

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 31 October 2001

Our Ref : MDBC:269 :ng:bwh

2 November, 2001



The northern and southern parts of the Murray-Darling Basin received further rain this week. The north-east received falls of between 10 and 25 mm with falls of up to 50 mm recorded along the Great Divide in Queensland. Little or no rain was recorded in central and southern New South Wales, however the upper Murray catchment in Victoria received between 10 and 50 mm.

Inflow to Dartmouth Reservoir has receded slowly following the further rain, and consequently storage volume increased slightly to a peak of at 3 480 GL (89% of capacity) during the week. Storage is now slowly declining as releases (currently 4 000 ML/day) exceed inflows, and without further rain is expected to continue to fall in coming weeks as the harmony transfer to Hume continues.

With release from Hume Reservoir remaining low in response to recent rain, storage in Hume has continued to rise, and now exceeds 75% of capacity (2 290 GL). Increased tributary inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers allowed the release from Hume Dam to be reduced to minimum this week to conserve water. As these tributary inflows are forecast to recede next week, and irrigation demands increase, it is expected that release from Hume will be increased early next week.

In response to the rain, total diversion from Lake Mulwala was reduced to about 3 000 ML/day (or about 20% of capacity) during the week, but has since been increased to 5 500 ML/day, and further increases are likely. Release from Yarrawonga Weir was increased to a peak of 15 000 ML/day to pass increased tributary inflows from upstream and rejected irrigation orders. It has since been reduced to 12 800 ML/day by 31 October, and further reductions to about 7 000 ML/day are expected to be made next week. It is currently expected that these recent increases in Murray flows will be contained within Lake Victoria.

Flow in the River Murray at Swan Hill peaked at about 6 500 ML/day (1.39 m gauge height), and is expected to begin to recede next week. Inflow to the River Murray from the Murrumbidgee River peaked at about 3 500 ML/day, and without further rain, will remain above 1 000 ML/day before receding in mid November. Flow in the River Murray at Euston has risen to 9 000 ML/day, and is forecast to peak at about 10 500 ML/day next week. Without significant further rain, it is anticipated that flow at Euston will recede to regulated requirements of about 4 000 ML/day by late November.

In the Darling River, release from Menindee Lakes at Weir 32 has been maintained near 7 000 ML/day during the week, however, it will be gradually reduced to 5 000 ML/day next week to conserve resources in the lakes in response to increased flows along the River Murray (*see Media Release attached*). Flow at Burtundy in the lower Darling has begun to recede in response to the reduction of Menindee release made in late October. Storage in Menindee Lakes declined by 61 GL to 1 411 GL (84% of nominal capacity).

Flow in the River Murray and storage in Lake Victoria storage will continue to be supplemented by transfers from Menindee Lakes to maximise the efficiency of the lower sections of the River Murray system. Apart from a temporary cessation in June 2001, additional dilution flow to South Australia (3 000 ML/day) has been supplied in addition to the South Australian entitlement since April 2000. However, under the harmony operating rules for Menindee Lakes and Lake Victoria, additional dilution flow to SA will cease when Menindee storage falls below the November trigger storage of 1 300 GL, which is forecast to occur by mid November.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 30 October 2001
Reduction in Release from Menindee Lakes



River Murray Water today announced that a further reduction in releases from Menindee Lakes will be made in response to higher flows in the River Murray upstream of the Darling Junction.

Releases from Menindee Lakes are currently being made to supplement storage in Lake Victoria for use later in the irrigation season. Flow in the River Murray upstream of the Darling River junction has increased over the last week due to increased inflows from tributaries downstream of Hume Dam, as well as some rejection of ordered irrigation water following rain. As a consequence, transfers from Menindee Lakes to Lake Victoria are now being reduced to conserve water resources.

Storage in Lake Victoria is now 515 GL (76% capacity), and is expected to reach about 630 GL (93% capacity) by the end of November without further rainfall.

Flow at Weir 32 is currently 7 000 ML/day (2.58 m gauge height). Commencing Thursday 1 November, the flow at Weir 32 will be gradually reduced to 5 000 ML/day (2.26 m). As a result, the water level at Burtundy will recede from the current level of 3.9 m to about 2.9 m by mid November.

It is currently expected that the flow at Weir 32 will remain at 5 000 ML/day until late November. If there is no significant further rainfall in the River Murray catchment, the flow at Weir 32 may be increased. However if there is significant rain in the River Murray catchment upstream of the Darling junction, further reductions at Weir 32 may be necessary. Further advice will be provided if alterations to the flow at Weir 32 are required.

For further information contact:

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

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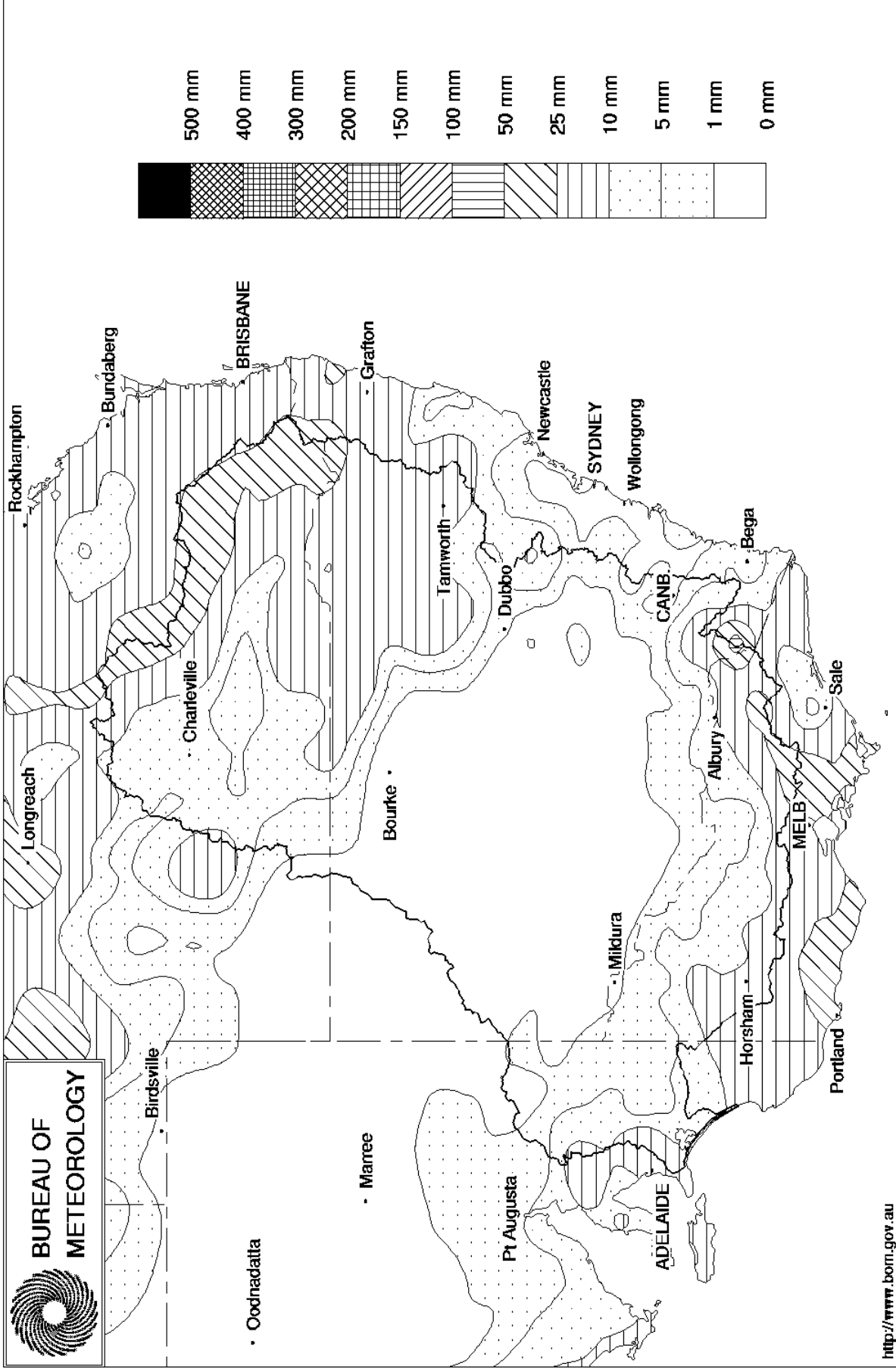
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(Daniel Connell is *not* to be quoted as a spokesperson)

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 31st October 2001

Product of the National Climate Centre



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

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Week ending 31-Oct-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	479.26	3480	89%	80	3400	+4
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3038	187.99	2290	75%	30	2260	+114
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	25.54	520	76%	100	420	+20
Menindee		1682 *		1411	84%	480 #	931	-61
Total		9306		7700	83%	690	7010	+77

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **81%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026		522	51%	3	519	+9
Blowering Reservoir	1631		1048	64%	24	1024	-6
Eildon Reservoir	3390		1449	43%	100	1349	+18

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 30-Oct-2001

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	3064	+20	Snowy-Murray	+8	426
Snowy-Murray Component	1414	-	Tooma-Tumut	+9	174
Target Storage	1400		Nett Diversion	-0.8	252
			Murray 1 Release	+21	655

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales			Victoria		
	This week	From 1 July		This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	21.3	352.2	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	6.9	102.6
Wakool System loss	0.1	5.4	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	14.8	211.9
Western Murray Irrig.	0.8	3.8	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	4.4	23.4
Licensed Pumps	7.5	82.0	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.7	22.8
Lower Darling	0.3	4.1	Licensed pumps - SRW	4.4	53.7
TOTAL	30.0	447.5	TOTAL	31.3	414.4

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	170
Flow this week	61.1
Flow so far this month	266
Flow last month	228

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	200	175	254
Euston	270	269	277
Red Cliffs	370	380	343
Merbein	350	310	312
Burtundy	430	427	400
Lock 9	410	414	367
L.Victoria	380	373	360
Berri	430	412	415
Waikerie	470	480	500
Morgan	470	493	506
Mannum	490	489	513
Murray Bridge	520	522	558
Meningie	1260	1240	1149
Goolwa Barrages	740	793	1477



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	-	-	5580	F	5030	4950
Jingellic	4.0	2.30	10150	R	11880	10070
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.58	5880	R	6090	5450
Heywoods	5.5	1.28	600	S	950	2920
Doctors Point	5.5	2.07	4360	F	5840	6150
Albury	4.3	1.09	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.58	6020	F	7540	7140
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.09	12800	F	13870	10980
Tocumwal	6.4	2.83	13374	F	12040	11080
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.28	6529	R	6720	6400
Stevens Weir (d/s)		0.86	576	F	602	820
Swan Hill	4.5	1.37	6480	F	6260	5360
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.15	7497	R	6780	5130
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.82	8730	R	7060	4880
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.31	12015	S	12070	11350
Rufus Junction	-	3.82	8494	R	8400	8100
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	7830	F	7830	7790
Tributaries						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.38	3630	F	4410	3830
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	10.25	8231	F	11720	7110
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.63	1119	F	920	840
Edward at Liewah	-	1.82	1210	F	1210	550
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.57	651	F	650	580
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	3.05	3480	F	2410	320
Darling at Bourke	-	4.08	420	S	470	540
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	3.78	7090	F	7720	8430
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.19	40	R	30	20

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	18300	16650
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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	+0.09	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.03	+1.51
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.04	+0.23
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.03	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.28
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.01	+0.10	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.01	+1.02
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.02	+0.67	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.37
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.00	+0.03	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.02	+0.32
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.02	+0.15	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.25

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.04	1.55	1910
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.07	1.28	1600

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.74	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.74	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.77	5

