

17 May 2024

Hunter Regulated River Water Source

Water allocation update

Water allocation to **supplementary access licence holders** in this water source has increased by 70% to the maximum 200% of entitlement for the 2023/24 water year. The increase comes from growth in the high flow tally in April which links to increments in supplementary access allocations. The high flow tally has now risen to 87 gigalitres (GL) this water-year.

All other licence categories received their maximum opening allocation of 100% on 1 July 2023. This included 20 GL allocation to the environmental water allowance (EWA).

Current allocation

16 May 2024	Allocation Increment	Average Account Balance
General Security	n/a*	94%
Supplementary	70%**	184%

* Reached maximum annual allowable allocation in July 2023, 100%

** Now reached maximum annual allowable allocation, 200%

Resource outlook for 2024/25

This outlook for the likely 1 July 2024 water availability is based on several assumptions, therefore water users should use this forecast information with caution.

- Water for all critical consumptive and non-consumptive needs are secure for 2025/26.
- All high priority water access licence holders including, major utility, local water utility, domestic & stock and high security can expect maximum (100%) allocations on 1 July 2024.
- The environmental water allowance will be credited with 20 gigalitres (GL) in accordance with the water sharing plan.
- Unused water in accounts can be carried forward into the 2024/25 water year on 1 July 2024, subject to allowable limits, in accordance with the rules of the water sharing plan. It will be fully available in 2024/25.

- The allocation for general security entitlement holders is dependent on factors including inflows and usage for the remainder of this water year. However, indications suggest a very high or full (100% of entitlement) opening general security allocation is likely.
- Supplementary water access licence holders can expect a full opening allocation of 100% of entitlement on 1 July 2024. This may increment during the year based on the high flow tally however, extraction of water is subject to periods of declared supplementary flow events.

Water users are reminded to check their account limits and carryover provisions, if any, for their respective entitlements, noting that forfeiture of unused water from accounts occurs at the end of the water-year.

Water users are advised that the outlook is indicative only, and not a guarantee of allocations. They should be used with caution when planning end of year water management decisions.

Storage levels (as at 16 May 2024)

- Glenbawn Dam is about 89% full – holding about 668 GL.
- Glennies Creek Dam is about 89.6% full – holding about 254 GL.

Climate and Streamflow Outlooks

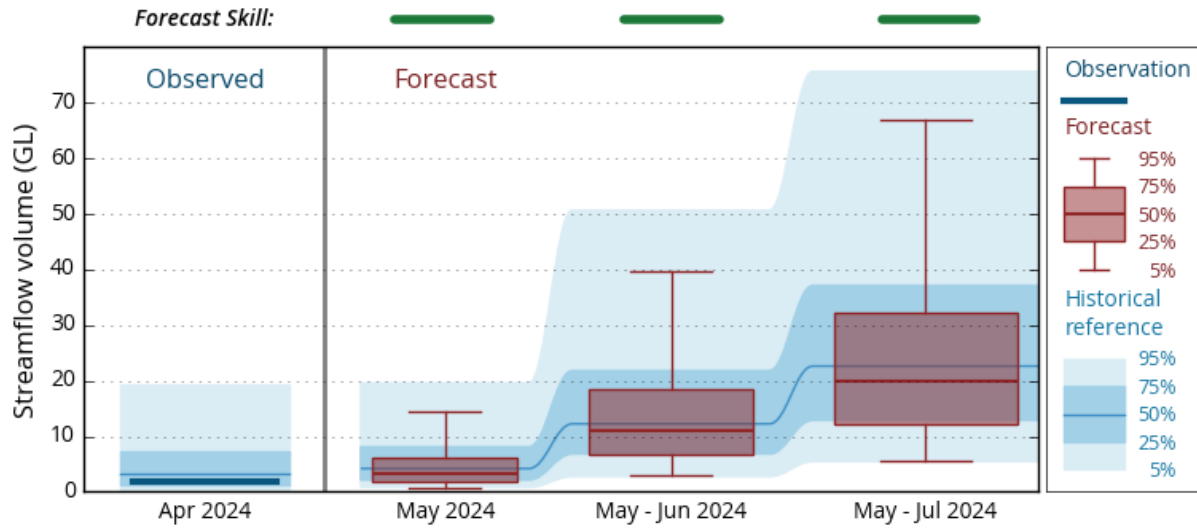
The Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal outlook for June to August 2024 indicates that rainfall has around equal chances of above or below median rainfall across the catchment. Minimum and maximum temperatures are very likely to be above average for the same period.

For further details: [Climate outlooks](#)

The Bureau issues seasonal flow forecasts for the Hunter River at Moonam Dam Site (see the figure below), which is upstream of Glenbawn Dam. This provides an indication of potential storage inflow. All forecast quantiles of total flow volumes from May to July is lower than the historical flows, indicating a dryer inflow than the historical for the same period. The graph for May to July 2024 is shown below and updates can be found at: <http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=210018>

Hunter River at Moonam Dam Site (ID: 210018)

Forecast for May 2024 – Jul 2024



Generated: 16:25 06/05/2024 (ver. 2.9.0)

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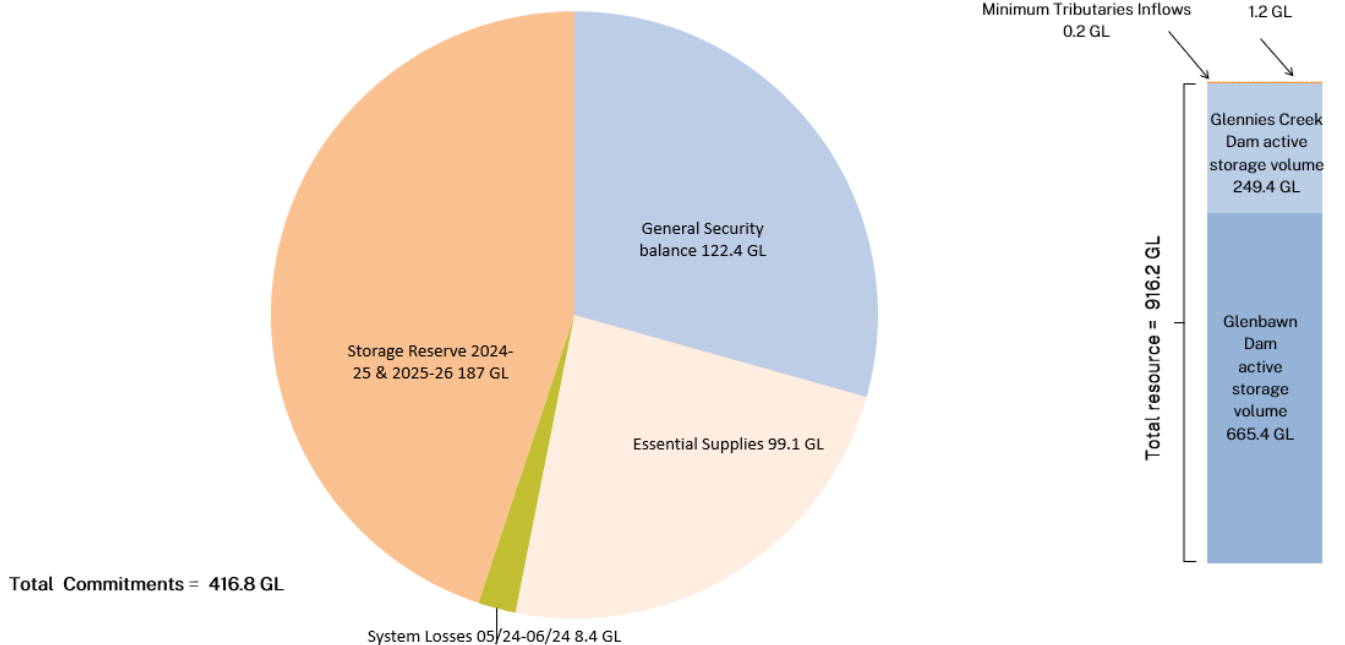
Resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (May 2024 to June 2026)	(GL)	(GL)
Glenbawn plus Glennies Creek active storage (as at 1/05/24)		914.8
Minimum storage and tributary inflows (05/24 to 06/24) ¹		1.4
<i>less</i>		
Basic Land Holder Rights	0.9	
Domestic and Stock	1.4	
Local Water Utility	6.4	
Major Utility	48.3	
Environmental Water Allowance	20.0	
Minimum Flow Target at Greta	5.4	
High Security	16.7	
Evaporation, transmission, operation losses (5/24 to 6/24)	8.4	
Storage Reserve for 2024/25 and 2025/26 ²	187.0	
General Security balance ³	122.4	
<i>Equals</i>		
Surplus ⁴		499.3

Notes:

- (1) Minimum historical dam inflows (1.2 GL) and minimum historical usable tributary inflows (0.2 GL) from May to June 2024.
- (2) Water required to be set aside in reserve to meet essential supply requirements and system losses in 2024/25 and 2025/26. This is net of minimum reservoir inflow budgeted for next two years. The essential requirements include two opening allocations of 75% to high security, 100% to all other higher priority licences and EWA.
- (3) The water remaining in General Security accounts yet to be ordered and delivered. It is calculated by subtracting the usage (inclusive of Uncontrolled Flow takes) from the water already allocated to GS.
- (4) Surplus (or deficit) of water available after accounting for all commitments. The surplus signifies the additional resources available. As all relevant accounts are allocated to its maximum limit, this volume remains unallocated, improving the allocation reliability for the next water year.

**Resource Distribution: May 2024 to June 2026
Hunter Regulated River Water Source**



Water Allocations in 2023/24

Table 1 : Water allocation history for 2023/24

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2023/24
1-Jul	Domestic and Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Major Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2023/24
1-Jul	Supplementary	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share
1-Jul	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*
27-Nov	Supplementary	0.30 ML/unit share	1.30 ML/unit share
15-May	Supplementary	0.70 ML/unit share	2.00 ML/unit share*

* Maximum allowable as per the water sharing plan.

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 this water source is available at the following link: [Resource assessment process | Water \(nsw.gov.au\)](#).

Further information

The next water allocation statement for this water source will be included in the state-wide opening water allocation statements on **1st July 2024**.

Monthly water allocation statements will be issued from 1 July unless or until full allocations are reached, after which quarterly resource updates will be provided in 2024/25.

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