

GWYDIR WATER DELIVERIES

3 February 2010

Whilst recent rainfall has resulted in some small improvement to Copeton Dam water levels, due to ongoing drought conditions and low volumes of water availability within the Gwydir Valley, summer irrigation and replenishment flow releases from Copeton Dam will cease on Wednesday 10 February 2010.

Copeton Dam water level was 123,281ML 7.8% as of Wednesday, 3 February 2010. The essential supplies account within Copeton Dam was in deficit of 47,110 ML as of the end of January 2010, this is expected to increase throughout February as water deliveries continue. Due to the critical water levels, State Water and the New South Wales Office of Water will develop a drought contingency plan over the coming six weeks for water delivery within the Gwydir Valley into the next 12 to 24 months.

Riparian landholders are reminded to ensure that stock and domestic supplies are full prior to cessation of flows within the Gwydir Valley. The following information is provided as a guide, for further detail contact Ken Gee on 0427 293 534.

- Flows into the Carole Creek/Gil Gil system are expected to cease Monday, 15 February with the corresponding end of system flow expected Sunday, 21 February
- Flows in the Mehi River below Gundare Weir are expected to cease Thursday, 18 February
- A small stock and domestic flow will be provided to the Moomin Creek starting the Monday 8 February and expected to cease at Alma bridge approximately Monday, 15 February
- A flow into the Lower Gywdir to supply irrigation and stock and domestic use will begin Wednesday, 10 February and cease Tuesday, 16 February

The following allocations from Copeton Dam are forecast based on statistical inflows to the dam. They start from February 2010 and are based on sequences of three and six months.

- Under drought conditions the 09/10 allocation is not likely to increase.
- Under dry conditions the 09/10 allocation is not likely to increase, however the essential supplies account will significantly improve and is likely to fill by October 2010. This is possible 80% of years.
- Under median conditions the 09/10 allocation is not likely to increase by May 2010, the 2010/2011 allocation is likely to increase by up to 7.1% by August 2010. This is possible in 50% of years.

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- Under wet conditions the 09/10 allocation is likely to increase by up to 6.1% by May 2010, the 2010/2011 allocation is likely to increase by up to 39% by August 2010. This is likely 20% of years.

State Water will continue to monitor water resources and weather conditions and if conditions improve will review planned water delivery arrangements. State Water wishes to thank users for their co-operation and looks forward to helping achieve the greatest productivity from the available water.

For further information regarding water delivery please contact:
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Authorised by:

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