

9 February 2022

## Lachlan Regulated River Water Source

### Water allocation update

**There is a 6% increase to general security entitlement holders this month.** This brings the total allocation to general security licences, since the September reset, to 125% of entitlement.

High flows have continued during January, with approximately 230 gigalitres (GL) of inflow into Wyangala Dam and the tributaries. However, with little airspace in the storages, the majority of this water could not be captured and stored for future use.

There are still surplus flows in the system and Lake Brewster and Lake Cargelligo will be surcharged to regulate as much water as practicable. Most system demands are being met from storage spills and downstream tributaries.

Airspace operations continue at Wyangala Dam, with the dam to be held near full and pre-releases occurring safely as required, based on forecast rainfall. Translucent flow obligations have been fully met for this water year.

Water users are advised that there will be no further account reset before 21 March 2022, six months after the last reset, regardless of whether the system fills and spills before this date. The annual use limit of 100% of entitlement for general security entitlement holders still applies for the 2021-22 water year, plus any adjustments for trade.

2021-22	High Security	General Security
Lachlan Regulated River Water Source	100%	125%

### Storage levels (as at 7 February 2022)

- Wyangala Dam is 98% full – falling slightly – holding around 1,197 GL.
- Lake Cargelligo is 121% full – rising – holding around 43 GL.
- Lake Brewster is 98% full – rising – holding about 150 GL (31 January 2022).

### Seasonal climate outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for February to April indicates rainfall is likely to be above median conditions and temperatures are likely to be around or below average.

Further details at: [www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary)

The Bureau of Meteorology also issues a seasonal flow forecast of the Abercrombie River that drains into Wyangala Dam (see the figure below). This provides an indicative temporal distribution of potential inflows. All forecast flow quartiles are higher than the historical quartiles, indicating that flows over these coming months is likely to be higher than historical flows.

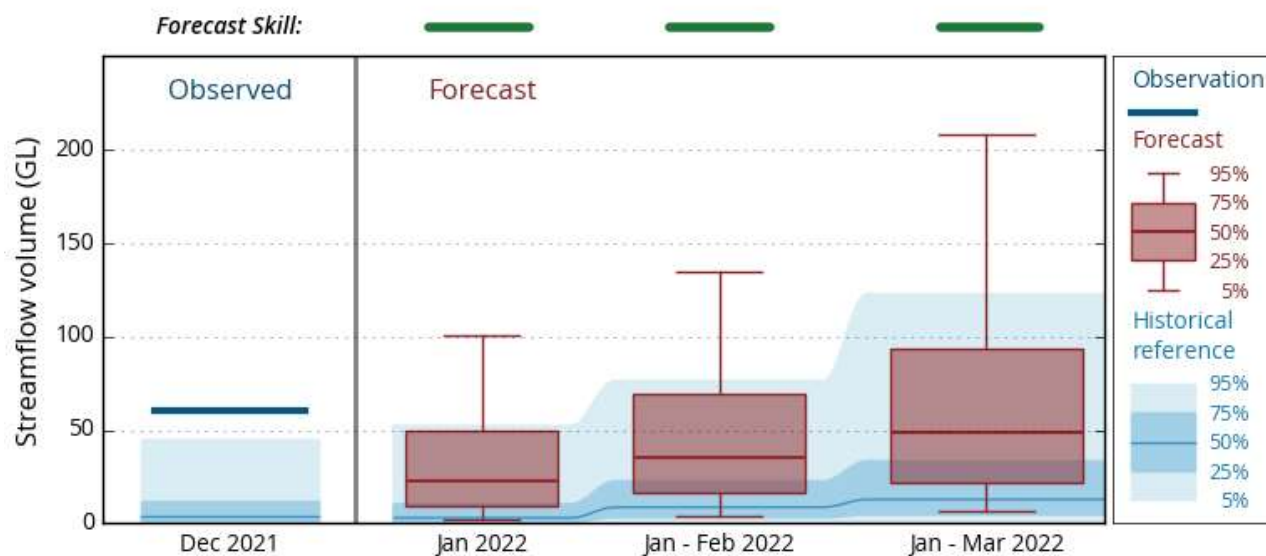
# Water Allocation Statement

Water availability and allocation update



## Abercrombie River at Abercrombie (ID: 412028)

Forecast for Jan 2022 – Mar 2022



Further details at: [www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/?ref=fr#id=412028](http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/?ref=fr#id=412028)

## Lachlan resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (February 2022 to May 2024)	Volume (GL)
Current and Future Resources <sup>(1)</sup>	1,724
<i>less</i>	
General Security account balance <sup>(6)</sup>	670
Conveyance	48
Planned Environmental Water <sup>(2)</sup>	77
High Security <sup>(3) (6)</sup>	104
Towns, Stock, Domestic <sup>(3)</sup>	82
Evaporation from storage <sup>(4)</sup>	189
Essential Requirements and Losses <sup>(5)</sup>	535
Inaccessible storage	<u>19</u>
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) <sup>(7)</sup>	<u>0</u>

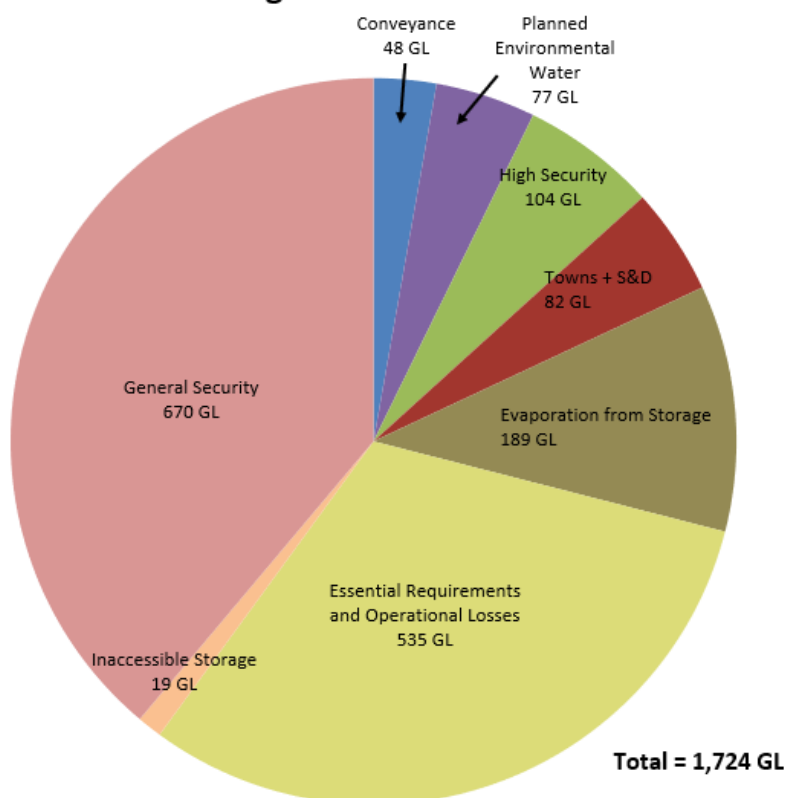
### Notes:

- (1) End of January 2022 storage volume in Wyangala Dam, Lake Cargelligo, and Lake Brewster, and the planned minimum inflows from February 2022 to May 2024 and flow in transit.
- (2) Water allocated to the Water Quality Allowance and the Environmental Water Allowances (EWA). The volume represents the balance of the allocated volumes to WQA and EWAs. The Wyangala and Brewster EWAs have been allocated 10 GL each for the 2021/22 and 2022/23 water years, and Wyangala EWA has been allocated 10 GL for

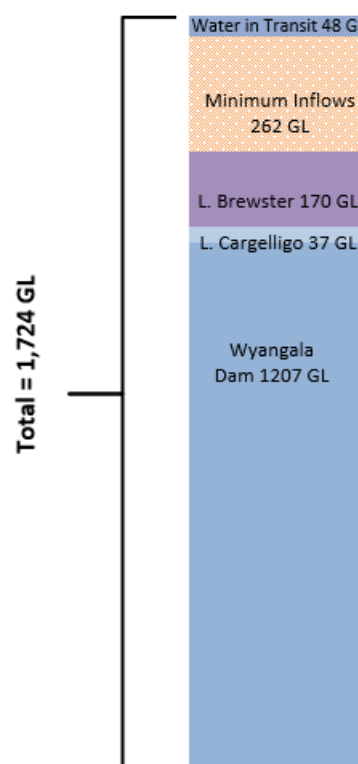
the 2023/24 water year, with some usage occurring this water year. In addition, 10 GL per year is allocated to the WQA for 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24.

- (3) Towns, Stock, Domestic and High Security: reserves are set aside to meet full allocation of these licences to 2023/24. Balances in high security accounts also include water traded in from general security licences, if any.
- (4) Evaporation volumes from all three storages are based on the forecast storage levels over the assessment period.
- (5) Essential requirements include basic rights, end of system flows, losses and any replenishment deliveries required. The loss budget (transmission and operational) is based on the best estimate of the volume required to run the river under dry conditions through to May 2024. This mostly consists of natural transmission losses as water soaks into riverbed sands. The loss allowance is updated regularly.
- (6) This may include held environmental water (HEW) as shown in the pie chart. The reporting of HEW is indicative only, prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade, and is estimated 133 GL of GS, and 23 GL of HS. These reported entitlements are managed by agencies holding environmental water accounts. They include the NSW DPE - Environment, Energy and Science (EES) and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH).
- (7) All available water resources have been fully allocated. The system is secure to May 2024 and beyond.

### Resource Distribution: February 2022 Lachlan Regulated River Water Source



### Supply Source



## Next announcement

The next routine water allocation announcement for the Lachlan Regulated River Water Source will be issued on **Tuesday 8 March 2022**.

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