

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 21 July 2004

Our Ref : RMW305/01/01/jm:bwh
Trim Ref : 04/8897DO

23 July, 2004



Rainfall

Precipitation in the Upper Murray and tributary catchments ranged from 5 to 25 mm this week, however, the higher amounts fell as snow in upper catchments, and consequently there was little response in streamflow. In some areas, snowfalls were quite heavy and widespread, and reported to be the heaviest snowfalls in 10 years.

Storage Reserves

Total Commission active storage increased by 38 GL to 2 379 GL (28% of active capacity), and storage is currently 675 GL greater than at the same time last year. Individual and total gross storage (including dead storage) volumes since 1996 are shown on the attached diagram.

System Operation

Release from Dartmouth Dam was increased from the minimum rate to 500 ML/day during the week, as commencement of the program to transfer water resources to Hume Reservoir and Lake Victoria. Release from Dartmouth is expected to be increased to rates up to about 1 500 ML/day next week. Unless there is a significant change in inflow conditions in the River Murray system, Dartmouth release will be further increased in early August, to augment storage in Hume Reservoir.

Despite the recent rainfall, inflows to Dartmouth and Hume showed little response and remain relatively low.

The transfer of water resources from Hume Reservoir to Lake Victoria is continuing, with release from Yarrawonga Weir being increased slightly during the week to 10 100 ML/day (near channel capacity in the Barmah-Millewa Forest). Most of this flow (about 70%) is currently being sourced from Hume Reservoir, with the remainder from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers.

Storage at Lake Victoria has increased by 37 GL, and is now 50% of capacity and steadily rising this week. The rate of transfer of resources to Lake Victoria is being closely monitored with regard to tributary inputs downstream of Hume Reservoir, and the rate of rise in storage in Lake Victoria.

State Water (NSW) has recently advised of its plan to refill the Stevens Weir pool on the Edward River, scheduled to commence on 20 July, in preparation for the 2004/05 irrigation season. The weir pool is expected to be full before end July (*see attached media release*).

Filling of the Mulwala Canal also commenced this week, starting at low rates on Monday 19 July.

Algal Update

Counts of blue-green algae in Hume Reservoir are now at low levels, and at low to medium levels in the River Murray downstream of Hume Dam through to Torrumbarry Weir. Gulpa Creek remains at medium alert levels, as does Lake Alexandrina.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

Media Release



14 July 2004

REFILLING OF STEVENS WEIR POOL STARTS NEXT WEEK

State Water advised today that refilling of the Stevens Weir pool will commence next week in preparation for the 2004-2005 irrigation season.

South Area Customer Service Manager, Lindsay Beck said the gradual refilling of the weir pool is scheduled to start on Tuesday, 20 July 2004.

“The pool level will be increased by about 30cm per day to a level that will meet current requirements.

‘The refilling of the weir pool is expected to take about one week,’ Mr Beck said.

Mr Beck also said that increases since late June to the river level at Deniliquin had not been from the operation of Stevens Weir, but from an increase in flows in the Edward River.

“State Water will also begin refilling the Wakool System via the Wakool River, Yallakool Creek and Colligen Creek offtake regulators, once the water level in the Stevens Weir pool has reached the targeted levels,” Mr Beck said.

State Water also advised today that the maintenance works at the Gulpa Creek offtake regulator are expected to be completed by Friday, 16 July 2004.

‘Once the maintenance works at the Gulpa offtake have been completed, release into the Gulpa Creek will be gradually increased to the normal regulated capacity rate of 350 ML/day.

River users should take into account expected changes to river conditions in the next few weeks when planning their activities,’ Mr Beck said.

- ENDS -

Media enquires: Suzie Gaynor, ph 6841 7522 or 0428 613 478

See DIPNR Water Allocation Announcements and Media Releases at

<http://dipnr.nsw.gov.au/mediarel>

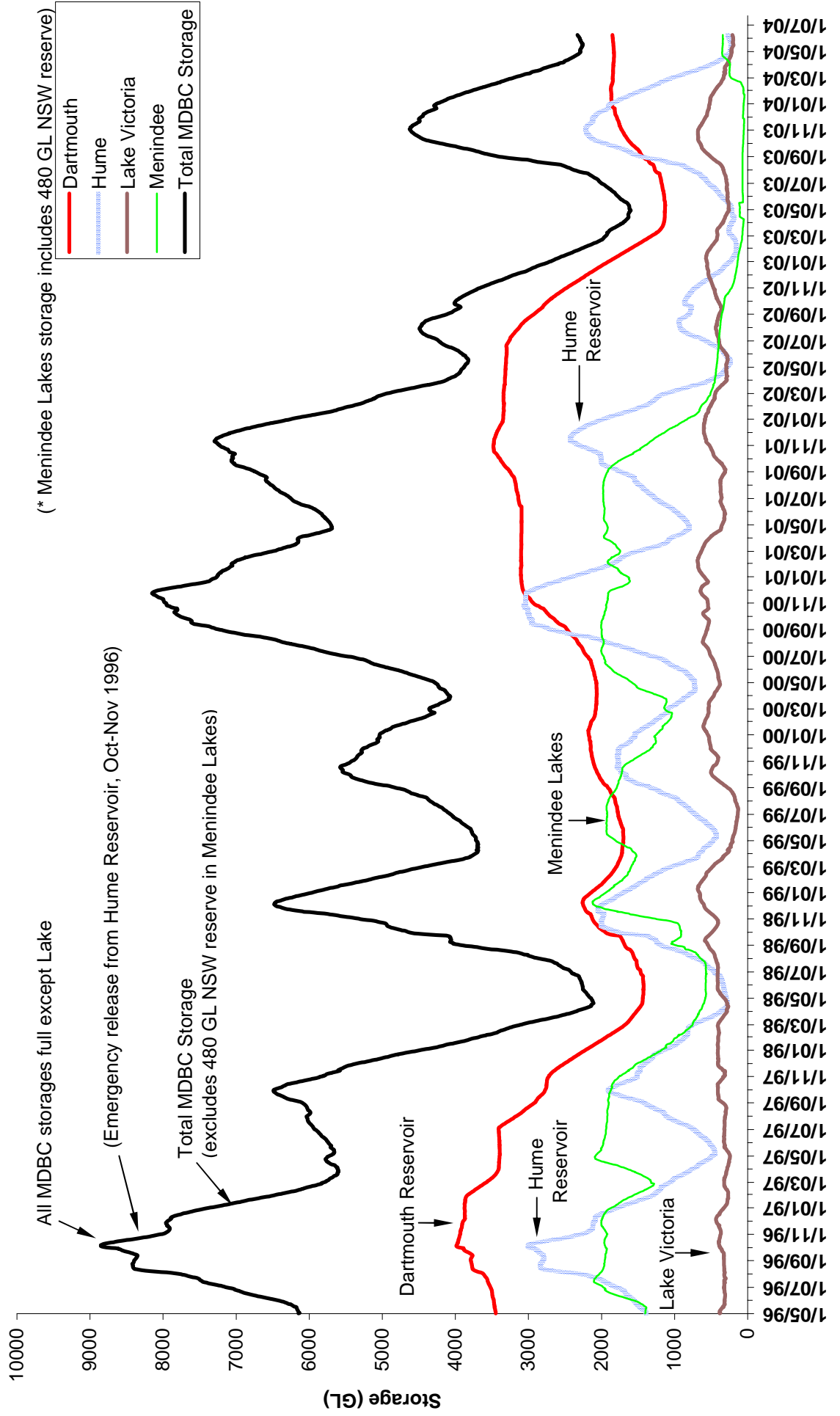
See State Water Water Delivery Announcements and Media Releases at

http://www.statewater.nsw.gov.au/whats_new

For more information about State Water storage levels and river heights go to the **Waterinfo Website** at:

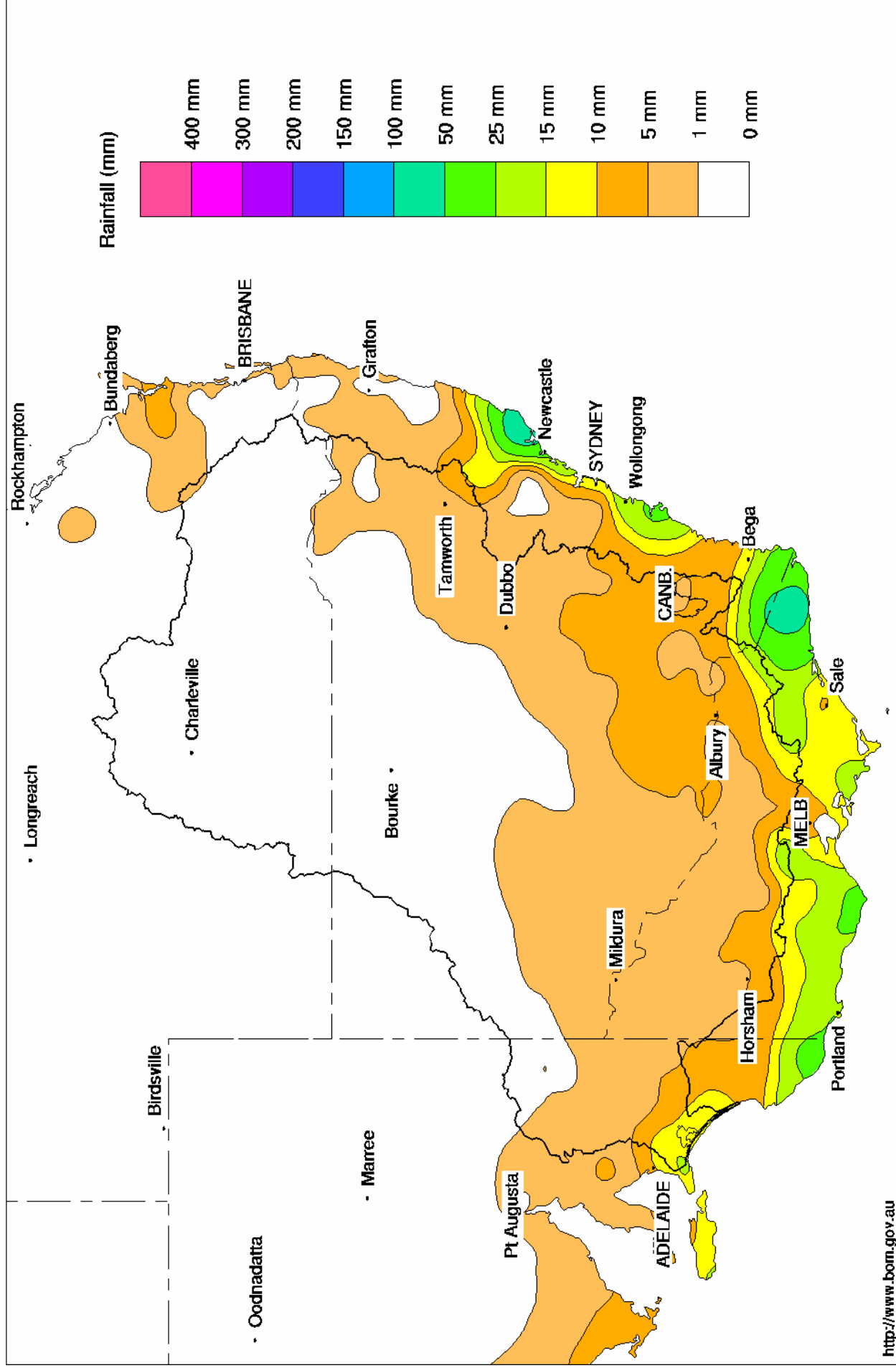
<http://waterinfo.dlwc.nsw.gov.au/>

MDBC Storages : 1 May 1996 to 22 July 2004 (Prepared by River Murray Water)



Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 21st July 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	+2
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	170.97	333	11%	30	303	+2
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	23.82	343	50%	100	243	+37
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		325	20%	640 #	0	-3
Total		9 227		2 914	32%	850	2 379	+38

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **28%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	405	39%	3	402	-0
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	123	8%	24	99	+27
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	760	22%	100	660	+27

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 20-Jul-2004

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2004
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 865	+6	Snowy-Murray	+16	189
Snowy-Murray Component	834	-	Tooma-Tumut	+6	39
Target Storage	1 170		Nett Diversion	10.2	150
			Murray 1 Release	+23	229

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2004
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	1.2	1.2
Wakool System loss	0.3	- .8
Western Murray Irrig.	0.2	.5
Licensed Pumps	1.0	3.2
Lower Darling	0.1	.2
TOTAL	2.7	4.4

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2004
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	.0	
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.0	1
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.6	5
TOTAL	2.6	7

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	108.5	
Flow this week	24.1	(3 400 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	73	
Flow last month	90	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2003
Swan Hill	90	90	100
Euston	100	110	120
Red Cliffs	60	60	120
Merbein	80	70	140
Burtundy (Darling)	340	330	1 680
Lock 9	130	140	180
Lake Victoria	240	250	250
Berri	350	350	290
Waikerie	-	490	390
Morgan	540	590	420
Mannum	490	490	440
Murray Bridge	480	470	480
Milang (Lake Alex.)	-	930	1 110
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 300	1 290	990
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 750	1 830	1 830
Goolwa Barrages	4 190	4 310	2 340

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	-	-	-	4 690	F	3 920	2 950
Jingellic	4.0	1.90	208.42	6 530	R	5 770	5 150
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.52	218.41	950	F	910	840
Heywoods	5.5	2.25	155.88	7 630	S	6 220	5 660
Doctors Point	5.5	2.50	150.97	8 510	F	7 450	6 970
Albury	4.3	1.50	148.94	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.08	128.10	8 570	R	7 270	7 080
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.77	116.81	10 100	S	10 010	9 790
Tocumwal	6.4	2.27	106.11	10 550	S	10 430	10 270
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.71	81.26	8 370	S	8 420	8 360
Swan Hill	4.5	1.58	64.50	8 080	F	8 090	7 880
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.43	52.55	10 060	S	10 080	9 680
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.95	43.79	9 780	S	9 680	9 080
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.14	14 360	F	12 120	10 010
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.10	27.86	9 060	S	9 130	7 790
Rufus Junction	-	2.87	19.80	2 980	F	3 050	3 100
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 700	S	3 680	3 030
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.39	154.62	1 200	F	1 580	1 520
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.68	146.36	2 638	F	3 240	3 130
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.19	92.61	416	S	450	420
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 600	F	1 630	1 730
Edward at Liewah	-	2.27	57.65	1 660	F	1 670	1 580
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.34	54.83	212	F	240	400
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.53	56.49	253	S	260	290
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.19	-	40	S	50	60
Darling at Bourke	-	4.03	-	171	S	170	170
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.66	-	26	S	30	50

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	4 770	6 350
---	-------	-------

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	-0.17	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.08	+0.59
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	-0.03
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.03	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.00	+0.11
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.00	+0.34	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.38
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.46	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.16
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.00	+0.06	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.12
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.06	+0.11	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.07	-0.05

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.20	0.78	70.13	494
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.09	0.14	61.44	261

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.78	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.76	All closed

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

