

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 16 July 2003

Our Ref: RMW305/01//01/bwh

17 July, 2003



Further Light Rain but Inflows Remain Low

Rainfall of 10 to 25 mm was recorded throughout much of the upper Murray and tributary catchments, while falls along the mid Murray valley were limited to 5 mm. However, inflows to the River Murray System in the first half of July 2003 have remained low.

Upper Murray Storages

Inflows to Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs peaked at about 3 000 and 8 500 ML/day respectively, with Hume inflow peaking near the level recorded in late June. Consequently, storage in Dartmouth and Hume increased by only 11 and 50 GL respectively, with the increase in Hume including a contribution of about 40 GL release from the Snowy Mountains Scheme.

If there is no significant improvement in tributary inflows downstream of Hume Reservoir in coming weeks, it may be necessary to commence transfer of water from Hume to Lake Victoria by late July or early August in order to supplement storage in Lake Victoria so that the combined requirements of supply to South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales can be met over the remainder of the irrigation season in the event of continuing dry conditions. As the irrigation season progresses, the need for and the rate of any transfer of water will be regularly reviewed in accordance with storage in Lake Victoria, inflows from tributaries between Hume and Lake Victoria, and changes in water available to the three States.

Mid Murray Operation

Following the rain on 12 and 13 July, inflow to the River Murray from the Ovens River has increased to 2 700 ML/day, while there has been little change in Kiewa River flow which is near steady at about 1 200 ML/day, but these flows are expected to recede next week without further rain.

Release from Yarrawonga Weir has been increased to 7 000 ML/day in response to increased Ovens River flow, and also to assist in lowering of Lake Mulwala water level to facilitate some remedial works of the upstream side of the Yarrawonga Weir embankment. The level of Lake Mulwala is currently about 0.3 m below nominal full supply level, and is expected to reach a level of about 0.5 m below full supply level by 21 July which will be maintained for about 3 weeks. The lake level will be raised to normal operating level by 15 August in preparation for commencement of gravity irrigation diversion from the lake.

As a consequence of low tributary inputs to the River Murray in recent weeks, storage in Lake Victoria increased by only 10 GL this week.

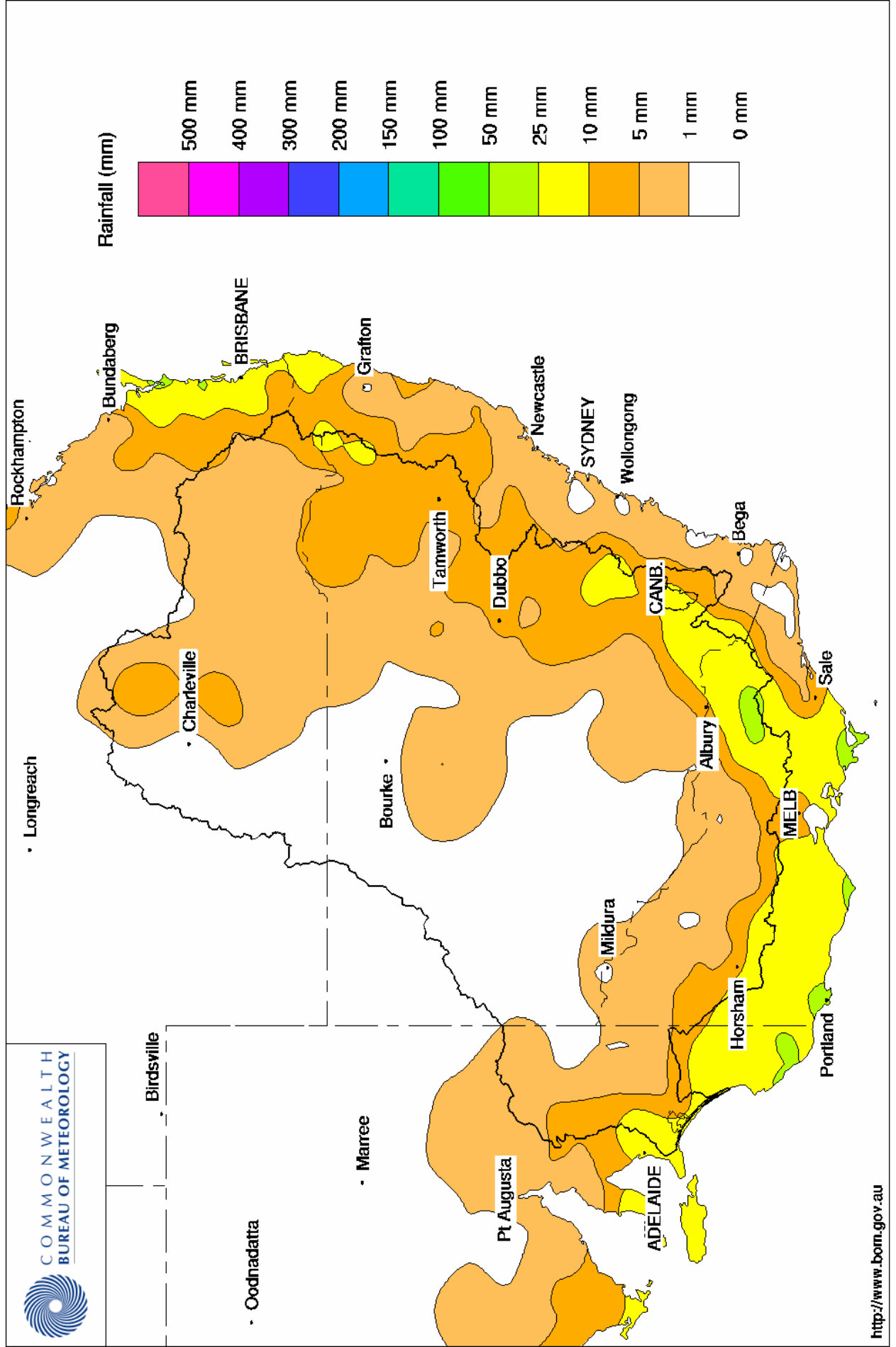
River Salinity

Salinity of the River Murray at Swan Hill has averaged 120 EC during the week, while further downstream at Mildura and Morgan, salinity levels averaged about 200 EC and 520 EC respectively. Salinity levels for Mildura and Morgan since January 2000 are shown on the attached diagram.

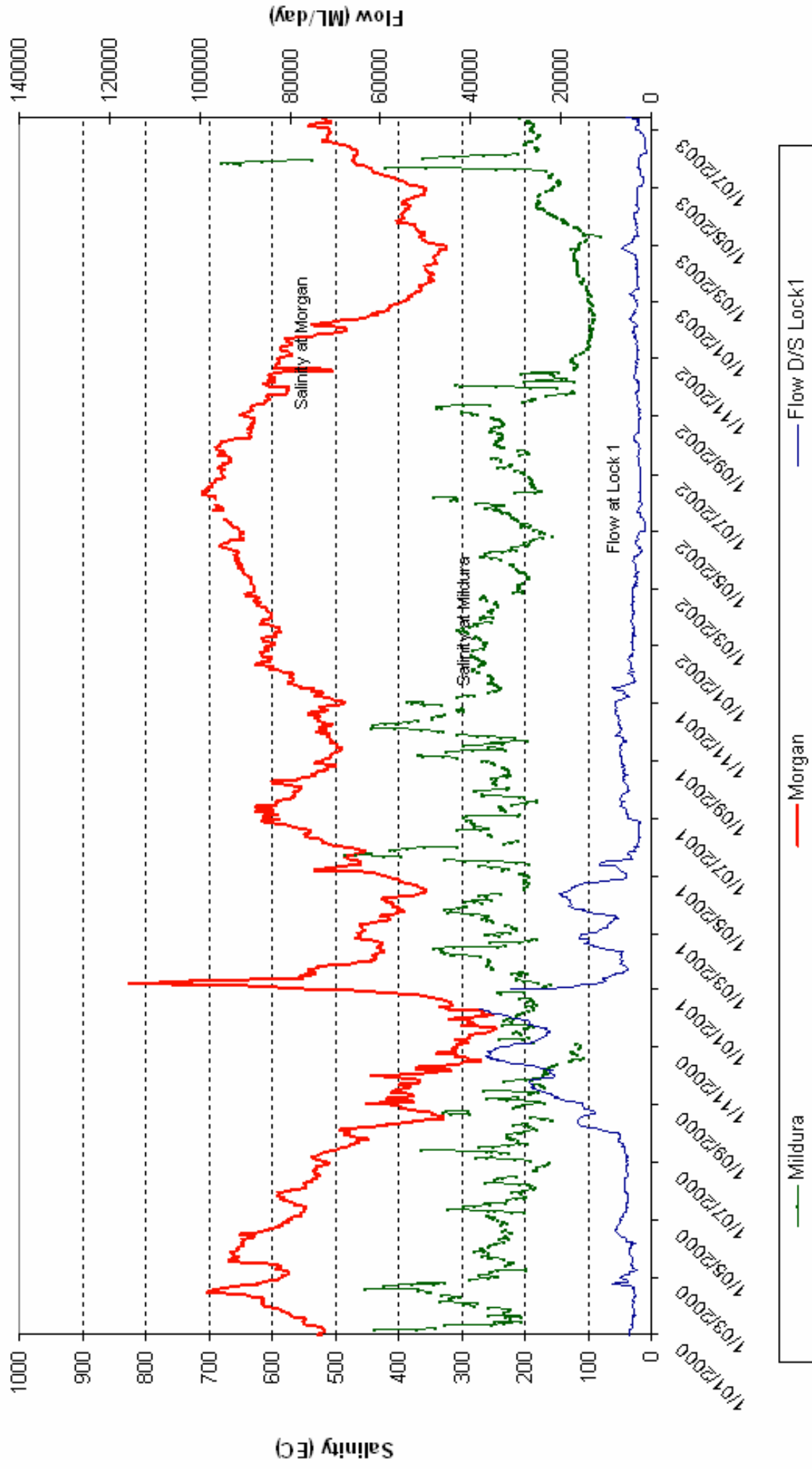
DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 16th July 2003

Product of the National Climate Centre



**River Murray salinity at Mildura and Morgan and Flow at Lock 1
from January 2000 to now**



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	430.08	1 198	31%	80	1 118	+11
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	174.75	622	20%	30	592	+50
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	23.39	300	44%	100	200	+10
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		72	4%	640 #	0	+1
Total		9 227		2 192	24%	850	1 911	+71

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **23%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	87	8%	3	84	+6
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	283	17%	24	259	+27
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	415	12%	100	315	+16

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 15-Jul-2003

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2003
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 675	-38	Snowy-Murray	+27	286
Snowy-Murray Component	716	-	Tooma-Tumut	+4	34
Target Storage	1 170		Nett Diversion	23.2	253
			Murray 1 Release	+32	325

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2003
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	.0	.0
Wakool System loss	0.0	.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	.1
Licensed Pumps	0.8	2.0
Lower Darling	0.0	.1
TOTAL	0.9	2.3

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2003
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	.0	
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.0	
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.6	4
TOTAL	1.7	4

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	108.5	(2 800 ML/day)
Flow this week	19.5	
Flow so far this month	45	
Flow last month	72	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2002
Swan Hill	140	120	90
Euston	170	170	120
Red Cliffs	200	190	140
Merbein	180	170	160
Burtundy (Darling)	1 630	1 660	1 240
Lock 9	210	220	180
Lake Victoria	280	260	290
Berri	420	440	330
Waikerie	-	510	410
Morgan	530	520	480
Mannum	430	420	530
Murray Bridge	500	500	610
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 020	1 060	1 140
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 000	1 030	1 140
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 420	1 510	1 620
Goolwa Barrages	4 430	4 230	3 440



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	-	-	-	5 500	F	5 450	3 820
Jingellic	4.0	1.97	208.49	7 160	R	7 330	4 250
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.33	218.22	600	F	630	500
Heywoods	5.5	1.16	154.79	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.64	150.11	1 690	R	1 560	1 510
Albury	4.3	0.76	148.20	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.69	126.71	1 610	R	1 420	1 660
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.31	116.35	6 910	R	4 470	5 050
Tocumwal	6.4	1.47	105.31	5 170	R	3 930	5 260
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.40	79.95	3 590	F	4 530	5 000
Swan Hill	4.5	1.03	63.95	4 570	F	5 030	4 000
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.62	51.74	6 440	F	6 000	4 730
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.45	43.29	6 760	R	5 740	4 780
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.93	5 580	F	5 100	4 480
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.87	27.63	4 680	R	4 390	4 100
Rufus Junction	-	2.76	19.69	2 380	S	2 490	2 580
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	2 720	F	2 890	3 150
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.46	154.69	1 320	R	1 180	1 180
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.71	146.39	2 729	S	2 190	2 450
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.24	92.66	490	F	650	1 280
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	780	F	990	790
Edward at Liewah	-	1.56	56.94	960	R	880	640
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.34	54.83	210	S	200	180
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.50	56.46	198	F	210	260
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.29	-	210	S	210	180
Darling at Bourke	-	4.02	-	220	S	230	280
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.66	-	10	S	40	40

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	5 580	4 250
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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	-0.33	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.04	+0.45
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.00	-0.04
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.04	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.01	+0.08
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.13	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.30
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.23	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.09
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.00	-0.03	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.02	+0.06
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.01	-19.95	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	-0.15

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.15	1	70.35	814
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.26	0.13	61.43	252

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.64	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.60	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwicheere	322 gates	0.61	All closed

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

