

7 February 2023

Namoi Regulated River Water Sources

Water allocation update

There is no increase in allocation for general security entitlements in the Lower Namoi water source in this assessment. The total Lower Namoi general security account balance is 482.2 gigalitres (GL) or about 197% on average, just short of the maximum allowable of 200%.

All other licence categories in the Upper and Lower Namoi regulated systems have received their full allocation for the current water year.

This resource assessment is based on information to 31 January 2023. Any changes in resources from this date forward will be captured in the next resource assessment.

Current allocations and average account balance

2022/23	General Security Allocation	General Security Account Balance
Upper Namoi Regulated River	100%	Approx. 100%*
Lower Namoi Regulated River	86%	approx. 197%

* Maximum allowable account balance, excluding trade. Individual accounts may exceed this limit using temporary trade.

Dam levels (as of 6 February 2023)

- Split Rock Dam is about 100% full – holding around 397 GL.
- Keepit Dam is about 92% full – holding around 394 GL.

Key information

- During January, the Namoi catchment experienced below average to average rainfall.
- Inflows from the upper catchment continued in January, with Keepit and Split Rock Dams receiving 10.8 GL and 3.8 GL, respectively.
- Based on the current assessment, essential supplies are secure for 24 months and beyond. This includes demands from Manilla and Barraba townships.

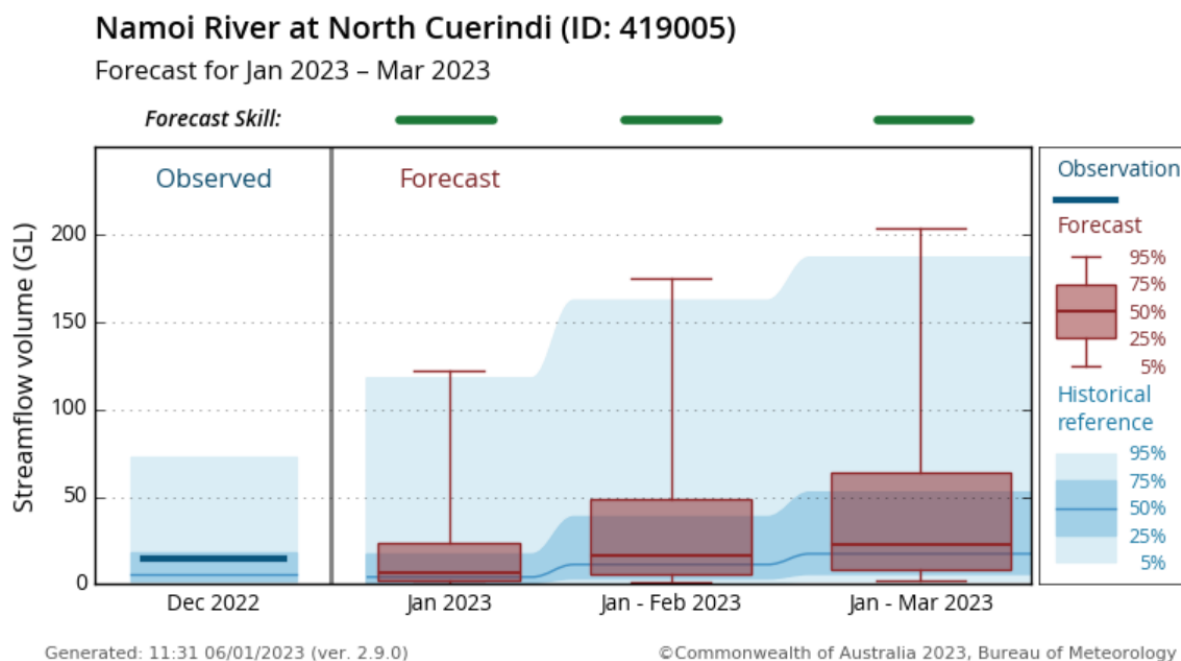
Climate and streamflow outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for February to April indicates that rainfall in the Namoi Valley is likely to be below median. Over this period, the maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be median or warmer than median in the catchment.

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

The Bureau of Meteorology issues a seasonal flow forecast for the unregulated Namoi River at North Cuerindi. This may indicate potential future inflows into Keepit Dam. All forecast quantiles of total streamflow volumes from January to March are slightly higher than the historical quantile references, indicating likely higher flow than historically over the next few months. The graph to March is given below and updates can be found at:

www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005



Resource assessment data sheet

Resource distribution (as at 31 January 2023)	Volume (GL)
Keepit Dam and Split Rock Dam active volumes	782.8
less	
Storage Evaporation Loss ⁽¹⁾	87.6
Essential Supplies ⁽²⁾	58.2
Lower Namoi General Security account balance	482.2
Upper Namoi General Security account balance	13.0
Delivery Loss ⁽³⁾	148.5
equals	
Surplus (deficit) ⁽⁴⁾	(6.7)

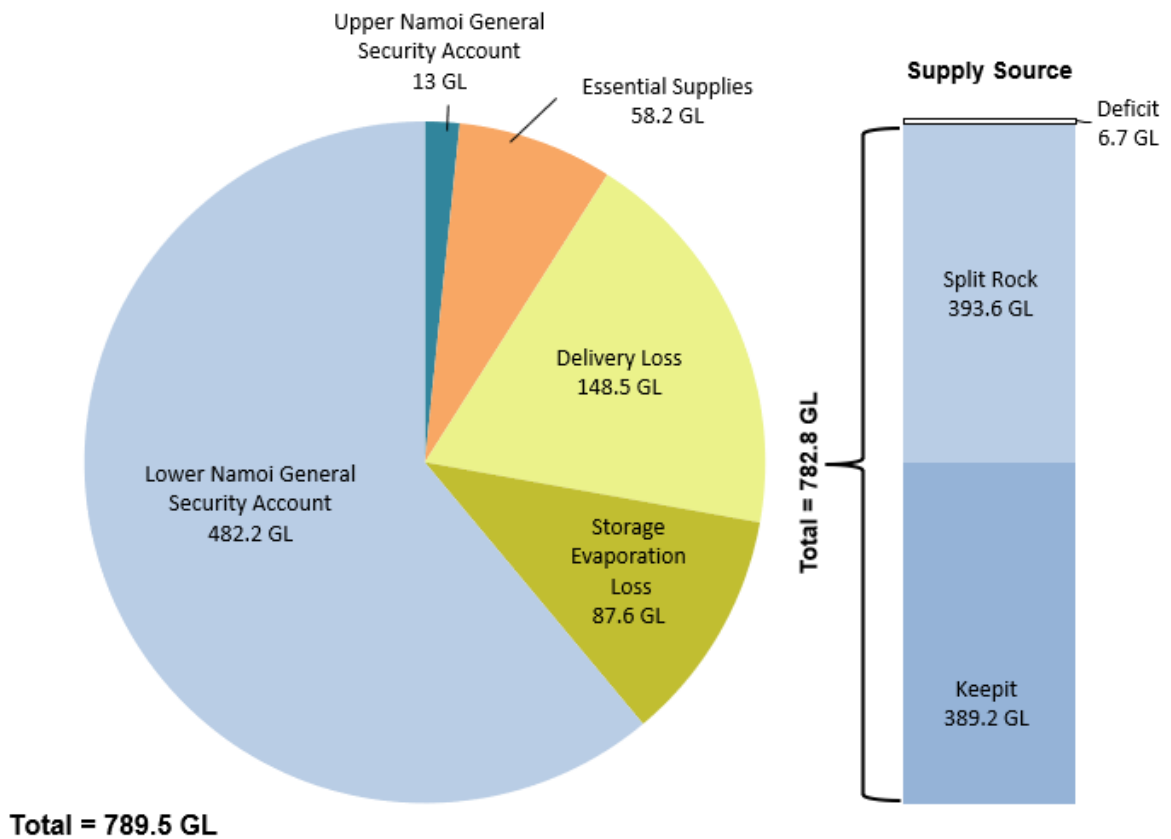
Notes:

- (1) Storage Evaporation Loss: evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and maximum historical evaporation rates over 24 months.
- (2) Essential Supplies: water required to be set aside under the water sharing plan to provide for domestic, stock, towns, high security and riverine environments. Includes Gunidgera/Pian stock

and domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. This commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows into the storages. This is the reserve for essential supplies for next 24 months.

- (3) **Delivery Loss:** this account reflects the water needed to deliver general security water. Traditionally, a 30% delivery loss has been budgeted for this river system. The budget is continually assessed and, if necessary, topped up as a priority from resource improvements to ensure that allocated water can be delivered.
- (4) **All available water resources have been allocated, and there is a notional deficit of about 6.7 GL.** This is unlikely to materialise, rather will instead be resolved as water begins to be called and used, and recession flows are captured in storage to offset the deficit. The system is secure for delivery of all essential supplies for 24 months.

**Resource Distribution as at 31 January 2023
Namoi Regulated River Water Sources**



Resource assessment data sheet as at 31 January 2023

Volumes in GL	Budget	Current	Additional	Balance
Storage Evaporation Loss	87.62	89.04	-1.42	87.62
Essential Supplies for next 24 months (58.2 GL max)	58.24	57.82	0.42	58.24
General Security Delivery Loss	148.54	127.41	14.40	141.81 [#]
Upper Namoi General Security (12.07 GL max)*		12.93	0.00	12.93
Lower Namoi General Security (491.8 GL max)*		482.22	0.00	482.22
Additional Resource for Sharing		13.40	-13.40	0.00
Total		782.83	0.00	782.83

*Temporary trade may exceed this limit.

[#]There is a delivery loss deficit of 6.7 GL for this month.

Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	0.00	GL
Available Water Determination	0.00	ML per unit share

Upper Namoi water allocation history for 2022/23

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	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/share*	100%*
1-Jul	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*	100%*

* Maximum allowable.

Lower Namoi water allocation history for 2022/23

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	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/share*	100%*

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2022/23	Account Balance
1-Jul	Supplementary	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*	100%*
7-Sep	General Security	0.05 ML/unit share	0.05 ML/unit share	178%
10-Oct	General Security	0.35 ML/unit share	0.40 ML/unit share	195%^
7-Dec	General Security	0.30 ML/unit share	0.70 ML/unit share	~200% ^{^*}
12-Jan	General Security	0.16 ML/unit share	0.86 ML/unit share	~200% ^{^*}

* Maximum allowable.

^ Approximate account balance.

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 the Namoi 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 monthly water allocation statement for the Namoi Regulated River Water Source will be available on **Tuesday 7 March 2023**.

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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