

7 November 2016

Namoi Valley

Water allocation update – to end October 2016

Allocations

Lower Namoi regulated river general security allocation has **increased by 16.15 per cent, bringing the total allocation to 117.37 per cent of entitlement.**

Further rainfall since mid-October has boosted water levels in both regulated river storages, resulting in additional water available for distribution to licence holders.

All other categories of licence in the Lower and Upper Namoi valleys have already received the maximum allocation for the 2016/17 water year.

	High Security	General Security
Upper Namoi Valley	100%	100%
Lower Namoi Valley	100%	117.37%

Dam levels (as at 04 November)

- Keepit Dam is 97 per cent full – rising - holding 414,000 megalitres (ML).
- Split Dam is 31 per cent full – rising - holding 124,000 ML.

Key facts

- Consistent rainfall during the last two weeks of October on already wet catchments has resulted in approximately 45,000 ML of inflow to Keepit Dam and 10,000 ML to Split Rock Dam.
- On-farm storages across the valley are now effectively full from the supplementary water access made available since the start of the water year. Much of the demand is expected to be met from these on-farm storages until early next year. Dam releases are likely to follow as irrigation demand increases in January and February 2017.
- Weir pools will help meet local water orders along the length of the river.
- With Keepit Dam approaching its full supply level, and in the event of further heavy rainfall, WaterNSW may be required to make air space releases, ensuring the storage fills while providing flood mitigation where possible.

Seasonal rainfall outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology seasonal outlook indicates that the catchment is likely to be drier than average in November, whereas the three-month outlook from November to January 2017 indicates equal chance of being above or below average rainfall conditions.

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Warmer days and nights are likely across NSW and large parts of Queensland, reflecting a shift from the previous update.

The current outlook reflects a weakening negative Indian Ocean Dipole, an ENSO-neutral tropical Pacific and warm ocean temperatures around Australia's northern and eastern coastlines.

Further information

The next water allocation statement for the Namoi regulated river water sources is scheduled to be issued on **Wednesday 7 December 2016**.

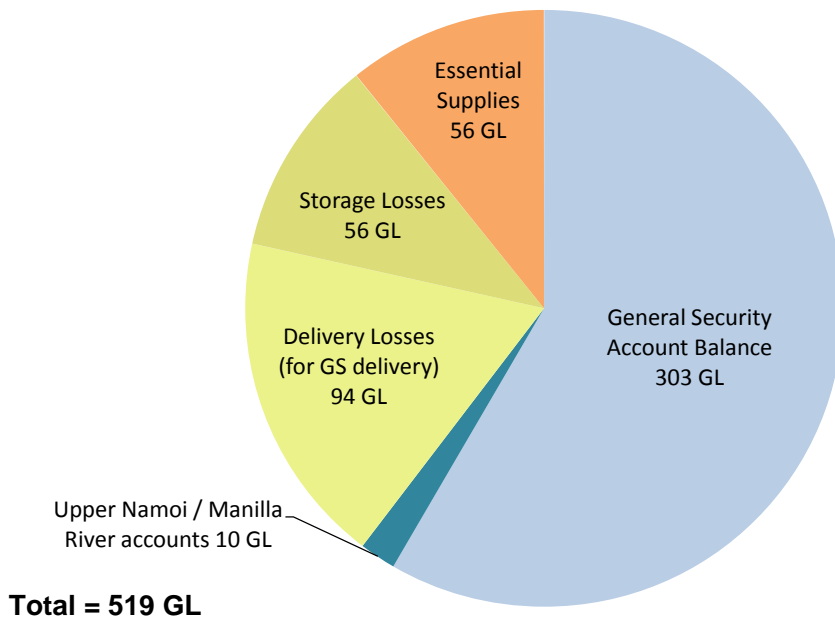
Information on Available Water Determinations and water sharing plans is available on the DPI Water website - www.water.nsw.gov.au

Namoi Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 01 November 2016) for 2016-17	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	518.85
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	55.62
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	56.00 (100%)
General Security Account Balance	303.05
Upper Namoi/Manilla River accounts ⁽⁴⁾	10.20 (100%)
Delivery Loss Account	93.97 (30% of GS)

*See notes below.

**Resource Distribution Nov 2016 to Jun 2017
Namoi Valley**



Notes:

- (1) Available Resource (519 GL) – includes total active storage (Split Rock & Keepit Dams).
- (2) Storage Losses – evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour over 2 years.
- (3) Essential Supplies – water required to be set aside under water sharing plans to provide for Towns, Stock, Domestic, 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.
- (4) Current total account balance slightly exceeds the account limit due to internal trading within upper Namoi general security accounts.

Namoi resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 30 September 2016
- Current Assessment date: 31 October 2016

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total (Split Rock plus Keepit)		528.55
Dead storage	9.70	518.85
Storage Loss Committed (projected 2 years)	52.56	466.29

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	56.00	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-0.99	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	0.00	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	0.00	
Current balance	55.01	411.29

Upper Namoi/Manilla Rivers	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	10.32	
Ordered since last assessment	-0.12	
Allocation Assignments from Upper Namoi to Lower Namoi	0.00	
Current balance	10.20	401.08

General Security (D/S Keepit)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	263.74	
Orders since assessment period	0.00	
Allocation Assignments into Lower Namoi (from HS & Upper Namoi)	0.00	
Current balance	263.74	137.35

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	82.22	
Apparent losses since last assessment	0.00	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.00	
Current balance	82.18	55.17

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		0.00
Essential Supply Loss	89%	0.00
General Security Loss	11%	0.00

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	55.17

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
		GL	GL	
Storage Loss	55.62	52.56	3.06	55.62
Essential Supplies	56.00	55.01	0.99	56.00
Upper Namoi / Manilla River	9.81	10.20	0.00	10.20
Delivery Loss	150.94	82.18	11.79	93.97
General Security Irrigation	493.40	263.74	39.32	303.05
Uncommitted resources	-	55.17	-55.17	0.00
Total	-	518.85	0.00	518.85

Recommendations Upper Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	0.00	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0000	ML per unit share

Recommendations Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	39.32	GL
Available Water Determination	0.1615	ML per unit share