

22 May 2025

Paterson Regulated River Water Source

Water allocation update

There is no change to allocations in the Paterson 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 (GS) licence categories received their maximum opening allocation of 100% on 1 July 2024. The demand for general security water has been minimal for this water year (about 8% of entitlement as of 30 April 2025).

The current resource assessment has returned a surplus of 5,372 megalitres (ML). However, since all licences have already been fully allocated, this surplus remains unassigned. It will instead improve allocation reliability for the 2025/26 water year.

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

Current allocation

22 May 2025	Allocation Increment	Average Account Balance
General Security	-	102%

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.
- Environmental water allowance can expect their maximum 2000 ML credit on 1 July 2025.
- All higher priority water access licence holders including domestic & stock, high security, and town water sub-categories can expect their maximum (100%) allocation on 1 July 2025.

- 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 100% of their entitlement.
- Supplementary water access licence holders can expect their full opening allocation of 100% on 1 July 2025, however access to this water is subject to periods of declared supplementary flow events.

Storage volume (as of 22 May 2025)

Lostock Dam is currently holding about 23.1 GL and is about 115 % full.

Climate outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for June to August 2025 indicates that rainfall across the catchment is likely to be above median. Minimum and maximum temperatures are very likely to be above average for the same period. For further details: [Overview – Summary - Climate Outlooks](#)

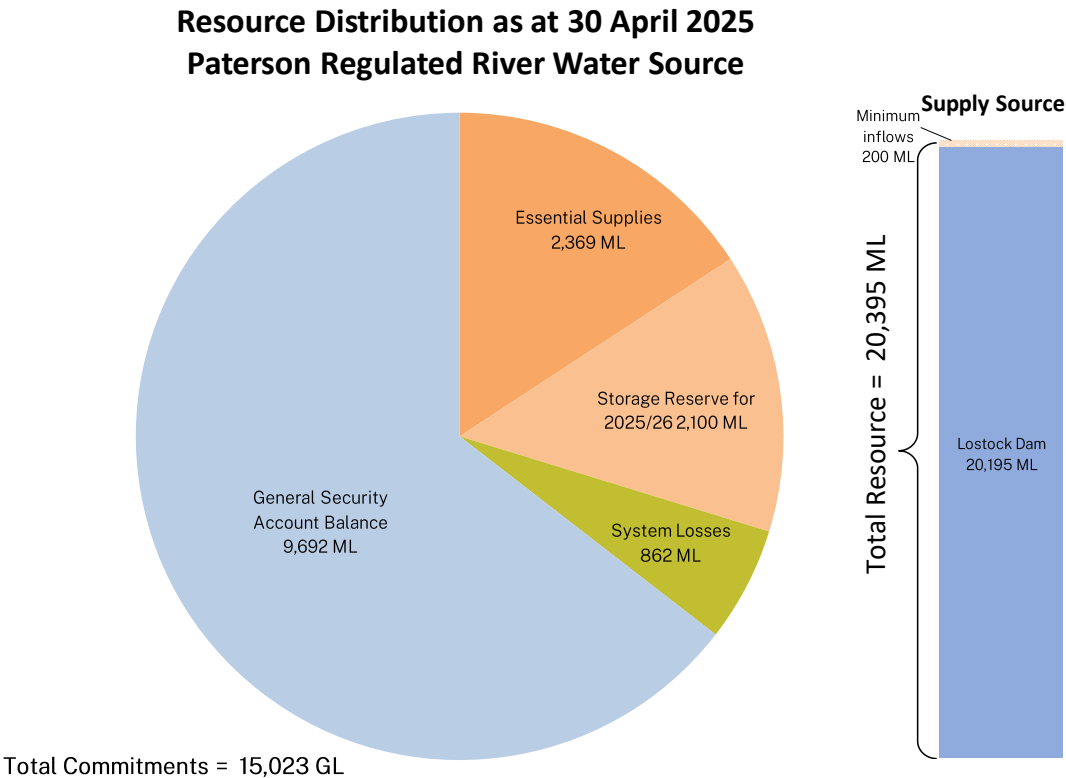
Resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution – (May 2025 to June 2025)	Volume (ML)
Lostock Dam active storage volume ¹	20,195
Minimum storage inflows (1 June 2025 to 30 June 2025) ²	200
<i>less</i>	
Environmental Water Allowance (EWA)	2,000
Basic Land Holder Rights	91
Domestic and Stock account balance	37
High Security (Town Water) account balance	27
High Security account balance	92
Minimum storage releases	122
General Security account balance	9,692
Losses (evaporation, transmission, operation) ³	862
Essential supplies reserve for 2025/26 ⁴	2,100
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or Deficit) ⁵	5,372

Notes:

- (1) Lostock as of 30 April 2025, capped at active full supply volume.
- (2) Minimum inflow is budgeted from 1 June 2025 to 30 June 2025. May inflow is ignored as the storage is currently full and unable to capture additional inflows in May.

- (3) Storage evaporation loss, transmission loss and operation loss pro-rated for the remaining months of the current water year. Storage evaporation loss, transmission loss, and operation loss are assumed from June 2025 onwards as the storage is spilling and unregulated flows are covering May losses.
- (4) Water required to be set aside in the storage as reserve to meet system losses plus essential requirements minus minimum storage inflows for the 2025/26 water year. No reserve is held for 2026/27 water year as the future minimum inflows is expected to cover the system losses and essential requirements for that year.
- (5) Surplus (or Deficit) of available water 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.



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	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*
1-Jul	Supplementary	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*

* Maximum allowable

Water sharing plan rules

- Environmental water allowance is to be credited 2000 ML at the start of the water year. No carryover of unused water is permitted into next water year.
- Domestic and stock, and high security licence categories are to receive an allocation of 100% of their share components at the start of the water year. No carryover of unused water is permitted into next water year.
- General security can carryover the unused balance of up to 0.1 ML per unit share to the next water year. The total in the account — including carryover and new allocations — must not exceed 1.10 ML per unit share.
- Supplementary water access licence receives 1.00 ML per unit share at the start of the water year, unless a lower volume is determined to ensure compliance with extraction limit. This licence cannot hold more than 1.00 ML per unit share in their accounts and cannot carry over the closing balance into the next water year.

Useful links

- Water allocation guide- The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water published 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 below link. For further details: [Resource assessment process | Water \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)
- 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 Paterson Regulated River Water Sources 2019](#)

Further information

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

Subscribe [here](#) to receive the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's monthly email update on water planning, management and reform in New South Wales.

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