

7 December 2017

Gwydir Valley

Water allocation update

Allocations

Gwydir regulated river general security allocation **has increased by 1.06 per cent to 17.17 per cent of entitlement for the 2017-18 water year**. Intermittent rainfall in November helped meet operating commitments and produced some useful inflows into the Copeton Dam.

All other categories of licence in the regulated river valley have already received their maximum allocation for the 2017/18 water year.

	High Security	General Security
Gwydir valley	100%	17.17%

Dam levels (as at 6 December)

Copeton Dam is approximately 49 per cent full – falling – and holding approximately 677,000 megalitres (ML). This time last year the storage was 58 per cent full.

Key facts

- The volume in Copeton Dam has dropped by almost 36,000 ML since the last assessment, mostly due to increased releases to meet general security demands.
- Releases from Copeton Dam are likely to increase further in coming weeks to meet rising consumptive demand and environmental flow commitments.
- Weather conditions and water availability will continue to be monitored closely.

Seasonal rainfall outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's three month seasonal outlook for December to February indicates no clear wetter or drier trend in the valley. Average temperatures are also likely in this period.

The Bureau's El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) outlook has been raised to LA NIÑA, as the Tropical Pacific Ocean has reached La Niña thresholds. However, forecasting models suggest that Australia is unlikely to experience the increased wetter conditions seen often with La Niña events.

Further information

The next allocation announcement for the Gwydir regulated river water source will be issued on **Wednesday 10 January 2018**.

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

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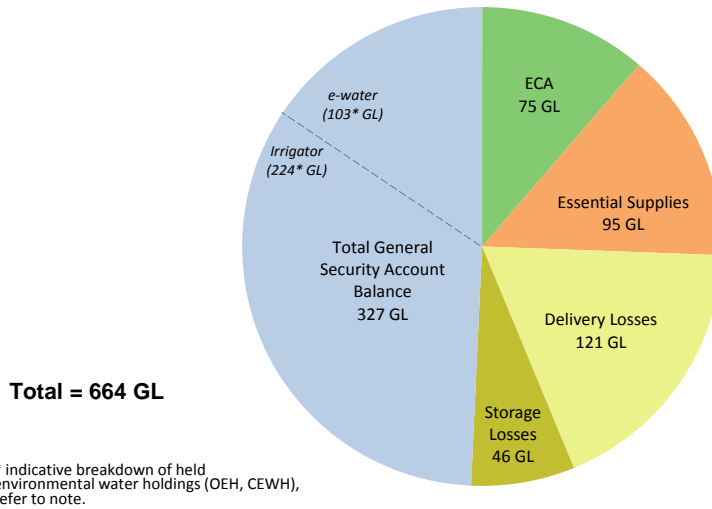
www.water.nsw.gov.au

Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 30 November 2017)	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	663.93
less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	46.36
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	94.72 (100% full)
ECA	75.14
Delivery Losses	120.66
General Security Account Balance ⁽⁴⁾	327.05

See notes below.

**Resource Distribution as at 30 November 2017
Gwydir Valley**



Notes:

- (1) Available Resource: is the total active storage at Copeton Dam at the time of assessment.
- (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 the water sharing plan to provide for Towns, Stock, Domestic, High Security and riverine environments. Includes stock and domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. This commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows into the storage.
- (4) Held environmental water (HEW): general security account water administered by environmental water holders has been identified in the above pie chart. This reporting of held environmental water is indicative only and, prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade, is estimated to be about 103 GL GS and 1 GL HS. These entitlements are held and/or managed either singly or jointly by various environmental holder groups, including the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH). Interested parties should refer to individual Agency websites for more detailed information on held environmental holdings.

Gwydir resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 31 October 2017
- Current Assessment date: 30 November 2017

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Storage Balance (GL)
Total		682.93
Dead storage	19.00	663.93
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	47.72	616.21

Essential Supplies	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	94.72	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-1.61	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	-0.01	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	0.00	
Current balance	93.10	523.11

Environmental Contingency Allowance (ECA)	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	74.66	
Orders from assessment period	0.00	
Current balance	74.66	448.45

General Security Irrigation	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	353.98	
Orders from assessment period	-32.36	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to Low Security	0.01	
Reconciliation of accounts	0.00	
Current balance	321.63	126.82

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Brought forward	128.59	
Losses since last assessment	-4.20	

Delivery Loss	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.00	
Current balance	124.39	2.43

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		4.39
Essential Supply Loss	4%	0.18
General Security + ECA Loss	96%	4.20

Resources available for sharing	GL
Total	2.43

New balances	Limit	Commitments		Balance
		Current	Additional	
	GL	GL	GL	GL
Storage Loss	46.36	47.72	-1.36	46.36
Essential Supplies	94.72	93.10	1.62	94.72
Delivery Loss	256.35	124.39	-3.73	120.66
ECA	90.00	74.66	0.48	75.14
General Security Irrigation	764.50	321.63	5.43	327.05
Uncommitted resources	-	2.43	-2.43	0.00
Total	-	663.93	0.00	663.93

Recommendations (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	5.43	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0106	ML per unit share