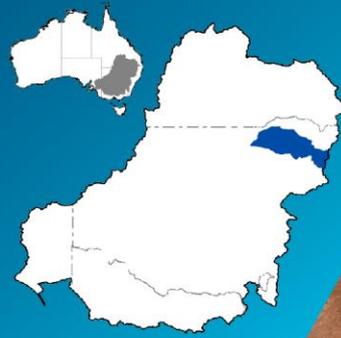




# Water Reporting Summary – Gwydir Catchment

1 April 2021



## Overview

- In the last 30 days, there has been widespread rainfall across the whole of the Gwydir catchment. Central parts of the catchment, including the area near Copeton Dam, received 200 to 300 mm of rainfall (Figure 1). The eastern and western parts of the catchment received 100 to 200 mm of rainfall. The total area-average rainfall across the catchment was 192 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 below to very much below average rainfall (Figure 2). However, the good rainfall in recent months has improved the medium-term rainfall percentiles.
- Rainfall in the last month has resulted in a wetter catchment with very much above average root zone soil moisture for the eastern half of the Gwydir catchment, and above average soil moisture in the western half of the catchment. Rainfall in last 30 days has generated significant runoff and inflows to Copeton Dam that has reached 40.4% of capacity which is double that reported in the last summary.
- General security allocations are currently 15.68% which are the highest allocations for the last three years. Improvements in water availability (Figure 4) has encouraged some water trading with current allocation prices of \$325 per ML (Table 1).

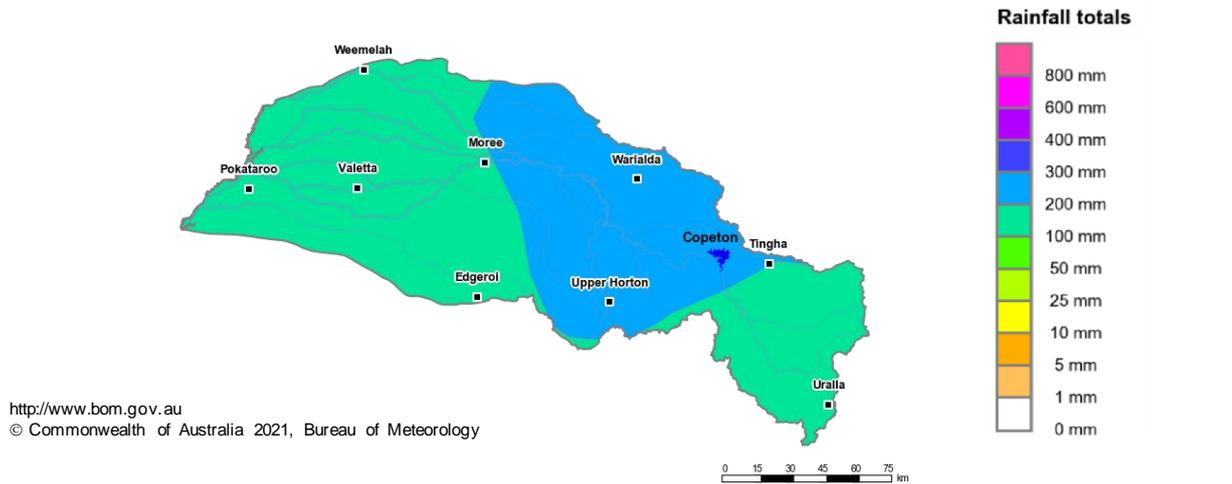


Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days (3 March to 1 April 2021)

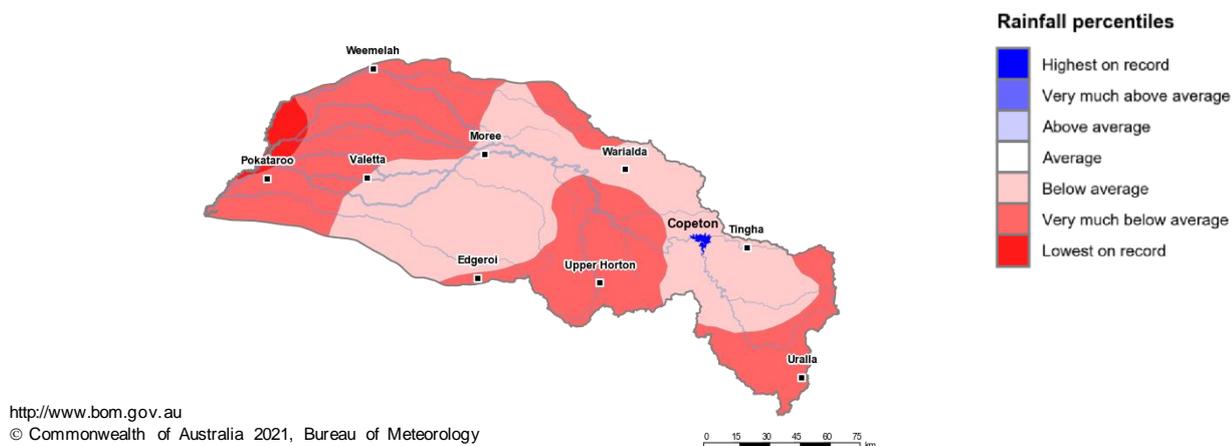


Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017 (compared to 1900–2019 long-term average) (Jan 2017 to Mar 2021)

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 31 March 2021

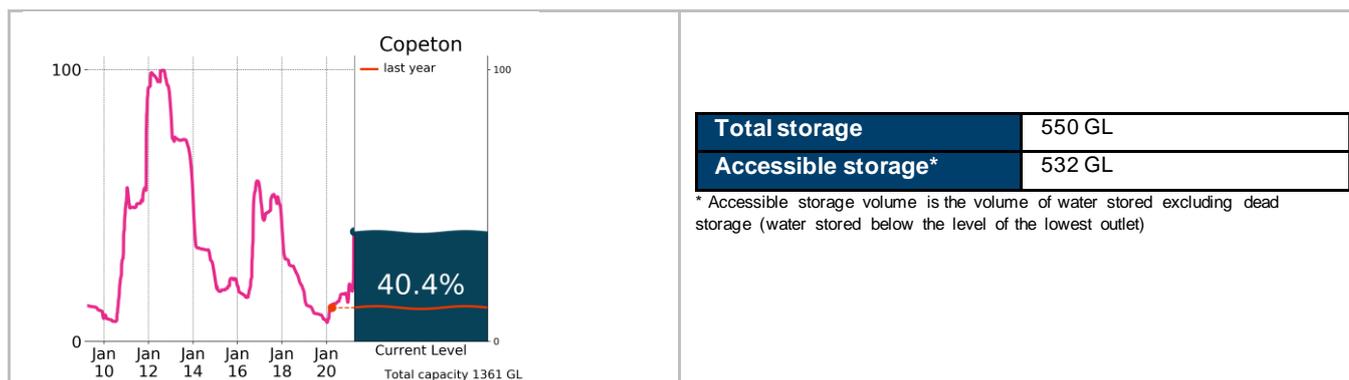


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) compared to the last ten years

Source: [BoM water storages dashboard](#)

## Who is the water for?

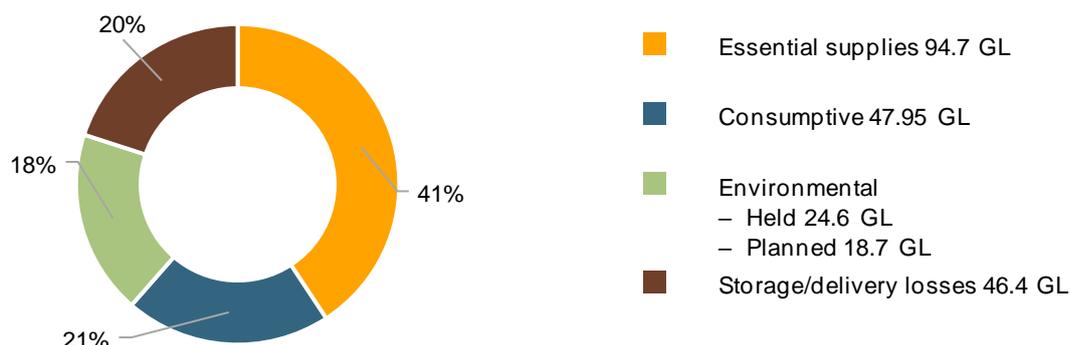


Figure 4: Volumes of water allocated (% of total) for the 2020–21 water year (last updated 5 March 2021)

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

NB: Allocation information shown here is water allocated for various purposes as at 5 March 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 1 April 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	\$325/ML*
Gwydir High Security	100%	Same as most years	n/a	
Gwydir General Security	15.68%	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](mailto:water@bom.gov.au)



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