

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 2 November 2005

Our Ref : M2005/00066/prs,sc,jm,bwh
Trim Ref 05/20390

4 November, 2005



Rainfall and Inflow

Widespread rainfall up to about 50 mm was recorded over the Murray-Darling Basin during the week, with the heaviest falls over the ranges in the east (*see attached map*). The rainfall led to renewed rises in the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers with peak inflows to the River Murray from these tributaries of 10 100 ML/day and 8 800 ML/day respectively.

Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by 21 GL to about 2 430 GL (or 62.2% of capacity) whilst that in Hume Reservoir increased by 24 GL to about 2 750 GL (or 90.5% of capacity).

River Murray Operation

Release from Hume Dam was gradually reduced from 13 000 ML/day to 11 000 ML/day in response to rainfall in the irrigation areas significantly reducing demand, and increasing inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers.

The release from Yarrawonga Weir was gradually reduced from 21 000 ML/day to 17 500 ML/day by Saturday 29 October, in accordance with the operating plan for the Barmah-Millewa environmental release, but was subsequently increased to 23 000 ML/day in order to pass the increased tributary and local inflows reaching Lake Mulwala.

The special release of water from Hume Reservoir for environmental purposes for the Barmah-Millewa Forest has been in progress since early October and about 200 GL has now been released from the accumulated forest allocation. During this period, forest regulators have been open. In particular, the regulators at the Edward and Gulpa Creek off-takes have been fully opened to allow higher flows and fish passage in these streams. Initial monitoring indicates that a significant waterbird breeding event has been stimulated by the higher flows along Gulpa Creek.

Summary for October 2005

Rainfall was quite patchy across the Murray-Darling Basin during October. Above average falls predominated across the southern Basin, however falls over north-western NSW were below to very much below average (*see attached map*). The rainfall generated inflows to the River Murray System of near to 1 000 GL, which is about average for October (for the current level of development). The total volume in MDBC storages increased by 400 GL to 5 600 GL (active storage) during October, which is about 1 900 GL greater than at the same time last year, and the highest it has been since January 2002.

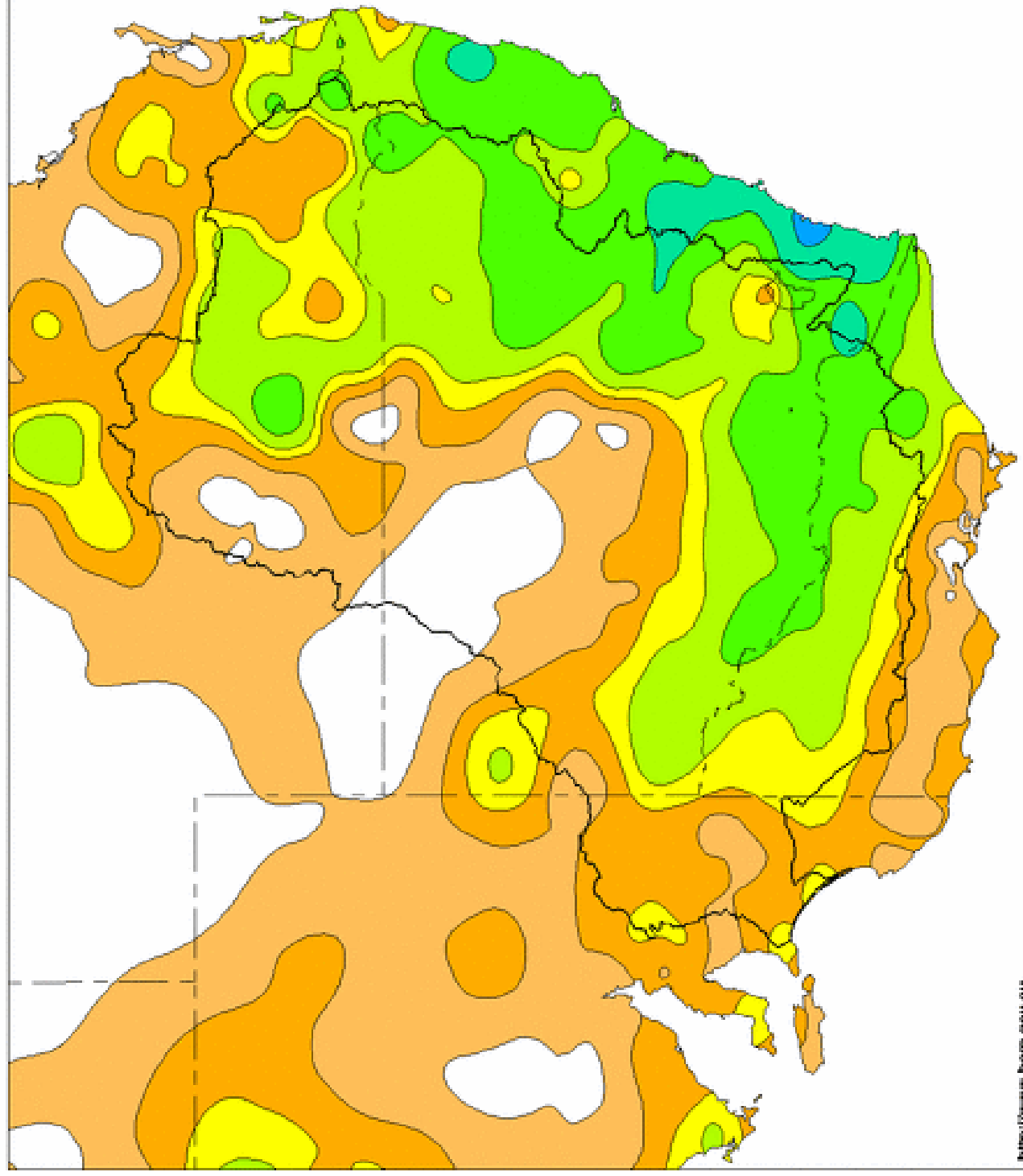
Irrigation Allocations

The relevant State agencies recently announced further improvements to irrigation water allocations for the 2005-06 season. The general security allocation for NSW Murray Valley irrigators has increased to 36% of entitlement. The water allocation to Victorian Murray gravity system irrigation areas and Mitta Mitta River private diverters has increased to 100% of Water Right plus 15% Sales.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 2nd November 2005

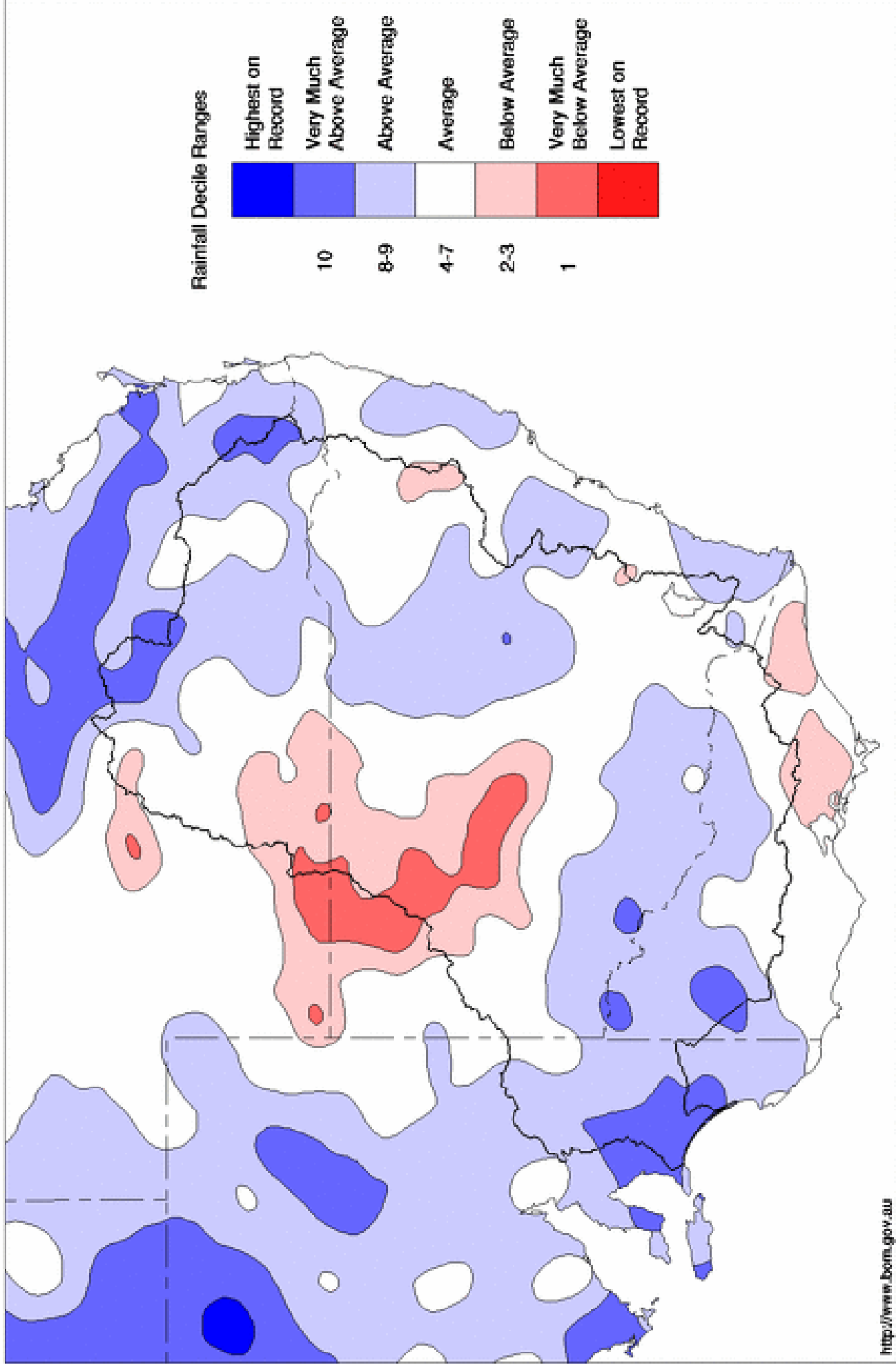
Product of the National Climate Centre



Murray Darling Rainfall Deciles

October 2005

Distribution Based on Gridded Data
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	460.36	2 429	62%	80	2 349	+21
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	190.54	2 751	91%	30	2 721	+24
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.92	667	99%	100	567	-2
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		462	27%	(- -) #	0	-3
Total		9 352		6 309	67%	--	5 637	+40

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **66%**

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	689	67%	3	686	+16
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 050	64%	24	1 026	+18
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	1 619	48%	100	1 519	+21

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 01-Nov-2005

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2005
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 302	+23	Snowy-Murray	+11	376
Snowy-Murray Component	1 136	+29	Tooma-Tumut	+7	204
Target Storage	1 450		Nett Diversion	3.9	173
			Murray 1 Release	+23	636

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2005
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	16.7	252.8
Wakool System loss	-0.3	7.2
Western Murray Irrig.	0.3	2.6
Licensed Pumps	6.6	73.5
Lower Darling	0.2	15.5
TOTAL	23.5	351.7

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2005
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	1.0	43
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	4.5	166
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.0	13
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.5	5
Licensed pumps - SRW	6.1	64
TOTAL	14.1	290

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	180	(8 100 ML/day)
Flow this week	56.7	
Flow so far this month	17	
Flow last month	300	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2005
Swan Hill	110	120	110
Euston	120	130	130
Red Cliffs	130	130	140
Merbein	120	120	110
Burtundy (Darling)	540	530	530
Lock 9	120	120	140
Lake Victoria	190	190	190
Berri	180	170	250
Waikerie	260	280	390
Morgan	270	260	380
Mannum	310	310	440
Murray Bridge	350	350	440
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 290	1 300	1 360
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	840	760	950
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 140	2 170	2 090
Goolwa Barrages	1 430	1 450	1 880



River Levels and Flows

River Murray	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)				
Khancoban	-	-	-	5 270	F	5 330	4 430
Jingellic	4.0	2.44	208.96	11 330	F	10 710	9 100
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.81	218.70	1 940	F	2 010	1 990
Heywoods	5.5	2.60	156.23	10 930	S	11 330	14 070
Doctors Point	5.5	2.97	151.44	13 700	F	14 540	16 190
Albury	4.3	1.99	149.43	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.40	129.42	18 800	R	16 610	20 040
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	3.28	118.32	23 000	R	19 570	19 590
Tocumwal	6.4	3.45	107.29	20 510	R	20 800	19 880
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.72	82.27	12 550	S	11 700	7 490
Swan Hill	4.5	2.12	65.04	11 780	R	9 670	6 160
Wakool Junction	8.8	4.02	53.14	13 200	R	11 070	8 490
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.18	44.02	11 510	R	9 670	8 800
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.10	9 720	F	8 300	8 670
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.13	27.89	8 020	R	7 440	7 880
Rufus Junction	-	3.75	20.68	8 050	R	7 520	8 250
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	7 400	S	7 300	10 340
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.24	155.47	3 010	F	4 540	2 620
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	10.05	147.73	7 365	F	7 050	5 440
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.63	93.05	1 101	F	1 700	1 270
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	5 070	F	4 210	2 520
Edward at Liewah	-	2.98	58.36	2 620	R	2 460	2 350
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.73	55.22	1 160	R	850	760
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.67	56.63	304	S	290	260
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.20	-	40	F	70	70
Darling at Bourke	-	4.05	-	191	F	220	310
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.63	-	10	F	10	20

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	16 230	14 630
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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
Yarrawonga	124.90	+0.04	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.16	+1.45
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.12	+0.58
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.07	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.45	+0.47
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.30	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.23	+1.06
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.49	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.02	+0.42
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.05	+0.69	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.09	+0.35
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.62	+0.47	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.10	+0.15

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.35	0.66	70.01	355
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.10	0.09	61.39	220

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.85

Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.86	2
Mundoo	26 openings	0.80	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.88	8

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