

Namoi Valley

Water allocation update

Allocations

Lower Namoi general security allocation **remains unchanged at 7.08 per cent of entitlement.** Extreme dry conditions and minimal inflows across the upper storage catchments during April mean that there is no improvement in water resource availability.

With extremely dry catchments across the valley, well above average rainfall will be required to replenish soil moisture, create runoff and improve inflows.

	High Security	General Security
Upper Namoi Valley	100%	100%
Lower Namoi Valley	100%	7.08%

Dam levels (as at 7 May)

- Keepit Dam is about 13 per cent full – falling – holding about 60,000 megalitres (ML).
- Split Rock Dam is 14 per cent full – falling – holding about 60,800 ML.

Key facts

- Critical needs are secure for the 2018/19 water year.
- Irrigation deliveries in 2018/19 will be under a block release strategy, unless conditions improve.
- No end of system flow will be required during June under water sharing plan conditions if total storage volume falls below 120,000 ML (currently 120,800 ML).
- Small winter demands will be delivered in conjunction with environmental flows arriving from the Peel River. Furthermore, there may be a possibility to supply a small flow to Walgett with Peel inflows to meet riparian/stock and domestic requirements.
- Both Split Rock and Keepit dam sites are on amber algal alert. Water at these sites is unsuitable for potable use and may not be suitable for stock watering.

Seasonal climate outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology May to July rainfall outlook, issued on 26 April 2018, indicates that there is little shift towards wetter or drier than average conditions for the catchments. While May to July daytime temperatures show no clear trend, the night temperatures are likely to be warmer than average.

The EL NIÑO–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) condition is neutral in the tropical Pacific Ocean and is expected to remain neutral through this period. The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is also neutral at this time, with a possibility of a negative IOD developing during the winter months. There is no strong driver towards wetter or drier conditions for most of Australia.

Further information

The next allocation announcement for the Namoi regulated river water source will be issued in **June 2018**.

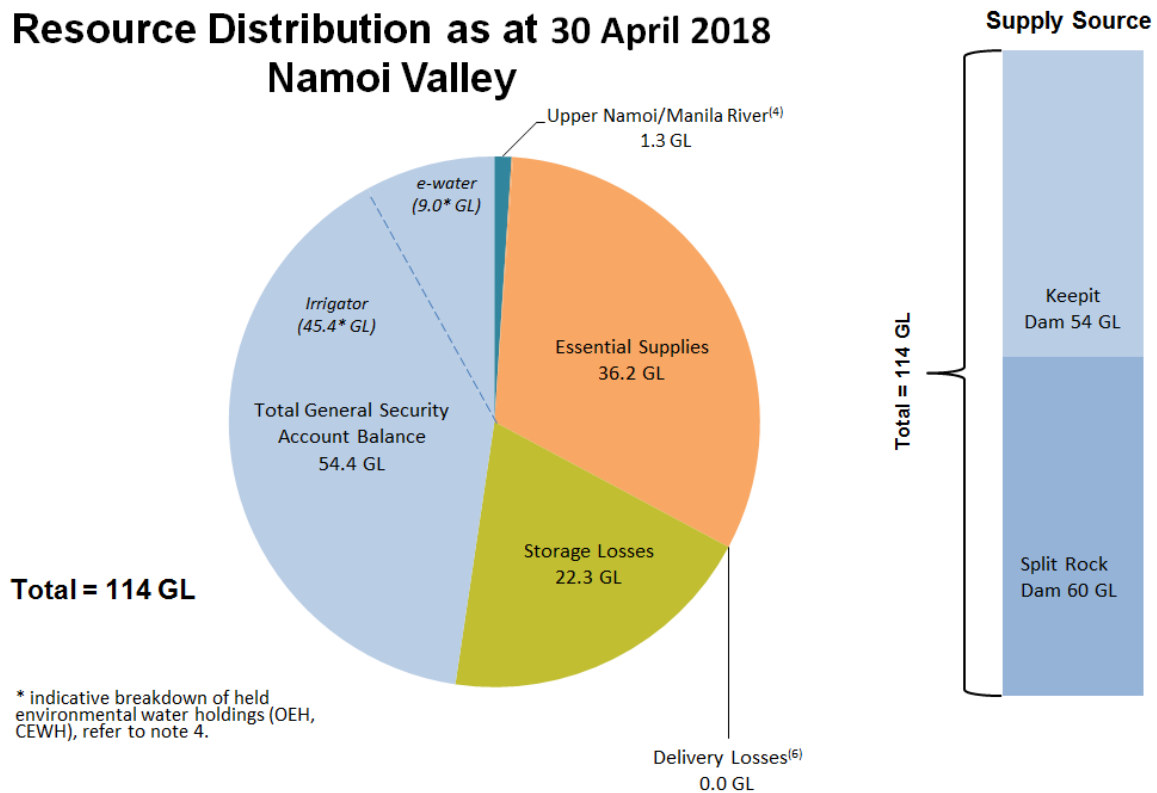
Information on Available Water Determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Industry – Water website - www.water.nsw.gov.au

Namoi Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 30 April 2018)	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	114.23
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	22.31
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	36.20
General Security Account Balance ⁽⁴⁾	54.43
Upper Namoi/Manilla River accounts ⁽⁴⁾	1.29
Peel Trade Account ⁽⁵⁾	0.00
Delivery Loss Account ⁽⁶⁾	0.00

See notes below.

**Resource Distribution as at 30 April 2018
Namoi Valley**



Notes:

- (1) Available Resource: includes total active storage (Split Rock & Keepit Dams).
- (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 water sharing plans to provide for Towns, Stock & Domestic, 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.
- (4) Held environmental water (HEW): water administered by environmental water holders in the above pie chart. This volume is indicative only and, prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade, estimated to be about 9 GL of GS in the Lower Namoi and 0.11 GL of GS in the Upper Namoi. No water is held in HS account. These entitlements are held and/or managed either individually or jointly by various environmental holder groups. (NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH)). Refer respective websites for detailed information on held e- water holdings.
- (5) Peel Trade Account: the Peel water sharing plan, at Clause 86(4), provides for limited allocation assignment from the Peel to the Namoi valleys. It requires a volume to be set aside in Keepit Dam equal to the AWD times 3,000 (maximum of 6,000 ML), for trade from the Peel valley. The current account balance is zero (0) ML meaning all available trade water has been delivered.
- (6) This account reflects the water needed to deliver general security water (delivery losses). Zero balance means that water must be borrowed to continue the delivery of general security water, in accordance with prior practice. It also means that payback of any borrow will occur before further general security allocation increase.

Namoi resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 31 March 2018
- Current Assessment date: 30 April 2018

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total (Split Rock plus Keepit)		123.94
Dead storage	9.70	114.24
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	22.90	91.34

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	36.99	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-0.09	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	0.00	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	0.00	
Current balance	36.90	54.43

Upper Namoi/Manilla Rivers	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	3.35	
Ordered since last assessment	-0.84	
Allocation Assignments from Upper Namoi to Lower Namoi	-1.23	
Current balance	1.29	53.15

General Security (D/S Keepit)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	55.70	
Orders since assessment period	-2.50	
Allocation Assignments into Lower Namoi (from HS & Upper Namoi & Peel Trade)	1.23	
Current balance	54.43	-1.29

Peel Trade Account	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	0.00	
Trade to general security since last assessment	0.00	
Current balance	0.00	-1.29

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	0.00	
Apparent losses since last assessment	-0.06	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.00	
Current balance	0.00	-1.29

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		0.06
Essential Supply Loss	3%	0.00
General Security Loss	97%	0.06

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	-1.29

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
		GL	GL	
Storage Loss	22.31	22.90	-0.59	22.31
Essential Supplies	67.20	36.90	-0.70	36.20
Upper Namoi / Manilla River	10.90	1.29	0.00	1.29
Delivery Loss	150.94	0.00	0.00	0.00
General Security Irrigation	493.40	54.43	0.00	54.43
Peel Trade Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uncommitted resources	-	-1.29	1.29	0.00
Total	-	114.24	0.00	114.24

Recommendations Upper Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	0.00	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0000	ML per unit share

Recommendations Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	0.00	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0000	ML per unit share