

7 June 2021



Namoi Regulated River Water Sources

Water allocation update

There has been some improvement in resources in the Namoi system since the last assessment allowing for the following allocation increase:

- **Lower Namoi general security allocation to increase by 1.9%**, resulting in a total allocation of 90.5% for the current water year.

All other categories of licence in the Upper and Lower Namoi Regulated River Water Source have been given full allocations and remain unchanged.

2020-21	High Security	General Security	Drought Stage
Upper Namoi Regulated River Water Source	100%	100%	 Stage 1
Lower Namoi Regulated River Water Source	100%	90.5%	 Stage 1

Resource outlook for 2021-22

This forecast is provided to assist water users in their planning for the new water year. Conditions are being closely monitored and water users will be provided monthly updates on catchment and inflow conditions.

- Water for all critical needs is secure for the 2021-22 water year.
- There is enough water to provide **Local water utility, domestic** and **stock** water access licences with a full (100%) allocation on 1 July for the 2021-22 water-year.
- **High security** licence holders are also likely to receive a full (100%) allocation on 1 July 2021.
- **General security** entitlement holders in the **Upper Namoi** can expect to receive a full (100%) allocation on 1 July as Split Rock Dam volume is forecast to stay well above 10% full.
- The maximum volume that may be held is 1 megalitre per unit share (100%) in the **Upper Namoi general security** account.
- Water held in the **Lower Namoi general security** accounts are accrued at continuous basis and will be carried forward in full into 2021-22. The maximum volume may be held in the accounts at any time is 2 megalitres per unit share.
- **Supplementary** licence holders are likely to receive a full (100%) allocation on 1 July 2021.
- As the water years closes water users are reminded to be aware of **potential forfeiture** of water from accounts with no carryover provision or where accounts limits are exceeded.

Storage levels (as at 3 June 2021)

- Split Rock Dam is 29.3% full – holding about 118, 000 megalitres (ML).
- Keepit Dam is 67% full – holding about 289,000 ML.

Key facts

- During May, the catchment experienced below average to average rainfall, ranging between 25 to 50 mm.
- Inflows into headwater storages included 9.3 gigalitres (GL) for Keepit and 1.6 GL for Split Rock Dam.
- Critical requirements for Manilla and Barraba townships are secure for the next 24 months and beyond, based on assumed minimum future inflows to Split Rock Dam.
- Drought stages for both Upper and Lower Namoi rivers remain at the minimum (stage 1) reflecting normal river operation.

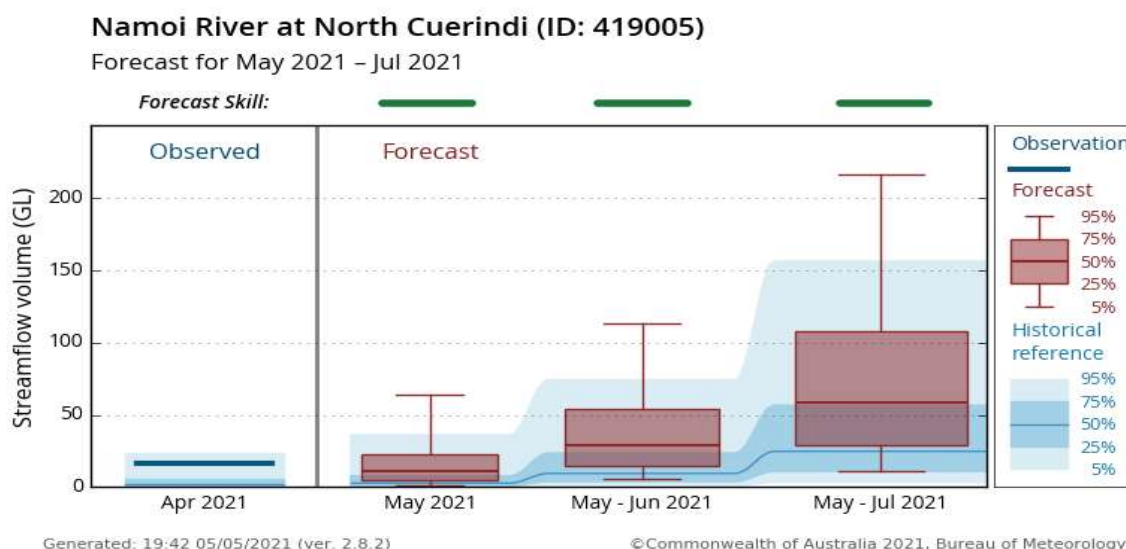
Seasonal climate and streamflow outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for winter indicates that rainfall is likely to be above average across the catchment. Both daytime and overnight temperatures are likely to be above average for winter.

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

The Bureau of Meteorology issues a seasonal flow forecast for the unregulated Namoi River at North Cuerindi (see Figure below). This may provide an indication of potential inflows into Keepit Dam. All forecast quantiles of total streamflow volume from May to July are higher than the historical quantile references, indicating higher runoff potential than historical streamflow conditions during these months.

Details can be found at: www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/

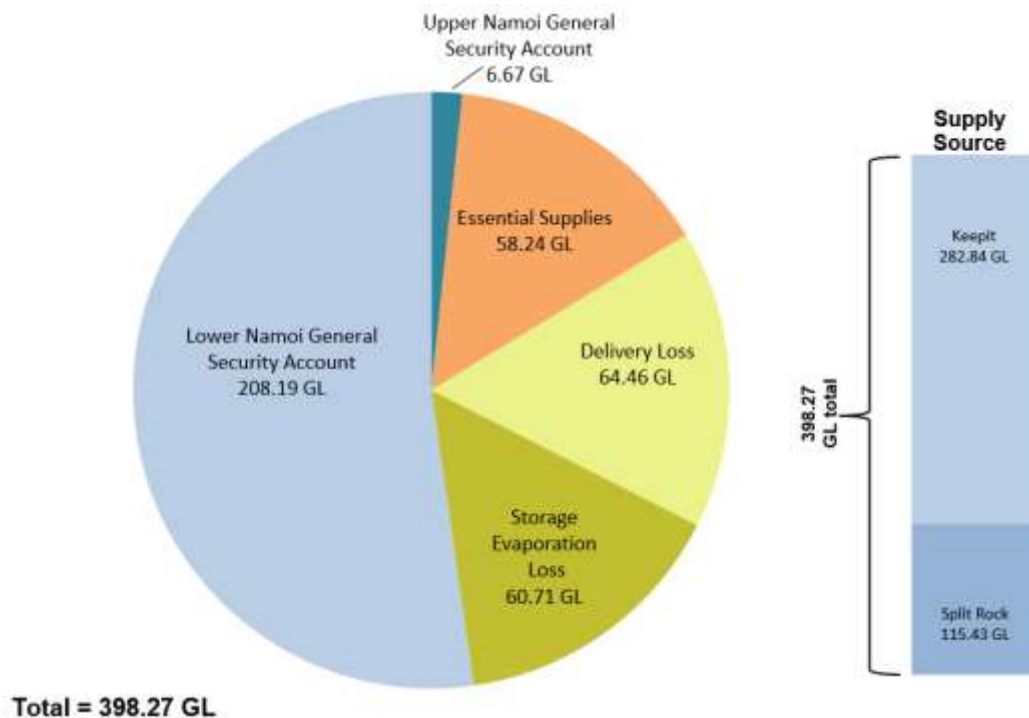


Resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 1 June 2021)	GL
Keepit and Split Rock Active Volumes	398.27
<i>less</i>	
Storage Evaporation Loss ⁽¹⁾	60.71
Essential Supplies ⁽²⁾	58.24
Lower Namoi General Security Account	208.19
Upper Namoi General Security Account	6.67
Delivery Loss ⁽³⁾	64.46

Notes:

- ⁽¹⁾ Storage Evaporation Loss: evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and maximum historical evaporation rates over 2 years.
- ⁽²⁾ Essential Supplies: water required to be set aside under water sharing plans to provide for Stock & Domestic, Towns, High Security and riverine environments. Includes Gunidgera/Pian stock and domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. This commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows into the storages.
- ⁽³⁾ Delivery Loss: This account reflects the water needed to deliver general security water. Traditionally, a 30% delivery loss has been budgeted for this river system.



Water Allocation Statement

Water availability and allocation update



Resource Assessment data sheet as at 1 June 2021

Volumes in GL	Budget	Current	Additional	Balance
Storage Evaporation Loss	60.71	59.93	0.78	60.71
Essential Supplies for next 24 months (58.2 GL max)	58.24	56.08	2.16	58.24
Upper Namoi General Security (11.4 GL max)		6.67	0.00	6.67
General Security Delivery Loss	64.46	63.03	1.43	64.46
Lower Namoi General Security (491.8 GL max)		203.52	4.67	208.19
Additional Resource for Sharing		9.04	-9.04	0.00
Total		398.27	0.00	398.27

Upper Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	0.00	GL
Available Water Determination	0.00	ML per unit share

Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	4.67	GL
Available Water Determination	0.019	ML per unit share

Further information

The state-wide opening water allocation statement will be published on Thursday, 1 July.

Monthly water allocation statements for the new 2021/22 water year for the Namoi Regulated River Water Source will commence on **Wednesday 7 July 2021**.

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