

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 30 October 2002

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :dc:bwh

1 November, 2002



October extremely dry

Rainfall in the Murray-Darling Basin this week was mostly concentrated to the north eastern regions of the Basin with falls up to between 25 and 50 mm being recorded along parts of the Queensland/NSW border. No rainfall was recorded in most of central NSW, and only very minor falls were recorded in southern NSW and Victoria.

As a result of the very dry conditions, combined inflows to the River Murray system (including inflows to Menindee Lakes, and excluding transfers from the Snowy Mountains Scheme) for October 2002, and from June to October 2002 inclusive, have been very low at 240 and 1 660 GL respectively. Based on the historical record, these inflow rates respectively would be exceeded 97 and 93 years out of 100 in the long term.

High releases continue from upper Murray storages

With release from Dartmouth Reservoir being maintained at channel capacity downstream, storage in Dartmouth declined by a further 60 GL to 2 491 GL or 64 % of capacity.

Hume Reservoir storage also continued to gradually decline by a further 37 GL to 728 GL or 24 % of capacity. Release from Hume was increased from 19 000 to 21 300 ML/day at Albury/Wodonga early this week before being reduced to 19 000 ML/day in response to fluctuations in downstream demand.

Mid Murray operation

Combined diversion from Lake Mulwala at the major offtakes was 6 700 ML/day at the end of the week (51% of capacity), however this includes about 2 800 ML/day being transferred via Mulwala Canal to the Edward/Wakool system for transfer to Lake Victoria. Release from Yarrawonga Weir is being maintained at 14 000 ML/day. Transfer of water from Hume Reservoir to Lake Victoria is currently proceeding at a net rate of about 7 300 ML/day, of which about 2 800 ML/day is being transferred via the Mulwala Canal system.

Diversion from Torrumbarry Weir pool to National Channel was cut this week from 2 900 to 2 600 ML/day (62% of capacity) and is currently expected remain close to this rate for most of November. As a result, release downstream of Torrumbarry Weir is forecast remain relatively steady near the current rate of 8 300 ML/day.

River Salinity

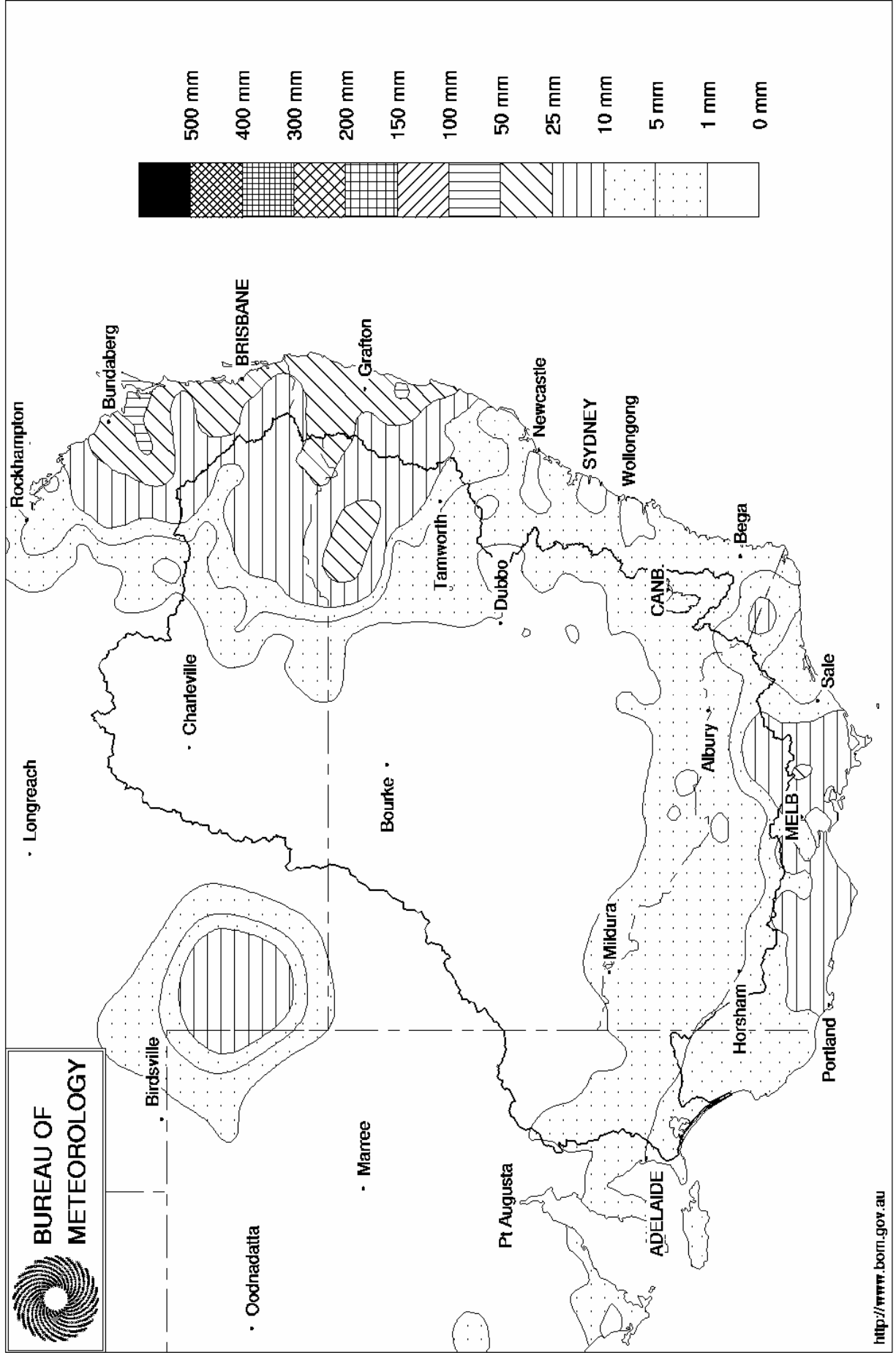
So far this season, salinities along the Murray as far downstream as Morgan have generally remained at relatively low levels due to low saline inputs from upstream tributaries, the higher volumes of low salinity water being transferred from the upper Murray storages, and the effect of salt interception schemes. However, with flow to South Australia continuing at minimum entitlement rates without additional dilution flow, salinities in the lower lakes continue to gradually rise.

River salinities (EC units) along the Murray include Swan Hill 70, Red Cliffs 110, Berri 340, Morgan 590, and Lake Albert 1 470 EC.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 30th October 2002

Product of the National Climate Centre



Week ending Wednesday 30 Oct 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 in Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	461.60	2 491	64%	80	2 411	-60
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	175.92	728	24%	30	698	-37
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	25.01	464	68%	100	364	+16
Menindee Lakes		1 682 *		224	13%	640 #	0	-27
Total		9 306		3 906	42%	850	3 472	-108

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = 41%

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	307	30%	3	304	-7
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	345	21%	24	321	-57
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	763	23%	100	663	-8

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 29-Oct-2002

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1 May 2002
Lake Eucumbene - Total	3 193	+12	Snowy-Murray	+12	204
Snowy-Murray Component	1 556	+5	Tooma-Tumut	+3	176
Target Storage	1 400		Nett Diversion	8.3	29
			Murray 1 Release	+13	433

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2002
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	11.9	276.6
Wakool System loss	0.4	15.5
Western Murray Irrig.	0.7	6.6
Licensed Pumps	5.4	82.6
Lower Darling	2.1	54.0
TOTAL	20.5	435.3

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2002
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	14.4	168
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	17.9	356
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	4.5	37
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.4	19
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.5	45
TOTAL	41.8	625

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	170	(5 600 ML/day)
Flow this week	39.4	
Flow so far this month	166	
Flow last month	136	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2002
Swan Hill	70	70	100
Euston	90	100	160
Red Cliffs	110	110	190
Merbein	110	100	200
Burtundy (Darling)	920	910	850
Lock 9	140	180	250
Lake Victoria	220	280	360
Berri	340	370	410
Waikerie	550	550	570
Morgan	590	590	620
Mannum	660	650	660
Murray Bridge	720	720	730
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 010	990	960
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 080	1 060	1 110
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 470	1 470	1 470
Goolwa Barrages	2 960	3 040	3 680



Week ending Wednesday 30 Oct 2002

River Levels and Flows

	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)				
River Murray							
Khancoban	-	-	-	2 250	R	2 320	3 680
Jingellic	4.0	1.49	208.01	3 290	F	4 470	5 530
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	3.20	220.09	10 020	S	9 990	10 050
Heywoods	5.5	3.28	156.91	18 580	S	19 040	18 940
Doctors Point	5.5	3.42	151.89	19 300	S	20 030	20 090
Albury	4.3	2.47	149.91	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.69	129.71	20 700	F	20 970	21 270
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.24	117.28	14 000	S	13 990	14 010
Tocumwal	6.4	2.77	106.61	13 880	S	13 870	13 910
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.70	81.25	8 330	R	8 110	7 810
Swan Hill	4.5	1.50	64.42	7 630	R	7 430	7 080
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.68	52.80	10 660	R	10 550	9 970
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.15	43.99	11 040	S	10 910	10 160
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.12	7 600	F	7 610	7 300
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.10	27.86	8 330	S	8 170	7 790
Rufus Junction	-	3.19	17.89	4 940	S	5 140	4 910
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 200	F	3 240	3 320
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.96	154.19	560	F	830	1 140
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.06	145.74	839	F	980	1 130
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.20	92.62	450	R	410	450
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	3 230	F	2 950	2 890
Edward at Liewah	-	2.96	58.34	2 670	S	2 670	2 640
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.85	55.34	1 600	S	1 570	1 580
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.50	56.46	230	F	280	200
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.24	-	120	S	60	100
Darling at Bourke	-	3.99	-	140	S	140	100
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.33	-	0	F	0	0

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	5 210	5 650
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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	-0.22	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.10	+0.88
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.01	+0.05
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.03	+0.14
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.03	+0.32	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.52
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.05	+0.46	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+0.15
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.02	+0.01	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.01	+0.08
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.00	+0.18	No. 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.01	+0.04

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-1.62	0.76	70.11	469
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-1.48	0.14	61.44	261

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.64	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.62	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.64	All closed

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

