

19 January 2021

## Hunter Regulated River Water Source

### Allocation update

Rainfall in December 2020 was wetter than average across the Hunter catchment. Glenbawn Dam and Glennies Creek Dam received 149 mm and 154 mm of rainfall respectively and net inflow in December into these storages was 10.6 gegalitres (GL) and 2.6 GL respectively. As a result, there was a resource surplus during December, which has been allocated to general security.

The **general security water users in the Hunter regulated river water source have received an allocation increase of 13%**, bringing their total allocation to 75% of entitlement for this 2020-21 water year. The improvement comes on the back of good system inflows during December 2020. Inflows arriving in January will be assessed in the next statement.

All other high priority water access licence holders in this water source have already received their full (100%) annual allocation.

### Current allocations

2020-21	High Security	General Security	Drought Stage
Hunter Regulated River Water Source	100%	75%	 Stage 1

### Drought stage

The NSW Extreme Events Policy introduced a staged approach from one to four to manage extreme circumstances such as severe droughts or poor water quality events. The Hunter regulated river water source is currently at Stage 1 - meaning normal regulated river operations.

### Dam levels (as at 18 January 2021)

Glenbawn Dam is about 49.7% full – rising – holding about 373 gegalitres (GL). It was about 39% full this time last year.

Glennies Creek Dam is about 43.4% full – rising – holding about 124 GL. It was about 38% full this time last year.

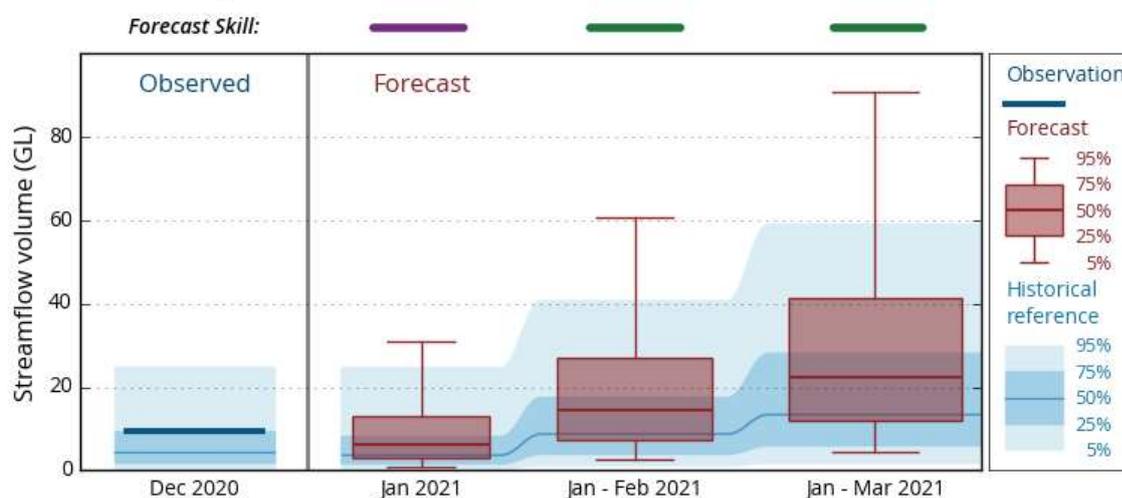
### Seasonal rainfall and inflow forecast

The Bureau of Meteorology climate outlook for February 2021 to April 2021 shows a good chance of exceeding median rainfall conditions around Singleton.

The Bureau also issues seasonal flow forecasts for the Hunter River upstream of Glenbawn Dam at Moonan (see the figure below). This may provide an indication of potential inflows into the dam. All forecast quartiles of total streamflow volumes from January to March are higher than the historical streamflow volumes, indicating higher inflow potential than historical inflow during this period.

#### Hunter River at Moonam Dam Site (ID: 210018)

Forecast for Jan 2021 – Mar 2021



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For further details: [www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=210018&product\\_type=FC\\_9](http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=210018&product_type=FC_9)

### Further information

Hunter resource assessments and allocation statements will continue to be updated monthly while general security allocations remain less than full. The next Hunter water allocation statement will be released on **Monday 15 February 2021**.

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

### Resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (1 January 2021 to 30 June 2023)	(GL)	(GL)
Glenbawn plus Glennies Creek active storage volume		474.2
Minimum storage & tributary inflows (1/21 to 6/21) <sup>(1)</sup>		7.1
<i>less</i>		
Basic Land Holder Rights	2.7	
Domestic and Stock	1.8	
Local Water Utility balance	8.5	
Major Utility account balance	68.3	
Environmental Water Allowance	20.0	
Minimum Flow Target at Greta (including losses)	15.9	
High Security account balance	20.0	
Losses (evaporation, transmission, operation) (1/21 to 6/21)	28.6	
Storage Reserve for 2021-22 <sup>(2)</sup>	120.2	
Storage Reserve for 2022-23 <sup>(3)</sup>	77.5	
General Security balance <sup>(4)</sup>	101.7	
<i>equals</i>		
Surplus (or deficit) <sup>(5)</sup>		16.1

#### Notes:

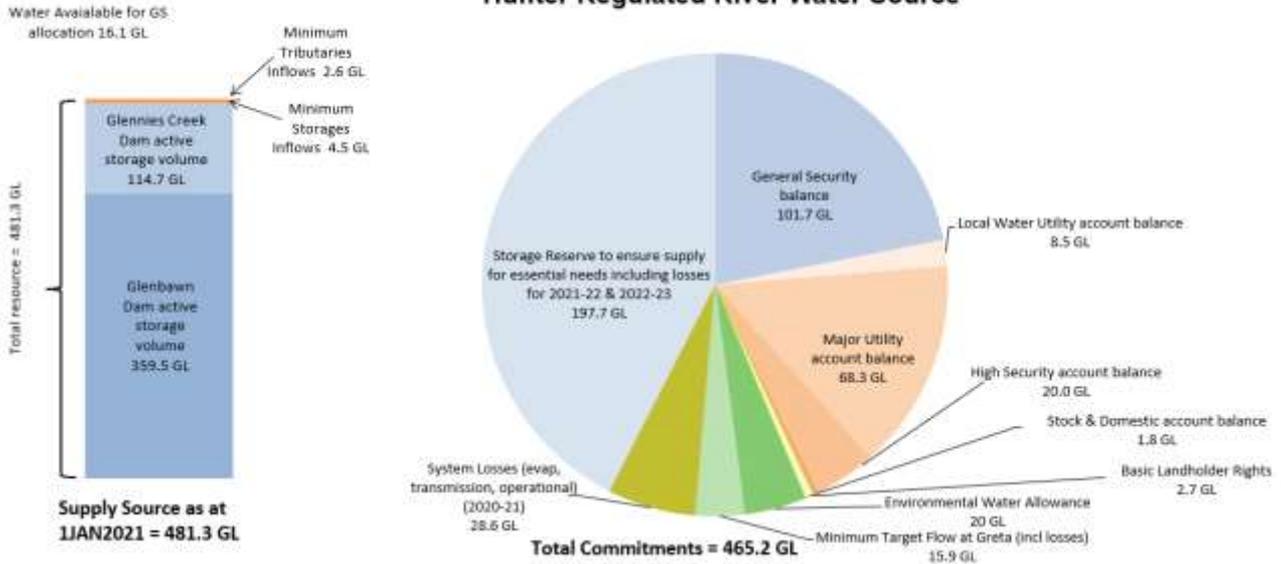
- (1) Minimum historical dam inflows (4.5 GL) and minimum historical usable tributary inflows (2.6 GL) from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021.
- (2) Water required to be set aside in storages as reserve to meet essential supply requirements and system losses of 120.2 GL in 2021-22. Calculated as: system losses of 50.4 GL plus Essential Requirements of 122.4 GL minus 52.7 GL of minimum storage & tributary inflows for the first 12 months of 24-month minimum inflow period starting 1 July 2021. Essential Requirement includes minimum 75% High Security (HS) opening allocation and 100% to all other high priority licences.
- (3) Water required to be set aside in storages as reserve to meet essential supply requirements and system losses of 77.5 GL in 2022-23. Calculated as: system losses of 50.2 GL plus Essential Requirements of 109.9 GL minus 82.6 GL of minimum storage & tributary inflows for the second 12 months of 24-month minimum inflow period starting 1 July 2021. Essential Requirement includes minimum 75% High Security (HS) opening allocation and 100% to all other high priority licences.
- (4) The water remaining in General Security (GS) accounts yet to be ordered and delivered. It is calculated by subtracting the usage (inclusive of Uncontrolled Flow takes) from the water already allocated to GS.
- (5) Surplus (or deficit) of water available after accounting for all commitments. The surplus of 16.1 GL this time signifies the additional resources available for allocation to General Security licence holders currently.

# Water Allocation Statement

Water availability and allocation update



## Resource Distribution: 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2023 Hunter Regulated River Water Source



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