

7 November 2017

Gwydir Valley

Water allocation update

Allocations

Gwydir regulated river general security allocation **has increased by 4.52 per cent to 16.11 per cent of entitlement for the 2017-18 water year**. The increase is due to above average October rainfall producing better than expected inflows into Copeton Dam and a reduction of operating commitments since the previous assessment.

All other categories of licence in the regulated river valley have already received their maximum allocation for the 2017/18 water year.

	High Security	General Security
Gwydir valley	100%	16.11%

Dam levels (as at 6 November)

Copeton Dam is approximately 51 per cent full – falling – and holding approximately 709,000 megalitres (ML). This time last year the storage was 57 per cent full.

Key facts

- The stored volume in Copeton Dam has improved by around 12,500 ML since the last assessment.
- Releases from Copeton are likely to increase to meet rising consumptive demand and environmental flow commitments in line with warmer temperatures.
- Weather conditions and water availability will continue to be monitored closely.

Seasonal rainfall outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's three month seasonal outlook for November to January indicates equal chance of being wetter or drier than average. Average temperatures are likely in the three months to January, with November daytime temperatures likely to be warmer than average, particularly in the upper and lower reaches of the valley.

While the Pacific Ocean is likely to continue cooling towards La Niña levels over the coming months, the ocean warmth that typically appears to the north of Australia and in the eastern Indian Ocean during La Niña seems unlikely to develop. This means that Australia may not receive widespread heavy rainfall that is often seen with La Niña events.

Further information

The next allocation announcement for the Gwydir regulated river water source will be issued on **Thursday 7 December 2017**.

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

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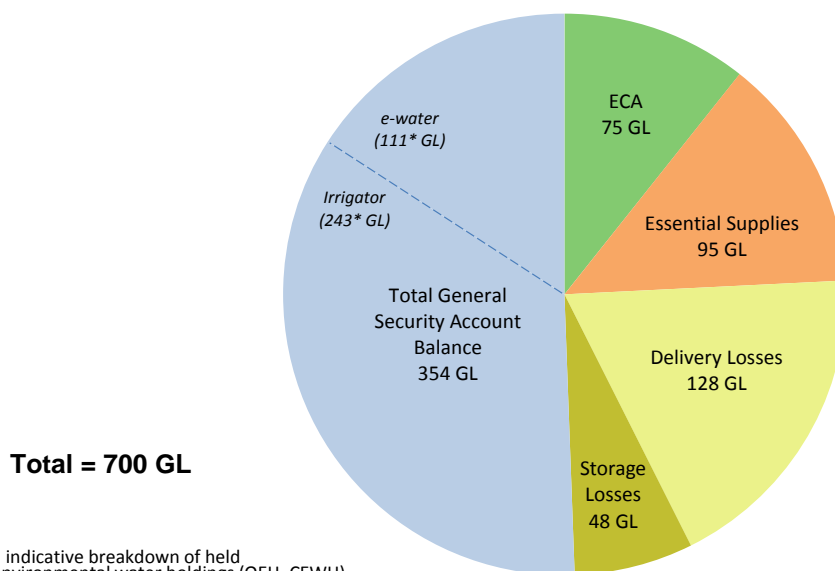
www.water.nsw.gov.au

Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 31 October 2017)	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	699.67
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	47.72
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	94.72 (100% full)
ECA	74.66
Delivery Losses	128.59
General Security Account Balance ⁽⁴⁾	353.98

See notes below.

Resource Distribution as at 31 October 2017 Gwydir Valley



* indicative breakdown of held environmental water holdings (OEH, CEWH), refer to note.

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.
- (4) **Held environmental water:** (HEW) – general security account water administered by environmental water holders has been identified in the above pie chart. This reporting of held environmental water is indicative only and, prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade, is estimated to be about 111 GL GS and 1 GL HS. These entitlements are held and/or managed either singly or jointly by various environmental holder groups, including the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH). Interested parties should refer to individual Agency websites for more detailed information on held environmental holdings.

Gwydir resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 30 September 2017
- Current Assessment date: 31 October 2017

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total		718.67
Dead storage	19.00	699.67
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	47.25	652.42

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	89.97	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-0.30	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	-3.00	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	-0.90	
Current balance	85.77	566.66

Environmental Contingency Allowance (ECA)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	72.62	
Orders from assessment period	0.00	
Current balance	72.62	494.03

General Security Irrigation	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	354.42	
Orders from assessment period	-26.50	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to Low Security	3.00	
Reconciliation of accounts	0.00	
Current balance	330.92	163.11

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	122.91	
Losses since last assessment	-6.12	

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.90	
Current balance	117.69	45.42

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		6.18
Essential Supply Loss	1%	0.06
General Security + ECA Loss	99%	6.12

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	45.42

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
	GL	GL	GL	GL
Storage Loss	47.72	47.25	0.47	47.72
Essential Supplies	94.72	85.77	8.95	94.72
Delivery Loss	256.35	117.69	10.90	128.59
ECA	90.00	72.62	2.04	74.66
General Security Irrigation	764.50	330.92	23.06	353.98
Uncommitted resources	-	45.42	-45.42	0.00
Total	-	699.67	0.00	699.67

Recommendations (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	23.06	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0452	ML per unit share