

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 12 November 2003

Our Ref : RMW305/01/01/ms:bwh

29 April, 2004



Increase in Irrigation Demand

Dry and warm conditions prevailed across the Murray valley, leading to significant increases in irrigation demand at major offtakes. Dry conditions are expected to persist early next week.

Upper Murray and Mid Murray Operation

Inflows to Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs have continued to recede to 3 000 and 7 000 ML/day respectively. Release from Hume was increased 10 000 to 14 000 ML/day by 13 November to meet increased irrigation demand, and storage volume continues to steadily decline as a result.

Inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens River to the River Murray declined to 1 200 and 2 500 ML/day respectively by 12 November 2003. This represents the lowest inflow from these tributaries since late July this year. Diversions across the mid-Murray increased with Mulwala Canal diversion increasing from 2 150 to 3 400 ML/day with further increases expected in coming days. Diversion to National Channel has risen from 1 500 to 3 000 ML/day, while Yarrawonga Main Channel diversion has remained near steady at 2 000 ML/day.

Release from Yarrawonga Weir has been further increased in order to increase the rate of transfer of water to Lake Victoria. Flow is near the estimated channel capacity for the reach of the Murray between Tocumwal and Picnic Point. Flow rates and river conditions will be closely monitored over the coming week in consultation with New South Wales and Victorian forest agencies to monitor the channel capacity. This will provide a guide for maximum regulated flow which can be sustained between Tocumwal and Picnic Point over the remainder of the irrigation season without adverse impact on the Barmah-Millewa Forest. Transfer of water to Lake Victoria via the Edward River is also scheduled to be increased next week.

New Fishway at Lock 8

The new fishway at Weir and Lock 8 was commissioned during the week – this is the first such structure to be completed under *The Living Murray* Fishway Program from ‘the sea to Hume Dam’. Preliminary observations indicate that the structure is operating successfully with large numbers of a variety of fish species, varying in length from 50 to 500 mm, using the fishway to move upstream.

Lower Murray

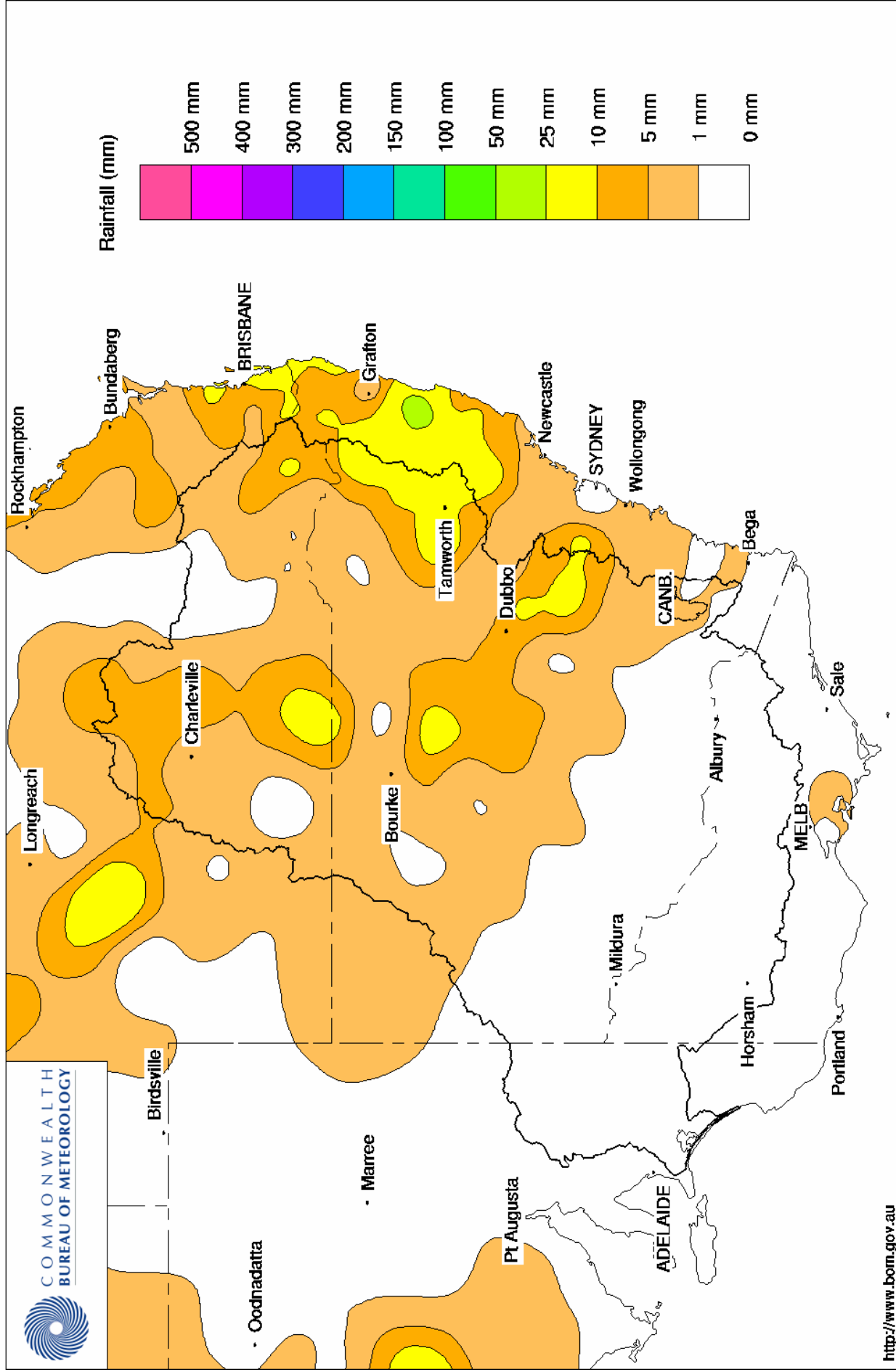
South Australia, in managing its available water resources for 2003/04, has requested that its flow in November 2003 be provided as 100% of its November entitlement. Accordingly, flow to South Australia has been maintained at 6 000 ML/day, with about 4 500 ML/day now being supplied from Lake Victoria, and the remainder (about 1 500 ML/day) from the Murray upstream of the Lake.

Along the lower Murray, river flow remains at regulated rates, and all Barrage gates remain closed. The water level of Lake Alexandrina has remained near the maximum surcharge level.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

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

Product of the National Climate Centre



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	445.39	1 753	45%	80	1 673	+17
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	187.35	2 184	72%	30	2 154	-33
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	26.62	638	94%	100	538	-27
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		50	3%	640 #	0	-2
Total		9 227		4 625	50%	850	4 365	-45

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **52%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		443	43%	3	440	+3
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		925	57%	24	901	+9
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		1 446	43%	100	1 346	+21

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 11-Nov-2003

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2003
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 812	-4	Snowy-Murray	+0	515
Snowy-Murray Component	974	-	Tooma-Tumut	+3	192
Target Storage	1 450		Nett Diversion	-3.0	323
			Murray 1 Release	+10	769

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2003
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	24.5	215.3
Wakool System loss	1.7	7.4
Western Murray Irrig.	0.8	4.9
Licensed Pumps	4.9	56.1
Lower Darling	0.4	2.2
TOTAL	32.2	286.0

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2003
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	14.4	70
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	17.4	177
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	5.7	28
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.2	5
Licensed pumps - SRW	4.0	62
TOTAL	42.6	342

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	180	(6 000 ML/day)
Flow this week	42.0	
Flow so far this month	72	
Flow last month	208	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2003
Swan Hill	100	100	120
Euston	120	130	130
Red Cliffs	170	150	130
Merbein	170	160	130
Burtundy (Darling)	1 890	1 850	1 710
Lock 9	160	160	170
Lake Victoria	220	220	230
Berri	240	240	280
Waikerie	390	390	440
Morgan	400	390	440
Mannum	310	310	470
Murray Bridge	400	400	530
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 060	1 040	1 020
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 090	1 090	1 090
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 500	1 490	1 480
Goolwa Barrages	1 340	1 310	2 510



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	-	-	-	3 110	F	2 320	2 670
Jingellic	4.0	1.81	208.33	5 730	R	5 370	7 060
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.43	218.32	810	F	960	1 180
Heywoods	5.5	2.74	156.37	12 800	R	10 570	7 610
Doctors Point	5.5	2.95	151.42	13 200	R	11 790	9 300
Albury	4.3	1.91	149.35	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.66	128.68	12 900	R	12 500	9 480
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.82	116.86	10 500	R	10 110	9 800
Tocumwal	6.4	2.27	106.11	10 550	F	10 630	10 340
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.57	80.12	4 270	R	4 680	5 410
Swan Hill	4.5	0.96	63.88	4 120	F	4 830	4 350
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.46	51.58	5 790	F	5 960	5 020
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.23	43.07	5 560	F	5 150	4 570
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.88	3 990	F	3 380	4 830
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.85	27.61	2 630	R	2 640	4 460
Rufus Junction	-	3.34	20.27	5 790	R	5 670	5 590
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	4 170	S	4 160	4 120
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.39	154.62	1 200	F	2 000	2 370
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.64	146.32	2 517	F	2 930	3 740
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.17	92.59	383	R	400	580
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	780	F	770	1 070
Edward at Liewah	-	1.68	57.06	1 020	S	940	680
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.44	54.93	378	F	380	460
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.53	56.49	215	F	240	250
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.22	-	90	F	190	320
Darling at Bourke	-	4.10	-	408	F	570	170
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.66	-	26	S	20	20

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	10 460	12 540
---	--------	--------

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	-0.16	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.09	+0.97
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	+0.06
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.00	+0.15
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.08	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.57
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.21	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.19
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	-0.02	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.16
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.00	+0.07	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.22

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.19	0.56	69.91	260
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.69	0.11	61.41	236

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.93	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.90	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwicheere	322 gates	0.88	All closed

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

