

31 March 2023

Border Rivers Regulated River Water Source

Water availability and allocation update

There is sufficient resource available in this water source to top-up general security B class access licences with an allocation of 0.12 megalitre per unit share (ML/unit share) or 12% of entitlement.

The water sharing plan allows for the top-up of general security (B class) licenses as accounts draw down and more unassigned water is available. This assessment shows that 24,385 megalitres (ML) can be safely distributed without risk to allocations for high priority commitments on 1 July, resulting in this 12% allocation announcement. Note: full accounts cannot benefit from further allocations.

The storages have remained at healthy levels and there has been no significant change in resource balance, therefore the regular pie chart has not been reproduced. It will be provided in the next statement along with indications of likely 1 July water allocations for the 2023/24 water year.

Current allocations

2022/23	High Security	General Security (A Class)	General Security (B Class)
Border Rivers	100%*	100%*	219%

* Maximum allowable as per the water sharing plan

Storage levels (as at 31 March 2023)

- Pindari Dam is about 84% full – steady - holding about 262 gigalitres (GL).
- Glenlyon Dam is about 96% full – rising - holding about 245 GL.

Key facts

- All higher priority licence categories are at their maximum allocations for this water year.
- General security (A class) users have received their maximum allocations for this water year.
- Full supplementary access allocations have been announced but there has been limited supplementary water usage, just over 5 GL, so far this water year or about 4.5% of entitlement.

Seasonal climate outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for April to June shows below median rainfall conditions across the catchment. Daytime temperatures are likely to be warmer than median and night-time temperatures show no clear indication of warmer or cooler than median conditions across the catchment.

Further details at: www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead/outlooks/

NSW Border Rivers resource assessment

Distribution of NSW Resources	Volume (ML)	Volume (ML)
Reconciled surplus (unassigned water) carried forward ⁽¹⁾		24,397
New allocation General Security (B class) accounts ⁽²⁾	24,385	
Surplus (unassigned water) as of 31 Mar 2023 ⁽³⁾		12

Notes:

- (1) Surplus (unassigned water) carried forward after allocating to general security (B class) in previous times. The surplus that has carried forward since the last allocation has been reconciled to tally with the NSW bulk share.
- (2) This volume is the space available in some general security (B class) accounts for allocation as a result of usage from general security (B class) accounts.
- (3) As a result of allocations made to general security (B class) in this resource assessment, a small surplus or unassigned water remains, which may contribute to future allocation reliability.

Regulated Border Rivers Water allocation history for 2022/23

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23
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	0.74 ML/unit share [#]	0.74 ML/unit share
1-Jul	General Security (A class)	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share
1-Jul	General Security (B class)	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share
15-Aug	Supplementary	0.26 ML/unit share [^]	1.00 ML/unit share
26-Sep	General Security (B class)	0.57 ML/unit share	1.57 ML/unit share
21-Dec	General Security (B class)	0.50 ML/unit share	2.07 ML/unit share
31-Mar	General Security (B class)	0.12 ML/unit share	2.19 ML/unit share

* Maximum allowable as per the water sharing plan.

[#] Reduced on 1 July 2022 due to the implementation of growth-in-use rules.

[^] Increased to maximum allowable of 100% in 2022/23 due to implementation of floodplain harvesting licences.

Water allocation guide

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment – Water has 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:

www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/allocations-availability/allocations/how-water-is-allocated/resource-assessment-process

Further information

The next Border Rivers water allocation statement will be published in **May 2023**, or earlier if there is a significant change to resources and will include an outlook for 2023/24 opening allocations.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Planning and Environment website: www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water

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