

2 November 2015

NSW Murray and Lower Darling

Water availability and allocation update

Allocations

NSW Murray general security allocation has **increased by 1 per cent** to 13 per cent of entitlement.

In the Lower Darling, allocation increases are as follows for the following licence categories:

Local Water Utility – up 20 per cent to be now 70 per cent of entitlement

Domestic and Stock – up 20 per cent to be now 50 per cent of entitlement

High Security – up 30 per cent to be now 50 per cent of entitlement

Water restrictions in the Lower Darling mean that water can only be ordered and used for towns, domestic and stock purposes and for keeping permanent plantings alive.

This assessment does not include any rainfall across the region on the weekend of 31 October.

	High Security	General Security	Average Carryover
Murray	97%	13%	30%
Lower Darling	50%	0%	Restricted access

Upper Murray Storage Levels

- Dartmouth Dam is 62 per cent full (falling), holding 2,373,000 megalitres
- Hume Dam is 44 per cent full (falling), holding 1,339,000 megalitres

Outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's (BOM) latest outlook shows a drier than average November is likely in the lead up to summer across parts of southeast Australia. The three months from November to January is also likely to be drier than average across most parts of NSW.

The current outlook reflects a combination of a strong El Niño in the Pacific, decaying positive Indian Ocean Dipole, and very warm Indian Ocean temperatures.

Trade

In the Murray, trade across the Barmah choke is restricted to 'no net trade downstream'; however there is currently capacity for downstream trade (by virtue of upstream trades).

Trade is permitted within the Lower Darling water source but inter-valley trade is closed due to the severe water shortage. NSW Murray water users can trade **into** the Murrumbidgee valley.

Next Announcements

The next allocation update for the NSW Murray will be on 16 November 2015. It will include more detailed information, including comparison with last year. However, the next Seasonal Outlook, including probability table and rocket diagram will be provided on 15 December 2015.

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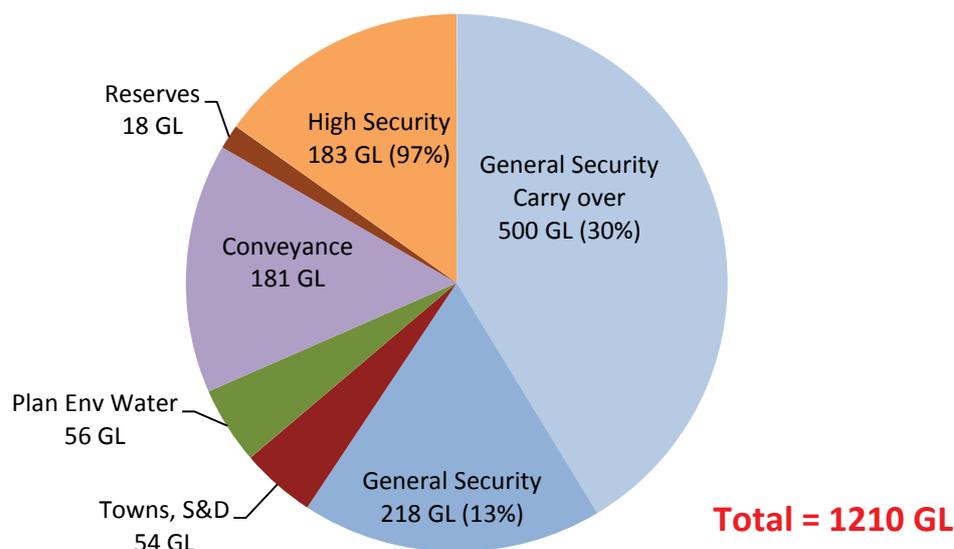
www.water.nsw.gov.au

NSW Murray Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (as at 2 November) for 2015-16

	Volume (GL)
Total Available Resource	1210
less	
Carryover	500
Rules based Environmental Water ⁽¹⁾	56
Towns, Stock, Domestic	54 (100%)
Reserves ⁽²⁾	18
Conveyance ⁽³⁾	181
Announced High Security	183 (97%)
Announced General Security	218 (13%)

Resource Distribution 2015-16 NSW Murray - 2 November 2015



Notes:

- (1) Primarily rules-based environmental water – water required to be set aside under water sharing plans to provide for riverine environments. In the Murray this includes Adaptive Environmental Allowance (AEA), the Barmah Millewa Allowance (B-MA) (which is currently 100 per cent borrowed) and Wakool system requirements. Excludes 'licence-based' environmental water.
- (2) Reserves – required primarily under statutory plans; used for emergency purposes and critical needs.
- (3) Conveyance entitlement – a category of access licence originally issued to Irrigation Corporations to facilitate delivery of water through their channel systems. Allocation to this category is prescribed in the water sharing plans and is a function of current high and general security allocations.