

8 September 2026

Lachlan Regulated River Water Source

General security allocation increased by 6%

Category	2026–27 allocation	Account balance
General security	10%	56% (332 GL)

Key information

- This resource assessment is based on information as of 31 August 2026.
- The allocation increment was possible due to good inflows into the catchment and some reduction in commitments. A total of 117 GL of inflows into the dam and from major tributaries were recorded in August.
- There has been delivery of 1 GL of Environmental water allowances (EWA) from Wyangala Dam.
- There was a total of 33 GL water delivered since the last assessment, creating additional allocation headroom.
- Lake Cargelligo will be maintained at 85% until the successful completion of upgrade works at Lake Cargelligo. Once testing and monitoring are successfully completed, Lake Cargelligo will return to normal operations (100%). Please refer to [project update](#) from WaterNSW.
- Applicable account balances will be reset if all three storages are simultaneously full (or deemed full under reduced operating capacity) as per clause 45(3) of the water sharing plan. Lake Cargelligo will be deemed full at 85% capacity until WaterNSW revises the capacity limit.

Next statement

The next routine monthly water allocation statement for this water source will be published on **Friday, 9 October 2026**.

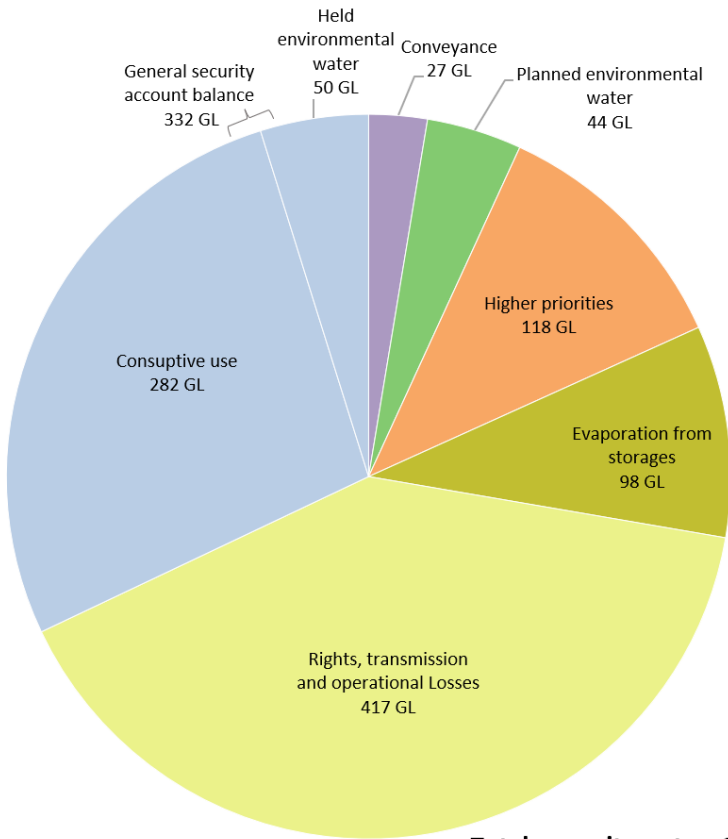
Resource assessment data sheet

Resource distribution (September 2026 to June 2028)	Volume (GL)
Current and future resources ⁽¹⁾	1,038
<i>less</i>	
This water year (09/26 to 06/27)	
Planned environmental water balance ⁽²⁾	24
Domestic and stock, local water utility balance	28
High security balance	34
Conveyance balance	18
General security balance ⁽³⁾	332
Evaporation from storage ⁽⁴⁾	68
Rights, transmission, and operational losses ⁽⁵⁾	218
Storage reserve for 2027–28	
Planned environmental water ⁽²⁾	20
Domestic and stock, local water utility, and high security ⁽⁶⁾	56
Conveyance	9
Evaporation from storage ⁽⁴⁾	30
Rights, transmission, and operational losses ⁽⁵⁾	199
<i>equals</i>	
Surplus (or deficit) ⁽⁷⁾	2

Notes:

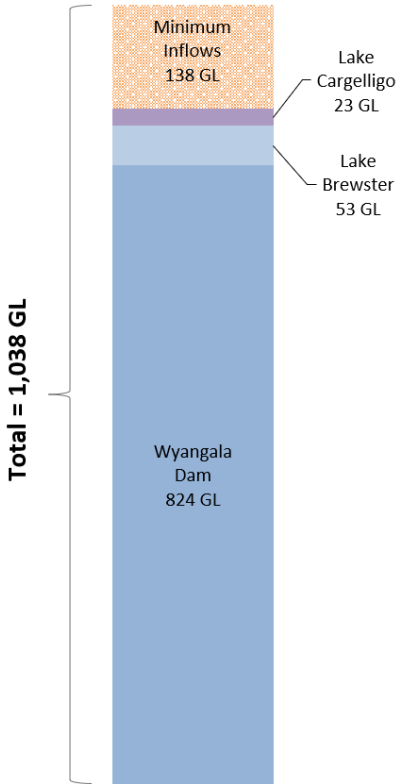
- (1) End of August 2026 active storage volume in Wyangala Dam, Lake Cargelligo, and Lake Brewster; plus the budgeted minimum inflows to Wyangala Dam (09/1918 to 05/1920); plus useful tributary flows; minus 16 GL of inaccessible (dead) storage volume.
- (2) Water reserved for the water quality allowance (WQA) and the two environmental water allowances (EWA).
- (3) The held environmental water (HEW) balance is estimated to be 50 GL of GS entitlements. These reported entitlements are managed by agencies holding environmental water accounts. They include the NSW Government and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH).
- (4) Budget for evaporation loss from all 3 storages is based on projected storage depletions.
- (5) The volume required to run the river to meet all non-licence-based demands and delivery overheads. This mostly comprises of basic landholder rights, and transmission and operational losses under dry conditions. The volumes needed for the remainder of the water year and the future are based on the projected demands of respective periods.
- (6) Required volume to allow full utilisation of 100% allocation to these licence holders.
- (7) Surplus (or deficit) of water available after accounting for all commitments. There is a small surplus, insufficient for a full percentage increment in allocation, which will be rolled over to the next resource assessment.

Resource distribution as at 31 August 2026
Lachlan Regulated River Water Source



Total commitments = 1,036 GL

Supply source



Total = 1,038 GL

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](#)



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

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Annexure

Allocations in 2026–27

Table 1: Lachlan water allocation history 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	Conveyance	0.75 ML/share	0.75 ML/share	75%
8-Jul	Conveyance	0.25 ML/share	1.00 ML/share*	100%
10-Aug	General security	0.04 ML/share	0.04 ML/share	56%
8-Sep	General security	0.06 ML/share	0.10 ML/share	56%

*Maximum allowable

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 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.
- The water quality allowance is to be credited with 20 GL at the start of the water year. The closing balance cannot be carried over into the next water year.
- Wyangala environmental water allowance (EWA) and Brewster EWA are to be credited with 10 GL each at the start of the water year if the opening GS account balance exceeds 50%. If this does not occur, the 10 GL credit is deferred until the available GS carryover balance, plus the cumulative allocation reaches 75% of GS entitlement.
- General security access licences are to receive allocation after all higher priority categories have been fully allocated. Any unused water can be carried over into next water year, but total account balances cannot exceed 200% of entitlement. Water use or trade within a single water year is limited to 100% of entitlement.

- Conveyance allocation is a function of the Jemalong Irrigation Limited GS account balance. Allocation to conveyance entitlement reaches its maximum (100%) when the Jemalong Irrigation Limited GS account balance reaches 75%.
- Evaporation reductions apply to carried over volumes to account for the additional evaporation from storages caused by these volumes. Reductions are calculated by the end of each quarter and applied to balances at the end of each water year.
- If Wyangala Dam, Lake Brewster and Lake Cargelligo are simultaneously full—or are expected to fill from flows already in the system—the minister may withdraw water allocations from applicable accounts and make new available water determinations. The withdrawal can happen no more than once every 6 months.