

11 August 2021

Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers Water Source

Water allocation update

There is enough resource improvement to enable an increased allocation of 22% of entitlement for general security licence holders. All higher priority licences were allocated 100% of entitlement on 1 July 2021. This new increment brings the cumulative GS allocation to 34% of entitlement for the current water year.

2021-22	High Security	General Security
Cudgegong	100%	34%
Macquarie	100%	34%

Inflows totalling 210,000 megalitres (ML) into Burrendong Dam were observed during July, providing a substantial boost to resource availability.

Indicative inflow volumes required to provide further general security allocations in the coming months are provided at the end of this statement. The current planning outlook runs through to May 2022 and aims to ensure that higher priority needs can be met before further allocating to general security entitlements this water year.

However, from September the planning outlook steps out another year, meaning additional resource is needed to meet another 12 months of high priority commitment. This is the main reason for the increase in indicative future inflows required to produce further general security allocations in the current water year.

Tributary flows from passing storms downstream of Burrendong Dam will continue to be managed adaptively to meet commitments as a priority ahead of releasing water from storage. Under dry conditions, transfers from Windamere to Burrendong Dam will not be needed before March 2022.

In the event that Burrendong Dam spills (including pre-release) in coming months, the account reset provisions in the water sharing plan will need to be actioned. Based on historic inflows, there is a 40% chance that Burrendong Dam may spill by the end of September 2021.

Windamere Dam has been releasing water in recent weeks in accordance with the transluence flow rules of the water sharing plan.

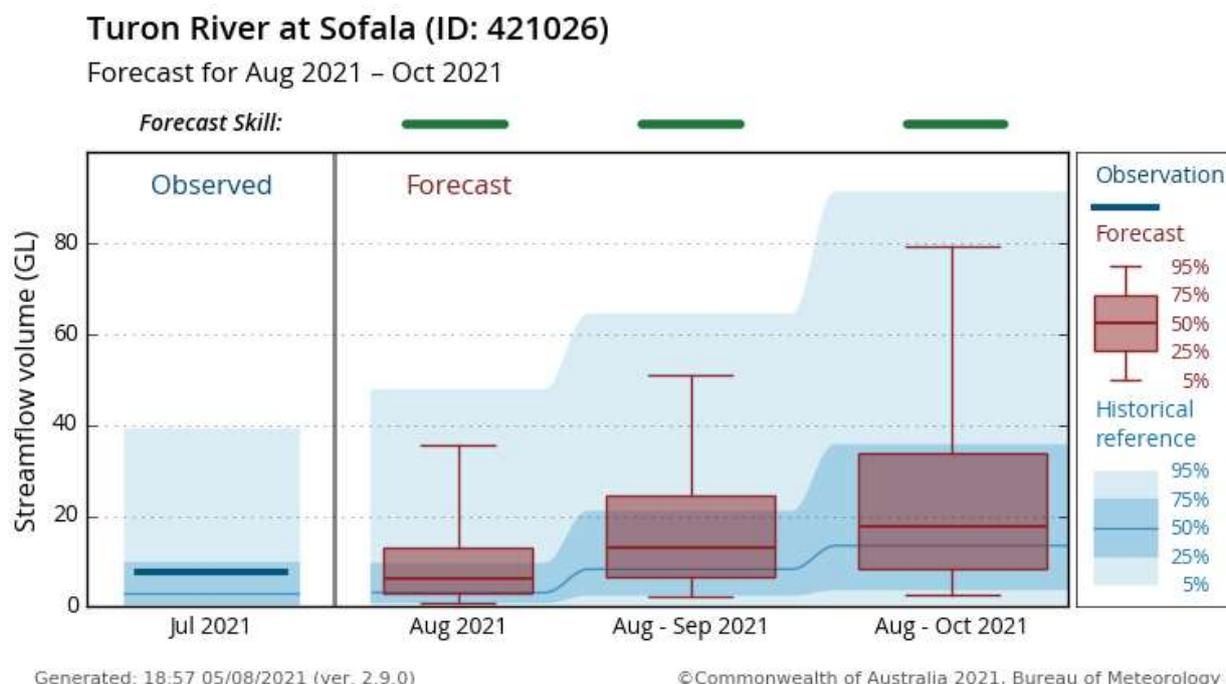
Storage levels (as at 9 August 2021)

- Burrendong Dam is 85.3 % full – rising – holding about 1,020,000 ML.
- Windamere Dam is 35.2% full – steady – holding about 130,000 ML.

Seasonal climatic and inflow outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal outlook for August to October indicates that rainfall is likely to be above average across the catchment. Daytime temperatures are likely to be below 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 winter-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 August to October are above the historic median, indicating a chance of wetter than historical inflow during this period.



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

Water Allocation Statement

Water availability and allocation update



Resource Distribution (August 2021 to May 2022)	Volume (GL)
Current and Future Resources ⁽¹⁾	1,024
<i>less</i>	
Carryover remaining in accounts ^{(2), (7)}	352
Planned Environmental Water ⁽³⁾	135
Domestic, Stock, Town ⁽⁴⁾	28
Inaccessible Storage ⁽⁶⁾	43
High Security ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁷⁾	25
General Security 2021/2022 AWD ⁽⁷⁾	256
Essential Requirements and Losses ⁽⁵⁾	137
Evaporation from Storage	48
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁸⁾	0

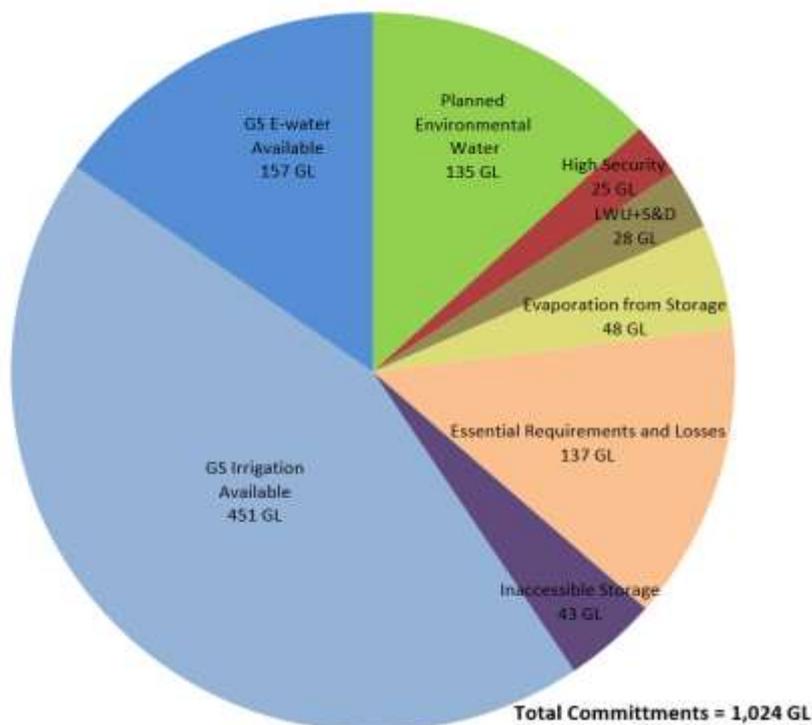
Notes:

- (1) End of July 2021 storage volume in Burrendong Dam plus minimum budgeted dam inflows from August 2021 to May 2022 plus 36 GL planned transfer from Windamere Dam.
- (2) Volume remaining in carryover sub-accounts (excludes Cudgegong), discounted for evaporative losses.
- (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 projected use by Domestic, Stock, Town and High Security licence categories below Burrendong Dam over the assessment horizon.
- (5) Replenishments, basic rights and system overheads to run the river under dry conditions over the next 10 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 9 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 157 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 2022.

Inflow required to provide the next general security allocation (estimate as at 9 August 2021)

Inflow period	Inflows (GL)	
	Minimum inflow required before AWD can be made	Inflow required for additional 10% allocation
By end of August	120	210
By end of September	185	270
By end of October	195	285

Resource Distribution (August 2021 to May 2022)



Next announcement

The next routine water allocation statement for the Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers Water Source will be issued on **Friday, 10 September 2021**.

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