

9 August 2018

## Gwydir Valley

### Water allocation update

#### Allocations

**General security allocation remains unchanged at zero per cent of entitlement.** There was no resource improvement to provide an increase in allocation. Rainfall and inflow into Copeton Dam were very low in July 2018.

The 2017-2018 inflow to Copeton Dam was within the lowest five years out of 100 years of historical inflows. The evaporation and delivery losses for the last water year were higher than the budgeted volume. There is currently a shortfall of around 25,000 megaliters (ML).

Apart from general security, all other categories of licence in the regulated river valley have received their maximum allocation for the 2018-19 water year.

	High Security	General Security
Gwydir Valley	100%	0%

#### Dam levels (as at 6 August)

Copeton Dam is approximately 25 per cent full – falling – currently holding around 357,000 ML. This time last year the storage was about 53 per cent full.

#### Key facts

- The volume in Copeton Dam has decreased by about 15,500 ML in July 2018.
- The resource assessment shows essential requirements can be met for next 24 months. However, the general security and ECA delivery loss account will be extremely low by the end of this year if dry conditions continue.
- Block releases will be needed to minimise losses in the delivery of the remaining general security and ECA account water.
- Block releases will primarily consist of three discrete deliveries to provide some replenishment to effluent streams in spring and summer.

## Seasonal climate outlook

The outlook suggests areas currently experiencing drought are unlikely to get a respite in the coming three months.

The Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting that rainfall is unlikely to exceed median conditions during August to October for the catchment. Forecasts also suggest that day and night-time temperatures are very likely to be above median during this period.

Most international climate models show El Niño is likely to develop before the end of 2018. El Niño typically means below average rainfall during winter-spring for northern and eastern Australia.

About half of the international climate models indicate a positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) event could develop in the coming months. A positive IOD typically means below average rainfall during winter-spring for southern and central Australia.

In summary, all indicators are forecasting a dry winter – spring season.

For further details:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead/archive/outlooks/latest-outlook.shtml>

## Further information

The next water allocation statement for the Gwydir regulated river will be available in early September 2018.

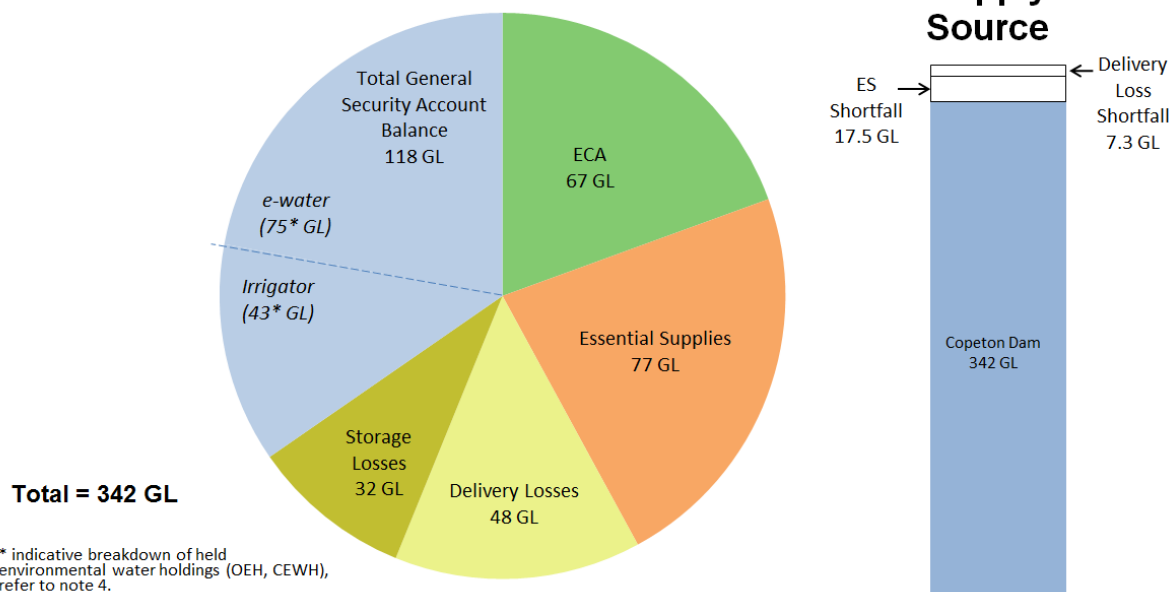
Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Industry website - [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water)

## Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 31 July 2018)	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource <sup>(1)</sup>	341.63
<b>less</b>	
Storage Losses <sup>(2)</sup>	31.48
Essential Supplies <sup>(3)</sup>	77.27
ECA	66.43
Delivery Losses	48.16
General Security Account Balance <sup>(4)</sup>	118.30

See notes below.

## Resource Distribution as at 31 July 2018 Gwydir Valley



### Notes:

- (1) Available Resource – is the total active storage at Copeton Dam at the time of assessment.
- (2) Storage Losses – evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and maximum historical evaporation rates over 2 years.
- (3) Essential Supplies – water required to be set aside under the water sharing plan to provide for Towns, Stock, Domestic, High Security and riverine environments. Includes stock and domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. This commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows to storage.
- (4) Held environmental water (HEW) – as a trial, water administered by environmental water holders is being reported here, with the associated portions of general security allocation also identified in the above pie chart. This reporting of held environmental water is indicative only, prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade, and is estimated to be 75GL of GS and 1GL of HS. These entitlements are held and/or managed either singly or jointly 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.

## Resource Assessment

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total		360.63
Dead storage	19.00	341.63
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	32.36	309.27

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	86.33	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-0.60	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	-7.74	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	-2.32	
Current balance	75.67	233.60

Environmental Contingency Allowance (ECA)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	75.33	
Orders from assessment period	-8.90	
Current balance	66.43	167.17

General Security Irrigation	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	110.58	
Orders from assessment period	-0.02	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to Low Security	7.74	
Reconciliation of accounts	0.00	
Current balance	118.30	48.87

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	52.62	
Losses since last assessment	-6.78	

# Water Allocation Statement

<b>Delivery Loss</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	2.32	
Current balance	48.16	0.72

<b>Apparent Losses since last assessment</b>	<b>% of loss</b>	<b>GL</b>
Total		7.04
Essential Supply Loss	4%	0.26
General Security + ECA Loss	96%	6.78

<b>Resources available for sharing</b>	<b>GL</b>
Total	<b>0.72</b>

<b>Volumes in GL</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>1 Jul-18</b>	<b>Adjustments</b>	<b>1 Aug-18</b>
Storage Loss	31.48	32.36	-0.88	31.48
Essential Supplies	94.72	75.67	1.60	77.27
Delivery Loss	256.35	48.16	0.00	48.16
ECA	90.00	66.43	0.00	66.43
General Security Irrigation	764.50	118.30	0.00	118.30
Additional Resources for Sharing	-	0.72	-0.72	0.00
Total	-	341.63	0.00	341.63

<b>Recommendations (General Security)</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Unit</b>
Incremental Increase CREDITED	0.00	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0000	ML per unit share