



GENERAL PURPOSE WATER ACCOUNTING REPORT

## Peel Catchment

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2019–20



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## Abbreviations

Acronym	Description
ARCGIS	mapping and spatial analysis platform for designing and managing solutions through the application of geographic knowledge
AWAS 1	Australian Water Accounting Standard 1
AWD	available water determination
CAIRO	computer-aided improvements to river operations
DISV	dry inflow sequence volume
EWA	environmental water allowance
GIS	geographic information system
GPWAR	general purpose water accounting report
IQQM	integrated quantity and quality model
ML	megalitres (1,000,000 litres)
ML/d	megalitres per day
SILO	climatic data provision system run by the Queensland Government for the provision of both measured and modelled data
WSP	water sharing plan

## Glossary

Term	Definition
allocation	the specific volume of water allocated to water allocation accounts in a given season, defined according to rules established in the relevant water plan
allocation assignments	the transfer of water between licence holder allocation accounts as a result of a trade agreement The assignment becomes part of the receiver's current year allocation account water.
allocation account	water account attached to an access licence used to track the balance of account water
available water determination (AWD)	the process by which water is made available for use and shared amongst water users who hold a water access licence It determines the volume of water that is to be added to an individual's licence allocation account.
Australian Water Accounting Standard (AWAS)	a national standard that prescribes the basis for preparing and presenting a general-purpose water accounting report (GPWAR) It sets out requirements for the recognition, quantification, presentation and disclosure of items in a GPWAR.
back-calculation	a calculation approach using a mass balance to determine an unknown variable (used to calculate storage inflows based on balancing the change in storage volume where inflow is the only unknown)
basic rights	the non-licensed right to extract water to meet basic requirements for household purposes (non-commercial uses in and around the house and garden) and for watering of stock It is available for anyone who has access to river frontage on their property.
computer aided improvements to river operations (CAIRO)	a spreadsheet-based water balance model used for optimising river operations (orders and releases)
carryover	the volume or share component that may be reserved by a licence holder for use in the subsequent year
catchment	the areas of land that collect rainfall and contribute to surface water (streams, rivers, wetlands) or to groundwater A catchment is a natural drainage area, bounded by sloping ground, hills or mountains, from which water flows to a low point.
dead storage	the volume in storage that is generally considered unavailable for use (e.g. water level below release valves) due to access and often poor water quality
effective storage	the total volume of storage minus the dead storage component—the volume generally considered as useable
effluent	flow leaving a place or process Sewage effluent refers to the flow leaving a sewage treatment plant. An effluent stream is one which leaves the main river and does not return.
entity	a defined geographical area or zone within the accounting region Transactions and reports are produced for each entity.

Term	Definition
end of system	the last defined point in a catchment where water information can be measured and/or reported
environmental water	water allocated to support environmental outcomes and other public benefits Environmental water provisions recognise the environmental water requirements and are based on environmental, social and economic considerations, including existing user rights.
evaporation	the process by which water or another liquid becomes a gas Water from land areas, bodies of water, and all other moist surfaces is absorbed into the atmosphere as a vapour.
evapotranspiration	the process by which water is transmitted as a vapour to the atmosphere as the result of evaporation from any surface and transpiration from plants
extraction	the pumping or diverting of water from a river or aquifer by licensed users for a specific purpose (irrigation, stock, domestic, towns, etc.) The volume is measured at the point of extraction or diversion (river pump, diversion works, etc.).
general purpose water accounting report (GPWAR)	a report prepared according to the Australian Water Accounting Standard It comprises a number of components including a contextual statement, a statement of water assets and water liabilities, a statement of change in water assets and water liabilities, a statement of physical water flows, notes and disclosures, and an assurance and accountability statement.
General Security licence	a category of water access licence implemented under the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> This forms the bulk of the water access licence entitlement volume in NSW and is a low-priority entitlement (i.e. it only receives water once essential and High Security entitlements are met in the available water determination process).
groundwater	Water location beneath the ground in soil pore spaces and in the fractures of rock formations
High Security licence	a category of water access licence implemented under the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> It receives a higher priority than General Security licences but less priority than essential requirements in the available water determination process.
HYDSTRA database	a database used by NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to store continuous, time-series data such as river flow, river height, and water quality
inflows	surface water runoff and deep drainage to groundwater (groundwater recharge) and transfers into the water system (both surface and groundwater) for a defined area
inter-valley trade	trade of licence holder allocation account water via allocation assignment from one catchment to another catchment (or state)
intra-valley trade	trade of licence holder allocation account water via allocation assignment within the same catchment
median	the middle point of a distribution, separating the highest half of a sample from the lowest half

Term	Definition
non-physical transaction	an accounting transaction representing a process that is not a component of the water cycle (e.g. an available water determination)
physical transaction	an accounting transaction representing a process of the water cycle (e.g. an extraction)
regulated river	a river system where flow is controlled via one or more major man-made structures such as dams and weirs For the purposes of the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i> , a regulated river is one that is declared by the minister to be a regulated river. Within a regulated river system, licence holders can order water against a held entitlement.
share component	an entitlement to water specified on the access licence, expressed as a unit share or, in the case of specific purpose licences (e.g. Local Water Utility, Major Water Utility and Domestic and Stock), a volume in megalitres The amount of water a licence holder is allocated as a result of an available water determination and the amount they can take in any year is based on their share component.
storage	a state-owned dam, weir or other structure that is used to regulate and manage river flows in the catchment and the water bodies impounded by these structures
storage reserve	proportion of water in a storage reserved in the resource assessment process for future essential or High Security requirements (e.g. town water)
storage volume	the total volume of water held in storage at a specified time
supplementary water	unregulated river flow available for extraction under a Supplementary Water licence
surface water	all water that occurs naturally above ground including rivers, lakes, reservoirs, creeks, wetlands and estuaries
tributary	a smaller river or stream that flows into a larger river or stream Usually a number of smaller tributaries merge to form a river.
ungauged catchment	a catchment without a flow gauge to accurately record stream flows Modelled estimates must be used to approximate the contribution of ungauged catchments to the main river.
water accounting	the systematic process of identifying, recognising, quantifying, reporting, assuring and publishing information about water, the rights or other claims to that water, and the obligations against that water
water assets	the physical water held in storage, as well as any claims to water that are expected to increase the future water resource (e.g. external water entering the system through inter-valley trading)
water liabilities	claims on the water assets of the water report entity including water that has been allocated to licence holder accounts or environmental accounts, but yet to be taken at the end of the reporting period
water sharing plan	a water management plan that defines the rules for sharing of water within a region under the <i>Water Management Act 2000</i>



## Director's foreword

This is the ninth annual release of the general-purpose water accounting report (GPWAR) for the Peel Regulated River Water Source. It has been prepared for the accounting period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (the reporting period), under the Australian Water Accounting Standard 1 (AWAS 1) (WASB, 2012).

The GPWAR provides stakeholders with a consolidated, comparable and publicly accessible set of water accounting information for the water source. The information presented is also used internally for a range of water planning functions and legislative reporting obligations.

Included in the GPWAR are:

- a contextual statement summarising the climatic conditions, water resources, environmental holdings, water trading market and water resource management in the water source for 2019–20
- a physical flow diagram illustrating changes in storage volumes and the associated inflows and outflows
- water accounting statements presenting the opening and closing balances, and itemised changes to these balances for available water resources (water assets) and licenced allocation accounts (water liabilities)
- disclosure notes (linked to the figures within the water accounting statements) providing detailed information of accounting components including:
  - access licence account balances
  - planned and held environmental water account balances
  - a detailed available water determination report
  - temporary trading by licence category
  - supplementary announcements and usage by river reach
  - physical inflows and outflows to the system for the water year.

Reporting datasets used in the GPWAR are available by sending an email request of your required information to [water.wams@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:water.wams@dpi.nsw.gov.au)

As Director Water Analytics, NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, I declare:

- the information presented in these accounts is a faithful representation of the management and operation of the regulated Peel water source for the reporting period
- all data presented in this report is based on the best available information at the time of publication
- NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has, to the best of its ability, prepared this GPWAR in accordance with the Australian Water Accounting Standard 1.



**Danielle Baker**

Director Water Analytics

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

## Contextual statement

The Namoi catchment borders the Gwydir and Castlereagh catchments. It is bounded by the Great Dividing Range in the east, the Liverpool Ranges and Warrumbungle Ranges in the south, and the Nandewar Ranges and Mount Kaputar to the north.

Covering an area of 4,700 square kilometres, the Peel River catchment is a major sub-catchment of the Namoi. The Peel River forms in the northern slopes of the Liverpool range, flowing northwest for approximately 210 kilometres to the systems junction with the Namoi River near Gunnedah. Around 40% of the annual discharge flowing from the Peel is contributed by the Cockburn River, while Goonoo Goonoo and Dungowan Creeks both contribute approximately 10%.

The Peel River system is regulated by Chaffey Dam, which is located in the upper catchment near the town of Woolomin, approximately 45 kilometres from Tamworth. Chaffey Dam was completed in 1979. It has a capacity of approximately 62,000 megalitres and a contributing catchment area of 420 square kilometres. Work undertaken to increase Dam capacity to 100,500 megalitres was completed in May 2016. The storage is a shared resource that services both the town water supply needs of Tamworth and agricultural production in the area.

Tamworth water supply is also supplemented by Dungowan Dam, which is owned and operated by Tamworth Regional Council. Dungowan Dam is located in the upper reaches of Dungowan Creek and has a total capacity 6,300 megalitres.

The Peel catchment supports around 66 square kilometres of irrigation, most of which is for irrigated pasture or fodder crops.

The Peel is managed and operated independently of the regulated Namoi water sources.

## Accounting extent

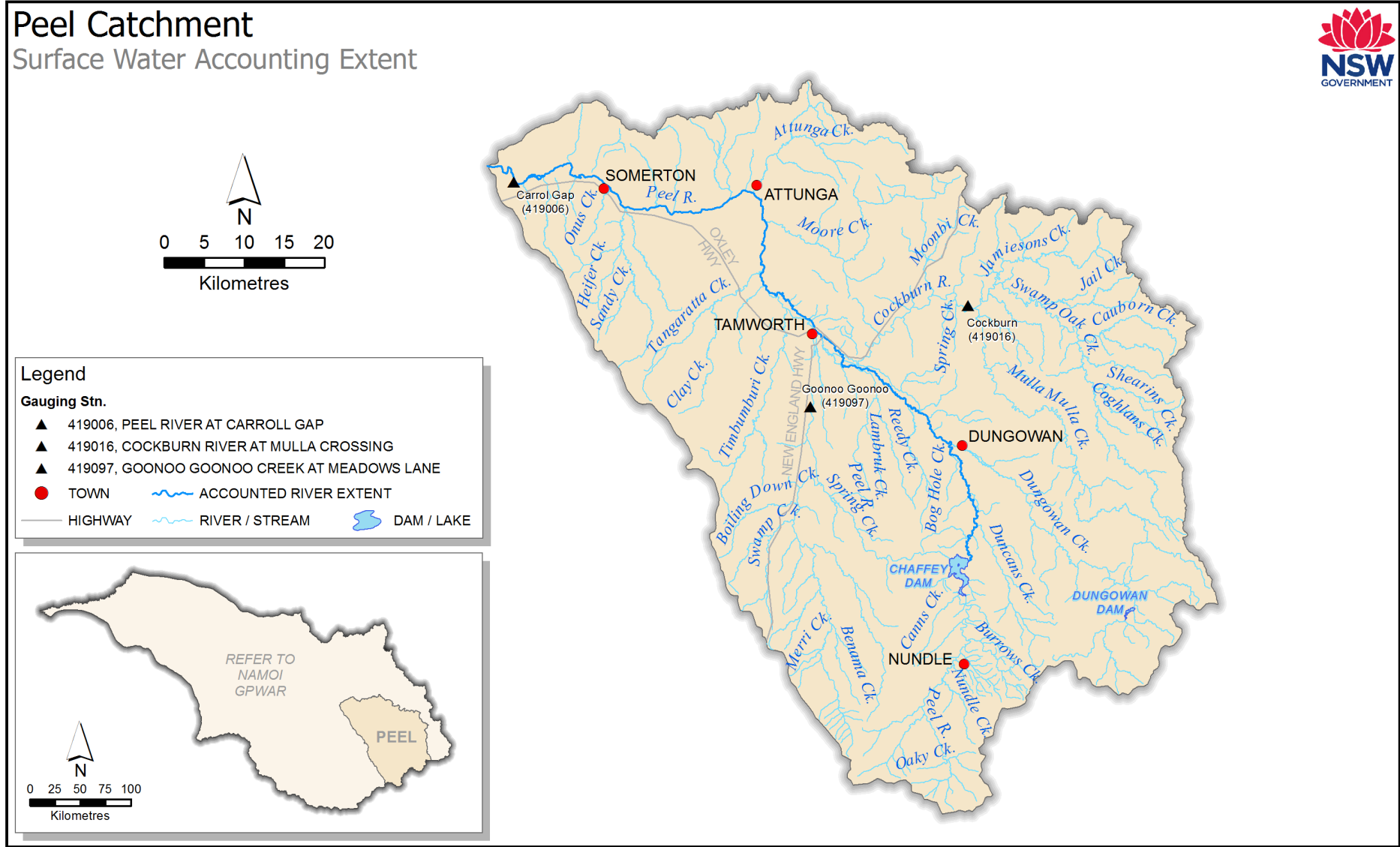
The accounted river extent is illustrated in Figure 1 and includes the regulated Peel water source, as defined by the *Water Sharing Plan for the Peel Valley Regulated, Unregulated, Alluvium and Fractured Rock Water Sources 2010*.

Gauged inflow for the accounted Peel system is the total annual inflow from Goonoo Goonoo Creek at Meadow Lane and the Cockburn River at Mulla Crossing. Combining the gauged inflow catchment area with the back-calculated storage inflow area, approximately 56% of inflow for the account is measured or indirectly measured, as is the case with storage inflow.

While physical groundwater volumes that interact with the regulated river are included in GPWAR statements where possible (and any interactions not directly estimated form part of the unaccounted difference), all other groundwater flows and groundwater management information are excluded from this GPWAR.



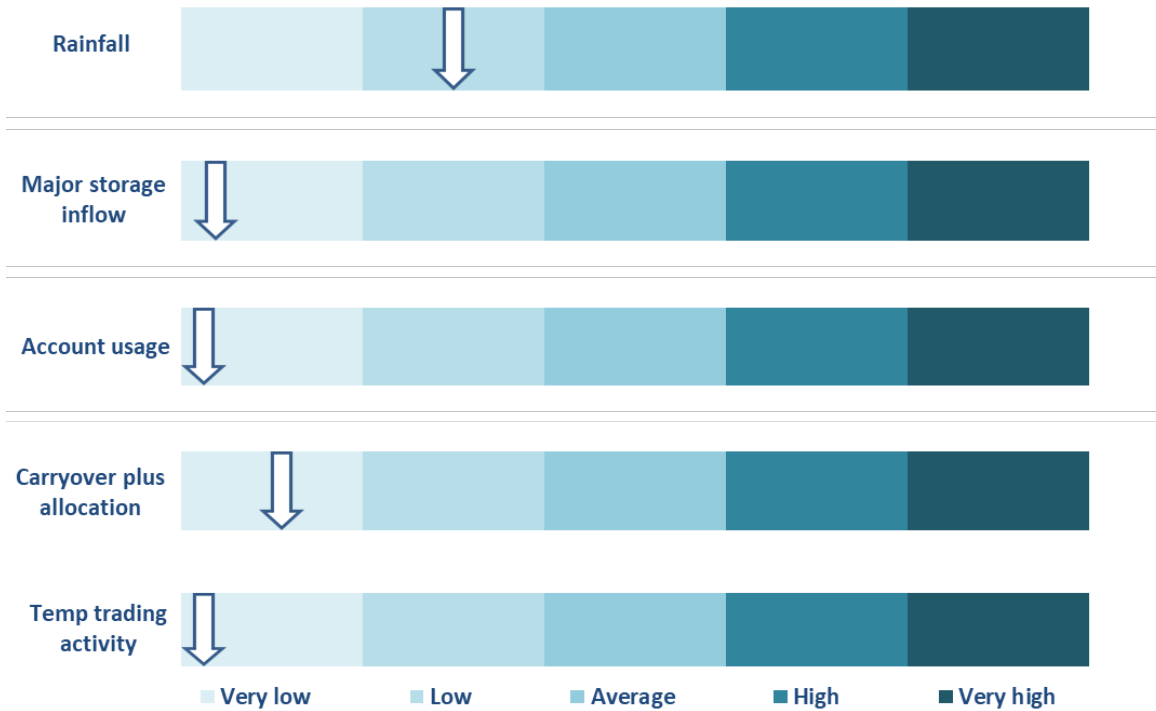
Figure 1: Surface water geographical extent of the accounts



## Snapshot

The key indicators for 2019–20 relative to other years under water sharing plan management conditions are presented in Figure 2. Major storage inflow, account usage, effective allocation (carryover plus annual allocation), and temporary trading activity were in the very low range for the reporting period, while rainfall was in the low category (Figure 2).

**Figure 2: 2019–20 Summary indicators**



## Climate

At Tamworth (central catchment), 583 mm of rainfall was recorded in the reporting period (Table 1)

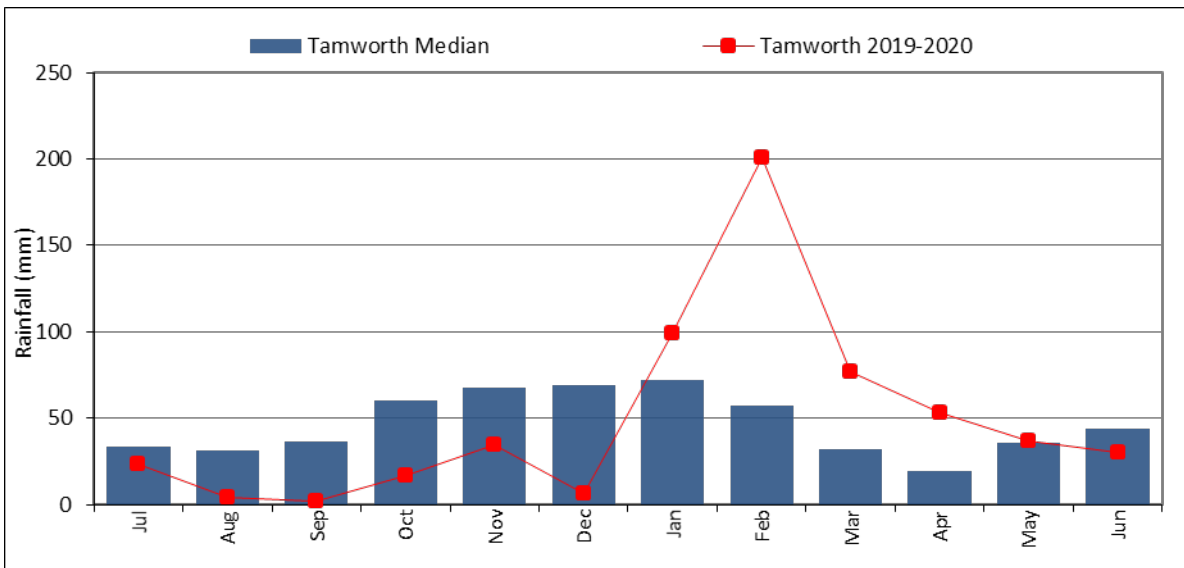
Comparatively this rainfall is:

- 87% of the long-term median rainfall (for this location)
- 56% of the highest rainfall on record for this location (1,032 mm)

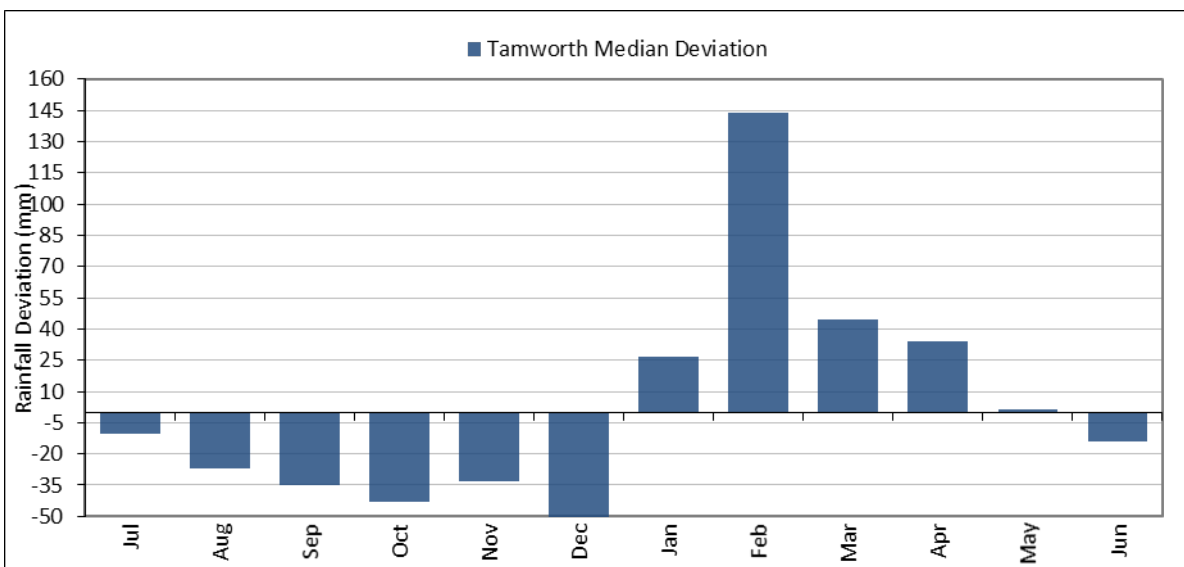
Several months had significant exceedance of median rainfall in the reporting period including January, February, March, April and May 2020 (Figure 3 and Figure 4).

The 2019–20 spatial rainfall distribution across the Peel is displayed in Figure 5, and can be referenced against the mean historical annual rainfall distribution in Figure 6.

**Figure 3: Monthly rainfall for the reporting period compared with historical monthly median rainfall at Tamworth (Hillgrove)**



**Figure 4: Monthly rainfall deviation for the reporting period from historical monthly median rainfall at Tamworth (Hillgrove)**



**Table 1: 2019–20 monthly rainfall and historic monthly rainfall statistics at Tamworth<sup>1</sup>—measurements in millimetres**

Tamworth	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Annual
<b>2019–20</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>98.9</b>	<b>200.7</b>	<b>77.0</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>583.3</b>
<b>Historical mean</b>	47.3	38.7	47.4	55.0	80.2	76.0	87.5	64.8	47.0	36.5	41.1	46.9	665.2
<b>Historical median</b>	33.4	31.2	36.6	59.8	67.6	69.2	72.3	57.0	32.2	19.4	35.3	43.7	668.5
<b>Historical lowest</b>	3.3	0.0	0.6	7.8	9.6	3.1	2.6	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	372.6
<b>Historical highest</b>	183.6	139.6	154.0	140.2	287.4	202.1	363.8	225.8	140.6	140.8	158.7	166.2	1032.4
<b>Year of highest<sup>2</sup></b>	1985–86	1986–87	2015–16	1999–2000	2007–08	2006–07	1975–76	2011–12	1981–82	1998–99	1976–77	2004–05	1976–77

<sup>1</sup> Monthly data sourced from the Bureau of Meteorology, Climate Data Online—[www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au). All statistics were derived the monthly data. The data is for the station Tamworth (Hillgrove), station code 55279

<sup>2</sup> Calendar year for monthly highs and water year (July–June) for annual

Figure 5: Peel annual rainfall 2019–20

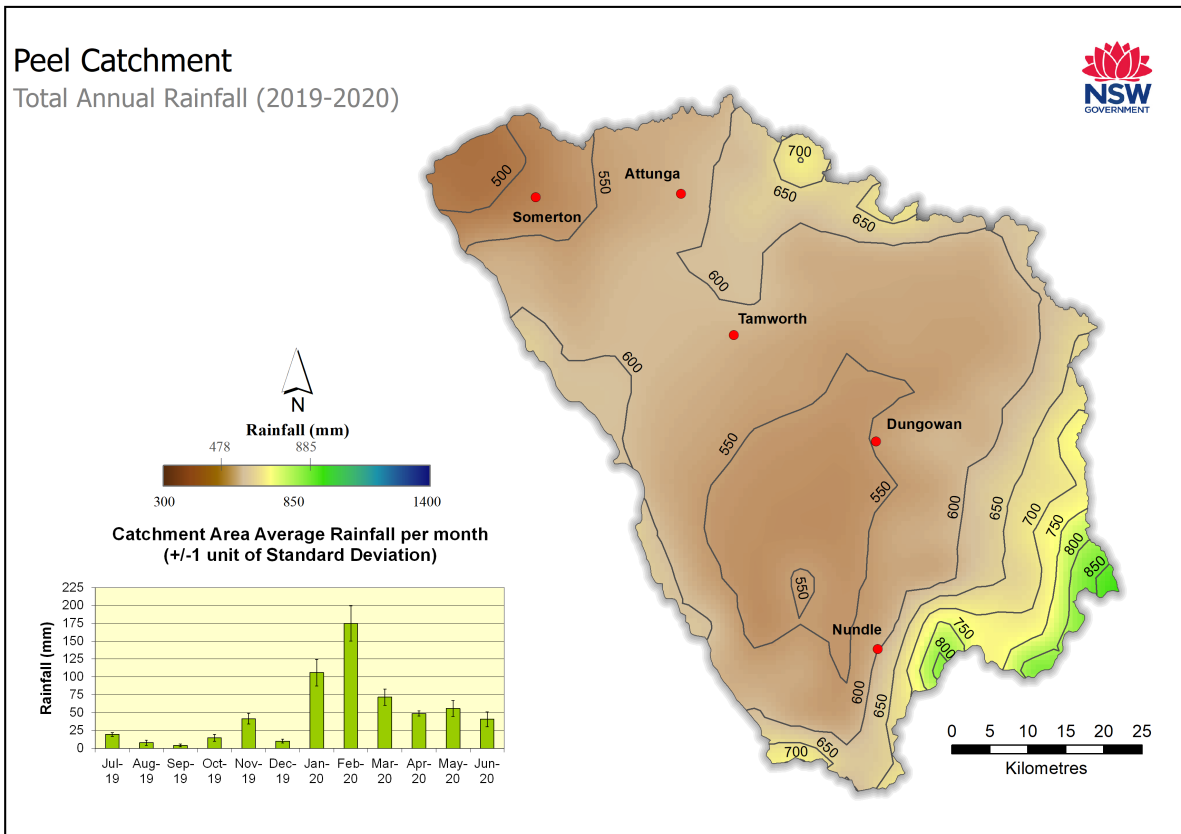
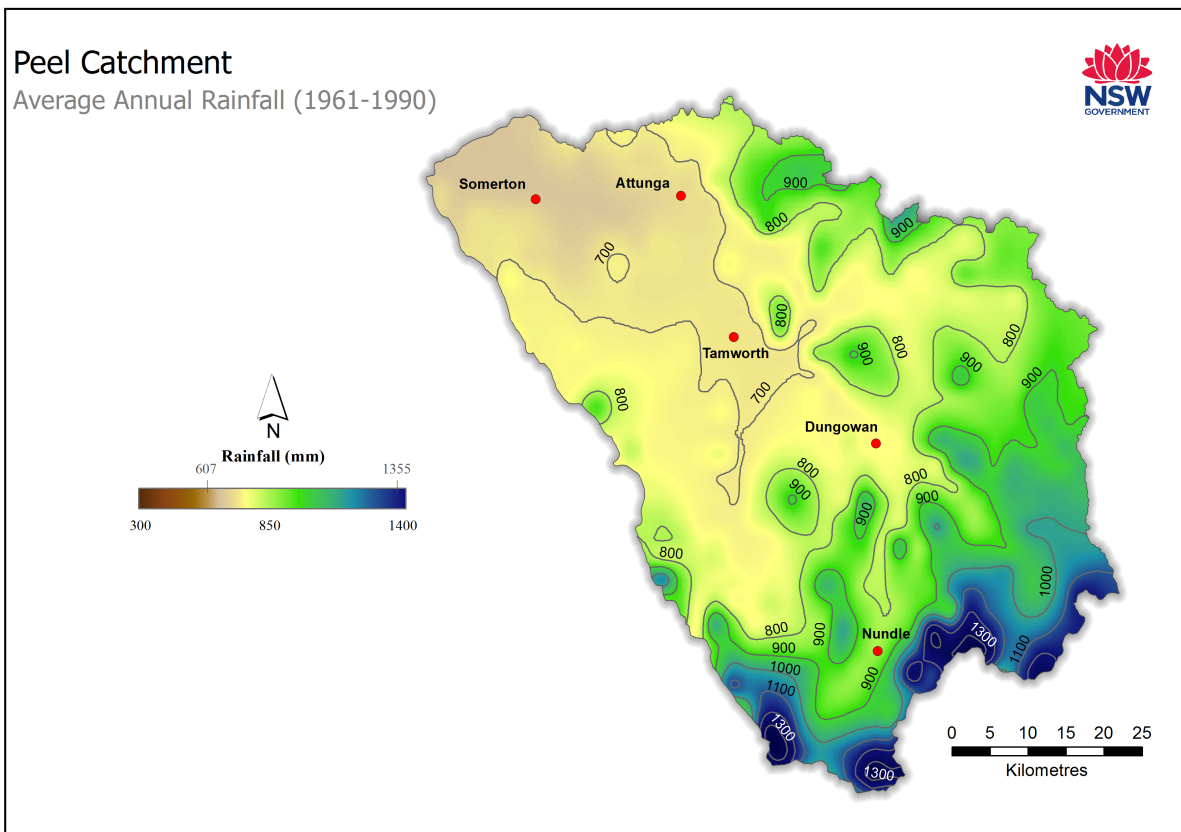


Figure 6: Average annual rainfall in the Peel catchment (1961–90)



# Storage inflows and volume

## Inflows

Inflow to Chaffey Dam has historically varied significantly, cycling through prolonged periods of predominantly dry (1924–49, 1956 to current) and predominantly wet climatic regimes (1915–25, 1949–57). Since 2000, the system has experienced short durations of wet and prolonged durations of dry (Figure 7).

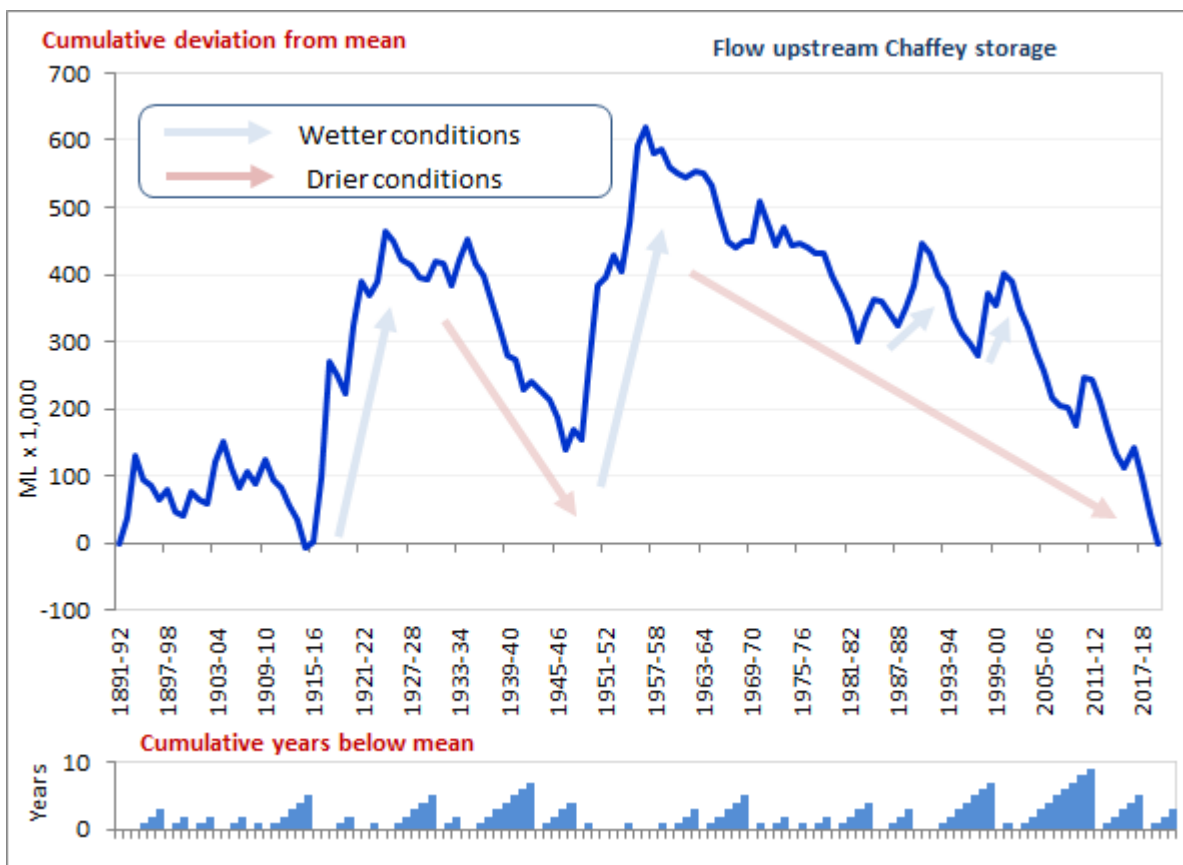
Currently, the trend is strongly downward, indicating generally drier conditions compared to the long-term sequence.

For the reporting period, the total inflow to Chaffey Dam was 5,884 megalitres<sup>3</sup> (Figure 8), which is:

- 11% of the long-term average annual inflow (51,276 megalitres)
- Very low relative to the historical record<sup>4</sup>, exceeding 4% of years on record (1892–93 to 2019–20)
- the third consecutive year of below-average inflow.

Daily inflows are presented in (Figure 9).

**Figure 7: Long-term inflow to Chaffey Dam cumulative deviation**

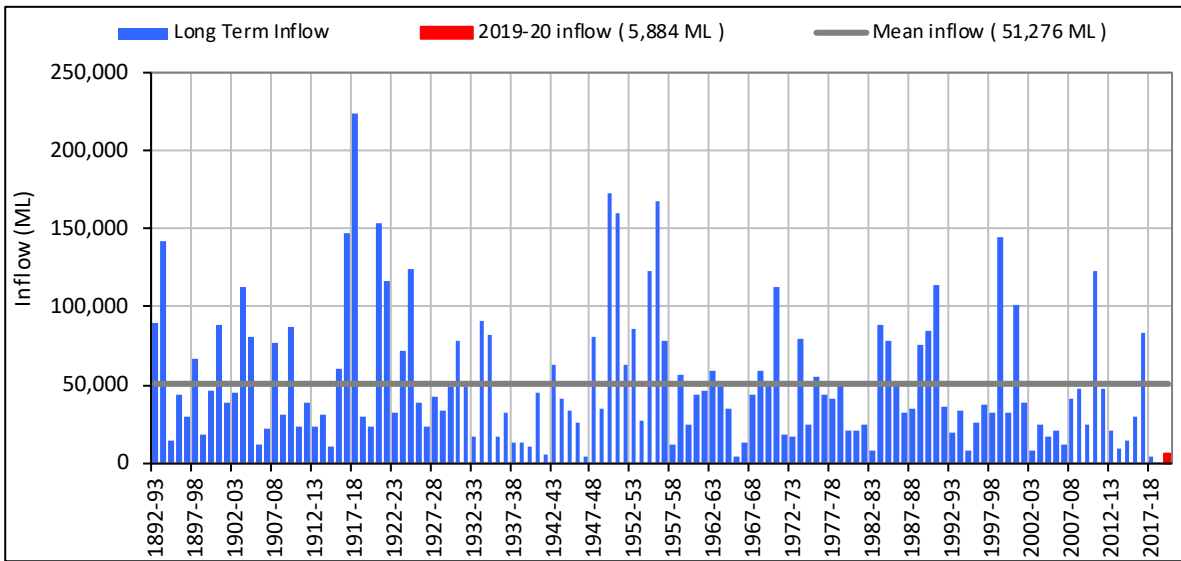


<sup>3</sup> The back-calculation to estimate inflow for the reporting period resulted in a negative inflow due to the extremely dry conditions combined with reading measurements that have an accuracy of less than 100 %. Inflow for the reporting period was therefore considered negligible and reported as zero.

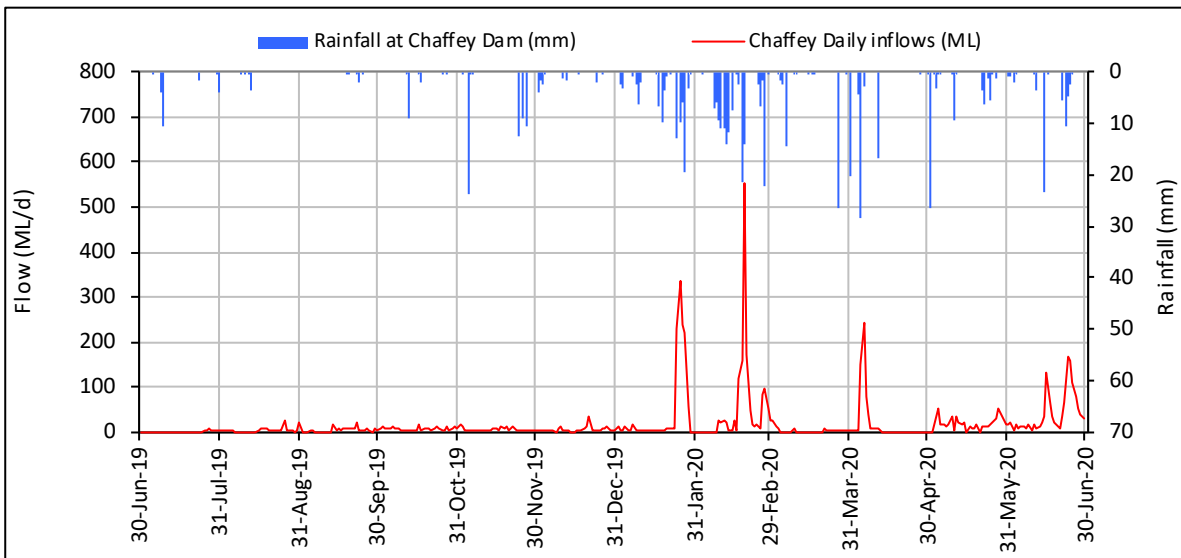
<sup>4</sup> Inflows are produced by a back-calculation (mass-balance approach), for the period since storage commissioning. Prior to this, the series is composed of gauged data (where available) and rainfall runoff modelling data.



**Figure 8: Long-term inflows to Chaffey Dam against mean and reporting year inflow**



**Figure 9: Daily inflows and rainfall at Chaffey Dam for the reporting period**

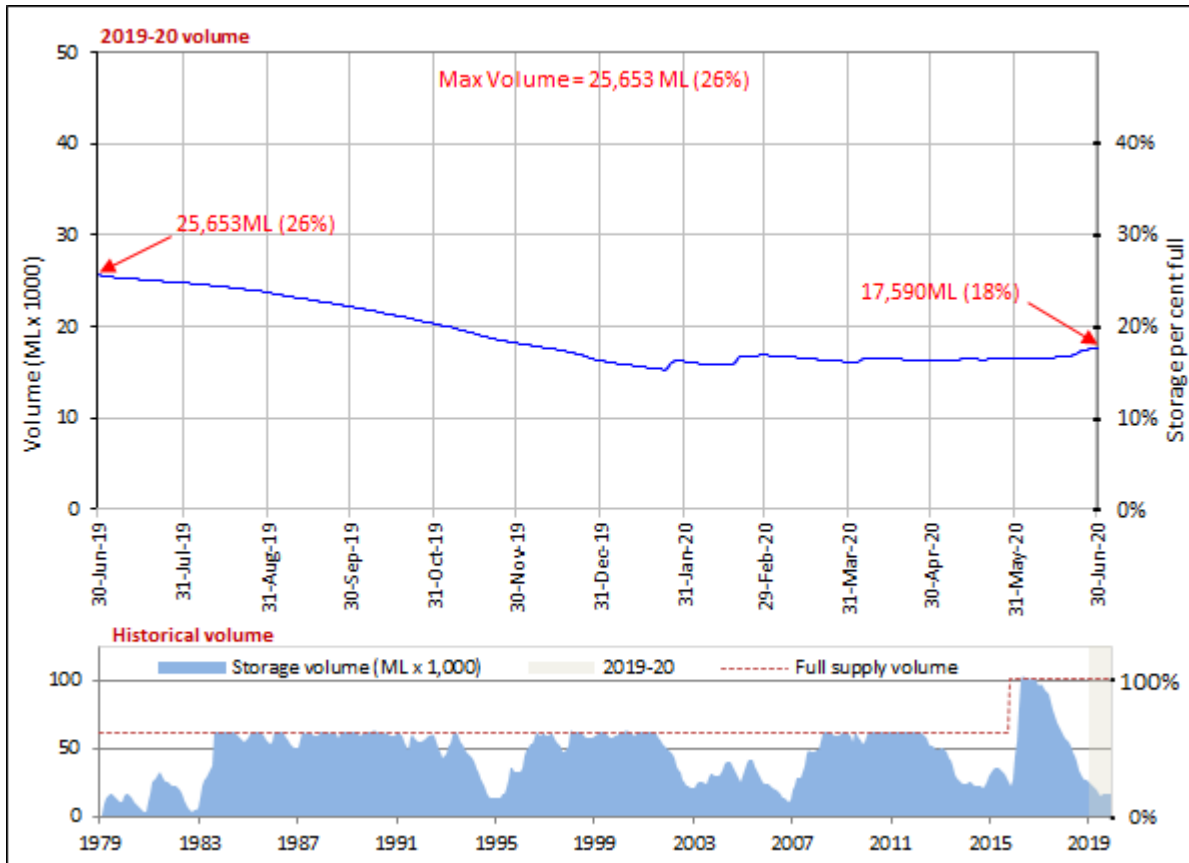


### Storage volume

For the reporting period, the Chaffey Dam volume:

- started at 25,653 megalitres or 26% of full supply capacity
- closed at 17,590 megalitres or 18% of full supply capacity
- held a maximum volume of 25,653 megalitres on 30 June 2019 (Figure 10).

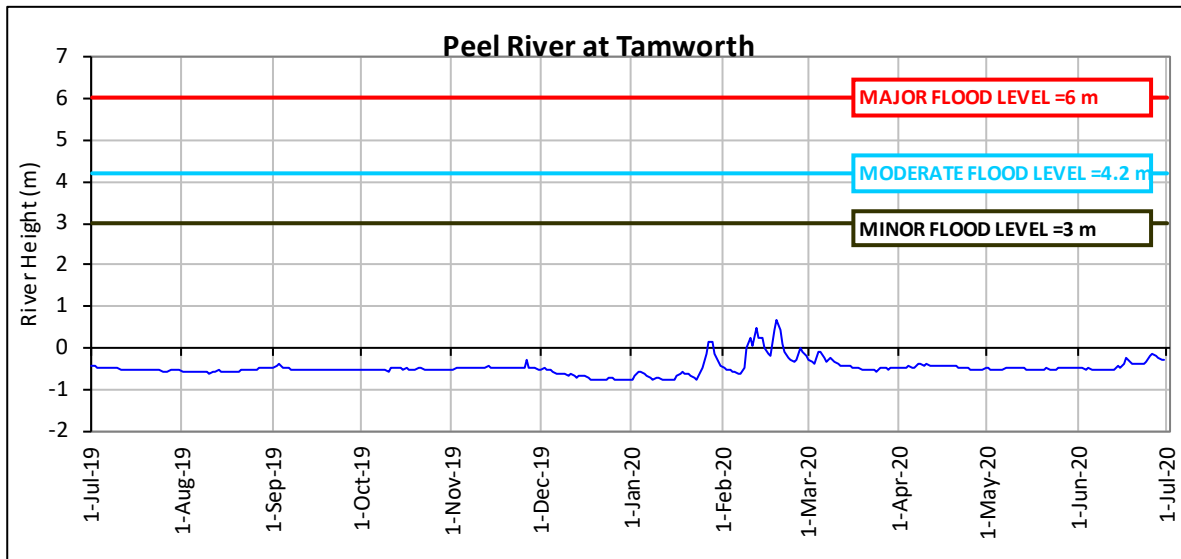
Figure 10: Chaffey Dam storage volume and % full 2019–20 and historical volume sequence



## Major flow events

No major flooding events occurred in the Peel for the reporting period. The river height at Tamworth remained below one metre for the entire water year<sup>5</sup> (Figure 11).

<sup>5</sup> Heights are referenced to a local datum. The cease to flow level at this gauging site is -0.63 metres using the local datum. A temporary weir was in place upstream from December 2019 to June 2020. Regulated flows were not being passed downstream during this period.

Figure 11: 2019–20 maximum daily river heights at Tamworth<sup>6</sup>

## Surface water resources and management

### Legislation

The Peel Regulated River Water Source was managed under the conditions set out in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Peel Valley Regulated, Unregulated, Alluvium and Fractured Rock Water Sources 2010*, for the entirety of 2019–20.

### Access rights

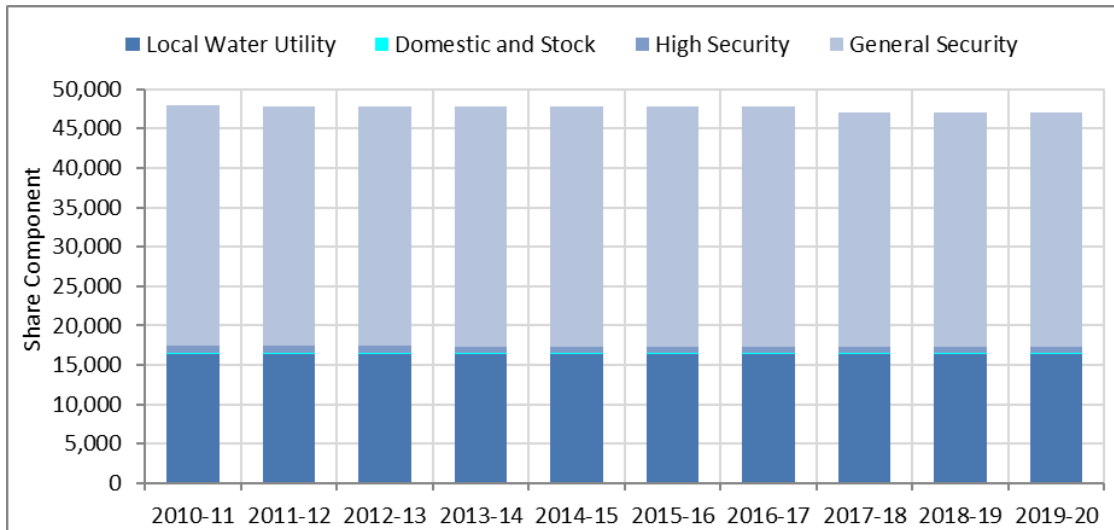
Total issued share component remained unchanged throughout the reporting period. As of 30 June 2020, a total of 47,002 shares were on issue across seven categories of access licence (Table 2). Historical share component by category (under water sharing plan management) is presented in Figure 12.

**Table 2: Issued share component on 30 June 2020**

Licence category	Share component (30 June 2020)	Number of licences
Domestic and Stock	77	11
Domestic and Stock [Domestic]	66	4
Domestic and Stock [Stock]	20	4
Local Water Utility	16,400	1
Regulated River (General Security)	29,635	181
Regulated River (High Security)	801	12
Regulated River (High Security) [Research]	3	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,002</b>	<b>214</b>

<sup>6</sup> Flood severity intervals obtained from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology

**Figure 12: Peel regulated river share component since the introduction of the water sharing plan**



### Access licence account management

Table 3 summarises the licence allocation accounting rules in place for the reporting period. The Peel adopts an annual accounting approach for allocation of resources. No carryover provisions are available, and all categories of access licence are limited to a maximum allocation of 100% or one megalitre per share. General-security licence holders may have access to uncontrolled flow events in years below optimum allocations to supplement regulated supply.

**Table 3: Water allocation licence accounting rules for the reporting period**

Licence category	Carryover limit	AWD upper limit for uncontrolled flow access	AWD plus uncontrolled flow usage limit	AWD limit
Domestic and Stock	0%	N/A	N/A	100%
General Security	0 ML per share	1 ML per share	1 ML per share	1 ML per share
High Security	0 ML per share	N/A	N/A	1 ML per share
High Security (Research)	0 ML per share	N/A	N/A	1 ML per share
Local Water Utility	0%	N/A	N/A	100%

### Extreme events stage and temporary water restrictions

The NSW Extreme Events Policy was released in October 2018 to provide a framework for managing extreme events in the major river systems of the NSW Murray-Darling Basin. This framework is based on a staged approach, providing a range of measures for water managers to implement as conditions deteriorate.

Temporary water restrictions are an example of the type of measures that can be implemented to manage a water shortage. These restrictions are issued under section 324 of the *Water Management Act 2000* and have been implemented in several river valleys in the current drought to preserve water for critical needs.

Table 4 outlines the conditions that may be associated with different stages of criticality for surface water quantity. Further information is available at

[www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/what-we-do/legislation-policies/eep](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/what-we-do/legislation-policies/eep)

**Table 4: Determination of stages of criticality for surface water quantity**

Stage	Stage description	Stage evidence base
1	Normal management	Can deliver all account water under normal river operations practices.
2	Emerging drought	Unable to deliver 100% of high priority account water and maximum expected use of General Security under normal river operations practices.
3	Severe drought	Only able to deliver restricted high priority demands and restricted remaining General Security account water.
4	Critical drought	Only able to deliver restricted town water supply, stock and domestic and other restricted high priority demands.

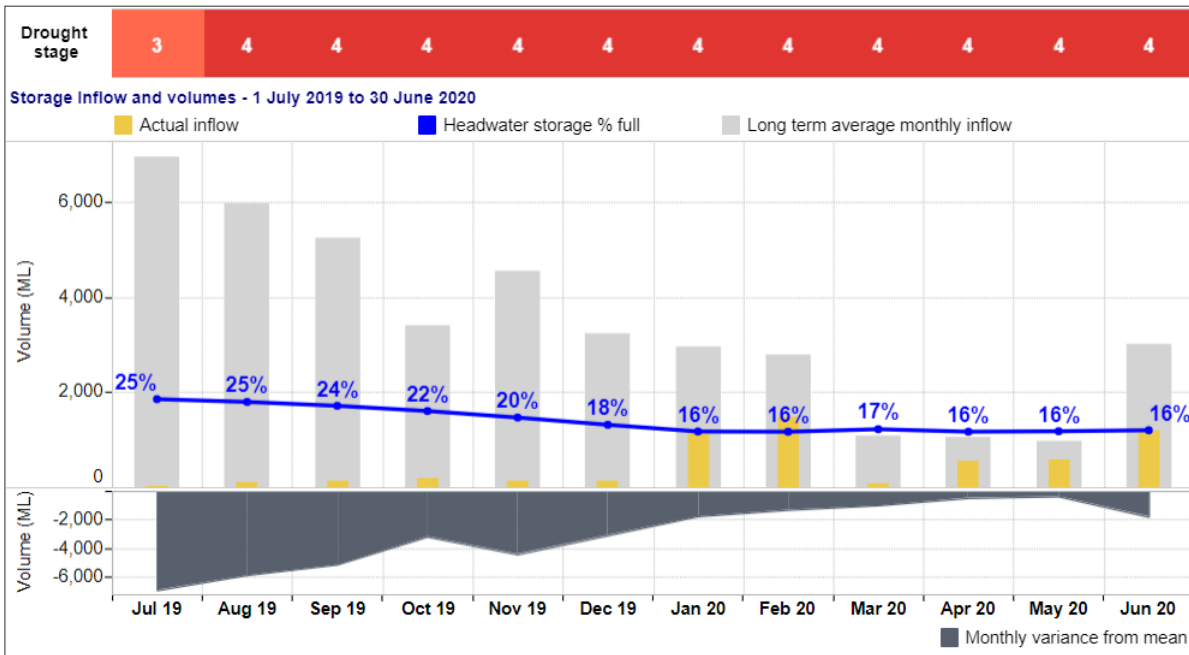
### Temporary water restrictions

- While the Northern Basin restrictions initially applied to Peel high security users from 17 January, in effect there was only a few days when pumping was not permitted. The restriction on Peel high security users was permanently lifted on 13 February 2020.
- As there were no general security allocations made in the Peel and carryover is not permitted, no general security access was available during 2019–20.
- More detailed information relating to the flow event of February 2020 and the associated restrictions on access is available at [industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/droughts-floods/drought-update/managing-drought-recovery/north-west-flows-in-early-2020](http://industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/droughts-floods/drought-update/managing-drought-recovery/north-west-flows-in-early-2020)

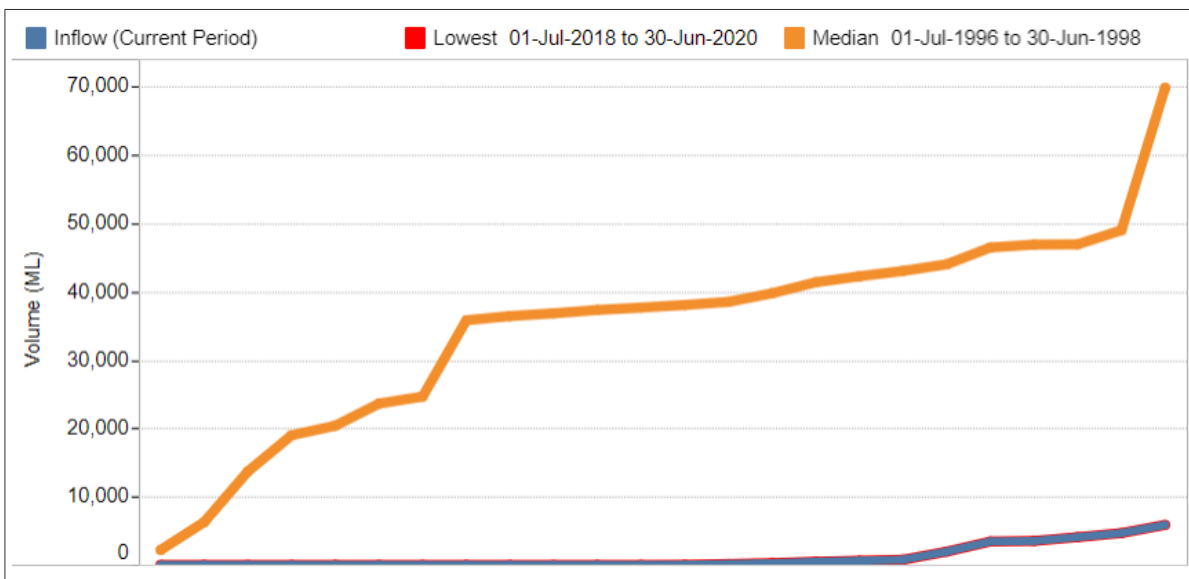
### Extreme events stage

- Climatic conditions continued to deteriorate throughout the reporting period with major storage inflow tracking significantly below long-term averages for all months (Figure 13).
- Consequently, the Peel regulated river was declared as being in Stage 3 in July 2019 and escalated to critical Stage 4 in August 2019 remaining critical for the rest of 2019–20
- A temporary weir was constructed in the Peel River near Dungowan in December 2019 to extend supply for Tamworth and reduce around 17,000 megalitres in transmission losses below Chaffey Dam. This meant that regulated supply was not provided to users downstream of Dungowan and they could only access flows from unregulated tributary inflows when permitted.
- This weir was removed in June 2020 when the new Chaffey Dam to Dungowan pipeline commenced operating. No further releases were made from the dam except for some small pulse flows for environmental purposes.
- The rule in the water sharing plan requiring a minimum daily release from Chaffey Dam was suspended on 2 December 2019 until 30 June 2020.
- Looking at 2 year (potential) storage inflow sequences between 1980 and current, as an indicator of drought severity illustrates that the current period (1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020), was the lowest sequence for this period (Figure 14). The total inflow deficit was 63,980 megalitres relative to the median inflow sequence (92% lower than median conditions).

**Figure 13: Drought stage for the reporting period referenced with monthly headwater storage inflows, monthly storage inflow variance from mean and two year cumulative inflow sequence**



**Figure 14: 2-year inflow sequence, current (1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020) compared to median and lowest**

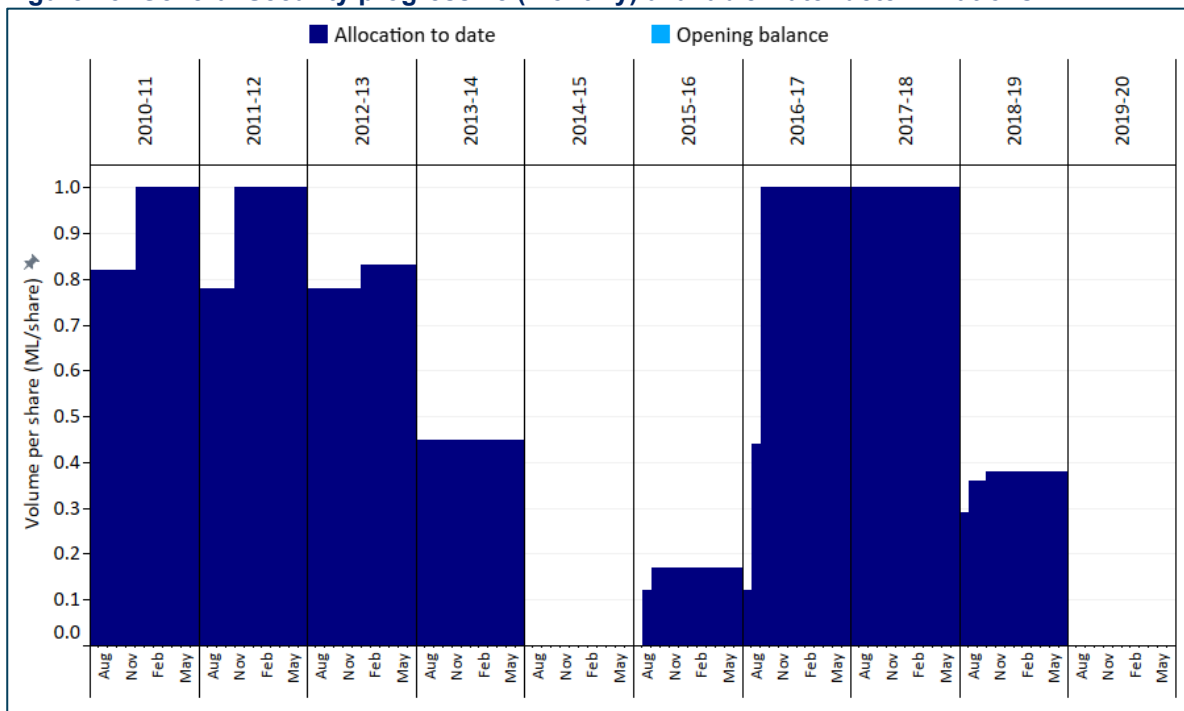


### Water availability

- Drought conditions led to sub optimum announcements in the Peel for the reporting period.
- Domestic and stock (including all sub-categories) and local water utility received an opening AWD of 70%. No further increases occurred throughout the year.
- High Security (and High Security—Research), received an opening AWD of 0.5 megalitres per share (50% equivalent of issued share component). No further increases occurred throughout the year.
- General Security received an opening AWD of zero megalitres per share and had no increase for the year.

- Overall water availability was the lowest since 2014–15 (Figure 18), however this was prior to Chaffey Dam being augmented.
- Historical monthly available water determinations under water sharing plan management conditions are presented for general-security, high-security and Local Water Utility access licences in Figure 15, Figure 16 and Figure 17 respectively.

**Figure 15: General Security progressive (monthly) available water determinations**



**Figure 16: High Security progressive (monthly) available water determinations**

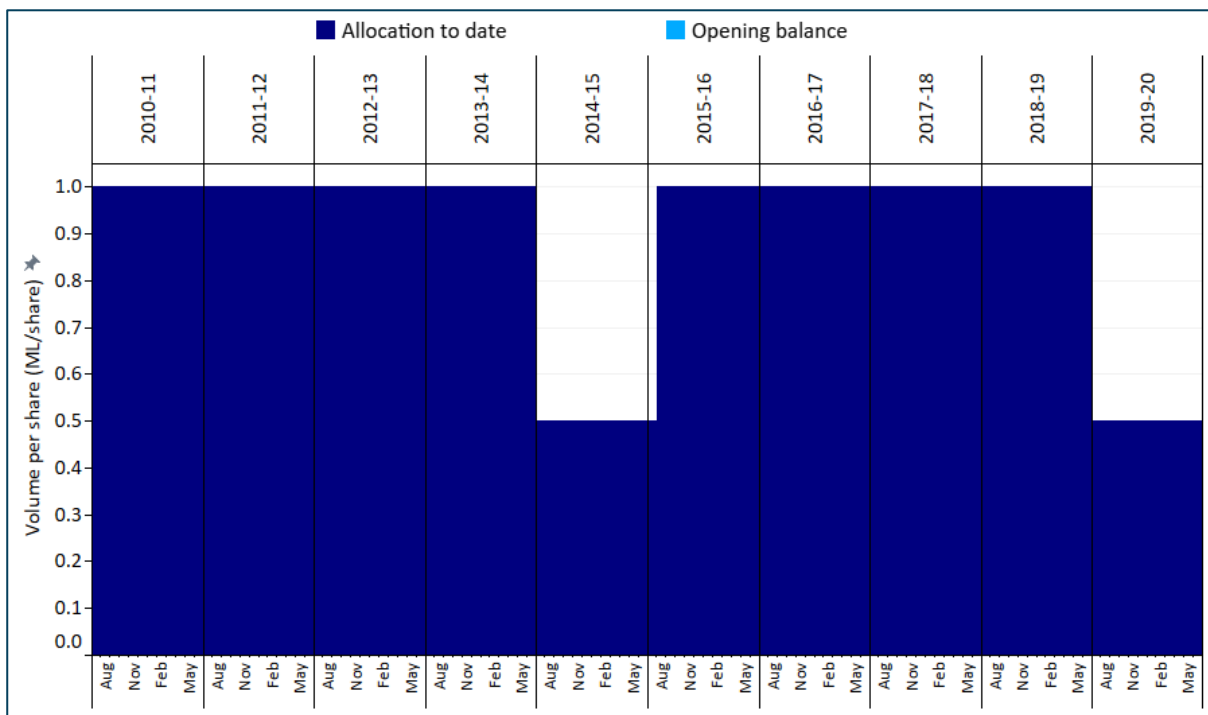


Figure 17: Local Water Utility progressive (monthly) available water determinations

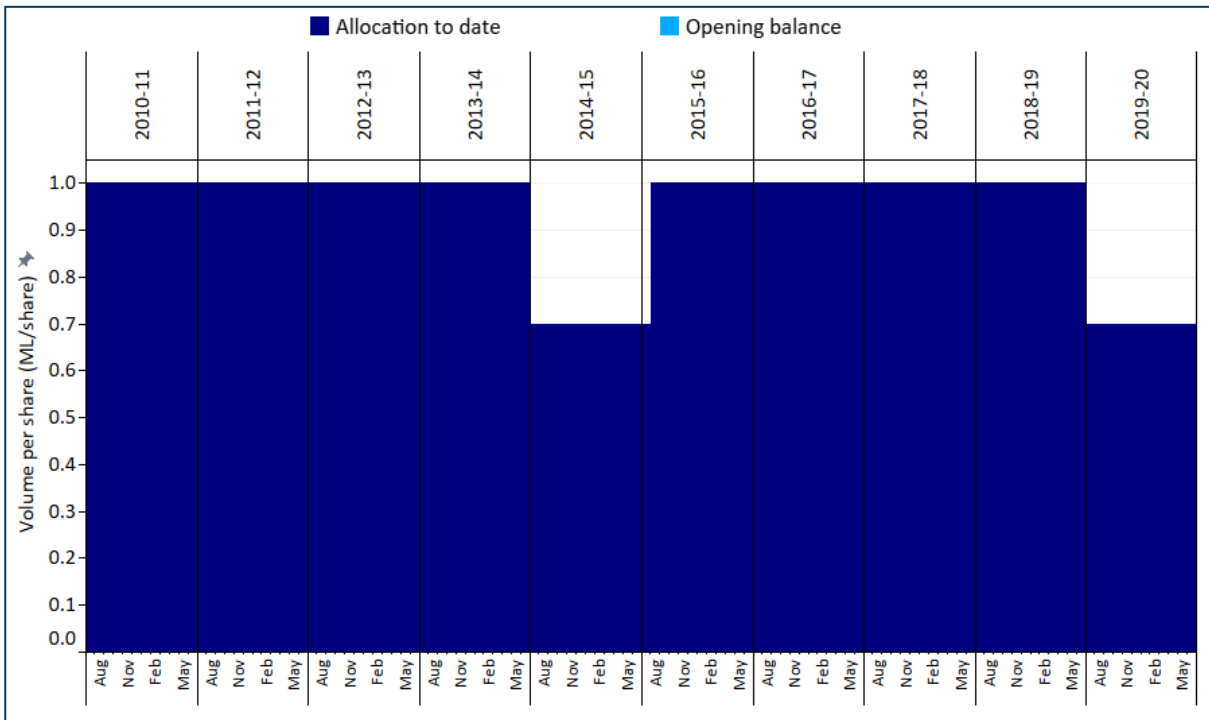
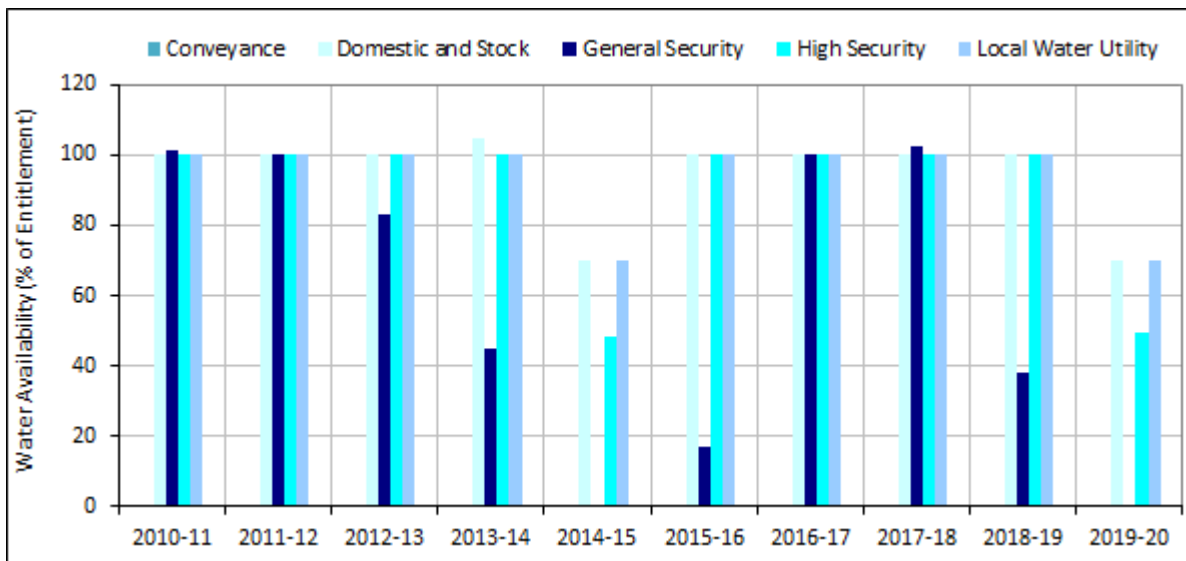


Figure 18: Peel water availability (available water determinations as a percentage of share)<sup>7</sup>



<sup>7</sup> Carryover is zero for all categories of access licence (i.e. carryover of unused account water is not permitted)

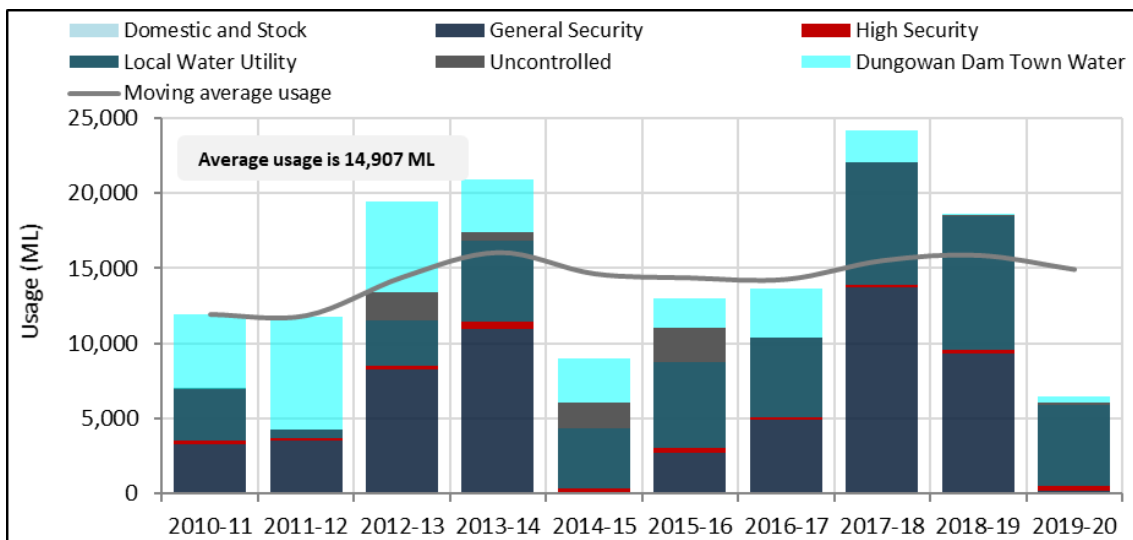


## Account usage

Account usage refers to the total volume of water debited against an access licence account. Extractions that do not debit the account (uncontrolled flow provisions) may be available and additional to account usage.

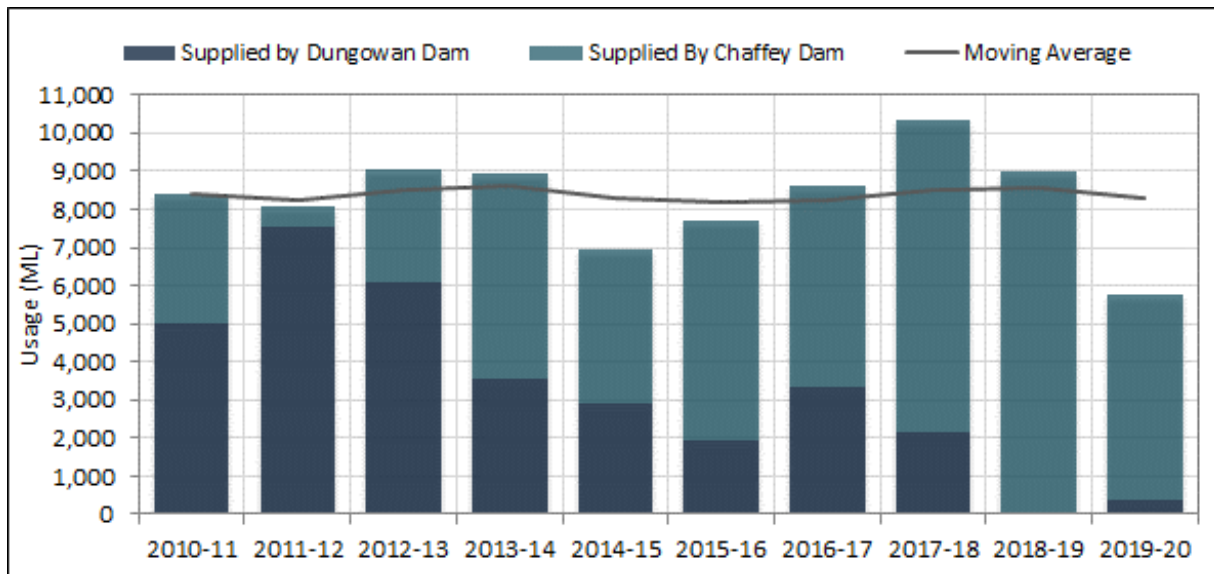
- Account usage supplied by Chaffey Dam totalled 5,858 megalitres which is approximately 30% of the volume supplied in the prior reporting period, and the lowest under water sharing plan management conditions (Figure 19).
- Additionally, 223 megalitres was extracted from high flow uncontrolled flow access provisions (supplied by tributary inflows downstream of Chaffey Dam).
- Tamworth (town water supply) utilised a total of 374 megalitres from Dungowan Dam<sup>8</sup> and 5,388 megalitres from Chaffey Dam, a total demand of 5,762 megalitres (Figure 20). The average annual usage for Tamworth is 8,281 megalitres.
- Average annual usage under water sharing plan management conditions (all categories of licence, including uncontrolled flow access and Dungowan Dam extractions for Tamworth) decreased to 14,907 megalitres.
- Average annual usage considering only the Peel regulated river water source (excludes Dungowan extractions) is 11,606 megalitres.

**Figure 19: Peel regulated river flow usage since the introduction of the water sharing plan**



<sup>8</sup> Dungowan Dam is operated by Tamworth Regional Council. The storage and extraction right for Dungowan Dam is licenced within the Upper Peel River Tributaries Water Source (unregulated).

Figure 20: Tamworth total usage



### Utilisation and inactive share

We consider an access licence entitlement to be inactive if the holding does not use water or access the temporary trade market for the reporting period. Utilisation reflects the amount of water used from regulated supplies (excludes supplementary water), relative to the maximum amount available for use.

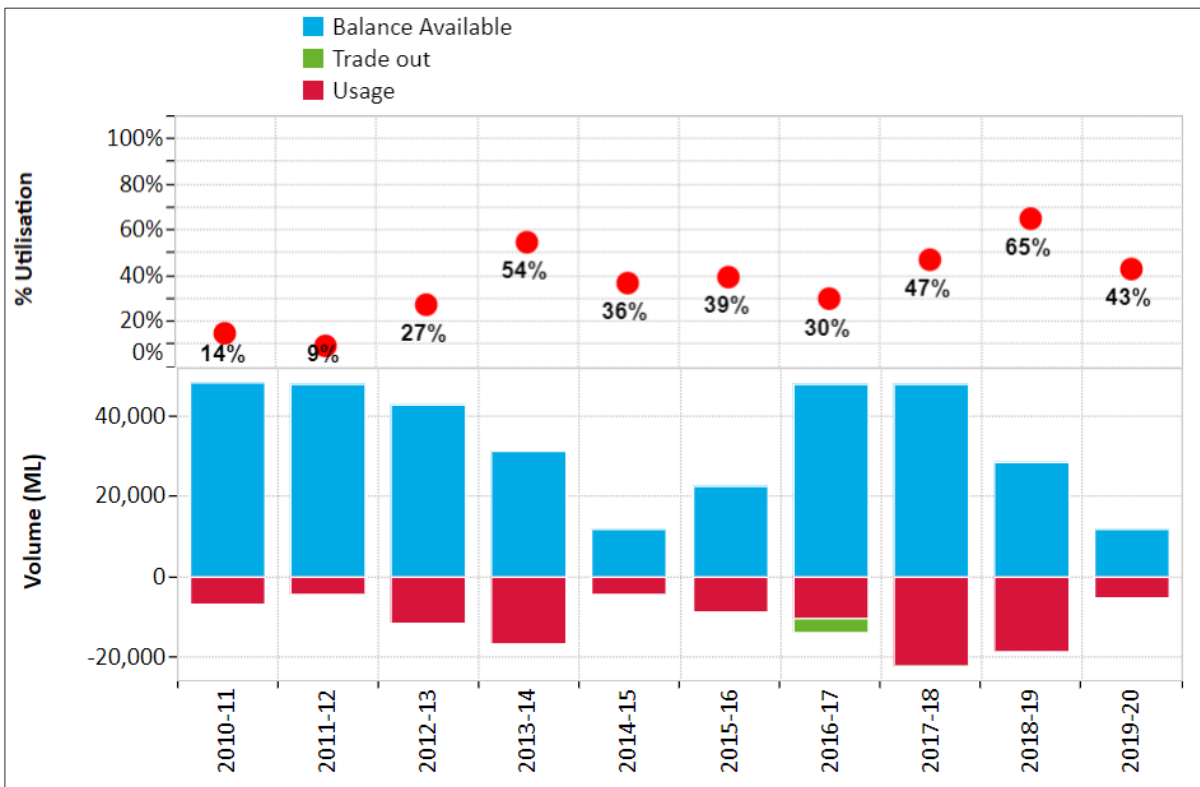
- 91% of general-security share component was inactive for the reporting period, increasing from 9% in the previous reporting period (Table 5)
- Considering all categories of access licences, 58% of share component was inactive, increasing from 6% in the previous reporting period
- Utilisation of available water from regulated supplies (i.e. excluding supplementary access, decreased 22% to 43% (Figure 21), primarily driven by local water utility demand given limited resources in other categories.

Table 5: 2019–20 inactive licence summary

Inactive licences	2018–19			2019–20			Change		
	# <sup>9</sup>	Share	% share	#	Share	% share	#	Share	% share
Domestic and Stock	8	59	77%	10	69	90%	2	10	13%
Domestic and Stock [Domestic]	3	6	9%	3	6	9%	0	0-	0%
Domestic and Stock [Stock]	3	15	75%	4	20	100%	1	5	25%
Local Water Utility	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%
General Security	31	2,758	9%	174	27,016	91%	143	24,258	82%
High Security	3	74	9%	4	74	9%	1	0	0%
High Security [Research]	0	0	0%	1	3	100%	1	3	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>2,912</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>27,188</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>24,276</b>	<b>52%</b>

<sup>9</sup> # denotes number of licences

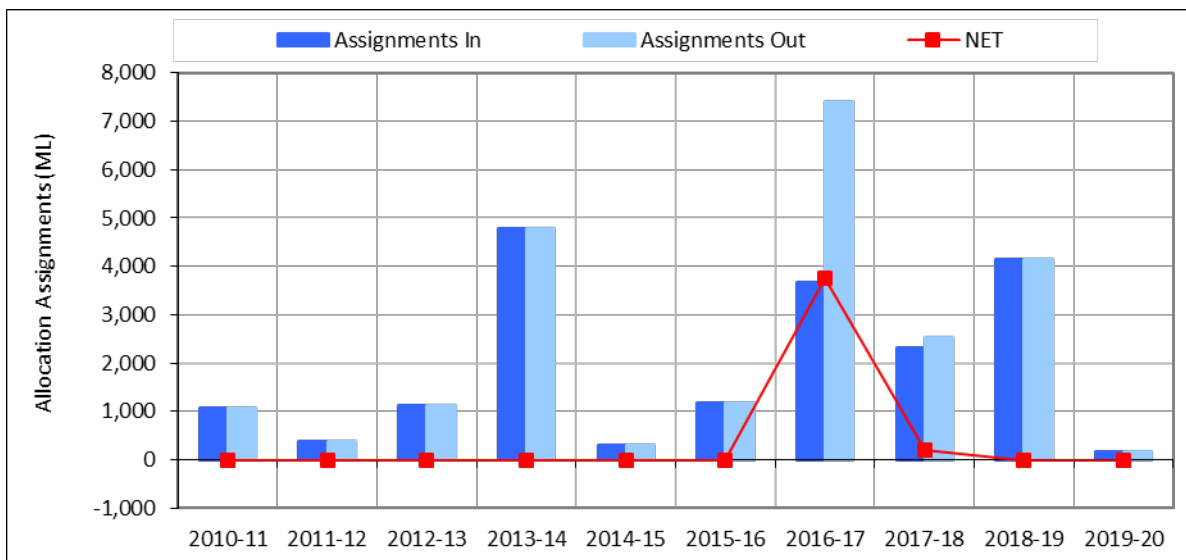
**Figure 21: Percentage utilisation (water availability against account usage and trade out to the lower Namoi, excluding Local Water Utility and access to uncontrolled flow)**



**Allocation assignments (temporary trading)**

The total volumes traded decreased in the reporting period. A total of 176 megalitres (lowest ever on record) was assigned into Peel access licences and a total of 176 megalitres assigned out (no trade to the Lower Namoi). See disclosure Note 4 of this GPWAR for more information about temporary trading.

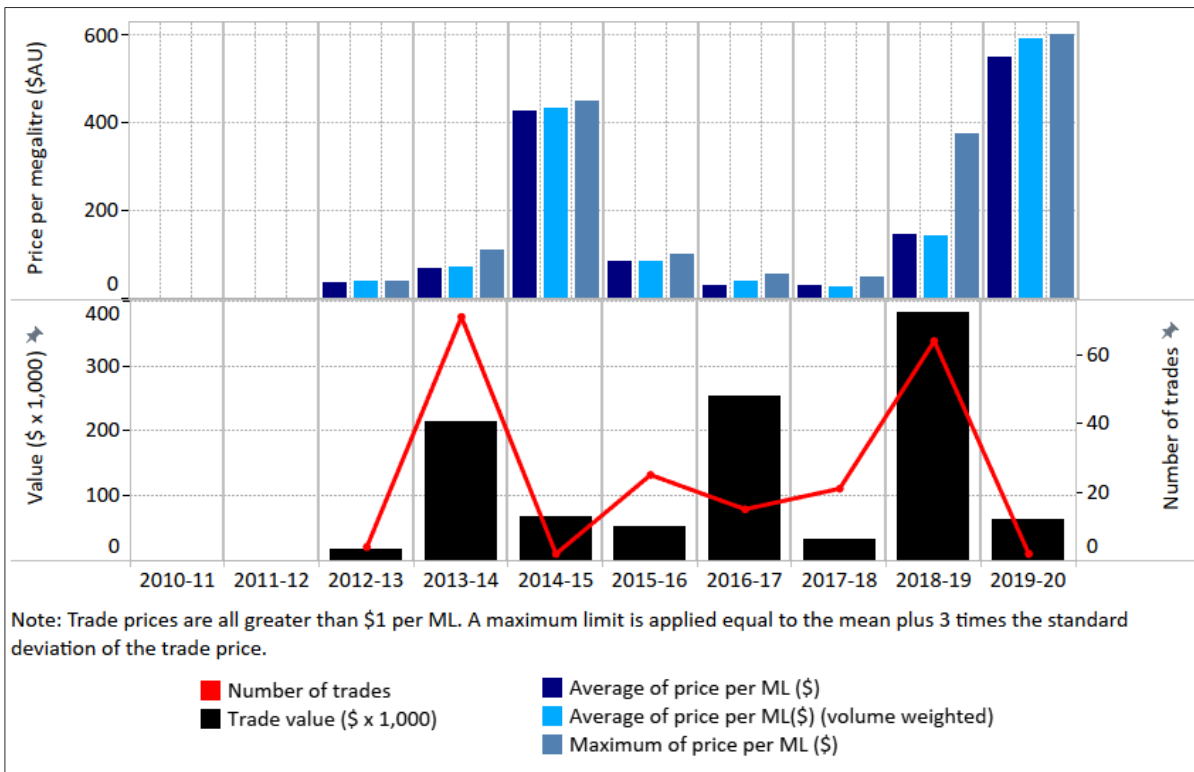
**Figure 22: Allocation assignment totals**



### Commercial temporary trading statistics

- A total of 2 transactions were processed for commercial consideration<sup>10</sup> (Figure 23).
- The average price was \$550 per megalitre (weighted average \$593 per megalitre), a 274% increase on the prior year.
- The maximum price paid for water was \$600 per megalitre.
- The total market value was \$64,000, an 83% decrease on the prior year.

Figure 23: Peel allocation assignments trade market statistics <sup>11</sup>



### Permanent trading

#### Commercial permanent trading statistics

No permanent assignment of general security shares occurred within the reporting period (Figure 24). No trading has occurred in other categories of access licence since the start of the water sharing plan.

In addition to share assignments, 8 transfers of licence holder occurred for commercial exchange<sup>12</sup>, resulting in 867 shares moving to a new holder (Figure 25).

<sup>10</sup> Assumed as trades exchanged for a consideration of greater than \$1 per megalitre

<sup>11</sup> Allocation assignments with a purchase price equal to or less than \$1 per megalitre are excluded from the analysis as they are not considered to be a fair reflection of the market.

<sup>12</sup> Licence holder transfers with a total consideration less than or equal to \$1 are excluded from analysis. Price information for change of licence holder is commonly associated with land and water value, therefore is not considered in this report.

Figure 24: Peel share assignments trade market statistics—General Security<sup>13</sup>

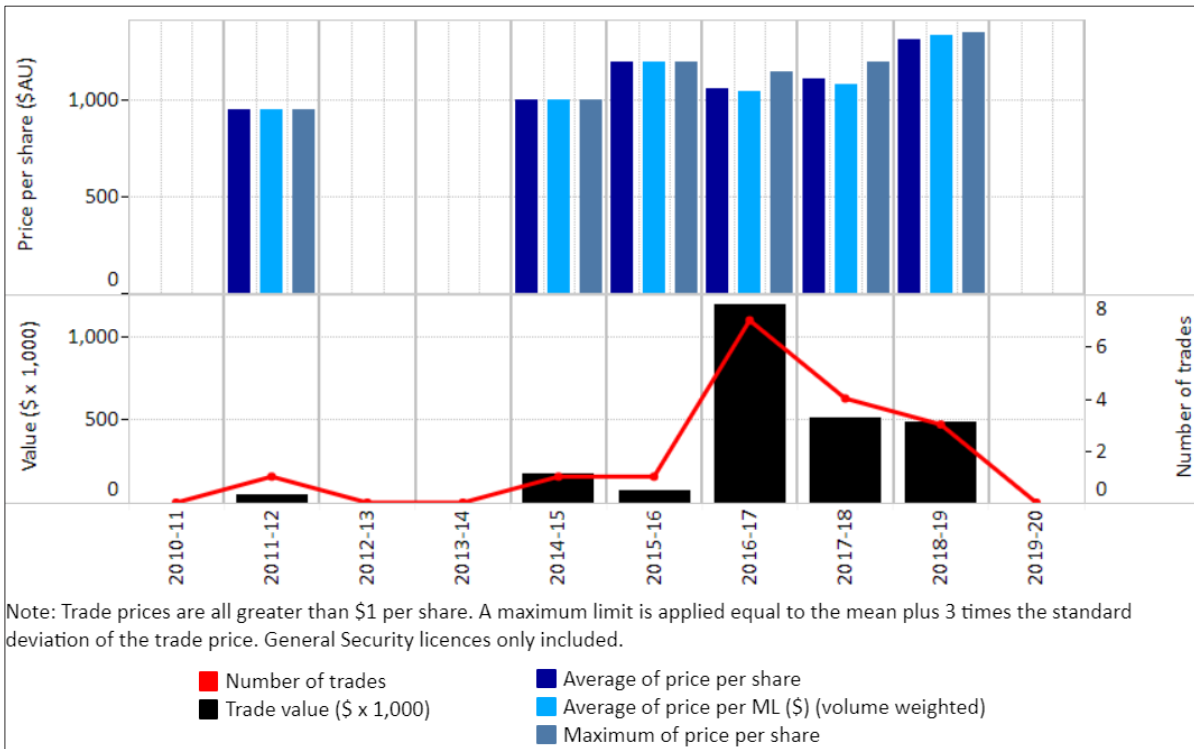
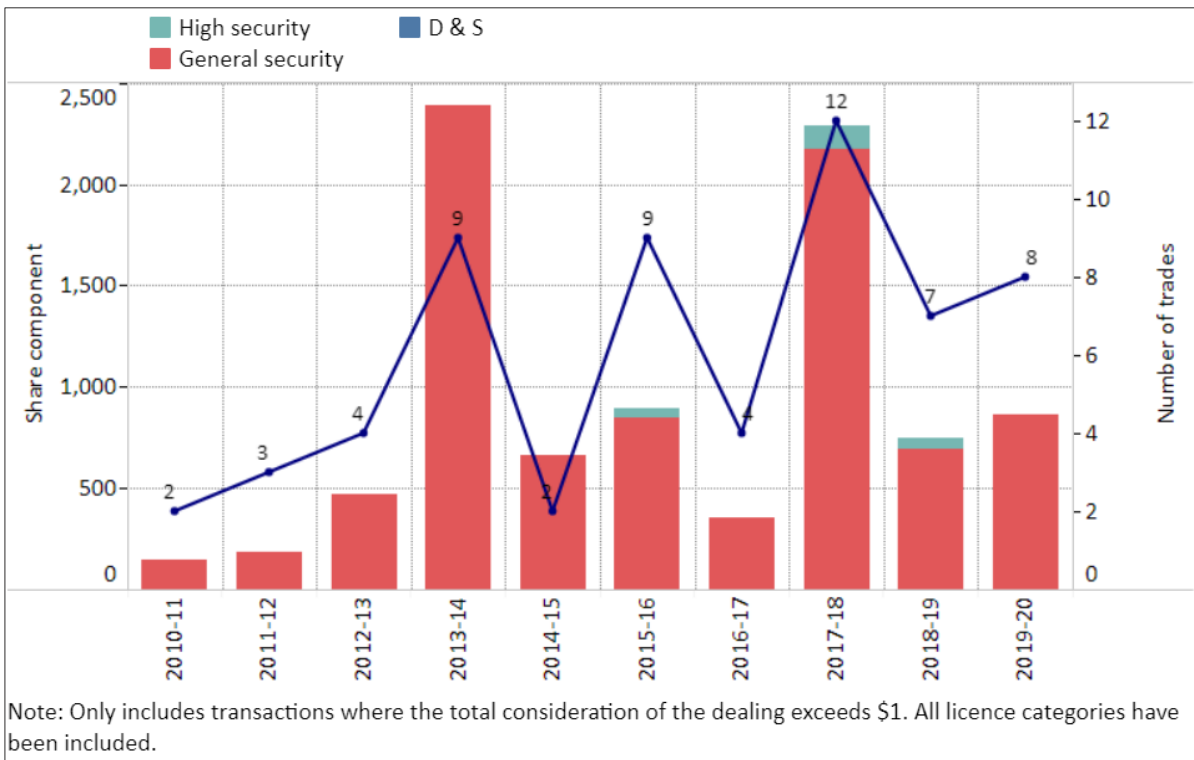


Figure 25: Peel transfer of licence holder



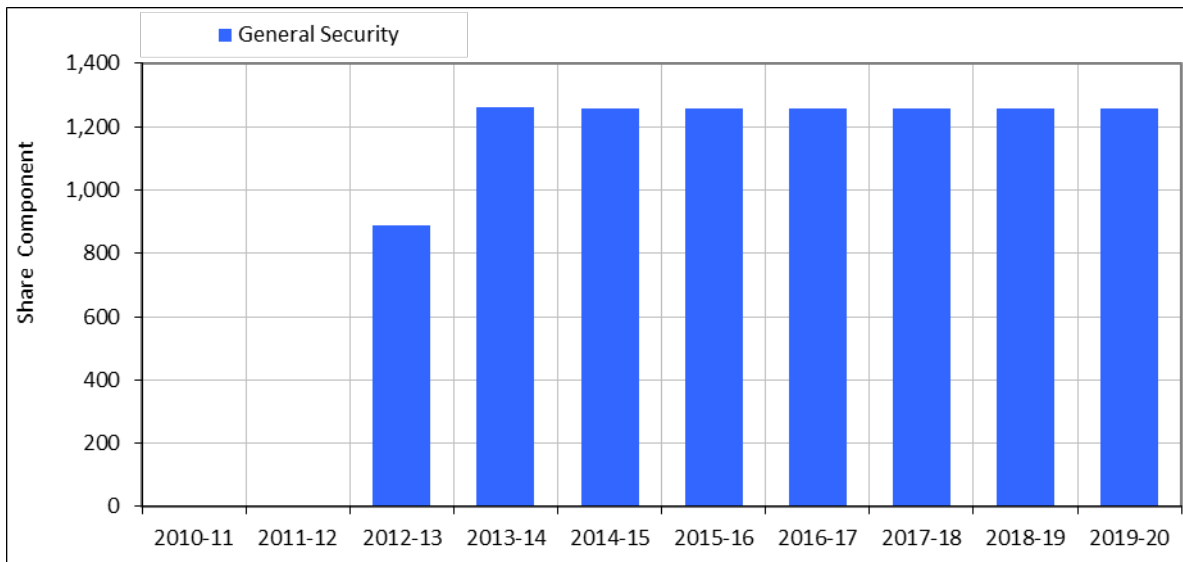
<sup>13</sup> Share assignments with a purchase price less than or equal to \$1 per share are excluded from the analysis as they are not considered to be a fair reflection of the market.

# Environmental water

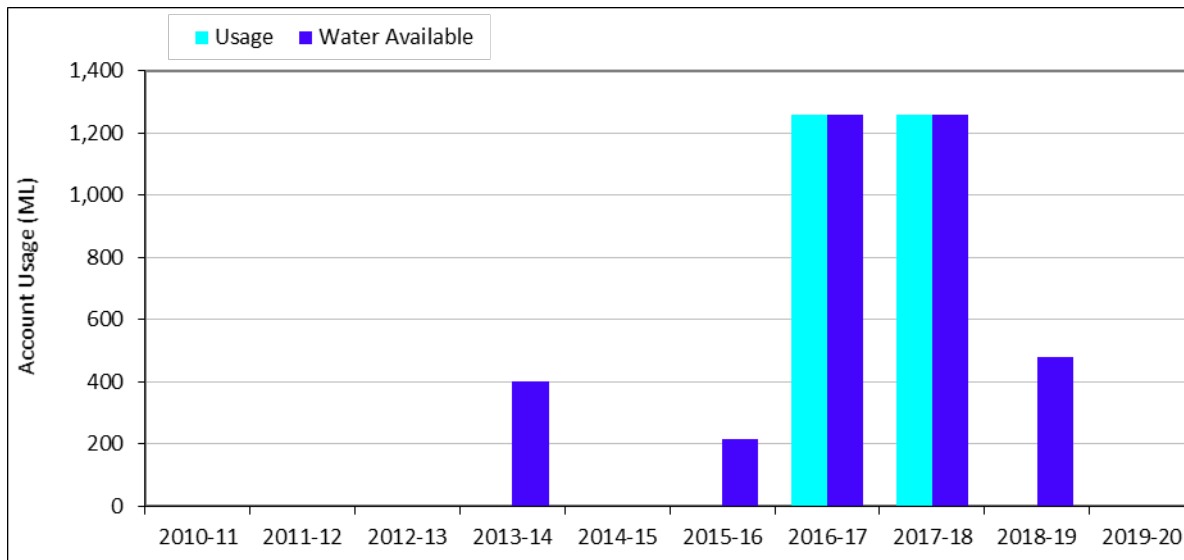
## Held environmental water

There was no change to the environmental holding in 2019–20 (Figure 26). A total of 1,257 shares of General Security are held and managed for environmental outcomes in the Peel. No held environmental water occurs in other categories of access licence. No usage occurred in the reporting period (Figure 27). See Note 5 of this GPWAR for more information.

**Figure 26: Held environmental water share component**



**Figure 27: Held environmental water availability and usage**



## Planned environmental water

### Environmental contingency allowance

With the augmentation of Chaffey Dam now completed (100,500 megalitres), the stimulus flow release stipulated in the water sharing plan prior to 2016–17 was replaced by an environmental contingency allowance (ECA) of up to 5,000 megalitres. This is discretionally managed to mimic the natural flow variability in the upper reaches of the Peel River (see disclosure Note 6 for more details).

In 2019–20, a total of zero megalitres of ECA was released. An annual summary of the ECA is presented in Table 6

**Table 6: Environmental contingency allowance annual summary**

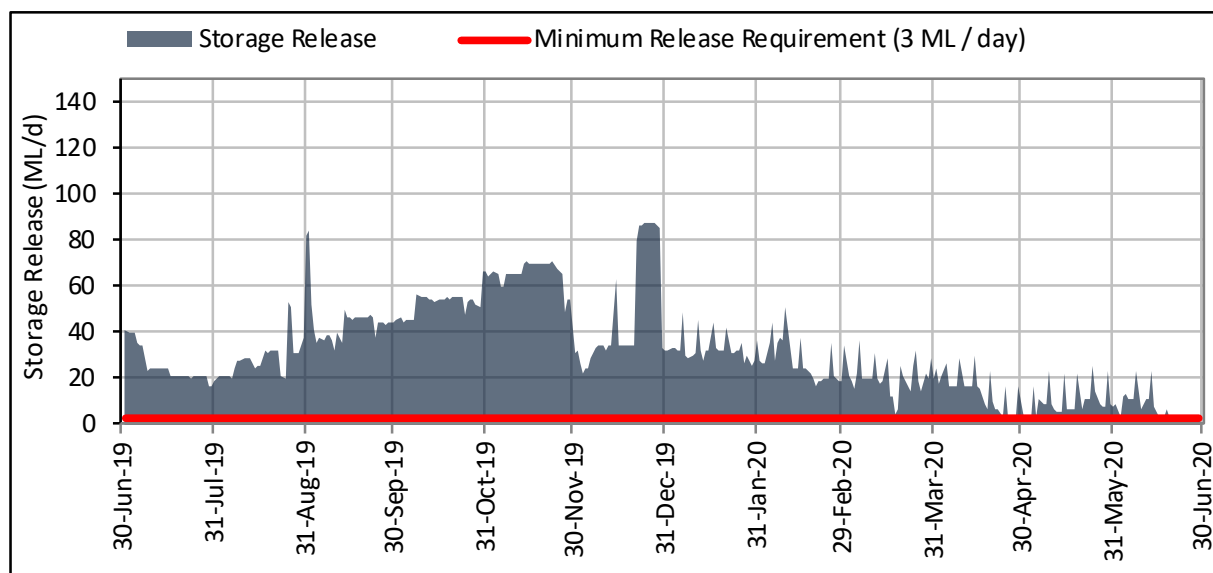
Water Year	Opening	Credit	Usage	Forfeiture	Carry forward
2016–17	0	5,000	4,933	67	0
2017–18	0	5,000	2,662	2,338	0
2018–19	0	1,900	0	1,900	0
2019–20	0	0	0	0	0

### Minimum flow requirements

The water sharing plan requires a minimum daily release of 3 megalitres per day from Chaffey Dam<sup>14</sup>.

The water sharing plan requirement for a minimum daily release from Chaffey Dam was suspended on 2 December 2019 until 30 June 2020. Pulse releases for environmental purposes were being made instead until the Chaffey Dam pipeline commenced operation on 17 June 2020 (Figure 28).

**Figure 28 : Chaffey dam releases and minimum release requirements**



<sup>14</sup> Except where a release of greater than 3 megalitres per day is required to meet basic landholder rights and access licence extractions, or there is a release from the environmental contingency allowance.

# Water Accounting Statements

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## Significant water accounting policies

We have used an accrual basis of accounting to prepare the water accounting statements in this GPWAR. All figures are in megalitres (ML).

We have excluded the 'Statement of Physical Flows' from this GPWAR as all transactions have been presented in the statements 'Water Assets and Liabilities' and 'Changes in Water Assets and Water Liabilities'. We have included a physical flow diagram that represents the physical movements of water to more clearly depict those accounting processes associated with physical flow movement.

For general information on how to interpret the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment water accounting statements refer to the Guide to General Purpose Water Accounting Reports available for download on from the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website ([www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water)).

## Quantification of data

### Data accuracy

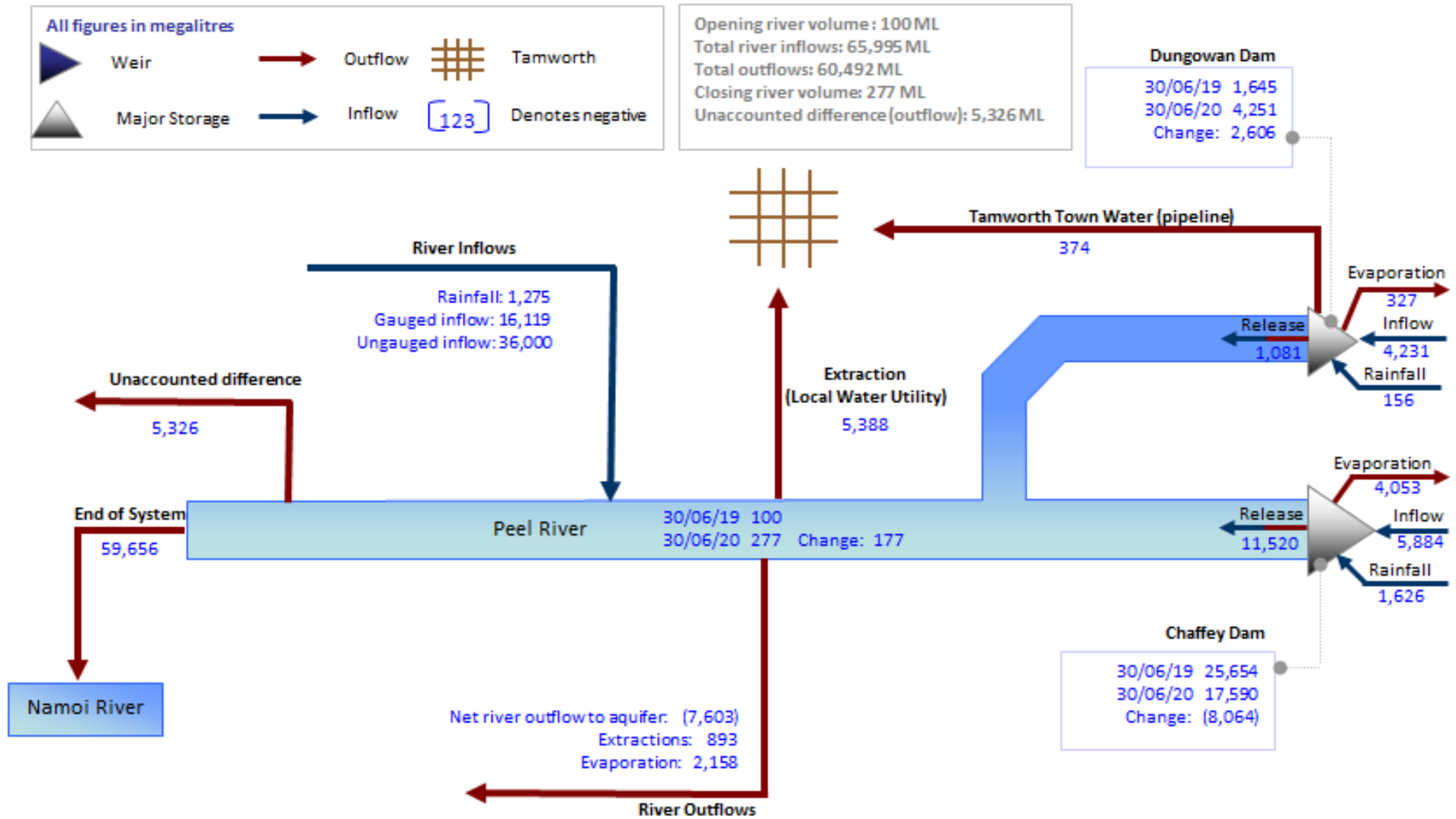
The data used to account for water movement and management in the reporting entity has been obtained from a variety of sources and systems. The data ranges from observed values where we anticipate high accuracy through to modelled results and estimates where accuracy can be highly variable, depending on a range of factors. To improve accuracy and prevent misuse of the data in the accounts, we have added an accuracy assessment (Table 7) to all figures in the water accounting statements.

**Table 7: Water account data accuracy estimates key**

Accuracy	Description
A1 <sup>15</sup>	+/- 0% Data is determined rather than estimated or measured. Therefore, the number contains no inaccuracies.
A	+/- 10%
B	+/- 25%
C	+/- 50%
D	+/- 100%

<sup>15</sup> Non-physical administration items, such as available water determinations, trading and carryover volumes, are assumed to have no inherent error for the purposes of this report. Items are reported as extracted from the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment corporate database.

## 2019–20 Physical flows mass balance diagram



# Statement of water assets and liabilities

## For the year ended 30 June 2020

In all tables (..) denotes a negative value.

### Surface water assets

1. Surface water storage	Accuracy	Notes	30 June 2020	30 June 2019
Chaffey Storage	A	7	17,590	25,654
Dungowan Storage	A	7	4,251	1,645
River	D	8	277	100
<b>Total surface water storage (Asws)</b>			<b>22,118</b>	<b>27,399</b>
<i>Change in surface water storage</i>			<b>(5,281)</b>	<b>(34,130)</b>

### Surface water liabilities

2. Allocation account balance	Accuracy	Notes	30 June 2020	30 June 2019
General Security	A1	1	(127)	(29)
High Security	A1	1	(4)	(6)
<b>Total allocation account balance (Lalloc)</b>			<b>(131)</b>	<b>(35)</b>
<i>Change in allocation account balance</i>			<b>(95)</b>	<b>(16)</b>

3. Environmental contingency allowance (ECA)	Accuracy	Notes	30 June 2020	30 June 2019
<b>ECA balance (Leca)</b>	A1	6	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<i>Change in ECA Balance</i>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### Surface water net changes

4. Net Changes	30 June 2020	30 June 2019
<b>Net surface water assets (Asws – Lalloc – Leca)</b>	<b>22,249</b>	<b>27,434</b>
<i>Change in net surface water assets</i>	<b>(5,186)</b>	<b>(34,113)</b>

# Statement of changes in water assets and liabilities

For the year ended 30 June 2020 (1 of 3)

## 1. Changes in surface water storage (physical water balance)

Surface water storage inflows	Accuracy	Notes	2019–20	2018–19
Dungowan Dam				
Inflow	A	9	4,231	0
Rainfall	B	10	156	183
Chaffey Dam				
Inflow	A	9	5,884	0
Rainfall	B	10	1,626	3,631
River				
Rainfall	C	11	1,275	971
Gauged inflow	A	12	16,119	2,209
Ungauged inflow	C	13	36,000	0
Inflow from storage releases			12,601	29,858
<b>Total surface water storage increases (Isws)</b>			<b>77,892</b>	<b>36,852</b>

Surface water storage outflows	Accuracy	Notes	2019–20	2018–19
Dungowan Dam				
Releases	A	14	1,081	46
Evaporation	B	10	327	897
Dungowan pipeline diversion	A	21	374	71
Chaffey Dam				
Releases	A	14	11,520	29,812
Evaporation	B	10	4,053	7,119
River				
Evaporation	C	11	2,158	2,406
Flow leaving	A	15	59,656	8,810
Net river outflow to aquifer	D	19	(7,603)	5,637
Basic rights extractions	C	18	200	200
Other river extractions	A	16	6,081	18,582
<b>Total surface water storage decreases (Dsws)</b>			<b>77,847</b>	<b>73,580</b>
<b>Unaccounted difference (outflow) (Usws)</b>	D	20	<b>5,326</b>	<b>(2,598)</b>

Net surface water storage changes	2019–20	2018–19
<b>Net surface water storage inflow (Isws – Dsws – Usws)</b>	<b>(5,281)</b>	<b>(34,130)</b>

# Statement of changes in water assets and liabilities

For the year ended 30 June 2020 (2 of 3)

## 2. Changes in allocation accounts

Allocation account increases	Accuracy	Notes	2019–20	2018–19
Available water determinations	A1	1		
Domestic and Stock			114	163
General Security			0	11,261
High Security			401	801
High Security (Research)			2	3
Local Water Utility			11,480	16,400
Internal trade—buyers	A1	4	176	4,155
Account adjustment—General Security	A1		0	255
Account adjustment—High Security	A1		0	(6)
Uncontrolled flow (taken)			223	103
<b>Total allocation account increases (Iaa)</b>			<b>12,395</b>	<b>32,880</b>

Allocation account decreases	Accuracy	Notes	2019–20	2018–19
Account usage	A1	3		
Domestic and Stock			34	57
Local Water Utility			5,388	8,909
High Security (Research)			0	3
High Security (HS)			328	285
General Security			108	9,225
Uncontrolled flow (allowance)	A1	17	223	103
Account forfeiture	A1	1		
Domestic and Stock			80	106
General Security			0	2,424
High Security			60	139
High Security (Research)			2	0
Local Water Utility			6,092	7,491
Internal trade—sellers	A1	4	176	4,155
Trade to Lower Namoi	A1	4	0	0
<b>Total allocation account decreases (Daa)</b>			<b>12,490</b>	<b>32,897</b>

Net change in allocation accounts			2019–20	2018–19
<b>Net allocation account balance increases (Iaa – Daa)</b>			<b>(95)</b>	<b>(17)</b>

# Statement of changes in water assets and liabilities

For the year ended 30 June 2020 (3 of 3)

## 3. Changes in environmental contingency allowance

ECA account increases	Accuracy	Notes	2019–20	2018–19
Account increase due to General Security AWD	A1	6	0	1,900
<b>Total ECA increase (Ieca)</b>			0	1,900

ECA account decreases	Accuracy	Notes	2019–20	2018–19
Account usage	A1	6	0	0
Account forfeit			0	1,900
<b>Total ECA decrease (Deca)</b>			0	1,900

Net environmental provisions changes	2019–20	2018–19
<b>Net environmental contingency allowance increase (Ieca – Deca)</b>	0	0

## 4. Overall changes

Surface Water Assets	2019–20	2018–19
<b>Change in net surface water assets (Isws – Dsws – Usws – Iaa + Daa – Ieca + Deca)</b>	(5,186)	(34,113)

# Note Disclosures

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## Reconciliation and future prospects

This section contains reconciliation and future prospects for the regulated Peel water source.

<b>Reconciliation of change in net water asset to net change in physical water storage<sup>16</sup></b>	<b>2019–20 (ML)</b>	<b>2018–19 (ML)</b>
Change in net surface water assets	<b>(5,281)</b>	<b>(34,130)</b>
Non-physical adjustments		
Net change in allocation accounts	<b>(95)</b>	<b>(16)</b>
Net change in physical surface water storage	<b>(5,186)</b>	<b>(34,113)</b>

<b>Reconciliation of closing water storage to total surface water assets</b>	<b>30 June 2020 (ML)</b>	<b>30 June 2019 (ML)</b>
Closing water storage		
Surface water storage	<b>22,118</b>	<b>27,399</b>
Other surface water assets		
Total surface water assets	<b>22,118</b>	<b>27,399</b>

<sup>16</sup> All figures can be derived from or found directly in the Water Accounting Statements of the General Purpose Water Accounting Report. ( ) denotes negative. All figures are rounded to the nearest megalitre



## Water assets available to settle water liabilities and future commitments within 12 months of reporting date

Final datasets for reporting in the GPWAR, including meter readings by field staff were not available in time to produce an informative 12-month forecast for report users.

In lieu of this, the links below give the latest water availability information for the Peel Regulated River Water Source. This includes carryovers and available water determinations at the time of reporting, along with probability information about the Peel system's reliability.

### Latest water availability

You can find the latest information on water availability, including water allocation statements, water allocations summaries and available water determinations, on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment webpage at [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/allocations](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/allocations)

You can also subscribe to receive the latest updates.

## Allocations



### How water is allocated

Water sharing plans are developed in consultation with the community to determine how much water can be extracted and set aside.



### Summary of current water allocations

A listing of current water allocation for major regulated rivers.



### Water allocation statements

Water allocation statements are issued to announce an increase in an allocation for a specific water source and licence category.



### Available water determinations

Available water determinations inform licensed water users how much water they can extract. They are issued on 1 July and periodically throughout the year.



### Outlook & forecasts

Read about how our yearly forecasting and outlook report for the southern basins.

### Latest storage volumes

See real-time information on storage volumes for the Peel at [realtimedata.waternsw.com.au](http://realtimedata.waternsw.com.au)

## Significant events since 2019–20

Very dry conditions have continued into 2020–21. As of 26 November 2020, Chaffey storage was at 34% of full supply capacity.

Stock and domestic, and local water utility licences received an additional 10 % available water determination (AWD) on 4 November 2020. High security licences remained on 50% AWD, and general security licences zero AWD for current water year.

## System reliability

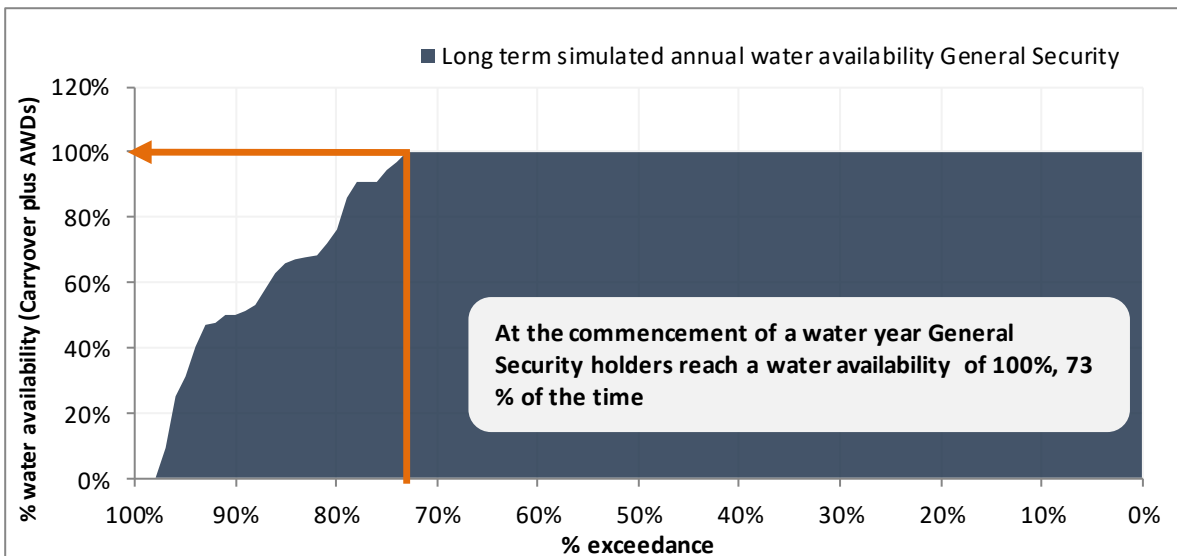
The latest long-term planning model (IQQM) reflecting a water sharing plan management scenario in the Peel provides indicative system reliability information for the start and closure of a watering season<sup>17</sup>.

In a given year, the simulation indicates high-security entitlements are likely to have full allocation maintained 100% of the time.

The simulation results indicate General Security holders will receive an allocation of 100% at the start of the water year, 73% of the time (Figure 29).

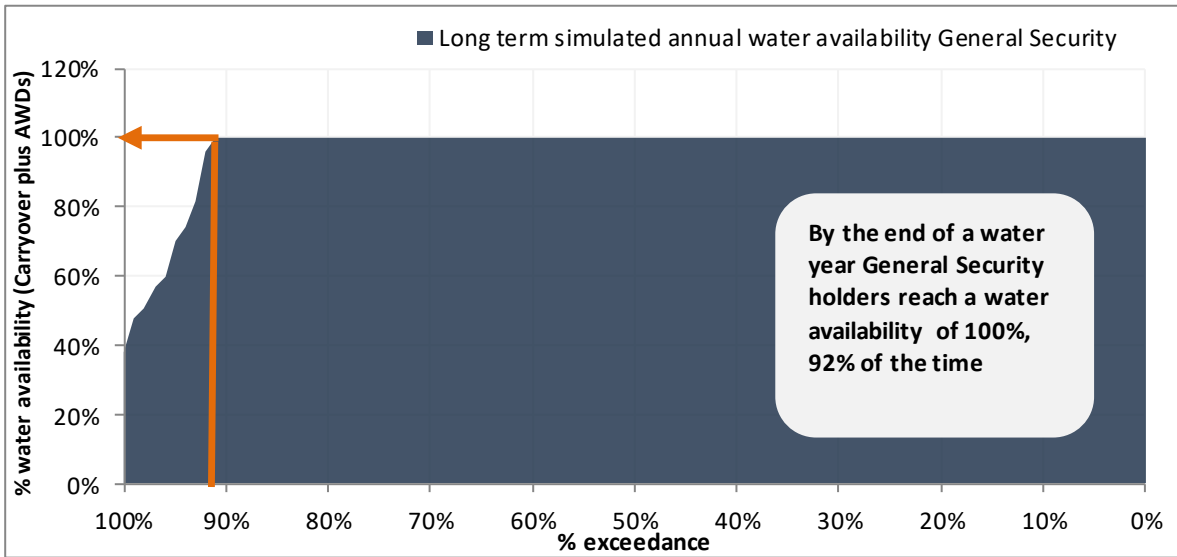
By the end of the water year, the simulation results indicate an improved water availability of 100% for 92% of the time (Figure 30).

**Figure 29: Start of water year simulated availability for general-security access licences**



<sup>17</sup> Modelled data simulated as July-to-June water year. The simulation period is from 1 June 1892 to 30 June 2016 and includes an enlarged Chaffey Dam (100,500 megalitres). Data has been updated from the 2015–16 GPWAR publication, which was representative of the former Chaffey Dam capacity.

Figure 30: End of water year simulated availability for general-security access licences



## Carryovers and available water determinations since this reporting period (2020–21)

Table 8: Carryovers and available water determinations 2020–21 (as of 26 November 2020)

Date	Individual announcement	Share component	Allocation volume (ML)	Cumulative volume (ML)	Allocation volume (%)	Cumulative volume (%)	Balance available (ML)	Balance not available (ML)	Balance total (ML)	Balance available (%)	Balance total (%)
<b>Domestic and Stock</b>											
1 Jul 20	Opening	77			0.0%	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
1 Jul 20	AWD 70.0 %	77	54	54	70.0%	70.0%	54	0	54	70.0%	70.0%
4 Nov 20	AWD 10.0 %	77	8	62	10.0%	80.0%	62	0	62	80.0%	80.0%
<b>Domestic and Stock [Domestic]</b>											
1 Jul 20	Opening	66			0.0%	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
1 Jul 20	AWD 70.0 %	66	46	46	70.0%	70.0%	46	0	46	70.0%	70.0%
4 Nov 20	AWD 10.0 %	66	7	53	10.0%	80.0%	53	0	53	80.0%	80.0%
<b>Domestic and Stock [Stock]</b>											
1 Jul 20	Opening	20			0.0%	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
1 Jul 20	AWD 70.0 %	20	14	14	70.0%	70.0%	14	0	14	70.0%	70.0%
4 Nov 20	AWD 10.0 %	20	2	16	10.0%	80.0%	16	0	16	80.0%	80.0%
<b>Local Water Utility</b>											
1 Jul 20	Opening	16,400			0.0%	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
1 Jul 20	AWD 70.0 %	16,400	11,480	11,480	70.0%	70.0%	11,480	0	11,480	70.0%	70.0%
4 Nov 20	AWD 10.0 %	16,400	1,640	13,120	10.0%	80.0%	13,120	0	13,120	80.0%	80.0%
<b>Regulated river (General Security)</b>											
1 Jul 20	Opening	29,635			0.0%	0.0%	(127)	0	(127)	(0.4)%	(0.4)%
1 Jul 20	AWD 0.0 ML per share	29,635	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	(127)	0	(127)	(0.4)%	(0.4)%
<b>Regulated River (High Security)</b>											
1 Jul 20	Opening	801			0.0%	0.0%	(4)	0	(4)	(0.5)%	(0.5)%
1 Jul 20	AWD 0.5 ML per share	801	401	401	50.0%	50.0%	397	0	397	49.5%	49.5%
<b>Regulated River (High Security) [Research]</b>											
1 Jul 20	Opening	3			0.0%	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
1 Jul 20	AWD 50.0 %	3	2	2	50.0%	50.0%	2	0	2	50.0%	50.0%

## Detailed item notes

### Note 1—Allocation accounts

This note is a reference for the volume held in the allocation accounts at the time of reporting and is also relevant for the various processes that either increase or decrease an allocation account throughout the water year.

All remaining water in accounts at the conclusion of the water year is forfeited as carryover is not permitted in this water source. The exception to this is a negative account balance, which indicates that more usage has occurred than has been allocated to the account, and the deficit must be carried forward to the next season. Forfeited water is represented as a decrease in water liability.

The accounting is done by licence category and is therefore inclusive of licences held by environmental holders. However, at the time of reporting, no licences were held for the environment.

#### Data type

Derived from measured data

#### Policy

- *Water Management Act 2000*

Available on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website at [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water)

#### Data accuracy

A1—Nil inaccuracy +/- 0 %

#### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

#### Data source

- Water Accounting System (jointly owned by WaterNSW and NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment)

#### Methodology

The volume of water to be forfeited from the allocation account for each licence category is determined once all transactions have been applied. Once an end of year account balance is determined, any remaining water in accounts is forfeited. Below is list of typical transactions that can apply to an allocation account:

- available water determination (AWD) (detailed in Note 2)
- allocation account usage (detailed in Note 3)
- forfeiture due to:
  - no carryover being permitted (end-of-year forfeit)
  - licence conversions
- licence conversion
- trade of allocation water between accounts (detailed in Note 4)

## Additional information

Table 10 provides a balanced summary report of the water allocation accounts for each category of access licence. Table 9 is a description of each of the table components.

**Table 9: Explanatory information for allocation account summary**

Heading		Description
<b>Share</b>		This is the total volume of entitlement in the specific licence category.
<b>Opening balance</b>		The volume of water that has been carried forward from previous year's allocation account
<b>AWD</b>		Available water determination—the total annual volume of water added to the allocation account as a result of allocation assessments
<b>Licences</b>	<b>New</b>	Increase in account water as a result of issuing new access licences
	<b>Cancel</b>	Decrease in account water as a result of licence cancellation
<b>Drought suspension</b>	<b>In</b>	Temporary water restriction applied, reducing account water available for use in reported water year
	<b>Out</b>	Temporary water restriction re-credit increasing account water available for use in reported water year
<b>Assignments</b>	<b>In</b>	Increase in account water as a result of temporary trade in
	<b>Out</b>	Decrease in account water as a result of temporary trade out
<b>Account usage</b>	<b>Controlled</b>	Volume of water that is extracted, diverted or used and is directly accountable against a licence
	<b>Uncontrolled</b>	Volume of water that is extracted, diverted or used when rules dictate that uncontrolled flow access is available. This is permitted under a General Security access licence but is not accountable against that licence. Uncontrolled usage may be converted to General Security usage when sufficient General Security water becomes available as specified by rules set out in the water sharing plan.
<b>End-of-year balance</b>		Account balance at the conclusion of the water year
<b>End-of-year forfeit</b>		Account water that is forfeited at the end of the water year as a result of carryover rules that restrict the carry forward volume
<b>Carry forward</b>		This represents the account water that is permitted to be carried forward into the next water year as determined by the carryover rules.

**Table 10 : Allocation account balance summary for the Peel Regulated River 2019–20<sup>18</sup>**

Category	Share as at 30 June 2020	Opening Balance	AWD	Licences		Drought suspension		Assignments		Account usage		During Year Forfeits	End of Year Balance		End of Year Forfeit	Carry Forward
				New	Cancel	In	Out	In	Out	Controlled	Uncontrolled <sup>19</sup>		Available	Not Available		
Domestic and Stock	77	0	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	50	0	50	0
Domestic and Stock [Domestic]	66	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	17	0	17	0
Domestic and Stock [Stock]	20	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	14	0
Local Water Utility	16,400	0	11,480	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,388	0	0	6,092	0	6,092	0
General Security	29,635	(29)	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	108	223	0	(127)	0	0	(127)
High Security	801	(6)	401	0	0	163	163	166	176	328	0	0	56	0	60	(4)
High Security (Research)	3	0	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0

<sup>18</sup> ( ) denotes a negative value. Figures are in megalitres, except for share component, which is the total number of issued shares for the relevant licence category.

<sup>19</sup> Uncontrolled flow may be available for general-security licence holders for defined events. See note 17 for more details

## Note 2—Available water determination (allocation announcement)

This is the process by which the regulated surface water asset available for use within the regulated system is determined and shared. It determines the volume of water that we add to an individual's licence allocation account. Announcements of allocations are made on a seasonal basis—usually corresponding with the financial year—and are updated on a regular basis or following significant inflow events. Under the *Water Management Act 2000*, the announcements are termed 'available water determinations' (AWD).

### Data type

Derived from measured data

### Policy

- *Water Management Act 2000* (NSW).
  - Chapter 3—Part 2 Access Licences.
  - Clause 59—Available Water Determinations
- Water Sharing Plan for the Peel Valley Regulated, Unregulated, Alluvium and Fractured Rock **Water Sources 2010**
  - Part 7—Limits to the availability of water
  - Division 2—Available Water Determinations.

Available on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website at [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water)

### Data accuracy

A1—Nil inaccuracy +/- 0 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data source

- Water Accounting System (jointly owned by WaterNSW and NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment)

NSW available water determination register: [waterregister.waternsw.com.au](http://waterregister.waternsw.com.au)

### Methodology

The AWD procedure itself is generally divided into two sections: the available water asset, and system commitments. Once system commitments have been met, the available water asset is then available for distribution to the access licence categories in order of priority (Table 11). The volume of the announced allocation is expressed as the percentage of share component of the licence.



**Table 11: Priority of access licence categories for AWDs**

Licence category	AWD priority
General Security	Low
High Security	High
Domestic and Stock <sup>20</sup>	Very high
Local Water Utility	Very high

**Available water asset:** This is calculated by summing the water currently available in storage, future (minimum) inflows to the system, and additional volumes due to recessions of inflows from the current levels to the minimum inflow levels. Also taken into consideration is the reduction of the total inflows to the system for those that arrive too late in the season to be useful.

**System commitments:** This is an assessment of the existing commitments that have to be delivered from the available water asset in either the current or future years. Key components include:

- **essential supplies** include things such as town water supplies, stock and domestic requirements, industrial use and permanent plantings (for example, orchards, vineyards) and environmental allowances
- **undelivered account water** is the water that is already in accounts that is yet to be provided
- **end of system flow requirement** is an estimate of the flow that is required to pass through the system as a result of operation of the system
- **losses**, which are estimated as the amount of water that will be lost by the system either through evaporation or in the process of delivering the water via transmission losses.

### Additional information

Table 13 presents the allocation summary report for the reporting period. Table 12 contains notes to help interpret the report.

<sup>20</sup> Domestic and Stock is further broken down into three sub-categories: Domestic and Stock, Domestic and Stock [Domestic] and Domestic and Stock [Stock]. For the purposes of this report and the general-purpose water account, they were all treated as Domestic and Stock.

**Table 12: Allocation summary report notes**

Report heading	Description
Opening	Remaining allocation account balances at the conclusion of the previous season that is allowed to be carried forward to this season
Individual announcement	Actual announcement made to each licence category
Share component (entitlement)	Sum of the licensed volume of water within the licence category on the announcement date
Allocation volume	Volume of water credited to accounts within a licence category as a result of the announcement made
Allocation cumulative volume	Cumulative total of the announced volumes for the water year and licence category
Allocation % of share	This is the announced volume on the specific date expressed as a percentage of the share component.
Allocation cumulative % of share	Cumulative total of the announced volumes, as at the announcement date, for the water year and licence category expressed as a percentage of share component
Balance available	Sum of water available in allocation accounts, as at the specified date, that has been made available to be taken during the season
Balance not available	Water allocated that is not accessible now
Balance total	Sum of all the water credited to allocation accounts as at the specified date
Balance available % of share	Sum of water available in allocation accounts, as at the specified date, that has been made available to be taken during the season expressed as a percentage of share component
Balance total % of share	Sum of all the water credited to allocation accounts as at the specified date expressed as a percentage of share component

Table 13: Allocation announcements for Peel Regulated River Water Source 2019–20

Date	Individual Announcement	Share Component	Allocation Volume (ML)	Cumulative Volume (ML)	Allocation Volume (%)	Cumulative Volume (%)	Balance Available (ML)	Balance Not Available (ML)	Balance Total (ML)	Balance Available (%)	Balance Total (%)
<b>DOMESTIC AND STOCK</b>											
1 Jul 19	Opening	77			0.0%	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
1 Jul 19	AWD 70.0 %	77	54	54	70.0%	70.0%	54	0	54	70.0%	70.0%
<b>DOMESTIC AND STOCK[DOMESTIC]</b>											
1 Jul 19	Opening	66			0.0%	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
1 Jul 19	AWD 70.0 %	66	46	46	70.0%	70.0%	46	0	46	70.0%	70.0%
<b>DOMESTIC AND STOCK[STOCK]</b>											
1 Jul 19	Opening	20			0.0%	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
1 Jul 19	AWD 70.0 %	20	14	14	70.0%	70.0%	14	0	14	70.0%	70.0%
<b>LOCAL WATER UTILITY</b>											
1 Jul 19	Opening	16,400			0.0%	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
1 Jul 19	AWD 70.0 %	16,400	11,480	11,480	70.0%	70.0%	11,480	0	11,480	70.0%	70.0%
<b>REGULATED RIVER (GENERAL SECURITY)</b>											
1 Jul 19	Opening	29,635			0.0%	0.0%	(29)	0	(29)	(0.1)%	(0.1)%
1 Jul 19	AWD 0.0 ML per Share	29,635	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	(29)	0	(29)	(0.1)%	(0.1)%
<b>REGULATED RIVER (HIGH SECURITY)</b>											
1 Jul 19	Opening	801			0.0%	0.0%	(6)	0	(6)	(0.8)%	(0.8)%
1 Jul 19	AWD 0.5 ML per Share	801	401	401	50.0%	50.0%	394	0	394	49.2%	49.2%
1 Feb 20	Drought Suspension 100.0 %	801			0.0%	0.0%	231	163	394	28.8%	49.2%
9 Feb 20	Drought Suspension Re-credit 100.0 %	801			0.0%	0.0%	394	0	394	49.2%	49.2%
<b>REGULATED RIVER (HIGH SECURITY)[RESEARCH]</b>											
1 Jul 19	Opening	3			0.0%	0.0%	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
1 Jul 19	AWD 50.0 %	3	2	2	50.0%	50.0%	2	0	2	50.0%	50.0%
1 Feb 20	Drought Suspension 100.0 %	3			0.0%	0.0%	0	2	2	0.0%	50.0%
9 Feb 20	Drought Suspension Re-credit 100.0 %	3			0.0%	0.0%	2	0	2	50.0%	50.0%

## Note 3—Allocation account usage

This is the volume of water that is extracted, diverted or measured as usage under controlled river conditions and is accountable against an access licence.

### Data type

Measured data

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data accuracy

A—Estimated in the range +/- 10 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data source

- Water Accounting System (jointly owned by WaterNSW and NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment)

### Methodology

Usage information is determined by either on-farm meters that measure extraction, gauges on diversion works or orders/releases when the volume cannot be effectively metered, such as an environmental watering event.

Meter readings are collected for individual licence holders at intervals during the year and converted via a calibration factor to a volume of water extracted. Water diverted from the river is measured by recording the height at either the gauge or weir with the volume diverted being derived by passing these heights through a rating table. However, with multiple categories of access licences being extracted through the same pumps additional information and methodologies are needed to separate use under the various licence categories. Below is a description of these:

- Based on periods of announcement—during periods of supplementary water announcements, extractions can be debited against the supplementary water licences (note there are no supplementary licences in the Peel). However, announcements are also used to separate uncontrolled flow usage (non- accountable) from general-security usage (accountable).
- Usage is based on water orders—users place orders for water against an access licence and usages are debited against accounts in proportion to the orders placed
- Licence category apportionment—if no water orders are available, water extracted is apportioned against categories of access licence in order of priority, as set out in Table 14. The ranking is based on the nature and rules of each of the licence categories.

Extractions are apportioned in order of priority, starting at priority 1. This is a generic list where not all categories will necessarily appear in this GPWAR. There are also various sub-categories of licence associated with these.

**Table 14: Licence category metered usage apportionment**

Priority	Surface water
1	Supplementary
2	Uncontrolled flow
3	Domestic and Stock
4	Regulated river High Security
5	Regulated river General Security
6	Conveyance
7	Local Water Utility
8	Major Water Utility

### Additional information

Total annual account usage for the reporting period is presented in Table 15.

**Table 15: Account usage summary 2019–20**

Licence category	Account usage (ML)
Domestic and Stock	4
Domestic and Stock [Domestic]	30
Domestic and Stock [Stock]	0
Local Water Utility	5,388
General Security <sup>21</sup>	329
High Security	328
High Security (Research)	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,079</b>

<sup>21</sup> Includes uncontrolled flow extractions not debited to the access licence account

## Note 4—Temporary trading— allocation assignments

This represents the temporary trading (allocation assignments) of account water between allocation accounts within the regulated Peel water source and between the Peel and Lower Namoi regulated river water sources. Allocation assignments are permitted between certain categories of access licences, and additionally from the Peel Regulated River Water Source to the Lower Namoi Regulated River Water Source, subject to the rules stipulated in the Peel water sharing plan. The rules determine a maximum amount of share component that can be permanently transferred from the Peel to the Lower Namoi, which is related to the maximum amount of temporary trade that can occur.

### Data type

Administration

### Policy

- *Water Management Act 2000*
  - Dealings with access licences (Division 4)
    - 71T Assignment of water allocations between access licences.
- *Water Sharing Plan for the Peel Valley Regulated, Unregulated, Alluvium and Fractured Rock Water Sources 2010*
  - Part 11 Access licence dealing rights
    - Clause 86 Assignment of water allocations dealings

### Data accuracy

A1—Nil inaccuracy +/- 0 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data source

- Water Accounting System (jointly owned by WaterNSW and NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment)

### Methodology

Allocation assignment transactions are extracted from the Water Accounting System.

### Additional information

**Table 16: Peel River internal trade summary 2019–20 (figures in ML)**

Allocation assignments (ML)			To		Total
			Peel	Peel	
			General Security	High Security	
FROM	Peel	High Security	10.0	165.8	175.8
	Total		10.0	165.8	175.8

## Note 5—Held environmental water

This represents that environmental water that is held as part of a licensed volumetric entitlement. These licences are either purchased on the market by environmental agencies or issued as a result of water savings achieved through investment by those relevant agencies.

These licences are held within the same licence categories as all other water access licences, hence they are subject to the same operating rules:

- available water determinations (AWD) for their share of the entitlement to be added to accounts
- carryover rules, hence the forfeiting of unused water that cannot be carried over
- provide water orders prior to use.

These licences are used to provide environmental benefit and outcomes to the catchment by either providing water to, or supplementing the water requirements of, specific environmental events or incidents.

### Data type

Measured

### Policy

- *Water Sharing Plan for the Peel Valley Regulated, Unregulated, Alluvium and Fractured Rock Water Sources 2010*

Available on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website at [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water)

### Data accuracy

A1—Nil inaccuracy +/- 0 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data source

- Water Accounting System (jointly owned by WaterNSW and NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment)

NSW available water determination register: [waterregister.waternsw.com.au](http://waterregister.waternsw.com.au)

### Methodology

Not applicable

## Additional Information

Table 18 and Table 19 summarise held environmental water in the Peel water source during the reporting period. Table 17 provides a description of each component within the summary report.

**Table 17: Explanatory information for environmental account summary**

Heading		Description
<b>Share</b>		This is the total volume of entitlement in the specific licence category.
<b>Opening balance</b>		The volume of water that has been carried forward from previous years allocation account
<b>AWD</b>		Available water determination—the total annual volume of water added to the allocation account as a result of allocation assessments
<b>Licences</b>	<b>New</b>	Increase in account water as a result of issuing new access licences
	<b>Cancelled</b>	Decrease in account water as a result of licence cancellation
<b>Assignments</b>	<b>In</b>	Increase in account water as a result of temporary trade in
	<b>Out</b>	Decrease in account water as a result of temporary trade out
<b>Account usage</b>	<b>Controlled</b>	Volume of water that is extracted, diverted or used and is directly accountable against a licence
	<b>Uncontrolled</b>	Volume of water that is extracted, diverted or used when rules dictate that uncontrolled flow access is available. This is permitted under a General Security access licence but is not accountable against that licence. Uncontrolled usage may be converted to General Security usage when sufficient General Security water becomes available as specified by rules set out in the water sharing plan.
<b>End-of-year balance</b>		Account balance at the conclusion of the water year
<b>End-of-year forfeit</b>		Account water that is forfeited at the end of the water year as a result of carryover rules that restrict the carry forward volume
<b>Carry forward</b>		This represents the account water that is permitted to be carried forward into the next water year as determined by the carryover rules.



**Table 18: Peel regulated water source environmental account balance summary 2019–20**

Category	Share as at 30 June 2020	Opening balance	AWD	Licences		Assignments		Account usage		Forfeit During Year	End-of-year balance		End-of-year forfeit	Carry forward
				New	Cancelled	In	Out	Controlled	Uncontrolled <sup>22</sup>		Available	Not Available		
General Security	1,257	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,257	0

**Table 19: Peel regulated water source environmental holding summary 2019–20**

Category	No. Licences 30 June 2019	Licensed Volume 30 June 2019	No. Licences 30 June 2020	Licensed Volume 30 June 2020	Change
General Security	2	1,257	2	1,257	0

<sup>22</sup> Uncontrolled flow may be available for General Security licence holders for defined events. Refer to note 17 for further information

## Note 6—Environmental provisions

There are several planned environmental provisions within the regulated Peel water source that are implemented under the water sharing plan. These provisions aim to enhance environmental benefits.

### **Environmental contingency allowance**

Following the augmentation of Chaffey Dam to 100,500 megalitres, the water sharing plan required the environmental stimulus flow requirement to be abolished and be replaced through the introduction of an environmental contingency allowance (ECA). The ECA may be used discretionally and is managed to achieve natural variability in the upper regulated reaches of the Peel River.

Whenever an available water determination (AWD) is made for Regulated River (General Security) access licence holders, a volume will be credited to the ECA account, equal to the AWD multiplied by 5,000. In accordance with the Peel Water Sharing Plan, unused water in the ECA at 30 June each year will be forfeited.

### **Environmental stimulus flow**

A planned environmental rule for an environmental stimulus flow releases was active in the Peel from the commencement of the water sharing plan to the 2015–16 water year. The rule has now been superseded by the introduction of the ECA.

### **Minimum storage release**

A minimum daily release will be made from Chaffey Dam that is equal to 3 megalitres, except when a release of greater than 3 megalitres per day is required to meet basic landholder rights and access licence extractions, or when an environmental stimulus release is occurring.

### **Inter-valley trade account usage**

If the sum of share components of all access licences that specified the Peel Regulated River Water Source, and have been subject to a permanent trade to the Lower Namoi Regulated Water Source, plus the temporary trade to the Lower Namoi Regulated Water Source, in that water year, exceeds 7,500 megalitres, then an inter-valley trading account will be established.

A volume of water will be allocated to the inter-valley trading account equal to any subsequent available water determination made for Regulated River (General Security) access licences, multiplied by 40% of the sum of share components for all access licences that were traded to the Lower Namoi, up to a maximum of 3,000 megalitres. Water allocated to the inter-valley trading account will not be carried over from one water year to the next. The release of water set aside in Chaffey Dam shall be determined by WaterNSW to meet any water requirements to the Lower Namoi Regulated River Water Source and cannot be used to satisfy water requirements in the Peel Regulated River Water Source.

### **Long-term average annual extraction limit**

Extractions must be limited to a long-term average annual of 15,100 megalitres.

### **Uncontrolled flow restrictions**

Rules and limits about the taking of uncontrolled flow from high runoff or resulting from an environmental stimulus flow event are detailed in the water sharing plan, with the remaining volume of these events being reserved for environmental benefit.

## Data type

Measured/Administration

## Policy

- *Water Sharing Plan for the Peel Valley Regulated, Unregulated, Alluvium and Fractured Rock Water Sources 2010*
  - Part 4 Environmental Water Provisions
    - Division 1 Planned Environmental Water

Available on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website at [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water)

## Data accuracy

A1—Nil inaccuracy +/- 0 %

## Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

## Data source

- WaterNSW Annual Compliance Report (internal document)

## Methodology

Not applicable

## Additional Information

- During the reporting period, the ECA was credited with zero megalitres, of which zero was released.
- The requirement for a minimum daily release from Chaffey Dam was suspended on 2 December 2019 until 30 June 2020 due to the prevalent drought conditions.
- The trigger for the creation of the inter-valley trade account has not occurred.

**Table 20: Summary of ECA account balance (figures in ML)**

Water Year	Opening Balance	Water Credited	Usage	Forfeit	Closing Balance
2016–17	0	5,000	4,933	67	0
2017–18	0	5,000 <sup>1</sup>	2,662	2,338	0
2018–19	0	1,900	0	1,900	0
2019–20	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup> 27 megalitres called on in the 2016–17 year was physically delivered in 2017–18 (1 July 2017 delivery)

## Note 7—Surface water storage

This is the actual volume of water stored in the individual surface water storages at the date of reporting. The volumes provided represent the total volume of water in the storage, including dead storage, which is the volume of water that can't be accessed under normal operating conditions (for example, volume below low-level outlet). It is assumed that the dead storage can be accessed if required via alternative access methods (for example, syphons).

### Data type

Derived from measured data

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data accuracy

A—Estimated in the range +/- 10 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data source

- WaterNSW—HYDSTRA

### Methodology

Storage volumes are calculated by processing a gauged storage elevation through a rating table that converts it to a volume. Table 21 provides a breakdown of the storage capacities and dead storages.

**Table 21: Capacity and dead storage summary**

Storage	Capacity (ML) to May 2016	Current capacity (ML)	Dead storage volume (ML)
Chaffey Dam	61,830	100,500	2,360
Dungowan Dam	6,300	6,300	300

## Note 8—River channel storage

This is the volume of water stored in the river channel on the day of reporting.

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data type

Derived from measured data

### Data accuracy

B—Estimated in the range +/- 25 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data sources

- WaterNSW: HYDSTRA, CAIRO

### Methodology

For each river section S(n):

$$V = Q \times T$$

The river channel storage will be equal to the sum of all river section volumes.

$$\text{River channel storage} = \sum S(n) V$$

**Table 22: Summary of calculation components**

Symbol	Variable	Data source	Unit
Q	Average flow in the river section. Calculated by averaging the daily flows at the upstream and downstream river gauges.	HYDSTRA	ML/day
V	Volume in each river section.	Calculated	ML
T	Average travel time for a parcel of water to travel through the river section.	CAIRO	days

Assumptions and approximations:

- Travel times are estimated to the nearest day.
- We assume that daily flow change between gauging sites is linear.

## Note 9—Storage inflow—Chaffey and Dungowan

Storage inflow refers to the volume of water flowing into the headwater storages, Chaffey and Dungowan Dam.

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data type

Derived from measured data

### Data accuracy

A—Estimated in the range +/- 10 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data sources

- WaterNSW: HYDSTRA, Tamworth Regional Council spreadsheet
- NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment: Integrated Quantity and Quality Model (IQQM)

### Methodology

In most of the major storages in NSW, there is no direct measurement of inflows. However, it is possible to calculate inflows by using a mass balance approach (based on balancing the change in storage volume) where inflow is the only unknown. This is referred to as a back-calculation of inflows.

With the exception of Dungowan storage inflow (which used a basic annual mass-balance approach), the back-calculation figures were derived using a one-day time step, with the inflow calculated according to the equation below. Daily inflows are then summed to provide an annual inflow figure.

$$\sum_{i=1}^n I_i = \Delta S_i + O_i + Se_i + \frac{(E_i - R_i) * A_i}{100}$$

**Table 23: Components for back-calculation of inflow**

Symbol	Variable	Unit
I	Inflow	ML/day
$\Delta S_i$	Change in storage volume	ML
$O_i$	Outflow	ML/day
$Se_i$	Seepage	ML/day
$R_i$	Rainfall	mm/day
$E_i$	Evaporation (Mortons shallow lake estimation, SILO)	mm/day
$A_i$	Surface area— derived from height to surface areas lookup curve	ha
n	Number of days in the reporting period	

Assumptions and approximations:

- Constant storage specific pan evaporation factors are applied (one annual factor).
- Seepage was assumed to be zero.
- Evaporation and rainfall for Dungowan storage was derived from the simulated net evaporation for the storage in the Peel Integrated Quantity and Quality Model.

## Note 10—Storage evaporation and storage rainfall

This refers to the volume of water effective on Chaffey Dam and Dungowan Dam that is either lost as a result of evaporation or gained as a result of rainfall.

### Data type

Derived from measured data

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data accuracy

B—Estimated in the range +/- 25 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data source

- NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment: IQQM
- WaterNSW: HYDSTRA

### Methodology

The volume applied for evaporation and rainfall on these storages is achieved by first calculating a daily time-series of storage surface area, using a height to area lookup curve as defined in HYDSTRA for Chaffey, and from the department's planning model, IQQM, for Dungowan Dam.

Daily rainfall and evaporation data is then applied to the area time-series to achieve a volume in megalitres that is then aggregated to an annual figure. The rainfall and evaporation data used is equivalent to the data used to derive storage inflow (detailed in Note 9), with the same pan factor applied to the evaporation data

Rainfall volume (ML) =

$$\sum_{i=1}^n V_i = \frac{R_i \times A_i}{100}$$

Evaporation volume (ML) =

$$\sum_{i=1}^n V_i = \frac{E_i \times A_i}{100}$$

**Table 24: Components for storage evaporation and rainfall**

Symbol	Variable	Unit
V	Volume	ML/year
R	Rainfall	mm/day
A	Surface area—derived from height to surface areas lookup curve	Ha
E	Evaporation (Mortons shallow lake estimation, SILO)	mm/day
i	Number of days in the reporting period	



## Note 11—River evaporation and river rainfall

This refers to the volume of water effective on the accounted river reach that is either lost as a result of evaporation or gained as a result of rainfall.

### Data type

Derived from measured data

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data accuracy

C—Estimated in the range +/- 50 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data source

- NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment: HYDSTRA, ARCGIS
- Queensland Government: SILO

### Methodology

The volume applied for evaporation and rainfall on the regulated river is achieved by first calculating a daily time-series of river area. This is achieved by breaking the river up into reaches and utilising the cross sections recorded at river gauging locations to determine the average width of the river with a given daily flow. River length is then determined between two gauging locations using ARCGIS and as such an area for each reach can be defined.

$$\text{Area (m}^2\text{)} = \text{Average W (m)} \times \text{L (m)}$$

In the formula, W is the daily width determined from the gauging cross sections and L is the length as determined through ARCGIS analysis.

With daily area determined, various climate stations are then selected, based on their proximity to each river reach. Rainfall and evaporation data is then extracted from SILO and applied to the area time-series to achieve a volume in megalitres that is then aggregated to an annual figure.

No estimate was made for the river section between Dungowan storage and its confluence with the Peel River, due to insufficient data.

### Rainfall:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n V_i = \frac{R_i \times A_i}{10^6}$$

### Evaporation:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n V_i = \frac{ETO_i \times K_c \times A_i}{10^6}$$

**Table 25: Components for storage evaporation and rainfall**

Symbol	Variable	Unit
V	Volume	ML/year
R	Rainfall	mm/day
A	Surface area—derived from height to surface areas lookup curve	m <sup>2</sup>
ETO	Reference evapotranspiration from SILO	mm/day
Kc	Crop coefficient for open water (1.05)	-
i	Number of days in the reporting period	

## Note 12—Gauged tributary inflow

This is the inflow into the regulated river that occurs downstream of the headwater storages and is measured at known gauging stations.

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data type

Measured data

### Data accuracy

A—Estimated in the range +/- 10 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data sources

- WaterNSW: HYDSTRA

### Methodology

The flows are obtained by measuring river heights at gauging stations along the river, and then passing these heights through a rating table that converts them to a daily flow volume. For the gauging station at Goonoo Goonoo Creek at Meadow Lane (419097), installed for flood warning purposes, anecdotal evidence from the field has identified an issue with the very low flow rating for this site (that is, visual flow apparent, where the gauged data indicates zero).

Given the locality of this site, it is still regarded as a preferential gauge for water accounting purposes. Therefore, to compensate for potential low flow inaccuracies, a relationship was developed using the upstream station of Goonoo Goonoo Creek at Timbumburi (419035).

The median ratio of flow between the two sites between (419097 divided by 419035), for flows less than or equal to 20 megalitres per day, and greater than or equal to 5 megalitres per day (at 419097) was determined. This ratio (1.38) was then used to create a modified time-series at 419097.

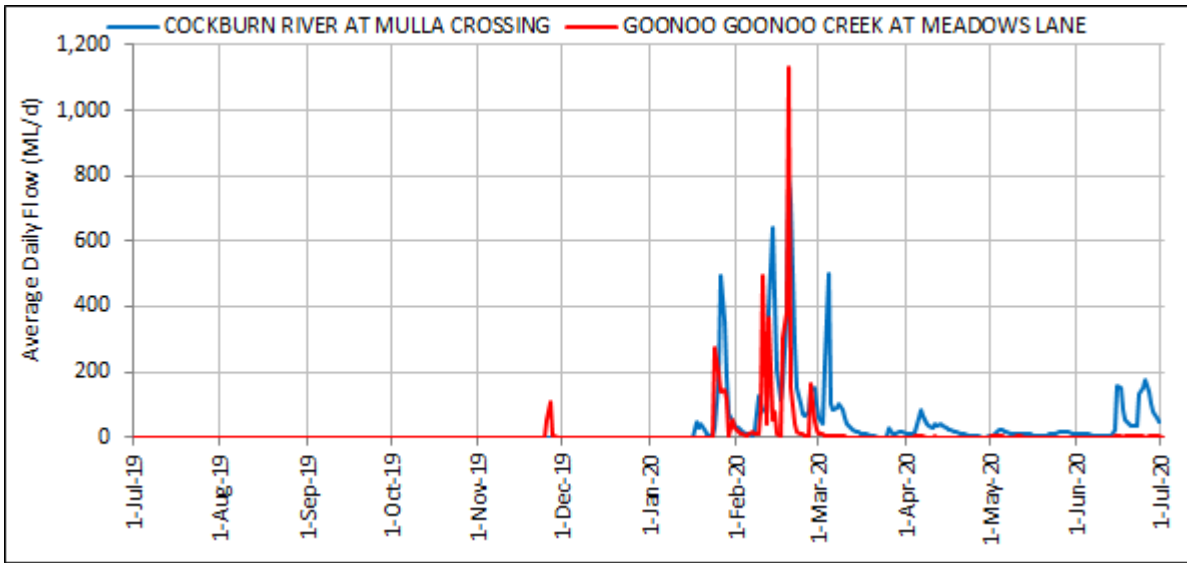
Where flow recordings are less than 5 megalitres per day at 419097 and greater than one megalitre per day at 419035, the estimated flow is determined as 419097 flow multiplied by 1.38. For flow recordings outside of this range, the recording at 419097 is accepted as accurate. No lag was identified between the two stations for the daily flow calculation (that is, actual lag is less than one day).

### Additional information

**Table 26: Summary of gauged tributary inflow for the reporting period (annual volume in megalitres)**

Station name	Volume
Goonoo Goonoo Creek at Meadow Lane	4,806
Cockburn River at Mulla Crossing	11,313
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,119</b>

Figure 31: Gauged tributary inflows 2019–20



## Note 13—Ungauged runoff estimate

This figure represents an estimate of the ungauged inflow component from runoff into the river, downstream of the headwater storages.

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data type

Estimated

### Data accuracy

C—Estimated in the range +/- 50 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data sources

- NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, WaterNSW: CAIRO

### Methodology

To derive an estimate, a simple mass balance approach was adopted whereby known inflows and outflows were combined with an assumed loss factor.

$$UI = EoS - SR - GI - GW + E + LE$$

Where:

UI = Ungauged inflow estimate

EoS = Gauged flow at the point in the system where no further inflow is estimated downstream.  
For this calculation, consider this to be the Peel River at Carroll Gap.

SR = Storage release (Chaffey)

GI = Gauged inflows

GW = Net groundwater flow back to river

E = Extractions

LE = Estimated loss. Loss was assumed to be 15% of the measured flow (gauged flow plus storage releases) entering the system. No adjustment was made for losses associated with the ungauged component.

## Note 14—Dam releases, river inflow from dam releases

This is the volume of water released from Chaffey Dam and Dungowan Dam. In the GPWAR accounting process, this release volume decreases the relative storage asset, while increasing the river asset volume.

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data type

Measured data

### Data accuracy

A—Estimated in the range +/- 10 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data sources

- WaterNSW: HYDSTRA

### Methodology

The flows are obtained by measuring river heights at a gauging station downstream of the dam wall or lake storage, and then passing these heights through a rating table that converts them to a daily flow volume.

### Additional information

**Table 27: Summary of storage releases 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (ML)**

Storage	Release (ML)
Chaffey	11,520
Dungowan	1,081 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total increase to river asset</b>	<b>12,601</b>

<sup>1</sup> Excludes pipeline transfer from Dungowan to Tamworth

Figure 32: Chaffey Dam releases 2019–20

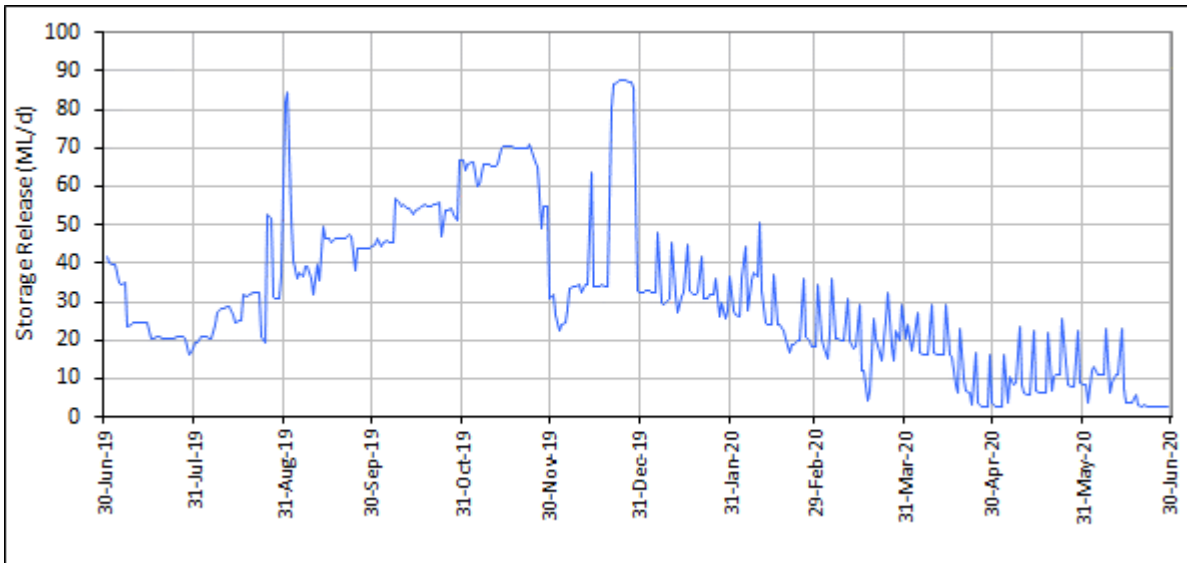
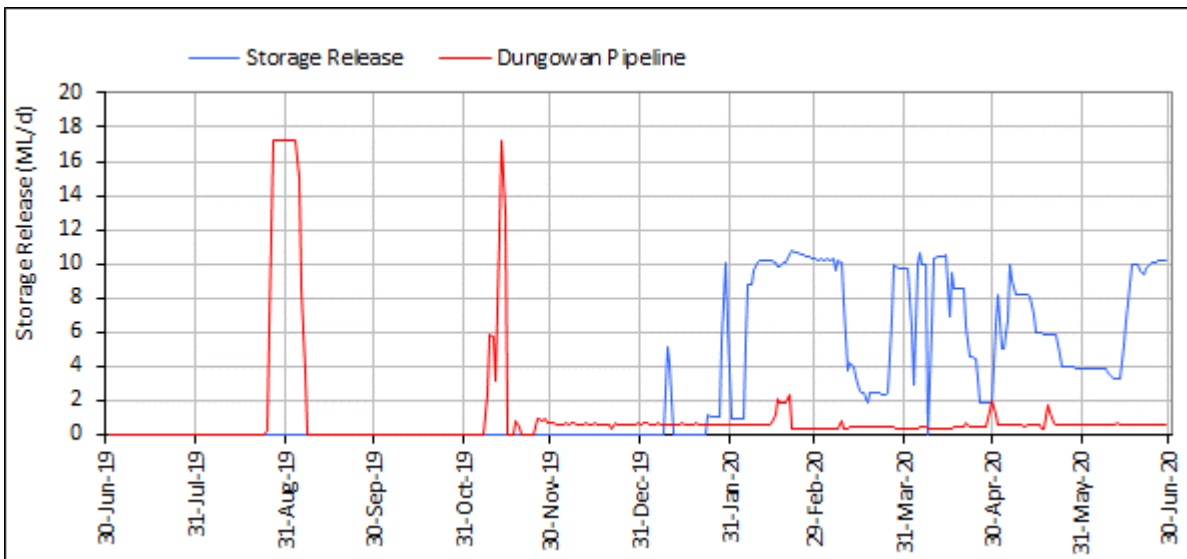


Figure 33: Dungowan Dam release 2019–20



## Note 15—Flow leaving

This refers to flow that leaves the entity and does not return to the entity.

### Data type

Derived from measured data

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data accuracy

A—Estimated in the range +/- 10 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

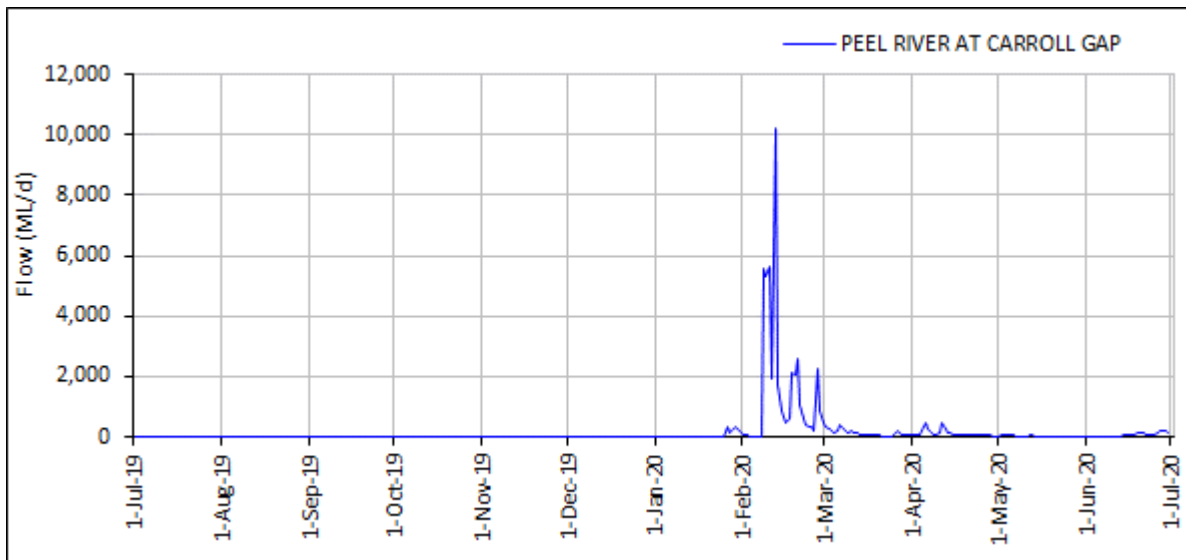
### Data source

- WaterNSW: HYDSTRA

### Methodology

The end of system flow is taken as the flow measured at the flow gauging station Peel River at Carroll Gap. Heights are measured at the station before passing these values through a flow rating relationship curve that outputs an associated flow rate. Daily flows are then added to achieve the annual result provided in this GPWAR.

**Figure 34: Flow leaving 2019–20 (Peel River at Carroll Gap)**





## Note 16—Extractions from river (excluding basic rights)

This is the actual volume of water directly pumped or diverted from the regulated river by licence holders.

Occasionally (generally in the case of environmental water) volumes are ordered against a licence account for in-stream benefits or to pass through end-of-system targets. As such, the volume reported to be physically extracted from the river will not always be equal to the amount of water debited to accounts for usage, which has been reported in detail in Note 3. In addition, any uncontrolled flow usage (extracted from the river but not debited to licence accounts) must be considered. The figure for extractions from the river excludes basic rights extractions, which is reported as a separate line item and detailed in Note 18.

### Data type

Measured data

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data accuracy

A—Estimated in the range +/- 10 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data source

- Water Accounting System (jointly owned by WaterNSW and NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment)

### Methodology

For the purposes of this GPWAR, extraction from the river is considered to be the total volume metered and debited to the allocation accounts, minus any licenced account water that can be identified as being used within the system, or ordered to be passed through the system, plus uncontrolled flow extractions. These volumes are generally associated with environmental water orders and have already been accounted for in other line items.

## Additional information

**Table 28: Reconciliation of physical extraction to account usage**

Component	Volume (ML)
Extractions from river <sup>1</sup>	6,081
Licensed flow leaving system <sup>2</sup>	0
In-stream licenced usage <sup>3</sup>	0
Uncontrolled flow extractions <sup>4</sup>	223
<b>Total account usage <sup>5</sup></b>	<b>5,858</b>

<sup>1</sup> River extractions excluding basic rights usage estimate

<sup>2</sup> Licenced water ordered to leave the accounted Peel extent for environmental benefits (or other) is removed if volume can be quantified as it would already be accounted in the flow leaving volume

<sup>3</sup> Water ordered and used within the accounted system for environmental benefit (not extracted from the river) is removed if volume can be quantified

<sup>4</sup> Water extracted in defined high flow events under a General Security licence that does not debit the allocation account.

<sup>5</sup> The total amount of water accounted for usage against the allocation accounts.

## Note 17—Uncontrolled flow usage

This refers to a specific volume of non-debit water, uncontrolled flow as defined in the water sharing plan, pumped or diverted from the river for consumptive use by general-security licence holders during announced periods of unregulated inflows to the water source. However, the volume pumped during these unregulated inflow events is limited, based on the rules defined in the water sharing plan where volumes pumped in excess of the limit are debited against the licence holder's general-security account.

### Data type

Measured data

### Policy

- *Water Sharing Plan for the Peel Valley Regulated, Unregulated, Alluvium and Fractured Rock Water Sources 2010*
  - Part 9 Rules for managing access licences
    - Division 2—Rules for access licences in the Peel Regulated River Water Source
      - Clause 62 Taking of uncontrolled flows, stimulus flow and ECA releases under Regulated River (General Security) access licences

Available on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website at [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water)

### Data accuracy

A1—Nil inaccuracy +/- 0 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data source

- Water Accounting System (jointly owned by WaterNSW and NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment)

### Methodology

Announcements of access to uncontrolled flow can only be made for the following sections and conditions:

#### Sections

- Chaffey Dam to Paradise Weir
- Paradise Weir to Attunga Creek
- Attunga Creek to the Namoi River.

#### Conditions

- When available water determinations for General Security access licences is less than 0.35 megalitres per unit share, access to uncontrolled flow will commence when the flow at Carroll Gap is equal to or less than 40 megalitres per day and cease when flows at any gauging station in the Peel River falls below 5 megalitres per day.
- When available water determinations for General Security access licences is greater than 0.35 megalitres per unit share, access to uncontrolled flow will commence when the flow at Carroll Gap is greater than or equal to 50 megalitres per day and cease when flows fall below 50 megalitres per day.

Uncontrolled flow usage is measured in the same way as general-security extractions but is tagged as uncontrolled flow in the accounting system. Under specific rules, as outlined in the water sharing plan, the uncontrolled usage will be debited against the general-security account in a water year. The summary of these rules is given below:

- Uncontrolled flow pumping is restricted to 50% of the forecast uncontrolled flow volume.
- The volume of uncontrolled flow that can be taken is equal to the difference between the maximum sum of AWDs that can be made and the actual sum of AWDs for that water year.
- If uncontrolled usage exceeds the difference between the maximum sum of AWDs that can be made and the actual sum of AWDs for that water year, then the exceedance will be debited against the general-security allocation account.

As uncontrolled flow is extracted through the same pumps as those extracting water under other categories of access licences, more information is needed to identify periods and hence volumes of uncontrolled flow extractions. To do this, holders must notify us of their intent to pump before pumping or diverting water during a declared uncontrolled flow event. They must give meter readings both at the start and end of pumping. This enables the uncontrolled flow extraction to be assessed independently of the other categories of access licences.

Additional rules that dictate the access to uncontrolled flow during periods of ECA and stimulus flow release can be viewed in the water sharing plan.

### Additional information

A total of 223.1 megalitres was extracted under uncontrolled flow access provisions in the reporting period (Figure 35). Total extractions by river section are presented in Figure 35. Daily uncontrolled flow usage for the water source is presented in Figure 36.

**Figure 35: Uncontrolled flow usage by river section**

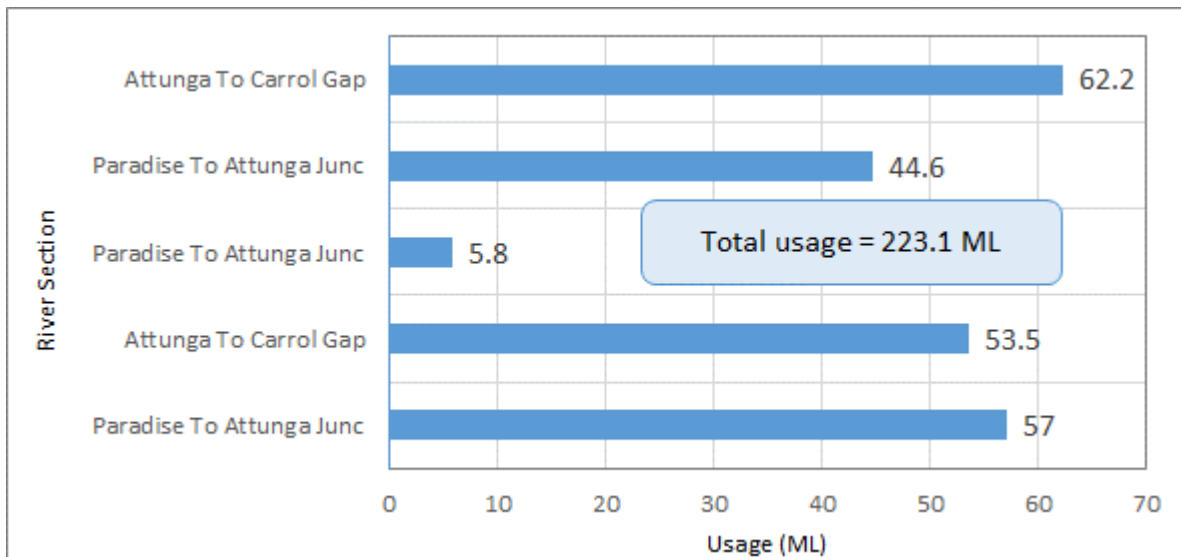
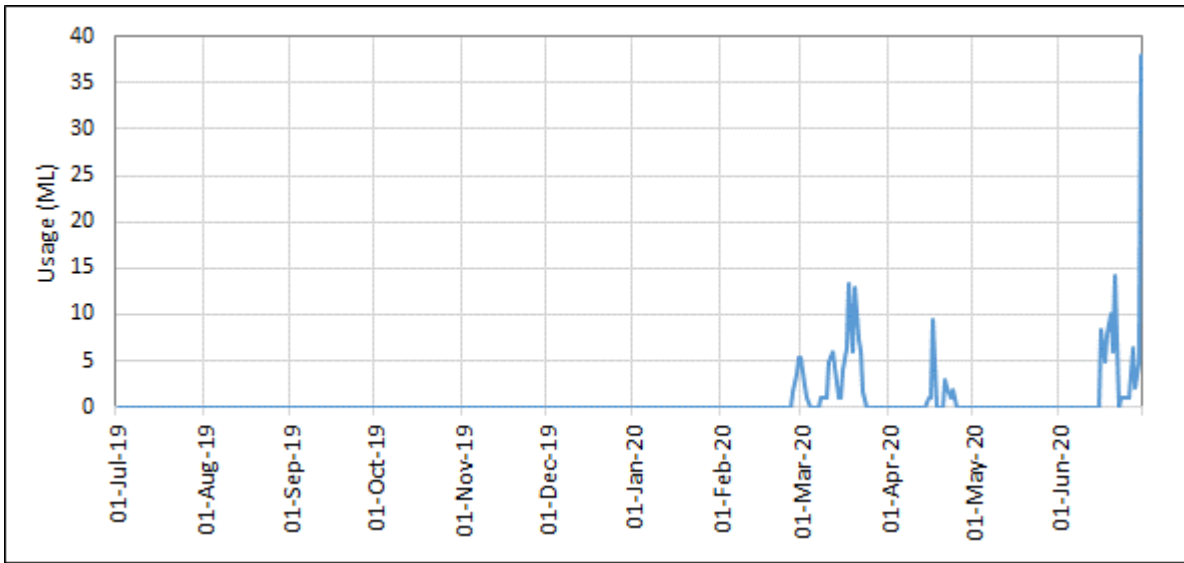


Figure 36: Daily uncontrolled flow usage



## Note 18—Basic rights extractions

This is the non-licensed right to extract water to meet basic requirements for household purposes (non-commercial uses in and around the house and garden) and for watering of stock. It is available for anyone who has access to river frontage on their property.

This water cannot be used for irrigating crops or garden produce that will be sold or bartered, for washing down machinery sheds or for intensive livestock operations.

In times of limited supply, there may be restrictions on taking water for domestic and stock use.

### Data Type

Estimated

### Policy

- *Water Management Act 2000*

### Data accuracy

C—Estimated in the range +/- 50 %

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data source

- *Water Sharing Plan for the Peel Valley Regulated, Unregulated, Alluvium and Fractured Rock Water Sources 2010*

### Methodology

The annual extraction for Domestic and Stock rights in this GPWAR is assumed to be the estimated figure stated in the *Water Sharing Plan for the Peel Valley Regulated, Unregulated, Alluvium and Fractured Rock Water Sources 2010* (200 megalitres). The figure is produced from a series of estimates for water usage, stocking rates, population and property shape based on local knowledge to calculate riparian (stock and domestic) requirements in megalitres per day (converted to megalitres per year for this GPWAR)

## Note 19—River and Groundwater Interaction

This note refers to the net result of flows from the connected alluvium to the accounted river extent (increase in water asset) and from the accounted river extent to the alluvium aquifer (decrease in water asset).

### Data type

Modelled

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data accuracy

D—Estimated in the range +/- 100%

### Providing agency

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

### Data source

- NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (data inputs from WaterNSW HYDSTRA-GW, Water Accounting System)

### Methodology

The river interaction between the regulated river and the Peel alluvium was estimated using a water table fluctuation method. This method uses observed levels from bore samples in the alluvium aquifer, to estimate a complete annual budget of the groundwater system. The river interaction estimates from that. The complete budget parameters are available in the groundwater appendix of this GPWAR.

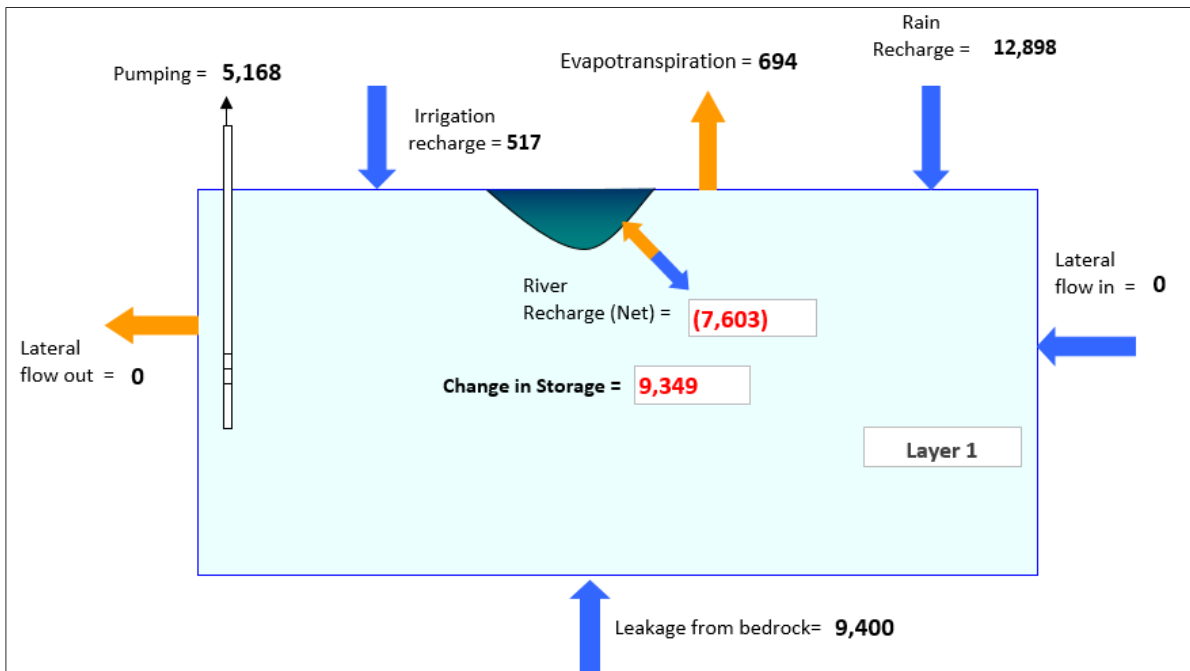
The water table fluctuation method applied is described in detail as 'Method B' in the document *NSW General Purpose Water Accounting Reports—Groundwater Methodologies*, available from the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website.

River and groundwater interaction have been presented as a net figure due to inaccuracies identified when attempting to separate the individual processes.

### Additional information

The Peel alluvium modelled annual budget is illustrated in Figure 37

Figure 37: Peel alluvium water table fluctuation budget for the reporting period





## Note 20—Unaccounted difference

In theory, if all the processes of a water balance could be accurately accounted for, the unaccounted difference would be zero. In reality, because of uncertainty about many of the volumes presented in the accounts, the variety of data sources and not all water cycle processes being accounted for, the statements are not balanced at the end of the accounting process. In order to balance the accounts, a final balancing entry is required, and this is termed the unaccounted difference. As technology improves the accuracy of the account estimates, we anticipate that, relatively, this figure should be lower in future accounts.

### Data type

Not applicable

### Policy

Not applicable

### Data accuracy

D—Estimated in the range +/- 100 %

### Providing agency

Not applicable

### Data source

Not applicable

### Methodology

The unaccounted difference is equal to the amount needed to get the correct volume in river at the end of the reporting period, after all the known physical inflows and outflows have been accounted for. The double-entry accounting process attempts to represent the physical movement of water by creating a river asset. The opening and closing balance of the river volume was estimated according to Note 8.

Surface water unaccounted difference:

$$U_{SW} = R_s - R_c + R_i - R_o$$

Where:

$U_{SW}$  = Unaccounted difference for surface water

$R_s$  = Opening river volume estimate

$R_c$  = Closing river volume estimate

$R_o$  = Physical outflows from the river (for example, extractions)

$R_i$  = Physical inflows to the river (for example, runoff, return flows, dam releases)

## Additional information

Volumes for the unaccounted difference are presented as a surface water decrease for the purposes of this GPWAR. A negative unaccounted difference would indicate that extra inflow (surface water increase) was required to balance the accounts. A summary of the unaccounted difference relative to river inflow is presented in Table 29.

**Table 29: Unaccounted difference summary**

Water year	Unaccounted volume <sup>1</sup>	River system inflow <sup>2</sup>	Proportion % of river system inflow <sup>3</sup>
2016–17	48,633	382,806	13%
2017–18	32,819	80,774	41%
2018–19	(2,598)	33,038	4%
2019–20	5,326	65,995	8%

<sup>1</sup> Negative indicates more system inflow required to achieve mass balance

<sup>2</sup> Inflows into the River system include; *Rainfall, Gauged Inflow, Ungauged Inflow, Inflow from Storage releases.*

<sup>3</sup> Unaccounted difference (of the river) as a % of the total river inflow. i.e. Absolute volume as a percentage

## Note 21—Dungowan pipeline diversion

In addition to an allocated dam in the Chaffey Dam resource, Tamworth also has a supplementary supply for town water purposes from Dungowan Dam, which is owned and operated by Tamworth Regional Council. This water is supplied to town through a 60-kilometre, 500-millimetre diameter pipeline directly to the Calala Water Treatment Plant (Cameron, 2009).

### Data type

Measured.

### Policy

Not applicable.

### Data accuracy

A—Estimated in the range +/- 10 %.

### Providing agency

Tamworth Regional Council.

### Data source

- Excel spreadsheet

### Methodology

Weekly recorded figures in megalitres were aggregated to an annual figure. In the accounting process, this is a direct decrease to the surface water storage as the water does not arrive in the accounted river like other storage releases.

## References

Cameron, Adrian 2009, *Well, Well, Well – Drift Well Recommissioning, an Operators Perspective*, Tamworth Regional Council, 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual WIOA NSW Water Industry Engineers and Operators Conference

WASB 2012, Australian Water Accounting Standard 1 Preparation and Presentation of General Purpose Water Accounting Reports (AWAS 1), Bureau of Meteorology