

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 16 August 2006

Our Ref : M2006/00012/kes, sc  
Trim Ref : 06/17963

17 August, 2006



## ***Rainfall and Inflows***

Very dry conditions persisted across the Murray-Darling Basin this week (*see attached map*). Whilst light showers fell across the upper Murray, significant falls of rain – in excess of 100 mm - would be needed on these extremely dry catchments to generate any appreciable volumes of runoff.

The Bureau of Meteorology's outlook for the August to October period indicates no bias toward either wetter or drier than average conditions across the Basin. However, "*There is a moderate to strong shift in the odds towards above normal daytime and night-time temperatures for late winter to mid-spring (August-October) over much of the country*".

## ***River Murray Operations***

Water transfers from Dartmouth to Hume Reservoir continue. The level of the Mitta Mitta River at Tallandoon increased to an average of about 3.15 m gauge height and is expected to remain at about this level if conditions remain dry. Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir fell slightly this week to 2 450 GL (63% capacity) with Hume Reservoir remaining relatively steady at around 19% capacity.

Release from Hume Reservoir increased progressively this week from a flow of about 13 500 ML/d to 17 000 ML/d at Doctors Point in response to increasing demands at the major irrigation offtakes, and as part of the continuing program of water transfers to Lake Victoria.

Release from Torrumbarry Weir reached about 8 200 ML/d last week and has since been gradually reduced (currently 6 300 ML/d) in response to increasing diversions at the National Channel offtake. River flows in Sunraysia are currently peaking at around 10 000 ML/day and will soon begin to fall as the effects of the increased National Channel and other diversions make their way downstream. The level of Euston weir pool is currently being held steady at about 47.40 m AHD (20 cm below fully supply level) and will be closely reviewed over coming weeks, particularly if river flows reduce significantly from current rates.

Storage in Lake Victoria increased by about 30 GL this week to about 69% of capacity. The Lower Lakes in South Australia remained near to their surcharge level of 0.85m AHD and are expected to gradually fall over coming weeks if conditions remain dry. The release from the Barrages to the Coorong and Murray Mouth has been gradually reduced in view of the outlook for continuing dry conditions. However, the fishways remain open and a small release from Boundary Creek and Mundoo Barrages continues.

## ***State Allocation Announcements***

On 15 August Goulburn-Murray Water announced an increase in allocation for the Victorian Murray system to "85% of Water Right and Licensed Volume". The NSW Department of Natural Resources announced that "*allocations for NSW general security water users in the Murray and Lower Darling valleys ... would remain at 0%*". South Australia's Minister for the River Murray announced that "*River Murray water allocations in South Australia will remain unchanged at 80%*".

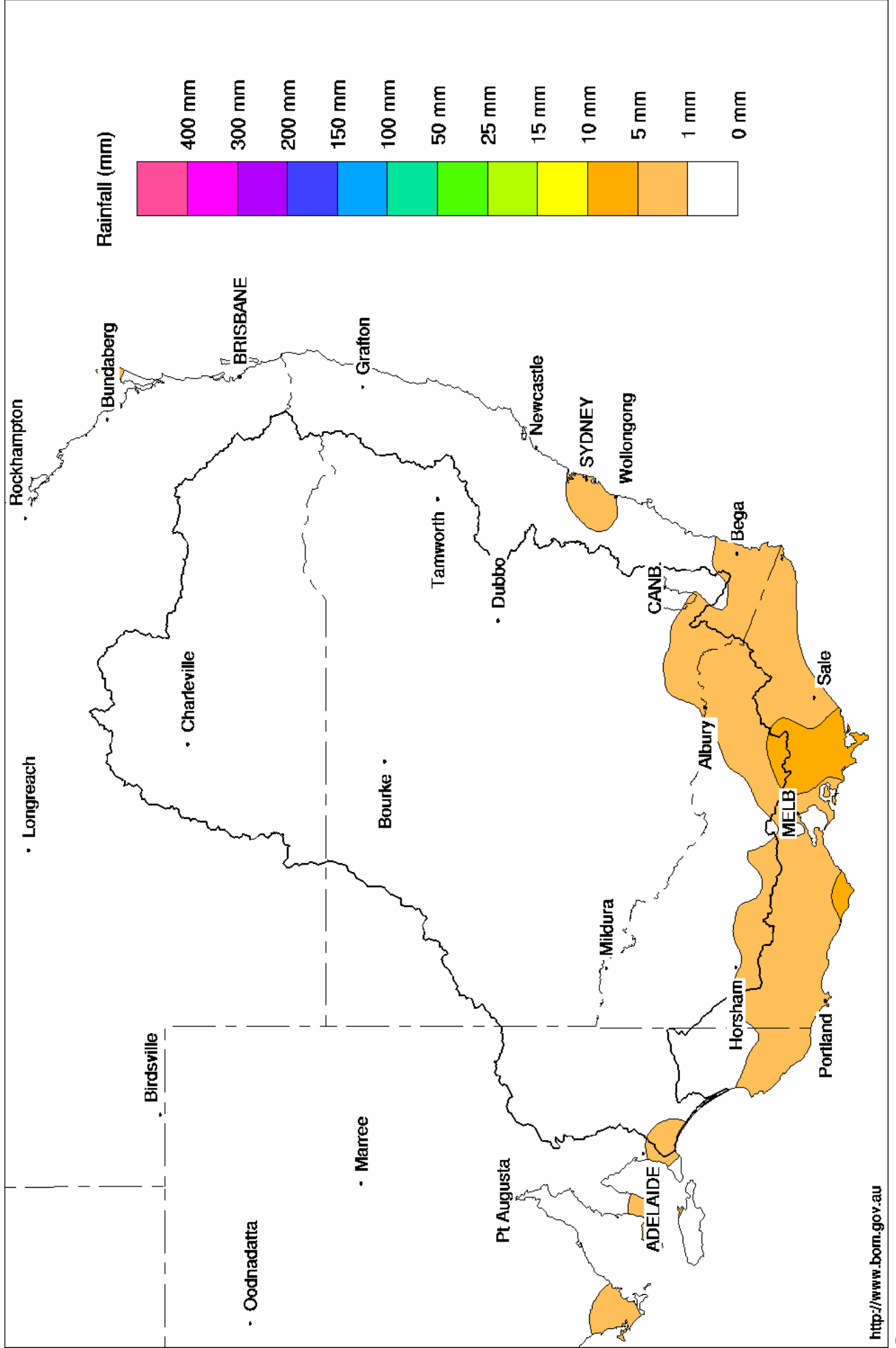
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# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 16th August 2006

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	460.68	2 445	63%	80	2 365	-54
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	174.19	575	19%	30	545	-13
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.16	465	69%	100	365	+33
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		263	15%	(- -) #	0	-1
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>3 748</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>3 275</b>	<b>-35</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL % of Total Active MDBC Storage = **39%**

# 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	349	34%	3	346	-7
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 012	62%	24	988	+1
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	778	23%	100	678	+2

**Snowy Mountains Scheme**

Snowy diversions for week ending 15-Aug-2006

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2006
Lake Eucumbene - Total	739	-26	Snowy-Murray	+31	451
Snowy-Murray Component	477	-26	Tooma-Tumut	+2	19
Target Storage	1 190		Nett Diversion	28.9	431
			Murray 1 Release	+29	489

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2006
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	16.3	40.2
Wakool System loss	1.2	3.3
Western Murray Irrig.	0.2	.7
Licensed Pumps	2.2	6.8
Lower Darling	1.1	1.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>52.6</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2006
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	5.0	7
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	10.8	15
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.2	1
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	1
Licensed pumps - LMW	0.0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>26</b>

**Flow to South Australia (GL)**

Entitlement this month	124	(4 000 ML/day)
Flow this week	27.9	
Flow so far this month	64	
Flow last month	108	

**Salinity (EC)**

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2006
Swan Hill	60	60	70
Euston	100	110	110
Red Cliffs	130	120	130
Merbein	110	110	100
Burtundy (Darling)	610	610	610
Lock 9	140	150	160
Lake Victoria	150	160	150
Berri	230	230	240
Waikerie	-	390	380
Morgan	450	430	400
Mannum	460	460	470
Murray Bridge	390	380	370
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 170	1 160	1 160
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	610	690	660
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 270	2 270	2 270
Goolwa Barrages	1 510	1 500	1 470



**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	-	-	-	3 150	R	4 150	5 490
Jingellic	4.0	1.60	208.12	3 930	F	5 360	6 220
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	3.15	220.04	9 780	F	9 590	5 300
Heywoods	5.5	3.11	156.74	16 610	R	14 890	11 690
Doctors Point	5.5	3.22	151.69	16 700	R	15 440	12 240
Albury	4.3	2.20	149.64	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.10	129.12	16 100	S	14 700	13 010
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.73	116.77	9 790	S	9 790	9 850
Tocumwal	6.4	2.26	106.10	10 400	S	10 430	10 570
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.15	80.70	6 310	F	6 880	8 160
Swan Hill	4.5	1.29	64.21	6 250	F	6 910	7 460
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.39	52.51	9 850	F	9 760	9 020
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.94	43.78	9 930	R	9 790	9 190
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	9 270	F	9 240	8 160
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.14	27.90	10 380	S	10 280	8 960
Rufus Junction	-	2.96	19.89	3 570	F	3 610	3 400
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.72	-	3 290	S	3 880	3 760
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.86	154.09	410	S	490	680
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.79	145.47	428	F	520	590
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.17	92.59	383	S	400	410
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	2.55	-	2 910	F	2 910	2 900
Edward at Liewah	-	3.07	58.45	2 680	S	2 620	1 840
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.34	54.83	259	R	220	190
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.17	57.13	671	R	470	500
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.16	-	10	S	10	10
Darling at Bourke	-	4.01	-	85	S	90	90
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.65	-	18	S	20	20

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	2 000	1 280
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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	-0.13	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.07	+0.67
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.25	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.00	-0.02
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.20	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.03	+0.09
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.32	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.00	+0.43
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.01	+0.50	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.00	+0.19
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.01	-0.40	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.05
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.40	+0.09	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	-0.01	-0.03

<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	-0.14	1.04	70.39	882
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	0.44	61.74	569



**Lower Lakes**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

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

**Barrages**

**Fishways @ Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	1.01	All closed	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	-	1	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	1.16	1	Open	Open

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