

17 August 2020

## Bega-Brogo Regulated River Water Source

### Water allocation update

#### **General security allocation for 2020-21 remains unchanged at 40 per cent of entitlement.**

This water allocation statement for the Bega-Brogo regulated river water source is to update water users on water availability. It is the first water allocation update for the 2020-21 water year since the opening allocations were announced on 1 July 2020.

The Bega-Brogo catchment experienced wet conditions in July. Brogo Dam is currently full and spilling. Understandably, general security water usage so far this water year has been very low, with nearly all of the current account balance yet to be delivered.

The lack of water usage and inability to capture inflows in storage mean no change in water allocations are possible at this time. Therefore, the total general security allocation for 2020-21 remains unchanged at 40 per cent of entitlement.

Apart from general security entitlements, all other categories of licence in this regulated river water source have received their maximum allocation for the 2020-21 water year.

Water for critical needs, including local water utilities, are secure for the current water year (2020-21) and the next water year (2021-22) based on assumed minimum inflows.

#### **Current allocations**

2020-21	High Security	General Security	Drought Stage
Bega-Brogo Regulated River Water Source	100%	40%	 Stage 1

### Dam levels (as at 12 August 2020)

Brogo Dam is spilling and holding about 9,546 megalitres (ML). This time last year the storage was about 90 per cent full.

### Drought stage

The Bega-Brogo regulated river water source is at Stage 1 drought criticality as all water can be delivered under normal regulated rivers operations. The drought stage will be reviewed with every resource assessment, and revised if necessary.

Further information on critical valleys in drought can be found at:

[www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/droughts-floods/drought-update/criticalvalleys-in-drought](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/droughts-floods/drought-update/criticalvalleys-in-drought)

## Seasonal climate outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology seasonal outlook for September to November shows wetter than average conditions for the catchment are likely. Day time temperatures are likely to be average to above average and overnight temperatures are likely to be above average.

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

## Further information

Water allocation statements for the Bega-Brogo regulated river water source are usually published quarterly as a minimum or when there is a significant change to the resource situation.

The next water allocation statement for the Bega-Brogo regulated river water source will be published in mid-November 2020, or earlier if conditions change significantly.

## Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource availability at 31 July 2020 is shown below.

<b>Resource Distribution 2020-21 (1 August)</b>	<b>(ML)</b>	<b>(ML)</b>
Brogo Dam active storage volume (as at 1 August 2020) <sup>1</sup>		9,232
Minimum storage inflows (8/20 to 6/21) <sup>2</sup>		2,600
<i>less</i>		
Basic Land Holder Rights	229	
Domestic and Stock	54	
Local Water Utility	700	
Transparent releases	825	
Minimum storage releases	183	
High Security (HS) account balance	421	
Losses (evaporation, transmission, operation)	3,300	
Essential supplies reserve for 2021-22 <sup>3</sup>	3,325	
General Security (GS) account balance	5,574	
<i>equals</i>		
Surplus (or deficit) <sup>4</sup>		(2,779)

### Notes:

- (1) Available Resource in the dam – is the total active storage volume in Brogo Dam combined as at 1 August 2020.
- (2) Minimum forecast dam inflows (2,600 ML) from 1 August 2020 to 30 June 2021.
- (3) Water required to be set aside in storage as reserve to meet system losses of 3,600 ML plus essential requirements of 2,525 ML minus 2,800 ML of minimum storage inflows sequence (starting 1 July 2021). That is, (3,600 + 2,525 - 2,800) = 3,325 ML needed to be reserved in 2020-21 for 2021-22 essential requirements & system losses.

- (4) Surplus or deficit of water after accounting for all commitments. The deficit of 2,779 ML is a notional shortfall, and based on historical usage patterns, will almost certainly be met from underutilisation of water and some of the loss commitments being met from unregulated flows.

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