

Drought response Gwydir Valley

February 2019



Long term
average inflow



1,141 GL



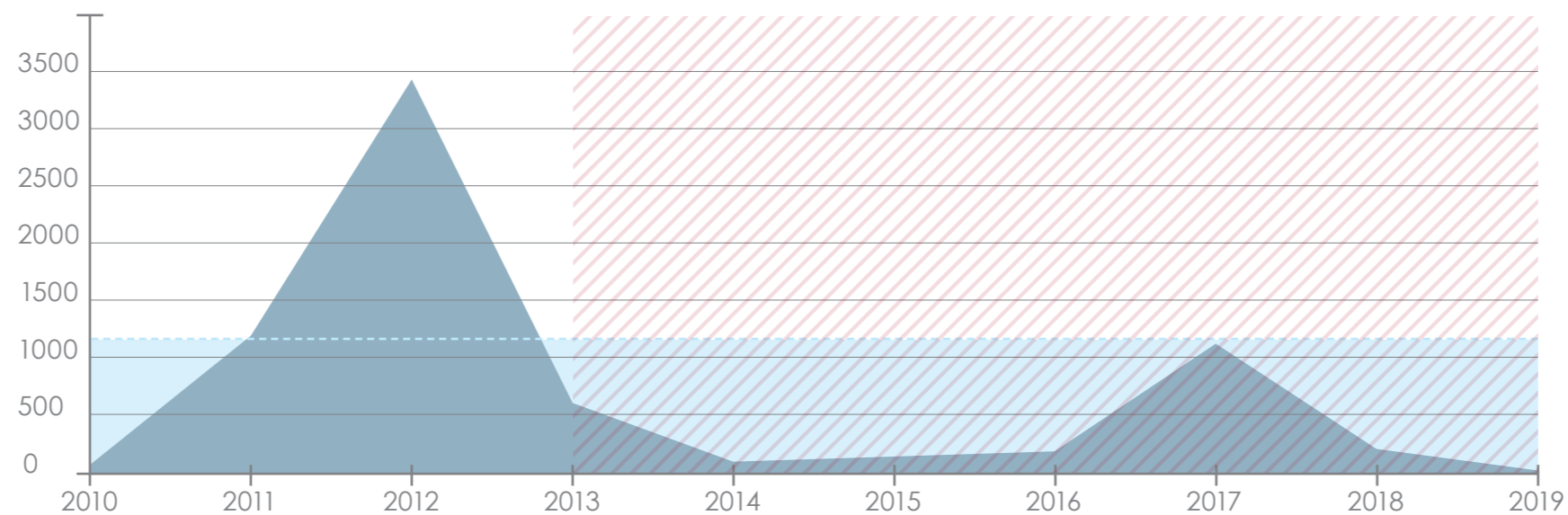
Actual inflow
for 2017–2018



208 GL



Water inflow (GL)



Recent timeline

- Average annual inflow
- Actual annual inflow
- Current drought

Under normal conditions when there are enough inflows, **water is allocated to customers, towns and the environment.** We **store it in our dams** (like a bank) for it to be drawn on **when needed.**

Stretching supply

Over the last 10 years, **22% of total inflows** have been allocated **for extractive users.**

There have been **no allocations** provided to general security users in the Gwydir Valley since **February 2018.**

Until **at least 32GL of inflows** are received, new allocations to general security users **won't be possible.**



Drought impacts

NSW is experiencing one of the **most severe droughts on record.**

Until it rains, future water deliveries from Copeton Dam **will be limited.**



Algal blooms associated with low flows and high temperature **affecting water quality.**



Business impacts for both **planning and irrigation** phases of business cycle.

What are we doing?

With careful management we have **delayed the worst impacts** of this drought by **up to 12 months.**

Block releases from Copeton Dam have helped to extend supplies.



Water quality monitoring to provide information to Government agencies, water entitlement holders and the community.

Collaborating with all levels of government to provide expert advice and investigate a range of solutions.



Water management in NSW

WaterNSW operates the state's river system and storages in accordance with the rules set out by regulators.



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