provide for basic landholder rights, domestic and stock (D&S), local water utility (LWU), high security (HS) and associated transmission loss plus minimum storage release. D&S entitlements have been allocated 100%, LWU entitlements have been allocated 100%, and HS entitlements have been allocated 100% for the current water year.
- Reserve set aside to meet the minimum allocation of 2022-23 under the water sharing plan (WSP) obligation at the repeat of the worst drought known prior to the commencement of the WSP. The reserve includes basic landholder rights, 70% domestic and stock, 70% local water utility, 50% high security and associated transmission loss plus minimum storage release. This also considers minimum inflow expected next year offset by evaporation over 2022-23.
- Total ECA account balance (GS allocation in ML/share multiplied by 5000).
- Evaporation budget assumes historical high evaporation rates. The transmission loss is budgeted to deliver water orders based on current conditions and forecasts. ECA water delivery is measured at the dam wall thus incurs no transmission loss.
- All categories of water licences (including GS) in the Peel Regulated River Water Source have been fully allocated this 2021/22 water year. There is 16.6 GL unallocated which adds to future water security.

Resource Distribution (as at 31 March 2022)



Water allocation guide

The department is producing a series of guides to describe the water allocation process for most NSW regulated river systems. The guide for the Peel regulated river water source is available at the link below.

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

Further information

As water allocations for 2021-22 have reached their maximum limit, regular allocation announcements have ceased. However, conditions will continue to be monitored and a statement will be issued if there are any significant changes to resource availability or outlook.

The next water allocation statement for the Peel River will be included in the state-wide opening water allocation statement on 1 July 2022.

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

Subscribe [here](#) to receive the Department of Planning and Environment’s monthly email update on water planning, management and reform in New South Wales.

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