

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 14 March 2007



*Our Ref : M2006/01015/prs, bwh  
Trim Ref : 07/4427*

14 March, 2007

## **Rainfall and Inflows**

Generally dry conditions prevailed over the River Murray for most of the week, with light falls mostly in the range of 1 to 5 mm throughout much of the River Murray catchment. Unregulated inflows to Hume Reservoir continued to decline to low levels since the rainfall events of late February and early March.

## **River Murray Operations**

In response to improved storage in Hume Reservoir, and decreasing irrigation and flow requirements along the Murray (including a reduction in flow to South Australia last week), release from Dartmouth Reservoir has been further gradually reduced from 7 300 to 5 700 ML/day. Storage in Dartmouth fell by 40 GL to 552 GL (14.1% of capacity). Further reductions in release are planned over coming weeks in order to conserve resources in Dartmouth for 2007/08, and will continue to be implemented gradually with the aim of minimising impacts on riverbank erosion and stability following a prolonged period of high regulated flows.

Release from the Snowy Mountains Scheme to the upper Murray was about 5 GL over the week, compared with 27 GL last week. This, combined with declining unregulated catchment inflows, resulted in Hume storage temporarily peaking at 135 GL (4.4% of capacity) on 10 March before again falling slowly. Release from Hume Reservoir has averaged 7 400 ML/day, but is expected to be reduced next week as downstream flow requirements continue to gradually decline.

Release from Yarrawonga Weir has been maintained at 4 900 ML/day, however, it is expected that this will be gradually reduced by later March in line with reduced irrigation demand. This rate of flow is considerably less than usual for this time of year.

Flow downstream of Torrumbarry Weir has been further reduced from 3 500 to 2 600 ML/day, and is expected to be maintained near this rate next week. Consequently, the river level at Swan Hill has fallen from 0.94 m to 0.72 m gauge height, and is expected to be near 0.6 m by late March without further significant rain.

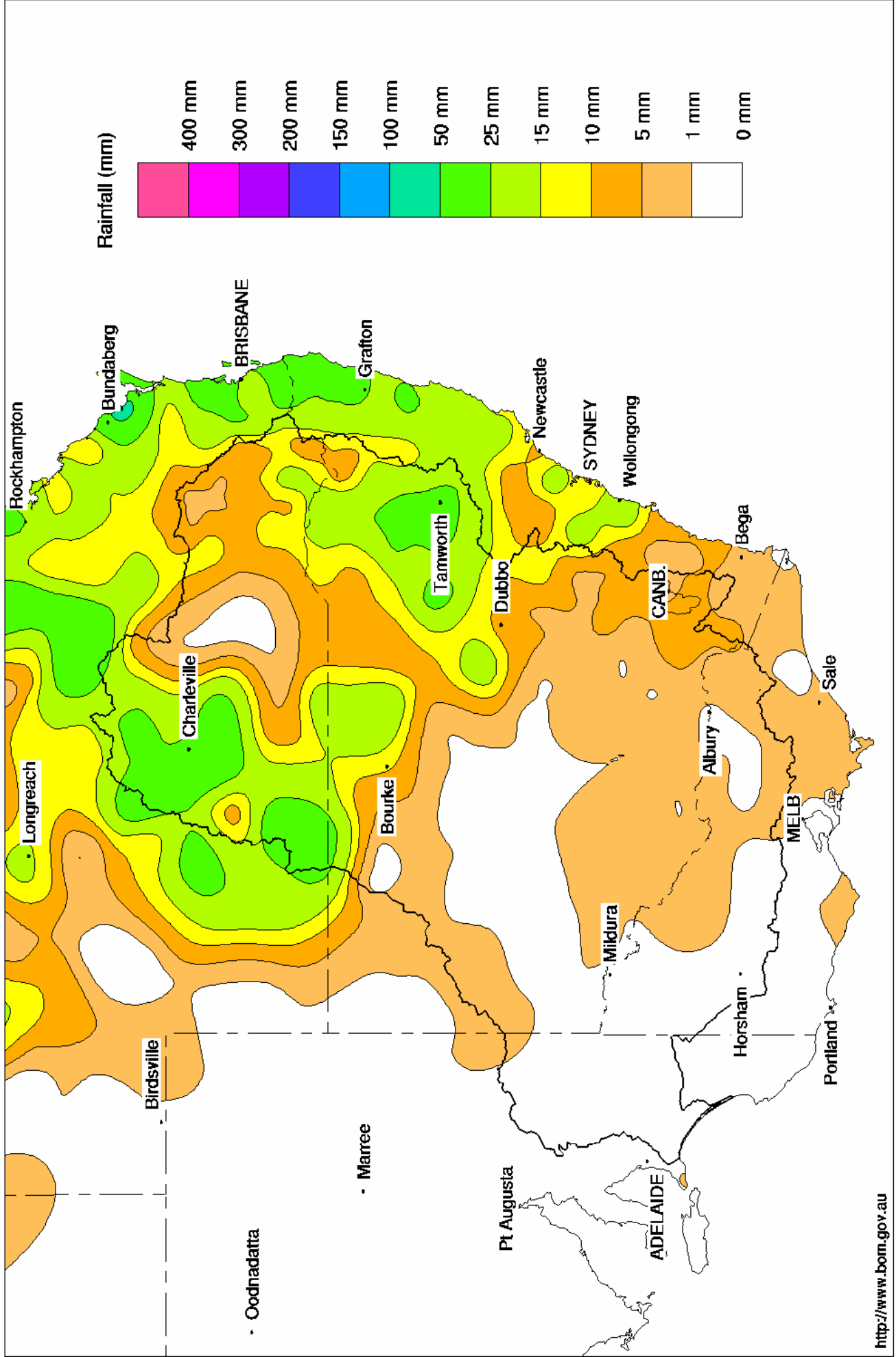
Release from Euston Weir has been reduced from 4 600 to 3 800 ML/day, and is to be further reduced to about 1 600 ML/day by late March. At that time, release from Lake Victoria will be increased to assist in meeting the flow requirement for South Australia. Storage in Lake Victoria has fallen by 13 GL, and is now 37% of capacity.

In consultation with South Australia management of its reduced water availability this season has required, flow to South Australia to be further reduced from to 3 200 to 2 800 ML/day. Further downstream, with the intervening effects of diversions and river losses, flow at Lock 1 has declined to about 1 000 ML/day.

DAVID DREVERMAN  
General Manager

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 14th March 2007

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	404.81	552	14%	80	472	-40
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	166.77	130	4%	30	100	+3
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.06	252	37%	100	152	-11
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		129	7%	(- -) #	0	-6
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>1 063</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>-54</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = 9%

# 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		273	27%	3	270	-0
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		157	10%	24	133	-20
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		264	8%	100	164	-9

**Snowy Mountains Scheme**

Snowy diversions for week ending 13-Mar-2007

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2006
Lake Eucumbene - Total	401	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+6	806
Snowy-Murray Component	269	-	Tooma-Tumut	+0	57
Target Storage	1 410		Nett Diversion	5.6	748
			Murray 1 Release	+6	915

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2006
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	1.6	309.5
Wakool System loss	1.8	59.7
Western Murray Irrig.	0.6	20.9
Licensed Pumps	2.7	153.9
Lower Darling	0.1	17.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>561.7</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2006
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	7.3	319
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	10.3	534
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.3	124
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.6	153
Licensed pumps - LMW	7.2	180
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>1 310</b>

**Flow to South Australia (GL)**

Entitlement this month	186	
Flow this week	21.6	(3 100 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	47	
Flow last month	194	

**Salinity (EC)**

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2006
Swan Hill	80	80	70
Euston	110	110	90
Red Cliffs	140	140	110
Merbein	130	120	100
Burtundy (Darling)	1 100	1 090	820
Lock 9	130	130	120
Lake Victoria	170	170	160
Berri	240	240	230
Waikerie	290	280	330
Morgan	310	300	360
Mannum	390	390	450
Murray Bridge	360	380	430
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 460	1 430	1 260
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 470	1 450	1 100
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 610	2 590	2 320
Goolwa Barrages	7 110	5 870	2 580



**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	-	-	-	420	F	570	4 120
Jingellic	4.0	1.04	207.56	550	F	1 120	3 440
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	2.64	219.53	5 990	S	6 440	8 140
Heywoods	5.5	2.23	155.86	7 260	F	7 430	6 610
Doctors Point	5.5	2.37	150.84	7 540	S	7 770	7 060
Albury	4.3	1.37	148.81	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.91	127.93	7 480	F	7 250	6 930
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.98	116.02	4 890	S	4 880	5 190
Tocumwal	6.4	1.42	105.26	4 630	S	4 640	5 230
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.11	79.66	2 590	R	2 960	4 260
Swan Hill	4.5	0.72	63.64	2 610	F	3 140	4 160
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.86	50.98	3 500	F	4 180	5 220
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.80	42.64	3 430	F	4 200	4 680
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	3 540	F	3 570	3 810
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.88	27.64	3 160	S	3 120	3 200
Rufus Junction	-	2.74	19.67	2 450	R	2 620	3 150
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.23	-	850	F	1 530	2 200
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.49	153.72	63	R	70	110
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.40	145.08	5	S	20	30
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.11	92.53	324	R	290	360
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.46	80.23	220	F	340	340
Edward at Liewah	-	0.82	56.20	381	F	520	1 040
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.38	54.87	316	R	310	290
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.45	56.41	185	S	200	200
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.18	-	23	S	60	40
Darling at Bourke	-	2.82	-	-	F	-	-
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.66	-	18	S	10	20

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	1 490	-1 120
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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	-0.08	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.11	+0.44
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.01	-0.01
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.03	+0.07
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.04	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.23
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.24	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+0.07
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	-0.01	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.00	+0.01
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.01	+0.15	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	-0.02	-0.52

<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	-2.62	0.67	70.02	366
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-3.48	0.17	61.47	287



**Lower Lakes**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.25

**Barrages**

**Fishways @ Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.28	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.28	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.27	All closed	Closed	Closed

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