

7 August 2024

Namoi Regulated River Water Sources

Water allocation update

General security (GS) licences in the Lower Namoi regulated river water source have received an allocation increase of 13% of entitlement. The increment takes the total Lower Namoi general security account balance to about 329.9 gigalitres (GL), or 134.4% of entitlement. The allocation increment is possible due to significant inflows since the last assessment.

All higher priority licence holders have received their maximum (100%) allocation in these water sources. General security licence holders in the Upper Namoi regulated river water source received their maximum (100%) allocation. Supplementary access licence holders in the Lower Namoi regulated river water source received an allocation of 42% of entitlement due to growth-in-use measures.

This resource assessment is based on information to 31 July 2024. Any changes in resources from this date forward will be captured in the next resource assessment.

Current allocation

7 August 2024	Allocation increment	Average Account Balance
Upper Namoi Regulated River	-	100%*
Lower Namoi Regulated River	13%	134%

* Reached maximum (100%) on 1 July 2024, and account balance excludes adjustments for temporary trade.

Dam levels (as of 5 August 2024)

- Split Rock Dam is 97.5% full, holding around 387 GL.
- Keepit Dam is 49% full, holding around 211 GL.

Key information

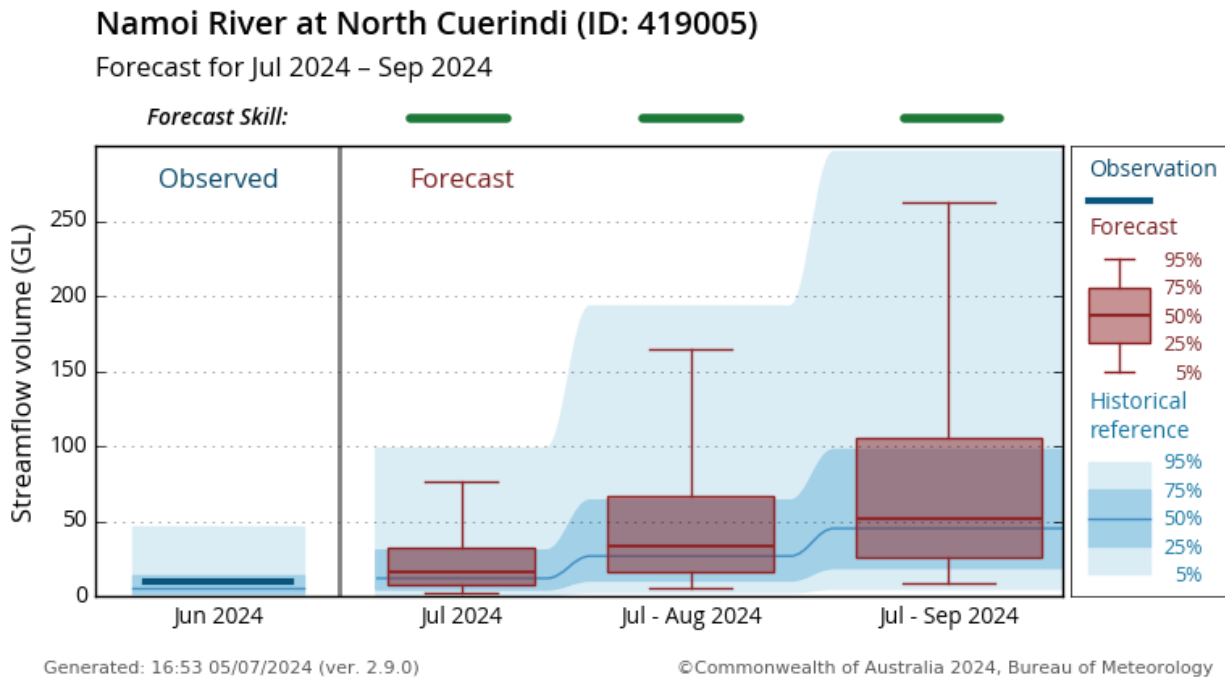
- In July, Keepit Dam and Split Rock Dam inflows were about 28.2 GL and 6.8 GL, respectively.
- General security usage for July was about 0.06 GL for the Lower Namoi regulated river water source.
- Based on the current assessment, essential supplies are secure for 24 months and beyond. This includes demands from Manilla and Barraba townships.

Climate and Streamflow Outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for August to October 2024 indicates that rainfall in the Namoi valley is likely to be around median. Over this period, maximum temperatures and minimum temperatures are likely to be above median in the catchment.

For further details, see: [Overview—Summary - Climate Outlooks \(bom.gov.au\)](https://www.bom.gov.au/summary-climate-outlooks)

The Bureau of Meteorology issues a seasonal flow forecast for the unregulated Namoi River at North Cuerindi (see the figure below). This may indicate potential future inflows into Keepit Dam. All forecast quantiles of total flow volumes, except one, from July to September 2024 are higher than the historical flows, indicating likely wetter condition than historical over this period. The graph for July to September 2024 is given below, and updates can be found at: <http://www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005>



Resource Assessment Data Sheet

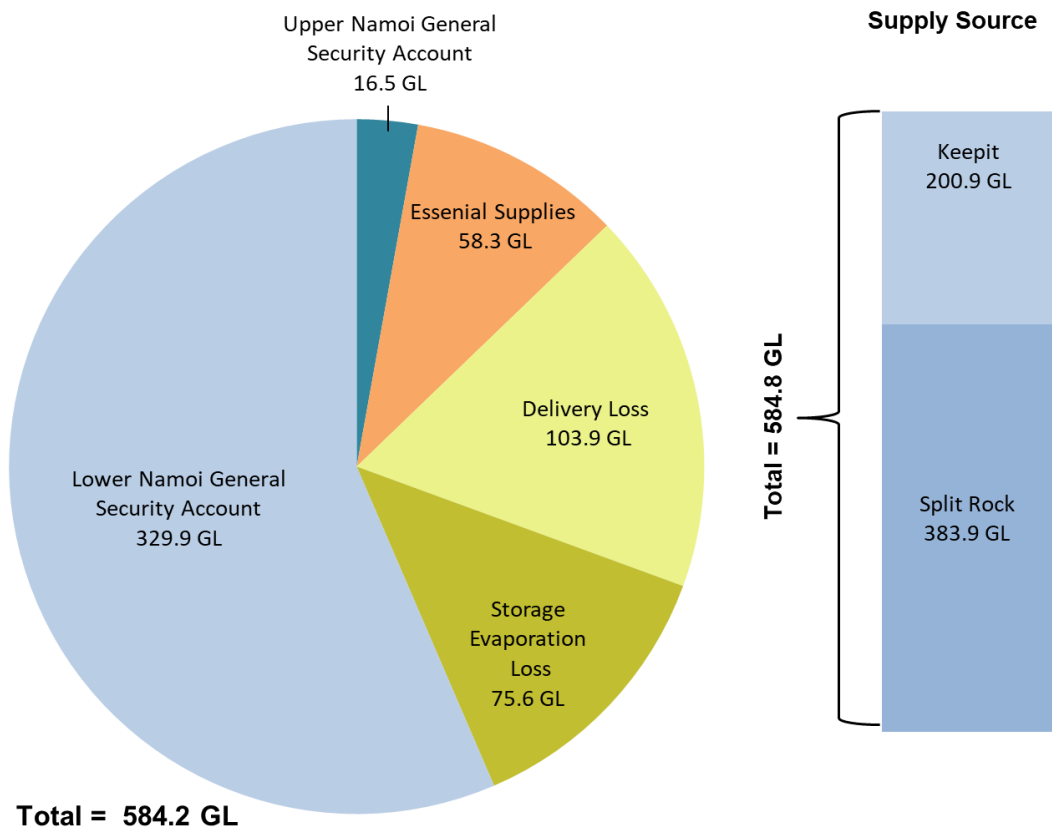
Resource distribution (as at 31 July 2024)	Volume (GL)
Keepit Dam and Split Rock Dam active volumes	584.8
<i>less</i>	
Storage Evaporation Loss ⁽¹⁾	75.6
Essential Supplies ⁽²⁾	58.3
Lower Namoi General Security account balance	329.9
Upper Namoi General Security account balance	16.5
Delivery Loss ⁽³⁾	103.9
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (deficit) ⁽⁴⁾	0.6

Notes:

- (1) Evaporation loss is based on forecast storage depletion and the maximum historical evaporation rates over 24 months.
- (2) Water is 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.
- (3) Delivery loss budget reflects the water reserved to deliver general security water. Traditionally, a 30% delivery loss has been budgeted for this river system. The loss reserve is continually assessed and, if necessary, topped-up as a priority from resource improvements, to ensure that allocated water can be delivered in most circumstances.
- (4) The resource assessment returns a small surplus after allocation. This volume will be rolled over to next month's resource assessment.

Resource Distribution as at 31 July 2024

Namoi Regulated River Water Sources



Namoi resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 30 June 2024
- Current Assessment date: 31 July 2024

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Split Rock plus Keepit		594.5
Dead storage	9.7	584.8
Storage evaporation loss	73.3	511.6
Essential Supplies		
Brought forward from last assessment	58.2	
Uses and associated loss since last assessment	-1.7	
Allocation assignment from High Security to General Security	0.0	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss	0.0	
Current balance	56.6	455.0
Upper Namoi/Manilla Rivers		
Brought forward from last assessment	12.1	
Ordered since last assessment	0.0	
Allocation assignments from Upper Namoi to Lower Namoi	-0.2	
Allocation assignments from Lower Namoi to Upper Namoi	4.7	
Current balance	16.5	438.5
General Security (D/S Keepit)		
Brought forward from last assessment	311.7	
Orders since assessment period	-0.1	
Allocation assignments into Lower Namoi (from HS & Upper Namoi)	0.2	
Allocation assignments to Upper Namoi (from Lower Namoi g/s)	-4.7	
Current balance	307.1	131.4
Delivery Loss		
Brought forward from last assessment	97.0	
Apparent losses since last assessment	0.0	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for allocation assignments to GS)	0.0	
Current balance	97.0	34.4
Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL

Total		0.0
Essential supply loss	95%	0.0
General Security loss	5%	0.0
Resource available for sharing		
Total		34.4

Resource assessment data sheet as at 31 July 2024

Volumes in GL	Budget	Current	Additional	Balance
Storage Evaporation Loss	75.6	73.3	2.4	75.6
Essential Supplies for next 24 months (58.2 GL max)	58.2	56.6	1.7	58.2
General Security Delivery Loss	103.9	97.0	6.9	103.9
Upper Namoi General Security (12.07 GL max)*		16.5	0.0	16.5
Lower Namoi General Security (490.9 GL max)*		307.1	22.8	329.9
Additional Resource for Sharing		34.4	-33.8	0.6
Total		584.8	0.0	584.8

*Temporary trade may exceed this limit.

Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	22.8	GL
Available Water Determination	0.13	ML per unit share

Upper Namoi water allocation history for 2024/25

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2024/25
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*
1-Jul	General Security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/share*

* Maximum allowable.

Lower Namoi water allocation history for 2024/25

Date	License Category	Increment	Account balance
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*

Date	License Category	Increment	Account balance
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	100%*
1-Jul	Supplementary	0.42 ML/unit share	42%
7-Aug	General Security	0.13 ML/unit share	134%

* Maximum allowable.

Storage volume prediction

Storage outlook for the assessment horizon is provided below. It shows that with current commitments and an assumed repeat of historical minimum inflows and median inflows together with forecast demands, the combined storage of Keepit and Split Rock Dams will reduce to a minimum by the end of December 2025 after which recovery would be expected.

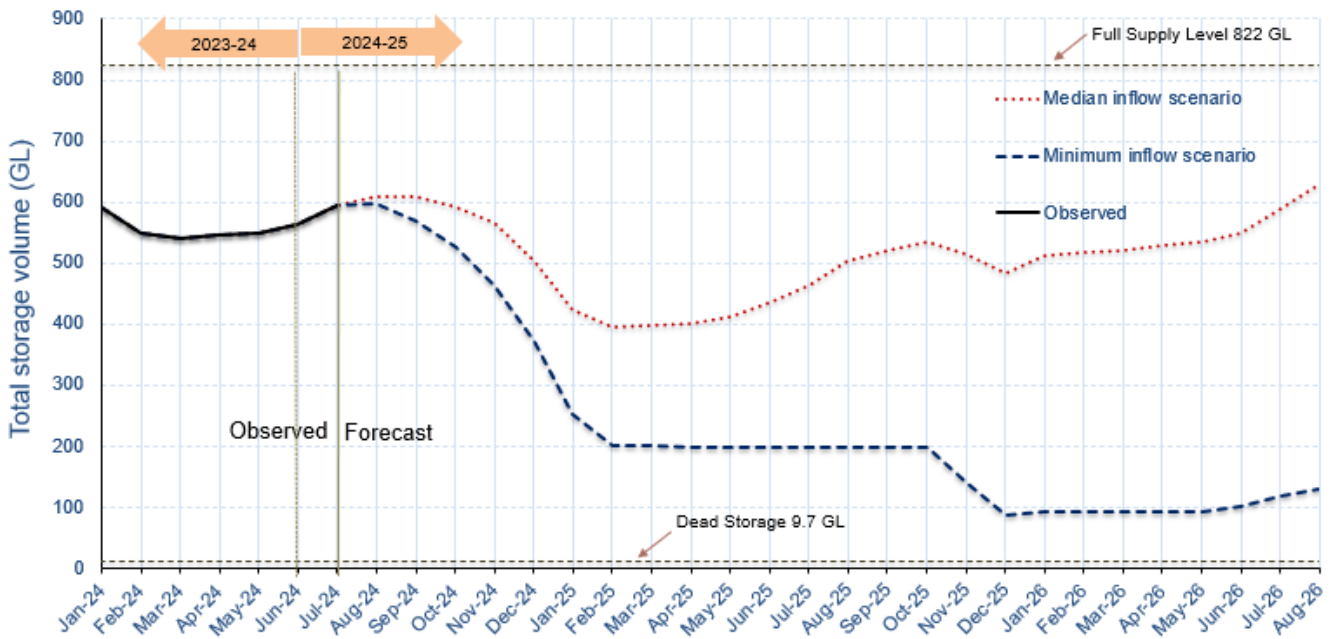


Figure: Combined Keepit and Split Rock storage volumes

Water Allocation Guide

The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water published 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 link below.

For further details: [Resource assessment process | Water \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

Further information

The next routine monthly water allocation statement for this water source will be available on **Friday, 6 September 2024**.

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

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