

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 12 February

Our Ref : MDBC:269:dc:bwh

14 February, 2003



Basin conditions

Central and southern areas of the Murray-Darling Basin have remained dry and received little or no rain over the last week. Good falls, however, were recorded in southern Queensland this week with 150 and 200 mm being recorded in an area just north of Charleville, however, this is not expected to have any influence on inflows to Menindee Lakes unless there is significant follow up rain.

Upper Murray storages

With release from Dartmouth being maintained at channel capacity in the Mitta Mitta River (10 000 ML/day at Tallandoon), storage in Dartmouth decreased by 70 GL to 1 476 GL or 38 % of capacity.

As inflow to Hume has been almost in balance with release and evaporation, storage in Hume remained near level over the week, and is currently 160 GL or 5 % of capacity. Release from Hume on 12 February was targeting a flow of about 14 500 ML/day at Albury/Wodonga, however, commencing on 14 February this will be progressively reduced to about 11 000 ML/day in response to a reduction in both irrigation demand and the rate of transfer of water from Hume Reservoir to Lake Victoria.

Mid Murray operation

Combined gravity diversions at Lake Mulwala reduced this week from 4 100 to 3 500 ML/day (27% of capacity), which includes about 300 ML/day being transferred to Lake Victoria via the Mulwala Canal. Further reduction in Mulwala Canal diversion is planned for next week as the rate of transfer to Lake Victoria is being gradually reduced.

The requirement for transfer of water from Hume to Lake Victoria is now further reduced as a result of storage in Lake Victoria in mid February being higher than previously anticipated. Consequently, release from Yarrawonga Weir, which has been maintained at 10 300 ML/day over the last two months, will be reduced to 9 500 ML/day commencing 14 February. As part of this program of reduction in rate of transfer to Lake Victoria and South Australia, flow from the Murray to the Edward River at Edward River Offtake will be reduced from 1 600 ML/day (regulated channel capacity) to 1 200 ML/day as the reduction in flow in the Murray takes effect at Picnic Point on about 17 February. In conjunction with this operation, release from Stevens Weir on the Edward River (currently 1 500 ML/day) will be gradually reduced to 900 ML/day by about 22 February.

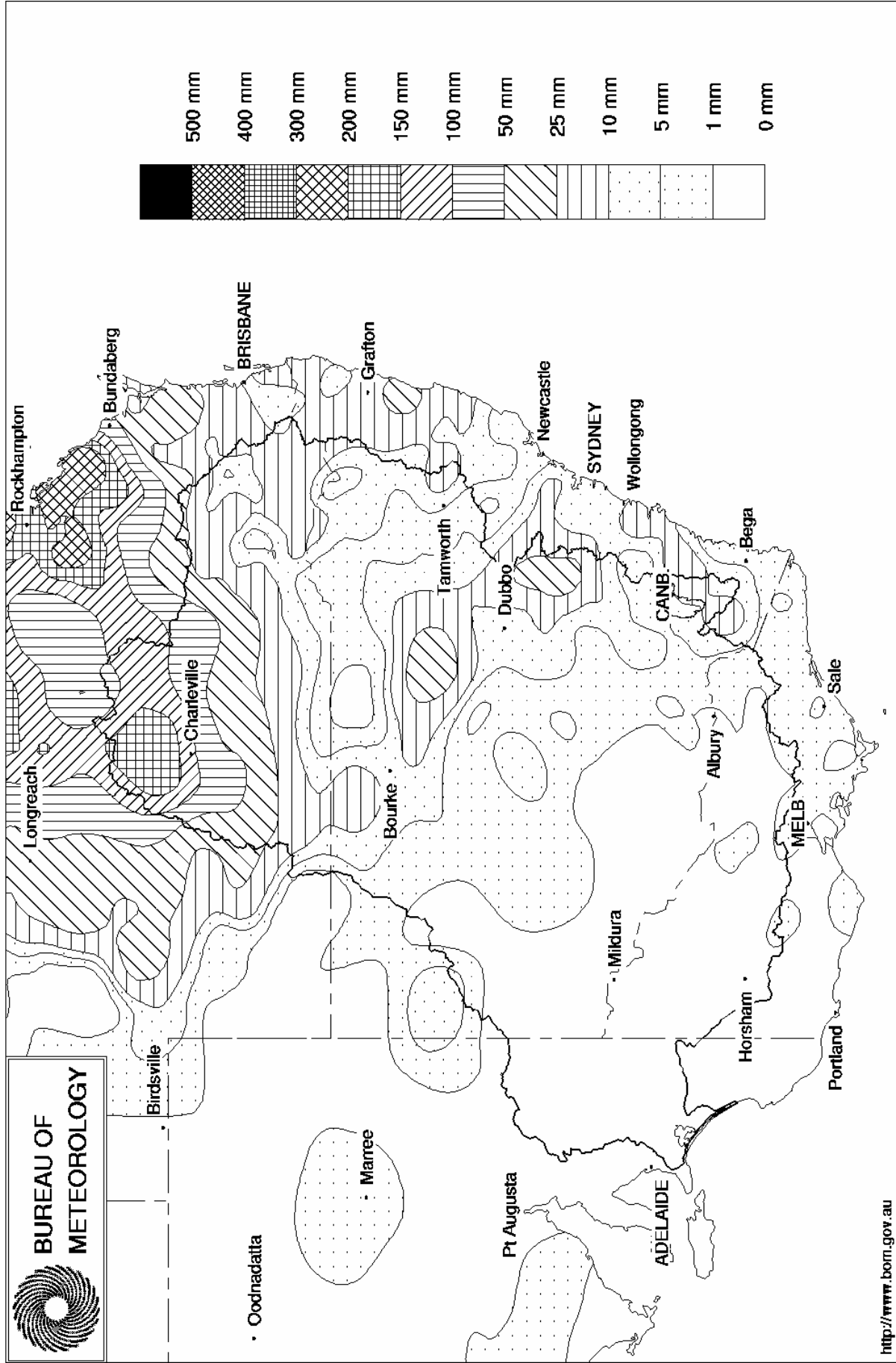
Lower Murray

South Australia's entitlement flow of 6 900 ML/day for February is currently being supplied by a contribution of 4 000 ML/day net release from Lake Victoria, with the remaining 2 900 ML/day being supplied by the Murray, upstream of the lake. Storage in Lake Victoria fell by a further 29 GL this week to 461 GL (68 % of capacity).

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 12th February 2003

Product of the National Climate Centre



Week ending Wednesday 12 Feb 2003

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	438.19	1 476	38%	80	1 396	-70
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	167.58	160	5%	30	130	+0
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	24.98	461	68%	100	361	-29
Menindee Lakes		1 682 *		90	5%	640 #	0	+26
Total		9 306		2 187	24%	850	1 887	-73

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **22%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	87	8%	3	84	-10
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	67	4%	24	43	+4
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	425	13%	100	325	-30

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 11-Feb-2003

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1 May 2002
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 748	-35	Snowy-Murray	+42	520
Snowy-Murray Component	1 340	-41	Tooma-Tumut	+6	186
Target Storage	1 460		Nett Diversion	35.4	333
			Murray 1 Release	+38	726

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2002
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	7.2	350.0
Wakool System loss	1.8	37.3
Western Murray Irrig.	1.0	22.7
Licensed Pumps	5.5	155.6
Lower Darling	1.9	101.3
TOTAL	17.4	666.9

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2002
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	13.5	378
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	22.1	666
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	6.2	125
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.6	49
Licensed pumps - SRW	6.3	133
TOTAL	49.7	1 352

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	194	
Flow this week	48.2	(6 900 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	83	
Flow last month	217	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2002
Swan Hill	60	60	80
Euston	80	80	120
Red Cliffs	120	110	140
Merbein	130	130	150
Burtundy (Darling)	1 840	1 770	1 000
Lock 9	130	130	180
Lake Victoria	270	270	310
Berri	270	250	340
Waikerie	310	310	430
Morgan	340	350	530
Mannum	520	530	630
Murray Bridge	590	600	700
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 200	1 260	1 140
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 200	1 210	1 140
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 650	1 720	1 570
Goolwa Barrages	3 100	3 290	3 270



Week ending Wednesday 12 Feb 2003

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	-	-	-	5 680	R	5 470	6 690
Jingellic	4.0	1.79	208.31	5 560	R	5 830	7 000
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	3.20	220.09	10 020	S	10 070	10 030
Heywoods	5.5	2.96	156.59	15 230	R	15 230	15 520
Doctors Point	5.5	3.05	151.52	14 400	S	14 560	15 060
Albury	4.3	2.06	149.50	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.96	128.98	15 100	R	15 810	16 460
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.79	116.83	10 300	S	10 300	10 300
Tocumwal	6.4	2.28	106.12	10 210	S	10 220	10 140
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.72	80.27	4 750	R	4 700	4 440
Swan Hill	4.5	0.99	63.91	4 320	R	4 090	4 110
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.55	51.67	5 850	R	5 710	6 290
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.19	43.03	5 350	R	5 500	6 170
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.87	4 270	F	4 570	4 900
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.99	27.75	3 280	S	3 460	3 810
Rufus Junction	-	3.43	20.36	6 330	R	6 100	6 050
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 260	R	3 240	3 250
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.49	153.72	0	F	70	180
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.31	144.99	0	F	0	20
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.19	92.61	416	S	390	440
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 560	F	1 630	2 010
Edward at Liewah	-	2.47	57.85	1 960	F	1 970	2 220
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.32	54.81	184	F	240	390
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.45	56.41	167	F	180	160
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.24	-	120	R	50	50
Darling at Bourke	-	2.67	-	0	F	0	0
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.68	-	70	S	70	60

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	1 010	190
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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
Yarrawonga	124.90	-0.08	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.17	+1.11
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.04	+0.10
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.01	+0.25
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.01	+0.07	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.01	+0.62
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.35	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.02	+0.18
No. 9 Kulinine	27.40	+0.21	+0.16	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.13
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.18	+2.68	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.03	-0.32

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-1.40	0.79	70.14	507
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.83	0.26	61.56	373

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.40	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.39	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.38	All closed

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

