

UPPER HUNTER WATER BALANCE 2019



Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue

Mining's water use

The Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue assessed water use by the mining industry in the Upper Hunter in 2019. Using a common accounting framework, mining companies have reported their water inflows and outflows from operations. This has helped them to manage their water use and embark on water saving and reuse opportunities.



ALMOST 2x

as much water evaporated from the Hunter River System storage dams as was extracted from the Hunter River System by mining companies

The mining industry used

JUST 8%

of water in the Upper Hunter River System

Only

32%

of mine water came from rivers and alluvial aquifers

26%

of mine water was sourced from onsite rainfall and runoff

37%

of water was sourced from deep aquifers that are of limited use to other water users due to their high salinity

The mining industry

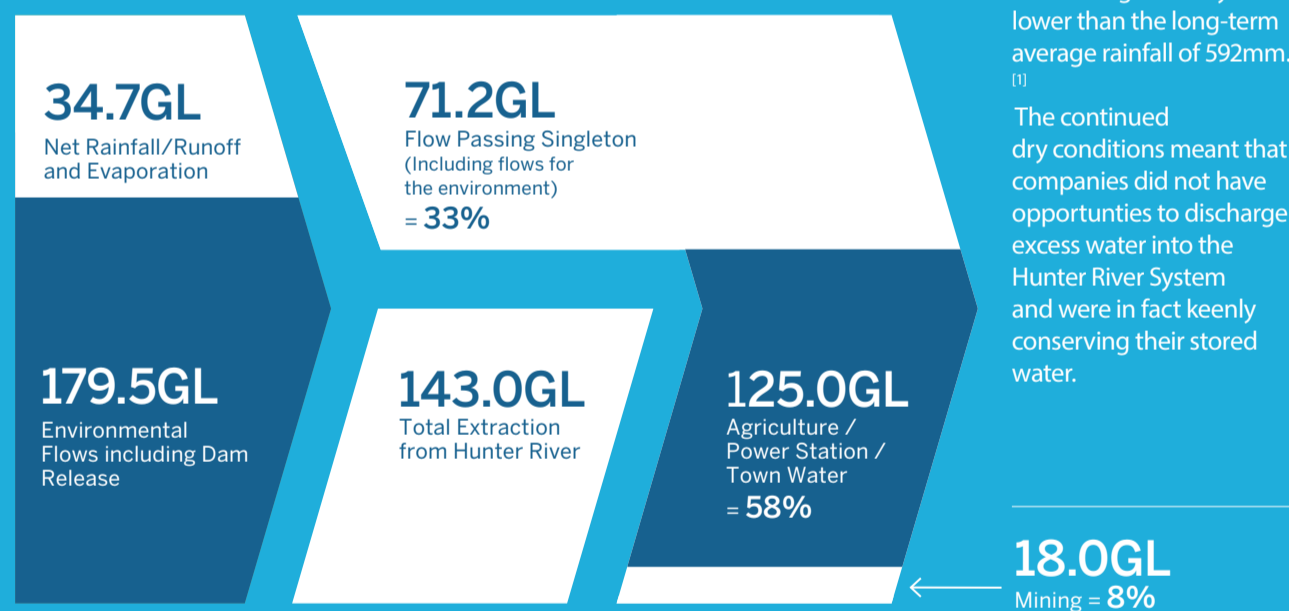
REUSED 55%

of its water onsite

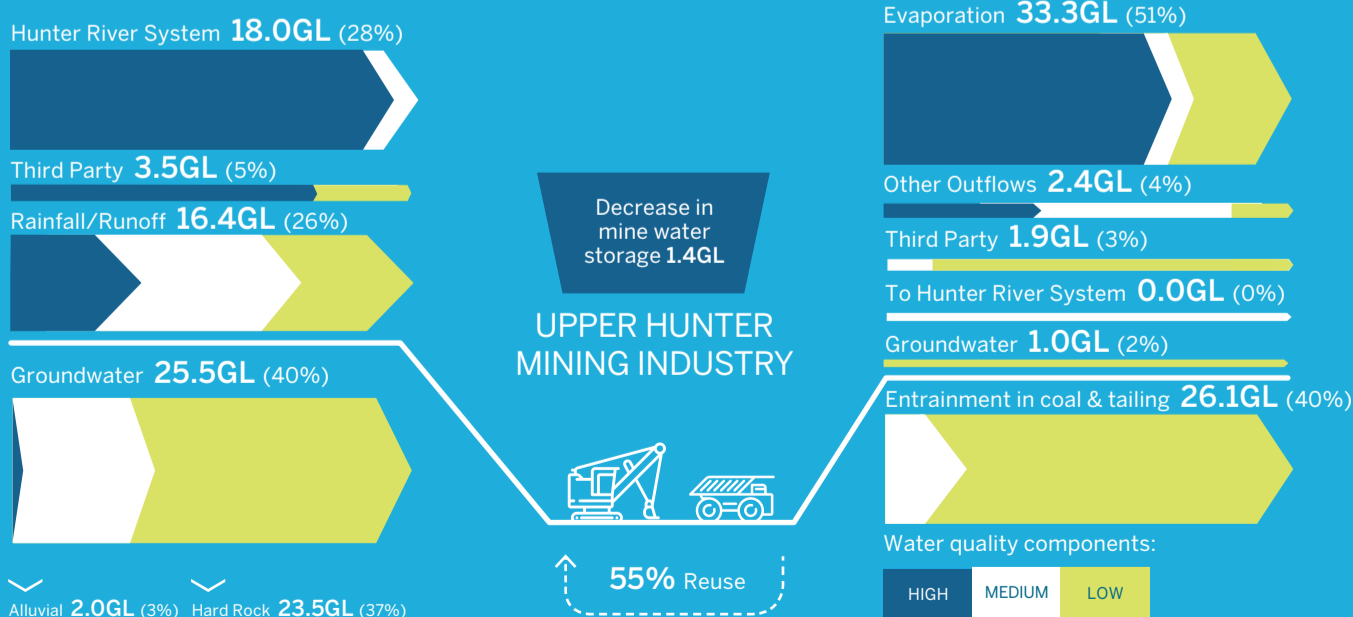
0%

of mine water was discharged into the Hunter River

Hunter River System Extraction



Mining Industry Water Use Balance



To find out more about the UHMD, visit miningdialogue.com.au

The NSW Minerals Council has compiled the data in this infographic using the best available information. Since water accounting is a complex task that relies on estimates and computer models, there are corresponding limits to the accuracy of the information. Sources: Bureau of Meteorology; DPI Water; NSW Minerals Council data.

Notes: [1] The source for contextual rainfall data was updated in 2019 due to the closure of the Scone SCS station. Scone Airport AWS was selected due to its nearby location, however long-term data for this site is limited to 1994 onwards.