

21 February 2023

Belubula Regulated River Water Source

Water availability and allocation update

There is no allocation to general security water access license holders in the Belubula regulated river water source. Despite the lack of announced allocation, general security water users have good access to water. There is a large carryover volume, along with the opportunity to augment their water access by taking from unregulated (uncontrolled) flows, in accordance with rules in the water sharing plan. Carcoar Dam is small compared with total entitlements.

The current general security water availability is about 102% of entitlement, by virtue of carryover water. There has been minimal usage of account water this water year due to the wet conditions.

All higher priority and supplementary access licences received their maximum allowable allocation for the 2022/23 water year on 1 July 2022.

Current allocation

2022/23	General Security	Average Account Balance
Belubula Regulated River	0%	Approx. 102%

Storage levels (as at 20 February 2023)

Carcoar Dam is about 99% full and holding about 36,000 megalitres (ML).

Seasonal climate outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for March to May indicates that rainfall is likely to be below the median across the catchment. Both daytime and overnight temperatures are very likely to be above the median.

Further details at: www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary

Belubula resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (February 2023 to June 2025)	Volume (ML)
Current and Future Resources ⁽¹⁾	37,387
<i>less</i>	
High Security balance	1,095
General Security balance ⁽²⁾	22,849
Domestic and Stock balance	220
Evaporation from storage	2,273
Essential Requirements and Losses ⁽³⁾	4,063
Storage reserve for 2023/24, 2024/25 ⁽⁴⁾	9639
<i>Equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁵⁾	(2,752)

Notes:

- (1) Volume of Carcoar Dam volume at 31 January 2023, minus 300 ML dead storage, plus minimum historical dam inflows and usable tributary flows budgeted from February 2023 to June 2023.
- (2) The current account balance adjusted for any trade, account forfeits and uncontrolled flow usage throughout the year.
- (3) Conservative estimate of the volume required to run the river through to June 2023 to meet all non-licence based demands and delivery overheads. This mostly comprises transmission losses, end of system flows and operational surpluses.
- (4) Required volume behind Carcoar Dam on 30 June 2023 to ensure all higher priority needs and its delivery can be met through next two water years. This volume is inclusive of the future minimum inflow budget.
- (5) This assessment is returning a notional deficit. This shortfall will likely be recovered from expected wet year delivery savings. The system is secure to June 2025 and beyond.

Allocations in 2022/23 for Belubula

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	Average Account Balance
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share*	1.00 ML/unit share*	100%*
1-Jul	Supplementary	1.00 ML/unit share*	1.00 ML/unit share*	100%*
1-Jul	General Security	0.00 ML/unit share	0.00 ML/unit share	104%

*Maximum allowable

Next announcement

The next water allocation statement will be issued on **18 May 2023**, or earlier if conditions change significantly.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the department's website: www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water

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