

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 26 November 2003

Our Ref : RMW305/01/01/prs

29 April, 2004



Rainfall yields only minor rises in steam flow

Local heavy rainfall fell on relatively dry catchments over the weekend, bringing only minor rises in stream flow. Inflows to Hume and Dartmouth Reservoirs rose to 4,400 and 10,000 ML/day respectively, but have since receded. The Kiewa River at Bandiana peaked at 2,120 ML/day on Sunday, 23 November, and the Ovens River at Wangaratta peaked at 3,700 ML/day on Monday. Inflows from the Goulburn River have reached 900 ML/day and are expected to recede shortly.

Water resource improvements

Dartmouth Reservoir continues to fill and rose by 22 GL following the weekend's rain (current storage volume 1,785 GL or 46 % of capacity). Hume Reservoir started the week at 2,126 GL and finished at 2,127 GL, as releases required to meet downstream requirements were about the same as the inflows sourced from rain on the storage and upstream tributary inflows. Lower temperatures and rain across irrigation areas have suppressed irrigation demand enabling reductions in releases from Hume Reservoir. This is reflected by flow at Doctors Point which declined from 15,200 to 6,300 ML/day over the week.

Reduced irrigation diversions did result in a small 'rain rejection' flow in the river. However, this was captured entirely in Lake Mulwala resulting in a rise in pool level to 124.95 m AHD on Wednesday, 26 November. The rain rejection initially saw a reduction in River Murray Water orders placed at Stevens Weir, Wakool Escape and Rices Weir on Broken Creek. These have since been re-established to meet future downstream flow requirements.

Flow downstream of Yarrawonga Weir

Discharge from Yarrawonga Weir was held steady at 10,700 ML/day from 13 to 22 November to assist with the determination of the river's channel capacity in the reach upstream of Picnic Point. Water levels recorded throughout the Barmah-Millewa Forest suggested that this flow was likely to cause inundation of some low lying areas. In response, discharge has now been reduced to 10,500 ML/day. This will serve as a guide for river operations in the summer period where an objective is to minimise unseasonal flooding of the forest.

Lower Murray storage and flow

Over half the entitlement flow being supplied to South Australia at present is being drawn from Lake Victoria. As a result the lake volume continues to decline and had reached 591 GL on 28 November (87% of capacity). No Murray-Darling Basin Commission storage is available in Menindee Lakes and there is only a 15% probability that storage would become available to the Commission this season. More than 89% of total active storage is currently held in upper Murray storages.

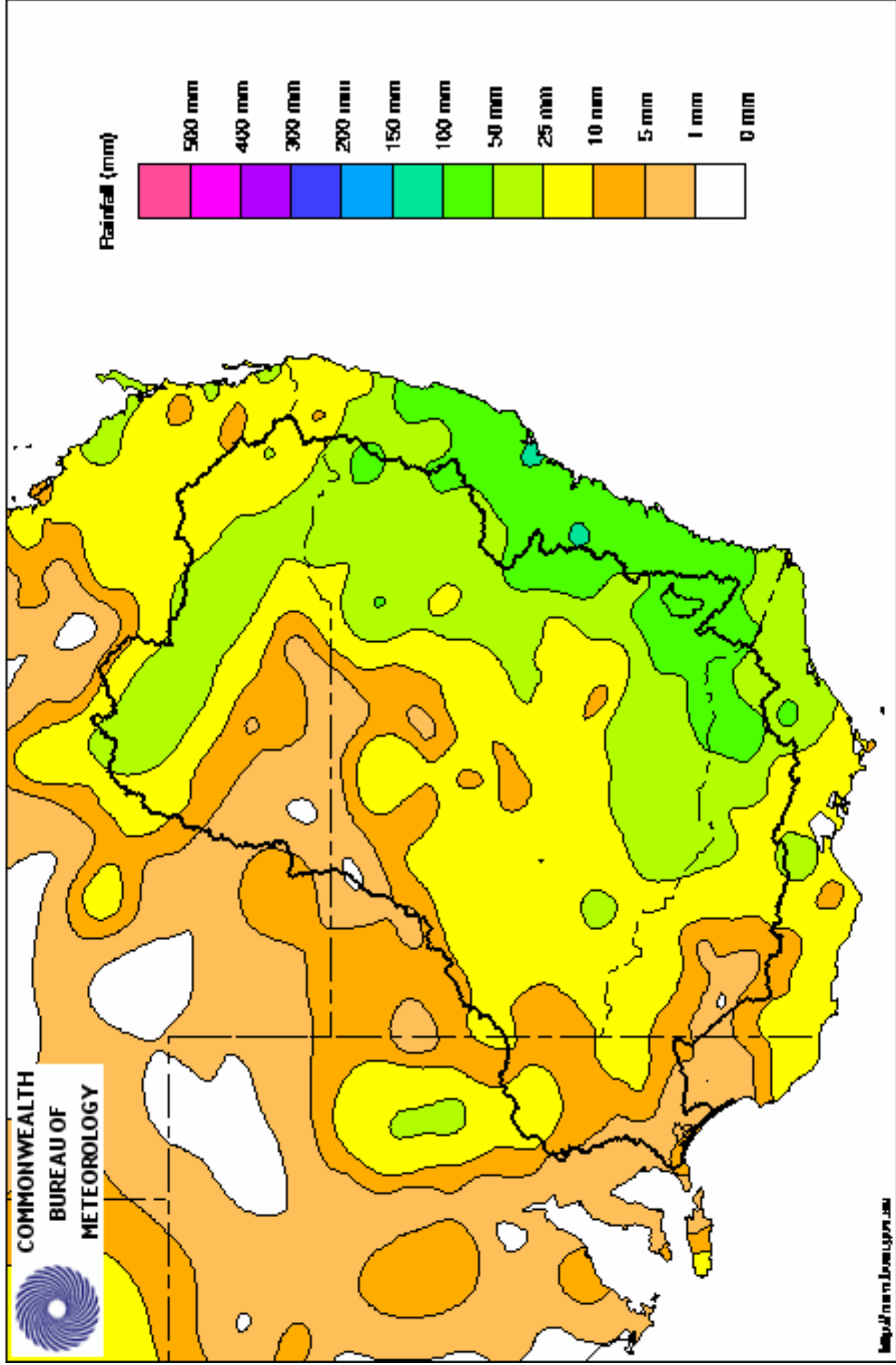
The average level of Lake Alexandrina has fluctuated between 0.88 and 0.80 m AHD since the barrage gates were closed over 40 days ago.

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Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 26th November 2003

Product of the National Climate Centre



Week ending Wednesday 26 Nov 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	446.11	1 783	46%	80	1 703	+19
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	187.00	2 127	70%	30	2 097	+1
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	26.20	591	87%	100	491	-22
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		49	3%	640 #	0	-1
Total		9 227		4 550	49%	850	4 291	-3

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **51%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	462	45%	3	459	+19
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	929	57%	24	905	+2
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	1 449	43%	100	1 349	+1

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 25-Nov-2003

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2003
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 807	+10	Snowy-Murray	+5	524
Snowy-Murray Component	1 019	-	Tooma-Tumut	+6	203
Target Storage	1 450		Nett Diversion	-1.1	320
			Murray 1 Release	+15	794

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2003
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	11.2	254.5
Wakool System loss	0.7	11.7
Western Murray Irrig.	0.2	6.3
Licensed Pumps	4.3	66.6
Lower Darling	0.3	2.9
TOTAL	16.7	342.0

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2003
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	3.9	90
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	199
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.9	38
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.2	7
Licensed pumps - SRW	6.2	74
TOTAL	14.1	408

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	180	(6 100 ML/day)
Flow this week	42.4	
Flow so far this month	156	
Flow last month	208	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2003
Swan Hill	70	90	110
Euston	120	120	130
Red Cliffs	150	160	130
Merbein	180	180	140
Burtundy (Darling)	2 070	2 030	1 740
Lock 9	200	190	170
Lake Victoria	220	220	230
Berri	270	270	280
Waikerie	350	360	420
Morgan	390	400	440
Mannum	350	340	460
Murray Bridge	360	370	510
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 220	1 320	1 050
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 210	1 160	1 090
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 570	1 620	1 490
Goolwa Barrages	1 380	1 410	2 380



Week ending Wednesday 26 Nov 2003

River Levels and Flows

River Murray	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)				
Khancoban	-	-	-	1 880	F	3 560	2 830
Jingellic	4.0	1.85	208.37	6 080	F	6 890	5 220
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.47	218.36	910	F	1 090	1 510
Heywoods	5.5	1.94	155.57	5 360	F	9 100	13 980
Doctors Point	5.5	2.30	150.77	6 320	F	10 010	14 640
Albury	4.3	1.29	148.73	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.20	128.22	9 830	F	13 390	15 030
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.84	116.88	10 700	S	10 640	10 700
Tocumwal	6.4	2.37	106.21	11 280	S	11 430	11 160
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.53	81.08	7 710	R	6 260	4 180
Swan Hill	4.5	1.30	64.22	6 320	R	4 610	3 700
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.48	51.60	5 870	R	5 120	4 980
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.14	42.98	5 090	F	4 610	4 710
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.88	3 510	F	3 400	3 770
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.84	27.60	3 150	S	3 020	2 930
Rufus Junction	-	3.37	20.30	5 980	R	5 690	5 590
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	4 170	R	3 960	4 050
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.51	154.74	1 420	R	1 540	1 400
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.63	146.31	2 487	F	2 700	2 080
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.40	92.82	755	R	580	390
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	3 180	F	2 640	900
Edward at Liewah	-	1.51	56.89	871	R	780	910
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.47	54.96	434	S	420	360
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.63	56.59	273	S	250	210
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.19	-	40	F	130	170
Darling at Bourke	-	4.03	-	171	F	210	270
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.64	-	14	S	10	20

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	10 200	8 310
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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	+0.05	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.09	+1.05
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.05	+0.07
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	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	+0.59
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.05	+0.20	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+0.19
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.03	+0.02	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.11
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.03	+0.11	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.09

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.55	0.66	70.01	355
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-1.08	0.11	61.41	236

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.90	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.88	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.85	All closed

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

