



Monday, 15 December 2014

NSW Murray general security allocation improves but allocations in the Murrumbidgee unchanged

NSW Department of Primary Industries Acting Deputy Director General Water, Michael Bullen, today announced a 4 percent increase to water allocations for general security water users in the NSW Murray regulated river water source; however the general security allocation in the Murrumbidgee remains unchanged.

“Some good rainfall this month in the upper parts of the Murray catchment provided a small improvement to Murray resources enabling the allocation to increase to 49 percent of entitlement.

Unfortunately, rainfall in the upper Murrumbidgee catchment was not as good meaning there was insufficient inflows generated to increase the Murrumbidgee general security allocation, that remains unchanged at 40 percent of entitlement.

Carry-over water in these valleys is at an average of 30 percent and 26 percent respectively and is also fully available.

“Currently Burrinjuck Dam is 74 percent of capacity, about 1.5 percent better than at the end of November, while Blowering Dam has fallen 6 percent to be 37 percent full,” Mr Bullen said.

“Hume and Dartmouth storages continue to fall as water deliveries continue and they now hold 63 percent and 86 percent of their full supply capacities respectively.”

Trade arrangements in these valleys continue unchanged from last month.

Nett trades downstream across the Barmah choke closed on 28 October 2014, however due to the active market in recent months, there has now been sufficient water move upstream, (from below to above the choke), meaning that there is now the **same capacity** to trade downstream, (from above to below the choke).

In the Murrumbidgee, delivery of inter-valley trade water continues through Balranald thereby reducing the undelivered account balance. It has now reduced to 118,000 megalitres and when it falls to well below 100,000 megalitres, trade **out** of the valley can be re-opened.

The next water allocation announcement and water availability outlook will be made by the NSW Office of Water on Thursday 15 January 2014.

Ends

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Data Sheet

2014-15 Resource Distribution (as at 15 December 2014)

	NSW Murray Volume (GL)	Murrumbidgee Volume (GL)
Total Available Resource	2,050	2,740
less		
Carryover	498	645
Rules based Environmental Water	243	166
Towns, Stock, Domestic	54	79
Mandatory Reserves	24	75
Conveyance	228	311
Announced High Security	183	341
Announced General Security	820	757
Losses (transmission, evaporation)		362
Balance Unallocated	0	4

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