

7 August 2023

Namoi Regulated River Water Sources

Water allocation update

General security water accounts on the Lower Namoi regulated river water source have been filled to their maximum 200% limit with an allocation of 186% of entitlement. This allocation takes the total water assigned to Lower Namoi general security to 489.5 gigitalitres (GL).

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

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

Current general security allocations and average account balance

7 August 2023	Allocation increment	Average Account Balance
Upper Namoi Regulated River	0%	*100%+
Lower Namoi Regulated River	186%	*200%

* Reached its maximum. Adjustments for temporary trade will change this.

Dam levels (as of 3 August 2023)

- Split Rock Dam is about 100% full, holding around 397 GL.
- Keepit Dam is about 98% full, holding around 416 GL.

Key information

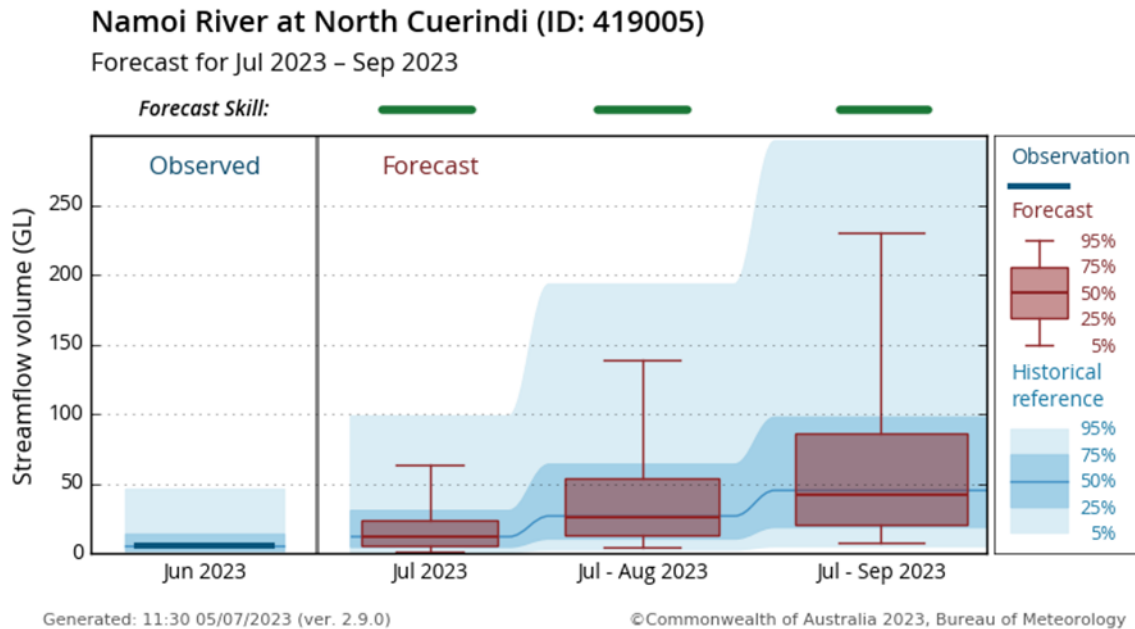
- All higher priority water users received their maximum (100%) allocation on 1 July 2023.
- General security licence holders on the Upper Namoi regulated river received their maximum (100%) allocation on 1 July 2023.
- Supplementary licence holders have received a reduced allocation of 0.36 ML/unit share due to the required implementation of growth-in-use measures.
- Inflows from the upper catchment continued in July, with Keepit and Split Rock Dams receiving 13.1 GL and 2.2 GL respectively.
- The large allocation (186%) increase to Lower Namoi general security accounts required only 13 GL of water as most of the accounts were full (200%) or near full. This is expected as the system is at full capacity and irrigation demand is yet to commence.
- 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 indicates that rainfall in the Namoi valley is likely to be below median. Over this period, maximum temperatures and minimum temperatures are likely to be above 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 (see the figure below). This may indicate potential future inflows into Keepit Dam. The median and 75th percentile forecast quartiles of total flow volume from July to September are slightly lower than the historical quartiles, indicating flows to September may be near or slightly lower than the historical flows. The graph for July to September is given below and updates can be found at: www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=419005



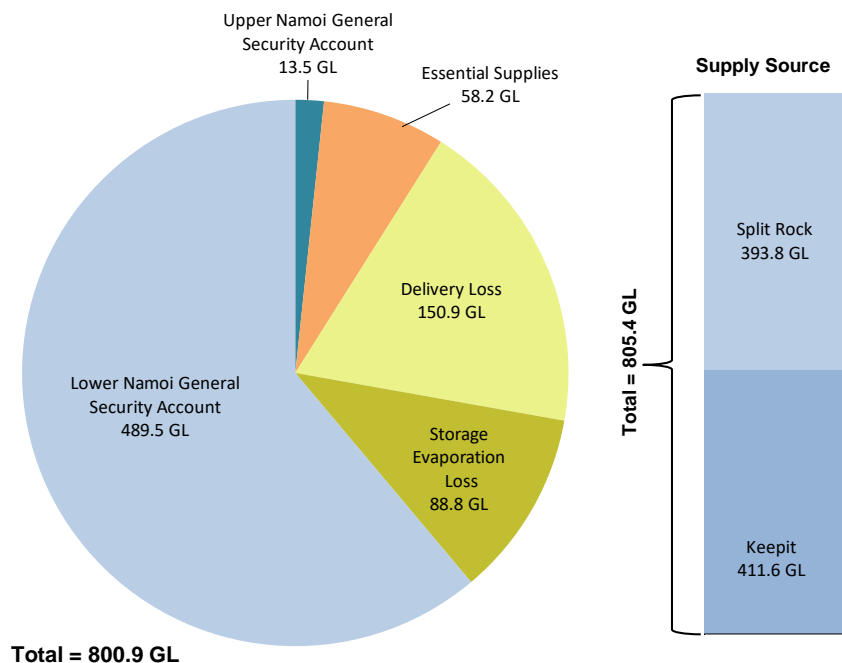
Resource assessment data sheet

Resource distribution (as at 31 July 2023)	Volume (GL)
Keepit Dam and Split Rock Dam active volumes	805.4
<i>less</i>	
Storage Evaporation Loss ⁽¹⁾	88.8
Essential Supplies ⁽²⁾	58.2
Lower Namoi General Security account balance	489.5
Upper Namoi General Security account balance	13.5
Delivery Loss ⁽³⁾	150.9
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (deficit) ⁽⁴⁾	4.5

Notes:

- (1) Storage Evaporation Loss: this loss estimate is based on forecast storage behaviour and the maximum historical 24 month evaporation rates.
- (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 & domestic replenishments, delivery loss allowance and end-of-system flow requirements. The commitment is offset by minimum forecast inflows into storages. This reserve is for the next 24 months of essential supplies.
- (3) Delivery Loss: this account 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) Surplus or deficit: There is a small surplus after allocating all accounts to their full capacity. The system is secure for delivery of all essential supplies for at least 24 months.

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



Namoi resource assessment

- Previous Assessment date: 30 June 2023
- Current Assessment date: 31 July 2023

Storage volume	Committed Volume (GL)	Remaining Balance (GL)
Split Rock plus Keepit		815.1
Dead storage	9.7	805.4
Storage evaporation loss	88.2	717.2
Essential Supplies		
Brought forward from last assessment	58.2	
Uses and associated loss since last assessment	-1.8	
Allocation assignment from High Security to General Security	0.0	
Transfer to General Security delivery loss	0.0	
Current balance	56.5	660.7
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	0.0	
Allocation Assignments from Lower Namoi to Upper Namoi	1.4	
Current balance	13.5	647.2
General Security (D/S Keepit)		
Brought forward from last assessment	486.8	
Orders since assessment period	-9.0	
Allocation assignments into Lower Namoi (from HS)	0.0	
Allocation assignments to Upper Namoi (from Lower Namoi g/s)	-1.4	
Current balance	476.4	170.8
Delivery Loss		
Brought forward from last assessment	149.7	
Apparent losses since last assessment	0.0	
Credit from Essential Supplies (for allocation assignments to GS)	0.0	
Current balance	147.0	23.8

Apparent Losses since last assessment	% of loss	GL
Total		0.0
Essential supply loss	16%	0.0
General Security loss	84%	0.0
Resource available for sharing		
Total		23.8

Resource assessment data sheet as at 31 July 2023

Volumes in GL	Budget	Current	Additional	Balance
Storage Evaporation Loss	88.7	88.2	0.5	88.7
Essential Supplies for next 24 months (58.2 GL max)	58.2	56.5	1.8	58.2
General Security Delivery Loss	150.9	147.0	3.9	150.9
Upper Namoi General Security (12.07 GL max)*		13.5	0.0	13.5
Lower Namoi General Security (489.5 GL max)*		476.4	13.1	489.5
Additional Resource for Sharing		23.8	-19.2	4.6
Total		805.4	0.0	805.4

*Temporary trade may exceed this limit.

Lower Namoi (General Security)	Value	Unit
Incremental Increase CREDITED	13.1	GL
Available Water Determination	1.86	ML per unit share

Upper Namoi water allocation history for 2023/24

Date	License Category	Increment	Total 2023/24
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 2023/24

Date	License Category	Increment	Account balance
1-Jul	Domestic & Stock	100%	100%*
1-Jul	Local Water Utility	100%	100%*
1-Jul	High Security	1.00 ML/unit share	100%*
1-Jul	Supplementary	0.36 ML/unit share	36%
7-Jul	General Security	0.15 ML/unit share	199%
7-Aug	General Security	1.86 ML/unit share	200%*

* Maximum allowable.

Water allocation guide

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment – Water 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 routine water allocation statement for this water source will be available on **Thursday 7 September 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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