

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 27 June 2001

Our Ref : MDBC:269 :brc

29 June, 2001



Rainfall was confined to southern areas of the Murray Darling Basin this week. The highest totals of greater than 25 mm were received in the upper catchments of the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers in Victoria.

Streamflows did not respond significantly to this week's rainfall. Rises in the Ovens and Kiewa Rivers were minor, and overall inflows for the week were less than last week. Unregulated inflows to Hume Reservoir totalled about 20 GL this week, compared to 37 GL last week. Hume storage is now 1 213 GL (40% capacity), compared to 1 222 GL at the same time last year. The chance of Hume filling this spring is about 40-45% at present (this is based purely on historical inflow patterns, and does not give consideration to the fact that the catchment is significantly drier than average for this time of year).

Inflows to Dartmouth totalled about 9.5 GL this week, compared to 29 GL last week. Dartmouth storage is now 3 133 GL (80% capacity). The chance of Dartmouth filling this spring is about 15%. However, transfers from Dartmouth to Hume are likely for a range of inflow conditions. If extreme dry conditions are experienced, these transfers could commence as early as mid-late September, but it is more likely that transfers would commence later in the season.

Releases from Yarrawonga Weir were reduced to 4 000 ML/day this week. Releases are likely to be reduced to about 3 500 ML/day within the next day or two, and will remain at about this rate for most of next week unless there is rain. At Torrumbarry Weir, flow downstream is currently about 4 200 ML/day, and will remain steady at about 3 900 ML/day next week without further rain.

At Euston, flow downstream of the Weir increased from 3 800 ML/day to 4 800 ML/day this week, as a result of the rain received in early-mid June. Flow downstream of Euston Weir is likely to increase to about 5 900 ML/day next week, and remain relatively steady until about 12 July without further rain.

Inflows to Menindee Lakes have been approximately in balance with evaporation and minimum release requirements over the last few weeks. Storage in the Lakes is now 1 975 GL (99% capacity). Inflows to Menindee Lakes are expected to reduce very slowly over coming weeks.

Storage in Lake Victoria is now about 368 GL (54% capacity). Releases from Lake Victoria were increased this week, following the completion of the "run of river" salinity survey along the Lower Murray in South Australia. Flow to South Australia was increased from the entitlement flow rate of 3 000 ML/day to 6 000 ML/day this week, following the re-instatement of Additional Dilution Flow. Refer to the media release attached for further detail.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 28 June 2001

Increase in River Murray Flow to South Australia



River Murray Water, in conjunction with the South Australian Department for Water Resources and South Australian Water Corporation (SA Water), today announced that the River Murray flow to South Australia has been increased following completion of the recent salinity monitoring survey along the Lower Murray in South Australia. Commencing on 24 June 2001, the flow was gradually increased from the June entitlement flow of 3 000 ML/day to 6 000 ML/day by re-instating the additional dilution flow.

The flow to South Australia had been held to the June entitlement to allow a survey to be carried out to determine the amount of salt entering the river at every kilometre from the border to Wellington. This information will be used for the planning of future salt interception schemes, assessing the performance of existing schemes and increasing the understanding of salt loads entering to the River Murray.

The additional flow will cause a reduction in the salinity of the River Murray as well as providing greater water depth for boats travelling along the river, particularly in those areas where some navigation difficulties can be encountered. However this increase may not be sufficient for the deep drafted vessels in all locations and boat operators are advised to continue to exercise caution.

Flows in the River Murray and Darling River systems upstream of the SA border are low at present, due to very dry conditions experienced since March 2001. Surplus flows downstream of Lake Victoria are unlikely in the near future unless there is a significant change in weather conditions.

SA Water and River Murray Water will continue to liaise with organisers of the upcoming Centenary of Federation Riverboat Cruise event to provide the best conditions for navigation within the flow constraints caused by the dry conditions. Over 100 vessels are travelling upstream from Goolwa later this month to join the Centenary of Federation flotilla. Their passage will be dependent upon flow conditions at the time, as water resources in the River Murray system are presently committed to meeting water supply requirements later in the season.

For further information contact:

Keith Bashford

Media Liaison Officer

Ph: 02 6279 0581

E-mail: keith.bashford@mdbc.gov.au

(Keith Bashford is *not* to be quoted as a spokesperson)

Daniel Connell

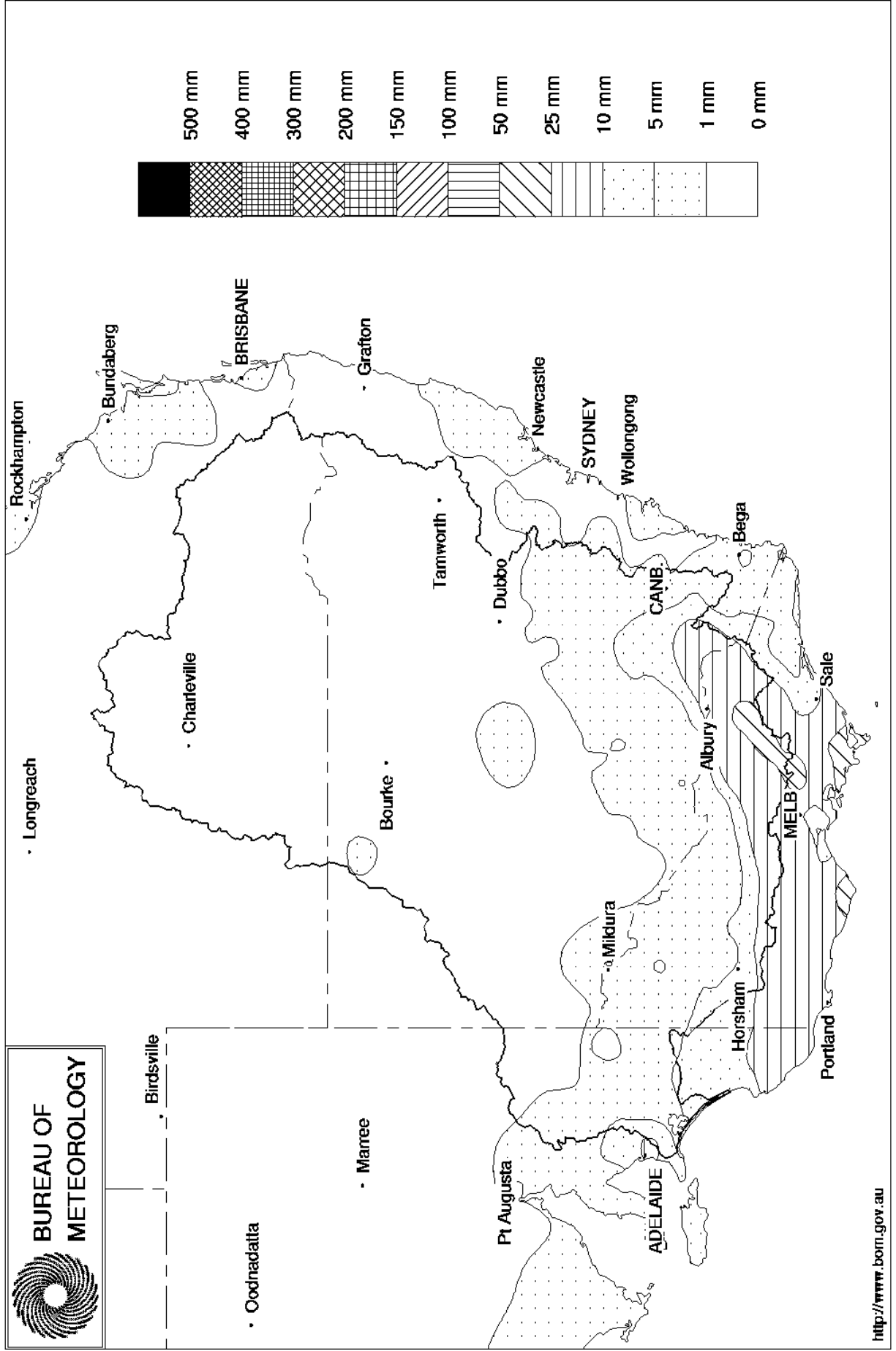
Media Liaison Officer

Ph: 02 6279 0129

E-mail: daniel.connell@mdbc.gov.au

(Daniel Connell is *not* to be quoted as a spokesperson)

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 27th June 2001
 Product of the National Climate Centre



Week ending 27-Jun-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	473.50	3136	80%	80	3056	+10
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3038	180.62	1231	41%	30	1201	+66
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	24.06	367	54%	100	267	+0
Menindee		1682 *		1975	117%	480 #	1495	+6
Total		9306		6709	72%	690	6019	+83

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = 70%

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	412	40%	3	409	+1
Blowering Reservoir	1631	880	54%	24	856	+53
Eildon Reservoir	3390	1079	32%	100	979	+13

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 26-Jun-2001

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2597	-38	Snowy-Murray	+33	271
Snowy-Murray Component	1176	-	Tooma-Tumut	+6	29
Target Storage	1240		Nett Diversion	27.5	242
			Murray 1 Release	+38	308

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	0.0	1576.5
Wakool System loss	0.0	38.8
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	31.0
Licensed Pumps	1.5	387.6
Lower Darling	0.1	290.3
TOTAL	1.7	2324.2

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	0.0	480.0
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	774.6
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.0	159.1
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	60.7
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.7	170.7
TOTAL	1.7	1645.0

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	90
Flow this week	26.0
Flow so far this month	87
Flow last month	222

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	180	207	218
Euston	270	246	204
Red Cliffs	300	300	254
Merbein	250	250	237
Burtundy	420	411	413
Lock 9	320	313	282
L. Victoria	340	339	313
Berri	470	465	344
Waikerie	570	570	397
Morgan	590	554	406
Mannum	450	444	407
Murray Bridge	530	530	403
Meningie	1140	1160	1237
Goolwa Barrages	2260	1816	1213



Week ending 27-Jun-2001

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	-	-	6050	S	6490	5580
Jingellic	4.0	2.08	8200	F	9020	10240
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.38	770	S	870	1280
Heywoods	5.5	1.26	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.71	2060	R	2250	2990
Albury	4.3	0.83	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.85	2290	F	2680	3430
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.88	3970	R	4100	5050
Tocumwal	6.4	1.40	4145	S	4570	4240
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.62	4156	F	4570	2760
Stevens Weir (d/s)		1.22	1100	F	913	271
Swan Hill	4.5	1.09	4580	R	3640	2660
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.43	4759	R	3900	3800
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.16	4790	S	4180	4500
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.86	4200	S	4520	5280
Rufus Junction	-	3.38	5845	R	3410	2210
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	2560	S	2790	2930
Tributaries						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.54	1600	R	1740	2530
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.25	1275	F	1540	2440
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.35	685	R	640	620
Edward at Liewah	-	1.31	740	F	780	820
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.36	260	S	260	320
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.90	570	R	380	310
Darling at Bourke	-	4.19	900	R	910	1090
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.88	611	F	650	670
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.38	420	F	550	540

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	6670	14960
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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	-0.18	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.02	+1.05
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.12	+0.04
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.04	+0.13
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.02	+0.01	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.31
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.03	+0.22	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.02	+0.06
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.03	-2.47	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.03	+0.09
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.03	+0.03	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.07	-0.11

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.78	1.79	2410
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.94	1.39	1750

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.78	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.76	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.77	5

