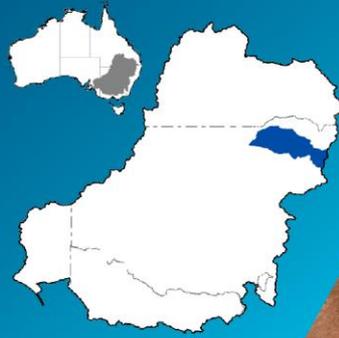




Water Reporting Summary – Gwydir Catchment

15 January 2021



Overview

- In the last 30 days, most of the Gwydir catchment received 100 to 200 mm of rainfall, with some southeastern areas of the catchment receiving up to 300 mm (Figure 1). The total area-average rainfall across the catchment was 150 mm in the last 30 days. This recent rainfall is in the context of the extended dry period since January 2017 with rainfall across the Gwydir catchment mainly being very much below average or lowest on record (Figure 2).
- In the last month, rainfall has resulted in a wetter catchment with very much above average root zone soil moisture for the upper Gwydir catchment and above average soil moisture for the lower catchment. Recent rainfall has translated into runoff and inflows to Copeton Dam, with Drought Stage 2 conditions being downgraded to Drought Stage 1 conditions (NSW DPIE).
- General security allocations have increased to 12.18% which are the highest allocations for the last three years. Limited water availability has translated into limited water trading activity in the Gwydir catchment (Figure 4 and Table 1).

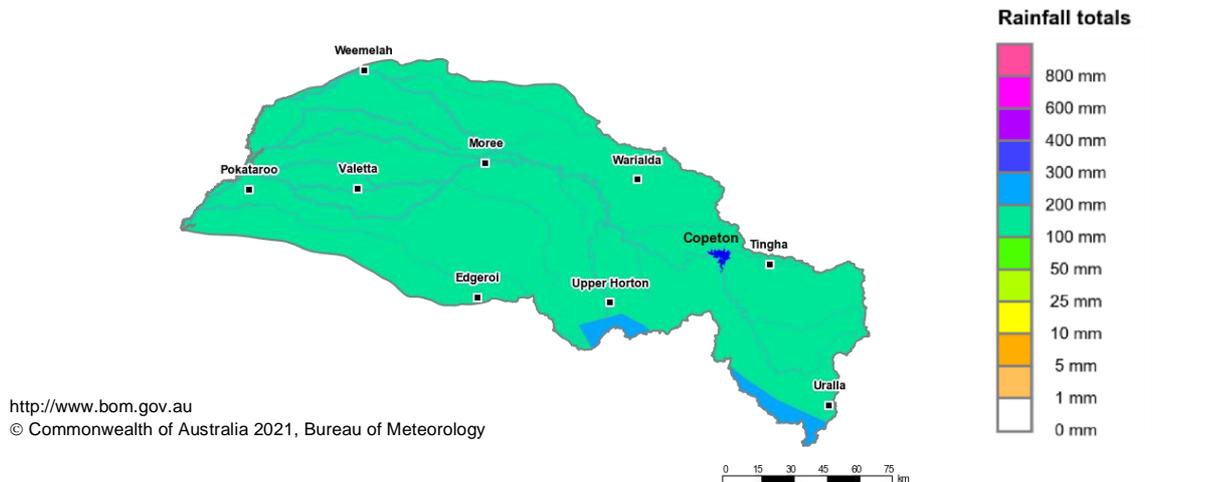


Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days (17 Dec 2020 to 15 Jan 2021)

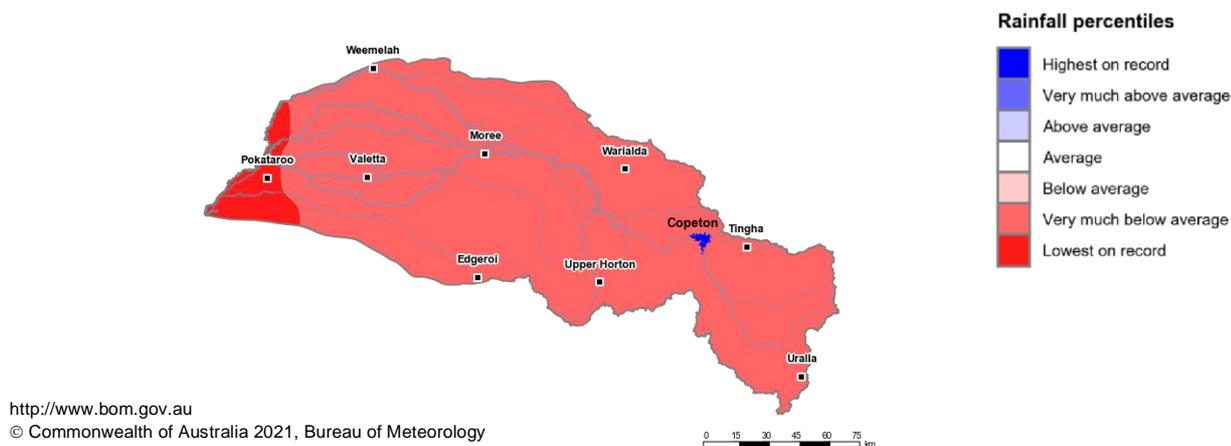


Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017 (compared to 1900–2019 long-term average) (Jan 2017 to Dec 2020)

Note: Rainfall percentiles for the period from January 2017 are shown as the Bureau of Meteorology considers January 2017 to be the start of the current dry period for eastern Australia.

How much water is in the storage?

Storage volume: Copeton storage as at 15 January 2021

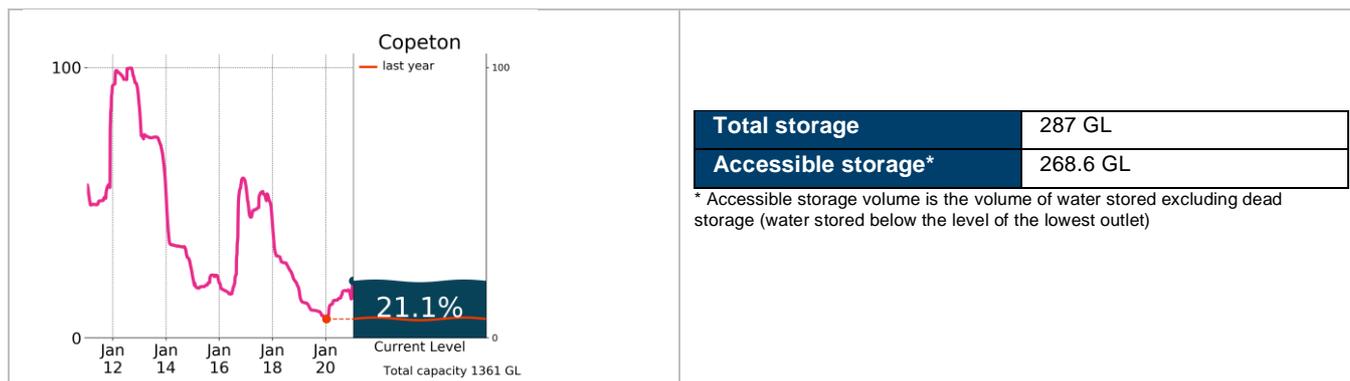


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) compared to the last ten years

Source: [BoM water storages dashboard](#)

Who is the water for?

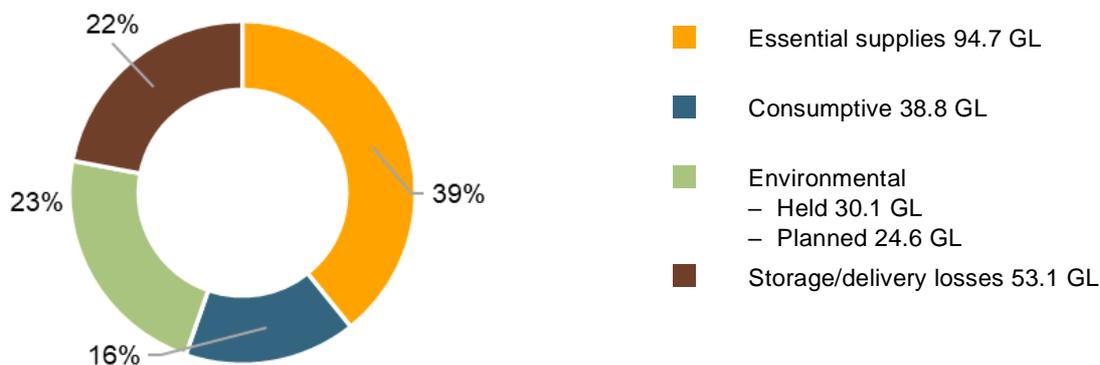


Figure 4: Volumes of water allocated (% of total) for the 2020–21 water year (last updated 15 January 2021)

Source: [NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment](#)

NB: Allocation information shown here is water allocated for various purposes as at 15 January 2021. It does not represent remaining available allocated water as it does not allow for water used, traded or new storage inflows (in excess of minimum assumptions).

Table 1: Allocation announcements (%) and market prices – selected licence categories as at 15 January 2021

| Licence category | Announced allocation | Historic comparison (same time of year) | Entitlement prices (monthly median) | Allocation price (median – last 7 days) |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Stock & Domestic, Local Utility | 100% | Same as most years | n/a | n/a |
| Gwydir High Security | 100% | Same as most years | n/a | |
| Gwydir General Security | 12.18% | Highest allocations in last three years | n/a | |
| Average Carryover (General Security) | 5% | 3% last year | n/a | |

*Indicative - limited trades

Source: [NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment](#) and [BoM water markets dashboard](#)

FIND OUT MORE

For more information email water@bom.gov.au



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