

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

**Wednesday, 16 May 2001**

*Our Ref: MDBC:269 :ng*

**17 May, 2001**



Little rain was recorded across the Murray-Darling Basin this week. Falls of between 1 and 10 mm were received in South Australia, Victoria and northern New South Wales with conditions remaining dry elsewhere. Tributary inflows to the River Murray continue to decline, and combined inflow from the Kiewa, Ovens, Goulburn, Campaspe and Murrumbidgee Rivers is only about 1500 ML/day. Flow from the Loddon River has increased to about 400 ML/day as a result of draining of the Torrumbarry Irrigation System.

Inflow to Dartmouth Reservoir has receded below the current release rate of 400 ML/day, and storage has decreased slightly as a result. Storage in Hume Reservoir, however, has increased by 39 GL to 876 GL (29% of capacity), and the release of 700 ML/day combined with flows from the Kiewa River is providing the minimum requirement of 1 200 ML/day at Albury-Wodonga.

Major irrigation diversions from Lake Mulwala have now ceased with diversion to Yarrawonga Main Canal finishing on 14 May. Release from Yarrawonga Weir is currently being maintained at the minimum requirement of 1 800 ML/day.

On the Edward River, the level of Stevens Weir pool was further lowered this week, and is currently about 1.9 m below normal operating level and will continue to be lowered by a further 2 m by the beginning of June. Flow downstream of the weir is expected to increase next week as drainage returns from the irrigation channel system arrive from upstream.

Diversion to National Channel from the Torrumbarry Weir pool ceased on 15 May, effectively signalling the end of the irrigation season for major offtakes in the River Murray upstream of the Sunraysia region. If dry conditions continue, flow downstream of Torrumbarry Weir is expected to remain near steady over the next week with the arrival of channel drainage returns from Broken Creek and the Goulburn River.

Flow in the River Murray at Swan Hill is expected to rise to about 4 500 ML/day next week in response to drainage returns from the Torrumbarry Irrigation system. Salinity at Swan Hill increased 90 EC during the week to 220 EC and is expected to rise further next week.

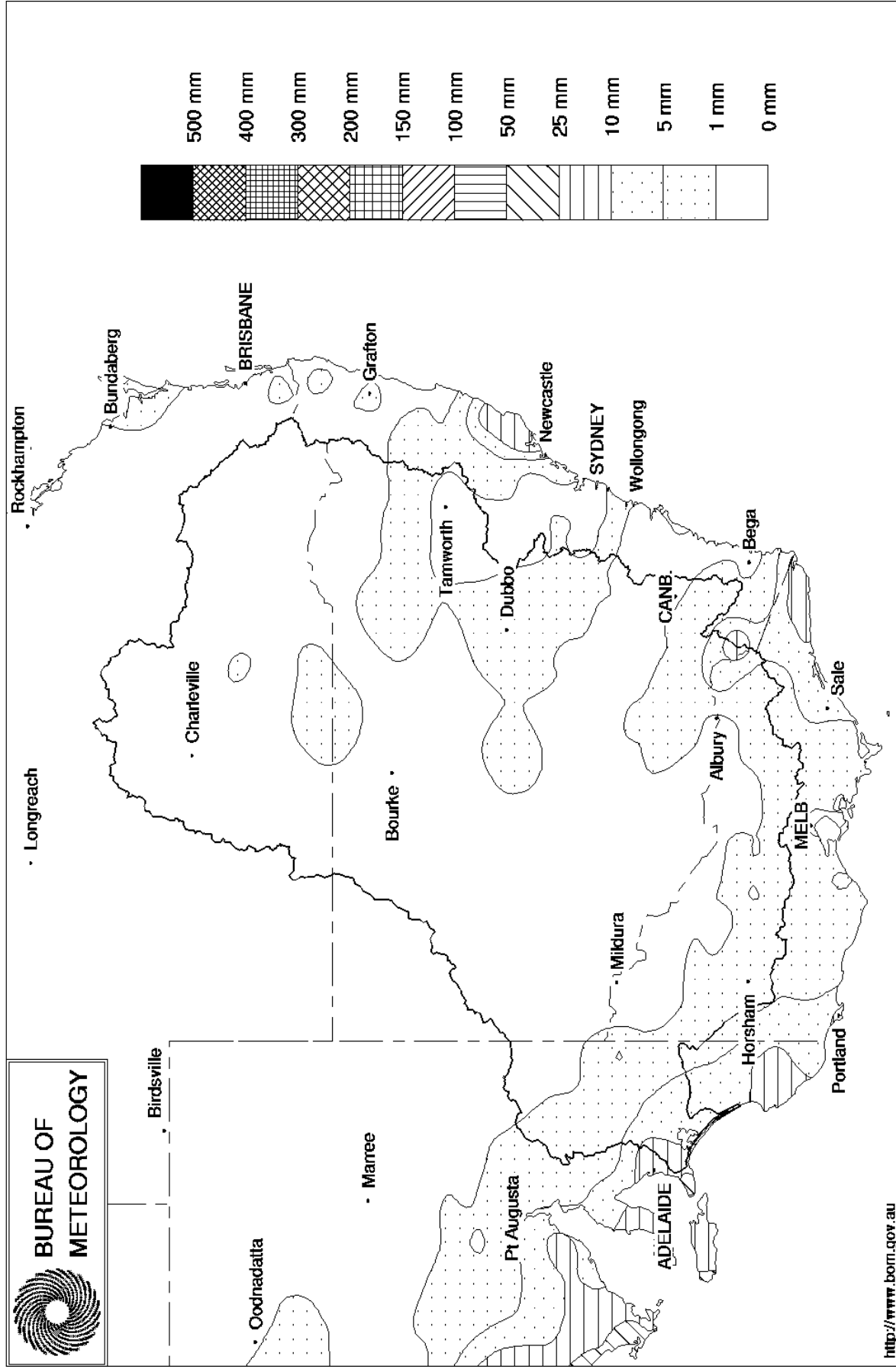
Mildura Weir pool is currently being drawn down to enable removal and replacement of weir trestles next week as part of the on-going maintenance program from the weir. The pool level is currently 1.5 m below Full Supply Level, and is expected to reach a drawdown of 3.6 m by Saturday 19 May. It is anticipated that weir pool will be returned to normal operating level by late May to early June.

Flow to South Australia (currently 7 000 ML/day) will be increased to about 11 000 ML/day next week as the water from the drawdown of Mildura Weir pool arrives. Lake Victoria water level is continuing to be held low in this autumn/winter period in line with principles of operation under the NSW NPWS Consent conditions.

DAVID DOLE  
General Manager

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 16th May 2001

Product of the National Climate Centre



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

Week ending 16-May-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	472.77	3094	79%	80	3014	-2
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3038	177.43	876	29%	30	846	+39
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	23.63	324	48%	100	224	-4
Menindee		1682 *		1970	117%	480 #	1490	+15
<b>Total</b>		<b>9306</b>		<b>6264</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>5574</b>	<b>+47</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **65%**

# NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

### Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	404	39%	3	401	-0
Blowering Reservoir	1631	709	43%	24	685	+32
Eildon Reservoir	3390	1041	31%	100	941	+1

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 15-May-2001

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2832	-43	Snowy-Murray	+33	70
Snowy-Murray Component	1320	-	Tooma-Tumut	+1	2
Target Storage	1290		Nett Diversion	32.2	68
			Murray 1 Release	+43	81

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	-0.7	1584.5
Wakool System loss	0.2	38.2
Western Murray Irrig.	0.4	30.5
Licensed Pumps	n/a	381.6
Lower Darling	0.0	290.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>2324.7</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	3.0	480.0
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	4.9	774.6
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.4	154.9
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.2	55.6
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.8	160.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>1625.4</b>

### Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	93
Flow this week	66.7
Flow so far this month	145
Flow last month	479

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	220	196	213
Euston	190	189	200
Red Cliffs	330	280	244
Merbein	240	240	225
Burtundy	430	433	413
Lock 9	290	279	274
L. Victoria	340	333	308
Berri	380	381	330
Waikerie	480	470	388
Morgan	440	459	393
Mannum	370	363	400
Murray Bridge	380	369	396
Meningie	1190	1190	1250
Goolwa Barrages	1100	735	1116



Week ending 16-May-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
<b>River Murray</b>						
Khancoban	-	-	5900	R	5340	4840
Jingellic	4.0	1.71	4970	F	5590	5740
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.36	730	F	750	760
Heywoods	5.5	1.35	730	S	720	2300
Doctors Point	5.5	1.55	1260	S	1250	2980
Albury	4.3	0.65	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.70	1650	F	2080	3690
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.47	1800	R	2090	3490
Tocumwal	6.4	1.04	2476	F	3070	3940
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.32	3370	R	3370	3690
Stevens Weir (d/s)		0.78	481	F	562	264
Swan Hill	4.5	0.88	3500	R	3390	4700
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.25	4637	F	4850	7000
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.16	4720	S	5860	7150
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.09	8440	F	8130	6780
Rufus Junction	-	3.50	6500	F	9060	8630
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	9830	F	9980	6610
<b>Tributaries</b>						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.77	330	S	340	440
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.79	360	S	350	390
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.24	504	R	440	500
Edward at Liewah	-	1.46	870	F	910	1060
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.54	587	F	610	710
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.55	270	F	760	1480
Darling at Bourke	-	4.24	1220	F	1200	1270
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.93	828	S	830	1210
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.49	740	S	790	1070

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	1550	1670
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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	-0.24	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.06	+1.19
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.08	+0.22
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.00	+0.26
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-1.50	+0.12	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.05	+0.90
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.04	+0.45	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.02	+0.38
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.02	+0.01	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.04	+0.45
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.04	+0.18	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.01	+0.24

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.04	0.50	180
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.03	0.20	314

### Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.70	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.71	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.75	5

