

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 10 April 2002

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :brc

11 April, 2002



Conditions across the Basin were dry this week, apart from light falls totalling less than 10 mm in northern Victoria and southern NSW. Inflows to upper Murray storages, and inflows to the Murray from downstream tributaries remain low.

Irrigation demand and river transmission losses along the River Murray system is continuing to slowly decline due to cooler temperatures. However, demands and losses remain relatively high for this time of the season as a result of the dry conditions.

Release from Hume Reservoir was increased to a peak of about 16 000 ML/day early this week, but has since been reduced to about 12 500 ML/day, and is expected to remain near this rate early next week. Hume storage is now 403 GL (13% capacity), and will continue to fall unless there is a significant change in conditions. River Murray Water is closely monitoring the water level in Hume to ensure that the storage does not fall below levels needed to supply downstream requirements, however, it is now unlikely that further transfers from Dartmouth will be needed to supplement storage in Hume this season.

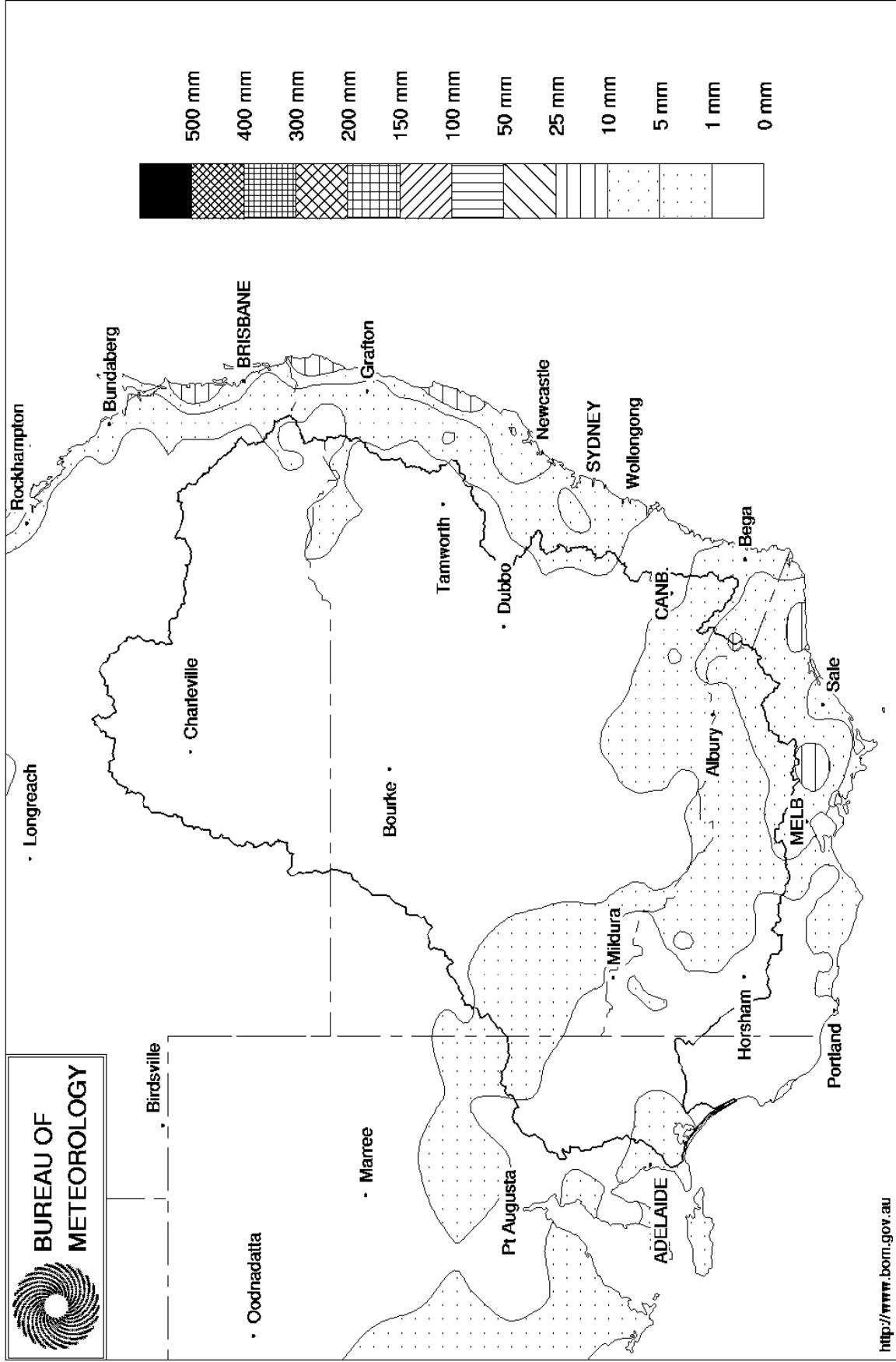
Release from Yarrawonga Weir was reduced from 10 600 ML/day to 7 000 ML/day this week in response to reduced irrigation demand as well as a small flush from the Murrumbidgee River to the River Murray. As a result, flow in the Murray at Swan Hill, currently about 2 900 ML/day (0.79 m gauge height), is forecast to recede to about 2 000 ML/day (0.64 m gauge height) by the end of next week. Release from Euston Weir was increased from 3 700 to 5 000 ML/day, and is forecast to peak at about 6 400 ML/day early next week before gradually receding unless there is further rain.

The behaviour of River Murray system storages over the last four years is shown attached. The total MDBC storage shown is the sum of storage volume in the four major storages, less the NSW reserve in Menindee Lakes. Total MDBC storage is now about equal to the lowest that it has been at the same time of year over the last three years. However, the most significant difference is that storage in Menindee Lakes is lower than it has been at the same time in the last four years. If there is little or no improvement in inflows to Menindee Lakes from the Darling River, and if conditions in the River Murray upstream of the Darling River junction next spring are drier than average, it will be necessary to transfer large volumes of water from Dartmouth to Hume, and from Hume to Lake Victoria to ensure that South Australia's entitlement flow can be met throughout 2002/03.

If conditions are very dry throughout late autumn and winter, it may be necessary to commence transferring water from Dartmouth to Hume, and then from Hume to Lake Victoria in late winter/early spring to ensure that commitments can be met within the available channel capacity.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 10th April 2002
 Product of the National Climate Centre

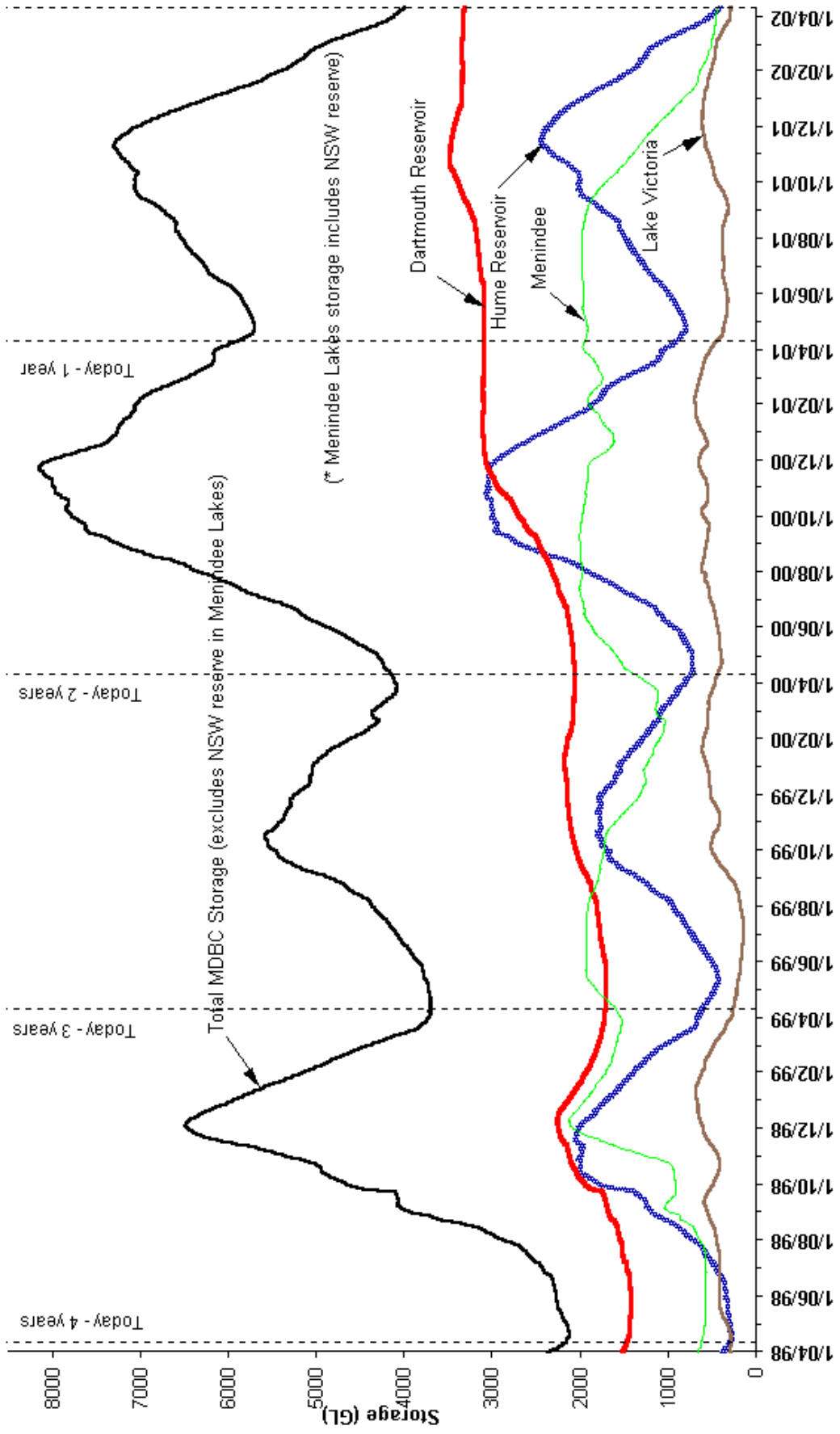


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Issued: 10/04/2002

MDBC Storages : 1 April 1998 to Present



Week ending Wednesday 10 Apr 2002

Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage		Dead storage (GL)	Active storage (GL)	Change for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	476.62	3 319	85%	80	3 239	-4
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	172.01	404	13%	30	374	-84
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	23.15	277	41%	100	177	-14
Menindee Lakes		1 682 *		440	26%	640 #	- 200	-10
Total		9 306		4 440	48%	690	3 590	-113

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **42%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	241	23%	3	238	-1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	182	11%	24	158	-10
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	739	22%	100	639	-24

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 09-Apr-2002

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1 May 2001
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 922	-14	Snowy-Murray	+0	739
Snowy-Murray Component	1 319	-	Tooma-Tumut	+1	222
Target Storage	1 340		Nett Diversion	-1.0	517
			Murray 1 Release	+0	1 049

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2001
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	25.0	1 445.5
Wakool System loss	1.3	36.8
Western Murray Irrig.	0.5	27.1
Licensed Pumps	15.1	374.9
Lower Darling	0.8	113.5
TOTAL	42.8	1 997.8

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2001
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	18.0	493
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	27.3	767
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	3.0	144
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.6	67
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.2	168
TOTAL	52.1	1 640

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	135	(4 200 ML/day)
Flow this week	29.6	
Flow so far this month	45	
Flow last month	187	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2001
Swan Hill	80	97	187
Euston	170	142	216
Red Cliffs	210	220	287
Merbein	260	250	281
Burtundy	760	756	491
Lock 9	320	351	403
Lake Victoria	470	462	406
Berri	520	511	471
Waikerie	-	-	559
Morgan	630	637	556
Mannum	630	623	547
Murray Bridge	750	738	595
Meningie	-	-	1 223
Goolwa Barrages	1 560	1 651	1 450



Week ending Wednesday 10 Apr 2002

River Levels and Flows

River Murray	Minor Flood stage (m)	Gauge height		Flow (ML/day)	Trend	Average flow this week (ML/day)	Average flow last week (ML/day)
		local (m)	(m AHD)				
Khancoban	-	-	-	440	F	740	820
Jingellic	4.0	1.25	207.77	1 610	R	1 580	2 010
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.45	218.34	860	R	870	920
Heywoods	5.5	2.84	156.47	12 830	F	13 780	13 880
Doctors Point	5.5	2.90	151.37	12 600	F	13 930	14 360
Albury	4.3	1.89	149.33	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.85	128.87	14 300	R	15 110	18 240
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.31	116.35	6 880	F	7 760	14 990
Tocumwal	6.4	1.90	105.74	7 240	F	8 490	13 870
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.33	79.88	3 280	F	3 790	4 110
Swan Hill	4.5	0.79	63.71	2 850	F	3 290	3 390
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.39	51.51	5 230	R	4 980	4 020
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.12	42.96	4 980	R	4 280	3 230
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.88	3 820	F	3 260	2 730
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.86	27.62	3 560	R	3 200	2 840
Rufus Junction	-	3.04	17.64	3 990	R	3 840	5 060
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	2 040	F	2 810	3 800
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.71	153.94	250	F	340	420
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.73	145.41	281	S	290	450
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.19	92.61	416	F	440	630
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 600	F	2 390	2 590
Edward at Liewah	-	2.89	58.27	2 560	R	2 030	1 130
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.48	54.97	459	R	400	240
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.95	57.91	1 790	R	800	240
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.70	-	1 530	F	1 040	150
Darling at Bourke	-	4.07	-	380	F	470	560
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.82	-	400	S	410	460

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	800	1 860
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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	+0.00	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.08	+0.73
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.02	+0.01
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.04	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.10
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.08	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.40
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.22	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.15
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	-0.01	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.05	+0.07
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.01	+0.08	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.05	-0.11

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.01	1.08	70.43	954
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	0.94	62.24	1150

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.58	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.55	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.55	All closed

AHD = Level relative to Australian Height Datum, i.e. height above sea level

