

18 September 2020

Hunter Regulated River Water Source


Allocation update

With limited rainfall and storage improvement in the Hunter, there is **no increase in allocation for general security** water licence holders this month. The total general security allocation so far this 2020-21 water year, remains unchanged at 53% of entitlement.

All other high priority water access licence holders in the Hunter Regulated River Water Source have received their full (100%) allocation.

Rainfall in August 2020 was near average across Hunter catchments. Glenbawn Dam and Glennies Creek Dam received about 34mm and 39mm of rainfall and 15.7 gigalitres (GL) and 1.3 GL of net inflow respectively. There has been little movement in storage levels.

Current allocations

2020-21	High Security	General Security	Drought Stage
Hunter Regulated River Water Source	100%	53%	 Stage 1

Drought stage

The NSW Extreme Events Policy introduced a staged approach from one to four to manage extreme circumstances such as severe droughts or poor water quality events. The Hunter regulated river water source is currently at Stage 1 - meaning normal regulated river operations.

Dam levels (as at 17 September 2020)

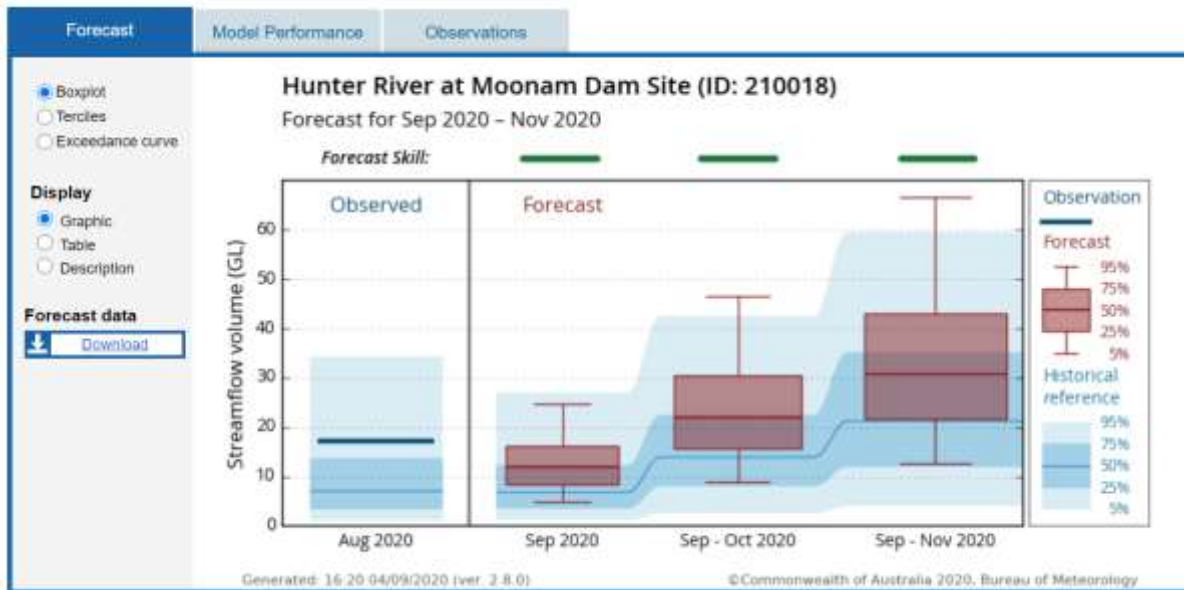
Glenbawn Dam is about 46% full – rising slowly – holding about 345 gigalitre (GL). It was about 49% full at this time last year.

Glennies Creek Dam is about 39% full – steady – holding about 112 GL. It was about 49% full at this time last year.

Seasonal inflow and rainfall forecast

The Bureau of Meteorology climate outlook for September to November shows a good chance of exceeding median rainfall conditions.

The Bureau of Meteorology issues seasonal flow forecast of Hunter River upstream of Glenbawn Dam at Moonam. The August flow was in the top quartile. All four forecast flow quartiles from September to November are higher than the historical quartiles. This indicates a clear shift to wetter than normal inflow conditions during this spring.



For further details: http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=210018&product_type=FC_9

Further information

Water allocation statements for the Hunter regulated river water source are usually only published annually on 1 July when full allocations have been granted. However, while general security allocations remain less than full, the Hunter resource assessments and allocation statements will continue to be updated monthly.

The next Hunter water allocation statement will be released on **Friday 16 October 2020**.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website - www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water

Resource Assessment Data Sheet

Resource Distribution (1 September 2020 to 30 June 2023)	(GL)	(GL)
Glenbawn plus Glennies Ck active storage volume ⁽¹⁾		453.52
Minimum storage & tributary inflows (9/20 to 6/21) ⁽²⁾		40.10
less		
Basic Land Holder Rights	4.60	
Domestic and Stock (100%)	1.80	
Local Water Utility balance	10.13	
Major Utility account balance	68.26	
Environmental Water Allowance (100%)	20.00	
Minimum Flow Target at Greta (including losses)	26.56	
High Security account balance	21.21	

Water Allocation Statement

Water availability and allocation update



Losses (evaporation, transmission, operation) (9/20 to 6/21)	47.49
Storage Reserve for 2021-22 ⁽³⁾	120.16
Storage Reserve for 2022-23 ⁽⁴⁾	77.50
General Security account balance	97.27

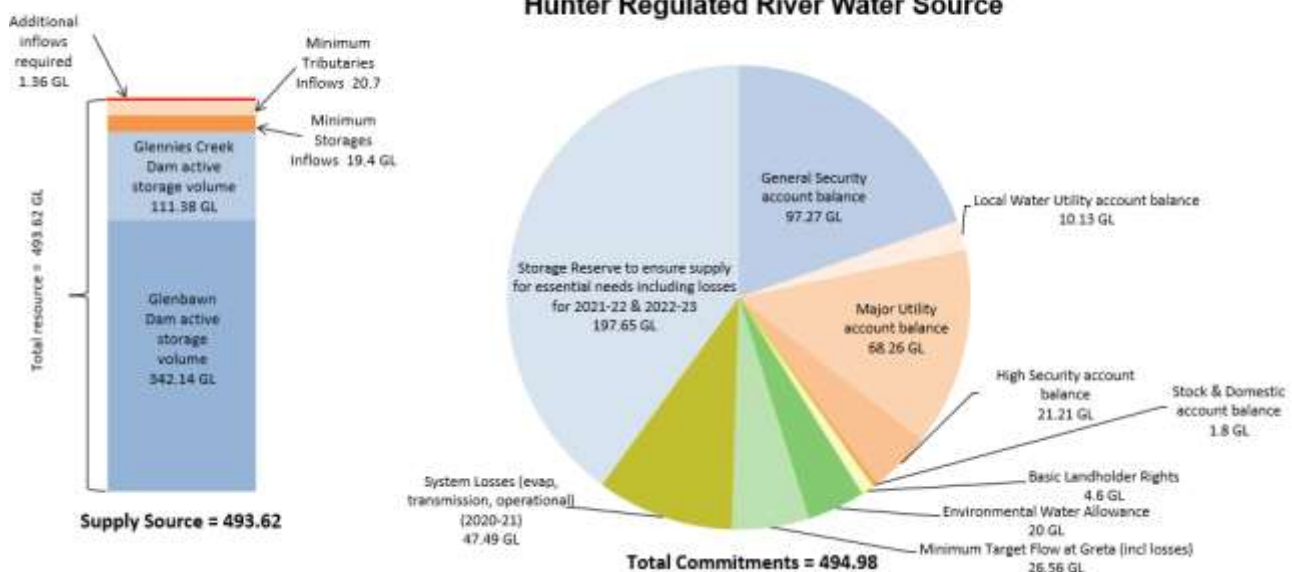
Equals

Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁵⁾	(1.36)
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Notes:

- (1) Available Resource in the dams – is the total active storage volume in Glenbawn Dam and Glennies Creek Dam combined as at 1 September 2020.
- (2) Minimum historical dam inflows (19.4GL) and minimum historical usable tributary inflows (20.7GL) from 1 September 2020 to 30 June 2021.
- (3) Water required to be set aside in storages as reserve to meet essential supply requirements and system losses of 120.16GL in 2021-22. Calculated as: system losses of 50.44GL plus Essential Requirements of 122.42GL minus 52.7GL of minimum storage & tributary inflows for the first 12 months of 24-month minimum inflows starting 1 July 2021. Essential Requirement includes minimum 75% HS opening allocation and all other high priorities.
- (4) Water required to be set aside in storages as reserve to meet essential supply requirements and system losses of 77.5GL in 2022-23. Calculated as: system losses of 50.17GL plus Essential Requirements of 109.92GL minus 82.6GL of minimum storage & tributary inflows for the second 12 months of 24-month minimum inflows starting 1 July 2021.
- (5) Surplus or deficit of water after accounting for all commitments. The deficit of 1.36 GL signifies the shortfall in available resources from now till 30 June 2023. The deficit is unremarkable given usual underutilisation of account water, long planning horizon, inherent conservatism of the assessment and promising spring inflow forecast.

**Resource Distribution: 1 September 2020 to 30 June 2023
Hunter Regulated River Water Source**



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