

15 February 2021

Hunter Regulated River Water Source

Allocation update


General Security water users in the Hunter regulated river water source will receive an allocation increase of 22%, bringing their total allocation to 97% of entitlement for the current water year.

Rainfall in January was average to above average across the Hunter catchment. Glenbawn Dam and Glennies Creek Dam received 94 mm and 120 mm of rainfall respectively. Net inflow into these storages in January was 13.6 gigalitres (GL) and 9.3 GL respectively.

As a result of the good inflows in January, there has been additional resource to allow this increase in allocation. Inflows that arrive in February will be considered in the March resource assessment.

All other licence categories in this water source have already received their full (100%) annual allocation.

Current allocations

2020-21	High Security	General Security	Drought Stage
Hunter Regulated River Water Source	100%	97%	 Stage 1

Drought stage

The NSW Extreme Events Policy introduced a staged approach from one to four to manage extreme circumstances such as severe droughts or poor water quality events. The Hunter regulated river water source is currently at Stage 1 - meaning normal regulated river operations.

Dam levels (as at 11 February 2021)

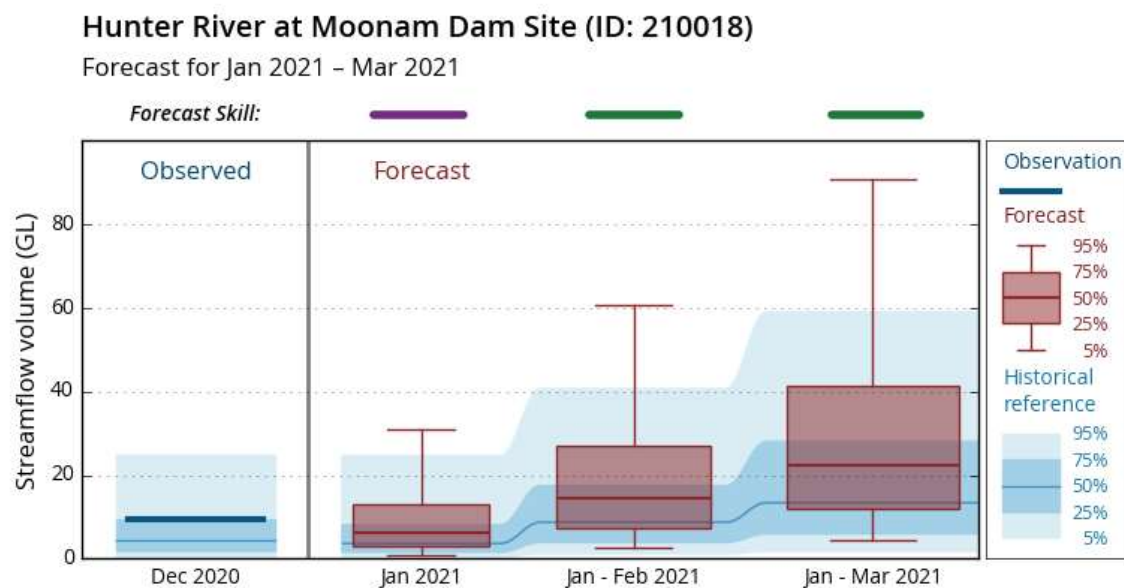
Glenbawn Dam is about 49.9% full – steady – holding about 375 gigalitres (GL). It was about 39% full this time last year.

Glennies Creek Dam is about 44.3% full – steady – holding about 126 GL. It was about 37% full this time last year.

Seasonal rainfall and inflow forecast

The Bureau of Meteorology climate outlook for February to April shows the chance of above or below median rainfall is equally likely around Singleton.

The Bureau also issues seasonal flow forecasts for the Hunter River upstream of Glenbawn Dam at Moonan (see the figure below). This may provide an indication of potential inflows into the dam. All forecast quartiles of total streamflow volumes from January to March are higher than historical streamflow volumes, indicating higher inflow potential than historical inflow during this period.



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For further details: www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/#id=210018&product_type=FC_9

Further information

Hunter resource assessments and allocation statements will continue to be updated monthly while general security allocations remain less than fully allocated. The next Hunter Water Allocation Statement will be released on **Monday 15 March 2021**.

Information on available water determinations and water sharing plans is available on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website: www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water

Resource assessment data sheet

Resource Distribution (1 February 2021 to 30 June 2023)	(GL)	(GL)
Glenbawn plus Glennies Ck active storage volume		495.7
Minimum storage & tributary inflows (2/21 to 6/21) ⁽¹⁾		3.4
<i>less</i>		
Basic Land Holder Rights	2.3	
Domestic and Stock	1.8	
Local Water Utility balance	7.6	
Major Utility account balance	68.3	
Environmental Water Allowance	20.0	
Minimum Flow Target at Greta (including losses)	13.2	
High Security account balance	20.0	
Losses (evaporation, transmission, operation) (2/21 to 6/21)	23.9	
Storage Reserve for 2021-22 ⁽²⁾	120.2	
Storage Reserve for 2022-23 ⁽³⁾	77.5	
General Security balance ⁽⁴⁾	116.1	
<i>equals</i>		
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁵⁾		28.2

Notes:

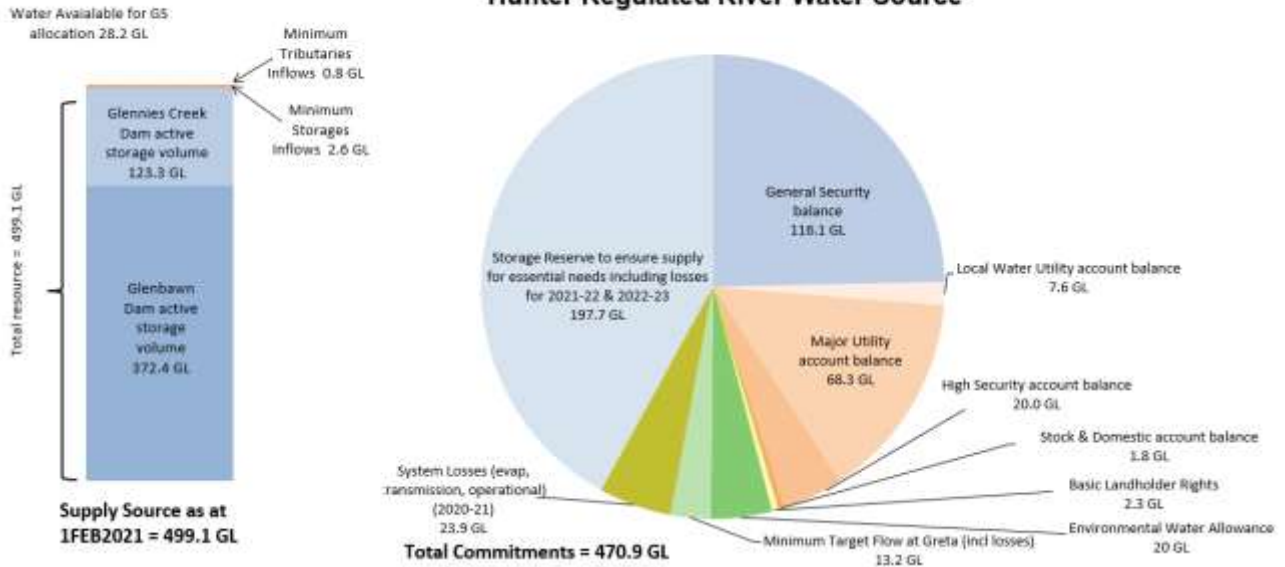
- (1) Minimum historical dam inflows (2.6 GL) and minimum historical usable tributary inflows (0.8 GL) from 1 February 2021 to 30 June 2021.
- (2) Water required to be set aside in storages as reserve to meet essential supply requirements and system losses of 120.2 GL in 2021-22. Calculated as: system losses of 50.4 GL plus Essential Requirements of 122.4 GL minus 52.7 GL of minimum storage & usable tributary inflows for the first 12 months of 24-month minimum inflow period starting 1 July 2021. Essential Requirement includes minimum 75% High Security (HS) opening allocation and 100% to all other high priority licences.
- (3) Water required to be set aside in storages as reserve to meet essential supply requirements and system losses of 77.5 GL in 2022-23. Calculated as: system losses of 50.2 GL plus Essential Requirements of 109.9 GL minus 82.6 GL of minimum storage & usable tributary inflows for the second 12 months of 24-month minimum inflow period starting 1 July 2021. Essential Requirement includes minimum 75% High Security (HS) opening allocation and 100% to all other high priority licences.
- (4) The water remaining in General Security (GS) accounts yet to be ordered and delivered. It is calculated by subtracting the usage (inclusive of Uncontrolled Flow takes) from the water already allocated to GS.
- (5) Surplus (or deficit) of water available after accounting for all commitments. The surplus of 28.2 GL signifies the additional resources available for allocation to General Security licence holders this month.

Water Allocation Statement

Water availability and allocation update



Resource Distribution: 1 February 2021 to 30 June 2023 Hunter Regulated River Water Source



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