

7 December 2022

Namoi Regulated River Water Sources

Water allocation update

There is an improvement in resources this month providing for the following allocation:

- **Lower Namoi general security allocation to increase by 30% of entitlement.**

The Lower Namoi general security account balance is now 491.8 gigalitres (GL) or about the maximum 200% of entitlement. 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 30 November 2022. Any changes in resources from this date forward will be captured in the December resource assessment.

Current allocations

2022/23	General Security AWDs	General Security Account Balance
Upper Namoi Regulated River	100%	100%*
Lower Namoi Regulated River	70%	~200%^

* Maximum allowable account balance, excluding trade, is 100%. Temporary trade may increase the individual account balance of water licence above 100%.

^ Approximate account balance, maximum allowable is 200%.

Dam levels (as of 6 December 2022)

- Split Rock Dam is 100% full – holding approximately 398 GL.
- Keepit Dam about 98% full – holding approximately 418 GL.

Key information

- During November, the Namoi catchment experienced above average to very much above average rainfall, receiving between 50 to 200 mm.
- Inflows from the upper catchment continued in November, with Keepit and Split Rock Dams receiving 182.5 GL and 25.1 GL, respectively.
- Approximately 150 GL was released from Keepit Dam for airspace operation and 26.5 GL was released from Split Rock Dam for spillage in November.
- Based on the current assessment, essential supplies are secure for at least 24 months.
- Critical requirements for Manilla and Barraba townships are secure for at least the next 24 months based on assumed minimum future inflows into Split Rock Dam.

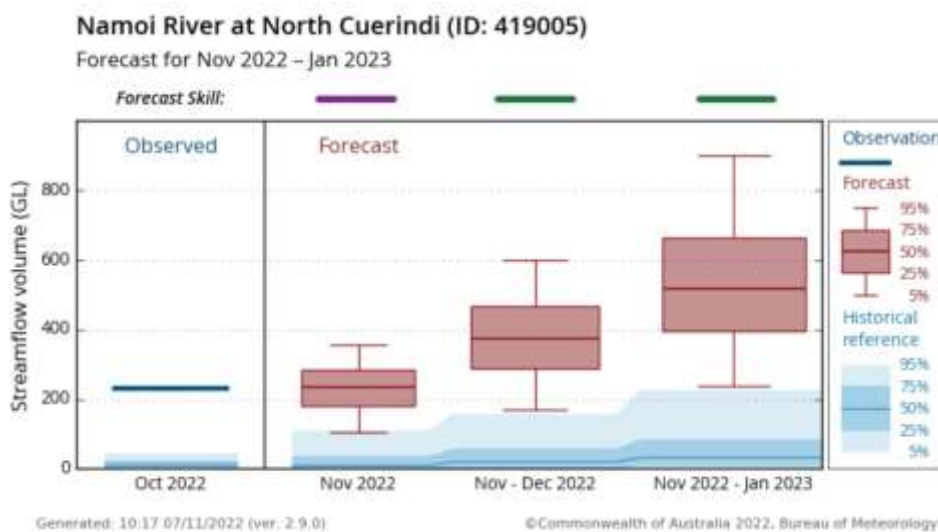
Climate and streamflow outlooks

The Bureau of Meteorology’s seasonal outlook for December 2022 to February 2023 indicates rainfall varies from below median to median across the catchment. The maximum and minimum temperature over this period is expected to be cooler than the median.

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 provide an indication for potential future inflows into Keepit Dam. The forecast quantiles over November 2022 to January 2023 are higher than the historical reference quantiles, with the forecast indicating a high chance of above median flows.

Further details at: www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005



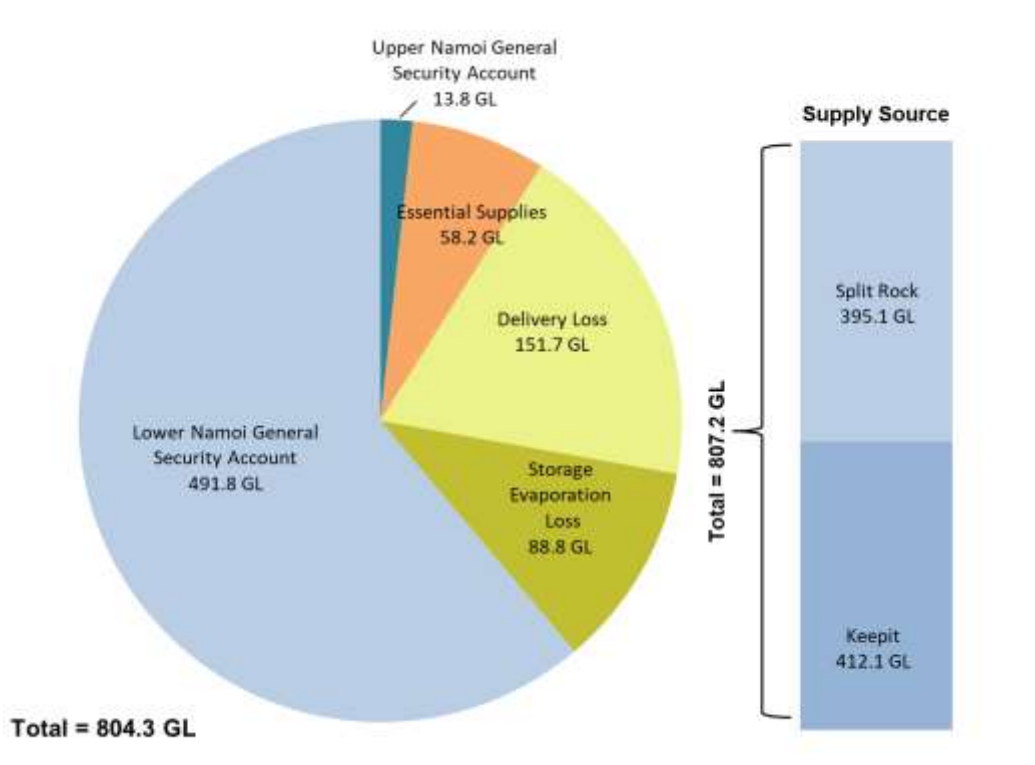
Resource assessment data sheet

Resource distribution (as at 30 November 2022)	Volume (GL)
Keepit Dam and Split Rock Dam active volumes	807.2
<i>less</i>	
Storage Evaporation Loss ⁽¹⁾	88.8
Essential Supplies ⁽²⁾	58.2
Lower Namoi General Security account balance	491.8
Upper Namoi General Security account balance	13.8
Delivery Loss ⁽³⁾	151.7
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (deficit) ⁽⁴⁾	2.9

Notes:

- (1) Storage Evaporation Loss: evaporation loss based on forecast storage behaviour and maximum historical evaporation rates over 2 years.
- (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. The system can assure essential supplies for at least 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) There is a surplus of 2.9 GL. All commitments are currently deliverable.

Resource Distribution as at 30 November 2022 Namoi Regulated River Water Sources



Resource assessment data sheet as at 30 November 2022

Volumes in GL	Budget	Current	Additional	Balance
Storage Evaporation Loss	88.83	87.63	1.20	88.83
Essential Supplies for next 24 months (58.2 GL max)	58.24	0.00	58.24	58.24
General Security Delivery Loss	151.69	64.79	86.90	151.69
Upper Namoi General Security (12.07 GL max)		13.82	0.00	13.82
Lower Namoi General Security (491.8 GL max)		479.97	11.83	491.80
Additional Resource for Sharing		161.01	-158.16	2.85

Total	807.23	0.00	807.23
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Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	11.83	GL
Available Water Determination	0.30	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%*
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% ^{^*}

* 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 **Thursday 12 January 2023**. Note that this is about one week later than usual due to the holiday season.

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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