

17 August 2026

Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source

General security allocation increased by 5%

Category	2026–27 allocation	Account balance
General security	27%	39% (731 GL)

Key information

- This resource assessment is based on information as of 11 August 2026.
- Conveyance entitlements have also received allocation increments commensurate with the general security (GS) allocation increase.
- Environmental Water Allowance 2 (EWA2) accrued 9.8 GL during July, bringing the account balance to 15 GL.
- The allocation increment has been possible due to strong inflows to the storages since the last assessment.
- Trade into the Murrumbidgee is currently open and trade out of Murrumbidgee is closed. The Murrumbidgee IVT account balance is 100 GL as of 12 August 2026. Water users should monitor the [WaterNSW](#) website for daily information on the IVT account balance, the status of trade, and other important updates.
- Good rainfall and transience releases have triggered supplementary flow at some river sections. In addition, access to uncontrolled flow may be possible for some GS licence holders. More information is available on [WaterInsights](#) website.

Next statement

The next water allocation statement for this water source will be published on **Tuesday, 1 September 2026 at 2.30 pm**.

Resources assessment data sheet

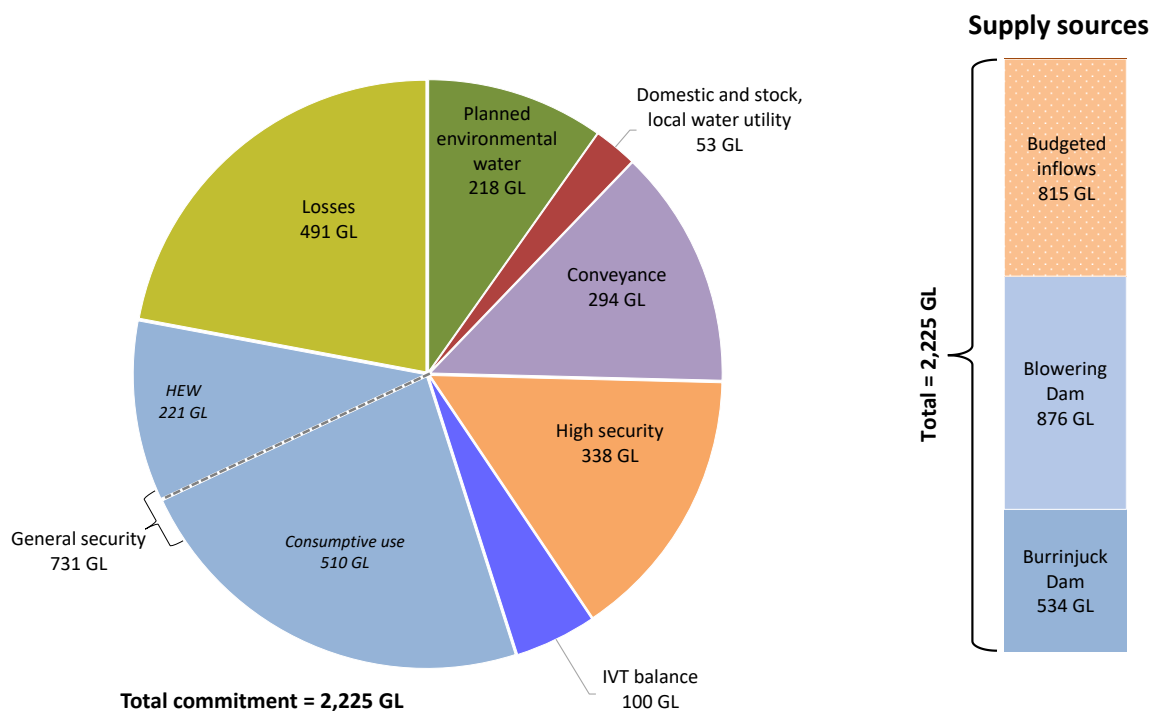
Resource distribution (as of 17 August 2026)	Volume (GL)
Current and future resources ⁽¹⁾	2,225
<i>less</i>	
Planned environmental water balance ⁽²⁾	218
Domestic and stock, and local water utility balance	53
Conveyance balance	294
High security balance	338
General security balance ⁽³⁾	731
Murrumbidgee IVT balance (as of 12/08/26)	100
Losses (09/26 to 06/27) ⁽⁴⁾	491
Higher-priority reserve (2027–28) ⁽⁵⁾	0
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁶⁾	0

Notes:

- 1) Total active storage volume behind Burrinjuck and Blowering dams as of 11 August 2026; minus 50 GL operational reserve (25 GL per Dam); plus any usable flow in transit; plus minimum inflows for rest of the water year (Burrinjuck – 09/1911 to 06/1912, Blowering – 09/2002 to 06/2003); plus Snowy Hydro's assured Required Annual Release (RAR) till 4/2027, minus 7 GL commitment to Australian Capital Territory (ACT) (see Water sharing plan clause 56(5)(c)).
- 2) This includes end-of-system flow requirements (179 GL); plus provisional storage volumes (PSV1 = nil, PSV2 = nil); plus environmental water allowances balance (EWA1 = 3 GL, EWA2 = 15 GL, EWA3 = 0 GL); plus a budgeted 21 GL for future EWA2 to reflect the simulated transparent release arising from the budgeted minimum inflow.
- 3) Balance of water in GS accounts as of 11 August 2026. The volume includes water carried over from last year, new allocation this water year, minus usage to date. Both consumptive and Held Environmental Water (HEW) GS volumes are reported here. For information, the average carryover into 2026–27 was 15% (276 GL).
- 4) Losses reflect the conservative estimate of the volume required to run the river to meet demands for the remainder of the water year. This includes storage evaporation, transmission and operational losses.
- 5) Volume to set aside for full opening allocation to higher-priority needs on 1 July 2027. This reserve will be built from December 2026 onward.
- 6) Surplus (or deficit) of water available after accounting for all commitments.

Resource distribution as at 17 August 2026

Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source



Held environmental water (HEW)

HEW entitlements are managed either individually or jointly by various environmental groups, including the NSW Government, and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder. The figures in the table below are approximate as of 11 August 2026. For detailed information, please refer to the respective agencies' websites.

Licence category	Share component (GL)	2026–27 volume (GL)*	Account balance (GL)
General security	504	240	221
High security	18	17	17
Conveyance	84	60	59

* Water allocated in 2026–27 plus water carried over on 01/07/26

Chances of improvement

The chances of improved Murrumbidgee general security allocations after 1 July 2026, based on a repeat of historical inflows and drought, are provided in the table below under a variety of conditions. In these simulations, only inflow variations are modelled, without regard to corresponding variation in losses or water usage behaviour. The simulations are based on inflow percentiles from 1890 to 2004 and a design water use pattern, with no consideration of current weather conditions.

Simulated general security allocations (%)

Repeat of historical inflow conditions	1 October 2026	1 February 2027
Pre 2004 minimum	27%	27%
Very dry (90% Exceedance)	27%	30%
Dry (75% Exceedance)	29%	35%
Median (50% Exceedance)	34%	45%

Note 1: Estimated values indicative only, not guaranteed and subject to change based on actual events unfolding.

Note 2: Any carryover water is to be added to these indicative allocations with individual account balances not exceeding 100%.

Useful links



Allocation statements for all water sources are available at: [Water allocation statements | Water](#)



A series of guides that describe the water allocation methods for most NSW regulated river systems are available at: [Resource assessment process | Water](#)



The dashboard on water availability and allocations for all water sources is available at: [Allocations dashboard | Water](#)



Water sharing plan for this water source is available at: [Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source 2016](#)

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Annexure

Allocations in 2026–27

Table 1: Water allocation history in 2026–27 for the Murrumbidgee Regulated River Water Source

Date	Licence category	Increment	Total 2026–27	Account Balance
1-Jul	Domestic and stock	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	Local water utility	100%	100%*	100%*
1-Jul	Regulated river (high security) [#]	0.95 ML/share	0.95 ML/share	95%
1-Jul	Supplementary water	1.00 ML/share*	1.00 ML/share*	100%*
1-Jul	Supplementary water (Lowbidgee)	1.00 ML/share*	1.00 ML/share*	100%*
1-Jul	Coleambally Irrigation (conveyance)	0.8585 ML/share	0.8585 ML/share	97%
1-Jul	Murrumbidgee Irrigation (conveyance)	0.6183 ML/share	0.6183 ML/share	62%
1-Jul	Regulated river (conveyance)	0.00 ML/share	0.000 ML/share	0%
15-Jul	Coleambally Irrigation (conveyance)	0 ML/share	0.8585 ML/share	97%
15-Jul	Murrumbidgee Irrigation (conveyance)	0.0362 ML/share	0.6545 ML/ share	65%
15-Jul	Regulated river (conveyance)	0.16 ML/share	0.16 ML/share	16%
15-Jul	Regulated river (general security)	0.16 ML/share	0.16 ML/share	31%
3-Aug	Coleambally Irrigation (conveyance)	0 ML/share	0.8585 ML/share	97%
3-Aug	Murrumbidgee Irrigation (conveyance)	0.0226 ML/share	0.6772 ML/share	68%
3-Aug	Regulated river (conveyance)	0.06 ML/share	0.22 ML/share	22%
3-Aug	Regulated river (general security)	0.06 ML/share	0.22 ML/share	35%
17-Aug	Coleambally Irrigation (conveyance)	0 ML/share	0.8585 ML/share	93%
17-Aug	Murrumbidgee Irrigation (conveyance)	0.0340 ML/share	0.7112 ML/share	71%
17-Aug	Regulated river (conveyance)	0.05 ML/share	0.27 ML/share	27%
17-Aug	Regulated river (general security)	0.05 ML/share	0.27 ML/share	39%

* Maximum allowable

[#] Excluding high security entitlements with subcategories which received their maximum 100% on 1 July.

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 decisions.

- Domestic and stock, local water utility and high security sub-category access licences are to receive 100% of entitlement at the start of the water year and cannot carry over any unused balances into the next water year.
- High security (HS) access licences are to receive a full opening allocation of 95% at the start of the water year and cannot carry over unused balances into the next water year.
- HS allocations recommence when general security (GS) allocations reach 95% and must remain 1% higher than GS AWD. HS allocations can then increase incrementally with GS allocations, up to a maximum of 100% of entitlement.
- General security (GS) access licences are to receive allocations after all higher-priority categories have been fully allocated. GS accounts can carry over up to 30% of entitlement into the next water year, with an account limit of 100% of entitlement.
- Murrumbidgee Irrigation (conveyance) licences are allocated incrementally based on both HS and GS allocations. Regulated river (conveyance) and Coleambally Irrigation (conveyance) licences are allocated incrementally based on GS allocations. These licences can carry over up to 30% of entitlement, with an account limit of 100%.
- Planned environmental water rules include the environmental water allowance 1, 2 and 3 (EWA1, EWA2, EWA3) and provisional storage volume 1 and 2 (PSV1 and PSV2).
- EWA1 and PSV1 are allocated when GS total water availability reaches 60%. EWA2 accumulates when transparent flows are greater than or equal to translucent releases from Burrinjuck Dam. EWA3 is allocated when GS reaches 80%. PSV2 allocation starts once PSV1 has been fully allocated, but not after 1 January. Only the water remaining in EWA1 and EWA2 accounts can be carried over to the next water year.
- 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.