

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 9 May 2001

Our Ref : MDBC:269 :ng

10 May, 2001



Despite heavy rain being recorded on the NSW central coast, only minor falls crossed the Great Dividing Range to the Murray-Darling Basin. Falls of between 5 and 25 mm were recorded along the Divide in NSW reducing to little or no rain in the west of the Basin. Most tributaries of the River Murray have shown little or no response to the rain and inflows from the Kiewa, Ovens and Goulburn Rivers continue to recede.

Storage in Hume Reservoir increased by 24 GL and is now 837 GL (28% of capacity). The release from Hume Dam has now been decreased to meet the required minimum flow of 1 200 ML/day at Albury-Wodonga.

Diversion from Lake Mulwala to Mulwala Canal ceased on 7 May and diversion to Yarrawonga Main Channel is expected to cease by 15 May. Release downstream of Yarrawonga Weir remained steady at 3 500 ML/day and will be progressively reduced next week to the minimum requirement of 1 800 ML/day. Over the coming weeks, release from Yarrawonga Weir may be increased above the minimum requirement in response to potential tributary inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers.

On the Edward River, Stevens Weir is currently being drawn down for winter and it is expected that the gates will be fully raised by 1 June 2001. This annual operation has a number of aims including the restoration of a drying cycle to the weir pool and associated wetlands; allowing unrestricted fish passage past Stevens Weir and providing greater variation in river levels as winter inflows pass downstream. Flow downstream of the weir is expected to rise and remain above 600 ML/day until late May due to the combined effects of the weir pool drawdown as well as the draining of the irrigation channel system.

As noted in last week's Report, Mildura Weir will be progressively drawn down from Saturday 12 May and shall be fully refilled by late May to early June (*see Media Release in last week's Report for further details*). This will result in a temporary rise in flow downstream as the pool is drawn down and it is estimated that the flow at Wentworth may exceed 12 000 ML/day between 15 and 19 May.

Release from Menindee Lakes is now at the minimum requirement of 500 ML/day and will remain at this rate over the coming weeks unless significant inflows are generated in the Darling catchment. River Murray Water and the NSW Department of Land & Water Conservation will continue to monitor rainfall and streamflows within the catchment.

Flow to South Australia has again been increased to above requirement and is now about 10 000 ML/day. It is expected that, without further rain, flow to South Australia will remain at or above this level until the refilling of Mildura Weir commences in late May.

DAVID DOLE  
General Manager

### River Levels and Flows

	Minor Flood stage	Gauge height	Flow	Trend	Average flow this week	Average flow last week
<b>River Murray</b>	m	m	ML/day		ML/day	ML/day
Khancoban	-	-	4320	F	4920	2900
Jingellic	4.0	1.75	5260	F	5740	3570
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.37	750	R	760	800
Heywoods	5.5	1.40	1050	F	2300	1410
Doctors Point	5.5	1.61	1540	F	2980	2300
Albury	4.3	0.76	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.17	3800	F	3690	4290
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.80	3500	S	3490	4060
Tocumwal	6.4	1.36	3944	R	3940	5080
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.38	3575	S	3690	6470
Stevens Weir (d/s)		0.82	527	R	264	263
Swan Hill	4.5	0.87	3360	F	4700	5400
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.55	5801	F	7000	5290
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.62	7470	S	7150	4480
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.01	7750	F	6780	5230
Rufus Junction	-	4.02	9887	R	8630	6610
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	7320	S	6610	6080
<b>Tributaries</b>						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.79	360	F	440	570
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.79	360	R	390	550
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.21	463	F	500	720
Edward at Liewah	-	1.61	1010	F	1060	790
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.58	672	F	710	450
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.89	1710	F	1480	770
Darling at Bourke	-	4.24	1220	S	1270	3800
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.95	915	F	1210	2360
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.58	1050	S	1070	700

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	1670	2610
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### Weirs and Locks

#### Pool levels above or below design level

<b>Murray</b>	FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrawonga	124.90	-0.16	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.15	+1.73
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.05	+0.35
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.01	+0.38
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.00	+0.10	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+1.14
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.05	+0.37	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.06	+0.46
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.02	+0.09	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.12	+0.39
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.02	+0.38	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.06	+0.11

<b>Murrumbidgee</b>	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.07	0.46	140
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.05	0.82	1000

### Barrages

#### FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.74	9
Mundoo	26 openings	0.72	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.70	5

### 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	472.81	3096	79%	80	3016	+1
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3038	177.05	837	28%	30	807	+24
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	23.67	328	48%	100	228	-20
Menindee		1682 *		1956	116%	480 #	1476	+25
<b>Total</b>		<b>9306</b>		<b>6217</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>5527</b>	<b>+30</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = 64%

# NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

### Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	404	39%	3	401	-4
Blowering Reservoir	1631	677	41%	24	653	+11
Eildon Reservoir	3390	1040	31%	100	940	+0

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 08-May-2001

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2875	-40	Snowy-Murray	+32	37
Snowy-Murray Component	1352	-	Tooma-Tumut	+1	1
Target Storage	1290		Nett Diversion	30.9	36
			Murray 1 Release	+33	38

### Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	6.7	1585.1
Wakool System loss	0.0	38.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.4	30.1
Licensed Pumps	3.9	374.1
Lower Darling	0.1	290.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>2317.3</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	3.4	477.8
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	5.0	770.1
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.5	152.9
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.7	55.5
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.8	158.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>1614.7</b>

### Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	93
Flow this week	65.3
Flow so far this month	78
Flow last month	479

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	130	147	214
Euston	240	218	200
Red Cliffs	330	280	243
Merbein	260	240	225
Burtundy	440	429	412
Lock 9	280	306	274
L.Victoria	340	339	308
Berri	390	401	329
Waikerie	-	-	388
Morgan	510	471	391
Mannum	350	347	401
Murray Bridge	370	366	397
Meningie	1140	1160	1252
Goolwa Barrages	670	677	1125



# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 9th May 2001

Product of the National Climate Centre

