

28 July 2025

NSW Border Rivers Regulated River Water Source

Water allocation update

General security (A class) licences in the NSW Border Rivers Regulated River Water Source have received an allocation increment of 10% of their entitlement. This brings the cumulative general security (A class) allocation to 40% of entitlement for this water year. The improved resources have come from significant inflows since the last assessment.

General security (B Class) licences have not received any allocation this time. The water sharing plan requires that general security (A Class) licences reach their full 100% allocation before general security (B Class) licences can receive allocation. Individual account balances cannot exceed their maximum 100% limit.

All other higher priority access licenses have received their maximum (100%) allocation for the 2025/26. Similarly, supplementary and floodplain harvesting access licences have also received their maximum (100%) allocation on 1 July 2025.

In April 2025, Pindari Dam inflows exceeded 1,200 ML/day, satisfying the pre-condition for releasing up to 4,000 ML of stimulus flows between August and November. A pre-release to the downstream system was undertaken in July 2025 with expected outcome of improved conditions for native fish breeding. The stimulus release earlier than August avoided cold water pollution. The department approved the early release in accordance with clause 55(4) of the plan rules.

The assessment is based on NSW bulk resources received on 21/7/2025. The assessment considered storage volume as of 1/7/2025, inflows since then will be considered in the next assessment.

Current allocation

28 July 2025	Allocation increment	Average account balance
General Security (A Class)	10%	47%
General Security (B Class)	-	42%

Summary of last water year 2024/25

All higher-priority licences, including local water utility, domestic and stock, and high security entitlements received their maximum allocations at the start of the 2024/25 water year. Floodplain harvesting and supplementary access licence holders also commenced the year with maximum (100%) allocations.

At the start of the 2024/25 water year, general security (A Class) users held an average account balance of 17% of entitlement after an opening allocation of 10%. Over the course of the year, four allocation increments were announced, resulting in a full allocation of 100% by 29 January 2025. By the end of the water year, average account balances had declined to 9%, with relatively low usage of around 26% of entitlement.

In contrast, general security (B Class) users commenced the water year with an average account balance of 54% of entitlement. They received their only allocation, for the year, of 10% on 29 May 2025. By the end of the water year, average account balances had decreased to 42%, with usage remaining low at around 28% of entitlement.

Supplementary access was announced on 24 occasions during the 2024/25 water year, with total usage recorded at 51 GL (43%).

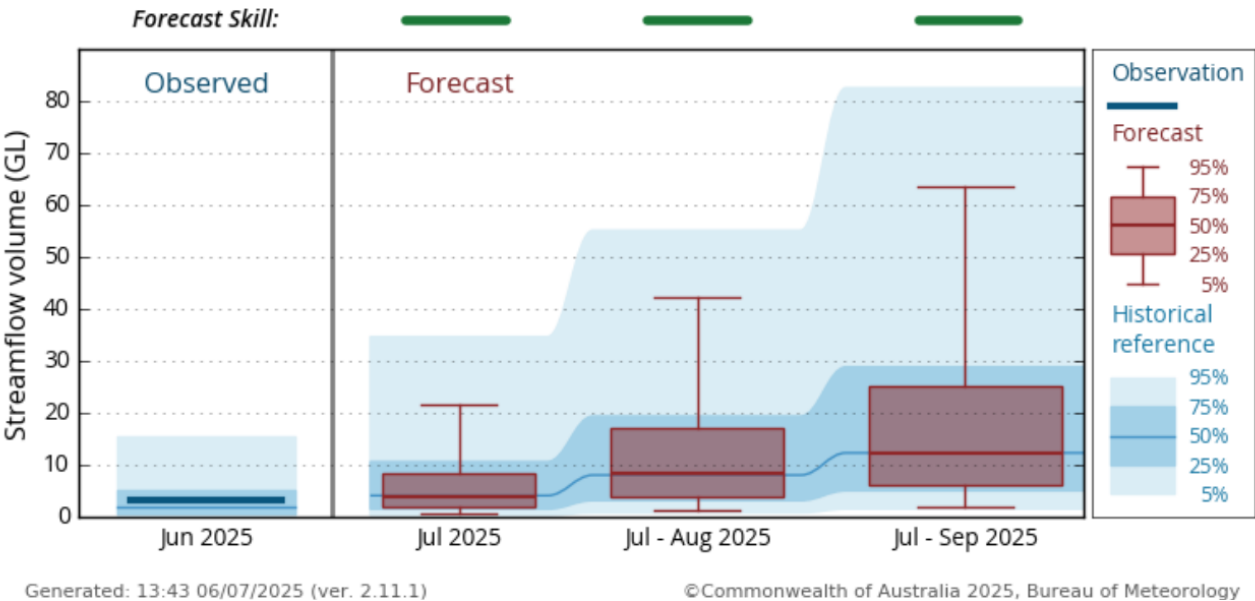
The NSW Border catchment experienced predominantly above average rainfall conditions during the 2024/25 water year. Pindari Dam recorded a significant inflow peak of approximately 39 GL in April 2025, while Glenlyon Dam experienced a smaller peak of around 10 GL in December 2024. Outside of these events, both storages received minimal inflows. As a result, storage volumes in both Pindari and Glenlyon gradually declined over the year. By the end of the water year, Pindari had reduced from about 50% to 48% of capacity, while Glenlyon declined from 62% to 52%.

Inflow outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology issues a seasonal flow forecast for the Severn River at Fladbury, located upstream of Pindari Dam (see the figure below). Though preliminary, this may suggest the potential inflows into dam in the coming month. The forecast quantiles of total flow volumes are tighter around median flow from July to September 2025 indicating a likely average condition. The graph for July to September 2025 is shown below, and updates can be found at: [Seasonal Streamflow Forecasts: Water Information: Bureau of Meteorology](#)

Severn River at Fladbury (ID: 416022)

Forecast for Jul 2025 – Sep 2025



Resource assessment data sheet

Resource distribution (as of 1 July 2025)	Volume (GL)
Total available resource (NSW) ⁽¹⁾	204
less	
Essential supplies ⁽²⁾	41
General security account balance ⁽³⁾	113
General security delivery loss ⁽⁴⁾	34
Storage evaporation losses ⁽⁵⁾	16
equals	
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁶⁾	0

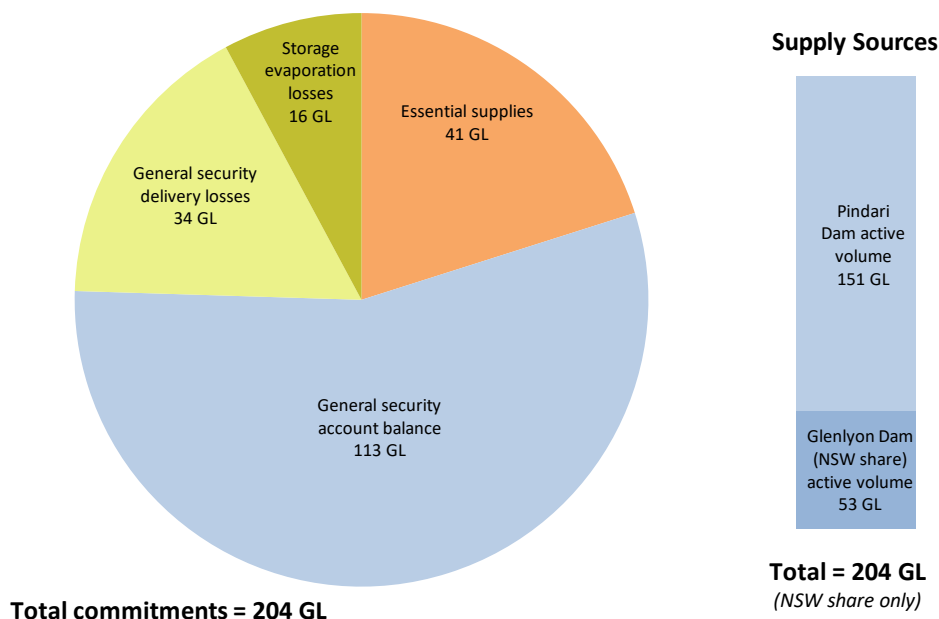
Notes:

- (1) This includes Pindari Dam and the NSW share of Glenlyon Dam, as of 1 July 2025. In accordance with the New South Wales - Queensland Border Rivers Intergovernmental Agreement 2008, NSW has access to 57% of net inflows into Glenlyon Dam.
- (2) Water required to be set aside under water sharing plans to provide for domestic, stock, towns, high security, replenishment, stimulus release (4GL), delivery loss and operational requirements. This commitment is assisted by the minimum forecast inflows to storage. The full reserve is 41 GL. If depleted, this reserve is replenished first prior to allocation increment.
- (3) The general security account balance includes 2.81 GL of held environmental water (HEW) administered by environmental water holder/s. These environmental entitlements are held and/or managed either singly or jointly by

various environmental water holder groups including the NSW Government and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH).

- (4) A reserve reflecting budgeted loss 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 depleted it is topped up as a priority from resource improvements, to ensure that allocated water can be delivered.
- (5) Storage evaporation loss is based on forecast storage depletion over the next 24 months.
- (6) Surplus (or deficit) of water available after accounting for all commitments.

Resource Distribution as at 1 July 2025 NSW Border Rivers Water Source



Water allocation in 2025/26

Date	License 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	1.00 ML/unit share*	1.00 ML/unit share*	100%*
1-Jul	General Security (A class)	0.30 ML/unit share	0.30 ML/unit share	17%
1-Jul	General Security (B class)	0.00 ML/unit share	0.00 ML/unit share	54%
28-Jul	General Security (A class)	0.10 ML/unit share	0.40 ML/unit share	47%

* Maximum allowable as per the water sharing plan.

Water sharing plan rules

- Domestic and stock, local water utility and high security licence categories are to receive an allocation of 100% of their share component at the start of the water year. These licences cannot carry over unused balances into the next water year.
- General security (A class) access licences receive allocation only after all higher priority requirements are met. General security (B class) licence categories cannot receive allocation until General security (A class) licence receives their maximum allocation
- Any unused water of General security accounts (A class and B class) can be carried over to the next water year. The account balance at any time must not exceed 100% 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.
- Floodplain harvesting licences are to receive an allocation of 100% of entitlement at the start of the year, unless a growth-in-use measurement is required. The closing balance can be carried over into the next water year, but the account balance must not exceed 500% of entitlement.

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 this water source is available at the following link: [Resource assessment process | NSW Government Water](#)
- 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 this water source is available at the following link: [Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Border Rivers Regulated River Water Source 2021](#)

Further information

The next water allocation statement for this water source will be published when conditions change significantly.

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

You can also follow the department on X: @NSWDCCEEW_Water

Feedback on this work or any aspect of the department's service can be provided using the widget at:
[Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water | NSW Government](#)