

13 May 2025

# Hunter Regulated River Water Source

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## Water allocation update

There is no change to allocations in the Hunter Regulated River Water Source. This statement is to provide an update on the water sharing and regulated resource conditions.

All the higher priorities and general security licence categories received their maximum opening allocation of 100% on 1 July 2024. This included 20 gigalitres (GL) credit to environmental water allowance (EWA). Supplementary access licence holders received their maximum 200% allocation by 12 September 2024. This was due to exceedance of the high flow tally by August 2024.

This resource assessment is based on information to 30 April 2025.

## Resource outlook for 2025/26

The outlook for likely 1 July 2025 water availability is based on several assumptions. Water users are advised that forecast allocations are not certain, may change and should be used with caution. It aims to broadly guide water users with their end of water year water management decisions. Water users are reminded to check account limits and the carryover provisions on their entitlements, noting that water can forfeit from some accounts after 30 June 2025.

- Water for all critical consumptive and non-consumptive needs are secure for 2025/26.
- All higher priority water access licence holders including, major utility, local water utility, domestic & stock and high security categories can expect their maximum (100%) allocation on 1 July 2025.
- The environmental water allowance will be credited with 20 GL.
- Unused water in accounts can be carried forward into the 2025/26 water year on 1 July 2025, subject to allowable limits, in accordance with the rules of the water sharing plan.
- The allocation for general security entitlement holders will depend on factors including inflows and usage for the remainder of this water year. However, indications suggest a very high or full opening general security allocation is likely.
- Supplementary water access licence holders can expect their full opening allocation of 100% 1 July 2025 however access to this water is subject to periods of declared supplementary flow events.

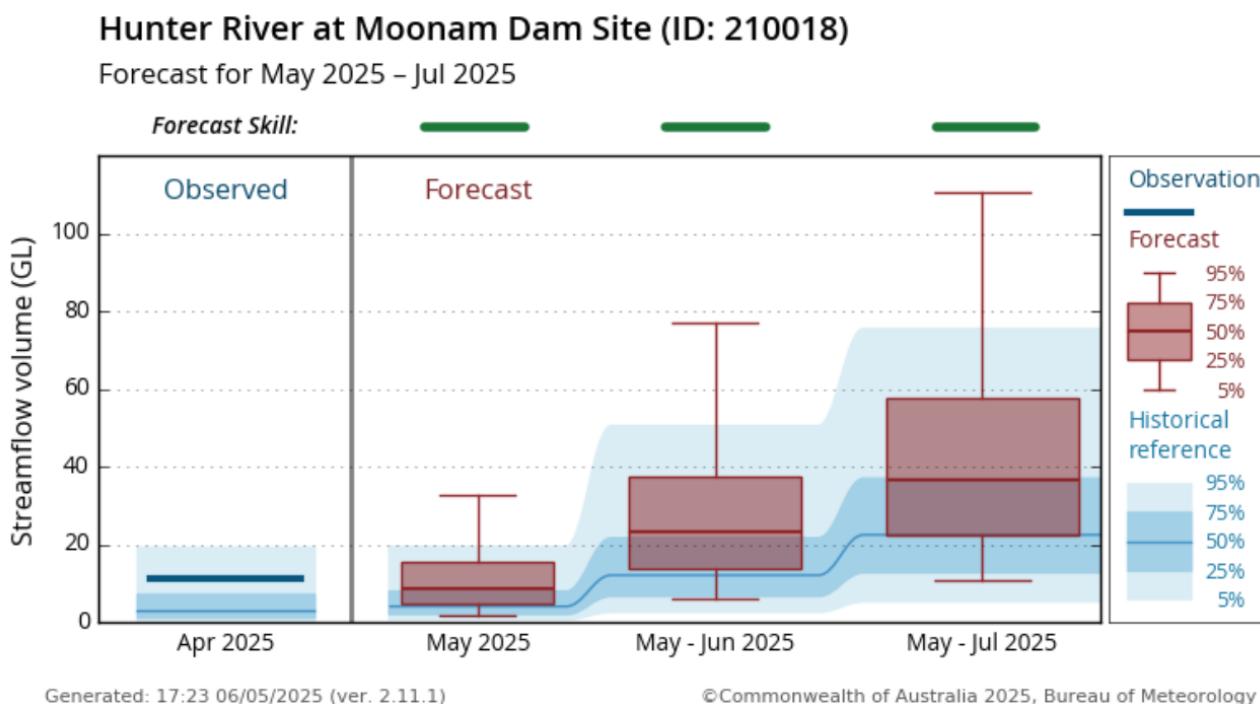
## Storage levels (as of 12 May 2024)

- Glenbawn Dam is about 101% full – holding about 756 GL.
- Glennies Creek Dam is about 104% full – holding about 293 GL.

## Climate and streamflow outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for June to August 2025 indicates that rainfall is likely to be median across the catchment, while daytime and overnight temperatures are likely to be warmer than average over this period. For further details: [Overview – Summary - Climate Outlooks](#)

The Bureau issues seasonal flow forecasts for the Hunter River at Moonam Dam Site (see the figure below), which is upstream of Glenbawn Dam. This provides an indication of potential storage inflow. All the forecast quantiles of total flow volumes from May to July 2025 are higher than the historical flows, suggesting likely wetter period. The graph from May to July 2025 is shown below and updates can be found at: [Seasonal Streamflow Forecasts: Water Information: Bureau of Meteorology](#)



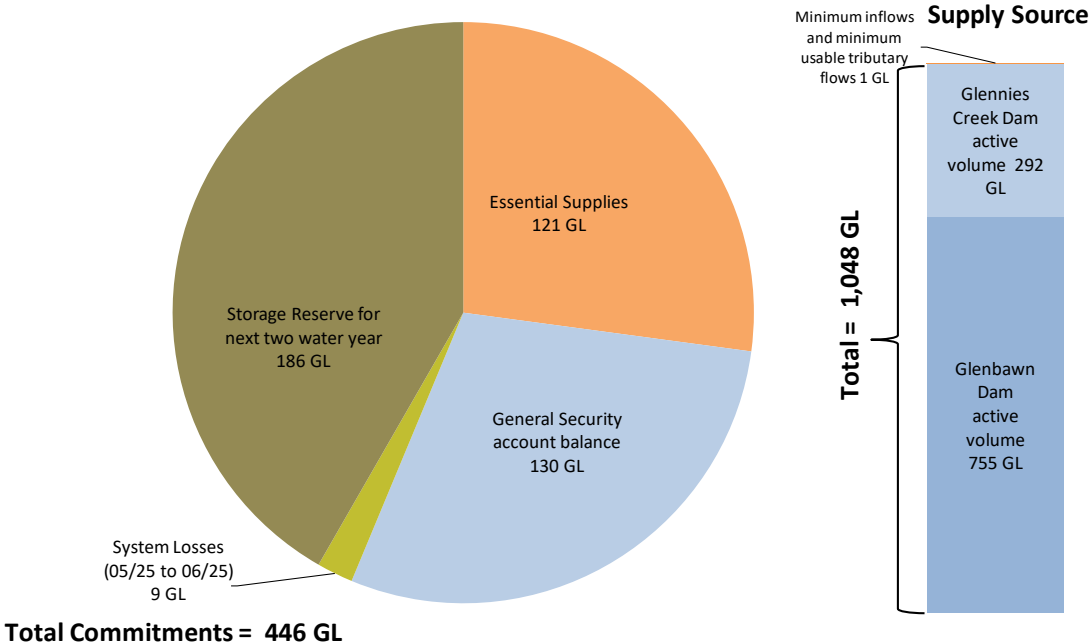
## Resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (May 2025 to June 2027)	Volume (GL)
Current and Future Resources <sup>(1)</sup>	1048
<i>less</i>	
Environmental Water Allowance	20
Basic Land Holder Rights	1
Domestic and Stock	1
Local Water Utility	6
Major Utility	68
High Security	19
General Security Balance <sup>(2)</sup>	130
Minimum Flow Target at Greta	6
Evaporation, Transmission, Operation Losses (5/25 to 6/25)	9
Storage Reserve for 2025/26 and 2026/27 <sup>(3)</sup>	186
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or Deficit) <sup>(4)</sup>	602

### Notes:

- (1) Storage volume in Glenbawn dam plus Glennies Creek dam as of 30 April 2025 net of 2 GL of dead storage; plus minimum historical dam inflows and usable tributary flows budgeted from May 2025 to June 2025.
- (2) The water remaining in General Security accounts yet to be ordered and delivered. It is calculated by subtracting the usage (inclusive of Uncontrolled Flow takes) from the water already allocated to GS.
- (3) Water required to be set aside in reserve to meet essential supply requirements and system losses in 2025/26 and 2026/27. This is net of minimum reservoir inflow budgeted for next two years. The essential requirements include two opening allocations of 75% to high security, 100% to all other higher priority licences and EWA.
- (4) The surplus signifies resources available after accounting for all commitments. As all relevant accounts are allocated to its maximum limit, this volume remains unallocated, improving the allocation reliability for the next water year.

Resource Distribution as at 30 April 2025  
Hunter Regulated River Water Source



Water Allocations in 2024/25

Table 1 : Water allocation history for 2024/25 (in % or ML/unit share)

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2024/25
1-Jul	Domestic and Stock	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	Major Utility	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share*	1.00 ML/unit share*
1-Jul	Supplementary	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share
1-Jul	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share*	1.00 ML/unit share*
28-Aug	Supplementary	0.18 ML/unit share	1.18 ML/unit share
12-Sep	Supplementary	0.82 ML/unit share	2.00 ML/unit share*

\* Maximum allowable.

## Water sharing plan rules

- Domestic and Stock, and Local Water Utility licence categories are to receive an allocation of 1.00 megalitre (ML) per unit share at the start of the water year.
- Major utility licence category is to receive 1.00 ML per unit share at the start of the water year. They can carry over unused balance of up to 32,400 ML (90%) into next water year subject to Glenbawn Dam storage volume.
- High security opening allocation starts at 0.75 ML per unit share and can rise up to 1.00 ML per unit share. They can carry over unused balance of up to 0.25 ML per unit share into next water year. The total in the account — including carryover and new allocations — must not exceed 1.00 ML per unit share
- General Security can carry over the unused balance of up to 0.25 ML per unit share to the next water year. The total in the account — including carryover and new allocations — must not exceed 1.00 ML per unit share.
- Some applicable account water may be withdrawn if Glenbawn Dam spills.
- Environmental Water Allowance is to be credited with the 20,000 ML at the start of the water year. Carrying over the unused balance into next water year is not permitted.
- Supplementary Water Access licence category is to receive 1.00 ML per unit share at the start of each water year. An increment up to 1 ML per unit share allocations may be made subsequently in wet years meeting exceedance of the high-flow tally.
- Unregulated access licence holders on three tidal pool water sources are to receive an opening allocation of 0.75 ML per unit share. The allocation is to be reviewed every quarter until rises to its maximum 1 ML per unit share. The water sources and the rules are explained in Water Sharing Plan for the Hunter Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2022.

## Useful links

- Water allocation guide – The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) produced a series of guides to describe the water allocation methods for most NSW regulated river systems. The guide for this water source is available at the following link: [Resource assessment process | NSW Government Water](#)
- Water allocation dashboard – The NSW DCCEEW developed a dashboard to enhance the transparency and accessibility of up-to-date information on water availability and allocations for regulated river water sources. The dashboard can be accessed at the following link: [Allocations dashboard | NSW Government Water](#)

- Water Sharing Plan – The water sharing plan for this water source is available at the following link: [Water Sharing Plan for the Hunter Regulated River Water Source 2016](#)

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## Further information

All entitlements at these water sources have reached their maximum annual allocation. Routine publication of water allocation statement will cease for this water year.

The next water allocation statement for this water source will be included in the state-wide opening water allocation statements on **Tuesday 1 July 2025**.

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