

15 May 2025

Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source

Water allocation update

General security (GS) access licenses in the Murrumbidgee regulated river water source have received an allocation increase of 2% of entitlement and conveyance entitlements have also received their commensurate allocation increases.

The increment brings the cumulative GS allocation this water year to 41%. Incorporating the average carryover of 27%, the total water available in 2024/25 to date has been 68%. The improved resources mainly have come from a combination of lower than budgeted losses and reduced commitments held in the accounts.

The higher priority reserve remains at 175 GL. This volume is ensuring the full opening allocations to all higher priority categories for the 2025/26 water year.

This statement marks the final update for the 2024/25 water year. Any improvements in water resources between now and the end of June will be reflected in the opening allocations for the 2025/26 water year.

Current allocation

15 May 2025	Allocation Increment	Account Balance
General Security	2%	388 GL

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.

- Higher priority water access licence holders including towns, domestic and stock access licences, and sub-category high security entitlements can expect their maximum (100%) allocation on 1 July 2025.
- High security (excluding sub-categories) licence holders can expect their full opening allocation of 95% on 1 July 2025.

- **Conveyance** will be allocated in accordance with rules, commensurate with high security and general security allocations.
- Current assessment is predicting **very low** opening allocation for **general security** water users. The allocation will be subject to inflow and losses to 30/6/25 and any forfeiture of allocated water on 1/7/25.
- **Supplementary** water access licence holders (including Lowbidgee) can expect their maximum opening allocation (100%). However, access to this water is subject to periods of declared supplementary flow events
- The undelivered IVT balance at the end of this water year (2024/25) will be carried over to the next water year (2025/26). The IVT balance is held in Murrumbidgee storages and is a callable resource for the NSW Murray.

Storage volume (as of 14 May 2025)

- Blowering Dam is about 35% full – holding about 585 GL.
- Burrinjuck Dam is about 41% full – holding about 427 GL.

Climate outlook

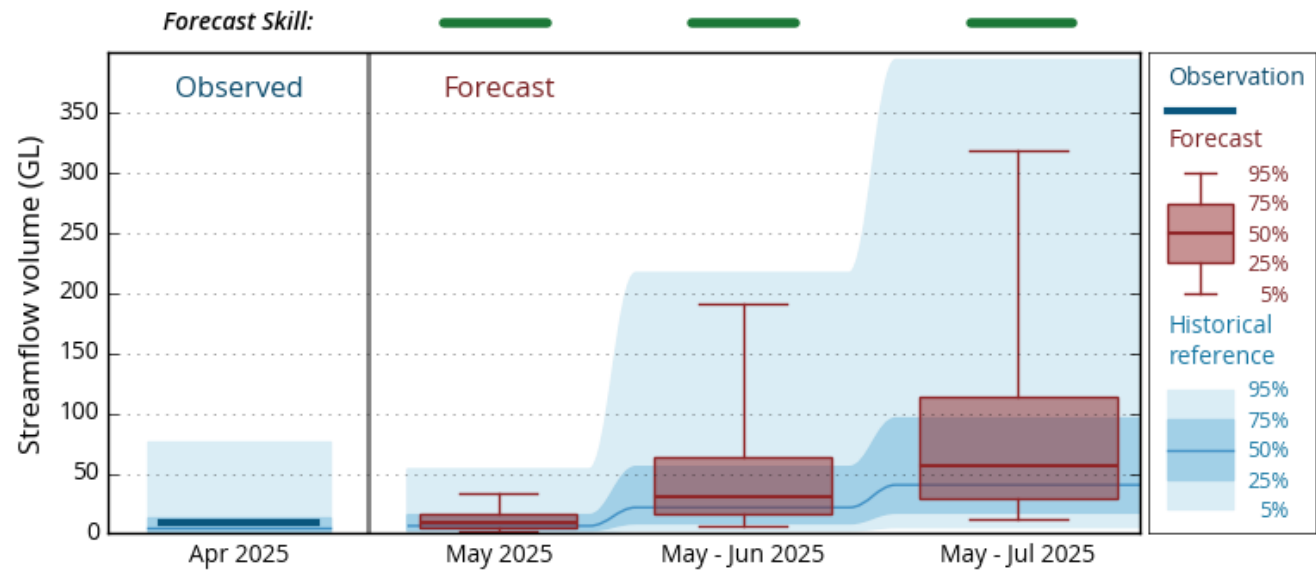
The Bureau of Meteorology's monthly outlook for June 2025 (issued 8 May 2025) indicates an increased chance of median to low rainfall across the catchment.

For further details: [Overview— Summary - Climate Outlooks \(bom.gov.au\)](https://www.bom.gov.au/seasonal/summary)

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) issues a seasonal flow forecast for the Murrumbidgee River at Lobbs Hole Creek (see the figure below). This may indicate potential inflows into Burrinjuck Dam in the coming months. The forecast quantiles for May to July 2025 volume are all simulated to have higher than the historical flows except for the 95% quantile. The graph for May to July 2025 is shown below, and updates can be found at : [Seasonal Streamflow Forecasts: Water Information: Bureau of Meteorology](#)

Murrumbidgee River below Lobbs Hole Creek (ID: 410761)

Forecast for May 2025 – Jul 2025



Generated: 15:53 06/05/2025 (ver. 2.11.1)

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Dam inflows

The table below presents the dam inflows from January to April for 2008 to 2025, highlighting that the dam inflows for 2025 have been the lowest.

Jan - Apr	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Inflows (GL)	197	564	1132	294	363	87

Inter-Valley Trade (IVT)

Trade out of Murrumbidgee and trade into the Murrumbidgee are open. The current Murrumbidgee IVT account balance is 11.2 GL (as of 12 May 2025). The Murrumbidgee IVT account is operated between limits of 0 GL and 100 GL however the balance can move rapidly.

Water users should monitor the [WaterNSW Website](#) for daily information about the IVT account balance, the status of trade, and other important information. The information presented in this statement is current at the time of writing.

Resources assessment data

Resource Distribution (15 May 2025 to 30 Jun 2026)	Volume (GL)
Current Resources ⁽¹⁾	842

less

Environmental Water balance ⁽²⁾	38
Domestic, Stock and Town balance	14
Conveyance balance	46
High Security balance	9
General Security balance ⁽³⁾	388
Murrumbidgee IVT balance ⁽⁴⁾	11
Losses (05/25 to 6/25) ⁽⁵⁾	75
Reserves (operational and PSV1&2) ⁽⁶⁾	75
2025/26 Higher Priority reserve ⁽⁷⁾	175

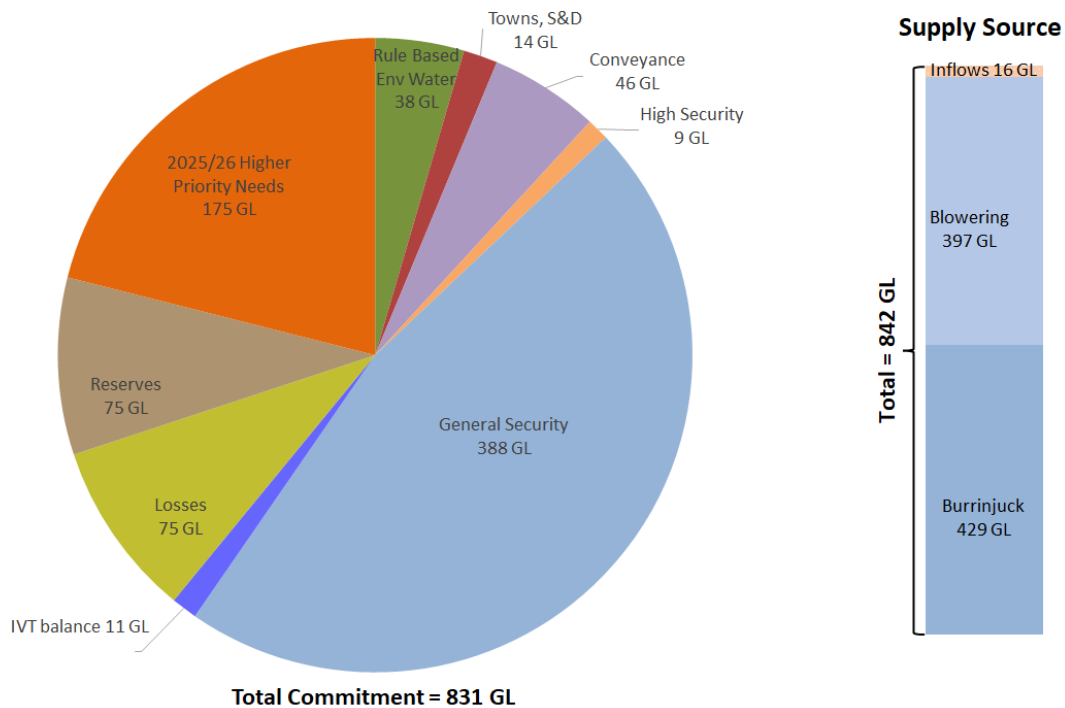
equals

Surplus (or Deficit) ⁽⁸⁾	11
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Notes:

- 1) Active storage volume behind Blowering (discounted for any flex from SHL) and Burrinjuck Dams as of 12/5/25, plus any usable flows in transit, plus minimum inflows for the rest of the year. For information, the Required Annual Release (RAR) into Blowering has been fully delivered for this water year. Additional releases will be tagged as flex and used in next year's resource calculation.
- 2) This includes end-of-system flow requirements (21 GL) and environmental water allowances (EWA1 = 17 GL, EWA2 = 0 GL, EWA3 = 0 GL).
- 3) Balance of water in GS accounts as of 12/5/25. The volume includes water carried over from last year, new AWD this year minus usage to date. Both consumptive and Held Environmental Water (HEW) GS are reported here.
- 4) Inter-Valley Trade account current balance as of 12/5/25.
- 5) Losses reflect the conservative estimate of the volume required to run the river to meet demands for the remainder of the water year. This includes storage evaporation, transmission and operational loss. We budgeted the delivery of entire general security volume here irrespective of potential carry over into next year.
- 6) Reserves – required primarily under statutory plans and mainly used for emergency purposes and critical needs. Includes 25 GL per dam as an operational reserve, and Provisional Storage Volumes (PSV1 =25 GL, PSV2 = nil).
- 7) Volume set aside for full opening allocation to higher priority needs on 1/7/2025. The current estimate of the required reserve is 175 GL, which has been fully reserved.
- 8) There is a small surplus which will be rolled over to next assessment.

Murrumbidgee resource balance as of 15 May 2025



Held environmental water (HEW)

License Category	Share component (GL)	2024/25 volume (GL)*	Account balance (GL)
General Security	478	293	108
High Security	16	15	4
Conveyance	81	65	28

* Water allocated in 2024/25 plus water carried over on 1/7/24

Held Environmental Water entitlements are managed either individually or jointly by various environmental groups, including the NSW Government, The Living Murray, and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder. The figures in the above table are approximate. For detailed information, please refer to the individual agency websites.

Chances of improvement

The chances of improved Murrumbidgee general security allocations after 1 July 2025, based on a repeat of historical inflows, are provided in the table below under a variety of conditions. We simulate inflow variation only without regards for corresponding variation in losses or water usage behaviour. The simulation is based on all available historical data and a design water use pattern with no consideration of current weather conditions. The estimates are subject to assumptions of likely carryover volume by the relevant accounts. We have discontinued reporting wet (25%)

condition that is subject to wide uncertainties such as storage spills, account limits, loss savings etc.

Simulated general security allocations (%)

Repeat of historical inflow conditions	1 Sep 2025	1 Nov 2025
Pre 2004 minimum	<5%	<5%
Exceedance: 9 chances in 10 (very dry) (90%)	14%	14%
Exceedance: 3 chances in 4 (dry) (75%)	18%	19%
Exceedance: 1 chance in 2 (median) (50%)	26%	38%

Note 1: Estimated values indicative only, not guaranteed and subject to change based on actual events unfolding.

Note 2: Any carryover water is to be added to these indicative allocations with individual account balances not exceeding 100%.

Water allocations in 2024/25

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2024/25
1-July	DOMESTIC AND STOCK	100%*	100%*
1-July	LOCAL WATER UTILITY	100%*	100%*
1-July	REGULATED RIVER (HIGH SECURITY)	0.95 ML/unit share	0.95 ML/unit share
1-July	SUPPLEMENTARY WATER	1.00 ML/unit share*	1.00 ML/unit share *
1-July	SUPPLEMENTARY WATER (LOWBIDGEE)	1.00 ML/unit share *	1.00 ML/unit share *
1-July	COLEAMBALLY IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0.8585 ML/unit share	0.8585 ML/unit share
1-July	MURRUMBIDGEE IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0.7179 ML/unit share	0.7179 ML/unit share
1-July	REGULATED RIVER (CONVEYANCE)	0.28 ML/unit share	0.28 ML/unit share
1-July	REGULATED RIVER (GENERAL SECURITY)	0.28 ML/unit share	0.28 ML/unit share
15-Jul	COLEAMBALLY IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0 ML/unit share	0.8585 ML/unit share
15-Jul	MURRUMBIDGEE IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0.034 ML/unit share	0.7519 ML/unit share
15-Jul	REGULATED RIVER (CONVEYANCE)	0.05 ML/unit share	0.33 ML/unit share
15-Jul	REGULATED RIVER (GENERAL SECURITY)	0.05 ML/unit share	0.33 ML/unit share
2-Sep	COLEAMBALLY IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0 ML/unit share	0.8585 ML/unit share
2-Sep	MURRUMBIDGEE IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0.0068 ML/unit share	0.7587 ML/unit share
2-Sep	REGULATED RIVER (CONVEYANCE)	0.01 ML/unit share	0.34 ML/unit share
2-Sep	REGULATED RIVER (GENERAL SECURITY)	0.01 ML/unit share	0.34 ML/unit share

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2024/25
15-Jan	COLEAMBALLY IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0 ML/unit share	0.8585 ML/unit share
15-Jan	MURRUMBIDGEE IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0.0068 ML/unit share	0.7655 ML/unit share
15-Jan	REGULATED RIVER (CONVEYANCE)	0.01 ML/unit share	0.35 ML/unit share
15-Jan	REGULATED RIVER (GENERAL SECURITY)	0.01 ML/unit share	0.35 ML/unit share
17-Feb	COLEAMBALLY IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0.0117 ML/unit share	0.8702 ML/unit share
17-Feb	MURRUMBIDGEE IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0.0136 ML/unit share	0.7790 ML/unit share
17-Feb	REGULATED RIVER (CONVEYANCE)	0.02 ML/unit share	0.37 ML/unit share
17-Feb	REGULATED RIVER (GENERAL SECURITY)	0.02 ML/unit share	0.37 ML/unit share
03-Mar	COLEAMBALLY IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0.0117 ML/unit share	0.8819 ML/unit share
03-Mar	MURRUMBIDGEE IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0.0136 ML/unit share	0.7926 ML/unit share
03-Mar	REGULATED RIVER (CONVEYANCE)	0.02 ML/unit share	0.39 ML/unit share
03-Mar	REGULATED RIVER (GENERAL SECURITY)	0.02 ML/unit share	0.39 ML/unit share
15-May	COLEAMBALLY IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0.0077 ML/unit share	0.8896 ML/unit share
15-May	MURRUMBIDGEE IRRIGATION (CONVEYANCE)	0.0135 ML/unit share	0.8062 ML/unit share
15-May	REGULATED RIVER (CONVEYANCE)	0.02 ML/unit share	0.41 ML/unit share
15-May	REGULATED RIVER (GENERAL SECURITY)	0.02 ML/unit share	0.41 ML/unit share

*Maximum allowable

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 following link: [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 Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source 2016](#)

Further information

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

Following the **1 July 2025** water allocation statement, routine fortnightly statements will commence on **Tuesday, 2:30 pm, 15 July 2025**. Fortnightly statements are typically published on the 1st and 15th day of the month, or the next business day.

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