

7 February 2022

## Namoi Regulated River Water Sources

### Water allocation update

Rainfall continued to provide inflows into the Namoi catchment in January 2022. As a result, there has been an improvement in resources, particularly in headwater storages, to allow for the following allocation:

- **Lower Namoi general security allocation to increase by 6.6%**, resulting in a total allocation of 88.1% to date for the current 2021-22 water year.

All other categories of licence in the Upper and Lower Namoi Regulated River Water Source were assigned full allocations on 1 July and remain unchanged.

| 2021-22                     | High Security | General Security |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Upper Namoi Regulated River | 100%          | 100%             |
| Lower Namoi Regulated River | 100%          | 88.1%            |

### Storage levels (as at 7 February 2022)

- Split Rock Dam is about 70% full – holding approximately 280 gigalitres (GL).
- Keepit Dam is 99.8% full – holding approximately 425 GL.

### Key facts

- In January 2022, the Namoi catchment experienced average to above average rainfall, receiving between 25 to 200 mm of rain.
- Inflows to headwater storages were 25.5 GL for Keepit Dam and 25.2 GL for Split Rock Dam.
- Critical requirements for Manilla and Barraba townships are secure for the next 24 months and beyond, based on assumed minimum future inflows to Split Rock Dam.

### Seasonal climate and streamflow outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for February to April indicates above median rainfall for the upper catchment. Additionally, daytime temperatures are likely to be median and warmer than median minimum temperatures are expected.

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

The Bureau of Meteorology issues a seasonal flow forecast for the unregulated Namoi River at North Cuerindi (see Figure 1). This may provide an indication of potential inflows into Keepit Dam.

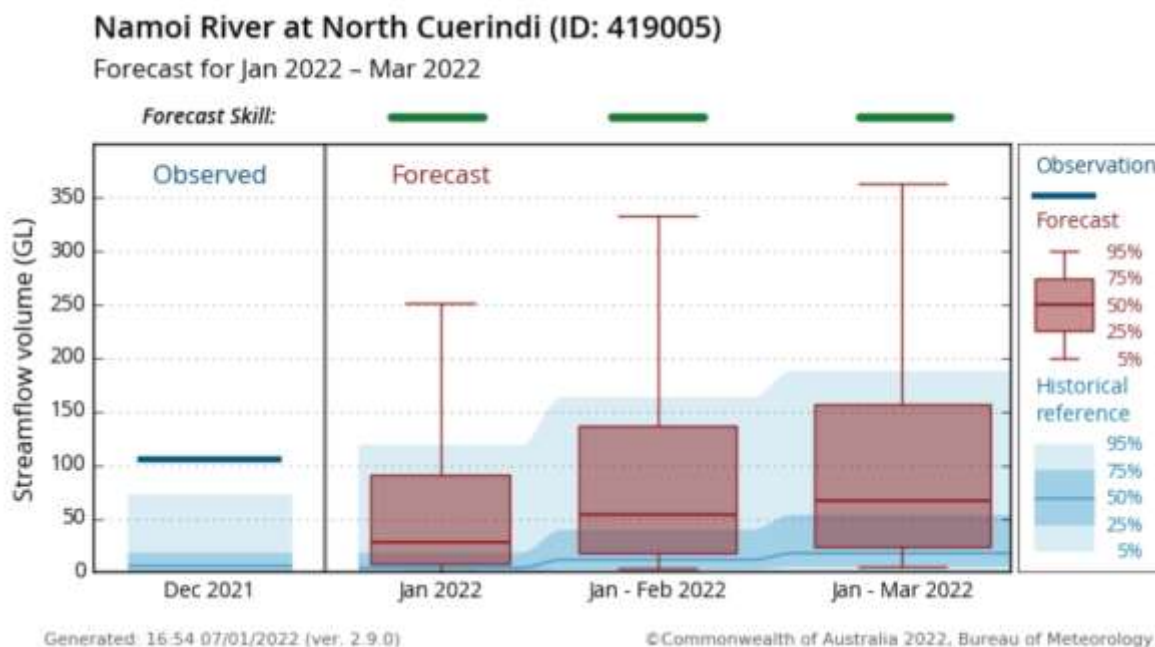
# Water Allocation Statement

Water availability and allocation update



The forecast quartiles of total streamflow volume from January to March are higher than the historical quartile references, indicating likely higher runoff than historical streamflow conditions for the next few months.

Details can be found at: [www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005](http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005)



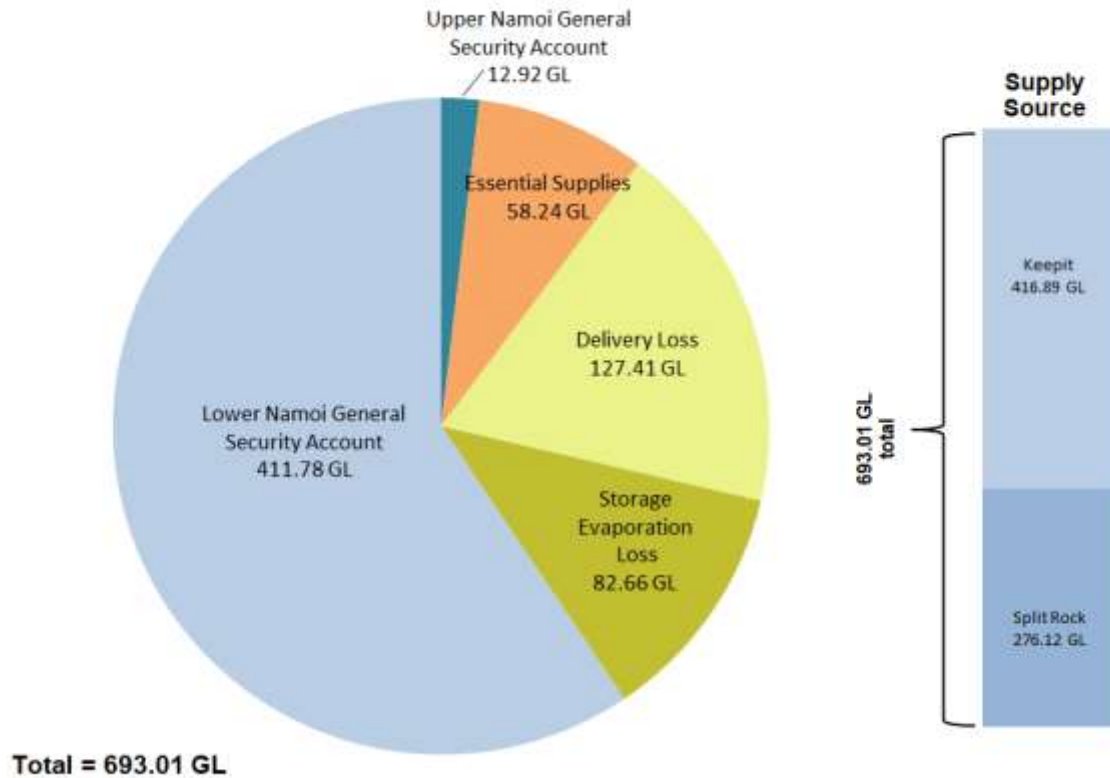
## Resource assessment data sheet

| Resource distribution (as at 31 January 2022) | Volume (GL) |
|---|-------------|
| Keepit and Split Rock Active Volumes          | 693.01      |
| <i>less</i>                                   |             |
| Storage Evaporation Loss <sup>(1)</sup>       | 82.66       |
| Essential Supplies <sup>(2)</sup>             | 58.24       |
| Lower Namoi General Security Account          | 411.78      |
| Upper Namoi General Security Account          | 12.92       |
| Delivery Loss <sup>(3)</sup>                  | 127.41      |
| Surplus (deficit) <sup>(4)</sup>              | 0.0         |

### Notes:

- (1) Storage Evaporation Loss: evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and maximum historical evaporation rates over 2 years.
- (2) Essential Supplies: water required to be set aside under water sharing plan to provide for Stock & Domestic, Towns, High Security and riverine environments. Includes Gunidgera/Pian stock and domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. This commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows into the storages.
- (3) Delivery Loss: This account reflects the water needed to deliver general security water. Traditionally, a 30% delivery loss has been budgeted for this river system. The budget is continually assessed and topped up if necessary, as a priority from resource improvements, to ensure that allocated water can be delivered.
- (4) All available water resources have been fully allocated (no surplus/deficit). The system is secure for 24 months and beyond.

## Resource Distribution as at 31 January 2022 Namoi Regulated River Water Sources



## Resource assessment data sheet as at 31 January 2022

| Volumes in GL                                       | Budget | Current       | Additional  | Balance       |
|---|--------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Storage Evaporation Loss                            | 82.66  | 82.38         | 0.28        | 82.66         |
| Essential Supplies for next 24 months (58.2 GL max) | 58.24  | 55.03         | 3.21        | 58.24         |
| General Security Delivery Loss                      | 127.41 | 120.44        | 6.97        | 127.41        |
| Upper Namoi General Security (11.4 GL max)          |        | 12.92         | 0.00        | 12.92         |
| Lower Namoi General Security (491.8 GL max)         |        | 395.78        | 16.00       | 411.78        |
| Additional Resource for Sharing                     |        | 26.46         | -26.46      | 0.00          |
| <b>Total</b>  |        | <b>693.01</b> | <b>0.00</b> | <b>693.01</b> |

| Lower Namoi (General Security) | Value | Unit              |
|--------------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Incremental Increase CREDITED  | 16.00 | GL                |
| Available Water Determination  | 0.066 | ML per unit share |

## New water allocation guide

The department is producing a series of guides to describe the water allocation process for most NSW regulated river systems. One for the Namoi regulated river water source is now available.

Further details at: [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process)

## Further information

The next monthly water allocation statement for the Namoi Regulated River Water Source will be available on **Monday 7 March 2022**.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Planning and Environment website: [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water)

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