

6 May 2024

Border Rivers Regulated River Water Source

Water allocation update

There is sufficient resource available to provide general security (B class) access licences with an allocation of 0.08 megalitres per unit share (ML/unit share). This brings the total general security (B class) allocation this 2023/24 water year to 0.36 ML/unit share or 36% of their entitlement.

Following this allocation, the average account balance for general security (B class) licenses is about 49% of entitlement. The water sharing plan allows for continued top-up of general security (B class) accounts throughout the year if water becomes available, but individual account balances cannot exceed their maximum 100% limit at any point in time.

General security (A class) and all higher priority access licenses have received their maximum (100%) allocation for 2023/24. Similarly, supplementary and floodplain harvesting access licenses have also received their maximum (100%) allocation.

Current allocation

6 May 2024	Allocation Increment	Average Account Balance
General Security (A Class)	0%*	54%
General Security (B Class)	8%	49%

* Reached maximum allowable (100%) by July 21, 2023.

Resource outlook for 2024/25

This outlook for likely 1 July 2024 water availability is based on several assumptions. Water users are advised that forecast allocations are not certain, may change and should be used with caution. It aims to broadly guide water users with their end of year water management decisions. Water users are reminded to check account limits and the carryover provisions on their entitlements, noting that water can forfeit from some accounts after 30 June 2023.

- Water for all critical consumptive and non-consumptive needs including **local water utility** licenses are secure for the 2023/24 and 24/25 water years.

- Higher priority water access licence holders including **local water utility, stock and domestic** and **high security** can expect full (100%) allocations on 1 July.
- Water held in **general security (A class and B class)** accounts accrues on a continuous basis with water balances carried forward into the new water year. The maximum volume that may be held at any time is 1.0 ML/unit share (or 100% of entitlement).
- Depending upon water availability, general security (A class) users may receive a small allocation on 1 July to add to the unused account balance carried forward.
- No opening allocation to general security (B class) is envisaged. Allocation to general security (B class) licenses can only occur once general security (A class) allocations have reached 100%. However, full access to account balances carried forward into the new year will be available.
- Post 1 July, regular resource assessments will continue, and any resource improvements and new allocation to general security users will be announced in routine allocation statements.
- Floodplain Harvesting water access licence holders can expect full (100%) allocation on 1 July.
- Supplementary water access licence holders can expect full (100%) allocation on 1 July, however, access to this water is subject to periods of declared supplementary flow events.

Storage levels (as of 06 May 2024)

- Pindari Dam is about 50% full – falling - holding about 156 GL.
- Glenlyon Dam is about 61% full – falling - holding about 155 GL.

Climate and Streamflow Outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal outlook for May to July 2024 indicates rainfall in the Border River region is likely to be below median. Daytime and overnight temperatures are expected to be hotter than median over this period.

For further details: [Climate outlooks](#)

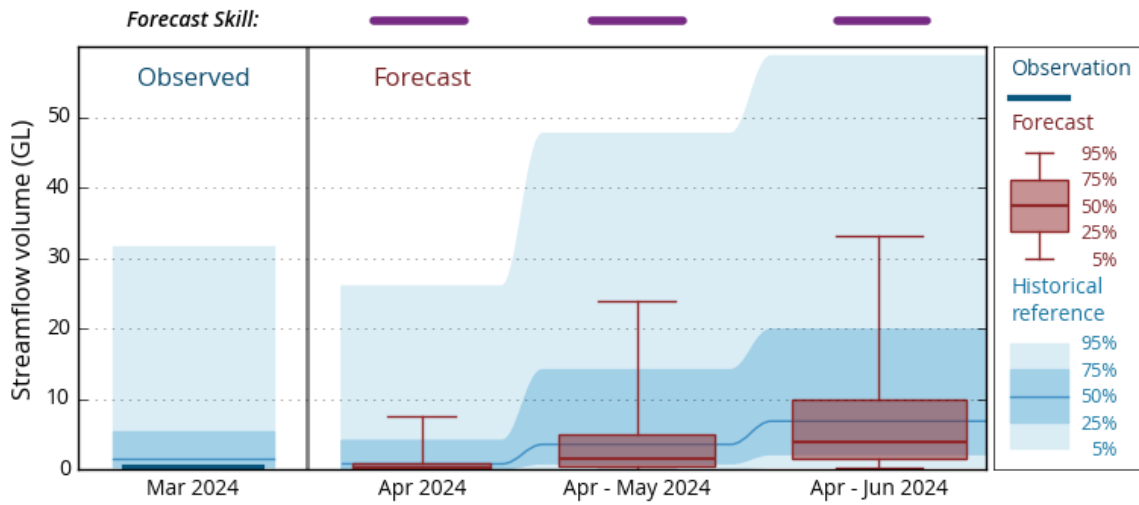
The Bureau of Meteorology issues a seasonal flow forecast for the Severn River at Fladbury, upstream of Pindari Dam (see the figure below). This may provide an indication of potential inflows into the dam in the coming months. All forecast quantiles of total flow volumes from April to June 2024 are significantly lower than the historical flows indicating a likely drier outlook for inflows.

The graph for April to June 2024 is shown below and updates can be found at:

www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/?ref=ftr#id=416022

Severn River at Fladbury (ID: 416022)

Forecast for Apr 2024 – Jun 2024



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NSW Border Rivers Resource Assessment

Table 1 Distribution of NSW Resources (as at 1 Apr 2024)	Volume (GL)	Volume (GL)
Total available resource (NSW) ⁽¹⁾		229.4
<i>less</i>		
Storage losses ⁽²⁾	16.5	
Essential supplies ⁽³⁾	41.1	
General security account balance ⁽⁴⁾	130.3	
General security delivery losses ⁽⁵⁾	39.1	
<i>Equals</i>		
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁶⁾		2.5

Notes:

- (1) This includes Pindari Dam and the NSW share of Glenlyon Dam, at the time of the assessment. In accordance with the *New South Wales - Queensland Border Rivers Intergovernmental Agreement 2008*, NSW has access to 57% of net inflows into Glenlyon Dam.
- (2) Storage evaporation loss is based on forecast storage depletion over the next 24 months.
- (3) Water required to be set aside under water sharing plans to provide for domestic, stock, towns, high security, replenishment, stimulus release (4GL), delivery loss and operational requirements. This commitment is assisted by the minimum forecast inflows to storage. The full reserve is 41.1 GL. If depleted, this reserve is replenished first prior to allocation increment.
- (4) The general security account balance includes 2.806 GL of held environmental water (HEW) administered by environmental water holder/s. The HEW volume is indicative only and prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade. These environmental entitlements are held and/or managed either singly or jointly by various environmental water holder groups including the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water- Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Group and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH).
- (5) General security delivery losses – budgeted at about 30 per cent of remaining general security account water.
- (6) Surplus (or deficit) of water availability after accounting for all commitments. There is a small surplus which will be rolled over to next assessment.

Distribution of NSW Resources as at 1 April 2024

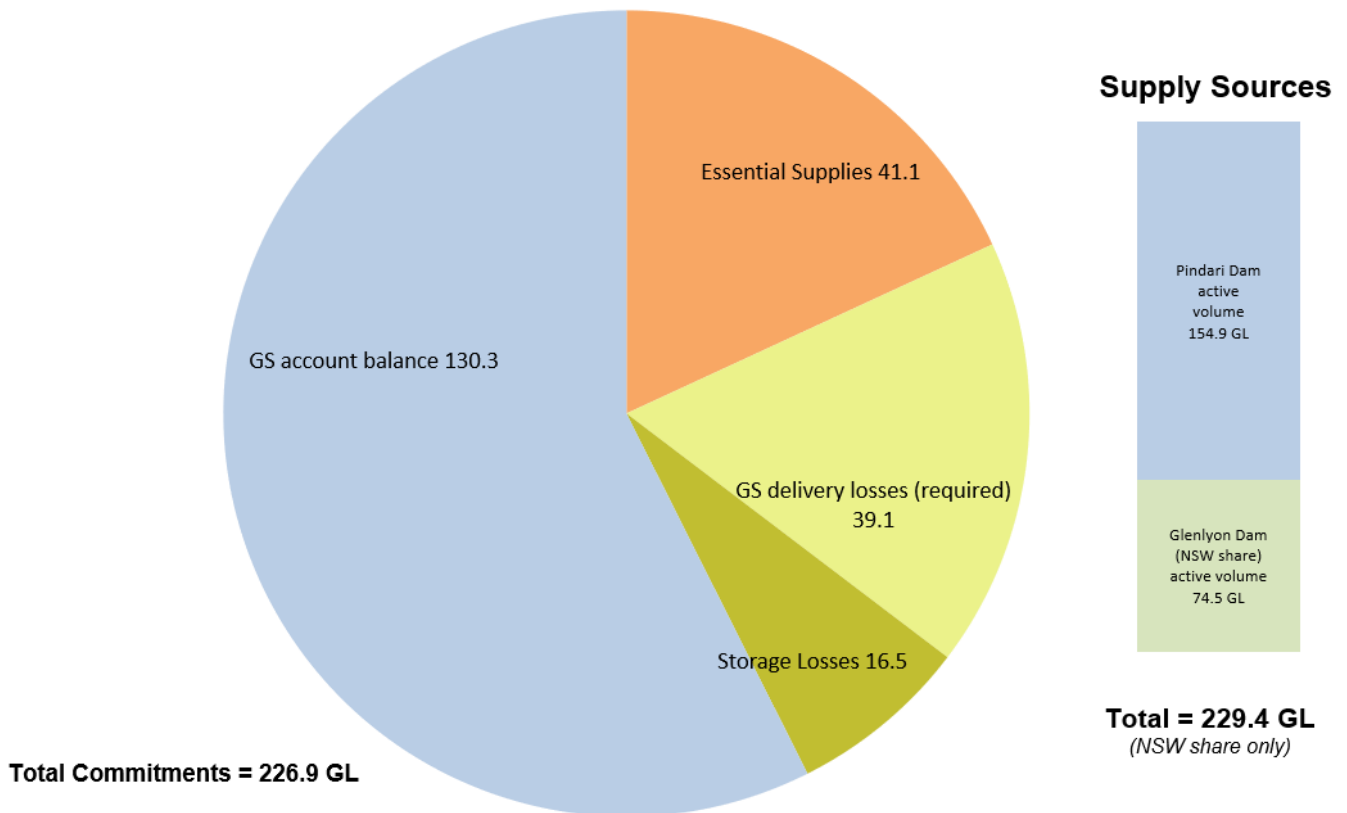


Table 1 : Water allocation history for 2023/24

Date	License Category	Increment	Total AWD 2023/24
1-Jul	Domestic and Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*
1-Jul	Supplementary	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*
1-Jul	General Security (A class)	0.06 ML/unit share	0.06 ML/unit share
1-Jul	General Security (B class)	0.00 ML/unit share	0.00 ML/unit share
21-Jul	General Security (A class)	0.94 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*
21-Jul	General Security (B class)	0.19 ML/unit share	0.19 ML/unit share
31-Oct	General Security (B class)	0.04 ML/unit share	0.23 ML/unit share
30-Jan	General Security (B class)	0.01 ML/unit share	0.24 ML/unit share
27-Feb	General Security (B class)	0.04 ML/unit share	0.28 ML/unit share
06-May	General Security (B class)	0.08 ML/unit share	0.36 ML/unit share

* Maximum allowable as per the water sharing plan.

Water Allocation Guide

The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water produced a series of guides to describe the water allocation methods for most NSW regulated river systems. The guide for this water source is available at the following link: [Resource assessment process | Water \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

Further information

The next water allocation statement for this water source will be included in the state-wide opening water allocation statements on **1st July 2024**.

More information on available water determinations and water sharing plans generally is available on the department's website: [Water \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

Subscribe [here](#) to receive the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's monthly news and updates about water planning, management and reform in New South Wales, or notification of new Water Allocation Statements.

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