

Media Release

6 January 2012

Increased water allocations to general security users in the Gwydir and Lower Namoi Valleys

Acting NSW Water Commissioner, Colin McLean, today announced an increase for general security water users in the Gwydir and Lower Namoi Valleys.

The improvement in the water level in Copeton Dam has enabled the allocation in the Gwydir Valley to increase by an additional 32 percent to 96 percent of entitlement, while in the Lower Namoi; the allocation has risen by 14 percent to 52 percent of entitlement.

Mr McLean said that the average Gwydir Valley user now had approximately 145 percent of entitlement inclusive of carryover in their water accounts.

"The levels in Copeton dam have continued to rise during December with Copeton now holding just over 93 percent of capacity," he said.

"This time last month, Copeton dam levels were sitting at around 80 percent of capacity."

Mr McLean said that the increase to the Lower Namoi allocation was the result of increasing water levels in Split Rock dam while Keepit dam remains near full and has been spilling.

With today's allocation, the average water account balance for Lower Namoi water users including carryover is approximately 147 percent.

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

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