

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 30 March 2005

Our Ref : M2005/00066/prs  
Trim Ref : 05/2134

1 April, 2005



## ***Rainfall and inflow***

Very little rainfall was recorded across the Basin this week (*see attached map*) which resulted in most areas of the Basin receiving below average rainfall during March. The inflow to the River Murray from the major tributaries either remained steady or showed a small decline.

## ***River Murray Operation***

Diversions from the major irrigation offtakes decreased significantly over the Easter weekend. In response there was an increase in the release from Torrumbarry Weir on the River Murray (up to 4 600 ML/day) and from Stevens Weir on the Edward River (up to 1 100 ML/day). This higher flow will only last another 3-4 days unless there is significant rain or cooler conditions leading to a further reduction in irrigation demand. The higher flow will also delay to the temporary draw down of Euston Weir, which was mentioned in the previous Weekly Report. If weather conditions remain warm, it is expected that Euston Weir pool will need to be drawn down to 20-30 cm below full supply level (47.6 m AHD), however this is now more likely to occur in late April.

In response to the reduction of irrigation diversions, the flow downstream of Yarrawonga Weir was reduced to 7 500 ML/day and the release from Hume Dam reduced to 13 500 ML/day. The storage in Hume Reservoir declined by 72 GL this week and is currently 787 GL (26% capacity). The release from Dartmouth Dam was maintained at 400 ML/day and the storage in Dartmouth Reservoir reduced to 1 723 GL (44% capacity), which is 112 GL less than this time last year.

The flow downstream of Wentworth Weir is now 2 400 ML/day, with the majority of the entitlement flow to South Australia (6 000 ML/day during March), being released from the Lake Victoria storage, which is currently at 75% capacity.

The temporary raising of the Lock 5 and Lock 6 weir pools is proceeding to schedule. This is to assist the watering of several low-lying parts of the Chowilla floodplain, which has not been flooded for many years due to the ongoing drought. Lock 6 upper pool level is currently 19.38 m (AHD), 13 cm above full supply level, while Lock 5 upper pool is currently 16.40 m (AHD), 10 cm above full supply level.

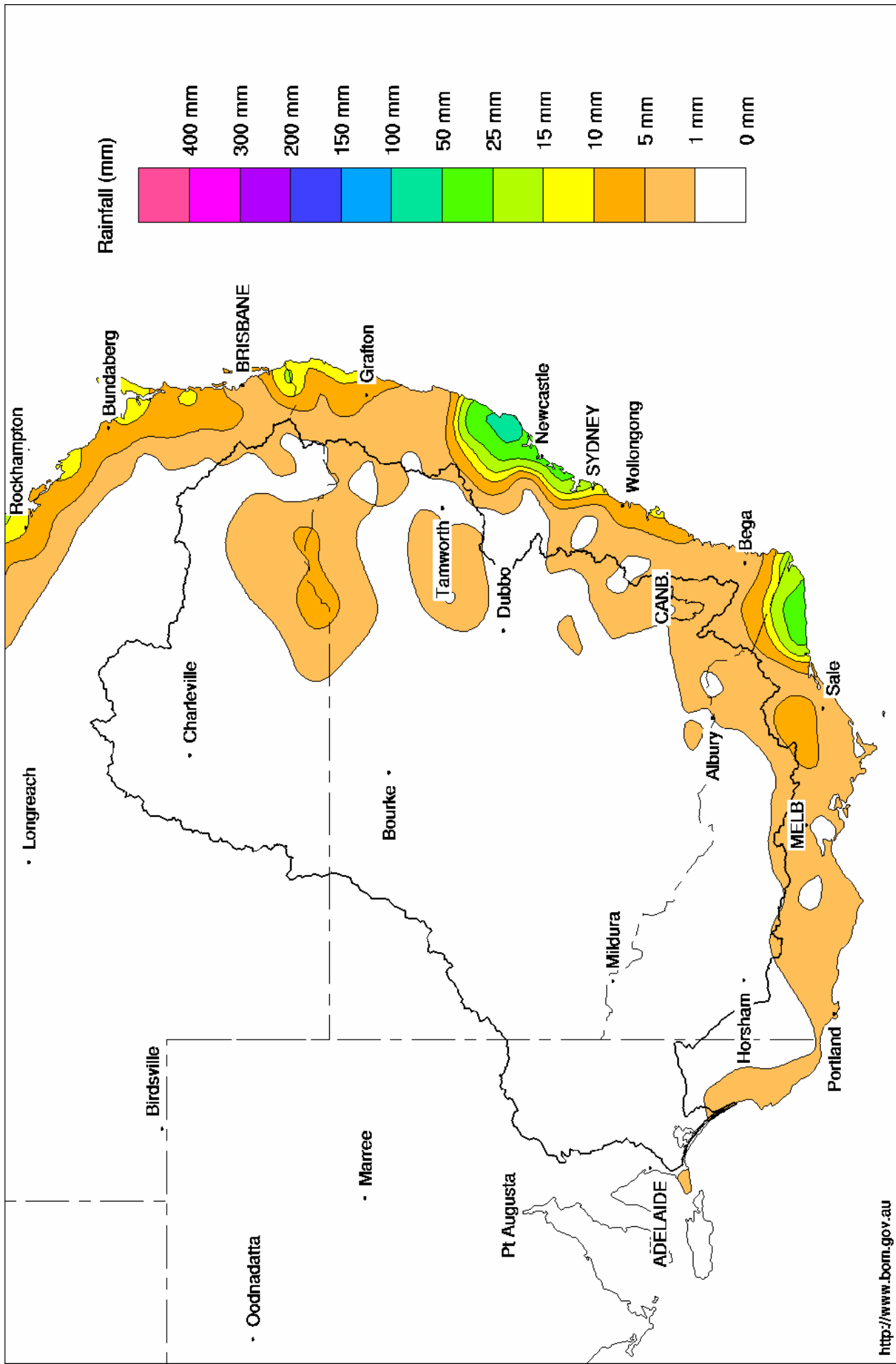
## ***Darling River***

The flow along the Darling River upstream of Menindee is now very low. At Bourke the flow is only 14 ML/day, while at Wilcannia it is less than 5 ML/day. The Menindee Lakes storage, which is currently unavailable to MDBC, is continuing to fall slowly and is currently at 22% capacity. Downstream of Menindee Lakes the flow in Darling River at Burtundy is 335 ML/day which is the highest flow in this reach of the river since May 2004.

DAVID DREVERMAN  
General Manager

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 30th March 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	444.64	1 723	44%	80	1 643	-1
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	176.54	787	26%	30	757	-72
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.56	509	75%	100	409	-29
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		387	22%	(- -) #	0	-11
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>3 406</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>2 808</b>	<b>-113</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL  
 # NSW takes control of Menindee Lakes when storage falls below 480 GL, and control reverts to MDBC when storage next reaches 640 GL  
 % of Total Active MDBC Storage = **33%**

**Major State Storages**

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		247	24%	3	244	-1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		194	12%	24	170	-36
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		1 104	33%	100	1 004	-40

**Snowy Mountains Scheme**

Snowy diversions for week ending 29-Mar-2005

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2004
Lake Eucumbene - Total	n/a #	n/a #	Snowy-Murray	n/a #	n/a #
Snowy-Murray Component	n/a #	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 #

# Data not supplied by Snowyhydro LTD.

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2004
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	36.1	703.5
Wakool System loss	1.3	17.4
Western Murray Irrig.	0.7	28.4
Licensed Pumps	10.5	243.0
Lower Darling	0.2	26.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>1 018.3</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2004
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	13.2	316
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	21.4	531
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.5	141
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	2.0	34
Licensed pumps - SRW	5.2	226
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>44.3</b>	<b>1 247</b>

**Flow to South Australia (GL)**

Entitlement this month	186	
Flow this week	42.1	(6 000 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	182	
Flow last month	197	

**Salinity (EC)**

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2004
Swan Hill	100	100	110
Euston	140	130	120
Red Cliffs	190	180	120
Merbein	140	140	120
Burtundy (Darling)	420	460	540
Lock 9	150	150	140
Lake Victoria	190	190	180
Berri	240	220	240
Waikerie	-	-	360
Morgan	340	340	380
Mannum	390	410	470
Murray Bridge	380	380	500
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 410	1 430	1 320
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 300	1 270	1 090
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 260	2 220	2 130
Goolwa Barrages	2 130	2 190	1 960



**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	-	-	-	4 300	F	4 630	5 240
Jingellic	4.0	1.65	208.17	4 510	F	5 470	6 510
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.40	218.29	670	S	710	920
Heywoods	5.5	2.94	156.57	13 550	S	15 300	17 380
Doctors Point	5.5	2.97	151.44	13 700	S	15 560	17 990
Albury	4.3	2.02	149.46	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.91	128.93	14 500	F	17 360	17 730
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.48	116.52	8 020	R	8 340	8 440
Tocumwal	6.4	1.98	105.82	8 100	F	8 490	8 320
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.63	80.18	4 480	R	4 390	4 060
Swan Hill	4.5	0.93	63.85	3 990	S	3 650	3 360
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.90	51.02	3 640	R	3 440	3 580
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.71	42.55	3 000	S	3 020	3 280
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.83	2 610	F	2 320	2 760
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.85	27.61	2 630	R	2 030	2 370
Rufus Junction	-	3.26	20.19	5 330	F	5 690	5 650
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 550	S	3 750	2 940
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.74	153.97	310	F	430	460
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.96	145.64	700	S	710	740
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.77	93.19	1 362	F	1 350	1 640
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	890	S	790	450
Edward at Liewah	-	0.33	55.71	131	R	140	290
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.44	54.93	357	S	370	380
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.50	56.46	214	R	200	190
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.17	-	20	F	30	40
Darling at Bourke	-	3.95	-	14	S	20	60
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.80	-	305	R	280	310

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	1 510	1 380
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**Weirs and Locks**

**Pool levels above or below design level**

<b>Murray</b>	FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.02	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.17	+0.95
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.13	+0.04
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.05	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.10	+0.17
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.03	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.06	+0.58
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.21	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.05	+0.18
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.08	+0.03	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.11
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.04	+0.19	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	-0.17

<b>Murrumbidgee</b>	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-1.28	0.44	69.79	168
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-1.00	0.11	61.41	236

**Lower Lakes**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.61

**Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.67	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.62	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.67	All closed

