

22 December 2021

NSW Border Rivers Regulated Rivers Water Source

Water allocation update

There is no change to allocations in the Border Rivers regulated river water source.

Significant inflows in recent months has enabled both Pindari and Glenlyon dams to fill to capacity. General security (A Class) and general security (B Class) water access licence holders reached 100% allocation in July 2021 and August 2021 respectively. All high priority licence categories have received their maximum allocations this water year.

Usage to date from general security (B Class) water users has been very low and there remains insufficient space within water account limits to allocate more water at this time. Inflows and usage will be monitored over summer and subsequent assessments could identify available resource to top-up B Class accounts.

Supplementary licence holders received a reduced allocation of 0.75 megalitre (ML)/share resulting from the implementation of growth-in-use rules. This will not change in 2021-22 unless floodplain harvesting regulations are enacted.

2021-22	High Security	General Security (A Class)	General Security (B Class)
Border Rivers	100%	100%	100%

Storage levels (as at 22 December 2021)

- Pindari Dam is 100% full - holding about 313 gigalitres (GL).
- Glenlyon Dam is 100% full - holding about 256 GL.

Key facts

- This allocation statement is based on a resource assessment as of 1 November 2021.
- The maximum account balance and use per year in the Border Rivers regulated river water source is 1 ML/share (100% of entitlement) for general security A and general security B class licences.
- The maximum allocation in a year for general security A users is 1 ML/share (100% of entitlement).
- Pindari Dam experienced days with inflows greater than 1,200 ML/day during the April to August period. While the high inflow events met the water sharing plan rule for the accrual of 4 GL of water for stimulus release over the 1 August to 1 December period, no stimulus release was required due to flood conditions in the catchment.
- The intended use of the stimulus flow by environmental water managers is to mirror a naturally occurring hydrograph, target pre-season cues for fish breeding and to regularly wet and inundate interconnected riparian areas.

Seasonal climate outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for January 2022 to March 2022 indicates that rainfall is likely to be average to above average across the catchment. Daytime temperatures are likely to be average to below average and overnight temperatures are likely to be above average.

Details can be found at: www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead/outlooks/

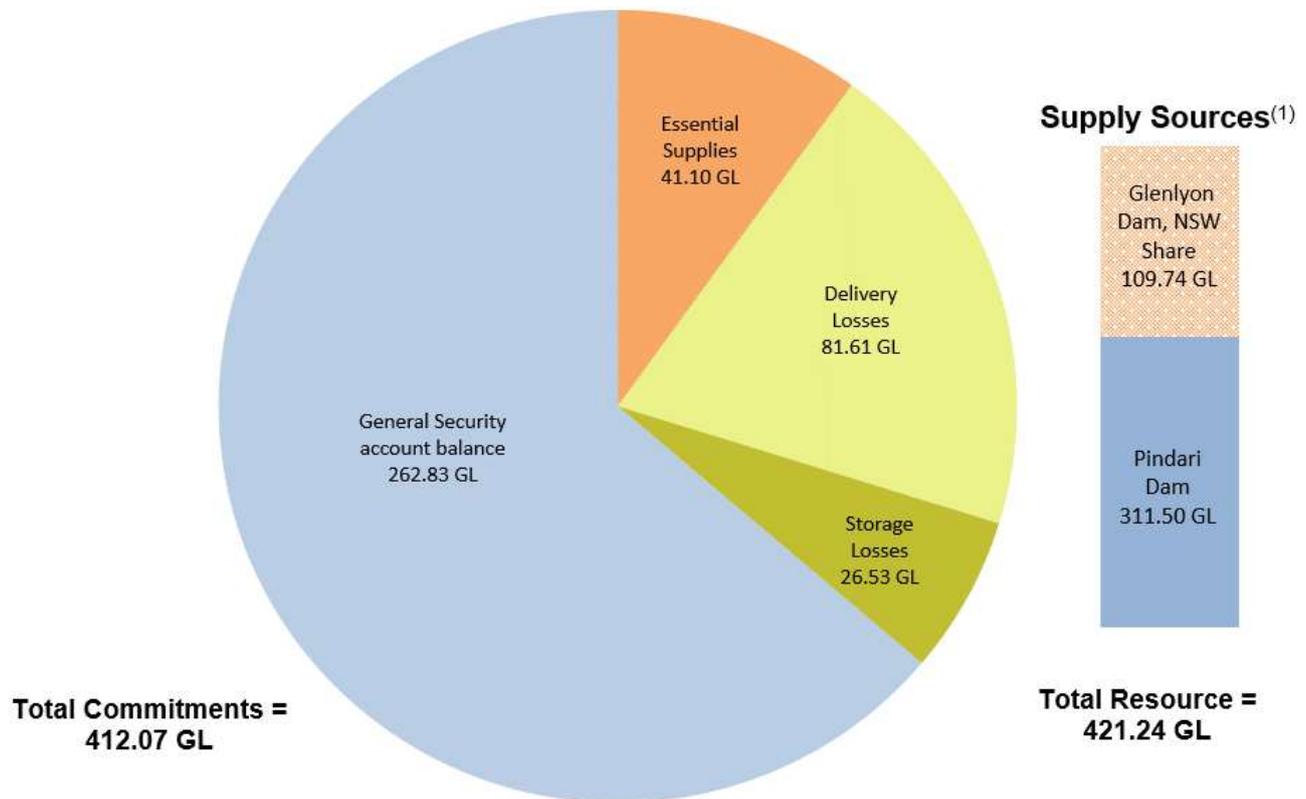
NSW Border Rivers resource assessment

Distribution of NSW Resources (as at 1 November 2021)	Volume (GL)	Volume (GL)
Total available resource (NSW) ⁽¹⁾		421.24
less		
Storage losses ⁽²⁾	26.53	
Essential supplies ⁽³⁾	41.10	
General security account balance ⁽⁴⁾	262.83	
General security delivery losses ⁽⁵⁾	81.61	
Total resources allocated		412.07
Surplus (deficit) ⁽⁶⁾		9.17

Notes:

- (1) This includes Pindari Dam and the NSW share of Glenlyon Dam, at the time of the assessment. In accordance with the *New South Wales - Queensland Border Rivers Intergovernmental Agreement 2008* NSW has access to 57% of net inflows into Glenlyon Dam.
- (2) Storage evaporation loss is based on forecast storage depletion over the next 24 months.
- (3) Water required to be set aside under water sharing plans to provide for domestic, stock, towns, high security, replenishment, stimulus release (4GL), delivery loss and operational requirements. This commitment is assisted by the minimum forecast inflows to storage.
- (4) The general security account balance is inclusive of about 2.806 GL of held environmental water (HEW) administered by environmental water holder/s. The HEW volume is indicative only and prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade. These environmental entitlements are held and/or managed either singly or jointly by various environmental water holder groups including the NSW environmental water holder - Environment, Energy and Science (EES), and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH).
- (5) General security delivery losses – budgeted at about 30 per cent of remaining general security account water.
- (6) All accounts are at their maximum or very near-maximum limit at this time, with 9.17 GL surplus left. This surplus may be allocated to GS B Class users when their account balance drops significantly below the maximum limit. The system is secure to June 2022 and beyond with no deficit.

Distribution of NSW Resources as at 1 November 2021



Further information

The next Border Rivers water allocation statement will be published in March 2022 or prior if there is a significant change to the resource situation.

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

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

You can also follow DPIE-Water on Twitter: @NSWDPIE_Water