



Water Reporting Summary – NSW Border Rivers Catchment

3 May 2021



Overview

- In the last 30 days, there has been widespread rainfall across the central and eastern parts of the NSW Border Rivers catchment with small areas in the far east near Tenterfield, receiving 50 to 100 mm, and areas from Glen Innes to Croppa Creek, including the Pindari Dam catchment, receiving 25 to 50 mm of rainfall. Croppa Creek to downstream of Boomi received 10 to 25 mm and small areas in the far west received less than 10 mm of rainfall (Figure 1). As a result, the total area-average rainfall across the catchment was 35 mm over the last 30 days. This recent rainfall is in the context of the extended dry period since January 2017 with rainfall across the catchment mainly being below average to very much below average (Figure 2). However, recent rainfall has offset the medium-term rainfall deficiency in the south east of the catchment.
- Rainfall over the last 30 days has increased the soil moisture level to very much above average in the upper two-thirds of the NSW Border Rivers catchment with the rest of the catchment having above average soil moisture. The recent rainfall has contributed to runoff and inflows into storages (Figure 3). Drought Stage 1 conditions are still in place, representing normal river operations ahead of the next irrigation season (NSW DPIE).
- Announced allocations for general security A and B class entitlements are currently at 78% and 0%, respectively. For class A entitlements, for this time of year, this is the highest allocation since 2017–18. Allocation prices are currently \$275 per ML (Figure 4 and Table 1).

Recent conditions

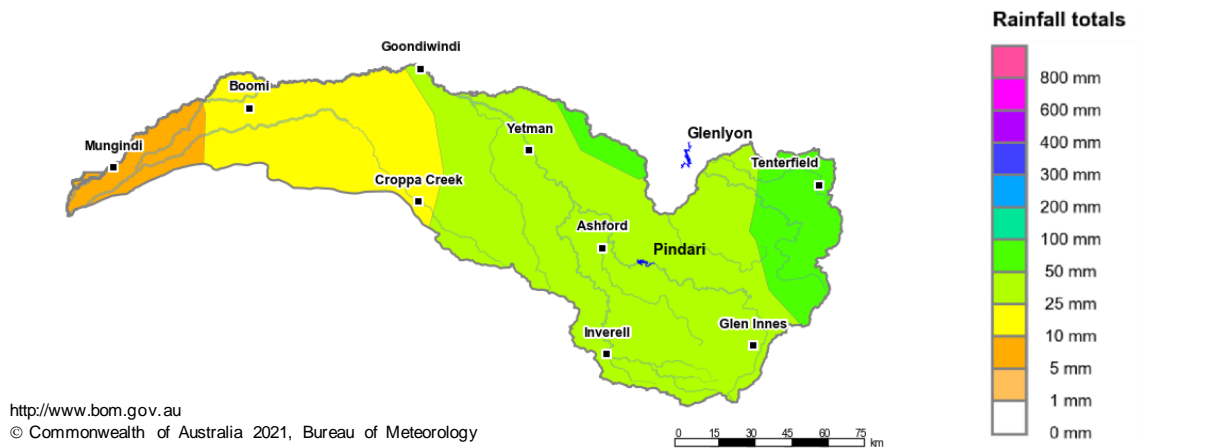


Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days (4 April to 3 May 2021)

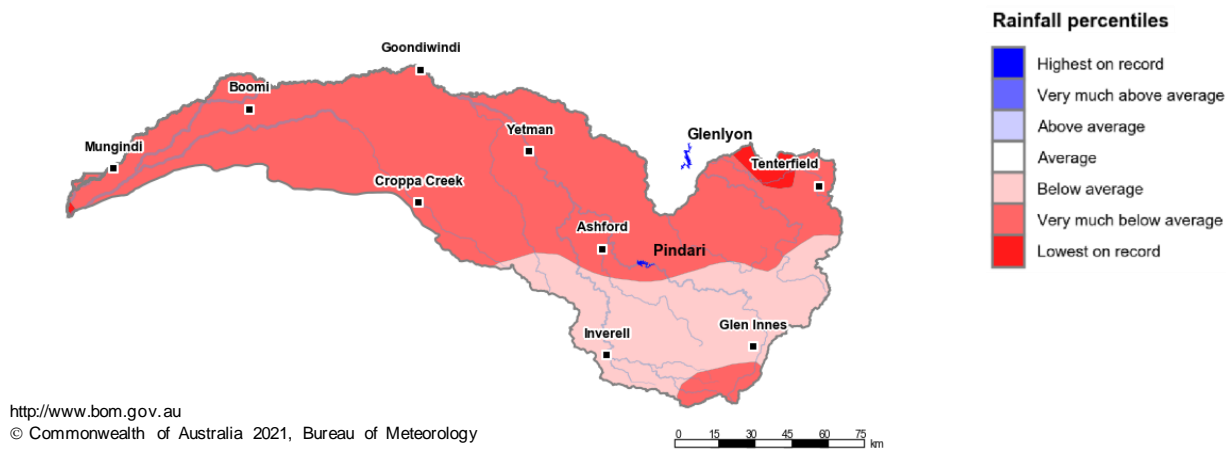


Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017 (compared to 1900–2019 long-term average) (Jan 2017 to April 2021)

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 storages?

Combined total storage (NSW share*): 220 GL (as at 1 May 2021)

*Pindari storage and New South Wales' 57% share of Glenlyon storage

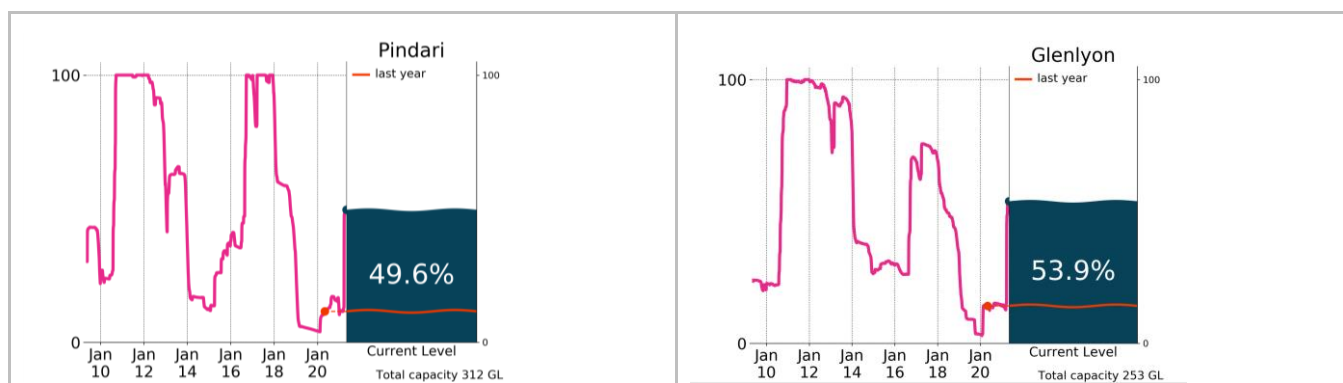


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) compared to the last ten years

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

Who is the water for?

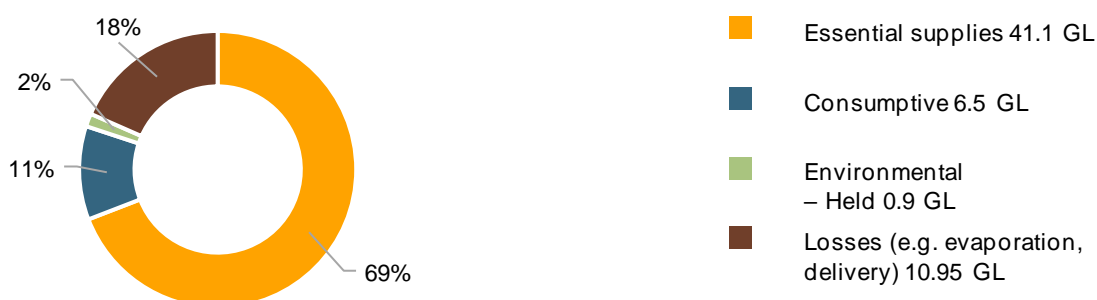


Figure 4: Volumes of water allocated (% of total) for the 2020-21 water year (as at 14 January 2021)

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

NB: Allocation information shown here is water allocated for various purposes as at 14 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 3 May 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	\$275/ML*
NSW Border Rivers High Security	100%	Same as most years	n/a	
NSW Border Rivers General Security – A	78%	Highest since 2017-18	n/a	
NSW Border Rivers General Security – B	0%	0% has occurred in four out of the last ten years	n/a	
Average Carryover (General Security)	1% General Security – A 2% General Security – B	1% last year 2% last year	n/a	

*Indicative - limited trade data

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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