

6 April 2016

Namoi Valley

Water allocation update - March 2016

Allocations

Due to ongoing dry conditions, there is **no increase** in allocation for Namoi regulated river general security water users available at this time.

	High Security	General Security
Upper Namoi valley	100%	60%
Lower Namoi valley	100%	0%

Key facts

- Essential supplies are secure for 2016/17.
- Drought contingency measures will continue into 2016/17 water year and deliveries will continue to be tailored to meet essential supplies. Current operational strategies are still continuing for extended periods (up to 3 months) of no flow in most stream sections.
- Normal water delivery for the Lower Namoi general security water users remains suspended and will not resume until conditions improve significantly.
- Very high transmission losses were observed during water deliveries in March.

Dam levels (end of March)

Both Namoi storages remain at critically low levels due to prevailing dry weather.

- Split Rock Dam is 5 per cent full, holding 24 GL.
- Keepit Dam is 10 per cent full, holding 48 GL.
- The combined storage volume is very low at around 70 GL.

Seasonal Rainfall Outlook

- The latest Bureau of Meteorology's (BOM) seasonal outlook indicates April to June 2016 rainfall is more likely to be above average across most of the catchment. Warmer than normal daytime temperatures are likely for this period.
- The current outlook reflects a combination of a weakening El Niño, very warm Indian Ocean temperatures and warm sea surface temperatures around much of the Australian coast.

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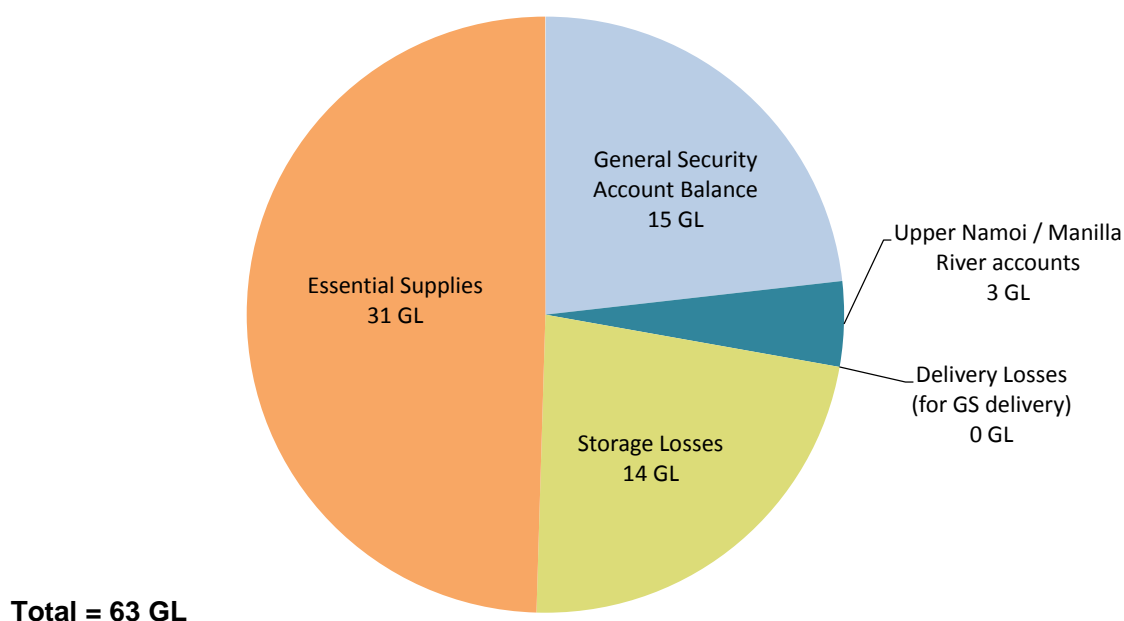
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Namoi Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 1 April 2016) for 2015-16	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	62.65
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	14.21
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	31.02 (55% full)
General Security Account Balance	14.53
Upper Namoi/Manilla River accounts	2.89
Delivery Loss Account ⁽⁴⁾	0.00
New Allocation from this Assessment	Nil

*See notes below.

Resource Distribution Apr 2016 to Jun 2016 Namoi Valley



Notes:

- (1) Available Resource (63 GL) – is total active storage (Split Rock & Keepit) at time of assessment.
- (2) Storage Losses – evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour 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) Normally delivery loss is budgeted at 30 per cent of the volume of water allocated to general security licences. Actual losses have been much higher thereby prematurely depleting this account. Currently delivery loss is borrowed from the essential supply account, which means that improvements in water availability will first replenish the loss accounts before accruing to further general security allocation.

Namoi resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 29 February 2016
- Current Assessment date: 31 March 2016

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total (Split Rock plus Keepit)		72.34
Dead storage	9.70	62.64
Storage Loss Committed (projected 2 years)	15.39	47.26

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	36.87	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-0.30	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	0.00	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	0.00	
Current balance	36.57	10.69

Upper Namoi/Manilla Rivers	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	3.40	
Ordered since last assessment	-0.51	
Allocation Assignments from Upper Namoi to Lower Namoi	0.00	
Current balance	2.89	7.80

General Security (D/S Keepit)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	14.82	
Orders since assessment period	-0.29	
Allocation Assignments into Lower Namoi (from HS & Upper Namoi)	0.00	
Current balance	14.53	-6.73

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	0.00	
Apparent losses since last assessment	-3.60	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.00	
Current balance	0.00	-6.73

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		4.97
Essential Supply Loss	28%	1.37
General Security Loss	72%	3.60

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	-6.73

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
		GL	GL	
Storage Loss	14.21	15.39	-1.18	14.21
Essential Supplies	56.00	36.57	-5.55	31.02
Upper Namoi / Manilla River	9.69	2.89	0.00	2.89
Delivery Loss	150.94	0.00	0.00	0.00
General Security Irrigation	493.40	14.53	0.00	14.53
Uncommitted resources	-	-6.73	6.73	0.00
Total	-	62.64	0.00	62.65

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