

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 26 July 2006



Our Ref : SC/kes
Trim Ref : 06/16852

28 July, 2006

Rainfall and inflows

The northern and eastern parts of the Murray-Darling Basin received between 10 and 50 mm of rainfall this week, however rainfall totals in the Murray Catchment were generally less than 10 mm (*see attached map*). This rain has generated little runoff but has assisted in “wetting up” the catchments.

River Murray Operations

The storage volume in Dartmouth Reservoir remained relatively steady this week (65% capacity), while storage in Hume continued to fall gradually (currently 21% capacity). Water transfers from Dartmouth to Hume Reservoirs are scheduled to commence on 31 July to supplement storage in Hume to meet requirements for NSW, Victoria and South Australia this season.

The release from Hume Reservoir has been increased to 12 000 ML/d and may be increased further over the coming week unless there is significant rainfall. Unregulated inflows to the River Murray system from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers have remained at low levels (each averaging less than 800 ML/d). Yarrowonga Weir pool level increased to about 124.65 m AHD and diversions from Mulwala Canal continue as the channel systems are being progressively filled for the coming irrigation season.

The flow downstream of Yarrowonga Weir has been increased to 10 000 ML/d and is likely to remain at this flow rate over coming weeks as part of the program of water transfers from Hume Reservoir to Lake Victoria. Flows along the Edward/Wakool Rivers also continue to increase.

The upper pool level of Torrumbarry Weir is being gradually increased to 85.75 mAHD (currently 85.72 mAHD) to facilitate National Channel diversions from early August. Euston Weir upper pool has been maintained near to Full Supply Level (47.60 mAHD). The flow downstream of Torrumbarry and Euston Weirs this week averaged 6 900 ML/d and 6 300 ML/d, respectively and is expected to increase further over the coming week as the increased release from Hume Reservoir slowly makes its way along the river system. The upper pool level of Lock 8 (Wangumma) continues to be slowly lowered and is currently 24.32 mAHD, 28 cm below FSL. It is planned to continue lowering this weir pool to about 40 cm below FSL over the coming weeks.

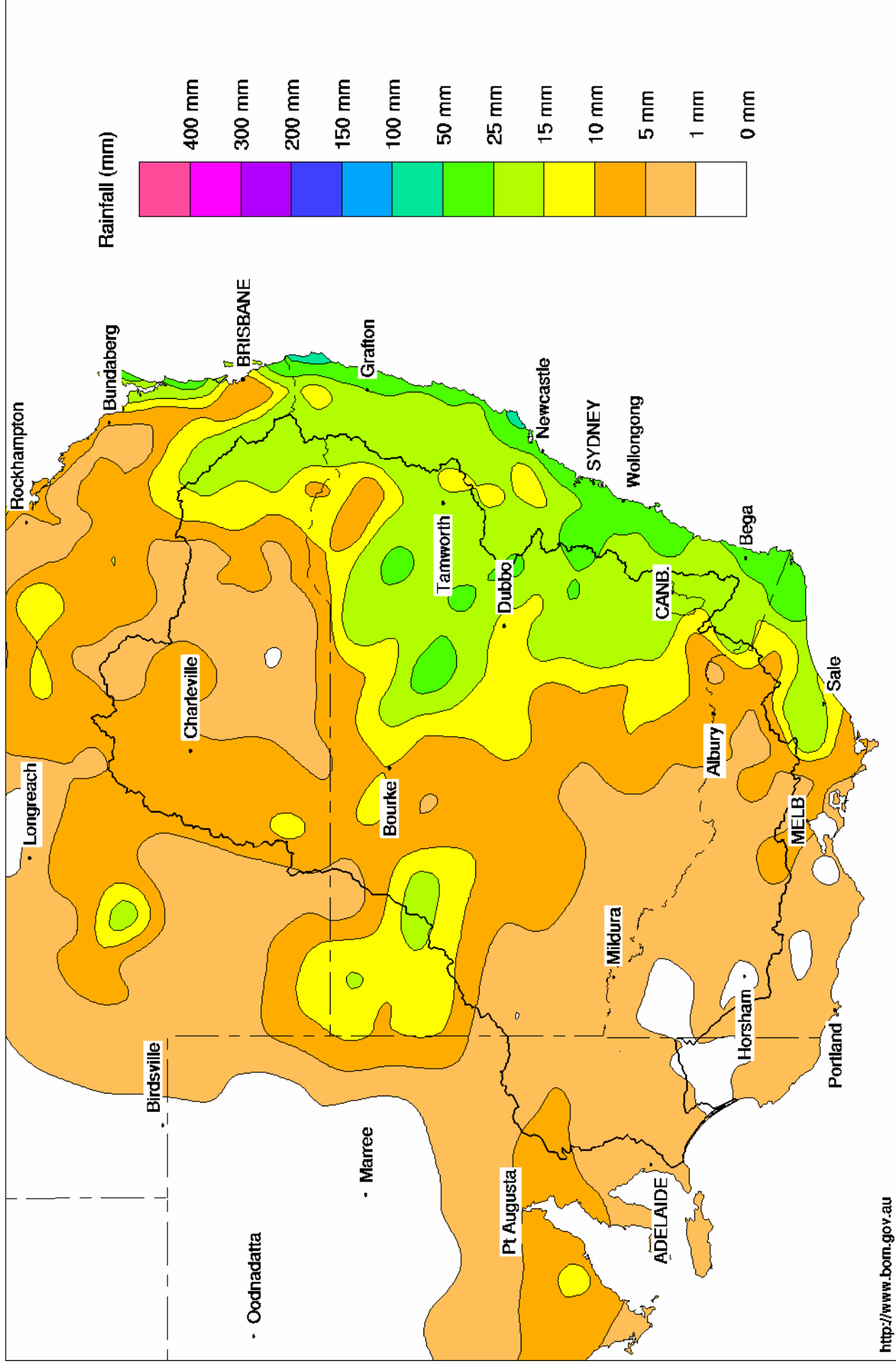
Flow passing Wentworth Weir has increased to about 7 000 ML/d (compared to 3 300 ML/d the previous week) and is expected to remain at about this level over the coming week. Storage in Lake Victoria has increased by around 3 GL to 394 GL (58% capacity) and is now at a similar level to this time last year.

The level of the Lower Lakes has continued to rise gradually and is now 0.83 m AHD. A release of about 1 000 ML/d from Goolwa, Tauwichee and Boundary Creek Barrages continues to be maintained and the fishways remain open. Also, Mundoo Barrage has been partially opened to provide a ‘trickle flow’ similar to that at Boundary Creek to enhance local estuarine conditions.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 26th July 2006

Product of the National Climate Centre



Week ending Wednesday 26 Jul 2006

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	462.43	2 533	65%	80	2 453	+0
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	174.92	638	21%	30	608	-25
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	24.49	395	58%	100	295	+3
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		264	15%	(- -) #	0	-1
Total		9 352		3 829	41%	--	3 355	-23

* 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	351	34%	3	348	+2
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	978	60%	24	954	+37
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	765	23%	100	665	+5

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 25-Jul-2006

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2006
Lake Eucumbene - Total	836	-48	Snowy-Murray	+36	354
Snowy-Murray Component	561	-31	Tooma-Tumut	+3	18
Target Storage	1 170		Nett Diversion	33.7	336
			Murray 1 Release	+42	390

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2006
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	8.9	9.9
Wakool System loss	0.1	.5
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	.3
Licensed Pumps	n/a	2.8
Lower Darling	0.1	.2
TOTAL	9.1	13.8

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2006
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	.0	
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.2	1
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	1
Licensed pumps - LMW	0.0	2
TOTAL	0.2	4

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	108.5	(3 500 ML/day)
Flow this week	24.6	
Flow so far this month	91	
Flow last month	90	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2005
Swan Hill	80	100	100
Euston	110	120	110
Red Cliffs	160	170	130
Merbein	110	110	110
Burtundy (Darling)	720	650	610
Lock 9	160	140	130
Lake Victoria	150	150	190
Berri	280	280	230
Waikerie	360	370	340
Morgan	380	380	340
Mannum	470	420	360
Murray Bridge	320	320	360
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 200	1 200	1 230
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	850	850	940
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 260	2 270	2 210
Goolwa Barrages	1 440	1 440	1 850



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	-	-	-	5 710	F	6 470	5 520
Jingellic	4.0	2.05	208.57	7 580	F	7 240	6 660
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.67	218.56	1 280	R	890	830
Heywoods	5.5	2.73	156.36	12 030	R	10 940	7 780
Doctors Point	5.5	2.86	151.33	12 400	S	11 830	8 700
Albury	4.3	1.81	149.25	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.63	128.65	12 300	R	11 200	8 470
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.76	116.80	10 000	R	9 210	8 000
Tocumwal	6.4	2.20	106.04	9 940	R	9 550	7 870
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.45	81.00	7 370	R	6 920	5 980
Swan Hill	4.5	1.33	64.25	6 520	R	6 020	4 860
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.69	51.81	6 690	R	6 470	4 400
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.38	43.22	6 630	S	6 300	3 390
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	6 050	F	4 530	2 720
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.98	27.74	7 350	R	5 250	3 280
Rufus Junction	-	2.85	19.78	2 990	R	3 100	3 130
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.80	-	4 260	S	4 400	4 040
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.95	154.18	520	F	770	700
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.88	145.56	589	S	650	680
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.22	92.64	476	F	490	520
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	2.03	-	2 030	F	1 090	650
Edward at Liewah	-	1.23	56.61	649	R	490	470
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.25	54.74	143	S	130	70
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.91	56.87	458	R	260	230
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.22	-	70	R	10	0
Darling at Bourke	-	4.01	-	85	S	90	90
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.66	-	29	S	40	30

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	2 020	2 960
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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	-0.23	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.12	+0.55
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.34	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.01	+0.00
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.03	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.13
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.19	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.41
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.34	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.00	+0.13
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.00	-0.26	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.01	+0.09
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.24	+0.16	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.01	+0.05

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	0.93	70.28	702
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.13	0.93	62.23	1130



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	(m AHD)
	0.83

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.88	1	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.88	1	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.87	4	Open	Open

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