

16 November 2020

Hunter Regulated River Water Source


Allocation update

General security water users in the Hunter regulated river water source have received an allocation increase of 5% of entitlement, bringing their total allocation to 58% for the 2020-21 water year. This comes on the back of steady inflows into storages during October 2020.

All other high priority water access licence holders in this water source have received their full (100%) allocation.

Rainfall in October 2020 was above average in the Hunter catchment. Glenbawn Dam and Glennies Creek Dam received about 121 mm and 133 mm of rainfall respectively and net inflow in October into these storages was 6.4 gigalitres (GL) and 3.9 GL respectively.

Current allocations

2020-21	High Security	General Security	Drought Stage
Hunter Regulated River Water Source	100%	58%	 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 16 November 2020)

Glenbawn Dam is about 47% full – rising – holding about 353 gigalitre (GL). It was about 45% full at this time last year.

Glennies Creek Dam is about 40% full – falling – holding about 115 GL. It was about 46% full at this time last year.

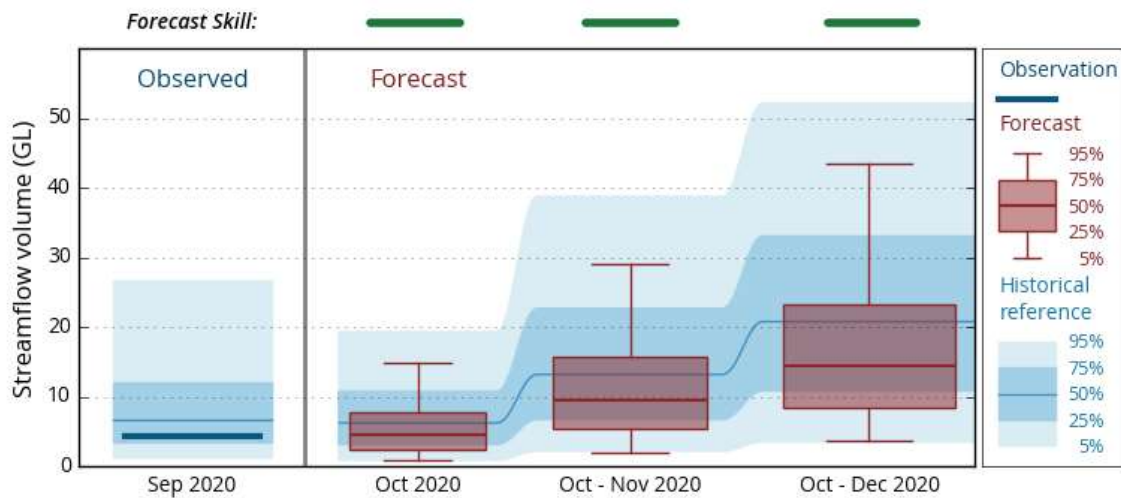
Seasonal rainfall and inflow forecast

The Bureau of Meteorology climate outlook for December 2020 to February 2021 shows a good chance of exceeding median rainfall conditions around Singleton.

The Bureau also issues seasonal flow forecasts for the Hunter River upstream of Glenbawn Dam at Moonam. Despite of good rainfall forecast, the forecast ranges of streamflow volumes from October to December is below the historical streamflow volumes, predicting a lower inflow during this period.

Hunter River at Moonam 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

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 Tuesday 15 December 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

Resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (1 November 2020 to 30 June 2023)	(GL)	(GL)
Glenbawn plus Glennies Ck active storage volume		462.6
Minimum storage & tributary inflows (11/20 to 6/21) ⁽¹⁾		19.2
less		
Basic Land Holder Rights	3.7	
Domestic and Stock	1.8	
Local Water Utility balance	9.4	
Major Utility account balance	68.3	
Environmental Water Allowance	20.0	
Minimum Flow Target at Greta (including losses)	21.1	
High Security account balance	21.0	
Losses (evaporation, transmission, operation) (11/20 to 6/21)	38.1	

Water Allocation Statement

Water availability and allocation update

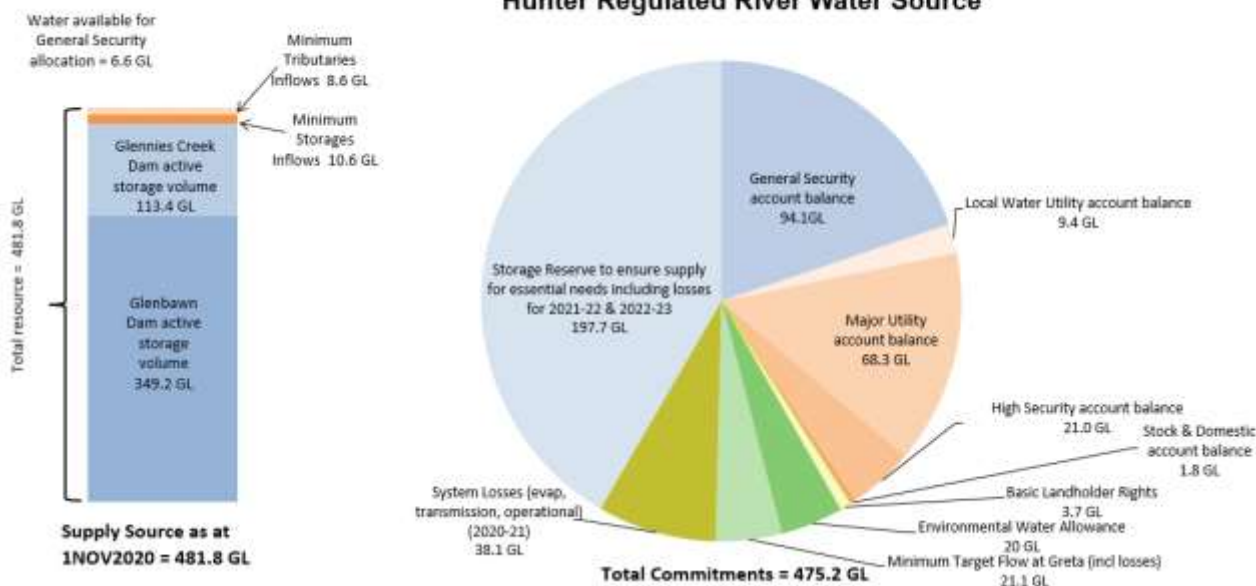


Storage Reserve for 2021-22 ⁽²⁾	120.2
Storage Reserve for 2022-23 ⁽³⁾	77.5
General Security account balance	94.1
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁴⁾	6.6

Notes:

- (1) Minimum historical dam inflows (10.6 GL) and minimum historical usable tributary inflows (8.6 GL) from 1 November 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 surplus of 6.6 GL signifies the additional resources available for General Security allocation at this time.

**Resource Distribution: 1 November 2020 to 30 June 2023
Hunter Regulated River Water Source**



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