

6 September 2022

# Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers Water Source

## Water allocation update

Despite releases, Burrendong Dam has remained in the Flood Mitigation Zone (FMZ) during August 2022, with inflows of approximately 669,000 megalitres (ML) being observed. This inflow volume greatly exceeds the remaining carryover volumes in high security (HS) and general security (GS) accounts and the Environmental Water Allowance (EWA). Consequently, under clause 44(3) of the Water Sharing Plan (WSP), the following adjustments have been made to accounts:

- All remaining balances in Macquarie GS and HS accounts were withdrawn on 31 August.
- All remaining balances in Cudgegong AWD sub-accounts for GS and HS accounts were withdrawn on 31 August.
- All remaining balances in the EWA carryover sub-accounts were withdrawn 31 August.
- As Windamere Dam is not spilling, Cudgegong carryover balances have not been withdrawn. The Cudgegong carryover balance remains at 243% of total entitlements.

**Following the withdrawal of the balances as listed above, a new allocation of 100% of entitlement to GS and HS licences in the Macquarie and Cudgegong regulated rivers water source has been made.** The EWA has also been reset to 160,000 ML in accordance with the water sharing plan.

All entitlements have now reached their maximum allocation for this water year. Another account reset will be triggered if Burrendong Dam falls below 100% capacity and then re-enters the FMZ during the 2022/23 water year. Supplementary access will continue to be available when announced.

2022/23	High Security	General Security Average Account Balance
Macquarie	100%	100%
Cudgegong	100%	343%

The following points summarise the key accounting processes related to this account reset:

- All regulated GS and regulated HS extractions in the Macquarie during August and up to the 31 August will be debited from the carryover and AWD balances prior to the reset of allocations on 1 September 2022.
- All remaining balances in carryover sub-accounts of GS and HS licences in the Cudgegong River on 31 August 2022 will remain available for use and trade and will incur evaporation reduction from Windamere Dam.
- Any water assigned from the carryover sub-account of a Macquarie access licence to a Cudgegong access licence has been treated as if it were in a carryover sub-

account of a Macquarie access licence, and any remaining balances from that trade were therefore forfeited on 31 August.

- Any carryover allocations from the Cudgegong River traded down to Macquarie River post allocation reset will incur storage spill reduction and evaporation reduction from Burrendong Dam.
- All AWD sub-accounts of GS and HS licences will be re-reset to 100% when the water level in Burrendong Dam re-enters the FMZ in the current water year.

Ongoing tributary flows and FMZ releases from Burrendong Dam will continue to be managed adaptively to meet higher priority commitments. Translucent releases from Windamere Dam are not being made while flood risks downstream of Burrendong Dam are being mitigated.

### Dam levels (as of 5 September 2022)

- Burrendong Dam is 111% full – holding about 1,318,000 ML
- Windamere Dam is 83% full – holding about 304,000 ML.

### Climate and streamflow outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal outlook for September to November indicates that rainfall is very likely to be above average across the catchment. Daytime temperatures are likely to be cooler than average and night temperatures likely to be warmer than average.

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

The Bureau of Meteorology also issues a seasonal flow forecast for the Turon River at Sofala that drains into Burrendong Dam (see the figure below). This provides a forecast of potential storage inflows. All five forecast flow references are higher than the historical references for August to October, indicating that higher than historical inflows are likely over these months.

Further details at: [www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=421026](http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=421026)

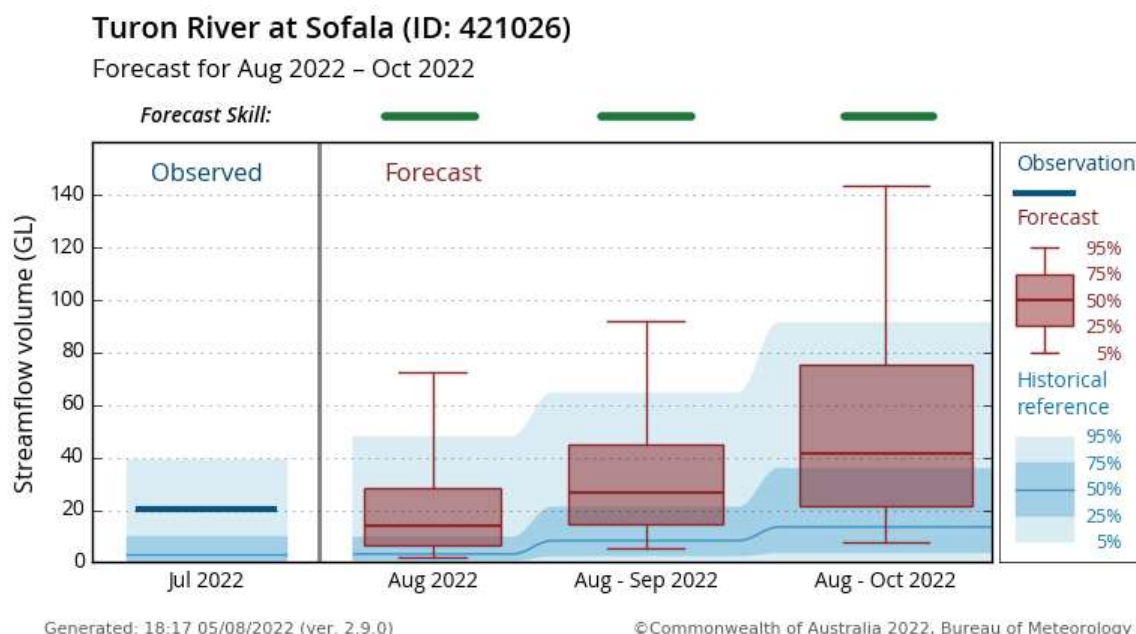


Table 1 : Water allocation history for Macquarie 2022/23 (in % or ML/unit share)

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	Average Account Balance
1-Jul	Domestic and 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	0.40 ML/unit share	0.40 ML/unit share	127%
10-Aug	General Security	0.60 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*	134%
1-Sep	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*	100%*#
1-Sep	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*	100%*#

\*Maximum allowable.

#Following the withdrawal of carryover and reset of accounts under cl 44(3) of the water sharing plan.

Table 2: Water allocation history for Cudgegong 2022/23 (in % or ML/unit share)

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	Average Account Balance
1-Jul	Domestic and 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	0.40 ML/unit share	0.40 ML/unit share	283%
10-Aug	General Security	0.60 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*	343%
1-Sep	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*	100%*#
1-Sep	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*	343%*#

\*Maximum allowable.

# Following the reset of accounts under cl 44(3) of the water sharing plan. Note: GS carryover will not be withdrawn in the Cudgegong until Windamere Dam spills.

## Water allocation guide

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment - Water has produced a series of guides to describe the water allocation methods for most NSW regulated river systems. The guide for Macquarie and Cudgegong regulated rivers water source is available at the link below: [www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process](http://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process)

## Further information

Statements will be issued quarterly to keep water users informed of resource conditions, or promptly in response to any further account reset triggered if Burrendong Dam exits the FMZ (100% full) and then re-enters the FMZ in 2022/23.

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

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