

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 13 October 2004

Our Ref : RMW305/01/01/jm
Trim Ref : 04/11166DO

14 October, 2004



Temperature and Rainfall

Warm to hot and mostly dry conditions prevailed in the Basin this week. Maximum daily temperatures were significantly greater than the average for October across the Basin, and increased to more than 40°C in the central-west of the Basin. Up to 10 mm of rain fell in the southern part of the Basin, however the majority of the catchment did not receive any rainfall at all.

Inflows

A minor increase in inflow to Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs occurred early in the week in response to the rainfall, however inflows have generally been continuing to recede from previous larger rainfall events. Similarly, flow from the Ovens River has slowly decreased. In contrast, inflow from the Kiewa River has varied up and down (between about 2 200 ML/day and 3 300 ML/day), mostly due to the operation of the hydro-electric power station at Mt Beauty.

Good rainfall over the central part of the Basin last week has seen the flow at Bourke increase to about 650 ML/day. This is the highest flow in this part of the Darling system since May this year, and a considerable increase from the start of this month when the river almost ceased to flow. Despite this response, high losses from the river are expected to occur due to the recent warm and dry conditions, with little increase in the inflow to Menindee Lakes.

System Operation

Releases from Hume Reservoir increased above 15 000 ML/day to meet both increasing irrigation demands and ongoing transfers of water from Hume Reservoir to Lake Victoria.

The flow downstream of Yarrawonga has been increased marginally to 10 300 ML/day, and will be maintained at about this level (near channel capacity through the Barmah-Millewa Forest), in order to facilitate transfers of water to Lake Victoria.

Despite the more or less steady flows downstream of Yarrawonga, the flow downstream of Torrumbarry Weir has decreased further (to about 5 000 ML/day) late this week, as National Channel diversions increased.

Lower Lakes and Barrages

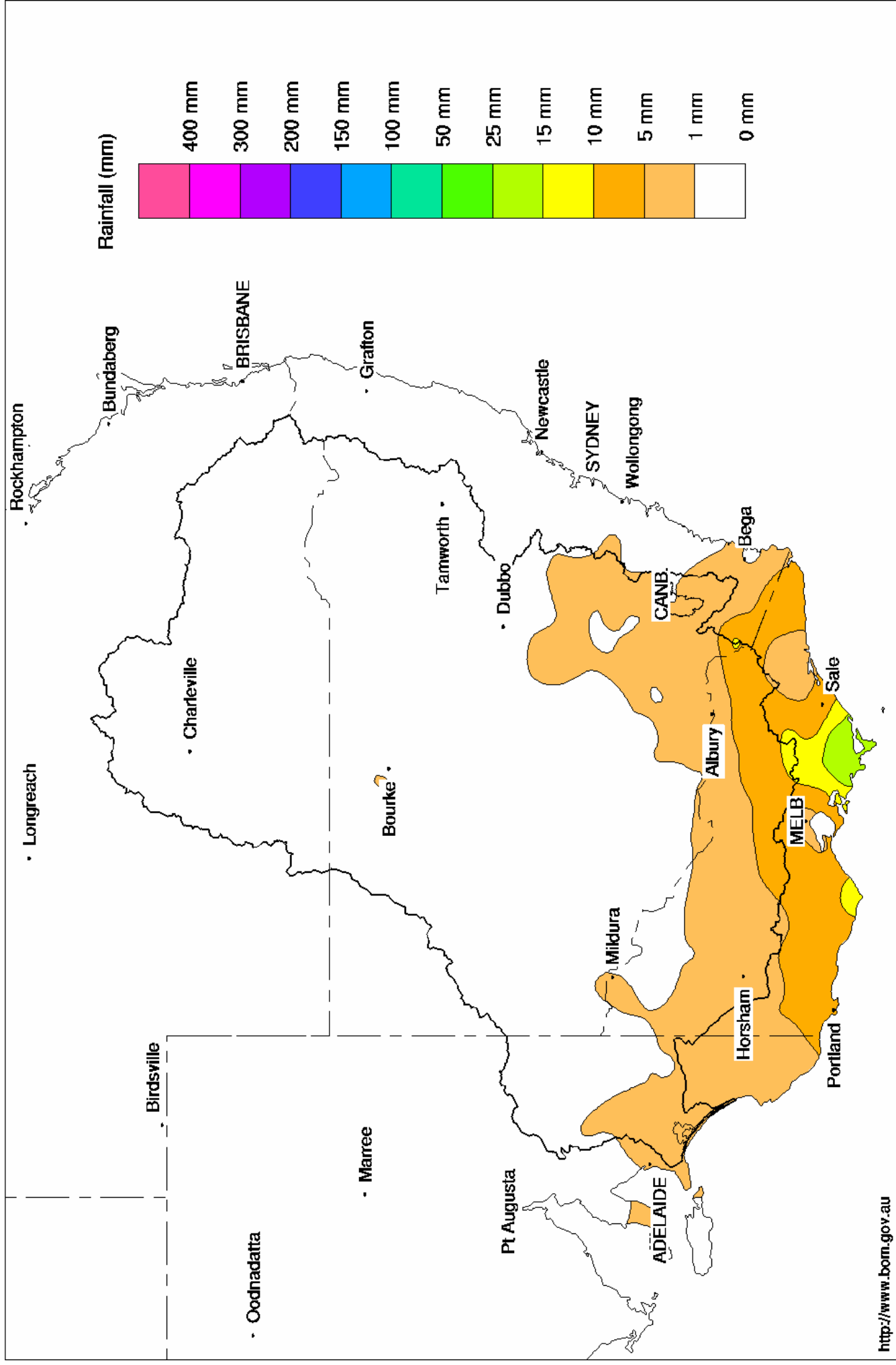
The warm weather in South Australia over the past week has led to increased evaporation rates and irrigation diversions, resulting in a turn around in the level of Lakes Alexandrina and Albert in South Australia. As the level in these lakes started to fall, the Barrage gates have been gradually closed. The lake level has now decreased below the surcharge level of 0.85 m AHD, and all of the Barrages gates and the rock ramp and vertical slot fishways have been closed to maximise conservation of water resources for later use over the remainder of the irrigation and water supply season.

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Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 13th October 2004

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	449.23	1 914	49%	80	1 834	-26
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	182.38	1 452	48%	30	1 422	+7
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.72	643	95%	100	543	+10
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		299	19%	640 #	0	-5
Total		9 224		4 307	47%	850	3 798	-15

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = 45%

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	296	29%	3	293	-39
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	488	30%	24	464	+42
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	1 391	41%	100	1 291	+6

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 12-Oct-2004

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2004
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 348	+36	Snowy-Murray	+4	259
Snowy-Murray Component	1 031	+29	Tooma-Tumut	+8	164
Target Storage	1 400		Nett Diversion	-3.7	95
			Murray 1 Release	+23	459

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2004
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	28.0	173.2
Wakool System loss	0.0	4.9
Western Murray Irrig.	1.0	4.3
Licensed Pumps	4.4	47.6
Lower Darling	0.3	3.9
TOTAL	33.7	233.9

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2004
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	15.3	52
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	18.8	146
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	4.8	21
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.6	3
Licensed pumps - SRW	5.4	44
TOTAL	44.8	266

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	170	
Flow this week	38.9	(5 600 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	72	
Flow last month	135	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2004
Swan Hill	60	70	100
Euston	130	130	120
Red Cliffs	110	110	90
Merbein	120	120	100
Burtundy (Darling)	510	490	410
Lock 9	130	120	130
Lake Victoria	180	180	190
Berri	240	240	270
Waikerie	-	400	430
Morgan	440	430	460
Mannum	530	520	520
Murray Bridge	580	580	540
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 300	1 290	1 190
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	990	980	1 030
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 140	2 110	2 040
Goolwa Barrages	1 540	1 530	1 940

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	-	-	-	6 860	R	4 490	6 820
Jingellic	4.0	2.10	208.62	8 400	R	7 890	11 780
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.94	219.83	8 580	R	8 430	6 880
Heywoods	5.5	2.86	156.49	14 330	F	14 150	6 180
Doctors Point	5.5	3.22	151.69	16 700	R	16 360	9 840
Albury	4.3	2.24	149.68	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.34	129.36	18 200	F	16 000	9 300
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.81	116.85	10 400	R	10 140	10 030
Tocumwal	6.4	2.31	106.15	10 500	R	10 360	10 480
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.82	80.37	5 120	F	5 930	7 660
Swan Hill	4.5	1.13	64.05	5 130	S	5 700	8 000
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.10	52.22	8 490	F	9 360	9 950
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.76	43.60	8 580	F	9 160	9 650
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.05	8 650	F	8 760	10 390
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.99	27.75	7 560	S	7 840	9 340
Rufus Junction	-	3.22	20.15	5 110	F	5 190	4 750
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 630	F	3 570	3 610
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.30	155.53	3 160	R	2 770	4 280
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.57	146.25	2 310	S	2 670	4 460
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.25	92.67	518	S	530	640
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 770	S	2 660	3 010
Edward at Liewah	-	2.65	58.03	2 160	R	2 130	1 360
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.75	55.24	1 110	F	1 280	640
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.46	56.42	204	F	250	310
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.23	-	100	F	170	440
Darling at Bourke	-	4.15	-	657	S	480	20
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.65	-	18	F	20	10

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	12 600	18 970
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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	-0.16	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.07	+0.92
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.11	+0.05
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.01	+0.14
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.25	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.06	+0.55
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.35	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.18
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.02	+0.02	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.12
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.03	+0.14	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.12

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.00	0.72	70.07	421
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.06	0.16	61.46	278

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.80	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.82	1



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