

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 29 November 2006



Our Ref : M2006/00012/prs, jw
Trim Ref : 06/24955

1 December, 2006

Rainfall and inflows

The Basin remained very dry this week (*see attached map*) with only light rainfall being recorded in north-eastern areas. Unregulated inflow to River Murray storages declined over the week and inflows from the Victorian tributaries continue to fall in response to the dry conditions. To illustrate this, flow in the Ovens River at Wangaratta is currently 43 ML/day, which is dramatically lower than the average November flow of about 3 900 ML/day.

River Operations

Although the previous week's rainfall led to lower demands upon Hume Reservoir, releases from Hume increased again this week to an average of 16 000 ML/day. The rate of fall of this storage increased in response to these higher releases, with storage being reduced from 280 GL to 242 GL (8% capacity). Water transfers from Dartmouth Reservoir to Hume continue at capacity and Dartmouth storage reduced by 68 GL to 1 518 GL (39% capacity) this week.

Rainfall recorded during previous weeks continues to have positive effects in parts of the River Murray system. The rain brought a reduction in both irrigation diversions and "river losses", which increased flows through the mid reaches of the River Murray. Flows downstream of Euston Weir remained above 9 000 ML/day this week and inflows from the Murrumbidgee River have remained above 1 000 ML/day at Balranald. The higher flows in transit in the river resulted in storage in Lake Victoria increasing a further 8 GL this week to 505 GL (75% capacity). This improvement in storage increases the operational flexibility available to River Murray Water in managing the River Murray system. It demonstrates benefits that can result from an individual heavy rain event.

Higher temperatures over the past week increased both irrigation diversions and river transmission losses. Average daily diversions from Lake Mulwala rose to more than 5 000 ML/day this week and flow downstream of Torrumbarry Weir fell to 5 400 ML/day. The average level of the Lower Lakes fell further to 0.64m AHD and the rock-ramp fishway on Tauwitchere Barrage was closed as it ceased to operate at 0.65m AHD. The two vertical slot fishways on Goolwa Barrage and Tauwitchere Barrage remain open.

River Murray Water reduced slightly the water transfers from Hume to Lake Victoria this week by lowering flow through Colligen Creek in the Edward-Wakool system to the minimum summer rate. Further small reductions in flow downstream of Yarrawonga are likely over the coming weeks as RMW continues to review the balance of water held in various storages across the River Murray system.

November summary

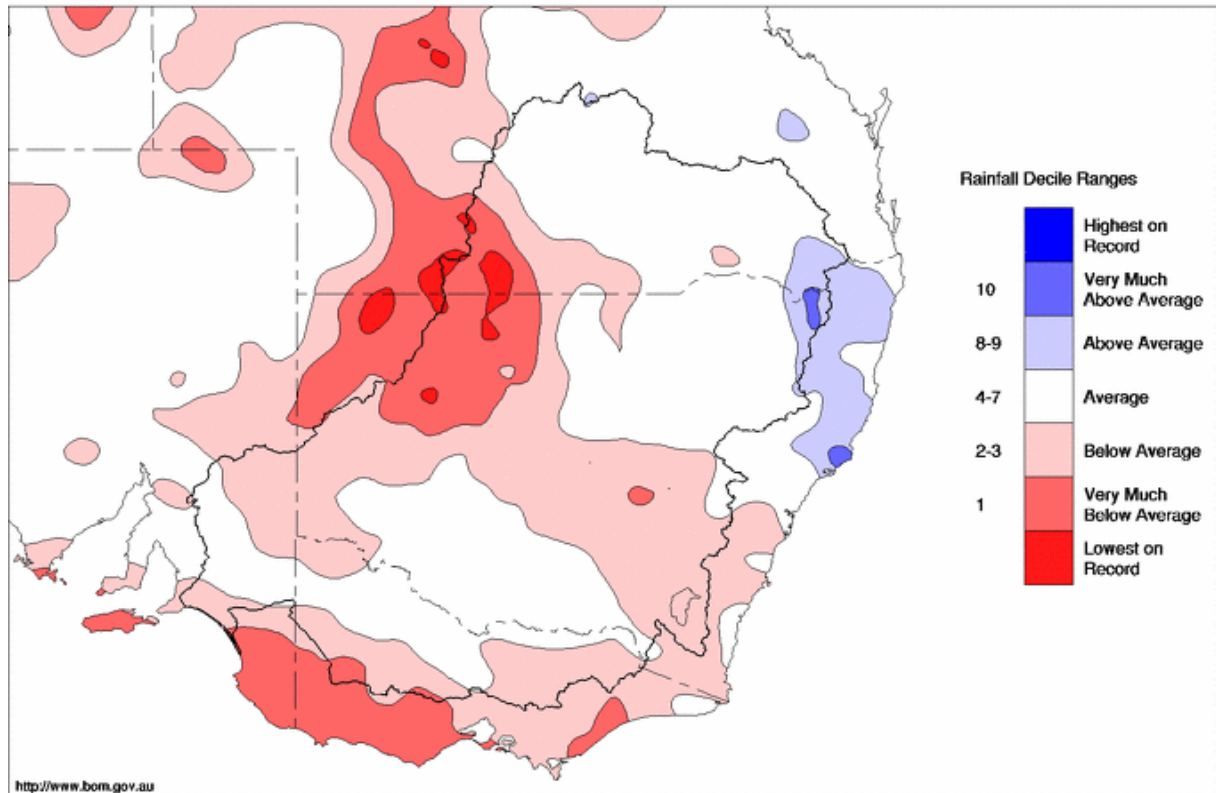
November rainfall was close to the monthly average across large areas of the Basin (*see attached map*), which is a clear improvement from previous months. However this improvement in rainfall has not significantly increased inflows to the River Murray system. Total inflow during November was about 55 GL, which is slightly lower than the previous lowest November inflow in 1914 that has been modelled at about 57 GL. This is the sixth consecutive month that inflow to the River Murray system has been at a record low.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

River Murray Water
Sverdrup House ♦ 15 Moore Street Canberra ACT ♦ GPO Box 409 Canberra ACT 2601
Switchboard (02) 6279 0100 ♦ Weekly Report Enquiries (02) 6279 0126 ♦ Facsimile (02) 6230 6005
Internet : www.mdbc.gov.au

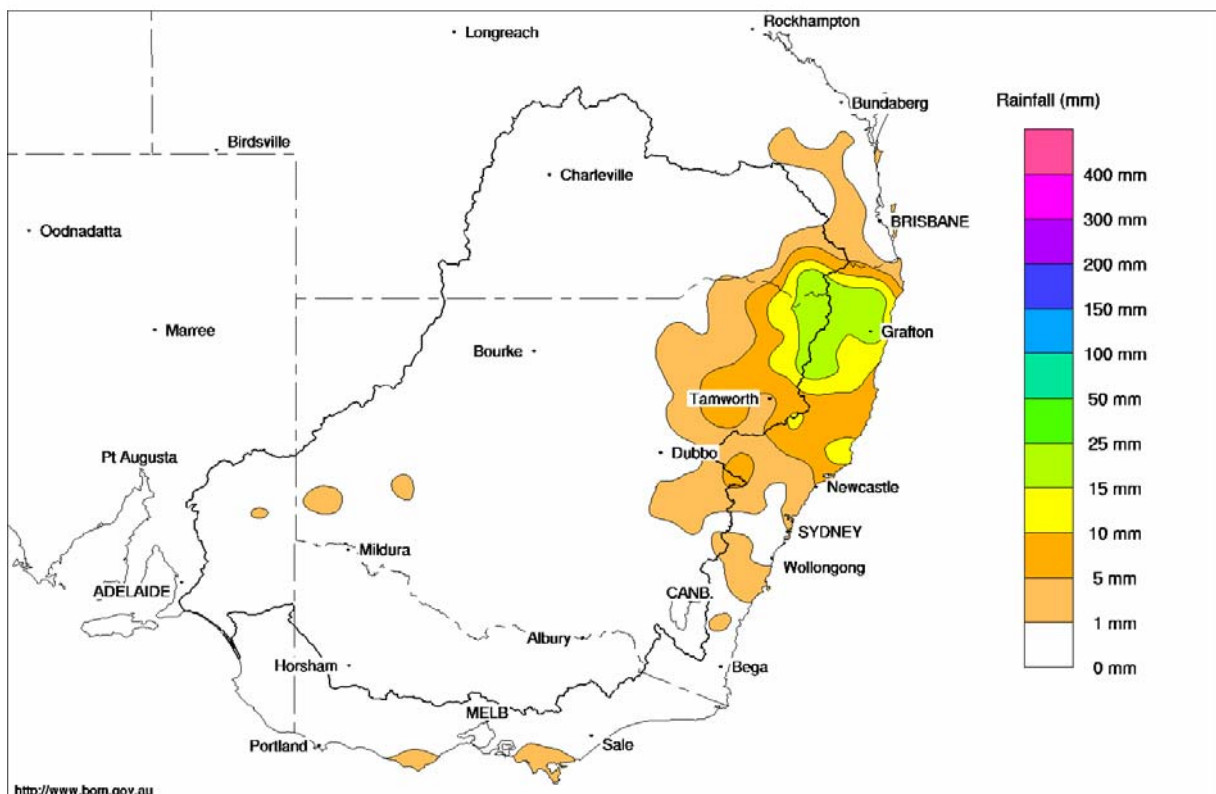
Murray Darling Rainfall Deciles November 2006

Distribution Based on Gridded Data
Product of the National Climate Centre



Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 29th November 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	439.33	1 518	39%	80	1 438	-68
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	169.41	242	8%	30	212	-38
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.53	505	75%	100	405	+9
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		185	11%	(- -) #	0	-8
Total		9 352		2 450	26%	--	2 055	-105

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL % of Total Active MDBC Storage = **24%**

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		305	30%	3	302	-2
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		448	27%	24	424	-22
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		511	15%	100	411	-19

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 28-Nov-2006

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2006
Lake Eucumbene - Total	644	-22	Snowy-Murray	+3	675
Snowy-Murray Component	399	-3	Tooma-Tumut	+0	34
Target Storage	1 450		Nett Diversion	2.7	641
			Murray 1 Release	+8	775

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2006
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	10.3	247.0
Wakool System loss	2.6	30.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.8	8.9
Licensed Pumps	4.8	98.7
Lower Darling	0.5	12.8
TOTAL	18.9	397.3

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2006
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	13.0	178
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	15.8	343
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	6.3	56
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	11.3	71
Licensed pumps - LMW	5.1	45
TOTAL	51.4	692

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	180	
Flow this week	32.1	(4 600 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	147	
Flow last month	153	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2006
Swan Hill	60	60	70
Euston	70	80	100
Red Cliffs	100	100	120
Merbein	100	90	110
Burtundy (Darling)	830	810	680
Lock 9	110	120	130
Lake Victoria	150	160	150
Berri	220	210	230
Waikerie	330	320	360
Morgan	360	350	390
Mannum	490	470	450
Murray Bridge	460	470	420
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 240	1 240	1 170
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 140	1 170	940
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 290	2 250	2 200
Goolwa Barrages	1 970	1 990	1 690



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)				
River Murray							
Khancoban	-	-	-	1 310	F	1 110	1 440
Jingellic	4.0	1.25	207.77	1 540	R	1 270	2 040
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	3.39	220.28	10 610	S	10 590	10 390
Heywoods	5.5	3.05	156.68	16 100	S	16 010	13 470
Doctors Point	5.5	3.14	151.61	15 700	F	15 990	13 660
Albury	4.3	2.12	149.56	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.17	129.19	16 700	F	16 260	13 940
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.69	116.73	10 000	S	10 000	10 150
Tocumwal	6.4	2.21	106.05	9 740	R	9 650	9 800
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.90	80.45	5 420	F	5 660	6 200
Swan Hill	4.5	1.15	64.07	5 320	F	5 560	5 890
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.13	52.25	8 600	F	8 860	9 220
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.77	43.61	8 990	S	9 220	9 160
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	7 150	F	7 150	7 160
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.02	27.78	6 950	S	6 890	7 050
Rufus Junction	-	3.03	19.96	3 960	R	4 000	4 230
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.70	-	1 510	F	1 540	3 660
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.58	153.81	120	R	210	240
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.45	145.13	43	S	60	120
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.11	92.53	310	F	320	350
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	2.44	82.21	2 710	F	2 700	2 700
Edward at Liewah	-	3.11	58.49	2 740	S	2 740	2 700
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.61	55.10	793	F	880	1 100
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.75	57.71	1 150	F	1 450	1 400
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.18	-	23	F	70	420
Darling at Bourke	-	3.08	-	-	F	-	-
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.72	-	128	S	130	160

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	780	1 460
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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	-0.15	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.15	+0.75
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.05	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.00	+0.01
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.02	+0.11
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.01	+0.24	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.40
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.03	+0.38	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.02	+0.13
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.03	+0.03	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.02	+0.07
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.01	+0.24	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	-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	-0.10	1.23	70.58	1250
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	0.92	62.22	1120



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.64

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.64	All closed	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.68	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.65	All closed	Open	Closed

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