

8 April 2024

# Namoi Regulated River Water Sources

## Water allocation update

**There is no increase to allocation for General Security (GS) licenses** in the Namoi regulated river water sources at this time. The total Lower Namoi general security account balance is now 304.7 gigalitres (GL), or 124% of entitlement.

All other licence categories in the Upper and Lower Namoi regulated river water sources received their maximum allocation for the current water year apart from supplementary water access licence holders who received an allocation of 36% of entitlement based on growth-in-use measures.

This resource assessment is based on information to 31 March 2024. Any changes in resources from this date forward will be captured in the next resource assessment.

## GS allocation 2023/24

8 April 2024	Allocation increment	Average Account Balance
Upper Namoi Regulated River	0%*	65% <sup>+</sup>
Lower Namoi Regulated River	0%	124%

\* Fully allocated (100%) on 1 July. <sup>+</sup>Account Balance excludes adjustments for temporary trade.

## Dam levels (as of 5 April 2024)

- Split Rock Dam is 95% full, holding around 380 GL.
- Keepit Dam is 36% full, holding around 160 GL.

## Key information

- In March, Keepit Dam inflow was about 1.9 GL. There were no usable inflows to Split Rock Dam.
- Depending on inflows in coming months, a bulk water transfer from Split Rock Dam to Keepit Dam may not be required before November 2024.
- General security usage for March was about 0.7 GL and 2.8 GL for Upper and Lower Namoi regulated river water sources, respectively.
- Based on the current assessment, essential supplies are secure for 24 months and beyond. This includes demands from Manilla and Barraba townships.

## Climate and Streamflow Outlooks

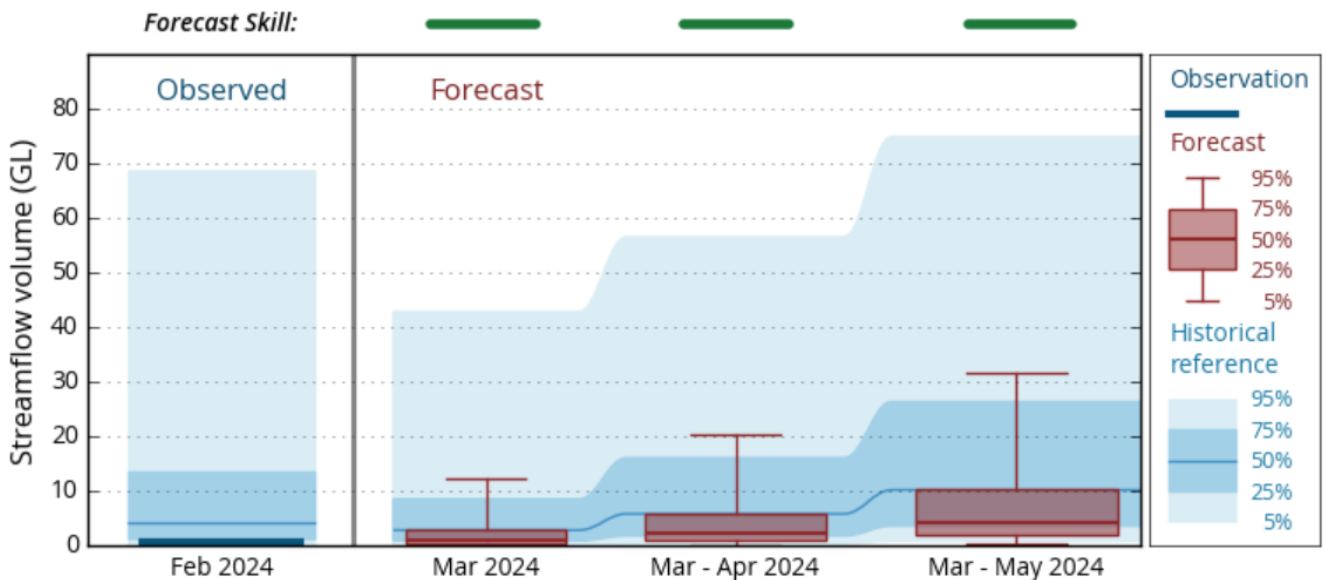
The Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal outlook for April 2024 to June 2024 indicates that rainfall in the Namoi valley is likely to be below median. Over this period, maximum temperatures and minimum temperatures are likely to be above median in the catchment.

For further details, see: [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 unregulated Namoi River at North Cuerindi (see the figure below). This may indicate potential future inflows into Keepit Dam. All forecast quantiles of total flow volumes from March to May 2024 are significantly lower than the historical flows, indicating likely lower inflows than historically over this period. The graph for March to May 2024 is given below, and updates can be found at: <http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005>

### Namoi River at North Cuerindi (ID: 419005)

Forecast for Mar 2024 – May 2024



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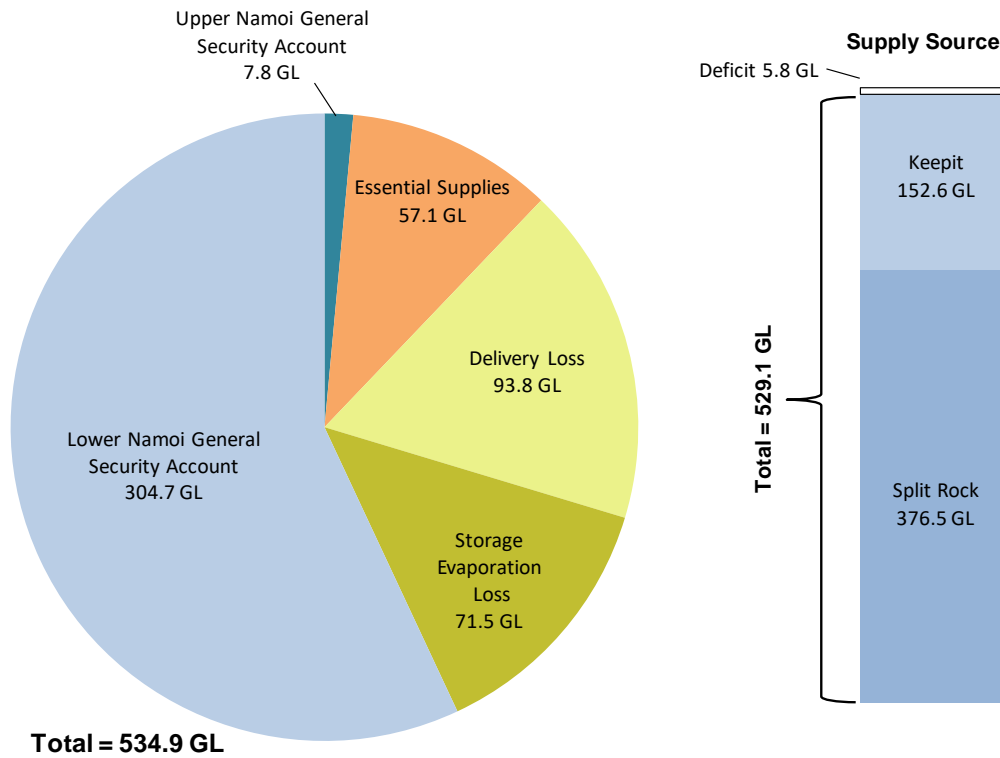
## Resource Assessment Data Sheet

<b>Resource distribution (as at 31 March 2024)</b>	<b>Volume (GL)</b>
Keepit Dam and Split Rock Dam active volumes	529.1
<i>less</i>	
Storage Evaporation Loss <sup>(1)</sup>	71.5
Essential Supplies <sup>(2)</sup>	57.1
Lower Namoi General Security account balance	304.7
Upper Namoi General Security account balance	7.8
Delivery Loss <sup>(3)</sup>	93.8
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (deficit) <sup>(4)</sup>	(5.8)

### Notes:

- (1) Storage Evaporation Loss: evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and the maximum historical evaporation rates over 24 months.
- (2) Essential Supplies: water required to be set aside under the water sharing plan to provide for domestic, stock, towns, high security and riverine environments. Includes Gunidgera/Pian stock and domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. This commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows into the storages. The full reserve is 58.2 GL. The current balance is 57.1 GL, and this will be topped up from the first available inflows to provide for essential supplies for next 24 months.
- (3) Delivery Loss: this account reflects the water reserved to deliver general security water. Traditionally, a 30% delivery loss has been budgeted for this river system. The loss reserve is continually assessed and, if necessary, topped-up as a priority from resource improvements, to ensure that allocated water can be delivered in most circumstances.
- (4) Surplus or deficit: The general security delivery budget has a small deficit (5.8 GL), which will be closely monitored.

**Resource Distribution as at 31 March 2024  
Namoi Regulated River Water Sources**



**Namoi resource assessment**

- Previous Assessment date: 29 February 2024
- Current Assessment date: 31 March 2024

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Split Rock plus Keepit		538.8
Dead storage	9.7	529.1
Storage evaporation loss	72.2	456.9
<b>Essential Supplies</b>		
Brought forward from last assessment	57.5	
Uses and associated loss since last assessment	-0.4	
Allocation assignment from High Security to General Security	0.0	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss	0.0	
Current balance	57.0	399.8
<b>Upper Namoi/Manilla Rivers</b>		
Brought forward from last assessment	8.6	
Ordered since last assessment	-0.7	

Allocation assignments from Upper Namoi to Lower Namoi	-0.1	
Allocation assignments from Lower Namoi to Upper Namoi	0.0	
Current balance	7.8	392.0
<b>General Security (D/S Keepit)</b>		
Brought forward from last assessment	307.4	
Orders since assessment period	-2.8	
Allocation assignments into Lower Namoi (from HS & Upper Namoi)	0.1	
Allocation assignments to Upper Namoi (from Lower Namoi g/s)	0.0	
Current balance	304.7	87.3
<b>Delivery Loss</b>		
Brought forward from last assessment	92.3	
Apparent losses since last assessment	-1.8	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for allocation assignments to GS)	0.0	
Current balance	90.6	-3.3
Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		1.9
Essential supply loss	8%	0.1
General Security loss	92%	1.8
<b>Resource available for sharing</b>		
Total		-3.3

### Resource assessment data sheet as at 29 February 2024

Volumes in GL	Budget	Current	Additional	Balance
Storage Evaporation Loss	71.5	72.2	-0.7	71.5

Essential Supplies for next 24 months (58.2 GL max)	58.2	57.1	0.0	57.1
General Security Delivery Loss	93.8	90.6	-2.6	88.0
Upper Namoi General Security (12.07 GL max)*		7.8	0.0	7.8
Lower Namoi General Security (491.8 GL max)*		304.7	0.0	304.7
Additional Resource for Sharing		-3.3	3.3	0.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>529.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>529.1</b>

<b>Lower Namoi (General Security)</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Unit</b>
Incremental Increase CREDITED	0.0	GL
Available Water Determination	0.0	ML per unit share

### Upper Namoi water allocation history for 2023/24

<b>Date</b>	<b>License Category</b>	<b>Increment</b>	<b>Total 2023/24</b>
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/share*
1-Jul	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*

\* Maximum allowable.

### Lower Namoi water allocation history for 2023/24

<b>Date</b>	<b>License Category</b>	<b>Increment</b>	<b>Account balance</b>
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	100%*
1-Jul	Supplementary	0.36 ML/unit share	36%
7-Jul	General Security	0.15 ML/unit share	199%
7-Aug	General Security	1.86 ML/unit share	200%*
7-Sep	General Security	0.85 ML/unit share	200%*
9-Oct	General Security	0.02 ML/unit share	192%
7-Dec	General Security	0.01 ML/unit share	171%

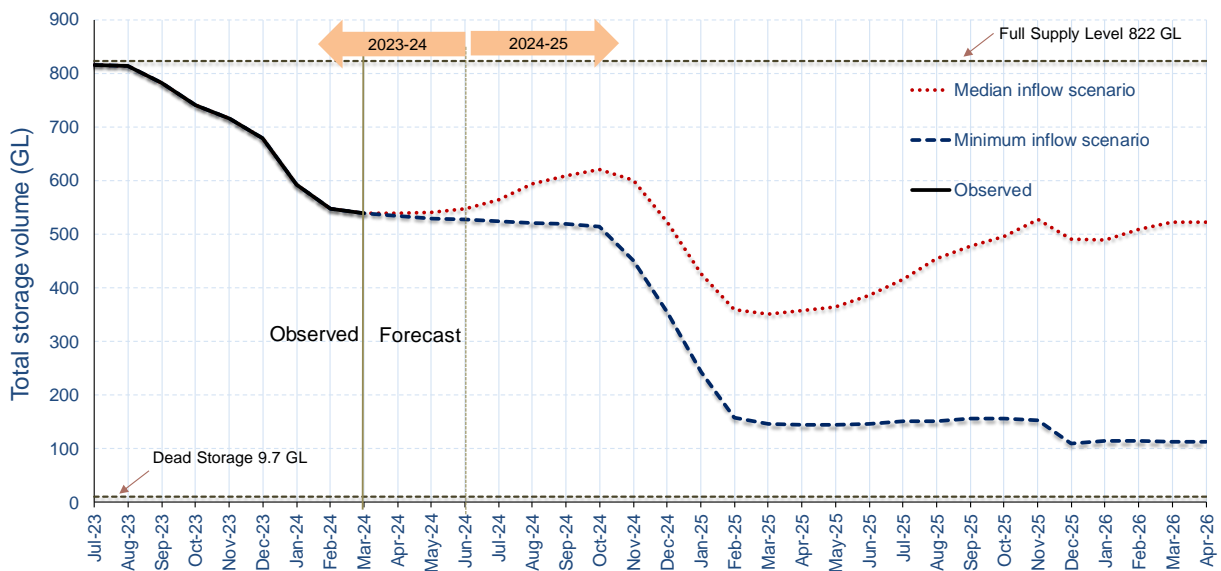
Date	License Category	Increment	Account balance
8-Jan	General Security	0.04 ML/unit share	161%
7-Feb	General Security	0.01 ML/unit share	137%

\* Maximum allowable.

### Storage volume prediction

Storage outlook for the assessment horizon is provided below. It shows that with current commitments and an assumed repeat of historical minimum inflows and medium together with forecast demands, the combined storage of Keepit and Split Rock Dams will reduce to a minimum by the end of December 2025 after which recovery would be expected.

**Figure: Combined Keepit and Split Rock storage volumes**



## Water Allocation Guide

The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water produced a series of guides to describe the water allocation methods for most NSW regulated river systems. The guide for the Namoi regulated river water source is available at the following link:

<https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process>

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## Further information

The next routine monthly water allocation statement for this water source will be available on **Tuesday, 7 May 2024**.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water website: [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water).

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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