

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 16 January 2002

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :ng:dc

18 January, 2002



Little rain was recorded within the Murray-Darling Basin this week despite the heavy falls recorded in coastal areas of New South Wales. Light falls of up to 15 mm were recorded along the Great Dividing Range in NSW and Victoria, and thunderstorm activity produced falls of up to 25 mm in South Australia.

Release from Dartmouth Reservoir has been maintained at about 800 ML/day, however, with the prospect of hotter conditions and the associated increase in electricity demand, there is a possibility of an increased release over coming weeks for the purposes of hydro-electric generation.

In response to increased irrigation demands and river losses, coupled with dwindling tributary inflows, release from Hume Reservoir has been increased to the channel capacity between Hume Dam and Yarrowonga Weir of 25 000 ML/day at Albury. Storage in Hume is now 1 680 GL or 55% of capacity. Total inflow to the River Murray from the Kiewa, Ovens, Goulburn, Campaspe, Loddon and Murrumbidgee Rivers now totals about 1 300 ML/day, and is slowly falling.

Diversion from Lake Mulwala is currently at capacity of 13 100 ML/day, and release downstream of Yarrowonga Weir is being maintained at channel capacity of 10 400 ML/day for the Barmah-Millewa Forest in order to assist in meeting downstream requirements.

Diversion from Torrumbarry Weir pool to National Channel has been reduced to 3 500 ML/day, and the release downstream of the weir expected to average about 3 900 ML/day next week.

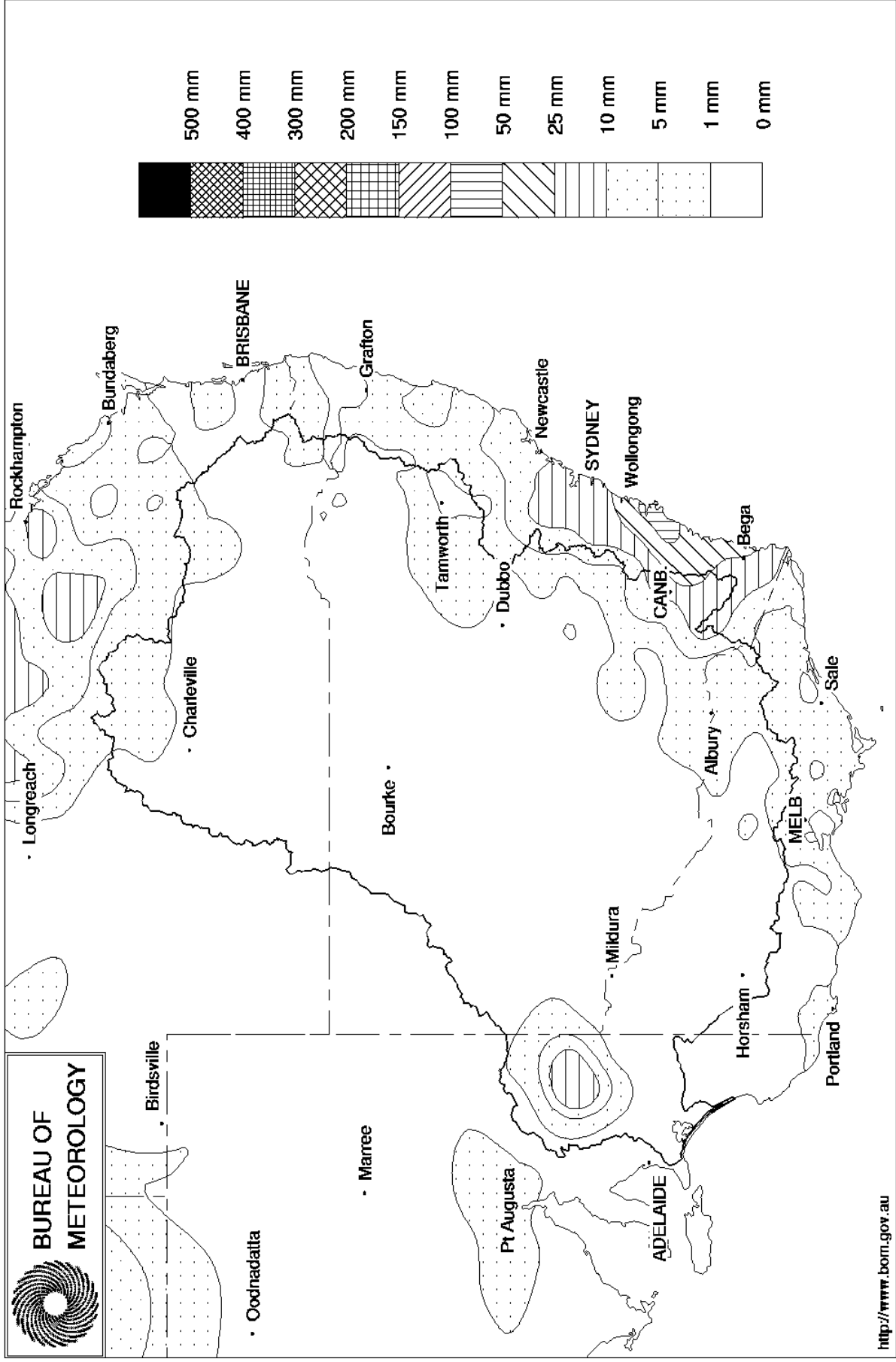
On the Edward River, release from Stevens Weir has been maintained at an average of about 1 300 ML/day to assist in supplementing flow requirements along the River Murray, but it is currently expected that the release rate will be reduced slightly over the coming week because irrigation demand from Wakool Canal is increasing. Release from the Wakool Escape (an escape from Mulwala Canal to the Wakool River System) is currently being made to assist in meeting flow requirements along the River Murray. However, this release rate was reduced to 250 ML/day late this week because of rising demand within the Mulwala Canal System. It is currently expected that the release at the Wakool Escape will be further reduced this week to 50 ML/day, as internal demand within the Mulwala Canal System continues to rise.

Weekly pulsing of release from Euston Weir is being continued in order to assist in meeting peak pumping rates further downstream at weekends. The upstream pool level at Euston Weir rose to 47.55m (5cm below FSL) late this week, but is again slowly falling as it is assisting in meeting flow requirements along the Murray.

Storage in Menindee Lakes has continued to steadily decline to 506 GL (30% of capacity), and release from Menindee Lakes at Weir 32 is currently about 4 100 ML/day and slowly declining as the storage levels in the Lakes slowly fall. If conditions remain dry along the Murray and Darling systems, it is expected that MDBC resources in Menindee Lakes will be exhausted by late February.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 16th January 2002
 Product of the National Climate Centre



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

Week ending 16-Jan-2002

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	476.97	3340	86%	80	3260	-4
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3038	184.04	1680	55%	30	1650	-142
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	25.75	542	80%	100	442	-26
Menindee		1682 *		677	40%	480 #	197	-48
Total		9306		6239	67%	690	5549	-220

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **64%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026		232	23%	3	229	-40
Blowering Reservoir	1631		576	35%	24	552	-44
Eildon Reservoir	3390		1155	34%	100	1055	-47

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 15-Jan-2002

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	3114	-29	Snowy-Murray	+23	549
Snowy-Murray Component	1417	-	Tooma-Tumut	+0	213
Target Storage	1520		Nett Diversion	22.6	336
			Murray 1 Release	+23	829

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	64.3	889.9
Wakool System loss	0.8	21.6
Western Murray Irrig.	1.5	15.9
Licensed Pumps	12.8	194.5
Lower Darling	8.8	56.7
TOTAL	88.3	1178.5

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	20.5	294.9
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	26.2	467.3
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	7.6	92.0
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	3.8	41.5
Licensed pumps - SRW	4.9	110.6
TOTAL	62.9	1006.2

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	217
Flow this week	50.4
Flow so far this month	113
Flow last month	220

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	120	123	218
Euston	180	202	241
Red Cliffs	280	300	312
Merbein	300	290	297
Burtundy	550	534	441
Lock 9	480	467	392
L. Victoria	440	431	380
Berri	500	503	440
Waikerie	600	590	530
Morgan	590	583	530
Mannum	580	575	515
Murray Bridge	600	591	553
Meningie	1320	1330	1190
Goolwa Barrages	1850	1919	1381



Week ending 16-Jan-2002

River Levels and Flows

	Minor Flood stage	Gauge height	Flow	Trend	Average flow this week	Average flow last week
	m	m	ML/day		ML/day	ML/day
River Murray						
Khancoban	-	-	4170	F	3240	3190
Jingellic	4.0	1.71	4970	R	4140	4300
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.57	1190	R	1170	1420
Heywoods	5.5	3.70	24630	S	23800	21960
Doctors Point	5.5	3.89	25100	S	24290	22770
Albury	4.3	2.99	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	4.17	24600	R	23910	22140
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.79	10400	F	10410	10390
Tocumwal	6.4	2.31	9904	R	9840	9740
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.61	4240	R	4060	4680
Stevens Weir (d/s)		1.38	1270	F	1330	1421
Swan Hill	4.5	0.83	3170	R	3380	3260
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.17	4430	F	4620	4310
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.01	4010	R	3540	3420
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.91	5370	S	5530	6440
Rufus Junction	-	3.57	6916	R	6700	6710
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	3690	S	3830	4120
Tributaries						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.69	220	R	250	380
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.70	241	S	300	520
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.25	518	S	690	860
Edward at Liewah	-	1.76	1150	S	1140	1210
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.49	479	R	370	250
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.47	210	R	180	190
Darling at Bourke	-	4.07	380	F	500	610
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	2.59	4330	F	4560	5220
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.07	0	F	20	80

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	1440	2440
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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	-0.11	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.10	+1.24
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.05	+0.14
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.09	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.20
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.02	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.03	+0.68
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.27	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.00	+0.18
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.02	-0.01	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.02	+0.12
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.02	+0.11	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	+0.01

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.23	0.75	457
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-1.10	0.20	314

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.72	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.71	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.70	All closed

