

26 September 2022

Border Rivers Regulated River Water Source

Water availability and allocation update

There is an increase in allocation to general security (B class) licence holders of 0.57 megalitre per unit share (ML/unit share).

The resource assessment has identified a surplus of 33.7 gigalitres (GL) available for distribution by NSW. The water sharing plan allows for the top-up of general security (B class) entitlements. With continued wet conditions, there has been little use of regulated water and little drawdown of accounts. This assessment shows that an allocation of 57% of entitlement (0.57 ML/unit share), requiring just 0.55 GL, will fill all general security (B class) accounts. Note: once an account is topped-up to the maximum 100% (1 ML/share) it cannot benefit further from the allocation.

As the storages have remained full or near full, with only minor usage, there has been no significant change in resource balance. Therefore, the regular 'pie chart' has not been reproduced in this statement as it lacks meaning.

Current allocations

2022/23	High Security	General Security (A Class)	General Security (B Class)
Border Rivers	100%*	100%*	157%

* Maximum allowable as per the water sharing plan

Storage levels (as at 19 September 2022)

- Pindari Dam is 100% full - holding about 313 GL.
- Glenlyon Dam is 101% full - holding about 257 GL.

Key facts

- Continued wet conditions and healthy inflows in 2022 have enabled both Pindari and Glenlyon dams to remain full.
- All higher priority licence categories are at their maximum allocations for this water year.
- General security (A class) users have received their maximum allocations for this water year.
- While supplementary licence holders received a reduced allocation of 0.74 ML/unit share for 2022/23 (as a result of the implementation of growth-in-use rules) on 1 July 2022, the implementation of floodplain harvesting licences in August 2022, enabled supplementary water access licences to be allocated a further 0.26 ML/unit share on 15 August 2022, bringing their total allocation for the 2022/23 water year to the maximum allowable 100% of entitlement.
- Supplementary water usage has been just 4 GL so far this water year (about 3% of entitlement).

Seasonal climate outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for October to December indicates that rainfall is likely to be above median across the catchment. Daytime temperatures are likely to be below median and overnight temperatures are likely to be median or below median for most of the catchment during the October to December period.

Further details at: www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead/outlooks/

NSW Border Rivers resource assessment

Distribution of NSW Resources	Volume (GL)	Volume (GL)
Surplus as of 1 Aug 2022 ⁽¹⁾		33.662
New allocation General Security (B class) accounts ⁽²⁾	0.550	
Surplus as of 23 Sep 2022 ⁽³⁾		33.112

Notes:

- (1) The 1 August 2022 resource assessment identified a volume of 296.880 GL available for distribution to NSW general security water users. With general security (A class) and general security (B class) entitlements totalling 263.218 GL, this leaves a surplus of 33.662 GL available for further allocation.
- (2) This volume is the space available in general security (B class) accounts resulting from usage since 1 July 2022.
- (3) As a result of allocations made to general security (B class) of 0.550 GL in this resource assessment, all accounts are at their maximum limit, leaving 33.112 GL of surplus or uncommitted water.

Water allocation history for 2022/23

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	Account Balance
1-Jul	Domestic and Stock	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*	100%*
1-Jul	Supplementary	0.74 ML/unit share	0.74 ML/unit share	74%#
1-Jul	General Security (A class)	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share	100%*
1-Jul	General Security (B class)	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share	100%
15-Aug	Supplementary	0.26 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share	100% [^] *
23-Sep	General Security (B class)	0.57 ML/unit share	1.57 ML/unit share	100% [@]

* Maximum allowable as per the water sharing plan.

Reduced on 1 July 2022 due to the implementation of growth-in-use rules.

[^] Increased to maximum allowable of 100% in 2022/23 due to implementation of floodplain harvesting licences.

[@] Small volume of new allocation to top-up accounts to 100% of entitlement.

Water allocation guide

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment – Water has published a series of guides to describe the water allocation methodology for all major NSW regulated river systems. The guide for the NSW Border Rivers regulated river water source is available at the link below:

www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process

Further information

The next Border Rivers water allocation statement will be published in December 2022, or earlier 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 and Environment website - www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water

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

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