

27 February 2024

Border Rivers Regulated River Water Source

Water availability and allocation update

There is sufficient resource available to provide general security (B class) access licences with an allocation of 0.04 megalitre per unit share (ML/unit share). This brings the total general security (B class) allocation for this 2023/24 water year to 0.28 ML/unit share or 28% of entitlement.

Following this allocation, the average account balance for general security (B class) is about 46% of entitlement. The water sharing plan allows for top-up of general security (B class) licenses throughout the year if there is sufficient water available, but individual account balances cannot exceed their maximum 100% limit.

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

27 February 2024	Allocation Increment	Average Account Balance
General Security (A Class)	0%*	71%
General Security (B Class)	4%	46%

* Already reached maximum allowable (100%) on July 21, 2023.

Storage levels (as of 26 February 2024)

- Pindari Dam is about 50% full – falling - holding about 157 GL.
- Glenlyon Dam is about 63% full – falling - holding about 159 GL.

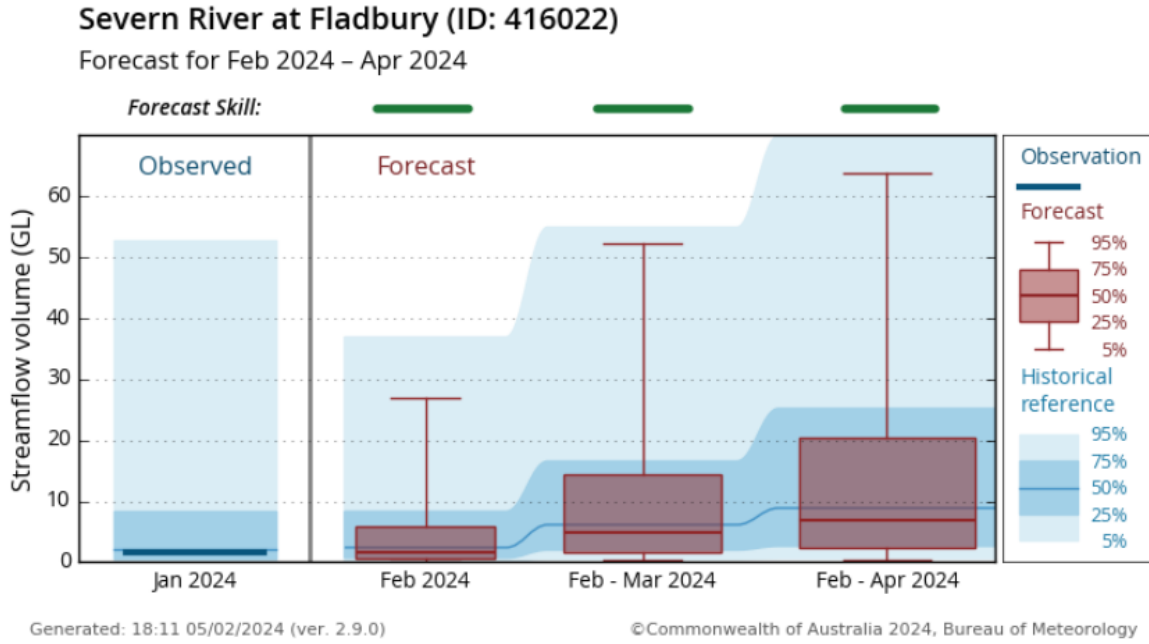
Climate and Streamflow Outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for March to May 2024 shows that rainfall in the Border River region is likely to be average or below average. Daytime and overnight temperatures are expected to be above median over this period.

For further details: www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary

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 February to April 2024 are lower than the historical

flows indicating a likely drier outlook for inflows. The graph for February to April is shown below and updates can be found at: [Seasonal Streamflow Forecasts: Water Information: Bureau of Meteorology \(bom.gov.au\)](https://www.bom.gov.au/seasonal-forecast/water/)



NSW Border Rivers Resource Assessment

Table 1 Distribution of NSW Resources (as at 1 Feb 2024)	Volume (GL)	Volume (GL)
Total available resource (NSW) ⁽¹⁾		241.5
<i>less</i>		
Storage losses ⁽²⁾	18.6	
Essential supplies ⁽³⁾	41.1	
General security account balance ⁽⁴⁾	139.0	
General security delivery losses ⁽⁵⁾	41.7	
<i>equals</i>		
Surplus (Deficit) ⁽⁶⁾		1.1

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 February 2024

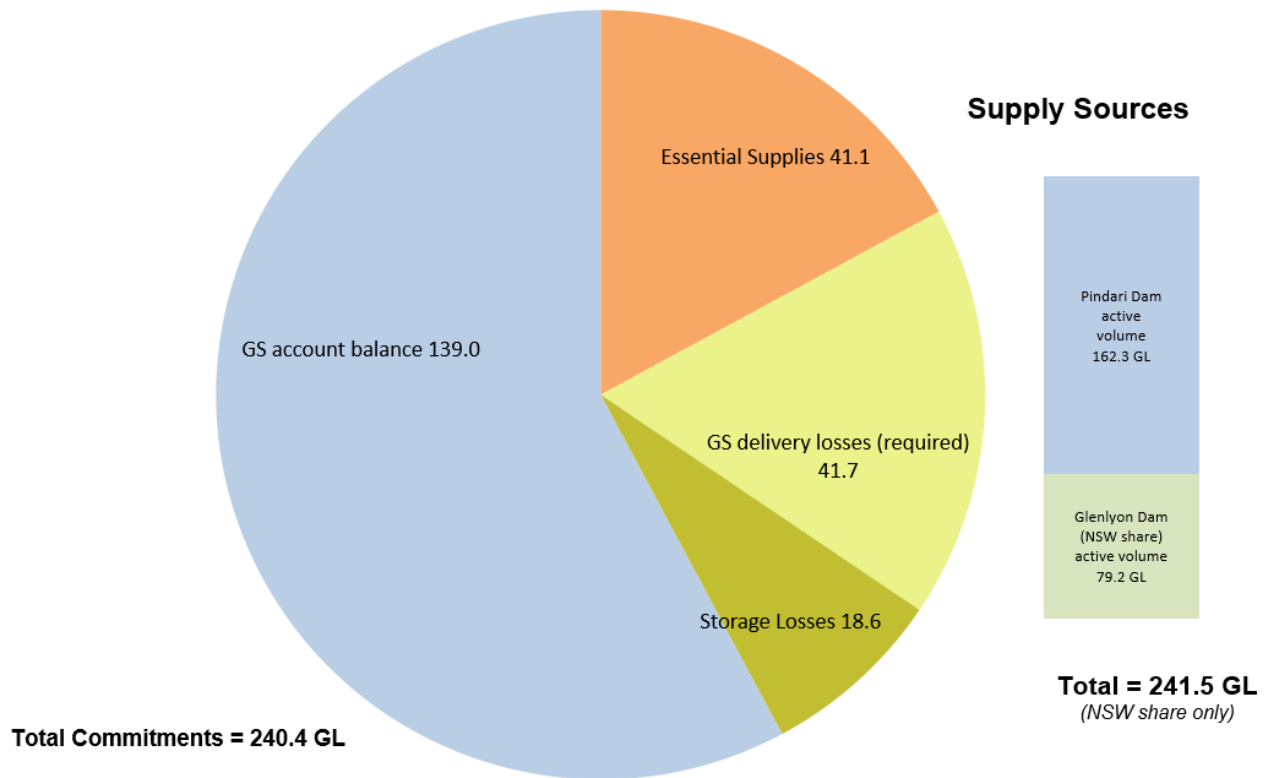


Table 1 : Water allocation history for 2023/24

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

* 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 the Borders regulated system is available at the following link: [Resource assessment process Water \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

Further information

The next water allocation statement of this water source will be published in May 2024, or earlier if there is a significant change to resources.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans 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 email update on water planning, management and reform in New South Wales.

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