

5 September 2025

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 58% of entitlement. The increment takes the total Lower Namoi general security account balance to about 487 gigalitres (GL), or 198% of entitlement.

In August, Keepit Dam and Split Rock Dam inflows were approximately 292 GL and 83 GL, respectively. The allocation increment is possible due to significant inflow volumes since the last assessment. Split Rock and Keepit dams are spilling and may remain full for weeks. These full volumes from both storages have been considered in this allocation. This is the first time in about 3 years that both storages have been full.

Based on the current resource assessment, essential supplies are secure for 24 months and beyond. This includes demands from Manilla and Barraba townships. This resource assessment is based on information to 31 August 2025. Any changes in resources from this date forward will be captured in the next resource assessment.

Current allocation

5 September 2025	Allocation increment	Average account balance
Upper Namoi regulated river	-	100%*
Lower Namoi regulated river	58%	198%

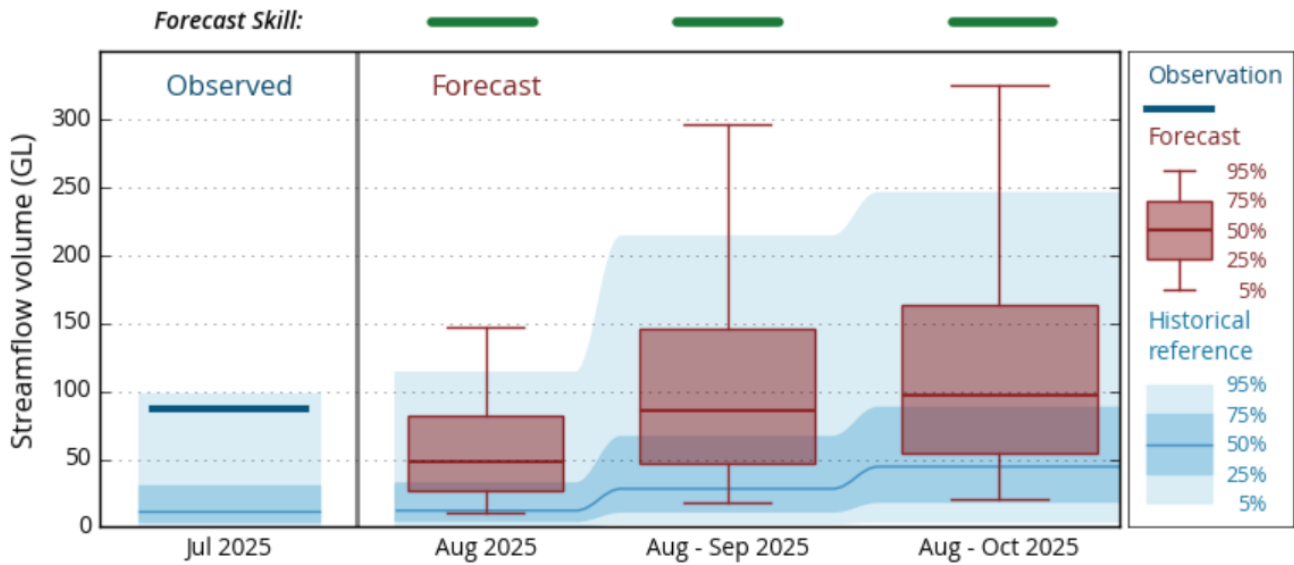
* Reached maximum (100%) on 1 July 2025, and account balance excludes adjustments for temporary trade.

Inflow outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology issues a seasonal flow forecast for the unregulated Namoi River at North Cuerindi (see the figure below). Though preliminary, this may suggest potential future inflows into Keepit Dam in the coming months. All forecast quantiles are higher than the historical flows, suggesting a likelihood of wetter conditions from August to October 2025. The graph for August to October 2025 is given below, and updates can be found at: [Seasonal Streamflow Forecasts: Water Information: Bureau of Meteorology \(bom.gov.au\)](#)

Namoi River at North Cuerindi (ID: 419005)

Forecast for Aug 2025 – Oct 2025



Generated: 11:13 05/08/2025 (ver. 2.11.1)

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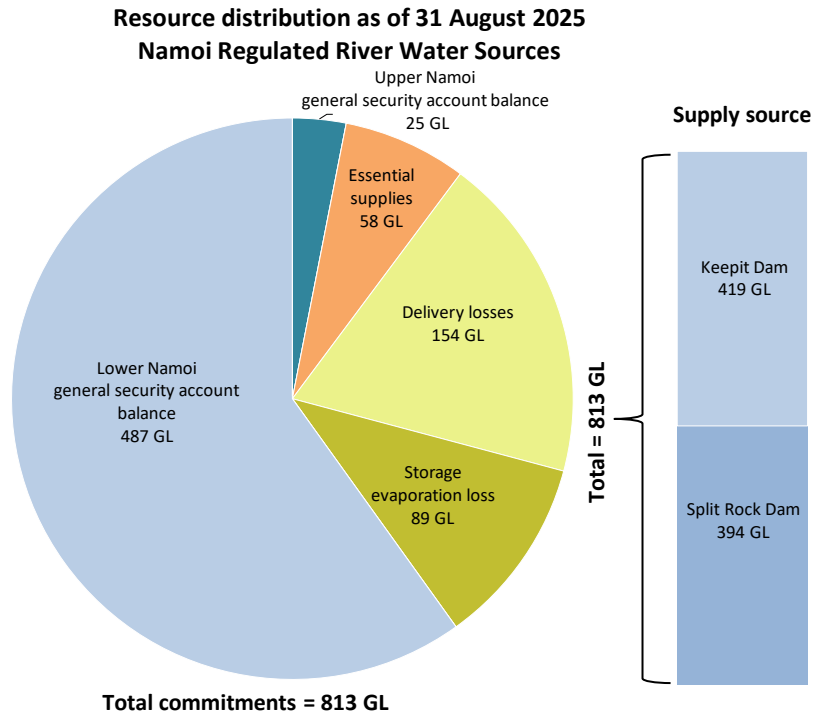
Resource assessment data sheet

Resource distribution (as of 31 August 2025)	Volume (GL)
Keepit Dam and Split Rock Dam active volumes	813
<i>less</i>	
Storage evaporation loss ⁽¹⁾	89
Essential supplies ⁽²⁾	58
Lower Namoi general security account balance	487
Upper Namoi general security account balance	25
Delivery loss ⁽³⁾	154
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁴⁾	0

Notes:

- (1) Storage evaporation loss is based on projected storage depletion over the next 24 months and experiencing high evaporation heights of June 1918 to May 1920.
- (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 is offset by the minimum 24 months inflow into storages recorded over June 1918 to May 1920.

- (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) Surplus (or deficit) of water available after accounting for all commitments.



Resource assessment as of 31 August 2025

Volumes in GL	Budget	Current	Additional	Balance
Storage evaporation loss	89.1	85.0	4.1	89.1
Essential supplies for next 24 months (58.2 GL max)	58.2	12.5	45.7	58.2
General security delivery loss	153.6	0.0	153.6	153.6
Upper Namoi general security (12.1 GL max) *		25.2	0.0	25.2
Lower Namoi general security (491.4 GL max) *		422.6	64.0	486.6
Additional resource for sharing		267.4	-267.4	0.0
Total		812.8	0.0	812.8

*Temporary trade may exceed this limit.

Lower Namoi (general security)	Value	Unit
Incremental increase credited	64.0	GL
Available water determination	0.58	ML per unit share

Upper Namoi water allocation in 2025–26

Date	Licence category	Increment	Total 2025–26
1-Jul	Domestic and 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 in 2025–26

Date	Licence category	Increment	Total 2025–26	Account balance
1-Jul	Domestic and stock	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	Local water utility	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	High security	1.00 ML/unit share	1.00 ML/unit share*	100%*
1-Jul	Supplementary	0.37 ML/unit share	0.37 ML/unit share	37%
7-Jul	General security	0.05 ML/unit share	0.05 ML/unit share	151%
7-Aug	General security	0.35 ML/unit share	0.40 ML/unit share	177%
5-Sep	General security	0.58 ML/unit share	0.98 ML/unit share	198%

* Maximum allowable.

Storage volume simulation

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 April 2027 then begin to recover from May 2027.

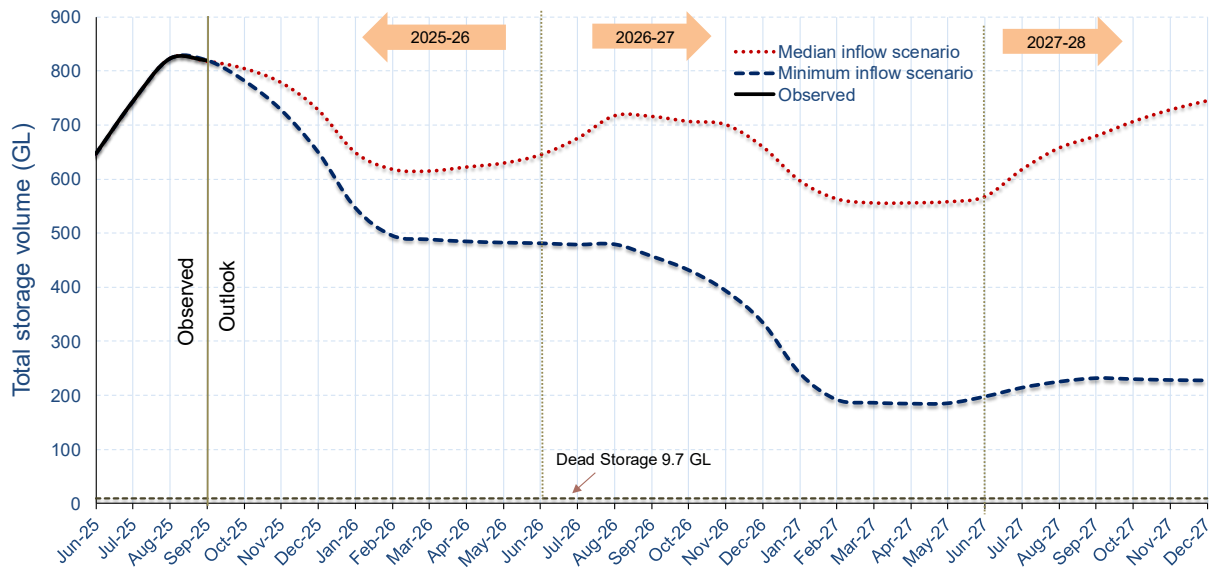


Figure 1: Combined Keepit and Split Rock storage volumes

Water sharing plan rules

This statement includes plain language information on the plan rules relevant to water allocation below. This is based on our knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. Water users should verify the information as required before making any water management decision.

- Domestic and stock, local water utility, and high security access licences in both Lower and Upper Namoi are to receive an allocation of 100% of entitlement at the start of the water year. These licence categories have an account limit of 100% of entitlement and cannot carryover the closing balance into the next water year.
- General security access licences are to receive allocations after all higher priority requirements have been fully allocated. In the Upper Namoi, carryover of up to 50% of entitlement is permitted, while the total account balance must not exceed 100% of entitlement. In Lower Namoi, any remaining balances can be carried over to the next water year, but the total account balance must not exceed 200% of entitlement.
- Supplementary water access licences are to receive an allocation of 100% of entitlement at the start of the water year, unless a growth-in-use measure is required. The closing balance cannot be carried over into the next water year.

Useful links

- Water allocation guide – We produced a series of guides to describe the water allocation methods for most NSW regulated river systems. The guide for these water sources is available at the following link: [Resource assessment process | NSW Government Water](#)

Namoi Regulated River Water Sources

- Water allocation statement - The water allocation statement for all water sources can be accessed at the following link: [Water allocation statements | NSW Government Water](#)
- Water allocation dashboard – We developed a dashboard on water availability and allocations for regulated river water sources. The dashboard can be accessed at the following link: [Allocations dashboard | NSW Government Water](#)
- Water Sharing Plan – The water sharing plan for these water sources is available at the following link: [Water Sharing Plan for the Upper Namoi and Lower Namoi Regulated River Water Sources 2016](#)

Further information

The next routine monthly water allocation statement for these water sources will be published on Wednesday 8 October 2025.

Subscribe [here](#) to receive water allocation statement and email updates from Water Group of the department.

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