



8 December 2017

## NSW Murray and Murrumbidgee

### Indicative allocation update

As a significant rainband tracked toward catchments last week, Crown Lands and Water undertook to provide an indicative water resource update ahead of next week's full resource assessment and allocation announcement on Friday 15 December 2017.

The interim result is a likely improvement in the NSW Murray general security allocation of at least two to four per cent of entitlement, to be confirmed and announced next week.

In the Murrumbidgee, an allocation improvement for general security entitlement holders may not be possible. Resource improvements will first accrue to environmental water (EWA1) and provisional storage volume (PSV1) accounts, some 50,000 and 25,000 megalitres respectively, and any projected shortfall in high security commitments on 1 July, in accordance with the water sharing plan.

The weather system delivered the heaviest rainfall south of forecast areas, meaning less water was received in NSW Murray and Murrumbidgee catchments than expected.

Rainfall from the event was on average about 100mm in upper Murray catchments and in excess of 125mm in upper Murrumbidgee storage catchments.

There was a relatively good response from rivers with supplementary access announced in the Murrumbidgee Valley, while the Murray teeters on unregulated flow conditions.

Inflows peaked upstream of Hume Dam at Jingellic at 14,500 megalitres/day (ML/day) on 4 December 2017, and 8,400 ML/day on 3 December 2017 upstream of Dartmouth Dam on the Mitta Mitta River at Hinnomunjie. In the Murrumbidgee, inflows peaked into Burrinjuck Dam on 3 December 2017 at around 16,300 ML/day and at Blowering Dam they peaked on 2 December 2017 at around 6,700 ML/day.

Upper storages in the NSW Murray gained about 130,000 ML, although some of this inflow was already expected and factored into existing water allocations. Similarly, storages in the upper Murrumbidgee have gained at least 90,000 ML.

Additional information on available water determinations can be found on the DPI Water website – [www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au)

**Media contact: James Muddle – 0407 103 507**

[www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au)