

7 September 2022

# Namoi Regulated River Water Sources

## Water allocation update

Improvement in resources in August allows for the following allocation:

- **Lower Namoi general security allocation to increase by 5% of entitlement.**

The total Lower Namoi general security account balance, including the new allocation, is approximately 437 gigalitres (GL), meaning an average account balance of 178% of entitlement. All other licence categories in the Upper and Lower Namoi regulated systems received their full allocation at the start of the current water year.

This resource assessment is based on information to 31 August 2022. Any changes in resources from this date forward will be captured in the October resource assessment.

## Current allocations

2022/23	General Security	Account Balance
Upper Namoi Regulated River	100%	100%*
Lower Namoi Regulated River	5%	178%^

\*Maximum allowable account balance, excluding trade, is 100%. Note that trade may increase an individual's account balance above 100%.

^Average account balance, maximum allowable is 200%.

## Dam levels (as of 7 August 2022)

- Split Rock Dam is about 81% full – holding approximately 323 GL.
- Keepit Dam about 99% full – holding approximately 423 GL.

## Key information

- In August, the Namoi catchment experienced above average to very much average rainfall, receiving between 50 to 100 mm.
- Inflows from the upper catchment continued in August, with Keepit and Split Rock Dams receiving 90.1 GL and 19.8 GL respectively.
- Approximately 87.3 GL was released in August from Keepit Dam to manage the risk of physical spill.
- It is forecast, based on the current assessment, that essential supplies are secure for at least the next 24 months.
- Critical requirements for Manilla and Barraba townships are also secure for at least the next 24 months based on assumed minimum future inflows to Split Rock Dam.

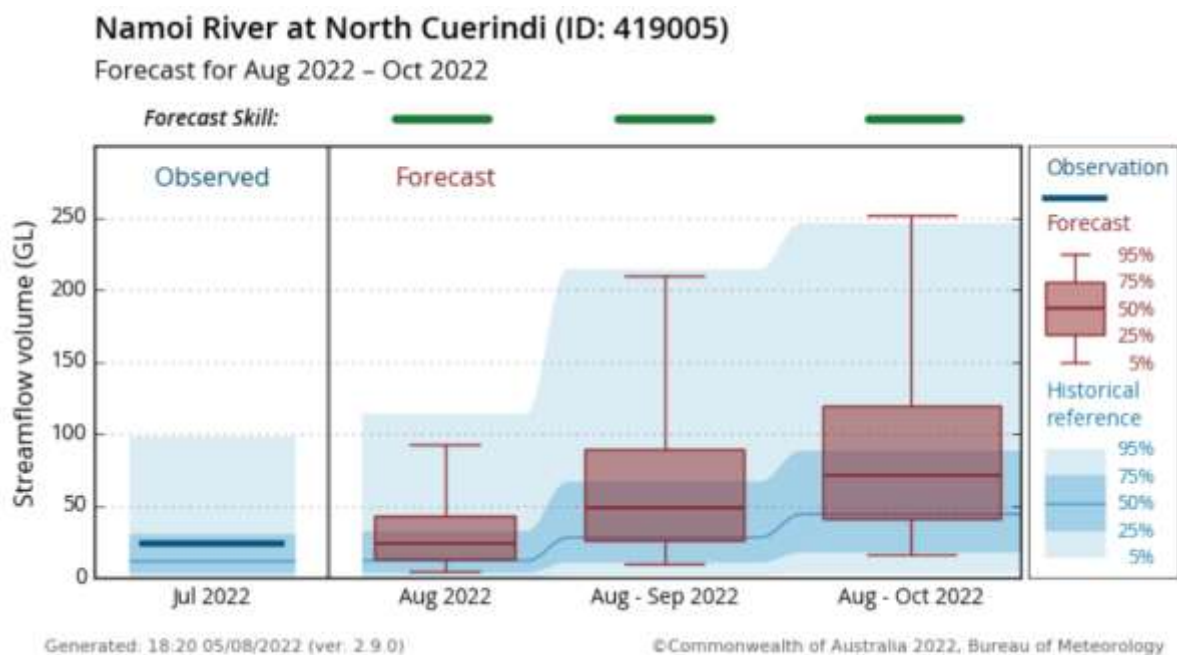
## Climate and streamflow outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal outlook for September to November indicates that rainfall is likely to be above median across the catchment. Daytime temperatures are likely to be below median and nights are likely to be above median over this period.

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 for the unregulated Namoi River at North Cuerindi. This may provide an indication for potential future inflows into Keepit Dam. The forecast quantiles over August to October are higher than the historical reference quantiles, with the forecast indicating a high chance of above median flows.

Further details at: [www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005](http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005)



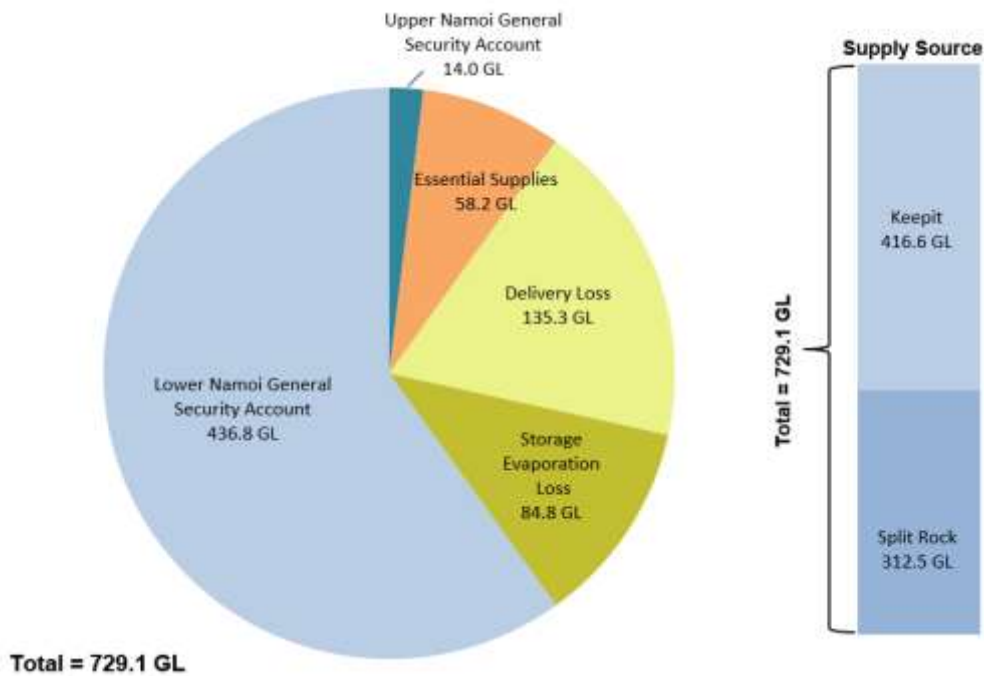
## Resource assessment data sheet

Resource distribution (as at 31 August 2022)	Volume (GL)
Keepit Dam and Split Rock Dam active volumes	729.1
<i>less</i>	
Storage Evaporation Loss <sup>(1)</sup>	84.7
Essential Supplies <sup>(2)</sup>	58.2
Lower Namoi General Security account balance	436.8
Upper Namoi General Security account balance	14.1
Delivery Loss <sup>(3)</sup>	135.3
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (deficit) <sup>(4)</sup>	(0)

**Notes:**

- (1) Storage Evaporation Loss: evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and maximum historical evaporation rates over 2 years.
- (2) Essential Supplies: water required to be set aside under the water sharing plan to provide for domestic, stock, towns, 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.
- (3) Delivery Loss: this account reflects the water needed to deliver general security water. Traditionally, a 30% delivery loss has been budgeted for this river system. The budget is continually assessed and, if necessary, topped up as a priority from resource improvements to ensure that allocated water can be delivered.
- (4) All available water resources have been allocated. The previous month’s minor resource deficit of 4.8 GL has been fully covered by inflows in August. The system can assure essential supplies for at least 24 months.

**Resource Distribution as at 31 August 2022  
Namoi Regulated River Water Sources**



Resource assessment data sheet as at 31 August 2022

Volumes in GL	Budget	Current	Additional	Balance
Storage Evaporation Loss	84.75	83.69	1.06	84.75
Essential Supplies for next 24 months (58.2 GL max)	58.24	44.38	13.86	58.24
General Security Delivery Loss	135.26	53.76	81.50	135.26
Upper Namoi General Security (12.07 GL max)		14.05	0.00	14.05
Lower Namoi General Security (491.8 GL max)		425.84	10.98	436.82
Additional Resource for Sharing		107.41	-107.41	0.00
Total		729.13	0.00	729.13

Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	10.98	GL
Available Water Determination	0.05	ML per unit share

Upper Namoi water allocation history for 2022/23

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	Average/Maximum Account Balance
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*	100%*
1-Jul	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*	100%*

\*Maximum allowable.

## Lower Namoi water allocation history for 2022/23

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	Average Account Balance
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*	100%*
1-Jul	Supplementary	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*	100%*
7-Aug	General Security	0.05 ML/unit share	0.05 ML/unit share	178%^

\*Maximum allowable.

^Average account balance.

### Water allocation guide

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment – Water has produced a series of guides to describe the water allocation methods for most NSW regulated river systems. The guide for the Namoi regulated river water source is available at the following link:

[www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process)

### Further information

The next monthly water allocation statement for the Namoi Regulated River Water Source will be available on **Monday 10 October 2022**.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Planning and Environment website: [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water)

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