

10 September 2021

Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers Water Source

Water allocation update

There is sufficient resource improvement to enable a further 11% allocation to general security licences. This increment brings the cumulative general security allocation to 45% of entitlement for the current water year. All higher priority licences were allocated their maximum 100% of entitlement on 1 July 2021.

2021-22	High Security	General Security
Cudgegong	100%	45%
Macquarie	100%	45%

Inflows totalling 217,000 megalitres (ML) into Burrendong Dam were observed during August, and storage levels entered the Flood Mitigation Zone (FMZ) on 5 September.

As required under the water sharing plan, carryover allocations remaining in general security accounts, high security accounts and environmental water allowance (EWA) will be proportionately withdrawn on 30 September with a volume equivalent to the inflows to Burrendong Dam from 5 September to 30 September. A resource assessment will then be conducted to the end of September and a new allocation will be announced in the October statement.

When all carryover volume has been withdrawn, general security, high security and EWA accounts are reset to 100%. This potential reset occurs based on the end of month assessment.

This month the planning horizon steps out another 12 months to May 2023. The assessment therefore secures the allocation and delivery of water for high priority needs for next 21 months.

Tributary flows and FMZ releases from Burrendong Dam will continue to be managed adaptively to meet all downstream demands as a priority, thereby maximising the regulated resource in storage. Transfers from Windamere Dam to Burrendong Dam are not expected before February 2023.

Storage levels (as at 10 September 2021)

- Burrendong Dam is 103% full – rising – holding about 1,225,000 ML.
- Windamere Dam is 36% full – falling – holding about 133,200 ML.

Seasonal climatic and inflow outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for September to November indicates that rainfall is likely to be above average across the catchment. Daytime temperatures are likely to be cooler than

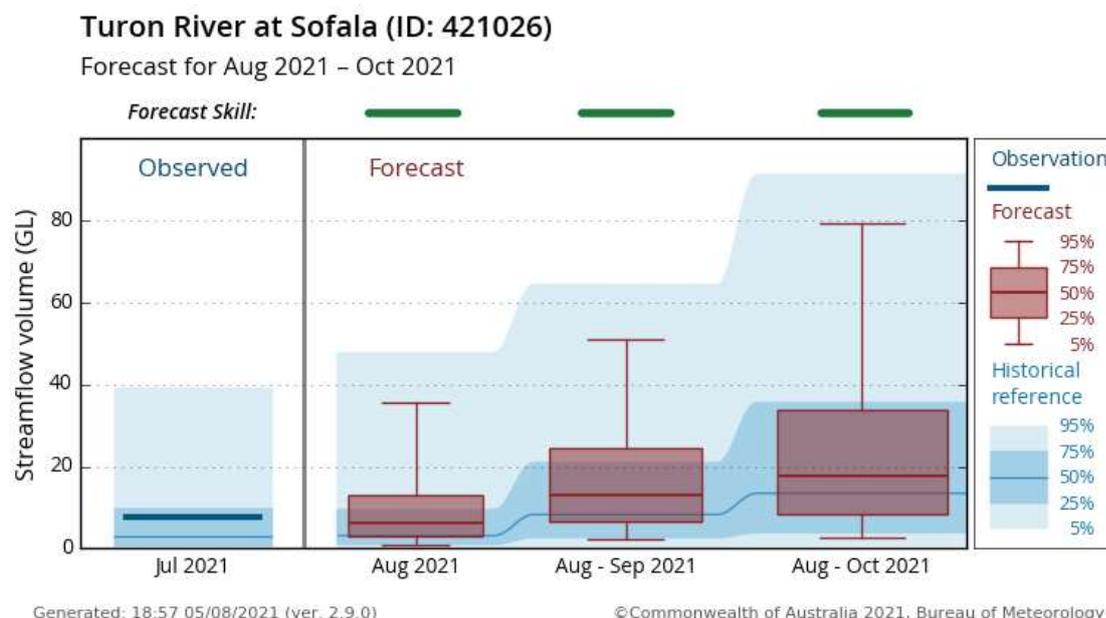
Water Allocation Statement

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average and overnight temperatures are likely to be warmer than average. A negative Indian Ocean Dipole event is underway and is expected to persist until at least mid-spring. This increases the chance of above average spring rainfall in the catchment.

The Bureau of Meteorology issues seasonal flow forecasts for the Turon River that drains into Burrendong Dam (see the figure below). This provides an indicative distribution of potential storage inflows. Forecast median of inflow totals from September to October are above the historic median, indicating a chance of wetter than historical inflow during this period.



For further information at: www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/?ref=ftr#id=421026

Resource Distribution (September 2021 to May 2023)	Volume (GL)
Current and Future Resources ⁽¹⁾	1,322
<i>less</i>	
General Security account balance ^{(2), (7)}	668
Planned Environmental Water ⁽³⁾	136
Domestic, Stock, Town ⁽⁴⁾	42
Inaccessible Storage ⁽⁶⁾	35
High Security ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁷⁾	25
Essential Requirements and Losses ⁽⁵⁾	307
Evaporation from Storage	109
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁸⁾	0

Notes:

- (1) End of August 2021 storage volume in Burrendong Dam plus minimum budgeted dam inflows from September 2021 to May 2023 plus 23 GL planned transfer from Windamere Dam.
- (2) Volume remaining in general security accounts, discounted for evaporative losses and including about 400 GL (65%) of carryover.

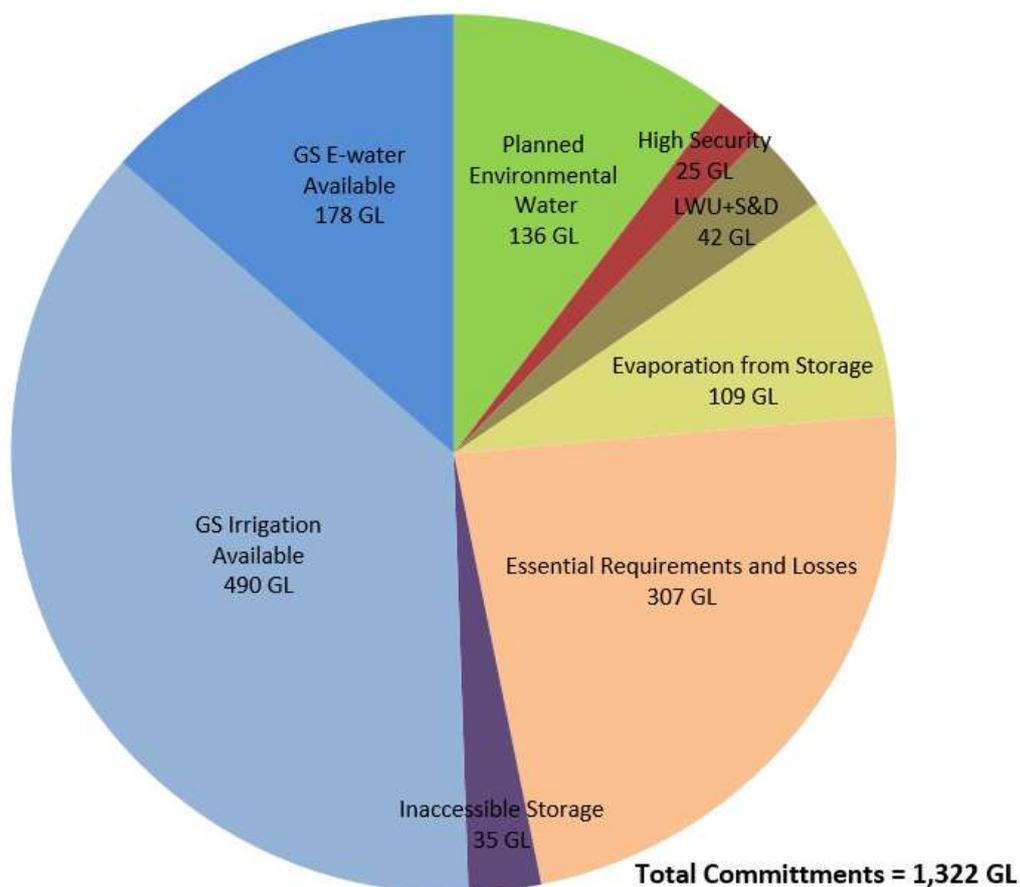
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- (3) Water allocated to the Environmental Water Allowance (EWA) under the water sharing plan to provide for the Macquarie Marshes and the riverine environment. Excludes 'licence-based' environmental water.
- (4) Reserves required to meet the full use of allocated water by Domestic, Stock, Town and High Security WALs below Burrendong Dam over the assessment horizon.
- (5) Replenishments, basic rights and system overheads to run the river under dry conditions over the next 21 months. System overhead includes transmission losses and operational loss. This estimate is regularly refined as the year unfolds.
- (6) Dead storage of 34 GL plus 2 GL of unallocated storage to ensure valve operations at very low storage levels.
- (7) This volume may contain held environmental water (HEW). The reporting of HEW is indicative only, prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade, and is estimated to be 178 GL of GS and 0 GL of HS. These entitlements are held and/or managed either singly or jointly by various environmental holder groups, including the NSW DPIE Environment, Energy and Science (EES) and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH).
- (8) All available water is fully allocated with no surplus left. The system is secure to May 2023 and beyond.

Resource Distribution (September 2021 to May 2023)



Next announcement

The next routine water allocation statement for the Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers Water Source will be issued on **Wednesday 13 October 2021**, or earlier if there is a significant change in the resource situation.

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