

5 August 2026

Peel Regulated River Water Source

General security allocation increased by 14%

Category	2026–27 allocation	Account balance
General security	89%	89%

Key information

- This resource assessment is based on information as of 31 July 2026.
- Environmental water allowance (EWA) has been credited at the same ratio as the general security (GS) allocation increase.
- Peel alluvium aquifer GS licences have also received an allocation increment commensurate with the general security (GS) allocation increase.
- Since the last assessment, inflows to the dam during July have improved overall water availability, enabling this increase in allocation.
- All higher-priority water users received their maximum (100%) allocation on 1 July 2026.
- GS licence holders started the new water year with 75% allocation, with commensurate volume credited to EWA accounts.
- Peel alluvium aquifer GS licences received an opening allocation of 87.8% in accordance with the water sharing plan rules.
- Higher-priority uses are secure for the 2027–28 water year.
- Access to uncontrolled flow is available to relevant users on the Peel River; please refer to [WaterInsight](#) for more information.

Next statement

The water allocation statement for this water source will be published periodically or after a significant change in water resources.

Summary of the last water year (2025–26)

At the start of the 2025–26 water year, all higher-priority licence holders, including local water utility, domestic and stock, and high security entitlements, received their maximum (100%) allocations. On 1 July 2025, the general security (GS) licence holders had also received a full (100%) allocation, with commensurate volume allocated to environmental water allowance (EWA). Likewise, the alluvium aquifer GS licence holders had commenced 2025-26 with a full (100%) allocation.

Chaffey Dam storage remained high throughout the water year, staying above 86% capacity. Most inflows into Chaffey Dam occurred during July and August 2025, when significantly above-average inflows of 55 GL arrived. A further 21 GL of inflows was received during the remainder of the water year.

Average rainfall conditions across the valley meant that general security licence holders used only around 31% of their entitlement. In accordance with the water sharing plan, unused water in accounts was forfeited on 30 June 2026 and re-distributed on 1 July 2026 in priority order.

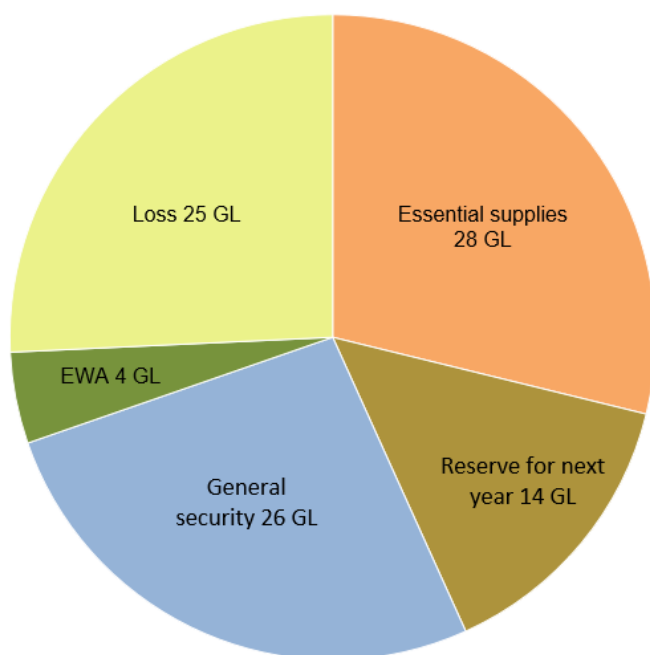
Resource assessment data sheet

Resource distribution (as of 31 July 2026)	Volume (GL)
Current and future resources ⁽¹⁾	97
<i>less</i>	
Essential supplies (08/26 to 06/27) ⁽²⁾	28
EWA balance	4
General security balance	26
Evaporation, operational and transmission loss ⁽³⁾	25
Reserve for 2027–28 ⁽⁴⁾	14
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁵⁾	0

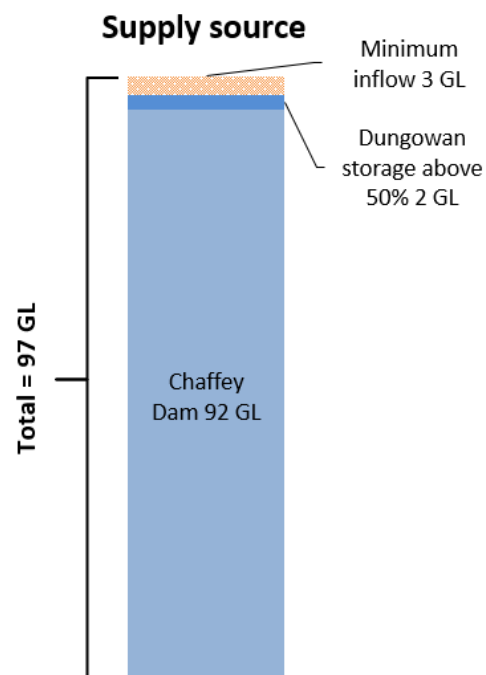
Notes:

- (1) Chaffey Dam active storage, Dungowan Dam volume above 50% full and minimum inflow expected to June 2027.
- (2) Volume required to supply for basic landholder rights, domestic and stock (D&S), local water utility (LWU), high security (HS) entitlements in full within remaining water year. This also includes associated transmission loss plus minimum storage release.
- (3) Evaporation budget assumes historical high evaporation rates. The transmission loss is budgeted to deliver water orders based on current conditions and forecasts. EWA water delivery is measured at the dam wall thus incurs no transmission loss.
- (4) Reserve set aside to meet the opening allocation of 2027–28 at the repeat of the worst drought known at the commencement of the water sharing plan. The reserve includes basic landholder rights, 70% domestic and stock, 70% local water utility, 50% high security entitlements and associated transmission loss plus minimum storage release. This also considers minimum inflow expected over 2027–28, offset by evaporation for the same period.
- (5) Surplus (or deficit) of available water after accounting for all commitments.

Resource distribution as at 31 July 2026 Peel Regulated River Water Source



Total commitments = 97 GL



Storage volume simulation

The storage outlook for the assessment horizon of next two years is provided below. It shows that with current allocations and commitments and an assumed repeat of the historical minimum inflow sequence (at the start of the water sharing plan) together with forecast demands, the volume in Chaffey Dam depletes to 24 GL by July 2028. This is sufficient to supply the higher priorities into the third year from now.

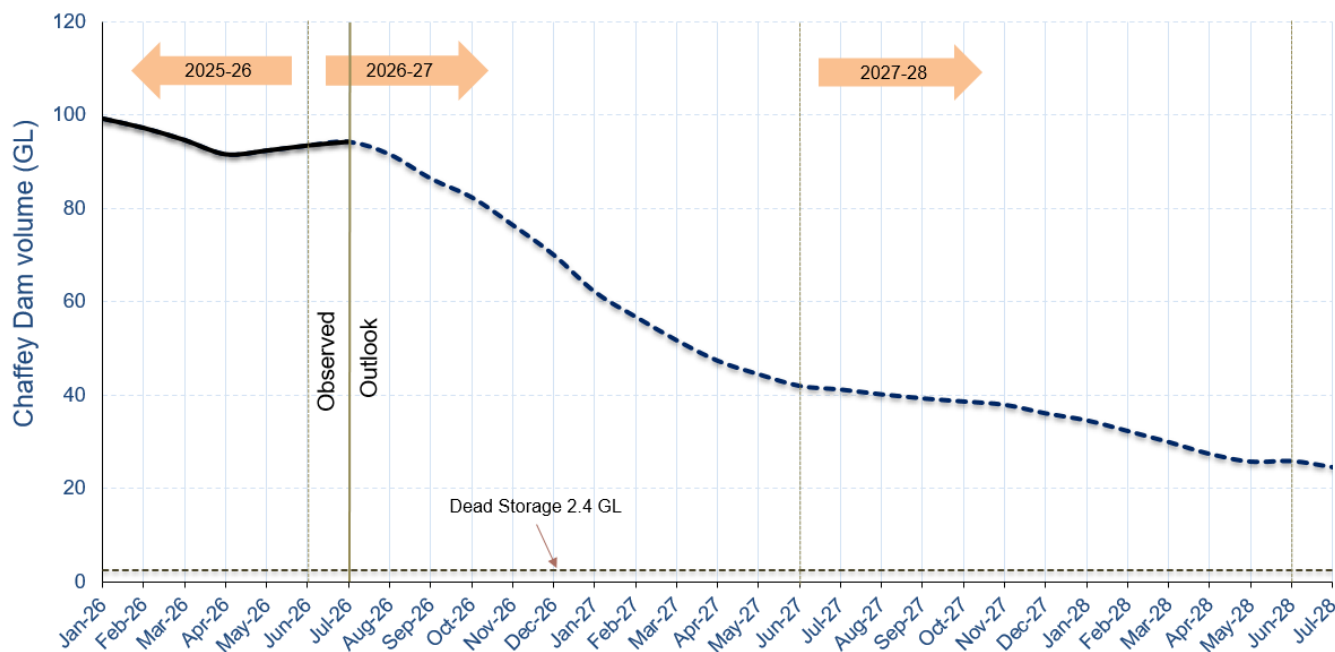


Figure: Simulated depletion of Chaffey Dam storage volume

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 plans for these water sources are available at:
[Peel Regulated River Water Source 2022 | Namoi Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020](#)

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Annexure

Allocations in 2026–27

Table 1: Peel Regulated River water allocation in 2026–27

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	High security	1.00 ML/share	1.00 ML/share*	100%*
1-Jul	EWA	0.75 ML/share	0.75 ML/share	75%
1-Jul	General security	0.75 ML/share	0.75 ML/share	75%
5-Aug	EWA	0.14 ML/share	0.89 ML/share	89%
5-Aug	General security	0.14 ML/share	0.89 ML/share	89%

* Maximum allowable.

Table 2: Peel Alluvium Groundwater water allocation in 2026–27

Date	Licence category	Increment	Total 2026–27	Account balance
1-Jul	Aquifer (general security)	0.878 ML/share	0.878 ML/share	87.8%
5-Aug	Aquifer (general security)	0.069 ML/share	0.947 ML/share	93.8%

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, and local water utility access licences are to receive a minimum allocation of 70% of their entitlement at the start of the water year. If additional water is available, allocation to rise to 100%.
- High security access licences are to receive a minimum allocation of 50% of their entitlement at the start of the water year. If additional water is available, allocation to rise to 100%.
- General security access licences receive allocations after all higher priority requirements have received their maximum (100%) allocation. Maximum allocation to general security users in a year cannot exceed 100% of entitlement.
- The environmental water allowance (EWA) is credited incrementally at the same ratio with general security allocations where 100% equals 5 GL. The EWA has an account limit of 5 GL.
- No licence category in Peel Regulated River Water Source can carryover any unused balance into the next water year.
- In the Peel Alluvium Groundwater Source, aquifer (general security) licences are allocated at the start of each water year through a combination of aquifer and Peel regulated river general security allocations. These licences are incrementally allocated in line with Peel regulated river general security allocations. Total account balance cannot exceed 100% of entitlement. Any unused water cannot be carried over into the next water year.