



General security allocations in the southern basin continue to rise

NSW Water Commissioner, David Harriss, today announced an increase of 5 per cent for NSW Murray general security licence holders and an increase of 4 per cent for general security irrigators in the Murrumbidgee Valley.

“This announcement brings the general security allocation in the NSW Murray to 15 per cent of entitlement. This, together with carry-over, means that Murray Valley general security users have, on-average, access to 83 per cent of entitlement,” said Mr Harriss.

“Further, general security users may divert from continuing periods of supplementary flows without debit from their accounts, providing their total water use in the current year does not exceed 110 per cent of entitlement, unless they buy additional water in or have a specific supplementary entitlement.”

Mr Harriss said that the increase in the NSW Murray was the result of an increase in the amount of water available to NSW under the normal sharing arrangements of the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement.

Mr Harriss said that the probability of the NSW Murray general security water allocation reaching 100 per cent by the end of October remained high.

“Once there is enough water available to announce a 33 per cent general security allocation, water in accounts will automatically jump to 100 per cent of entitlement.”

“In the Murrumbidgee Valley, general security allocation has increased by 4 per cent to 57 per cent of entitlement. Together with carry-over Murrumbidgee general security water users have access to an equivalent to 84 per cent of entitlement, on average,” he said.

Mr Harriss said that water availability in both valleys has not been this high so early in the season since the late 1990’s.

More information on water allocations can be found on the NSW Office of Water website at: www.water.nsw.gov.au

ENDS