



7 August 2015

Increased water allocations in the Lachlan Regulated River

DPI Water today announced a four per cent increase for general security water users in the Lachlan Regulated River.

This allocation is the first that general security water users have received in over three years.

In July, Wyangala Dam received its largest monthly inflows since the floods of March 2012.

These new inflows to storages assure the delivery of all existing water in accounts through a repeat of the lowest inflows on record prior to water sharing plan commencement in 2004.

This includes approximately 175,000 megalitres of carryover, equivalent to 30 per cent of general security entitlement on average.

Detailed information has been made available in the 'Water outlook – Lachlan Regulated River Valley' below.

The storage volume at Wyangala Dam is currently at 46 per cent of capacity, holding approximately 567,000 megalitres.

DPI Water will continue to monitor inflows and may make further allocations for general security access licence holders in the coming months.

Additional information on Available Water Determinations is available on DPI Water's website at - www.water.nsw.gov.au

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www.water.nsw.gov.au

Water outlook - Lachlan Regulated River Valley

DPI Water has updated the outlook and probabilities for the Lachlan Regulated River Valley for the 2015/16 water year.

Key facts

- General security available water determination is now 4 per cent of entitlement for 2015/16.
- Delivery of **full allocations to high priority requirements** and any remaining general security account water in 2015/16 is assured.
- The **average carryover** into 2015/16 for Lachlan general security users is equivalent to 30 per cent of entitlement, or approximately 175,000 megalitres.
- Domestic and Stock replenishment flows to effluent creeks for 2015 will be completed by early September, with final deliveries currently in transit. Delivery in 2016 will largely rely on the timing of rainfall and tributary flows.
- The **annual use limit** for general security licence holders in the 2015/16 water year is **100 per cent of entitlement**.

Dam levels

- Wyangala Dam is currently at 46 per cent storage capacity, storing 567,000 megalitres.

Outlook

- Inflow of about 80,000 megalitres is required into storages in August 2015 before any additional general security allocations can be made.
- Inflows so far this month total some 7,300 megalitres.
- The Bureau of Meteorology has **forecast a 50 per cent** chance of median rainfall being exceeded in the region during the August to October period.
- A firming El Niño event in the tropical Pacific is expected to become the dominant influence on the Australian climate during the second half of the year.

Scenarios

DPI Water can provide advice under the following scenarios:

Conditions	2015/16 General security AWD
Extremely dry	AWD (4% plus 2015/16 opening account balance)
Dry	AWD (4% plus 2015/16 opening account balance)
Median	AWD (13% plus 2015/16 opening account balance by 30 Oct rising to 14% plus 2015/16 opening account balance by 31 January 2016)
Wet	AWD (45% plus 2015/16 opening account balance by 30 Oct rising to 68% plus 2015/16 opening account balance by 31 January 2016)

DPI Water will provide the next water outlook update in September 2015.