

10 January 2018

Gwydir Valley

Water allocation update

Allocations

Intermittent rainfall in December resulted in small inflows into Copeton Dam. This has allowed Gwydir regulated river general security allocation to **increase by 0.23 per cent to 17.4 per cent of entitlement**.

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%	17.4%

Dam levels (as at 10 January)

Copeton Dam is approximately 39 per cent full – falling – and holding approximately 539,000 megalitres (ML). This time last year the storage was 55 per cent full.

Key facts

- The volume in Copeton Dam has substantially decreased since the last assessment, mostly due to releases to meet downstream demand.
- Releases from Copeton are likely to continue at current rates to meet consumptive demand and environmental flow commitments.

Seasonal rainfall outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting a wetter than average January to March for the valley catchments. Daytime and night temperatures are likely to be cooler than average in this period.

The Bureau's El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) outlook continues with LA NIÑA conditions in the tropical Pacific. La Niña events typically bring above average rainfall to eastern Australia during summer. However, the event is forecast to be short-lived and weak, therefore having less influence on rainfall.

Further information

The next allocation announcement for the Gwydir regulated river water source will be issued on **Wednesday 7 February 2018**.

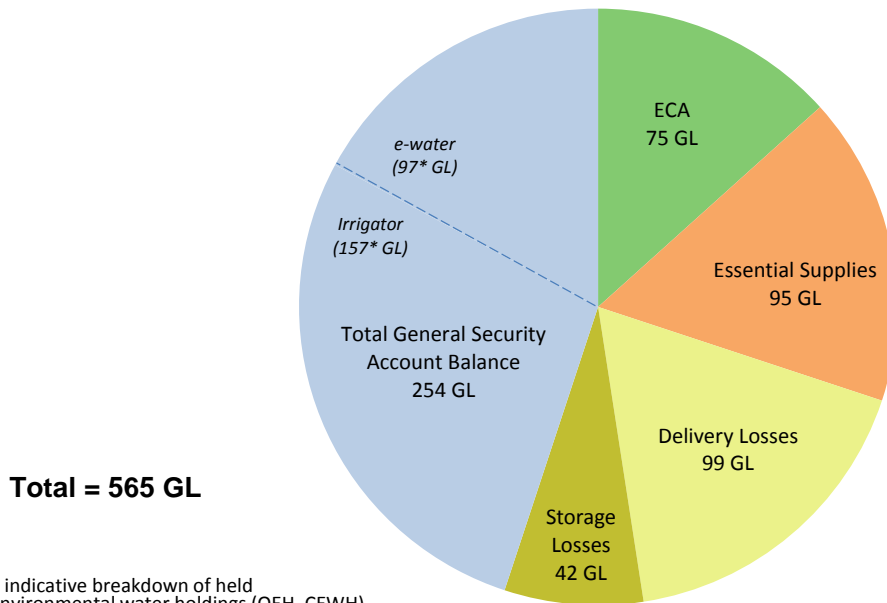
Information on Available Water Determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Industry - Water website - www.water.nsw.gov.au

Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 31 December 2017)	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	564.90
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	42.36
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	94.72 (100% full)
ECA	75.24
Delivery Losses	98.73
General Security Account Balance ⁽⁴⁾	253.85

See notes below.

**Resource Distribution as at 31 December 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 97 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 November 2017
- Current Assessment date: 31 December 2017

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total		583.90
Dead storage	19.00	564.90
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	46.36	518.54

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	94.72	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-3.35	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	-0.04	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	-0.01	
Current balance	91.32	427.22

Environmental Contingency Allowance (ECA)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	75.14	
Orders from assessment period	0.00	
Current balance	75.14	352.09

General Security Irrigation	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	327.05	
Orders from assessment period	-74.43	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to Low Security	0.04	
Reconciliation of accounts	0.00	
Current balance	252.66	99.42

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	120.66	
Losses since last assessment	-25.59	

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.01	
Current balance	95.08	4.34

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		26.45
Essential Supply Loss	3%	0.86
General Security + ECA Loss	97%	25.59

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	4.34

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
	GL	GL	GL	GL
Storage Loss	42.36	46.36	-4.00	42.36
Essential Supplies	94.72	91.32	3.40	94.72
Delivery Loss	256.35	95.08	3.65	98.73
ECA	90.00	75.14	0.10	75.24
General Security Irrigation	764.50	252.66	1.19	253.85
Uncommitted resources	-	4.34	-4.34	0.00
Total	-	564.90	0.00	564.90

Recommendations (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	1.19	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0023	ML per unit share