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.

What are we doing?
With careful management we have delayed the worst impacts of this drought by up to 12 months.

A bulk water transfer from Windamere Dam to Burrendong Dam has helped extend supply.

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.

Subscribe for drought updates
Go to waternsw.com.au/subscribe or visit us at waternsw.com.au/drought for more info.

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

Stock and domestic replenishment flows rely on rain and tributary flows and not from Burrendong Dam.

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

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

Water management in NSW
WaterNSW operates the state’s river system and storages in accordance with the rules set out by regulators.

Stretching supply
Over the last 10 years, 17% of total inflows have been allocated for extractive users.

The last allocation provided to general security users in the Macquarie Valley was 233GL or 38% in August 2017.

Until more than 317GL of inflows are received, new allocations to general security users won’t be possible.

Recent timeline
- Average annual inflow
- Actual annual inflow
- Current drought

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Drought response Macquarie Valley

February 2019