

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 12 May 2004

*Our Ref : RMW305/01/01/ng*  
*Trim Ref : 04/5329DO*

13 May, 2004



## ***Rainfall***

Little or no rain fell across the Basin this week and tributary inflows to the River Murray remain at extremely low levels for this time of year. Inflows to the River Murray from the Kiewa, Ovens, Goulburn, Campaspe, Loddon and Murrumbidgee Rivers currently total only 1300 ML/day. Average flows from these tributaries would normally total about 3500 ML/day during May.

## ***River Murray***

The persisting dry conditions are generating high demands for water in the lead up to the closure of the major Victorian irrigation systems on 15 May. Diversion from Lake Mulwala to Yarrowonga Main Channel increased from 1000 to 1700 ML/day and the level in Lake Mulwala, currently at 124.7 m, may be drawn down temporarily next week to help meet the last of these demands however the pool is not expected to fall below 124.6 m.

Release from Yarrowonga Weir was reduced from 5000 to 4000 ML/day and is expected to remain steady at this rate next week. Normally, at this time of year, release would be reduced towards the minimum target of 1800 ML/day, however, due to the very low tributary inflows and low storage volume in Lake Victoria it is likely that release will remain at or above 4000 ML/day over coming weeks if conditions remain dry. Updates of likely releases from Yarrowonga Weir will be provided over the coming weeks.

Diversion from Torrumbarry Weir pool to National Channel increased to 2300 ML/day this week with release from Torrumbarry Weir being reduced from 2800 to 2400 ML/day. The river height at Swan Hill remained steady at about 0.7 m gauge height; however is expected to fall next week toward the minimum target of 0.6 m for a short period before rising to about 0.9 m by end May.

On the Edward River, release from Stevens Weir rose temporarily during the week to about 1400 ML/day due to the draining of Mulwala Canal by Murray Irrigation Limited. Release has returned to about 500 ML/day and further increases may be observed later in May with the expected drawdown of Stevens Weir. An update on Edward/Wakool system flows will be provided next week.

Flow to South Australia has been held at an average of about 2700 ML/day (about 300 ML/day below normal entitlement rates) in advance of higher flows later in May. A short duration rise in flows can be expected next week due to testing of the outlet capacity of Lake Victoria. Later in May, maintenance works near Lake Victoria will result in flows exceeding 3000 ML/day with the intention of achieving an average overall May entitlement flow of 3000 ML/day.

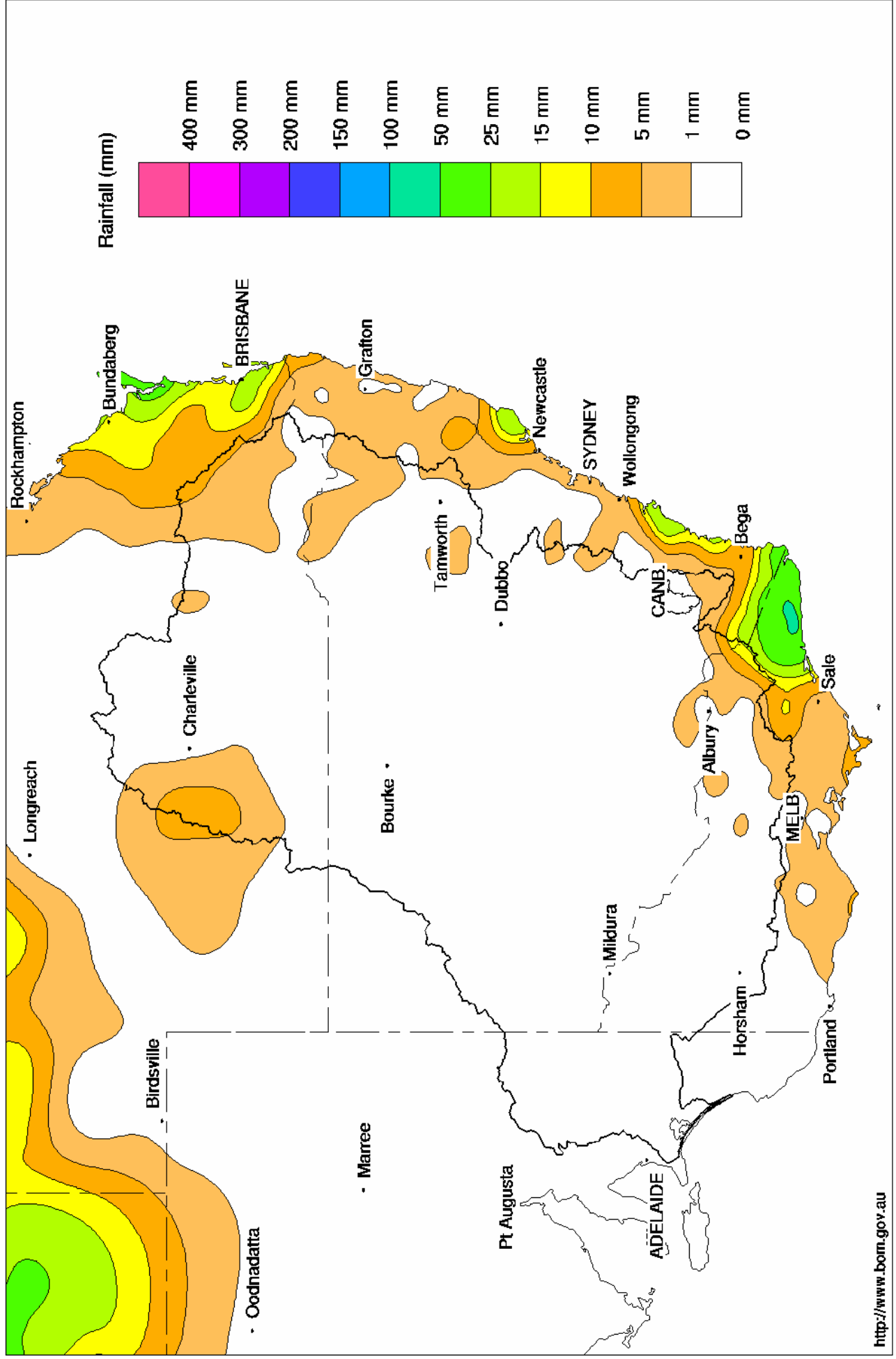
## ***Darling River System***

Inflow to Menindee Lakes is now balancing evaporation and seepage losses with the volume in storage steady at about 345 GL (21% of capacity). Flow in the Darling River at Bourke is now at about 400 ML/day and receding with no significant flows in transit from the upper Darling catchment.

DAVID DREVERMAN  
General Manager

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 12th May 2004

Product of the National Climate Centre



## Week ending Wednesday 12 May 2004

### 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	447.37	1 835	47%	80	1 755	+1
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	169.10	227	7%	30	197	-10
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	22.37	205	30%	100	105	-18
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		344	21%	640 #	0	-3
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 227</b>		<b>2 610</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>2 056</b>	<b>-30</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **25%**

# NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

### Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		403	39%	3	400	-3
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		135	8%	24	111	-14
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		608	18%	100	508	-15

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 11-May-2004

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2004
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 820	+1	Snowy-Murray	+14	22
Snowy-Murray Component	953	-	Tooma-Tumut	+2	2
Target Storage	1 290		Nett Diversion	12.5	20
			Murray 1 Release	+15	23

### Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2003
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	- 2.7	861.9
Wakool System loss	1.4	53.7
Western Murray Irrig.	0.3	29.3
Licensed Pumps	9.4	297.2
Lower Darling	4.1	28.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>1 270.6</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2003
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	8.9	372
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	13.0	595
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.6	155
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.6	46
Licensed pumps - SRW	2.5	196
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>1 364</b>

### Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	93	
Flow this week	19.1	(2 700 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	34	
Flow last month	135	

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2003
Swan Hill	90	100	100
Euston	160	140	120
Red Cliffs	110	110	130
Merbein	130	130	140
Burtundy (Darling)	560	520	2 000
Lock 9	170	170	180
Lake Victoria	290	280	240
Berri	330	330	280
Waikerie	-	420	370
Morgan	470	420	400
Mannum	410	410	440
Murray Bridge	480	470	480
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 050	1 070	1 130
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	-	740	1 050
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 490	2 650	1 760
Goolwa Barrages	1 700	1 770	2 100



**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)				
<b>River Murray</b>							
Khancoban	-	-	-	3 100	F	2 270	2 210
Jingellic	4.0	1.53	208.05	3 580	R	2 720	3 070
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.24	218.13	440	S	450	510
Heywoods	5.5	1.91	155.54	4 640	R	4 270	4 800
Doctors Point	5.5	2.10	150.57	4 590	R	4 590	5 140
Albury	4.3	1.14	148.58	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.35	127.37	4 740	F	5 490	6 890
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.80	115.84	4 020	S	4 640	5 040
Tocumwal	6.4	1.31	105.15	4 380	F	4 940	5 170
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.07	79.62	2 410	F	2 700	2 960
Swan Hill	4.5	0.70	63.62	2 430	S	2 470	2 670
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.67	50.79	2 990	R	3 020	3 190
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.67	42.51	2 750	F	2 870	3 170
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.84	2 540	F	2 630	3 230
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.82	27.58	2 410	R	2 430	3 200
Rufus Junction	-	2.74	19.67	2 280	S	2 270	2 820
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	2 330	S	2 330	2 500
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.86	154.09	460	R	460	420
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.70	145.38	268	F	320	430
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.17	92.59	383	F	400	480
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	580	S	610	200
Edward at Liewah	-	0.79	56.17	368	S	350	300
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.40	54.89	304	S	320	390
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.50	56.46	231	F	240	270
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.26	-	150	S	150	80
Darling at Bourke	-	4.10	-	408	F	660	1 410
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.80	-	305	S	300	270

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	1 630	2 050
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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	-0.20	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.09	+0.44
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.00	-0.01
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.04	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.03	+0.08
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.04	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.27
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.18	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.12
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.04	-0.05	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.06
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.03	+0.10	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.02	-0.26

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.78	0.63	69.98	325
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.98	0.09	61.39	220

**Barrages**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.58	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.50	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.61	All closed

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

