

7 December 2015

Namoi Valley

Water availability and allocation update November 2015

Allocations

There has been little runoff into storages over the past month and there is **insufficient improvement** in water availability to make an allocation to general security water users.

Current allocations are as follows:

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

Key facts

- Current resources are sufficient to allow one block release in early January 2016 which will satisfy demand from the storage to Gunidgera Weir, including Gunidgera Creek, and will also provide a replenishment flow for Pian Creek.
- Conditions are being continuously monitored to ensure that essential supplies are met under the current water shortage conditions. Normal water delivery for the Lower Namoi general security water users remain suspended and will not resume until conditions improve significantly. Periodic bulk releases will be scheduled.
- The Lower Namoi has been operating under a drought management strategy since September 2013 and will continue until conditions improve significantly.

Dam levels

- Split Rock Dam is 7 per cent full, holding 31,200 megalitres.
- Keepit Dam is 17 per cent full, holding 80,000 megalitres
- The combined storage volume is steady at around 110,000 megalitres, but can be expected to fall through a hot, dry summer.

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Seasonal Rainfall Outlook

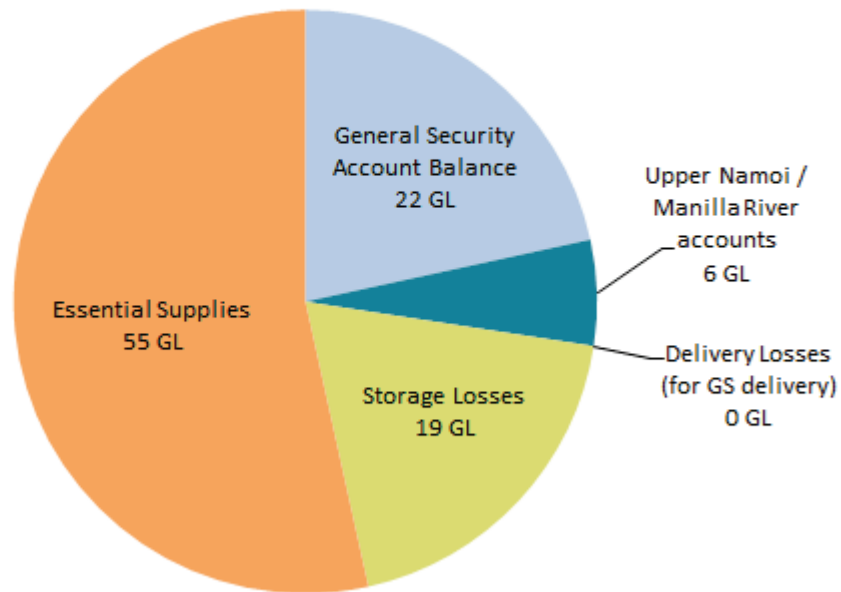
- The latest Bureau of Meteorology's (BOM) seasonal outlook for December to February indicates a good chance of average rainfall conditions across most of the region. Average temperatures are also likely during these months.
- Current climate influences include a combination of a strong El Niño in the Pacific, a decaying positive Indian Ocean Dipole, and very warm Indian Ocean temperatures.
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Namoi Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 1 December) for 2015/16 & 2016/17	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource ⁽¹⁾	102.29
Less	
Storage Losses ⁽²⁾	19.54
Essential Supplies ⁽³⁾	54.69 (98% of budget)
General Security Account Balance	22.08
Upper Namoi/Manilla River accounts	5.98
Delivery Loss Account ⁽⁴⁾	0.00
New Allocation from this Assessment	Nil

*See notes below

Allocation Distribution 2015/16 & 2016/17 Namoi Valley -1 December 2015



Total = 102 GL

Note: Data is for the 1st to the 30th of November 2015 period

Notes:

- (1) Available Resource (102 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.