

Water allocation outlook 2013/14

Thursday 28 March 2013



Murray Irrigation

Water allocation outlook 2013/14

Yesterday the NSW Office of Water (NOW) released its first NSW Murray and Lower Darling water allocation outlook for 2013/14.

The NOW information is based on an assessment of water available to NSW at the end of February plus 'worst case' inflows for the remainder of this water year and 2013/14.

Indicative allocations provided by NOW for 1 July 2013 are:

- Commencing NSW Murray general security allocation of approximately 30 percent of entitlement, assuming average carryover of 20-25 percent from 2012/13 to 2013/14.
- Full allocations are expected for town water and domestic and stock access licences.
- NSW high security access licences are expected to receive 97 percent of entitlement.
- Sufficient conveyance allocations to deliver carryover and starting general security announced allocation.

Please note the accuracy of the outlook for general security allocations is dependent on the volume of carryover in individual accounts.

Key dates for annual trade

NOW announced that:

- Interstate trade of allocation from the NSW Murray and Lower Darling Valleys will cease on **Tuesday 30 April 2013**. This is necessary as late trades (May-June) into South Australia can reduce water availability to NSW general security users in the following year, under the rules of the Murray Darling Basin Agreement.
- Allocation trade within the NSW Murray and Lower Darling will close on **Friday 31 May 2013**.
- All allocation trade will resume on Monday 1 July 2013.

These dates apply to trades into and from Murray Irrigation's licence. Murray Irrigation will soon announce in *Talking Water* our internal deadline for external allocation trades to be finalised in order to meet NOW's deadlines.

NOW allocation announcements

NOW also announced commencing allocations would be made on Monday 1 July 2013 and allocation announcements would be on the 15th of each month or the next working day if the 15th is a weekend or public holiday until full allocations are reached. Indicative assessments may be made between formal assessments.

This is a summary of the NOW release. The NOW allocation outlook for 2013/14 is available from the Water Resources Updates section of Murray Irrigation's website www.murrayirrigation.com.au.

For further information, contact reception on T. 03 5898 3300.

Anthony Couroupis
General Manager