

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 17 August 2005

*Our Ref : M2005/00066/prs, jm*  
*Trim Ref : 05/13556*

19 August, 2005



## ***Rainfall and Inflow***

This week, light showers were widespread across the southern part of the Basin. Up to 25 mm of rain fell over the upper River Murray catchment and the Adelaide Hills, but less than 10 mm fell elsewhere (*see attached map*). Following the widespread rain the week before, there were renewed increases in inflows to the upper Murray. Inflows to Dartmouth Dam and Hume Dam peaked at 7 000 ML/day and 17 000 ML/day respectively, whilst inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers (tributaries to the River Murray) peaked at 6 000 ML/day and 13 200 ML/day respectively.

The flow in the Darling River upstream of Menindee Lakes is continuing to slowly recede, and has dropped to 1 500 ML/day at Wilcannia and 1 200 ML/day at Bourke (further upstream). The volume of water in storage in Menindee Lakes increased by 13 GL this week, and is currently about 470 GL (or 29% full).

## ***River Murray Operation***

On Friday 12 August, release from Dartmouth Dam was temporarily increased from 750 ML/day to 1 500 ML/day for the purposes of electricity generation. Combined with local inflows, the flow at Tallandoon peaked near 4 000 ML/day (or 2.24 m gauge height). On Wednesday 17 August, the release was gradually decreased to 500 ML/day. This latter rate is 300 ML/day above the minimum release rate, and is also being maintained for the purposes of electricity generation.

Inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers required the release from Yarrawonga Weir to be temporarily increased to 13 000 ML/day this week (which is greater than the river's channel capacity through the Barmah-Millewa Forest), whilst the release from Hume Dam was maintained at the minimum level. As the tributary inflows have receded, the release from Yarrawonga Weir was gradually reduced to 11 000 ML/day. A number of regulators on the river bank on both the NSW and Victorian sides of the river have been opened to pass these higher flows through the Barmah-Millewa Forest.

On the Edward River, the flow downstream of Stevens Weir was increased to channel capacity (2 900 ML/day) on Tuesday 9 August, and was maintained at that level during the week. These flows are gradually progressing downstream, and the flows at Moulamein and Liewah have increased to about 2 700 ML/day and 2 000 ML/day respectively (at 18 August) and are still rising. An increase in inflow from the Billabong Creek is expected to further boost the flows at these locations over the coming weeks.

The inflow from the Murrumbidgee River to the River Murray is currently 1 900 ML/day (at 18 August) and is still rising. A first peak, in the order of 4 000 ML/day, is expected to reach the Murray early next week, with a second peak of a similar size following a week later. If the inflow reaches these levels, it will be the highest from the Murrumbidgee since spring 2001. It is expected that this inflow will be fully captured in Lake Victoria, further boosting the volume of water in the storage to about 600 GL (or close to 90% full).

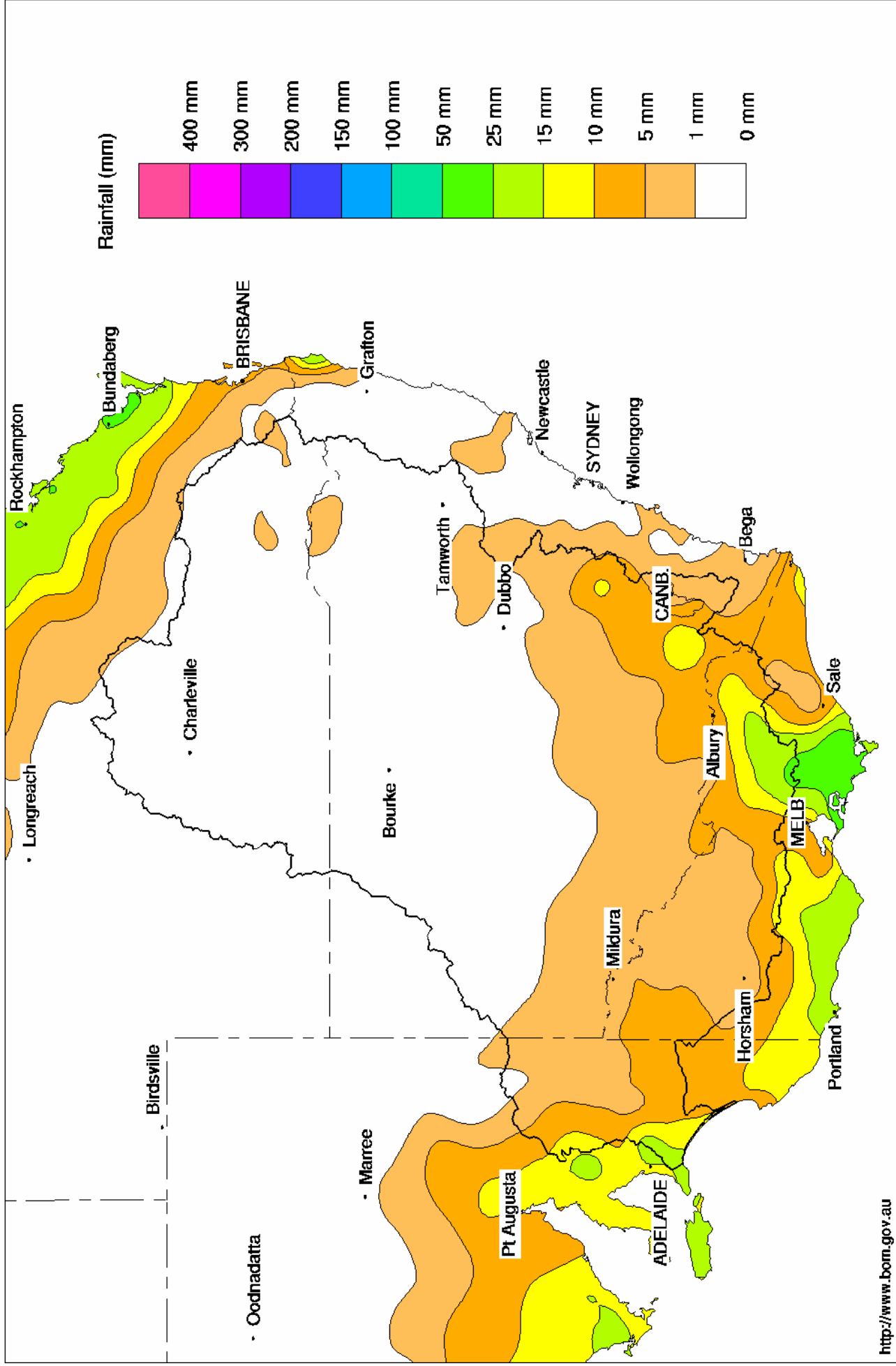
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# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 17th August 2005

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)	MDBC Active Storage (GL)	Change in Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	449.49	1 925	49%	80	1 845	+34
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	182.91	1 523	50%	30	1 493	+129
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.10	459	68%	100	359	+11
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		470	27%	(- -) #	0	+13
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>4 376</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>3 697</b>	<b>+186</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL      % of Total Active MDBC Storage = **43%**  
 # NSW takes control of Menindee Lakes when storage falls below 480 GL, and control reverts to MDBC when storage next reaches 640 GL

**Major State Storages**

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	447	44%	3	444	+27
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	648	40%	24	624	+107
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	1 113	33%	100	1 013	+47

**Snowy Mountains Scheme**

Snowy diversions for week ending 16-Aug-2005

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2005
Lake Eucumbene - Total	N/A	N/A	Snowy-Murray	N/A	N/A
Snowy-Murray Component	N/A	-	Tooma-Tumut	N/A	N/A
Target Storage	N/A		Nett Diversion	N/A	N/A
			Murray 1 Release	N/A	N/A

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2005
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	1.5	29.5
Wakool System loss	1.0	5.9
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	.4
Licensed Pumps	0.7	4.4
Lower Darling	0.7	1.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>41.2</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2005
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	.9	1
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	15.9	34
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.2	2
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	1
Licensed pumps - SRW	2.6	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>48</b>

**Flow to South Australia (GL)**

Entitlement this month	124	(4 000 ML/day)
Flow this week	28.2	
Flow so far this month	68	
Flow last month	109	

**Salinity (EC)**

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2005
Swan Hill	80	110	130
Euston	170	150	140
Red Cliffs	150	140	140
Merbein	90	100	100
Burtundy (Darling)	530	550	540
Lock 9	150	140	160
Lake Victoria	200	200	200
Berri	300	300	310
Waikerie	480	490	490
Morgan	480	480	480
Mannum	450	450	450
Murray Bridge	430	430	430
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 400	1 370	1 370
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 020	1 020	960
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 180	2 110	2 120
Goolwa Barrages	1 740	4 170	2 780



**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	-	-	-	4 360	F	5 030	7 050
Jingellic	4.0	2.38	208.90	10 700	F	13 010	19 140
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	2.17	219.06	3 530	F	3 640	3 410
Heywoods	5.5	1.22	154.85	600	S	600	1 950
Doctors Point	5.5	1.88	150.35	3 160	F	3 730	6 630
Albury	4.3	0.97	148.41	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.14	127.16	3 420	F	4 220	7 940
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.00	117.04	11 900	F	12 840	11 340
Tocumwal	6.4	2.64	106.48	13 150	F	12 940	11 020
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.43	80.98	7 330	R	6 420	5 270
Swan Hill	4.5	1.21	64.13	5 960	R	5 520	4 340
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.67	51.79	6 600	R	5 850	5 930
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.25	43.09	5 850	F	6 540	7 680
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.92	6 920	F	6 730	8 470
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.97	27.73	6 240	R	6 250	7 550
Rufus Junction	-	2.99	19.92	3 360	F	3 620	3 540
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	4 130	R	4 040	3 960
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.17	155.40	2 840	F	3 960	6 530
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	10.25	147.93	8 248	R	10 340	8 380
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.78	93.20	1 381	F	1 120	800
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 910	F	2 910	1 870
Edward at Liewah	-	2.32	57.70	1 730	R	1 020	1 030
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.25	54.74	143	S	140	140
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	2.11	58.07	1 520	R	590	810
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.23	-	100	F	130	220
Darling at Bourke	-	4.24	-	1 213	F	1 380	1 900
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.65	-	18	S	20	40

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	23 080	33 420
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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	-0.03	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.10	+0.72
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.20	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	+0.04
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.13	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.16
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.05	+0.12	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.06	+0.51
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.05	+0.33	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.19
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.04	+0.02	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.12
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.02	+0.16	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.03	+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	-0.13	3.32	72.67	5840
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	3.3	64.6	4930

**Lower Lakes**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.87

**Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.99	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.87	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	1.05	5



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