



8 May 2017

## Gwydir Valley

### Water allocation update – to end April 2017

#### Allocations

There is now sufficient water available in the Gwydir regulated river water source to **increase allocation to general security licences by 3.05 per cent**. This brings the **total allocation for general security water users in 2016/17 to 77.84 per cent of entitlement**.

Copeton Dam received 21,900 megalitres of inflow during April 2017. These storage inflows, plus downstream tributary flows, have assisted in this allocation increase.

All other categories of licence in the valley have already received their maximum allocation for the 2016-17 water year.

	High Security	General Security
Gwydir valley	100%	77.84%

#### Dam levels (as at 4 May)

Copeton Dam is 47 per cent full – rising – and holding 645,559 megalitres (ML).

#### Key facts

- The storage volume in Copeton Dam increased by around 19,500 ML during April. This time last year the storage was 15.7 per cent full.
- Operations in coming weeks will focus on reviewing operating plans and analysing possible scenarios of requirements for the winter-spring period that lies ahead. One key element will be on-going review of Bureau of Meteorology rainfall outlooks.

#### Seasonal rainfall outlook

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, the valley is likely to be drier than average in the three months from May to July, with above average daytime temperatures.

The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains neutral, and while tropical Pacific Ocean waters have been warming since January, the Bureau’s climate model suggests this warming falls short of El Niño levels. While four out of six international models surveyed by the Bureau still indicate that El Niño is likely to develop later this year. The Bureau instructs caution as models have lower accuracy at this time of year in forecasting El Niño.

The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is neutral at this time and the Bureau’s climate model suggests that it will remain neutral over the next three months. A positive IOD is typically associated with below average winter-spring rainfall over southern and central Australia.

When a positive IOD coincides with El Niño, the typical dry conditions experienced across Australia during El Niño may be enhanced.

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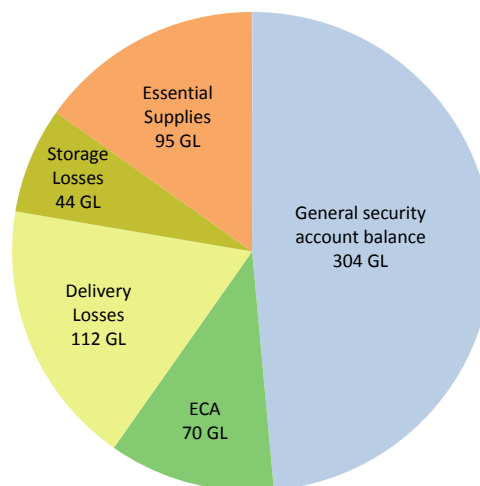
[www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au)

## Gwydir Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution as at 01 May 2017	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource <sup>(1)</sup>	625.25
<b>less</b>	
Storage Losses <sup>(2)</sup>	44.84
Essential Supplies <sup>(3)</sup>	94.72 (100% full)
ECA	70.05
Delivery Losses	112.08
General Security Account Balance	303.56

\*See notes below.

### Resource Distribution as at 01 May 2017 Gwydir Valley



Total = 625 GL

### Notes:

- (1) Available Resource: is the total active storage at Copeton Dam at the time of assessment.
- (2) Storage Losses: evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and maximum historical evaporation rates over 2 years.
- (3) Essential Supplies: water required to be set aside under the water sharing plan to provide for Towns, Stock, Domestic, High Security and riverine environments. Includes stock and domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. This commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows into the storage.

### Further information

The next monthly Water Allocation Statement for the Gwydir regulated river water source will be issued on **Wednesday 7 June 2017**.

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

## Gwydir resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 31 March 2017
- Current Assessment date: 30 April 2017

<b>Storage volume</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Storage Balance (GL)</b>
Total		644.25
Dead storage	19.00	625.25
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	44.05	581.20

<b>Essential Supplies</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	94.72	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-0.97	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	0.00	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	0.00	
Current balance	93.75	487.45

<b>Environmental Contingency Allowance (ECA)</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	68.68	
Orders from assessment period	0.00	
Current balance	68.68	418.77

<b>General Security Irrigation</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	290.51	
Orders from assessment period	-2.51	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to Low Security	0.00	
Reconciliation of accounts	0.00	
Current balance	288.00	130.77

<b>Delivery Loss</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	107.76	
Losses since last assessment	0.00	

<b>Delivery Loss</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.00	
Current balance	107.76	23.01

<b>Apparent Losses since last assessment</b>	<b>% of loss</b>	<b>GL</b>
Total		0.00
Essential Supply Loss	28%	0.00
General Security + ECA Loss	72%	0.00

<b>Resources available for sharing</b>	<b>GL</b>
Total	<b>23.01</b>

<b>New balances</b>	<b>Limit</b>	<b>Commitments</b>		<b>Balance</b>
		<b>Current</b>	<b>Additional</b>	
	GL	GL	GL	GL
Storage Loss	44.84	44.05	0.79	44.84
Essential Supplies	94.72	93.75	0.97	94.72
Delivery Loss	256.35	107.76	4.32	112.08
ECA	90.00	68.68	1.37	70.05
General Security Irrigation	764.50	288.00	15.56	303.56
Uncommitted resources	-	23.01	-23.01	0.01
Total	-	625.25	0.00	625.25

<b>Recommendations (General Security)</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Unit</b>
Incremental Increase CREDITED	15.56	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0305	ML per unit share