

7 February 2024

# Namoi Regulated River Water Source

## Water allocation update

General security (GS) licences in the Lower Namoi regulated river water source have received a further allocation of 1% of entitlement. The total water available to Lower Namoi general security licenses is currently 335.6 gigalitres (GL), or 137% of entitlement overall.

All other licence categories in the Upper and Lower Namoi regulated systems received their maximum allocation for the current water year except the supplementary water access licence holders who received an allocation of 36% of entitlement.

There were some small inflows from the upper catchment during January, with Keepit and Split Rock dams receiving around 8.9 GL and 1.1 GL, respectively.

Based on the current assessment, essential supplies are secure for 24 months and beyond. This includes demands from Manilla and Barraba townships.

This resource assessment is based on information to 31 January 2024. Currently, no deficiency of resource is identified. Any changes in resources from this date forward will be captured in the next resource assessment.

## General security allocation 2023/24

7 February 2024	Allocation increment	Average Account Balance
Upper Namoi Regulated River	0*	83% <sup>+</sup>
Lower Namoi Regulated River	1%	137%

\* Fully allocated (100%) on 1 July. <sup>+</sup>Account Balance excludes adjustments for temporary trade.

## Dam levels (as of 6 February 2024)

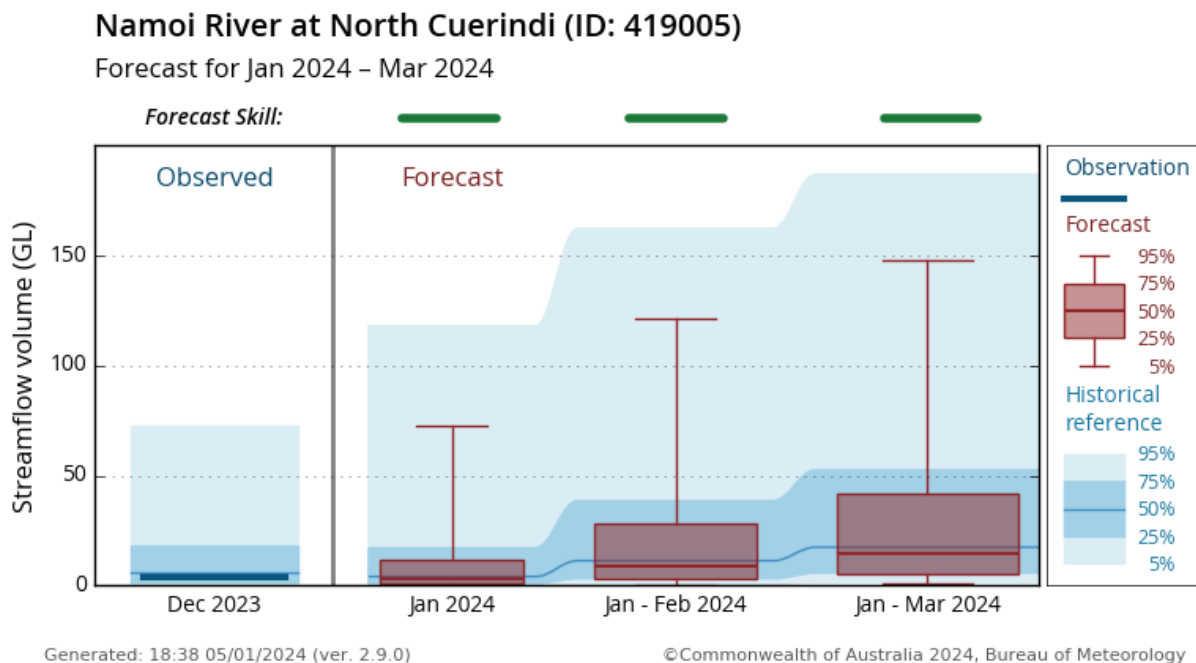
- Split Rock Dam is 97.1% full, holding around 386 GL.
- Keepit Dam is 44.3% full, holding around 192 GL.

## Climate and streamflow outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal outlook for February 2024 to April 2024 indicates that rainfall in the Namoi Valley is likely to be median to above median. Over this period, maximum temperatures and minimum temperatures are likely to be above median in the catchment.

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

The Bureau of Meteorology issues a seasonal flow forecast for the unregulated Namoi River at North Cuerindi (see the figure below). This may indicate potential future inflows into Keepit Dam. All forecast quantiles of total flow volumes from January to March 2024 are lower than the historical flows, indicating likely lower inflows than historically over this period. The graph for January to March 2024 is given below, and updates can be found at: [www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005](http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005)



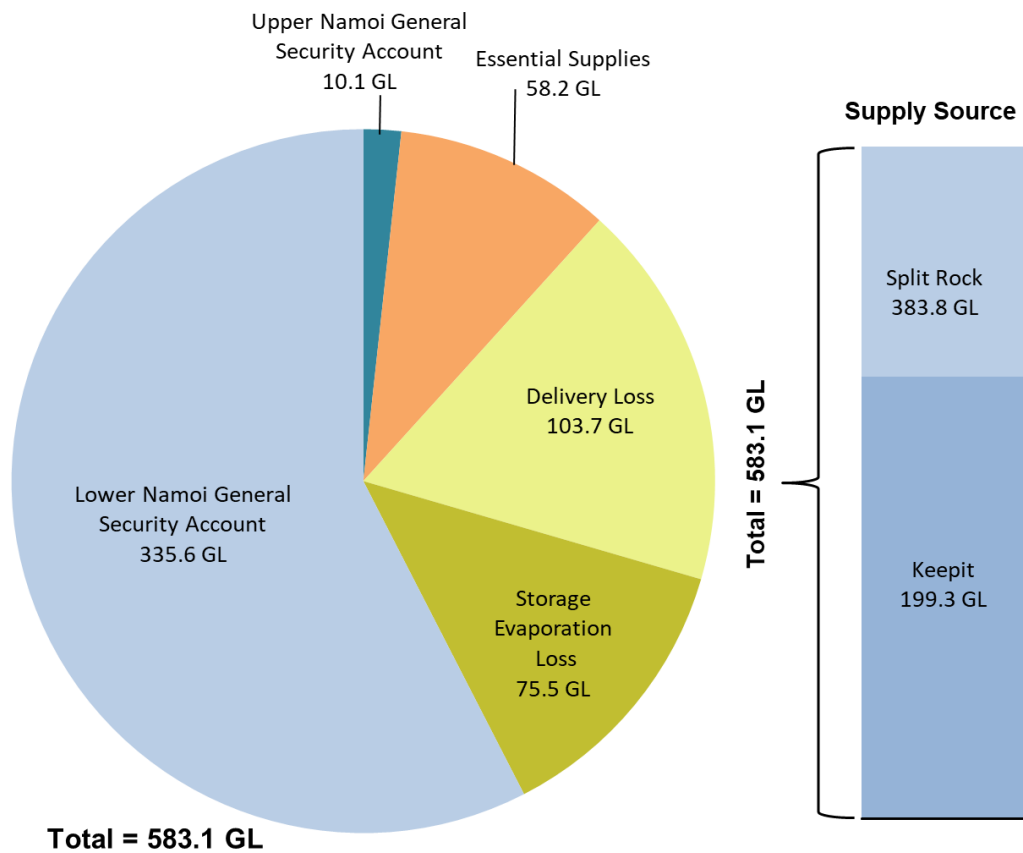
## Resource assessment data sheet

Resource distribution (as at 31 January 2024)	Volume (GL)
Keepit Dam and Split Rock Dam active volumes	583.1
<i>less</i>	
Storage Evaporation Loss <sup>(1)</sup>	75.5
Essential Supplies <sup>(2)</sup>	58.2
Lower Namoi General Security account balance	335.6
Upper Namoi General Security account balance	10.1
Delivery Loss <sup>(3)</sup>	103.7
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (deficit) <sup>(4)</sup>	0

### Notes:

- (1) Storage Evaporation Loss: evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and the maximum historical evaporation rates over 24 months.
- (2) Essential Supplies: water required to be set aside under the water sharing plan to provide for domestic, stock, towns, high security and riverine environments. Includes Gunidgera/Pian stock and domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. This commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows into the storages.
- (3) Delivery Loss: this account reflects the water reserved to deliver general security water. Traditionally, a 30% delivery loss has been budgeted for this river system. The loss reserve is continually assessed and, if necessary, topped-up as a priority from resource improvements, to ensure that allocated water can be delivered in most circumstances.
- (4) Surplus or deficit: there is no deficit, and the system is secure for delivery of all essential supplies for at least 24 months.

### Resource Distribution as at 31 January 2024 Namoi Regulated River Water Sources



### Namoi resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 31 December 2023
- Current Assessment date: 31 January 2024

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Split Rock plus Keepit		592.8
Dead storage	9.7	583.1
Storage evaporation loss	81.2	501.9
<b>Essential Supplies</b>		
Brought forward from last assessment	58.2	
Uses and associated loss since last assessment	-0.2	
Allocation assignment from High Security to General Security	0.0	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss	0.0	
Current balance	58.1	443.9

<b>Upper Namoi/Manilla Rivers</b>		
Brought forward from last assessment	11.6	
Ordered since last assessment	-0.8	
Allocation assignments from Upper Namoi to Lower Namoi	-0.7	
Allocation assignments from Lower Namoi to Upper Namoi	0.0	
Current balance	10.1	433.8
<b>General Security (D/S Keepit)</b>		
Brought forward from last assessment	395.9	
Orders since assessment period	-64.5	
Allocation assignments into Lower Namoi (from HS & Upper Namoi)	0.7	
Allocation assignments to Upper Namoi (from Lower Namoi g/s)	0.0	
Current balance	332.1	101.7
<b>Delivery Loss</b>		
Brought forward from last assessment	122.2	
Apparent losses since last assessment	-23.4	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for allocation assignments to GS)	0.0	
Current balance	98.9	2.8
<b>Apparent Losses since last assessment</b>		
Total	% of loss	GL
		23.4
Essential supply loss	0%	0.0
General Security loss	100%	23.4
<b>Resource available for sharing</b>		
Total		2.8

## Resource assessment data sheet as at 31 January 2024

Volumes in GL	Budget	Current	Additional	Balance
Storage Evaporation Loss	75.5	81.2	-5.7	75.5
Essential Supplies for next 24 months (58.2 GL max)	58.2	58.1	0.2	58.2
General Security Delivery Loss	103.7	98.9	4.8	103.7
Upper Namoi General Security (12.07 GL max) *		10.1	0.0	10.1
Lower Namoi General Security (490.7 GL max) *		332.1	3.5	335.6
Additional Resource for Sharing		2.8	-2.8	0.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>583.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>583.1</b>

\*Temporary trade may exceed this limit.

Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	3.5	GL
Available Water Determination	0.01	ML per unit share

## Upper Namoi water allocation history for 2023/24

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2023/24
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*
1-Jul	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*

\* Maximum allowable.

## Lower Namoi water allocation history for 2023/24

Date	License Category	Increment	Account balance
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	100%*
1-Jul	Supplementary	0.36 ML/unit share	36%
7-Jul	General Security	0.15 ML/unit share	199%
7-Aug	General Security	1.86 ML/unit share	200%*
7-Sep	General Security	0.85 ML/unit share	200%*

Date	License Category	Increment	Account balance
9-Oct	General Security	0.02 ML/unit share	192%
7-Dec	General Security	0.01 ML/unit share	171%
8-Jan	General Security	0.04 ML/unit share	161%
7-Feb	General Security	0.01 ML/unit share	137%

\* Maximum allowable.

### Storage volume prediction

Storage outlook for the assessment horizon is provided below. It shows that with current commitments and an assumed repeat of historical minimum inflows together with forecast demands, the combined storage of Keepit and Split Rock Dams will reduce to a minimum by the end of April 2025 then begin to recover.

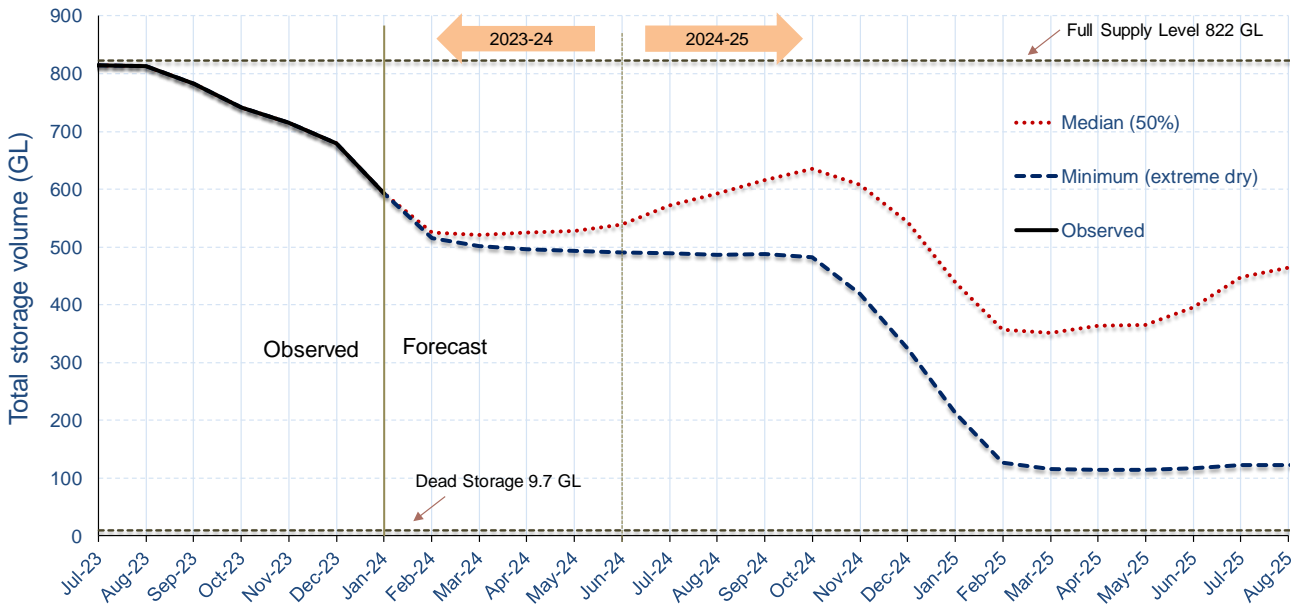


Figure: Combined Keepit and Split Rock storage volumes

## 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 the Namoi regulated river water source is available at: [water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process](https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process)

## Further information

The next routine water allocation statement for this water source will be available on **Thursday 7 March 2024**.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water website: [www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/water](https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/water)

Subscribe [here](#) to receive the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's monthly email update on water planning, management and reform in New South Wales.

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