REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 10 July 2002

Our Ref : MDBC:269 :ng:bwh **11 July, 2002**

River Murray Water
A Business Unit of MDBC

Further good falls of rain were received across the upper Murray this week with in excess of 50 mm recorded at several sites in the upper Murray, Kiewa and Ovens catchments. The remainder of the Murray Valley received light falls of between 5 and 25 mm, whilst dry conditions continue to prevail in the northern half of the Murray-Darling Basin.

Inflow to Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs responded to the rain, and peaked at about 4 000 and 21 000 ML/day respectively during the week. Combined storage in these upper Murray storages increased by 94 GL with the storage in Hume Reservoir now at 23% of capacity.

Tributary inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers peaked at about 3 000 and 5 000 ML/day respectively in response to the recent rain. With upper Murray and tributary catchments now wetter, further significant rain can be expected to produce higher inflows to the River Murray.

Natural inflow to Hume Reservoir (that is, the calculated inflow if there were no regulation of flow by Dartmouth Reservoir and the Snowy Mountains Scheme) for June 2002 was about 270 GL. This level of inflow for June is near median – it is exceeded one year in two over the long term.

Refilling of Lake Mulwala commenced on 9 July when the gates of Yarrawonga Weir were lowered into operating position. The lake water level rose about 0.7 m during the week to 120.0 m AHD (about 4.7 m below normal operating level) and will be progressively raised throughout the remainder of July and into August. It is currently expected that the lake will be filled to 0.3 m below normal operating level by about mid August, however, the rate at which lake level rises will be dependent on rain and the resulting flows in the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers. If insufficient flows are available from those tributaries, release from Hume Reservoir will be used to assist in filling the Lake to the required level prior to the commencement of the irrigation season.

Flow downstream of Yarrawonga Weir peaked at about 6 500 ML/day on 9 July in response to last week's rain, but has since been regulated by the weir gates to a flow of about 4 000 ML/day to meet current downstream requirements, and is expected to be maintained at this rate next week. This flow rate is required to meet increasing downstream requirements, including the commencement of diversion to National Channel which is scheduled to begin on 17 July and gradually increase to 2 000 ML/day to assist with filling of storages in the Torrumbarry Irrigation System.

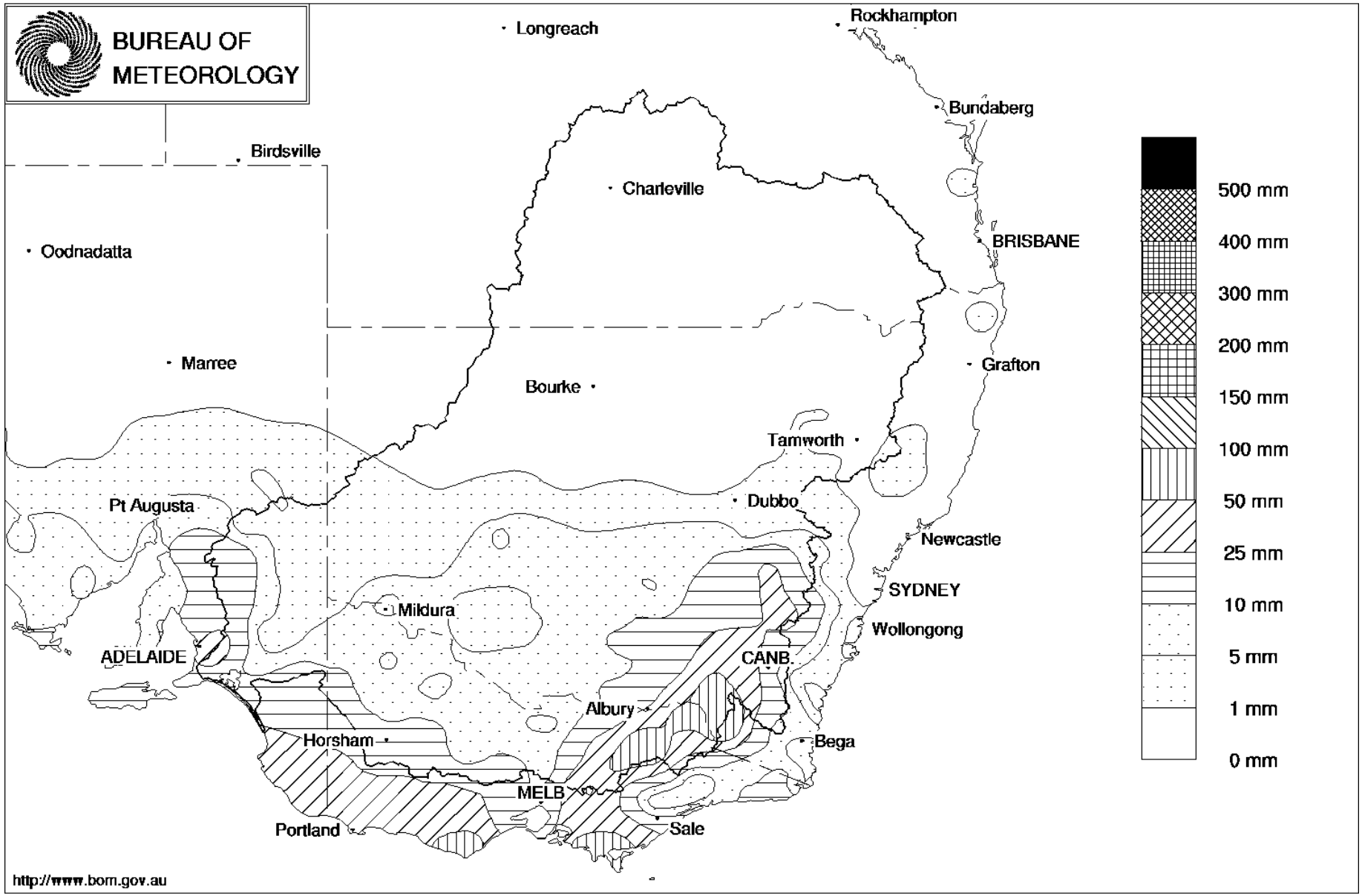
Flow downstream of Torrumbarry Weir is currently steady at about 4 200 ML/day, and is expected to rise to almost 5 500 ML/day next week, but is forecast to fall to about 2 500 ML/day by 20 July as diversion to National Channel increases to 2 000 ML/day. Consequently, without further rain, the River Murray level at Swan Hill gauge (currently about 1.0 m) is expected to rise to rise slightly by 18 July then fall towards the minimum target level of 0.6 m by late July.

Storage in Menindee Lakes is now falling at an increased rate due to commencement of release to the Great Anabranch of the Darling River in late June. A total of 50 GL will be released by the NSW Department of Land and Water Conservation over the next few months to replenish stock and domestic supplies in the Anabranch.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 10th July 2002

Product of the National Climate Centre



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Week ending Wednesday 10 Jul 2002

Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage (GL)	Current Storage %	Dead Storage (GL)	Active Storage (GL)	Change in Storage for the week (GL)
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	475.26	3 239	83%	80	3 159	-17
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	175.69	707	23%	30	677	+111
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	24.42	403	59%	100	303	+10
Menindee Lakes		1 682 *		391	23%	640 #	0	-4
Total		**9 306**		**4 739**	**51%**	**850**	**4 139**	**+100**

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **49%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		273	27%	3	270	+13
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		499	31%	24	475	+53
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		761	22%	100	661	+43

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 09-Jul-2002

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1 May 2002
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 865	+17	Snowy-Murray	+11	90
Snowy-Murray Component	1 366	-	Tooma-Tumut	+8	52
Target Storage	1 170		Nett Diversion	3.2	38
			Murray 1 Release	+15	153

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2002
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	- 4.6	- 4.6
Wakool System loss	0.2	.2
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	.1
Licensed Pumps	1.0	1.6
Lower Darling	3.7	4.5
TOTAL	**0.4**	**1.9**

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2002
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	.0	
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.8	1
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.2	
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.9	3
TOTAL	**3.0**	**4**

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	108.5	
Flow this week	24.6	(3 500 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	34	
Flow last month	90	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2001
Swan Hill	200	209	182
Euston	160	206	204
Red Cliffs	200	200	267
Merbein	190	180	258
Burtundy	810	804	574
Lock 9	240	232	366
Lake Victoria	430	410	408
Berri	500	506	486
Waikerie	670	650	585
Morgan	680	680	600
Mannum	630	630	568
Murray Bridge	710	696	616
Meningie	-	-	1 268
Goolwa Barrages	7 030	6 067	1 922

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River Levels and Flows

River Murray	Minor Flood stage (m)	Gauge height local (m)	Gauge height (m AHD)	Flow (ML/day)	Trend	Average flow this week (ML/day)	Average flow last week (ML/day)
Khancoban	-	-	-	5 020	F	4 520	2 740
Jingellic	4.0	2.37	208.89	10 880	F	10 340	5 290
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.98	219.87	8 650	R	6 910	5 740
Heywoods	5.5	1.21	154.84	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.74	150.21	2 230	F	2 430	1 780
Albury	4.3	0.84	148.28	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.03	127.05	3 110	F	2 370	1 830
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.10	116.14	5 660	F	4 540	3 690
Tocumwal	6.4	1.46	105.30	4 890	R	3 920	3 970
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.53	80.08	4 130	F	4 160	5 210
Swan Hill	4.5	0.95	63.87	4 060	R	4 340	5 590
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.26	51.38	4 750	F	5 500	5 480
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.40	43.24	6 480	S	6 760	5 180
Mildura Weir (d/s)		-	30.96	5 470	F	5 180	3 300
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.96	27.72	6 120	S	5 600	3 650
Rufus Junction	-	2.84	18.63	3 090	R	2 950	2 510
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	2 600	R	2 470	2 470
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.70	154.93	1 790	F	2 010	1 360
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.20	146.88	4 090	F	3 230	1 420
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.21	92.63	463	S	480	450
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	220	F	220	250
Edward at Liewah	-	1.05	56.43	540	R	540	560
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.29	54.78	164	S	150	140
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.98	56.94	640	F	1 060	450
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.24	-	120	R	110	90
Darling at Bourke	-	4.02	-	220	R	220	300
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.69	-	90	F	120	120

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	12 240	6 550

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
Yarrawonga	124.90	-4.85	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.16	+0.59
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.06	+0.00
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.06	+0.09
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.05	+0.16	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.34
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.32	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.13
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.04	+0.08	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.08
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.09	+0.19	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	-0.13

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. local (m)	d/s gauge ht. (m AHD)	Flow (ML/day)
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.35	1.57	70.92	1950
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	1.26	62.56	1580

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.72	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.68	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.72	All closed

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

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