REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 30 November 2005

River Murray Water
A Business Unit of MDBC

Our Ref : M2005/00066/prs,jm **1 December, 2005**
Trim Ref : *05/22875*

Rainfall and Inflow

This week there were falls upwards of 25 mm in the north-east of the Basin, however much of the south and west received little or no rain. Rainfall over the Upper Murray catchment was generally less than 20 mm, which led to minor short-lived rises in inflows to Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs and minor rises in inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers.

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, the prospects for rain in the Murray-Darling Basin between December 2005 and February 2006 are about normal – with neither wetter nor drier conditions being favoured.

River Murray Operations

During the past week, the release from Dartmouth Reservoir was temporarily increased above the minimum flow of 200 ML/day to facilitate testing of Southern Hydro's Banimboola Power Station (located at the Dartmouth re-regulating pond). On 23 November, the flow was gradually increased to 2 500 ML/day, before gradually being reduced to the minimum flow by 26 November.

Hume Reservoir is currently about 88% of capacity, and it is anticipated that the storage in Hume will be sufficient to meet the downstream demands for the remainder of the season, unless conditions turn very dry. Therefore it is highly likely that the release from Dartmouth Reservoir will be maintained at or near to minimum levels for the remainder of the season, in order to conserve water in this, the uppermost storage, for future years. RMW will closely monitor the requirement to transfer water from Dartmouth to Hume and provide updates if any significant changes are required.

Release from Hume has remained fairly steady during the week, averaging 16 500 ML/day. This included the release of a further 45 GL from the Barmah-Millewa Forest Environmental Water Account (B-M EWA), bringing the total released from the account since early October to 410 GL. The release from Yarrawonga Weir has been held steady at 15 000 ML/day this week and, without further significant rainfall, the release will be gradually reduced towards channel capacity (about 10 300 ML/day) during December.

Lake Victoria is now effectively full, and is likely to be held at or near full until about the middle of December. After this time, it is expected that water will be released from the Lake to help supply the entitlement flow to South Australia (7 000 ML/day in December).

As Lake Victoria is expected to remain full for a short time, RMW has recently announced an extension to the period of 'flow surplus to regulated requirements' for reaches downstream of the Murrumbidgee Junction. This provides 'supplementary water' to NSW irrigators in that area, as well as enabling the continued watering of wetlands and floodplains. The weir pool raisings, which commenced in mid September, have also continued allowing an extended watering of over 600 hectares of floodplain. It is planned to gradually lower Lock and Weir 8 to full supply level when the period of surplus flow ends, and Lock and Weirs 1, 4, 5 and 6 will be lowered soon afterwards.

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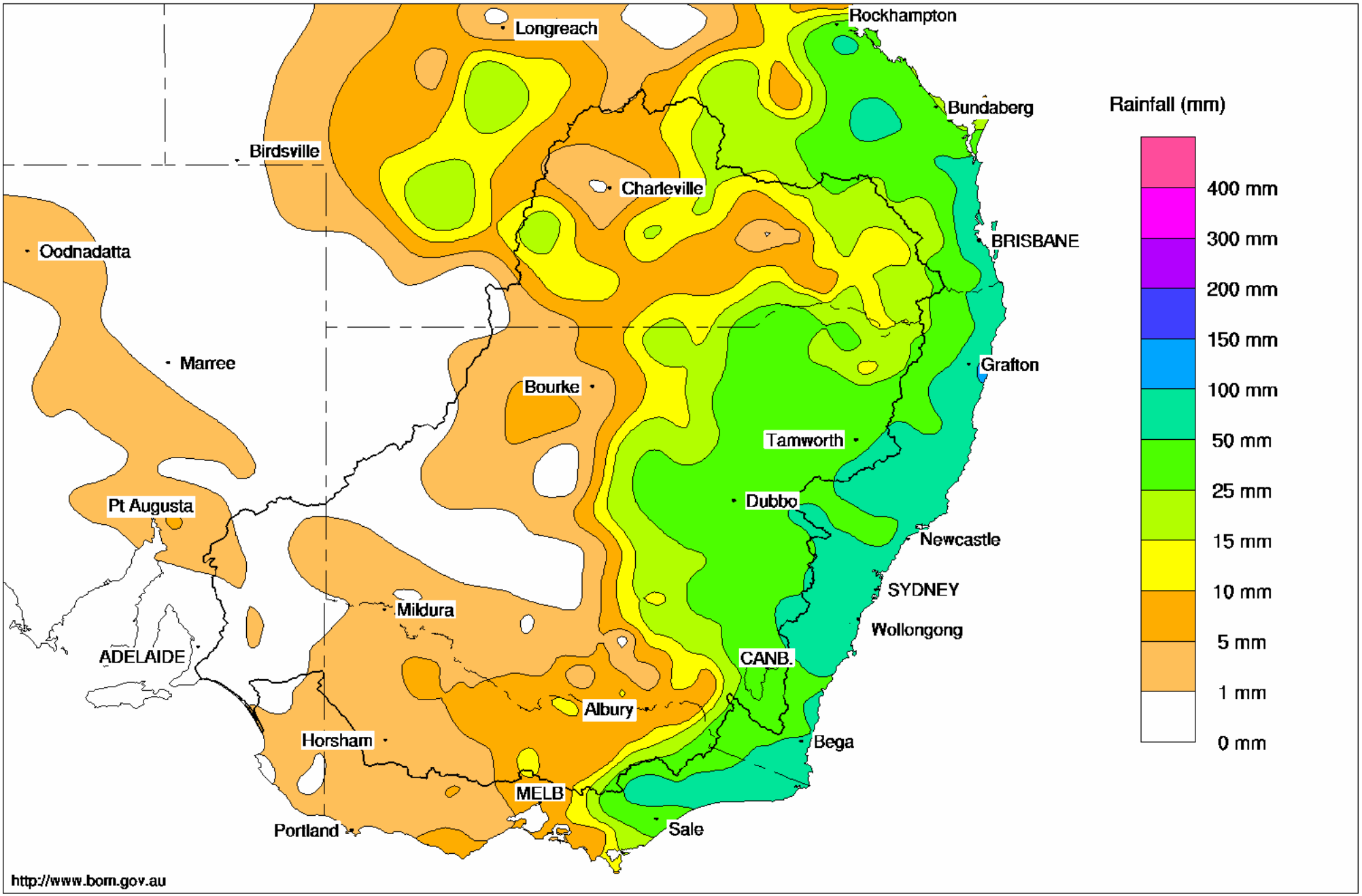
Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 30th November 2005

Product of the National Climate Centre



Issued: 30/11/2005

Week ending Wednesday 30 Nov 2005

Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage (GL)	Current Storage %	Dead Storage (GL)	MDBC Active Storage (GL)	Change in Storage for the week (GL)
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	461.54	2 488	64%	80	2 408	+11
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	190.07	2 663	88%	30	2 633	-93
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.99	675	100%	100	575	+23
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		428	25%	(- -) #	0	-14
Total		**9 352**		**6 254**	**67%**	**- -**	**5 616**	**-73**

* 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		747	73%	3	744	-8
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		1 071	66%	24	1 047	-13
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		1 639	48%	100	1 539	-8

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 29-Nov-2005

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2005
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 304	+0	Snowy-Murray	+3	437
Snowy-Murray Component	1 155	+14	Tooma-Tumut	+4	224
Target Storage	1 450		Nett Diversion	-0.7	213
			Murray 1 Release	+10	718

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2005
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	39.9	346.6
Wakool System loss	0.0	7.2
Western Murray Irrig.	1.0	5.5
Licensed Pumps	6.2	91.7
Lower Darling	1.0	21.2
TOTAL	**48.1**	**472.1**

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2005
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	13.9	76
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	21.2	225
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	6.7	31
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.6	9
Licensed pumps - SRW	6.8	94
TOTAL	**50.2**	**435**

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	180	
Flow this week	64.4	(9 200 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	339	
Flow last month	300	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2005
Swan Hill	110	140	110
Euston	130	130	130
Red Cliffs	130	130	140
Merbein	130	120	110
Burtundy (Darling)	580	560	540
Lock 9	120	130	140
Lake Victoria	180	190	190
Berri	180	170	230
Waikerie	250	230	370
Morgan	240	240	350
Mannum	300	290	400
Murray Bridge	320	320	410
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 280	1 300	1 350
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	780	770	920
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 070	2 050	2 090
Goolwa Barrages	1 490	1 460	1 790

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River Levels and Flows

River Murray	Minor Flood stage (m)	Gauge height local (m)	Gauge height (m AHD)	Flow (ML/day)	Trend	Average flow this week (ML/day)	Average flow last week (ML/day)
Khancoban	-	-	-	3 330	F	2 500	2 680
Jingellic	4.0	2.03	208.55	7 410	R	4 760	6 280
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.62	218.51	1 250	F	1 950	1 560
Heywoods	5.5	3.11	156.74	16 630	S	16 470	15 450
Doctors Point	5.5	3.34	151.81	18 400	R	18 340	17 610
Albury	4.3	2.38	149.82	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.41	129.43	18 900	R	19 230	17 260
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.36	117.40	15 000	S	15 000	17 060
Tocumwal	6.4	2.98	106.82	16 130	R	16 260	19 720
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.26	81.81	10 580	F	11 140	12 330
Swan Hill	4.5	1.93	64.85	10 440	R	10 580	12 810
Wakool Junction	8.8	4.46	53.58	15 400	S	15 850	17 810
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.59	44.43	14 670	S	15 520	16 880
Mildura Weir (d/s)		-	31.38	13 680	F	14 530	15 450
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.40	28.16	11 010	F	12 300	11 970
Rufus Junction	-	3.80	20.73	8 400	F	8 640	11 610
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	7 590	S	7 890	11 330
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	-	-	1 813	F	1 920	2 360
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.73	146.41	2 789	F	3 380	4 950
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.71	93.13	1 268	S	1 270	1 690
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	3 480	F	4 470	5 830
Edward at Liewah	-	3.31	58.69	3 190	F	3 190	3 220
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.07	55.56	2 520	S	2 540	2 590
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.51	56.47	219	R	220	310
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.44	-	560	F	350	80
Darling at Bourke	-	4.09	-	329	S	230	90
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.71	-	63	R	60	100

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	5 510	9 440

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	-0.09	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.12	+1.52
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.12	+0.62
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.45	+0.55
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.58	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.30	+1.02
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.76	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.01	+0.35
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.11	+0.72	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.02	+0.34
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.62	+0.48	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.11	+0.18

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. local (m)	d/s gauge ht. (m AHD)	Flow (ML/day)
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.67	0.6	69.95	296
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.11	0.13	61.43	252

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.84

Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.86	1
Mundoo	26 openings	0.88	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.87	2

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

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