

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 11 October 2000

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :am:bwh

13 October, 2000



Light rainfall was recorded in upper Murray and tributary catchment areas. Dartmouth Reservoir storage has increased to 71% of capacity (an increase of 37 GL for the week).

After the recent refilling of Hume Reservoir, storage is currently 3 013 GL, or 99.2% capacity. Release from Hume became fully regulated on 9 October to meet downstream requirements, including assisting with the provision of water for the Barmah-Millewa Forest. Release from Hume Dam has been increased to 13 000 ML/day, and is expected to be increased to channel capacity (25 000 ML/day at Albury) next week to continue to meet these requirements if there is no further significant rain.

Releases from Yarrawonga Weir were reduced from 40 000 to 16 500 ML/day in response to receding flow in the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers, and reductions in release from Hume Dam. To maintain suitable river levels for downstream forest watering, flow at Yarrawonga will be maintained in the range 16 000 to 20 000 ML/day next week, unless there is further rain. A further benefit of this rate of flow being maintained will be the dilution of saline return flows from floodplain and groundwater sources which are expected to enter the River Murray upon the recession of the recent flow peak along the mid Murray.

Irrigation diversion from Lake Mulwala to Mulwala Canal increased from 6 000 to 7 800 ML/day (78% of maximum), while diversion to Yarrawonga Main Channel increased from about 1 400 to 2 800 ML/day (about 90% of capacity). Further downstream, diversion from the Torrumbarry Weir pool to National Channel for the Torrumbarry Irrigation system has reduced from about 3 500 ML/day to 2 800 ML/day (about 70% of capacity).

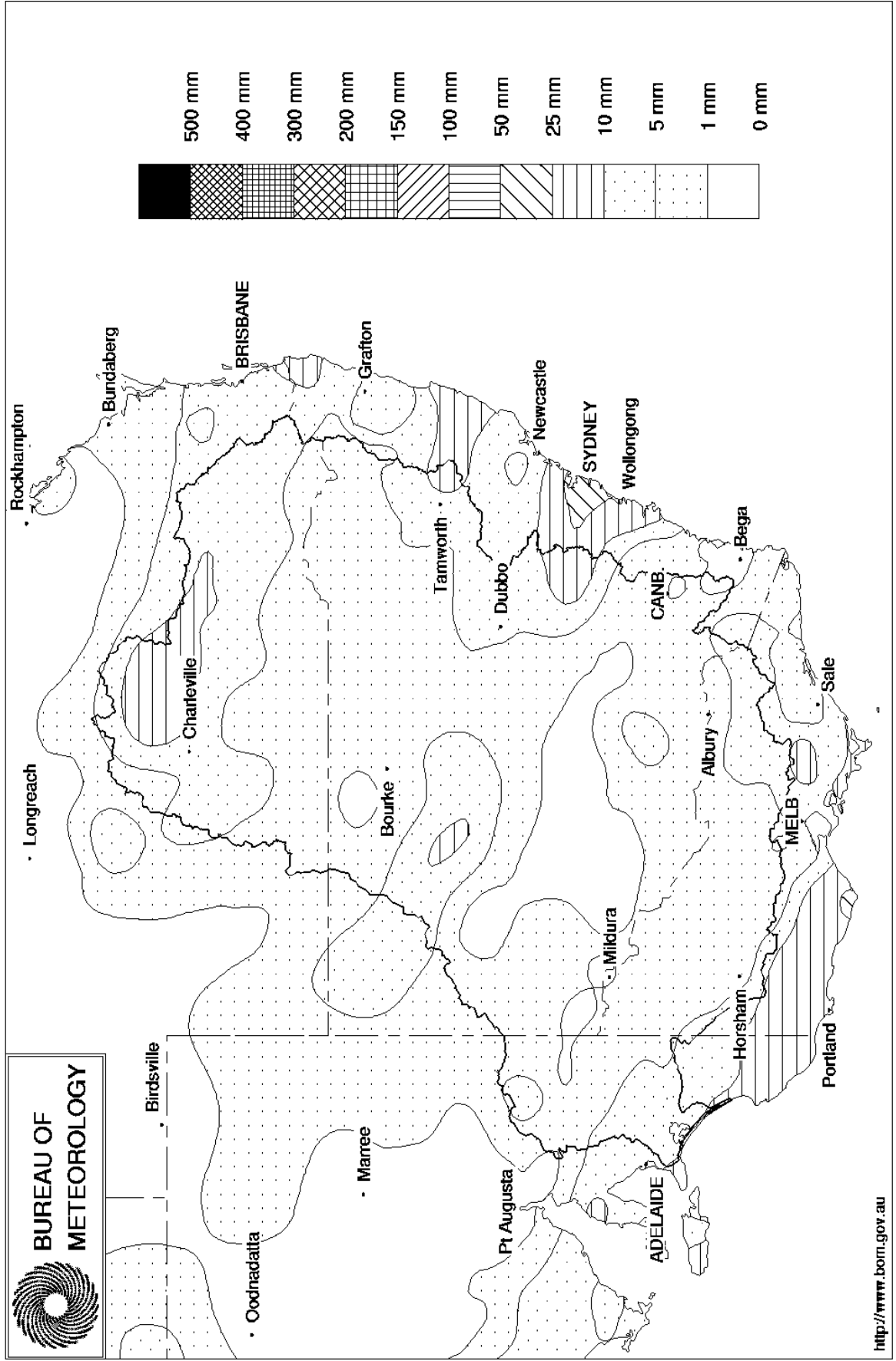
Further downstream, the peak flow to South Australia is currently being enhanced to provide environmental benefits to floodplain wetlands, particularly in the Chowilla region. This enhancement is being achieved through increasing releases from Lake Victoria, which is the first time that Lake Victoria storage has been operated in this way. In addition, smaller volumes of water are being drawn from weir pools between Lock 15 (Euston) and Lock 6 (Murtho); and the Lock 5 upstream pool level is being surcharged to assist with the inundation of wetland areas.

Flow to South Australia has risen from 25 000 to 39 000 ML/day over the week, and is expected to peak slightly above 40 000 ML/day at the South Australian border early next week. The coordinated release from Lake Victoria has enhanced the flow peak by about 8 000 ML/day. The resulting flow peak is expected to water an area of about 1 400 hectares (or 8 % of total area) of the Chowilla wetland – this is the first time the wetland has received any floodwater since 1996. South Australian agencies are undertaking and coordinating environmental monitoring associated with this flow event, to assess the benefits to the wetland ecology.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 11th October 2000

Product of the National Climate Centre



<http://www.bom.gov.au>

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Week ending 11-Oct-2000

Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	FSL	Full Supply GL	Level m AHD	Storage		Dead storage GL	Active storage GL	Change for week GL
	m AHD			GL	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486	3906	466.69	2756	71%	80	2676	+37
Hume Reservoir	192	3038	191.88	3013	99%	30	2983	+18
Lake Victoria	27	680	26.27	599	88%	100	499	-3
Menindee		1682 *		1958	116%	480 #	1478	-4
Total		9306		8326	89%	690	7636	+48

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **89%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026		656	64%	3	653	+3
Blowering Reservoir	1631		1391	85%	24	1367	-10
Eildon Reservoir	3390		1433	42%	100	1333	+35

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 10-Oct-2000

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2636	+51	Snowy-Murray	+1	490
Snowy-Murray Component	1239	+47	Tooma-Tumut	+18	202
Target Storage	1400		Nett Diversion	-17.6	288
			Murray 1 Release	+26	705

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	65.0	253.5
Wakool System loss	0.0	4.4
Western Murray Irrig.	0.7	2.3
Licensed Pumps	7.9	51.1
Lower Darling	0.1	124.1
TOTAL	73.7	435.5

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	16.8	39.5
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	19.4	175.1
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	4.5	11.2
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.2	6.4
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.7	33.7
TOTAL	45.7	265.8

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	170
Flow this week	223.0
Flow so far this month	321
Flow last month	727

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	120	136	207
Euston	130	165	209
Red Cliffs	210	220	246
Merbein	170	180	200
Burtundy	460	449	411
Lock 9	200	202	242
L.Victoria	320	291	326
Berri	250	286	325
Waikerie	310	380	388
Morgan	350	331	387
Mannum	370	372	384
Murray Bridge	400	372	369
Meningie	1470	1390	1281
Goolwa Barrages	1750	1689	1846



Week ending 11-Oct-2000

River Levels and Flows

	Minor Flood stage	Gauge height	Flow	Trend	Average flow this week	Average flow last week
River Murray	m	m	ML/day		ML/day	ML/day
Khancoban	-	-	4930	F	5490	9060
Jingellic	4.0	2.60	13400	F	13530	22520
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.78	1890	F	2090	2760
Heywoods	5.5	2.94	13270	R	14050	28220
Doctors Point	5.5	3.39	19000	R	18930	34930
Albury	4.3	2.44	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.33	17900	F	24810	33500
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.51	16500	S	26030	34230
Tocumwal	6.4	3.39	19344	F	32260	31660
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	5.48	21394	F	24060	23990
Stevens Weir (d/s)		4.69	9330	R	8424	14643
Swan Hill	4.5	3.47	21250	S	21330	21340
Wakool Junction	8.8	7.11	31500	R	30630	28230
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	4.60	32600	F	33520	33440
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.79	32160	F	32640	31020
Rufus Junction	-	6.50	39000	R	31370	23080
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	26500	R	23910	22170
Tributaries						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.43	3730	F	3840	5220
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.47	5006	F	5770	8550
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	2.19	2095	F	3850	7950
Edward at Liewah	-	4.82	6590	S	6400	5370
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	3.21	8950	R	7930	4950
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.87	540	F	1250	5920
Darling at Bourke	-	4.27	1440	S	1450	1900
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.93	828	F	1080	1630
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.16	20	F	10	20

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	26240	40780
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Weirs and Locks

Pool levels above or below design level

Murray	FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	+0.19	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+1.37	+4.17
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.15	+2.12
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.06	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.37	+1.68
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.02	+1.91	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.13	+2.54
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.01	+2.15	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+1.78
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	+1.79	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.06	+1.76
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.53	+2.52	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.09	+1.09

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.35	0.52	200
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.15	0.26	373

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.74	20
Mundoo	26 openings	0.78	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.74	60

