



## State sharing of the Murray resource

The bulk accounts assessment indicates that 4,860 gigalitres (GL) of total shared Murray resource is available in the extreme dry (99<sup>th</sup> percentile) case, of which about 1,190 GL is needed to run the system (incorporating South Australia's dilution entitlement and any shared resource which cannot be regulated). The NSW portion of the regulated shared resource is 1,710 GL based on rules in the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement. Following adjustments including South Australia's non-dilution entitlement, trade, tributary inflows and usage to date, the assessment results in a volume of **Murray resource for NSW to allocate of 1,835 GL.**

The bulk resource assessed by MDBA includes supplementary and uncontrolled flow diversion in the NSW usage. Therefore the 1,955 GL assessed share of Murray resource must be reduced by 120 GL to 1,835 GL to account for water used from unregulated water sources. Note, the unregulated water usage does not adversely impact regulated allocations.

## Climatic outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for February to April indicates that rainfall is likely to be near or above average. While forecast rainfall may be near average or higher, as the forecast period is historically a dry period, average rainfall will likely not yield the same runoff as average rainfall during the wet season (winter/spring). Daytime temperatures are likely to be near average, while overnight temperatures are likely to be above average.

The Bureau has declared La Niña conditions, with models indicating that the current La Niña event has likely reached its peak and a return to neutral conditions anticipated during autumn. As the La Niña event continues, it will continue to influence rainfall drivers and favour the probability of above average rainfall.

For further details: [www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary)

## Trade

In the Murray, trade across the Barmah choke remains restricted to '**no net trade downstream**'. Downstream trade opens to the extent of the volume of any upstream trade. The trade restriction helps to address the physical constraint at the choke and protect existing downstream entitlement holders from an increased risk of delivery shortfall. Water users are encouraged to monitor the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) website ([www.mdba.gov.au](http://www.mdba.gov.au)) for information about the trade balance and status of trade across the Barmah choke.

Temporary trade between the Lower Darling and the Murray is closed and typically remains closed until the system recovers to hold more than 640 GL of water and the Menindee Lakes become part of the shared Murray system. Trade within the Lower Darling water source is allowed.

The normal operating range for the Murrumbidgee IVT account is between 0 GL and 100 GL. Trade **out** of the Murrumbidgee Valley is **closed** (as at 14 January 2021) with the IVT balance at its upper limit. Trade **into** the Murrumbidgee Valley is **open**. Water users should check the WaterNSW website ([www.waternsw.com.au](http://www.waternsw.com.au)) for daily information about the IVT account balance and the status of trade.

## Next announcement

The next water allocation statement will be published on **Monday 1 February 2021**.

From March 2021, the mid-monthly statements will start to focus on the potential water availability on 1 July 2021 for the 2021-22 water year. It will be updated monthly. This should help water users with their end of year water management decisions.

## NSW Murray resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution* (15 January) for 2020-21	Volume (GL)
Total Available Resource <sup>(1)</sup>	1,835 <sup>#</sup>
<b>less</b>	
Carryover <sup>(2), (8)</sup>	350
Rules based Environmental Water <sup>(3)</sup>	6
Towns, Stock, Domestic <sup>(4)</sup>	68 (100%)
Announced High Security subcategory <sup>(4)</sup>	<1 (100%)
Announced High Security <sup>(4)</sup>	184 (97%)
Conveyance <sup>(5)</sup>	224 (68%)
Wakool Allowance <sup>(6)</sup>	70
Reserves <sup>(7)</sup>	61
Announced General Security <sup>(8)</sup>	770 (46%)
Year 2 (2021-22) high priority needs <sup>(9)</sup>	102

\*See notes below

<sup>#</sup>Resource adjusted by supplementary and uncontrolled flow usage (refer above to State sharing of the Murray resource)





### Water balance notes:

- (1) Supply and Commitments Distribution – The volumes in the categories shown are only those relating to NSW’s share of the resource, at the end of the preceding month. The categories include the following:
- Water in storage: Volumes in the dams at the end of the previous month. (Excludes water in storage unavailable to NSW under the water sharing arrangements of the Murray Darling Basin Agreement).
  - Estimated use since 1 July: Estimated NSW usage to-date, reconciled periodically with hydrographic updates (meter readings).
  - Forecast inflows: NSW’s share of forecast inflows into the River Murray System based on assumed extremely dry future conditions (includes Snowy Hydro’s guaranteed inflows for the water year, and Murrumbidgee end of system flows).
  - IVT: Total tributary system water bought by Murray system users that is yet to be delivered.
  - Evaporation: Water set aside for evaporation for the remainder of the year. This reduces as the year progresses.
  - River losses upstream of SA: Water budgeted for transmission losses from the River Murray system upstream of the South Australian border for the remainder of the year. Generally reduces as the water year progresses.
  - SA non-dilution entitlement: Water to supply South Australia’s entitlement flow, as required under the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) Agreement. Generally reduces as water year progresses.
  - SA dilution flow: Water to provide South Australia’s dilution and conveyance component of flow, as required under the MDB Agreement. Reduces as the year progresses, unless Additional Dilution Flow (ADF) is triggered.
  - MDB Agreement required reserves: Includes conveyance reserve and minimum reserve to be set aside for use in the next water year, as required by the MDB Agreement in clause 102D and 103, respectively.
  - Water available for allocation: NSW’s bulk share of the resource that can be assigned to NSW Murray entitlement holders based on the Water Sharing Plan. Allocation of this volume is provided in the above table and pie chart.

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