

31 October 2023

# Border Rivers Regulated River Water Source

## Water availability and allocation update

There is sufficient resource available to provide general security (B class) access licences with an allocation of 0.04 megalitre per unit share (ML/unit share). This brings the total general security (B class) allocation this 2023/24 water year to 0.23 ML/unit share or 23% of entitlement.

Following this allocation, the average account balance of general security (B class) is about 90% of entitlement. The water sharing plan allows for top-up of general security (B class) licenses throughout the year, but individual account balances cannot exceed their maximum 100% limit.

General security (A class) and all higher priority access licenses have received their maximum (100%) allocation for 2023/24. Similarly, supplementary and floodplain harvesting access licenses have also received their maximum (100%) allocation.

Inflows up to 200 ML/day into Pindari Dam were passed transparently through the storage during the winter months in accordance with environmental flow rules. Pindari Dam experienced inflow greater than 1,200 ML/day in April 2023, therefore the pre-condition for releasing stimulus flows up to a total volume of 4,000 (ML) between August and November has been met.

## Current allocations

31 October 2023	Allocation Increment	Average Account Balance
General Security (A Class)		90%
General Security (B Class)	4.0%	90%

## Storage levels (as at 31 October 2023)

- Pindari Dam is about 72% full – falling - holding about 226 gigalitres (GL).
- Glenlyon Dam is about 82% full – falling - holding about 207 GL.

## Seasonal climate outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for November to January indicates that rainfall is likely to be below average for the Border Rivers region. Both maximum and minimum temperatures are very likely to be above average for the same period. For further details:

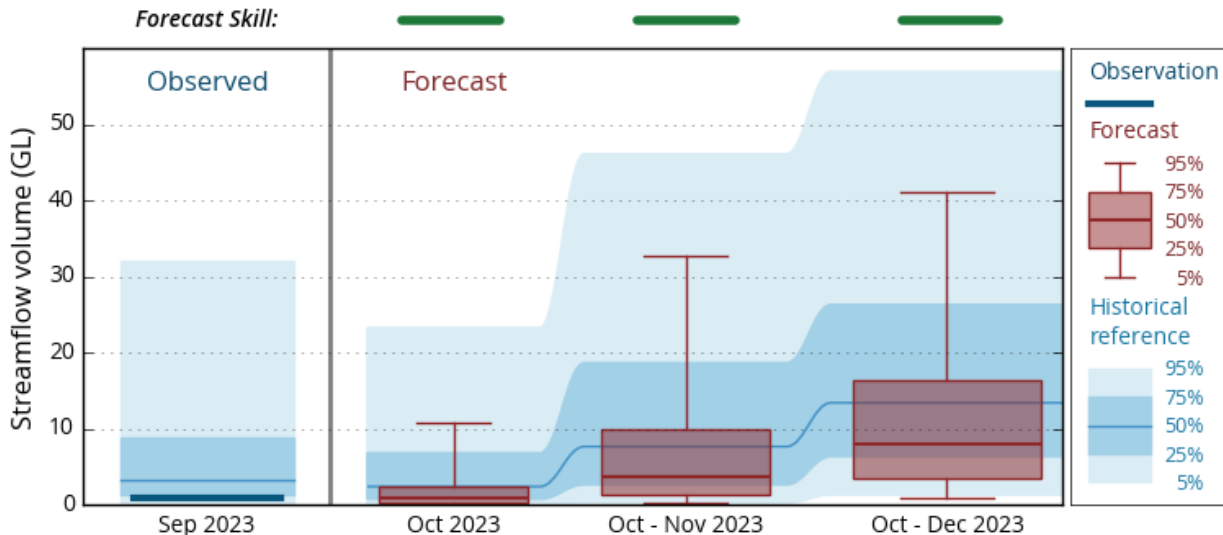
[www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary)

The Bureau of Meteorology issues a seasonal flow forecast for the Severn River at Fladdbury, upstream of Pindari Dam (see the figure below). This may provide an indication of potential inflows into the dam in the coming months. All forecast quantiles of total flow volumes from October to December are below the historical quantile references, indicating likely lower inflows than historical

conditions could be expected. The graph for October to December 2023 is shown below and updates can be found at: [www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/?ref=ftr#id=416022](http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/?ref=ftr#id=416022)

### Severn River at Fladbury (ID: 416022)

Forecast for Oct 2023 – Dec 2023



Generated: 12:27 05/10/2023 (ver. 2.9.0)

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## NSW Border Rivers resource assessment

Table 1 Distribution of NSW Resources (as at 1 OCT 2023)	Volume (GL)	Volume (GL)
Total available resource (NSW) <sup>(1)</sup>		376.4
less		
Storage losses <sup>(2)</sup>	25.3	
Essential supplies <sup>(3)</sup>	41.1	
General security account balance <sup>(4)</sup>	237.5	
General security delivery losses <sup>(5)</sup>	71.3	
equals		
Surplus (deficit) <sup>(6)</sup>		1.2

Notes:

- (1) This includes Pindari Dam and the NSW share of Glenlyon Dam, at the time of the assessment. In accordance with the *New South Wales - Queensland Border Rivers Intergovernmental Agreement 2008* NSW has access to 57% of net inflows into Glenlyon Dam.
- (2) Storage evaporation loss is based on forecast storage depletion over the next 24 months.
- (3) Water required to be set aside under water sharing plans to provide for domestic, stock, towns, high security, replenishment, stimulus release (4GL), delivery loss and operational requirements. This commitment is assisted by the minimum forecast inflows to storage.
- (4) The general security account balance is inclusive of about 2.806 GL of held environmental water (HEW) administered by environmental water holder/s. The HEW volume is indicative only and prior to reconciliation of usage and net trade.

These environmental entitlements are held and/or managed either singly or jointly by various environmental water holder groups including the NSW Department of Planning and Environment– Environment and Heritage, and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH).

- (5) General security delivery losses – budgeted at about 30 per cent of remaining general security account water.
- (6) Surplus (or deficit) of water available after accounting for all commitments, there is nominal surplus that will be rolled over to next resource assessment. The system is secure for all essential supplies for next 24 months and beyond.

### Distribution of NSW Resources as at 1 October 2023

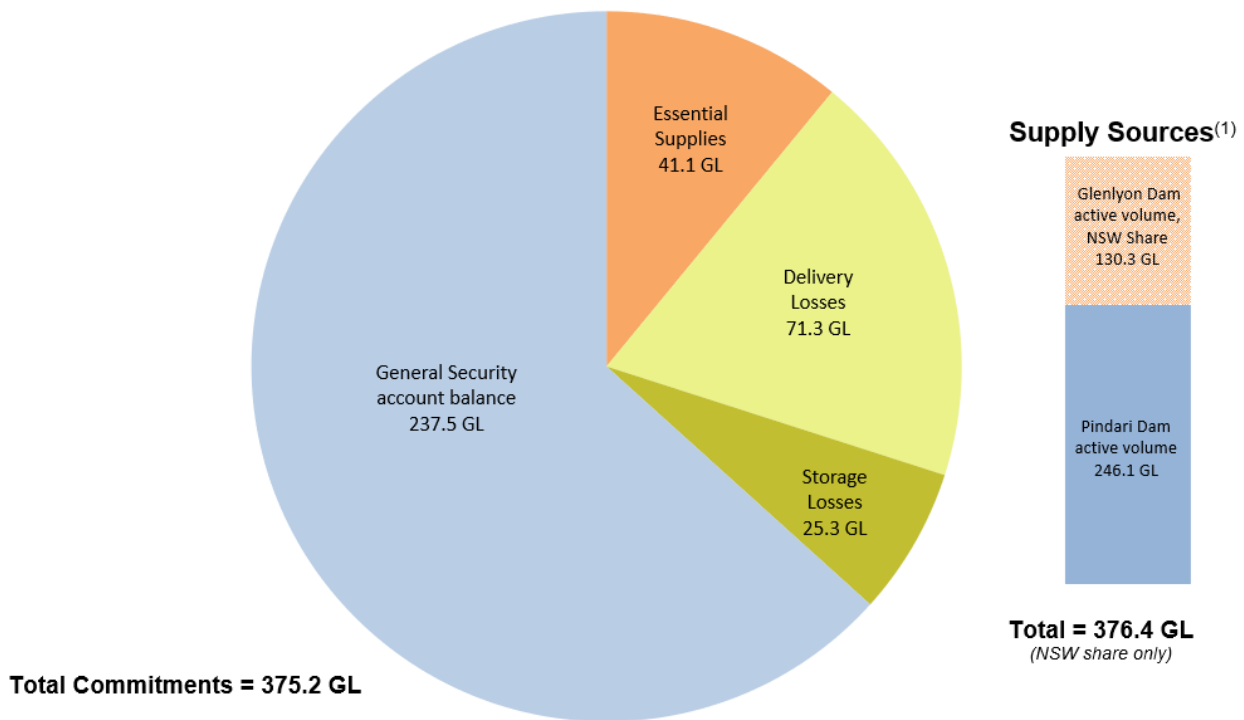


Table 1 : Water allocation history for 2023/24

Date	License Category	Increment	Total AWD 2023/24
1-Jul	Domestic and 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	Supplementary	1.00 ML/unit share <sup>#</sup>	1.00 ML/unit share
1-Jul	General Security (A class)	0.06 ML/unit share	0.06 ML/unit share
1-Jul	General Security (B class)	0.00 ML/unit share	0.00 ML/unit share
21-Jul	General Security (A class)	0.94 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*
21-Jul	General Security (B class)	0.19 ML/unit share	0.19 ML/unit share
31-Oct	General Security (B class)	0.04 ML/unit share	0.23 ML/unit share

\* Maximum allowable as per the water sharing plan.

## Water allocation guide

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment – Water published a series of guides to describe the water allocation methodology for all major NSW regulated river systems. The guide for the NSW Border Rivers regulated river water source is available at: [water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process](https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process)

## Further information

The next water allocation statement of this water source will be published in **December 2023**, or earlier if there is a significant change to resources.

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

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