



8 May 2017

Namoi Valley

Water allocation update – to end April 2017

Allocations

The general security allocation in Lower Namoi regulated river water source for the 2016/17 water year **remains unchanged at 124.67 per cent of entitlement.**

A small improvement in water available during April has been mainly used to top up essential supply requirements.

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

	High Security	General Security
Upper Namoi valley	100%	100%
Lower Namoi valley	100%	124.67%

Dam levels (as at 4 May)

- Keepit Dam is 63 per cent full – rising slowly – holding 268,132 megalitres (ML), compared to 9.7 per cent full at the same time last year.
- Split Rock Dam is 29.8 per cent full – steady – holding 120,517 ML, compared to 5 per cent full at the same time last year.

Key facts

- Essential supplies are secure for 2017/18.
- Some useful tributary inflows including from the Peel Valley, continue to satisfy flow and riverine health outcomes along the length of the river to Walgett.
- It is unlikely that any Stock and Domestic (S&D) or environmental flows will need to be delivered from storage during the remainder of the 2016/17 water year.
- Water shortage delivery strategies, such as block releases, are unlikely to be required in the foreseeable future.

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

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Bureau instructs caution as models have lower accuracy at this time of year in forecasting El Niño.

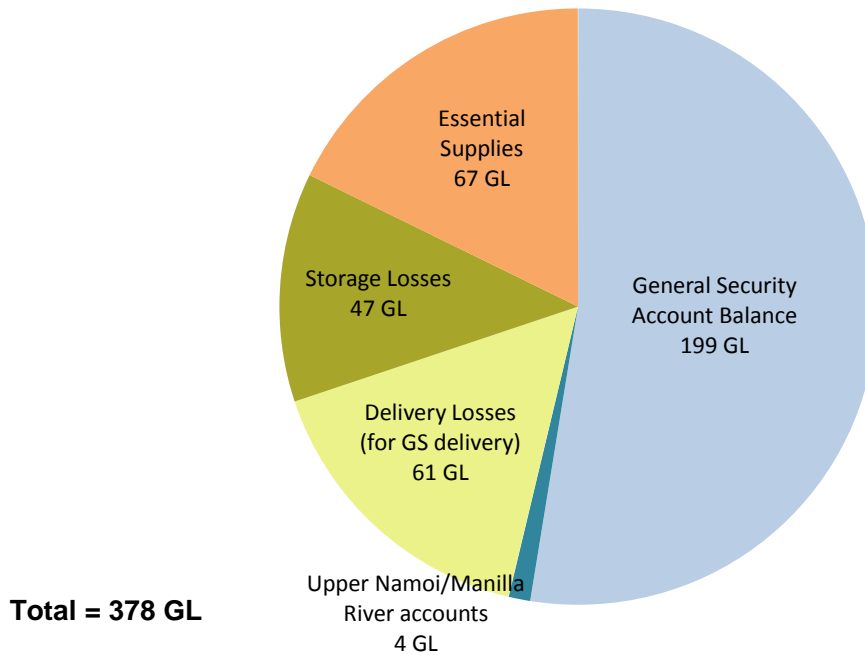
The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is neutral at this time and the Bureau's climate model suggests that it will remain neutral over the next three months. A positive IOD is typically associated with below average winter-spring rainfall over southern and central Australia. When a positive IOD coincides with El Niño, the typical dry conditions experienced across Australia during El Niño may be enhanced.

Namoi Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 01 May 2017)	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	378.55
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	46.90
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	67.20
General Security Account Balance	198.99
Upper Namoi/Manilla River accounts	4.44
Peel Trade Account ⁽⁴⁾	0.00
Delivery Loss Account	61.03

**See notes below.*

Resource Distribution as at 01 May 2017 Namoi Valley



Notes:

- (1) Available Resource (378 GL): includes total active storage (Split Rock & Keepit Dams).
- (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 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) Peel Trade Account – the Peel water sharing plan, at Clause 86(4), provides for limited allocation assignment (temporary trade) from the Peel to the Namoi valleys. It requires a volume to be set aside in Keepit resources equal to the AWD times 3,000 to support trade from the Peel valley. The trade account balance reduces as trade water is released from storage. The account increases with increases to Lower Namoi general security allocation. The current account balance is zero – all traded water has been delivered.

Further information

The next monthly Water Allocation Statement for the Namoi regulated river water sources will be issued on **Wednesday 07 June 2017**.

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

Namoi resource assessment

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

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total (Split Rock plus Keepit)		388.25
Dead storage	9.70	378.55
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	46.18	332.37

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	56.00	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-0.37	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	-2.61	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	- 0.78	
Current balance	52.23	280.14

Upper Namoi/Manilla Rivers	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	4.95	
Ordered since last assessment	-0.47	
Allocation Assignments from Upper Namoi to Lower Namoi	-0.04	
Current balance	4.44	275.70

General Security (D/S Keepit)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	202.77	
Orders since assessment period	-6.43	
Allocation Assignments into Lower Namoi (from HS & Upper Namoi & Peel Trade)	2.65	
Current balance	198.99	76.72

Peel Trade Account	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	0.00	
Trade to general security since last assessment	0.00	
Current balance	0.00	76.72

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	59.35	
Apparent losses since last assessment	0.00	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.78	
Current balance	60.13	16.58

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		0.00
Essential Supply Loss	5%	0.00
General Security Loss	95%	0.00

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	16.58

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
		GL	GL	
Storage Loss	46.90	46.18	0.72	46.90
Essential Supplies	67.20	52.23	14.97	67.20
Upper Namoi / Manilla River	9.81	4.44	0.00	4.44
Delivery Loss	150.94	60.13	0.90	61.03
General Security Irrigation	493.40	198.99	0.00	198.99
Peel Trade Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uncommitted resources	-	16.58	-16.58	0.00
Total	-	378.55	0.01	378.56

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	0.00	GL
Available Water Determination	0.000	ML per unit share