



Friday, 15 August 2014

## **Small improvement for Murray and Murrumbidgee general security water allocations**

Acting Deputy Director General Water, Michael Bullen, today announced an increase to the water allocation for general security users in both the NSW Murray and Murrumbidgee valleys.

The NSW Murray general security water allocation will increase by 5 percent to 17 percent of entitlement, while the Murrumbidgee general security allocation will increase by 2 percent to 26 percent of entitlement.

“Hume and Dartmouth storages are now at 74 percent and 94 percent of capacity respectively, and are increasing, while Burrinjuck Dam is now 74 percent of capacity and rising while Blowering is steady at 70 percent.”

In terms of historical context, Mr Bullen said that these allocations are not unusual for this time of year and, with catchments already wet, further improvements are likely.

Mr Bullen also reminded water users that the trade restriction across the Barmah Choke remained relaxed but was being reviewed monthly.

“Trade out of the Murrumbidgee Valley is at its limit and remains closed, as does trade to and from the Lower Darling because of limited resources in the Menindee Lakes System.

Additional information on *Available Water Determinations* can be found on the NSW Office of Water’s website at - [www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au)

The following outlook has been updated with improved prospects for NSW Murray allocations because of likely internal spills to NSW in the Murray valley storages.

**Ends**

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## Chances of Improvement

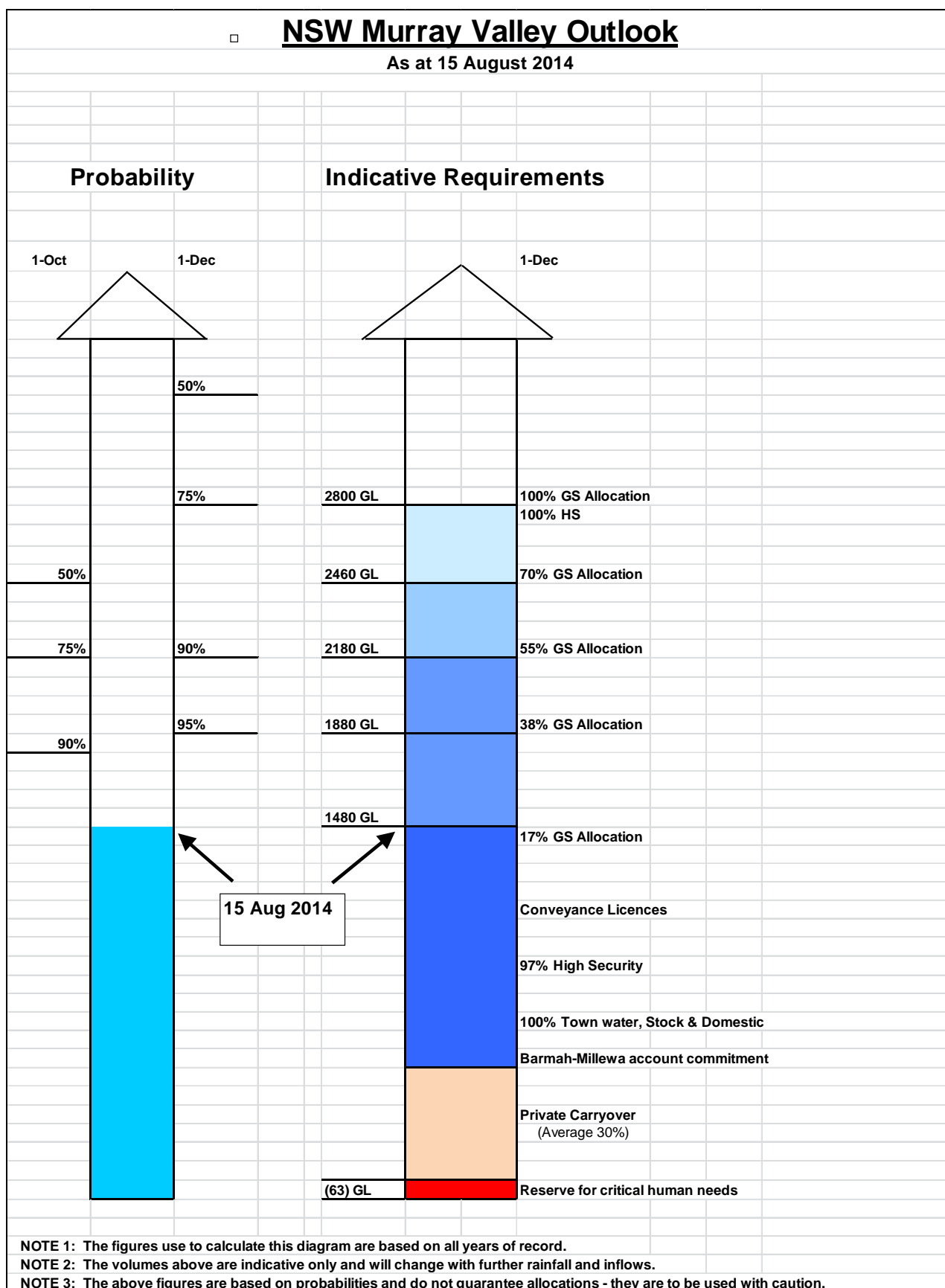
The chances of inflows being above historical minimums, and therefore the likelihood of improved allocations, are as follows:

	Forecast 1 October General Security Allocations		Forecast 1 December General Security Allocations	
Potential Inflow Conditions #	NSW Murray	Murrumbidgee	NSW Murray	Murrumbidgee
Worst case (current allocation)	17%	26%	17%	26%
9 chances in 10 (very dry) (90%)	32%	30%	55%	30%
3 chances in 4 (dry) (75%)	54%	34%	100%	34%
1 chance in 2 (average) (50%)	70%	38%	100%	43%

# Using all years of inflow records. \*\* Licence holders can add individual carryover to the relevant percentage

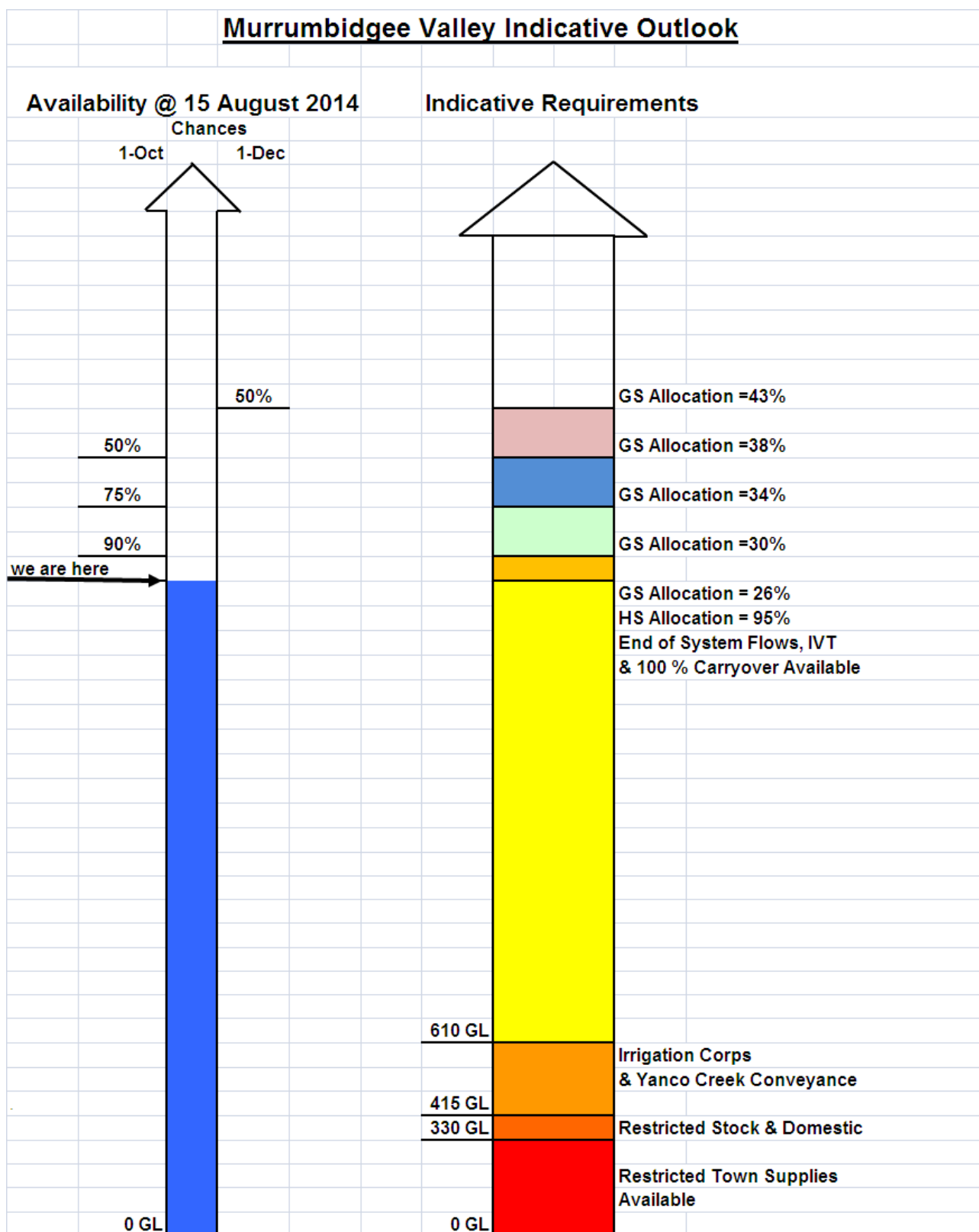
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