

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 22 June 2005

Our Ref : M2005/00066/dg
Trim Ref : 05/7747

24 June, 2005



Rainfall and inflow

Further widespread rain fell across the Basin this week, with the highest falls occurring in north-eastern Victoria. Several locations in the Ovens, Kiewa and Murray catchments have now received in excess of 200 mm of rain over the past two weeks.

This follow-up rain has generated small increases to tributary inflow, which appear to have peaked and are expected to gradually fall unless there is further rain. The flow in the Murray River at Jingellic has increased to about 11 000 ML/day, the Kiewa River at Bandiana is currently 4 000 ML/day and the Ovens River at Wangaratta has peaked at about 6 500 ML/day. There has only been a very small increase to the inflow from the Goulburn and Murrumbidgee Rivers.

Over the past two weeks more than 100 mm of rain has fallen on the Mt Lofty Ranges and the Lower Lakes in South Australia. This has increased the average level of the Lake Alexandrina from 0.55 m to 0.62 m AHD and the average level of Lake Albert from 0.57 m to 0.72 m AHD.

Total MDBC storage increase by 44 GL this week and is currently at 35% capacity. The storage volume in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by 13 GL to 1731 GL (44% capacity) and the storage in Hume Reservoir increase by 50 GL to 821 GL (27% capacity).

River Murray Operation

In response to the recent rain, the release from Yarrawonga Weir has been increased to 6 500 ML/day (23-6-2005) and is likely to be increased over the coming days to about 7 000 ML/day. The release from Hume Dam has been maintained at the minimum level of 600 ML/day.

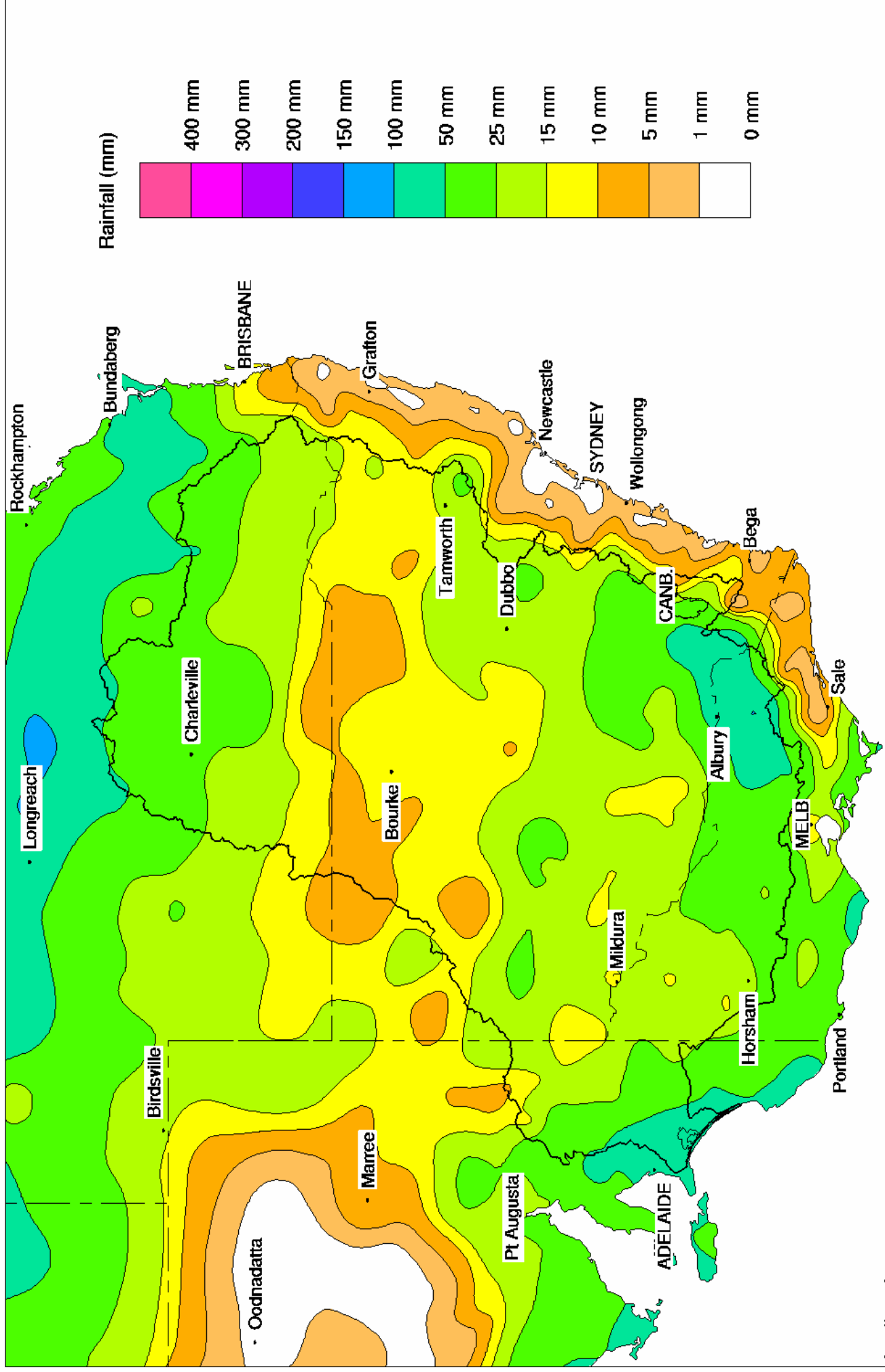
At Torrumbarry Weir, the release has been increased to 4 000 ML/day and is expected to gradually increase to about 5 500 ML/day next week. RMW is planning to partially drawdown the Torrumbarry Weir pool by 40 cm below the Full Supply Level (86.05 m AHD) between mid July and early August (*see attached media release*). The drawdown is being undertaken to enable an inspection of the river banks for erosion upstream of the Torrumbarry Weir. As a result of the recent rain, the flow in this reach of the River Murray will be higher over the coming weeks and during the partial drawdown. As a consequence of these higher river flows the effect of the drawdown on river levels upstream of Torrumbarry Weir at Echuca is likely to be minor and river boat operators have advised that the operation of paddleboats and houseboats in the vicinity of Echuca is expected to continue as normal.

The release downstream of Euston Weir has been increased to 3 200 ML/day and is expected to increase to about 4 000 ML/day this week. The storage in Lake Victoria has continued to decrease and is currently 345 GL (51% capacity), however the increased flow along the River Murray over the coming weeks should result in the level of Lake Victoria gradually increasing during July.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 22nd June 2005

Product of the National Climate Centre



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 24 June 2005

Minor Drawdown of Torrumbarry Weir



River Murray Water (RMW) announced today that the water level of Torrumbarry Weir pool will be temporarily drawn down by about 40 cm below normal pool level between late July and early August to enable an inspection of river banks for erosion upstream of the Torrumbarry Weir.

RMW General Manager, Mr David Dreverman said that “due to the recent rain the flow in this reach of the River Murray will be higher over the coming weeks and during the partial drawdown. Consequently the effect of the drawdown on river levels further upstream at Echuca is likely to be minor.”

“Following consultation with community groups, river boat operators have advised that the operation of paddleboats and houseboats in the vicinity of Echuca is expected to continue as normal, including during the school holiday period”.

“River levels along the River Murray are often lower at this time of year due to the completion of the irrigation season and prior to the winter-spring rain. It is a good opportunity for visitors to see the weir pool at a slightly lower level.”

The water level of Torrumbarry Weir pool is currently about 86.05 m AHD. Commencing 10 July 2005, the weir pool level will be gradually lowered by about 4 cm per day so that by 20 July 2005 it will be approximately 85.65 m AHD (i.e. 40 cm below normal operating level of 86.05 m AHD during the irrigation season). The pool level will be held at this lower level for approximately 12 days until 1 August 2005 while the bank inspection is being undertaken. The weir pool will be gradually increased in early August to the normal operating level to cater for the commencement of the irrigation season.

“Depending on river flow conditions at the time, the water level is expected to be lowered by approximately 20-25 cm at the Deep Creek Marina, while at the Echuca wharf the water level is expected to be similar to or slightly lower than the current level of about 86.3 m AHD. The levels may be higher than this if there is further heavy rain and runoff” Mr Dreverman said.

“River pumpers, boat operators and other river users upstream of Torrumbarry Weir are advised to take these changed water levels into account and make any necessary adjustments in response to the lower weir pool level” Mr Dreverman said.

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(Lawrie Kirk is not to be quoted as a spokesperson)

TRIM Ref: 05/7823

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	444.85	1 731	44%	80	1 651	+13
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	176.89	821	27%	30	791	+50
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	24.02	345	51%	100	245	-17
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		329	19%	(- -) #	0	-2
Total		9 352		3 227	35%	--	2 688	+44

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **32%**

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		244	24%	3	241	+4
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		239	15%	24	215	+34
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		922	27%	100	822	+17

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 21-Jun-2005

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2005
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 799	-29	Snowy-Murray	+24	191
Snowy-Murray Component	790	-19	Tooma-Tumut	+4	11
Target Storage	1 240		Nett Diversion	19.7	180
			Murray 1 Release	+26	198

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2004
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	.0	843.2
Wakool System loss	-0.1	25.5
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	31.7
Licensed Pumps	2.3	339.6
Lower Darling	0.2	36.5
TOTAL	2.4	1 276.6

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2004
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	.0	388
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	635
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.3	163
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	50
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.6	260
TOTAL	2.0	1 496

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	90	
Flow this week	21.0	(3 000 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	67	
Flow last month	93	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2004
Swan Hill	160	180	110
Euston	120	120	120
Red Cliffs	180	180	140
Merbein	120	110	130
Burtundy (Darling)	530	540	540
Lock 9	170	170	150
Lake Victoria	200	200	190
Berri	290	290	240
Waikerie	-	-	370
Morgan	420	430	380
Mannum	400	400	450
Murray Bridge	420	390	470
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 370	1 440	1 360
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	-	-	1 090
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	-	-	2 170
Goolwa Barrages	4 530	3 770	2 060



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	-	-	-	5 970	R	4 590	2 430
Jingellic	4.0	2.24	208.76	9 370	R	6 260	3 520
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.90	218.79	2 340	R	1 340	940
Heywoods	5.5	1.18	154.81	600	S	650	1 020
Doctors Point	5.5	1.93	150.40	3 510	R	2 070	1 800
Albury	4.3	1.00	148.44	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.85	126.87	2 320	R	1 990	1 990
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.08	116.12	5 480	R	4 200	2 320
Tocumwal	6.4	1.39	105.23	4 500	R	3 490	2 300
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.47	80.02	3 860	R	3 090	2 550
Swan Hill	4.5	0.77	63.69	3 050	R	2 800	2 460
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.77	50.89	3 190	R	3 050	2 710
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.76	42.60	3 230	S	3 200	2 610
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.83	3 280	F	2 930	2 700
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.84	27.60	3 010	S	2 750	2 530
Rufus Junction	-	2.84	19.77	2 520	R	2 490	2 470
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 530	F	3 650	3 900
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.33	155.56	3 270	R	1 690	870
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.46	147.14	5 102	R	2 180	840
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.34	92.76	670	R	660	410
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	340	F	290	250
Edward at Liewah	-	0.73	56.11	338	R	320	300
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.22	54.71	114	S	110	90
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.51	56.47	219	R	210	220
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.15	-	10	S	10	10
Darling at Bourke	-	3.98	-	72	S	60	40
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.69	-	61	S	50	30

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	5 390	3 060
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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	-0.13	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.14	+0.54
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	+0.00
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.12
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.06	+0.03	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.40
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.01	+0.20	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.05	+0.18
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.05	+0.03	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.10
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.04	+0.16	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.02	+0.00

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.19	0.61	69.96	305
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	0.38	61.68	504

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	N/A

Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.52	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.30	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	-	All closed

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