

16 May 2025

Peel Regulated River Water Source and Peel Alluvium Groundwater Source

Water allocation update

There is no change to allocations in the Peel regulated river water source nor the Peel alluvium groundwater source. All entitlements on these two water sources received their maximum allocation for 2024/25 water year.

General security (GS) received their maximum allocations for the 2024/25 water year by 17 August 2024. At the same time, the environmental water allowance (EWA) was also credited in full 5 gigalitre (GL).

This statement provides information on the current state of water resources and projects the likelihood of allocation for the next water year.

Demand for general security water has remained low throughout the current water year. No Environmental Water Allowance (EWA) deliveries have been recorded so far this water year.

Persistent wet conditions have resulted in continuous spilling from Chaffey Dam since March 2025, further reducing the need for regulated water releases.

The resource assessment as of 30 April 2025 has returned a surplus of 34 GL. However, since all water licences have already been fully allocated, this surplus remains unassigned. It will instead contribute to improving allocation reliability for the 2025/26 water year.

Current allocation

16 May 2025	Allocation Increment	Average Account Balance
General Security (GS)	-	22 GL
Environment Water Allowance (EWA)	-	5 GL

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 that water remaining in all accounts in this water source will be forfeited after 30 June 2025 followed by opening allocation next day.

- Water for all critical consumptive and non-consumptive needs, including local water utility, is secure for the 2025/26.
- Higher priority water access licence holders, including domestic and stock, local water utilities, and high security users, can expect their maximum (100%) allocations on 1 July.
- The allocation for general security entitlement holders will depend on factors including inflows and usage for the remainder of this water year. The preliminary forecast indicates that the opening general security allocation could be as high as 80% of their entitlement, subject to several assumptions.
- The Environmental Water Allowance (EWA) and aquifer (general security) categories will receive commensurate volumes in accordance with the general security allocation.

Storage levels (as of 15 May 2025)

- Chaffey Dam is currently 100% full (spilling) – holding around 103 GL.

Climate Outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's outlook for June to August 2025 indicates that rainfall in the Peel valley is likely to be median. Over this period, maximum temperatures and minimum temperatures are likely to be above median in the catchment.

For further details: [Overview — Summary - Climate Outlooks](#)

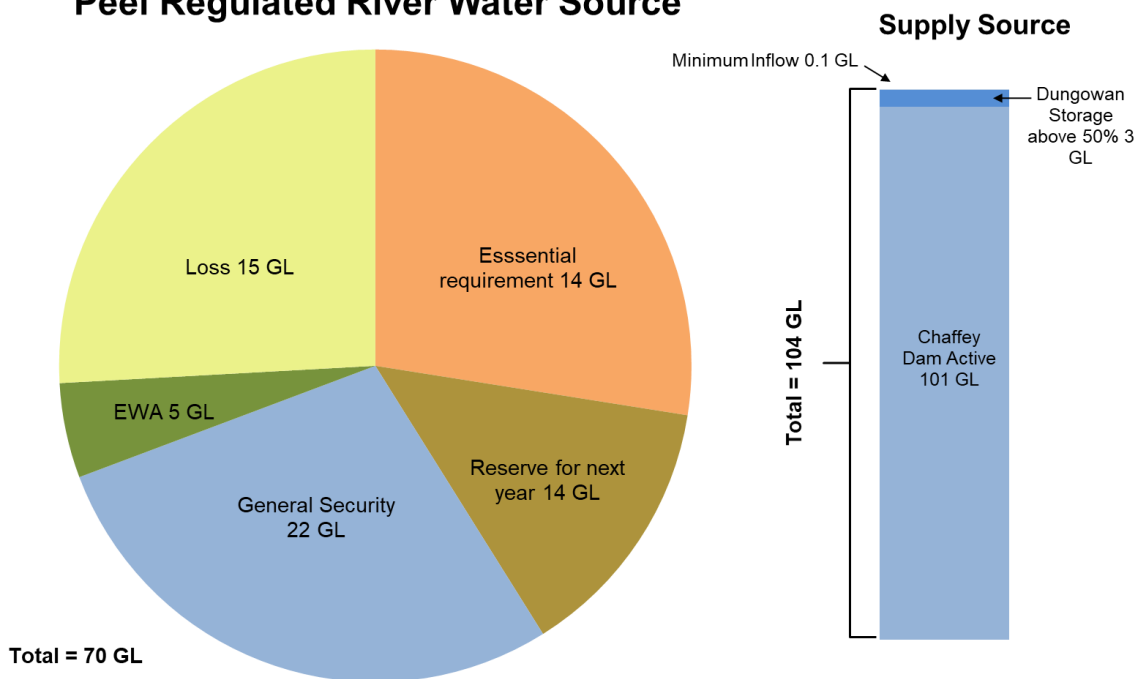
Resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (as of 30 April 2025)	Volume (GL)
Current and Future Resources ⁽¹⁾	104
<i>less</i>	
Essential Supplies (05/25 to 06/25) ⁽²⁾	14
Reserve for 2025/26 ⁽³⁾	14
General security balance	22
EWA balance	5
Evaporation, operational and transmission loss ⁽⁴⁾	15
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or Deficit) ⁽⁵⁾	34

Notes:

- (1) Chaffey Dam active storage, Dungowan Dam volume above 50% full and minimum inflow expected to June 2025.
- (2) Volume required to supply for basic landholder rights, domestic and stock (D&S), local water utility (LWU), high security (HS) entitlements within remaining water year. This also includes associated transmission loss plus minimum storage release.
- (3) Reserve set aside to meet the opening allocation of 2025/26 at the repeat of the worst drought known at the commencement of the water sharing plan. The reserve includes basic landholder rights, 70% domestic and stock, 70% local water utility, 50% high security entitlements and associated transmission loss plus minimum storage release. This also considers minimum inflow expected over 2025/26, offset by evaporation for the same period.
- (4) Evaporation budget assumes historical high evaporation rates. The transmission loss is budgeted to deliver water orders based on current conditions and forecasts. EWA water delivery is measured at the dam wall thus incurs no transmission loss.
- (5) Surplus (or deficit) of available water after accounting for all commitments. The surplus signifies the additional resource available. As all accounts are fully allocated, this volume remains unallocated, improving the allocation reliability for the next water year.

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



Peel regulated water allocation in 2024/25

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2024/25
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*
1-Jul	EWA	60%	60%
1-Jul	General Security	0.60 ML/unit share	0.60 ML/unit share
7-Aug	EWA	40%	100%*
7-Aug	General Security	0.40 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*

* Maximum allowable

Peel Alluvium Groundwater water allocation in 2024/25

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2024/25
1-Jul	Aquifer (general security)	0.804 ML/unit share	0.804 ML/unit share
7-Aug	Aquifer (general security)	0.196 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*

* Maximum allowable

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 Peel Regulated River Water Source 2022](#)

Further information

The next water allocation statement for this water source will be included in the state-wide opening water allocation statements on Tuesday, 6 am, 1 July 2025.

Following the 1 July 2025 water allocation statement, routine statements will commence based on changes in available resources.

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