

South Australia's River Murray Water Allocation Statement

Issued 15 July 2026



Key messages

- The updated Class 3 (High Security) allocation for South Australian River Murray irrigators for the 2026-27 water year has reached **100 per cent**.
- This allocation update will apply from 16 July 2026 following publication of the allocation determination in the South Australian Government Gazette. Water accounts are generally updated within one to two business days of gazettal to reflect the allocation.
- Allocation decisions are made based on South Australia's water allocation framework detailed in the Water Allocation Plan for the South Australian River Murray Prescribed Watercourse, having regard to the latest water resource assessment advice from the Murray-Darling Basin Authority.
- The updated allocation of 100 per cent assumes South Australia will receive 1,625 gigalitres of Entitlement flow during the 2026-27 water year.
- Rainfall across key catchments has generated increased inflows, resulting in improvements to water resource availability. Improvements are reflected in the projected South Australia Entitlement flow for the 2026-27 water year and has supported the increase in allocations to 100 per cent.
- As announced on 15 April 2026, the carryover trigger was not met and private carryover **is not** available in the 2026-27 water year.
- As allocations have reached 100 per cent, no further allocation announcements will be made for the 2026-27 water year.
- The SA River Murray Water Calculator is available to help irrigators manage their water. The Calculator has two main features:
 - Personal Water Calculator – to help you better understand how much water you could have under different water availability circumstances to help you plan for the season ahead.
 - State Water Calculator – to help you better understand how the water available to South Australia is shared.

Past allocations and actual improvements

Further information on previous allocation announcements, including a section showing how and when allocations improved in previous years when opening allocations were less than 100 per cent, is available on the Department's website at www.environment.sa.gov.au/river-murray-allocations



Private carryover

In accordance with the [Water Allocation Plan for the South Australian River Murray Prescribed Watercourse](#), access to private carryover is only available to eligible users when the projected minimum opening irrigation allocation is 50 per cent or less. As announced on 15 April 2026, **private carryover is not available in the 2026-27 water year.**



Water allocation framework

The [Water Allocation Plan for the South Australian River Murray Prescribed Watercourse](#) (River Murray WAP) details how water is allocated. A 5 page [factsheet](#) is also available.

The [SA River Murray Water Calculator](#) helps you better understand how the water available to South Australia is shared. It improves transparency of water sharing arrangements within South Australia by showing how much water is allocated for different purposes.



Water held in storage

Regularly updated information regarding the current volumes held in Murray-Darling Basin storages is available via the Murray-Darling Basin Authority's (MDBA) River Data website: [The River Murray – System view | River Murray data by MDBA](#).

Under clause 91 and Schedule G of the **Murray-Darling Basin Agreement 2008** (the Agreement), South Australia can defer and store part of its annual Entitlement in River Murray storages to meet critical human water needs and/or private carryover in dry years: [SA deferred water storage and delivery plan](#)

To check real-time storage levels please visit:

1. [Dartmouth Dam](#)
2. [Hume Dam](#)
3. [Lake Victoria](#)
4. [Menindee Lakes*](#)

** The MDBA can access and manage water in the Menindee Lakes once the volume rises above 640 GL and until it falls below 480 gigalitres (GL). Once the water level falls below the 480 GL trigger point, New South Wales manages the water in accordance with its priorities, including to best meet local demands. For more information on Menindee Lakes visit this [MDBA webpage](#).*

For more information on water storages visit:

- The Bureau of Meteorology's [Water Storage Dashboard](#)
- The Bureau of Meteorology's [Murray–Darling Basin Water information portal](#)



Climate outlook

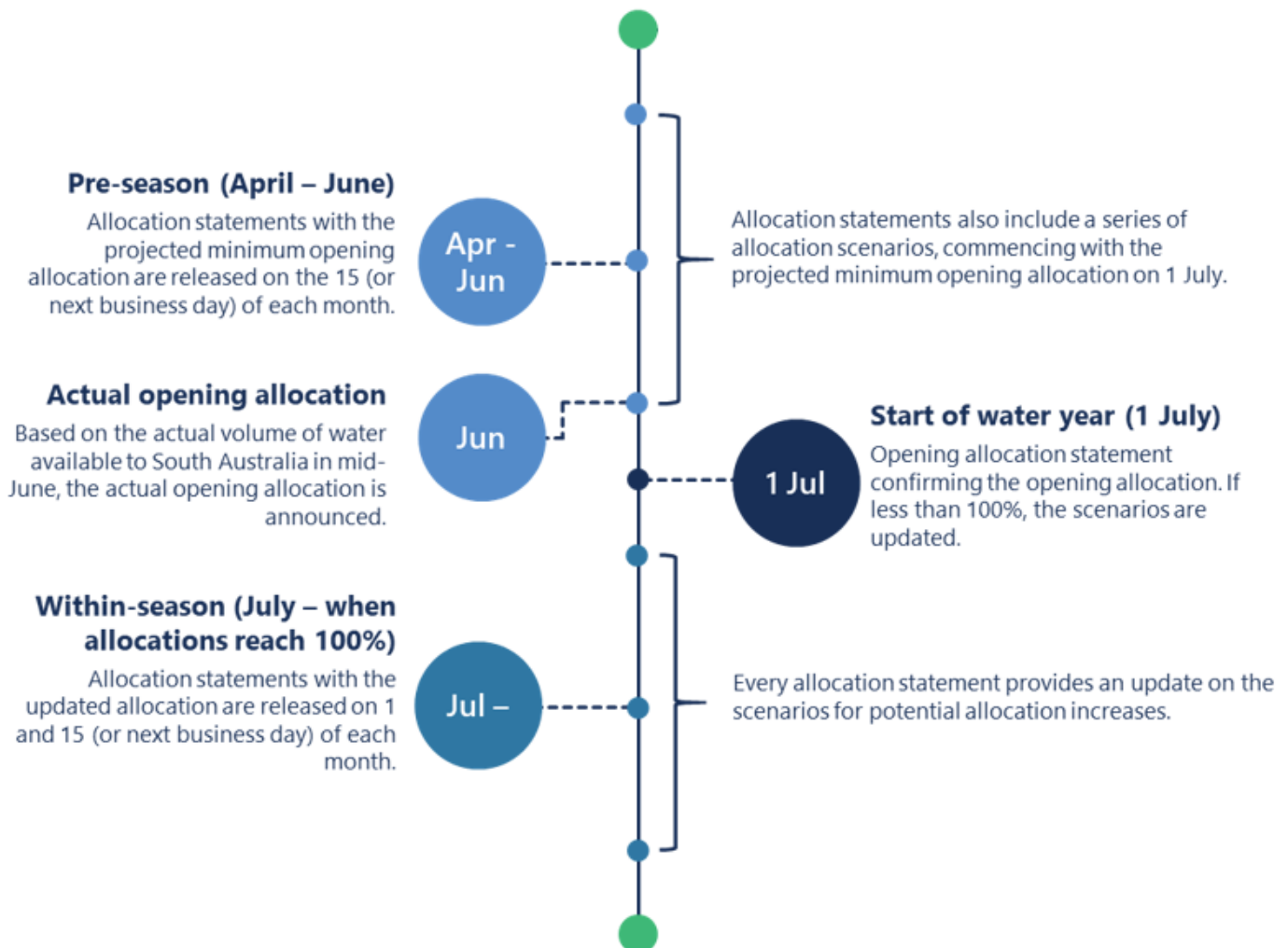
The Bureau of Meteorology provides climate outlooks that offer insights into future weather patterns. These outlooks include three-monthly forecasts for rainfall, maximum and minimum temperatures and updates on key climate influences affecting Australia.

More detailed information can be found via the Bureau of Meteorology's Climate Data website.



Next announcement

As the updated allocation has reached **100 per cent**, no further scheduled allocation announcements will be made for the 2026-27 water year, in accordance with the River Murray Water Allocation Plan.





Further information

For more information on South Australia's water allocations visit the [DEW website](#).

The Department for Environment and Water issues a weekly River Murray Flow Report that contains information about water levels, flow rates and barrage operations, as well as any navigation issues and construction activities. To view earlier reports, click [here](#). To sign up to receive the weekly River Murray Flow Report click [here](#).

To speak with someone about your water allocation or account:

- Drop into the water licensing office at 28 Vaughan Terrace, Berri, South Australia.
- Call the water licensing office on (08) 8372 7561.
- Email water licensing on DEW.WaterLicensingBerri@sa.gov.au

Interstate Allocations and Outlooks

Information on current River Murray allocations and projected allocations for 2026-27 in both New South Wales and Victoria can be found at the website links below:

- [NSW allocation information](#)
- [Victorian allocation information](#)