



1 July 2015

## Opening allocations for NSW Murray Valley and Lower Darling water users

The Office of Water today announced opening water allocations for licenced water users in the NSW Murray and Lower Darling regulated water source for the new 2015/16 water year, commencing 1 July 2015.

NSW Murray regulated river high security licence holders will commence on 0.80 megalitre per unit share of entitlement, while general security licence holders will not receive an allocation at this time.

General security licence holders in the NSW Murray will have full access to water carried over from 2014/15, which is approximately 30 per cent on average.

Carryover in general security accounts, plus the sum of allocations in 2015/16, 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 will receive an allocation of 100 per cent of entitlement.

Supplementary water access licence holders will receive an allocation of 1 megalitre per unit share of entitlement. While regulated river (conveyance) access licence holders will receive an allocation of 0.2424 megalitres per unit share of entitlement.

There is a severe surface water shortage in the Lower Darling and it is necessary to protect the remaining water for critical human needs and permanent plantings.

As a result of the severe water shortage, licences holders in the Lower Darling regulated water source will receive access to 50 per cent of entitlement for local water utility licences and 30 per cent of entitlement for domestic and stock licences.

High security licence holders will receive 0.2 megalitre per unit share of entitlement, while general security licence holders will not receive an allocation at this time.

Water users are reminded that because of the severe water shortage situation in the Lower Darling, there are restrictions on the use of any water in accounts.

Licence holders in the Murray unregulated and alluvial water sources will receive an allocation of 100 per cent or 1 megalitre per unit share of entitlement.

Domestic and stock, 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.

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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.

Inter and intra valley trade in the **regulated NSW Murray** resumes today; trade within the **regulated Lower Darling** also resumes today; however, trade to and from the **regulated Lower Darling** valley remains suspended while Menindee Lakes are low.

The next water allocation announcement will be made on 15 July 2015.

Information on Available Water Determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Office of Water's website - [www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au)

ENDS

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