

16 August 2023

Belubula Regulated River Water Source

Water availability and allocation update

This resource assessment has produced no new allocation to general security water access licenses in the Belubula regulated river water source. However, the average general security account balance is a high 23,464 megalitres (ML) or 104% of entitlement, carried over from last water year. Individual account balances are capped at 110% of entitlement.

Insignificant use of licensed water has been recorded this year and with a full Carcoar storage it means there has been little opportunity to capture new water for allocation.

General security water users can access unregulated (uncontrolled) flows when supplementary access events are declared, subject to rules in the water sharing plan.

All higher priority licences were given their maximum (100%) allocation on 1 July 2023. Likewise supplementary access licence holders received their maximum (100%) allocation.

This resource assessment is based on information to 31 July 2023. Any changes in resources since that date forward will be captured in the next resources assessment

Current allocation

16 August 2023	Allocation Increment	Average Account Balance
General Security	0%	104%

Storage levels (as of 16 August 2023)

Carcoar Dam is currently 100% full and holding about 36,154 ML.

Summary of last water year (2022/23)

Last year continued with generally wet conditions providing good resource availability. All higher priority licences and supplementary licence holders commenced the year with their maximum (100%) allocation. No opening allocation to general security users was possible nor was there any increment during the year, but the average account balance exceeded 100% of entitlement. Usage was very low for the year; just 663 ML or 3% of entitlement.

Ongoing wet conditions kept Carcoar Dam storage more than 98% full last water-year. The dam was spilling from August- November 2022. Tributary flows and dam spillage were used to meet any water orders, including the end of system flow target at Helensholme. Long periods of supplementary access have been available last year and this year.

Seasonal climate outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for September to November indicates that rainfall is likely to be below median across the catchment. Both daytime and overnight temperatures are likely to be warmer than the median.

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

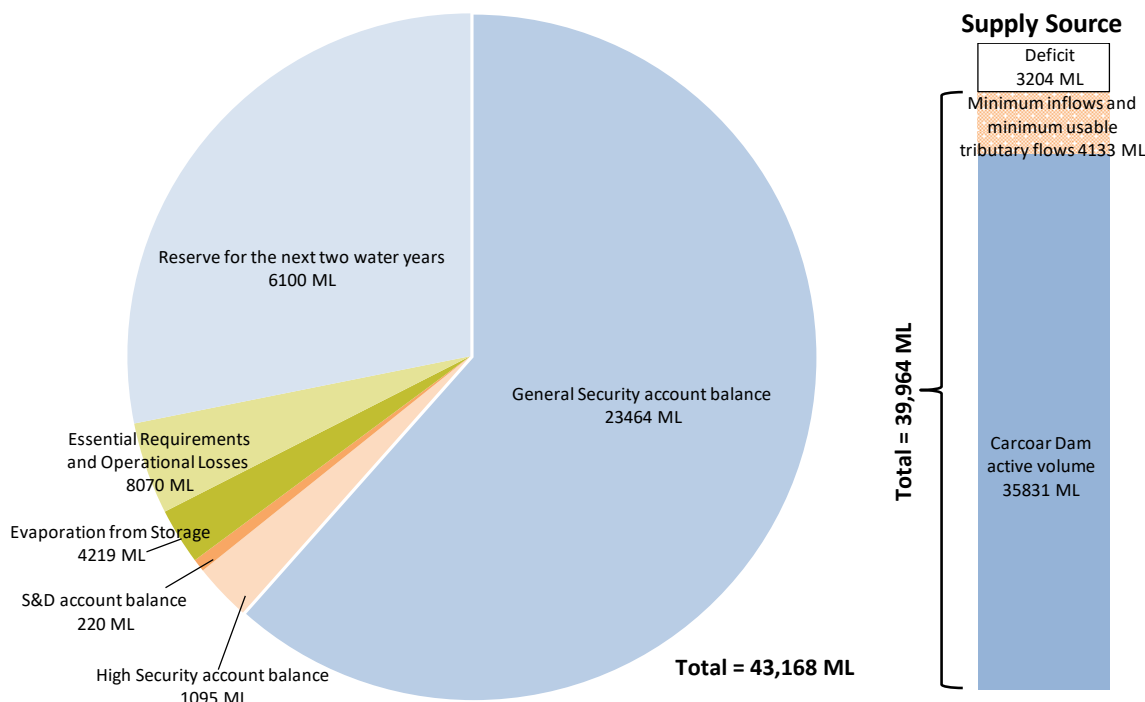
Belubula resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (August 2023 to June 2026)	Volume (ML)
Current and Future Resources ⁽¹⁾	39,964
<i>less</i>	
Domestic and Stock account balance	220
High Security account balance	1095
General Security account balance ⁽²⁾	23,464
Evaporation from storage	4,219
Essential Requirements and Losses ⁽³⁾	8,070
Storage reserve for 2024/25 and 2025/26 ⁽⁴⁾	6,100
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁵⁾	(3204)

Notes:

- (1) Volume of Carcoar Dam volume as of 31 July 2023, minus 300 ML dead storage, plus minimum historical dam inflows and usable tributary flows budgeted from 1 August 2023 to 30 June 2024.
- (2) The current account balance adjusted for any trade, account forfeits and uncontrolled flow usage (if applicable) throughout the water year.
- (3) Conservative estimate of the volume required to run the river to meet all non-licence based demands and delivery overheads. This mostly comprises of transmission losses, end of system flows, minimum Carcoar dam release, and operational losses.
- (4) Required volume to ensure full utilisation of 100% allocation to all higher priority licence holders for the next two years. This volume is net of the minimum inflow budget in 2024/25 and 2025/26.
- (5) This assessment is returning a small deficit which is low risk and unlikely to materialise. It will be closely monitored.

Resource Distribution as at 31 July 2023 Belubula Regulated River Water Source



Allocation history in 2023/24 for Belubula

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2023/24	Average 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/unit share*	100%*
1-Jul	Supplementary	1.00 ML/unit share*	1.00 ML/unit share*	100%*
1-Jul	General Security	0.00 ML/unit share	0.00 ML/unit share	104%

*Maximum allowable

Further information

The next water allocation statement for the Belubula regulated river water source regulated river will be available in **November 2023**, or sooner if conditions change significantly.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the department’s website: www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water

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