

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 8 August 2001

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :ng

9 August, 2001



Rain was confined to the southern half of the Murray-Darling Basin this week with the heaviest falls of between 25 and 50 mm recorded in the upper Murray. Falls of up to 25 mm were recorded along the Great Divide in Victoria, while light falls of between 1 and 5 mm were registered as far north as central New South Wales. Streamflows in the upper Murray have again shown little response to the rain - inflow to Dartmouth Reservoir peaked at about 2 200 ML/day, and inflow to Hume Reservoir is currently rising, and is expected to peak at about 8 000 ML/day early next week. Storage in Hume has slowly risen to 1 526 GL (50% of capacity), and currently there is about a 40% chance of spill from Hume by the end of spring.

Despite increased inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers, increasing demands for channel filling in irrigation systems is expected to require release from Hume Reservoir to be increased above minimum requirement next week. It is currently expected that commencing 9 August, release from Hume will be increased to achieve a flow of 4 000 ML/day at Albury. Without further rain, flow at Albury will continue to be increased next week to more than 7 000 ML/day.

Diversion from Lake Mulwala to Mulwala Canal commenced at low rates during the week for the purposes of filling irrigation channels, and the diversion rate is expected to increase next week. Diversion to Yarrowonga Main Channel expected to commence at low rates next week. Flow downstream of Yarrowonga Weir is currently about 5 200 ML/day and is expected to remain at this rate for most of next week.

On the Edward River, Stevens Weir pool is currently being refilled after a period of drawdown for environmental benefit to river banks and fish passage, and to allow maintenance of the Weir. The pool level has risen 1.8 m to about 2.7 m below Full Supply Level, and is forecast to approach Full Supply Level by the end of next week to allow channel filling diversions to commence.

Diversion to National Channel from the Torrumbarry Weir pool has increased to about 2 300 ML/day (about 60% of capacity), and is expected to approach 3 000 ML/day next week. Release downstream of the weir will be maintained at about 2 000 ML/day next week. Flow downstream of Euston Weir receded from about 7 000 to 6 000 ML/day this week, and is expected to continue to recede then level out near 4 000 ML/day by mid August.

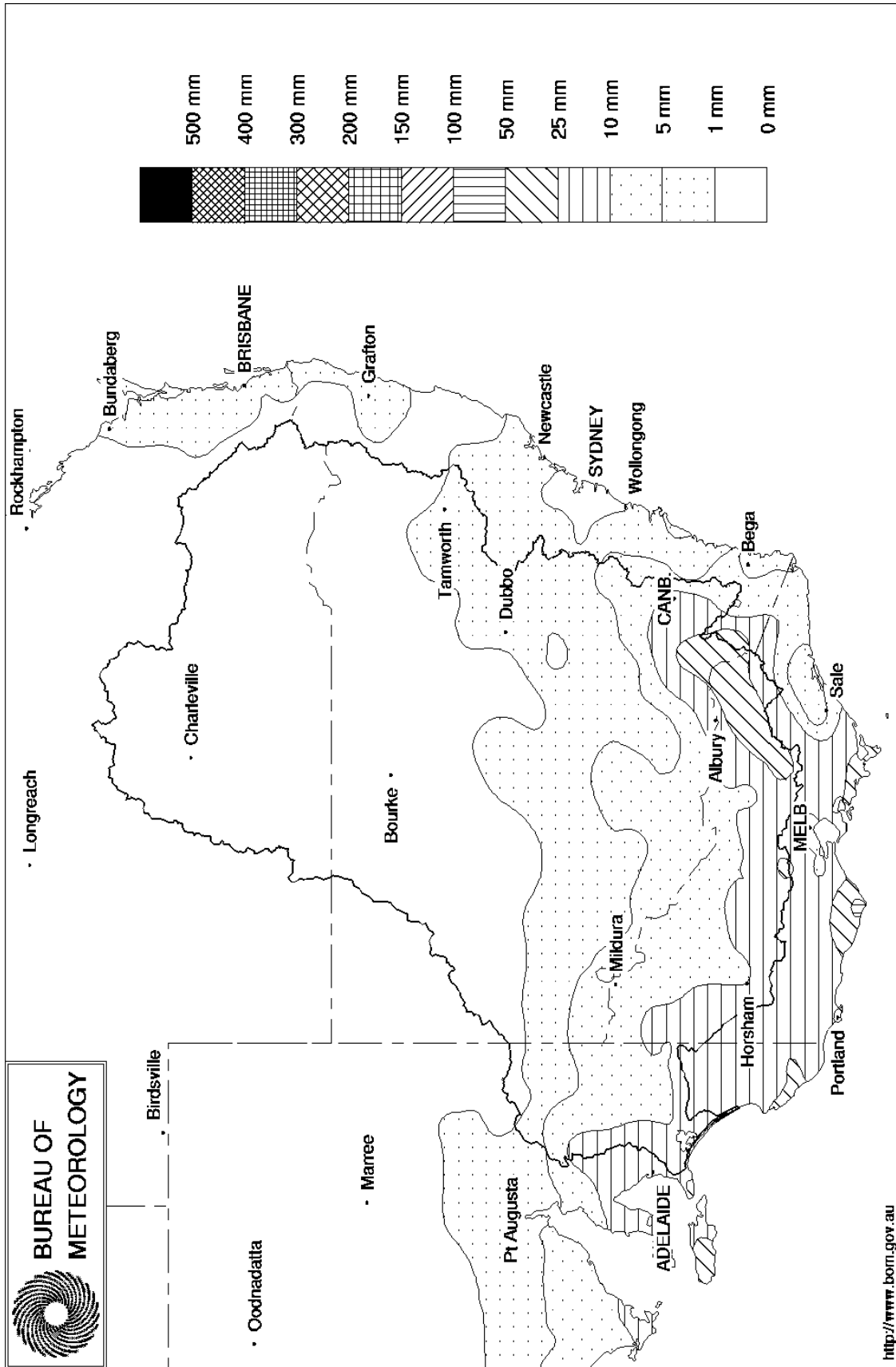
Flow in the Darling River at Bourke is about 1 300 ML/day and rising in response to rain in northern NSW and southern Queensland over the last few weeks. Without further rain, it is expected that the flow at Bourke will approach 4 000 ML/day in late August and will lead to only minor increases inflow to Menindee Lakes late in August and early September. Release from Menindee Lakes is being maintained at the current minimum requirement of 500 ML/day.

Salinity of the River Murray at Swan Hill temporarily reached a peak of 630 EC during the week mainly as a result of increased saline inflows from the Loddon River, but has since declined to about 210 EC. Further downstream, salinity levels in the River Murray have been generally steady with readings of about 270 EC at Wentworth, and about 570 EC at Morgan.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 8th August 2001

Product of the National Climate Centre



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

© Commonwealth of Australia 2001, Bureau of Meteorology ID code: IDCREFXMD.2001080220010808.br.img

Issued: 08/08/2001

Week ending 08-Aug-2001

Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	Full Supply Level m AHD	Full Supply Capacity GL	Storage Level m AHD	Current Storage		Dead storage GL	Active storage GL	Change for the week GL
				GL	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3906	474.29	3182	81%	80	3102	+9
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3038	182.93	1526	50%	30	1496	+41
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	24.12	373	55%	100	273	+1
Menindee		1682 *		1972	117%	480 #	1492	-3
Total		9306		7052	76%	690	6362	+48

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = 74%

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	439	43%	3	436	+6
Blowering Reservoir	1631	1011	62%	24	987	+21
Eildon Reservoir	3390	1130	33%	100	1030	+12

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 07-Aug-2001

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2589	-7	Snowy-Murray	+8	361
Snowy-Murray Component	1157	-	Tooma-Tumut	+4	54
Target Storage	1190		Nett Diversion	3.3	308
			Murray 1 Release	+13	427

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	0.3	0.3
Wakool System loss	0.0	0.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.2	0.3
Licensed Pumps	0.7	4.4
Lower Darling	0.2	0.5
TOTAL	1.3	5.6

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	0.0	0.0
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	11.0	17.8
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.0	1.6
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	14.6
Licensed pumps - SRW	2.5	11.4
TOTAL	14.4	45.4

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	124
Flow this week	49.0
Flow so far this month	56
Flow last month	202

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	210	409	405
Euston	250	253	255
Red Cliffs	320	340	336
Merbein	300	280	283
Burtundy	380	387	388
Lock 9	340	320	317
L. Victoria	360	355	356
Berri	410	413	414
Waikerie	-	580	577
Morgan	580	549	547
Mannum	560	561	559
Murray Bridge	590	575	571
Meningie	1130	1170	1165
Goolwa Barrages	1350	844	821



River Levels and Flows

	Minor Flood stage m	Gauge height m	Flow ML/day	Trend	Average flow this week ML/day	Average flow last week ML/day
River Murray						
Khancoban	-	-	2590	F	2340	2680
Jingellic	4.0	1.84	5990	R	5130	4930
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.57	1190	R	1030	900
Heywoods	5.5	1.26	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.76	2350	R	2250	2320
Albury	4.3	0.85	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.81	2110	F	2490	2700
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.04	4970	S	4780	2940
Tocumwal	6.4	1.55	4883	S	4360	3320
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.05	2288	R	2120	3300
Stevens Weir (d/s)		0.40	164	S	181	330
Swan Hill	4.5	0.65	1850	S	2360	3840
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.94	3219	F	4030	5040
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.36	5920	S	6630	7030
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.03	7140	S	7140	7070
Rufus Junction	-	3.53	6676	R	6610	6090
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	5910	S	5470	5500
Tributaries						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.60	1720	R	1640	1740
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.61	2227	R	1390	1250
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.25	518	R	490	530
Edward at Liewah	-	1.55	950	S	950	1010
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.37	276	F	330	350
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	2.11	2000	F	2110	1990
Darling at Bourke	-	4.25	1290	R	890	810
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.91	746	S	710	620
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.55	950	F	1500	1000

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	6510	7720
---	------	------

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	-0.20	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.08	+1.21
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.05	+0.12
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.22
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.03	+0.15	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.81
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.39	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.02	+0.34
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	+0.06	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.13	+0.26
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.05	+0.16	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.09	+0.21

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.11	1.22	1230
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	1.20	1490

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.72	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.76	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.76	10

