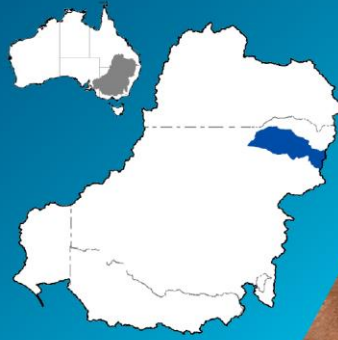




Water Reporting Summary - Gwydir Catchment

17 August 2020



Overview

- In the last month, most of the upstream parts of the Gwydir catchment received 50 to 100 mm of rainfall. In contrast, most of the downstream parts of catchment received 25 to 50 mm (Figure 1). The total area-average rainfall across the catchment was 49 mm in the last 30 days. This recent widespread 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).
- Rainfall received in the last 30 days has maintained average root zone soil moisture conditions for most of the Gwydir catchment. However, this has not translated into significant runoff and inflows to Copeton Dam, with Drought Stage 2 conditions continuing for the Gwydir catchment (Figure 3). In Drought Stage 2, there has been limited water resources and multiple years of low flows (NSW DPIE).
- General security allocations are currently 1.7% which, for this time of year, are the first allocations in the last three years (Figure 4 and Table 1).

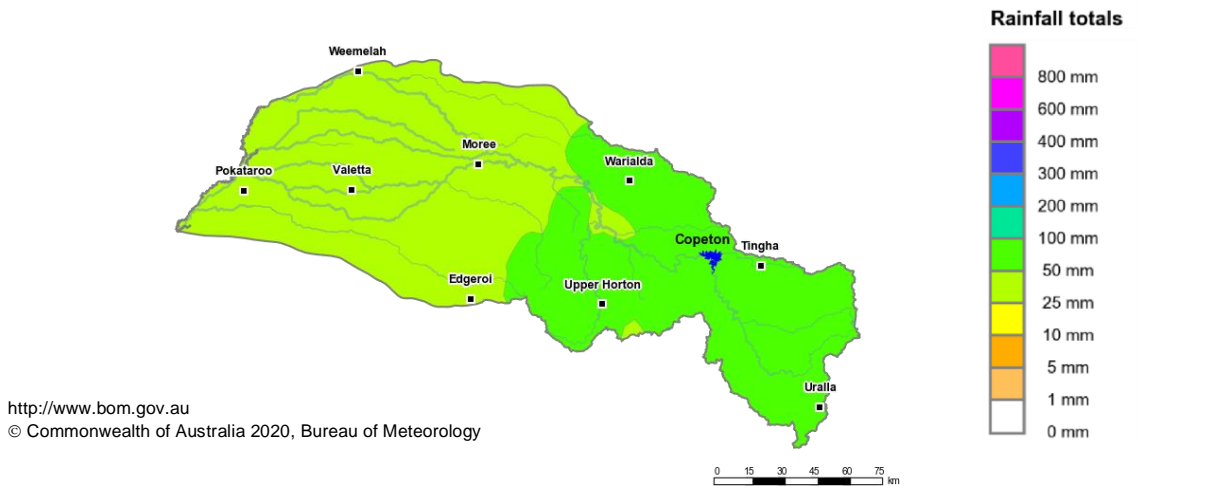


Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days (19 July to 17 Aug 2020)

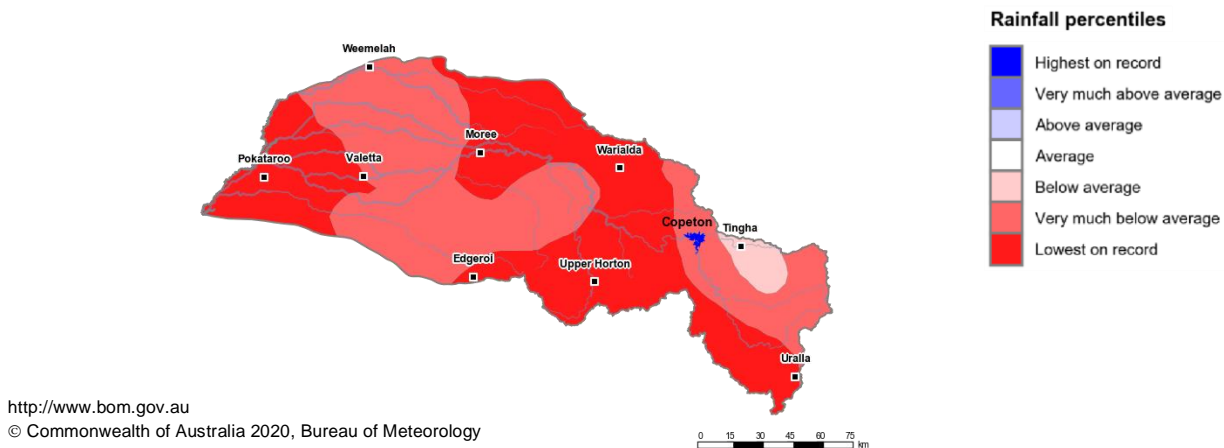


Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017 (Compared to 1900-2019 long-term average) (Jan 2017 to July 2020)

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 17 August 2020

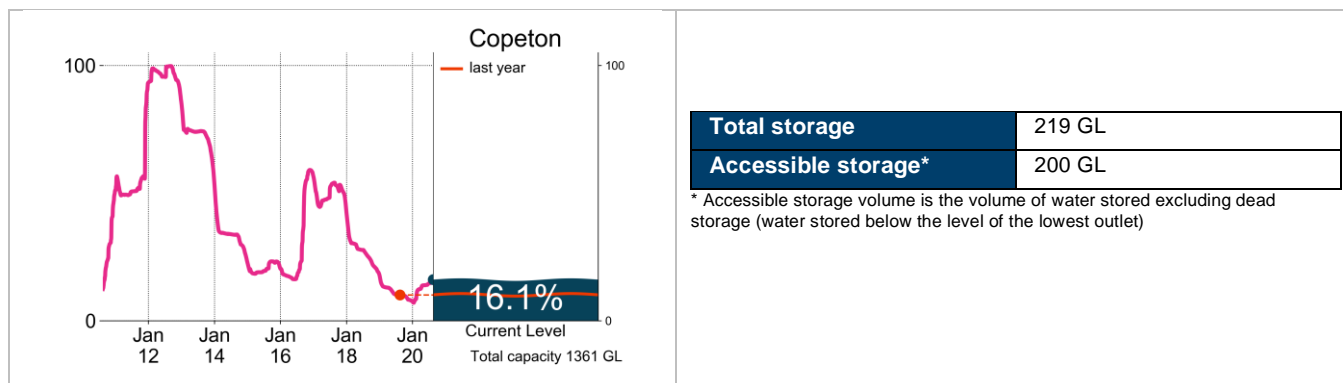


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) compared to the last ten years

Source: [BoM water storages dashboard](#)

Who is the water for?

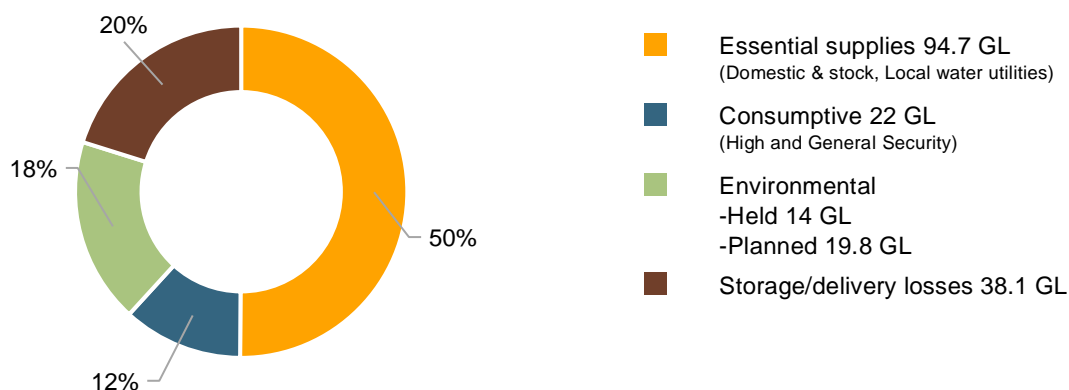


Figure 4: Volumes of water allocated (% of total) for the 2020-21 water year (as at 31 July 2020)

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

NB: Allocation information shown here is water allocated for various purposes as at 31 July 2020. 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 31 July 2020

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	1.7%	For this time of year, first allocations in last three years	n/a	
Average Carryover (General Security)	5%	3% last year	n/a	

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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