

01 August 2024

# Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source

## Water allocation update

There is **no allocation increase to General Security (GS)** entitlements in the Murrumbidgee regulated river water source this time. The cumulative General Security allocation to-date is 33%. Incorporating average carryover of around 27%, the total water availability averaged across all GS entitlements is around 60%.

As GS balance has reached the threshold of 60%, the plan rules require that Environmental Water Allowance (EWA) first and then Provisional Storage Volume (PSV) will commence accrual from any additional resources.

Recent inflows into the reservoirs have led to a moderate increase in overall water availability. The enhanced resources have been distributed, resulting in an increase of 50 gegalitre (GL) to the EWA1 and 14 GL to the PSV1 accounts. According to the rules of the Water Sharing Plan, an additional 11 GL is required for PSV1 to reach 25 GL before any increase in allocation to General Security can be considered.

## Cumulative allocations for 2024/25

	High Security	General Security	Average Carryover
Murrumbidgee	95%	33%	27%

## Storage levels (as at 31 July 2024)

- Blowering Dam is about 78% full – holding about 1,283 gegalitres (GL).
- Burrinjuck Dam is about 78% full – holding about 802 GL.

## Climatic outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for August to October 2024 indicates that rainfall will likely to be around average to above average across the catchment. Day and overnight temperatures are likely to be above median over the next three months. For further details:

[www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary)

## Trade

Trade **out of Murrumbidgee is closed** and **trade into the Murrumbidgee is open** (as of 30 July 2024). Water users should monitor the WaterNSW website ([www.waternsw.com.au](http://www.waternsw.com.au)) for daily information about the IVT account balance, the status of trade, and other important information. The Murrumbidgee IVT account is operated between limits of 0 GL and 100 GL however the balance can move rapidly. The information presented in this statement is current at the time of writing.

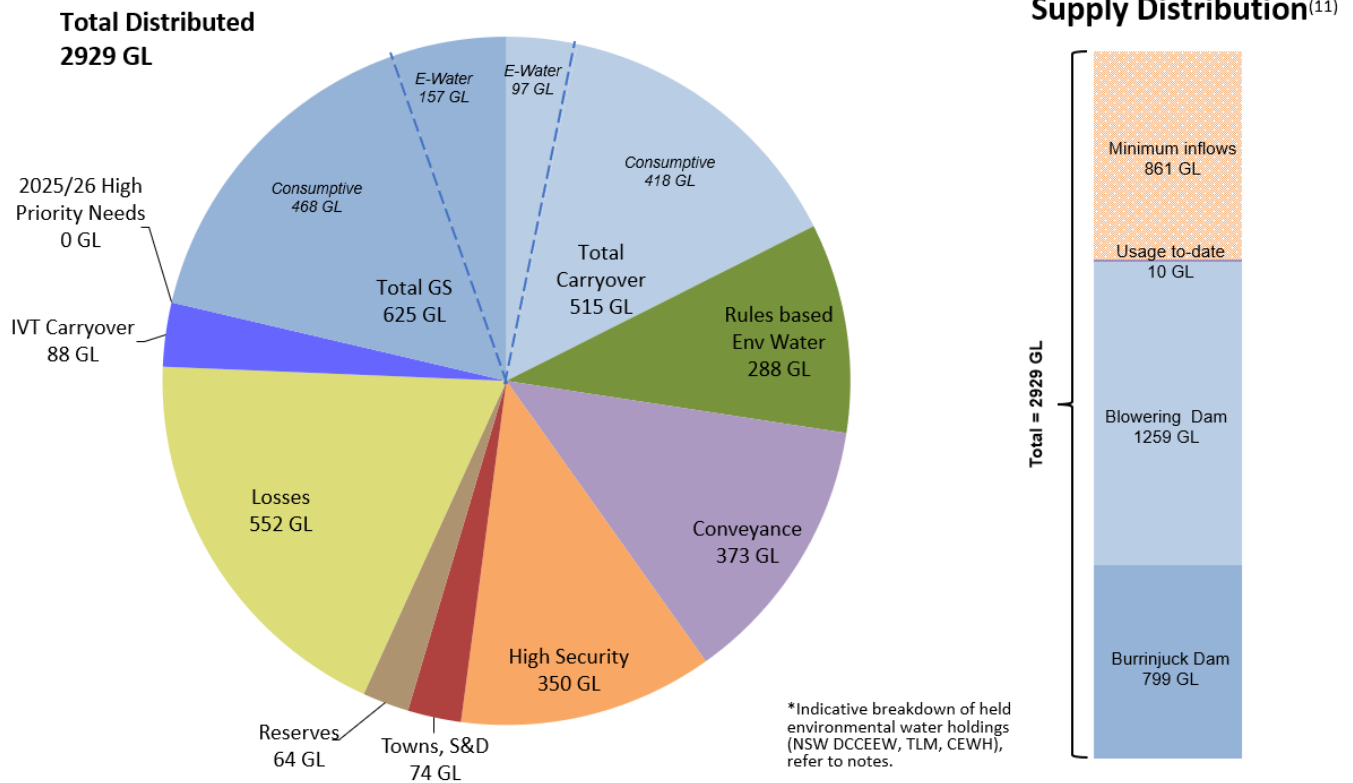
## Murrumbidgee resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution* (30 July) for 2024/25	Volume (GL)
Total Available Resource <sup>(1)</sup>	2,929
<b><i>less</i></b>	
Carryover <sup>(2), (8)</sup>	515
Planned Environmental Water <sup>(3)</sup>	288
Domestic, Stock and Town (100%)	74
Reserves <sup>(4)</sup>	64
Conveyance <sup>(5)</sup>	373
High Security (95%)	350
Losses <sup>(6)</sup>	552
Murrumbidgee IVT (carryover remaining from 1 July) <sup>(7)</sup>	88
General Security (33%) <sup>(8)</sup>	625
2025/26 higher priority reserve <sup>(9)</sup>	0
<b><i>equals</i></b>	
Surplus (or deficit) <sup>(10)</sup>	0

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\*See notes below

## Murrumbidgee resource distribution 2024/25 – 30 July 2024



### Data sheet notes

- 1) Total active storage volume behind Blowering and Burrinjuck Dams at the day of assessment plus any usable flows in transit plus minimum inflows for rest of the year plus Snowy Hydro’s assured Required Annual Release (RAR) (including any flex (pre-release) from the prior year), as well as estimated usage to date. Snowy Hydro’s net Jounama Release for this year (2024-25) is estimated to be about 208 GL.
- 2) Carryover plus General Security allocation cannot exceed 100% of entitlement. Held Environmental Water (HEW) – licenced water administered by environmental water holders is reported here, with the associated portions of General Security allocation and carryover also identified in the above pie chart.
- 3) This includes 9 GL of end-of-system flow requirements and environmental water allowances (EWA1 = 88 GL, EWA2 = 9 GL, EWA3 = 0 GL). Excludes ‘licence-based’ environmental water also known as held environmental water (HEW). This total volume typically reduces as water is used during the year.
- 4) Reserves – required primarily under statutory plans, and mainly used for emergency purposes and critical needs. Includes 25 GL per dam as an operational reserve, and Provisional Storage Volumes (PSV1 =14, PSV2 = nil).
- 5) Conveyance entitlement – a category of access licence originally issued to Irrigation Corporations to enable delivery of water in their channel systems. Allocation rules are prescribed in the Water Sharing Plan and are a function of High and General Security allocation. Conveyance licences in the Murrumbidgee valley can carryover 30% of their entitlement.
- 6) Losses – the best estimate of the conservative volume required to run the river to meet demands for the remainder of the water year. This includes storage evaporation, transmission and operational loss. This estimate is updated monthly.
- 7) IVT account carryover value into 2024/25. Does not necessarily reflect the current IVT balance.
- 8) This reporting of Held Environmental Water is the total credited to accounts (not usage) and is estimated to be 158 GL of General Security, 15 GL of High Security, 60 GL of Conveyance allocation and 97 GL of General Security carryover. These entitlements are held and/or managed either singly or jointly by various environmental holder groups, including the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, The Living Murray and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder. Details on environmental holdings can be found on individual agency websites.
- 9) Volume set aside for opening allocation to high priority needs on 1 July 2025.
- 10) All available water is allocated in full with no surplus remaining.
- 11) Supply Distribution – the distribution of supply includes volumes at the time of assessment for the following: active volumes in the dams, indicative usage to-date (may be estimates prior to reconciliation with hydrographic updates) and assumed minimum future inflows (includes Snowy Hydro’s guaranteed inflows for the water year). It also includes the current balance of Blowering Compensation Account, held within the Snowy Scheme and available if Blowering levels get critically low.

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## Water Allocation Guide

The NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water has produced a series of guides to describe the water allocation methods for most NSW regulated river systems. The guide for this regulated system is available at the following link:

[Resource assessment process | Water \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

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## Further information

The next statement will be published on **2:30 pm, Thursday 15 August 2024**.

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