

Monday, 17 March 2014

Allocation update and outlook for Murrumbidgee water users

NSW Water Commissioner, David Harriss, said today that there would be no change to the Murrumbidgee valley general security allocation which would remain on 59 percent of entitlement.

“Below average rainfall and natural inflows into the major dams over the past month have not been sufficient to increase the general security water allocation in the Murrumbidgee valley,” said Mr Harriss.

Burrinjuck Dam is currently 460 GL (45 percent full) and Blowering is 851 GL (51 percent full).

“Murrumbidgee valley water utilities and stock and domestic licence holders can expect to start the 2014/15 season with 100 percent of entitlement, while high security users can expect 95 percent of entitlement,” Mr Harriss said.

“Based on minimum inflows, there will be no water available to enable a general security allocation in the Murrumbidgee valley; however, early season announcements will depend on seasonal rainfall and runoff, and catchment conditions.”

INDICATIVE ALLOCATIONS FOR 2014/15

- Full allocation can be expected for all town water and domestic & stock access licences.
- All carryover in general security accounts will be fully deliverable. At this stage, it is estimated that the average general security carryover will be close to the maximum 30 percent of entitlement.
- High Security access licences will receive an allocation of 95 percent of entitlement.
- Supplementary access licence holders will have full allocation with extraction allowed during periods of announced supplementary access.
- There will be no commencing general security allocation for 2014/15 under drought conditions.

Media contact: Bunty Driver – 0407 403 234

Our news releases are on the web: www.water.nsw.gov.au Follow us on Twitter @OfficeofWater



- Sufficient water will be available to make opening allocations for conveyance water commensurate with the expected opening allocations above.

CHANCES OF IMPROVEMENT

The chances of improved general security allocation based on different inflow conditions are as follows:

General Security Allocations (excludes carry over)		
Potential Inflow Conditions	1 July 2014	1 September 2014
9 chances in 10 (Very Dry)	0	2%
3 chances in 4 (Dry)	0	7%
1 chance in 2 (Average)	4%	22%

Additional information on Available Water Determinations is available on the NSW Office of Water's website at - www.water.nsw.gov.au

Media contact: Bunty Driver – 0407 403 234

Our news releases are on the web: www.water.nsw.gov.au Follow us on Twitter @OfficeofWater