

7 August 2017

## Gwydir Valley

### Water allocation update

#### Allocations

Gwydir regulated river general security allocation has **increased from zero to 11.02 per cent of entitlement**. This allocation is the result of rainfall towards the end of June that increased storage levels in Copeton Dam during July, despite July itself being mostly dry.

All other categories of licence in the regulated river valley have received their maximum allocation for the 2017-18 water year, including 125 per cent of entitlement for Supplementary access entitlements in accordance with clause 38 of the water sharing plan.

	High Security	General Security
Gwydir valley	100%	11.02%

#### Dam levels (as at 7 August)

Copeton Dam is 53 per cent full – rising – and holding about 733,000 megalitres (ML). This time last year the storage was 19 per cent full.

#### Key facts

- The storage volume in Copeton Dam increased by around 79,000 ML since the last assessment.
- Small downstream tributary inflows allowed limited supplementary access in July.
- Storage recovery has improved confidence in resource deliverability, meaning that there should be no need to undertake block releases in the foreseeable future.

#### Seasonal rainfall outlook

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, the valley is likely to experience near average rainfall from August to October, with warmer than average temperatures.

The Bureau of Meteorology advises that currently the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) remain neutral. Local influences such as sea surface temperatures, changes in the location and strength of the subtropical ridge and soil moisture levels are likely to be affecting the outlook. Additionally, an increasing long-term trend in global air and ocean temperatures is also influencing Australia's climate patterns.

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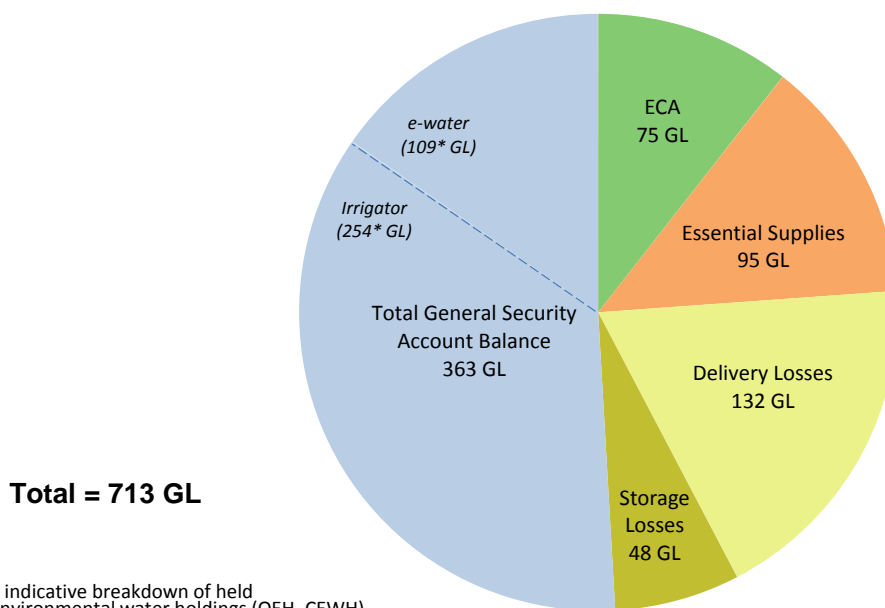
[www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au)

## Gwydir Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 31 July 2017)	
	Volume (GL)
Available Resource <sup>(1)</sup>	712.79
<b>less</b>	
Storage Losses <sup>(2)</sup>	48.21
Essential Supplies <sup>(3)</sup>	94.72 (100% full)
ECA	75.36
Delivery Losses	131.51
General Security Account Balance <sup>(4),(5)</sup>	362.99

See notes below.

### Resource Distribution as at 31 July 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) – as a trial, general security account water administered by environmental water holders have 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 109 GL GS and 6 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.

- <sup>(5)</sup> The opening Water Allocation statement published on 1 July 2017 incorrectly related the average carryover to the account limit rather than entitlement. The correct carryover amount is therefore 61% rather than the 40% published on 1 July 2017. The average carryover volume is unchanged.

### **Further information**

The next allocation announcement for the Gwydir regulated river water source will be issued on **Thursday 7 September 2017**.

Information on Available Water Determinations and water sharing plans is available on the DPI Water website - [www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au)

## Gwydir resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 13 June 2017
- Current Assessment date: 31 July 2017

<b>Storage volume</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Storage Balance (GL)</b>
Total		731.79
Dead storage	19.00	712.79
Storage Loss Committed - projected 2 years (brought forward)	45.17	667.62

<b>Essential Supplies</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	93.53	
Used and associated loss since last assessment	-2.77	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to General Security	-0.63	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss account	-0.19	
Current balance	89.95	577.67

<b>Environmental Contingency Allowance (ECA)</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	70.41	
Orders from assessment period	0.00	
Current balance	70.41	507.26

<b>General Security Irrigation</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	310.33	
Orders from assessment period	-4.10	
Allocation Assignments from High Security to Low Security	0.63	
Reconciliation of accounts	0.00	
Current balance	306.85	200.41

<b>Delivery Loss</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Brought forward	114.22	
Losses since last assessment	0.00	

<b>Delivery Loss</b>	<b>Committed Volume (GL)</b>	<b>Remaining Balance (GL)</b>
Credit from Essential Supplies (for Allocation Assignments to GS)	0.19	
Current balance	114.41	86.00

<b>Apparent Losses since last assessment</b>	<b>% of loss</b>	<b>GL</b>
Total		0.00
Essential Supply Loss	40%	0.00
General Security + ECA Loss	60%	0.00

<b>Resources available for sharing</b>	<b>GL</b>
Total	<b>86.00</b>

<b>New balances</b>	<b>Limit</b>	<b>Commitments</b>		<b>Balance</b>
		<b>Current</b>	<b>Additional</b>	
	GL	GL	GL	GL
Storage Loss	48.21	45.17	3.04	48.21
Essential Supplies	94.72	89.95	4.77	94.72
Delivery Loss	256.35	114.41	17.10	131.51
ECA	90.00	70.41	4.96	75.36
General Security Irrigation	764.50	306.85	56.14	362.99
Uncommitted resources	-	86.00	-86.00	0.00
Total	-	712.79	0.00	712.79

<b>Recommendations (General Security)</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Unit</b>
Incremental Increase CREDITED	56.14	GL
Available Water Determination	0.1102	ML per unit share