

16 October 2020

## Hunter Regulated River Water Source

### Allocation update

With limited rainfall and a small storage improvement in the Hunter, there is **no increase in allocation for general security** water licence holders this month. The total general security allocation so far this 2020-21 water year, remains unchanged at 53% of entitlement.

All other high priority water access licence holders in the Hunter Regulated River Water Source have received their full (100%) allocation.

Rainfall in September 2020 was mostly average, with some coastal parts receiving below average rainfall in the Hunter catchment. Glenbawn Dam and Glennies Creek Dam received about 27 mm and 36 mm of rainfall and about 4 gegalitres (GL) and 0.3 GL of net inflow respectively in September 2020. There has been little movement in storage levels.

### Current allocations

2020-21	High Security	General Security	Drought Stage
Hunter Regulated River Water Source	100%	53%	 Stage 1

### Drought stage

The NSW Extreme Events Policy introduced a staged approach from one to four to manage extreme circumstances such as severe droughts or poor water quality events. The Hunter regulated river water source is currently at Stage 1 - meaning normal regulated river operations.

### Dam levels (as at 14 October 2020)

Glenbawn Dam is about 46% full – falling slightly – holding about 346 gegalitre (GL). It was about 48% full at this time last year.

Glennies Creek Dam is about 39% full – falling – holding about 111 GL. It was about 48% full at this time last year.

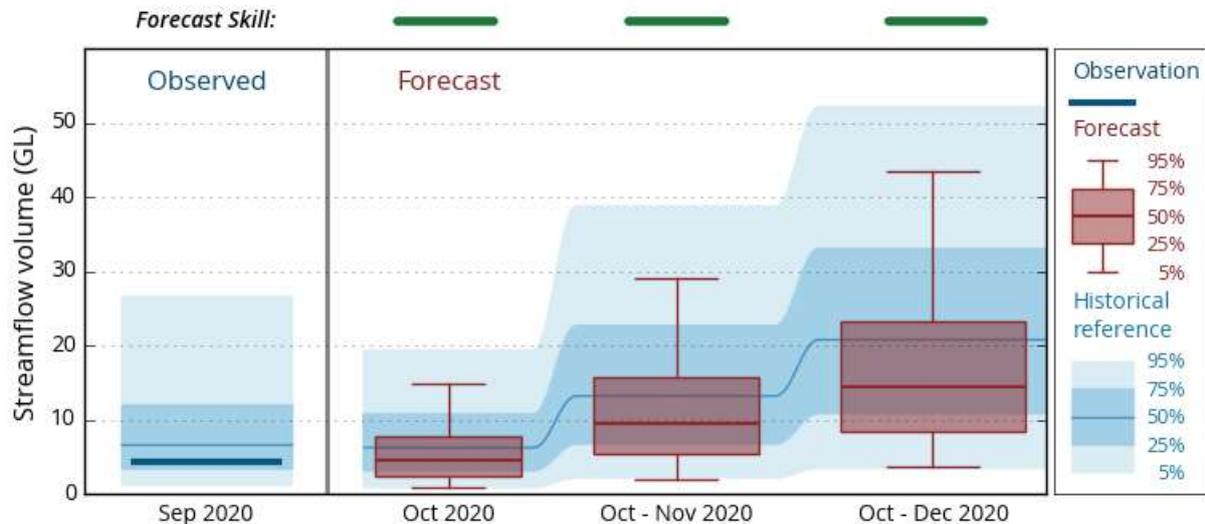
### Seasonal inflow and rainfall forecast

The Bureau of Meteorology climate outlook for November 2020 to January 2021 shows a good chance of exceeding median rainfall conditions.

The Bureau issues seasonal flow forecasts for the Hunter River upstream of Glenbawn Dam at Moonam. The September flow at Moonam provided an inflow volume less than median. Despite the positive rainfall outlook, modelling for the forecast flow quartiles for October to December also suggests that totals could be lower than the historical quartiles.

## Hunter River at Moonnam Dam Site (ID: 210018)

Forecast for Oct 2020 – Dec 2020



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For further details: [www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=210018&product\\_type=FC\\_9](http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=210018&product_type=FC_9)

## Further information

Hunter resource assessments and allocation statements will continue to be updated monthly while general security allocations remain less than full. The next Hunter water allocation statement will be released on Monday 16 November 2020.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website: [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water)

## Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (1 October 2020 to 30 June 2023)	(GL)	(GL)
Glenbawn plus Glennies Ck active storage volume		456.0
Minimum storage & tributary inflows (10/20 to 6/21) <sup>(1)</sup>		26.4
<i>less</i>		
Basic Land Holder Rights	4.1	
Domestic and Stock	1.8	
Local Water Utility balance	9.8	
Major Utility account balance	68.3	
Environmental Water Allowance	20.0	
Minimum Flow Target at Greta (including losses)	23.9	
High Security account balance	21.1	

# Water Allocation Statement

## Water availability and allocation update



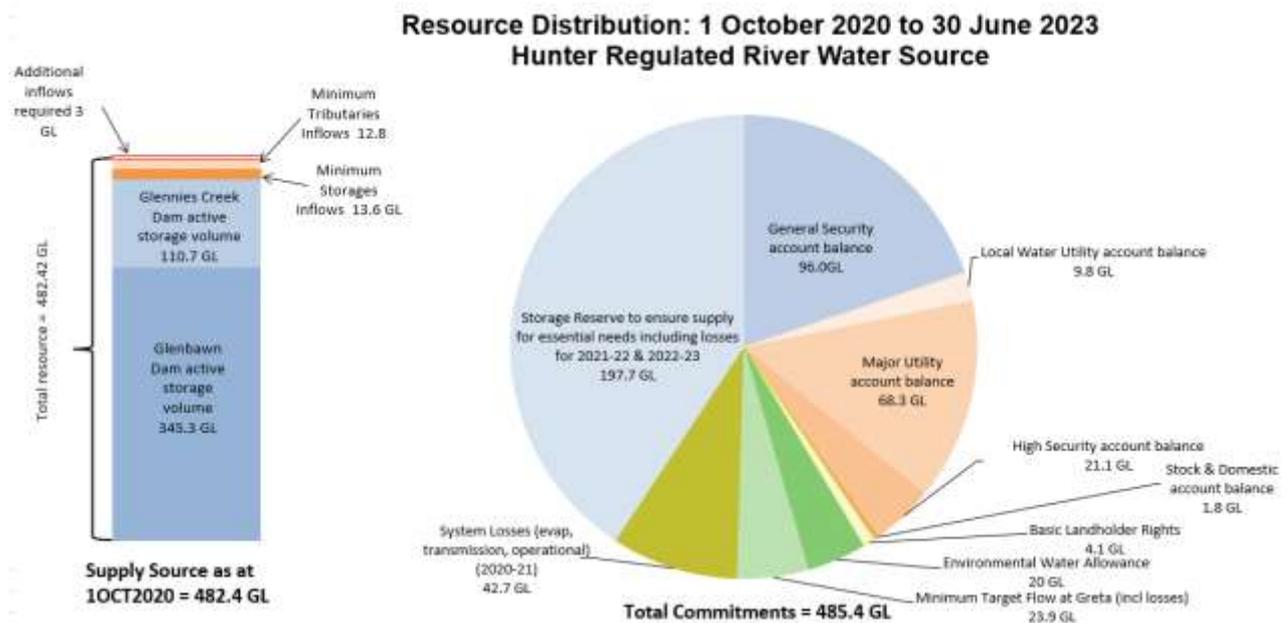
Losses (evaporation, transmission, operation) (10/20 to 6/21)	42.7
Storage Reserve for 2021-22 <sup>(2)</sup>	120.2
Storage Reserve for 2022-23 <sup>(3)</sup>	77.5
General Security account balance	96.0

*equals*

Surplus (or deficit)<sup>(4)</sup> (3.0)

### Notes:

- (1) Minimum historical dam inflows (13.6 GL) and minimum historical usable tributary inflows (12.8 GL) from 1 October 2020 to 30 June 2021.
- (2) Water required to be set aside in storages as reserve to meet essential supply requirements and system losses of 120.2 GL in 2021-22. Calculated as: system losses of 50.4 GL plus Essential Requirements of 122.4 GL minus 52.7 GL of minimum storage & tributary inflows for the first 12 months of 24-month minimum inflows starting 1 July 2021. Essential Requirement includes minimum 75% HS opening allocation and all other high priorities.
- (3) Water required to be set aside in storages as reserve to meet essential supply requirements and system losses of 77.5 GL in 2022-23. Calculated as: system losses of 50.2 GL plus Essential Requirements of 109.9 GL minus 82.6 GL of minimum storage & tributary inflows for the second 12 months of 24-month minimum inflows starting 1 July 2021.
- (4) Surplus or deficit of water after accounting for all commitments. The deficit of 3.0 GL signifies the shortfall in available resources from now till 30 June 2023. The deficit is unremarkable given usual underutilisation of account water, long planning horizon and inherent conservatism of the assessment.



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