

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 22 October 2008

*Our Ref : M2008/00001/prs, AS
Trim Ref : 08/11197*

24 October, 2008



Rainfall and Inflows

There was virtually no rain recorded across the southern half of the Basin during the past week (see Figure 1). In the north-east of the Basin, most areas received light falls of 0 – 15 mm, with some isolated falls of up to 50 mm.

To date, the month of October has been very dry in the southern half of the Basin, and this has resulted in Murray system inflows steadily receding. As an example, Figure 2 shows the recent rainfall and streamflow response in the Ovens River. Without further rain, streamflows may again recede towards record low levels over the coming months.

Total MDBC active storage decreased by 15 GL to 1970 GL (or 23 % capacity).

River Operations

The release from Hume Dam has been increased from 5 100 to 5 700 ML/day to target a flow at Doctors Point (near Albury) of 6 800 ML/day. The release from Dartmouth Dam remains at the minimum flow of 200 ML/day.

The water level in Lake Mulwala is steady at about 124.7 m AHD (or 20 cm below Full Supply Level), and the release from Yarrawonga Weir has been increased from 4 300 to 5 000 ML/day to meet the increased demand downstream. Further downstream, the Torrumbarry Weir pool is steady at Full Supply Level (86.05 m AHD) and the release is also steady at 3 100 ML/day.

The water being delivered by NSW to the Wakool River system is slowly moving downstream, but could still take a few more weeks before it arrives at the end of the system. The first flush of water that flows into the Murray will be closely monitored for any rises in salinity.

Release from Menindee Lakes is steady at about 4 000 ML/day and the flow along the lower Darling is supplying the bulk of the water passing Wentworth Weir on the Murray. The salinity at Wentworth Weir has increased from 180 to 250 EC but is not expected to exceed 300 EC. Storage in Lake Victoria is steady at about 260 GL (or 39 % capacity)

The flow to South Australia has been increased from 3 600 to 3 800 ML/day in response to higher demand and transmission losses. The increased flow should help maintain the weir pools of Locks 1 to 6 close to their Full Supply Levels. The water level in Lake Alexandrina is -0.3 m AHD and is now gradually falling as evaporative losses increase.

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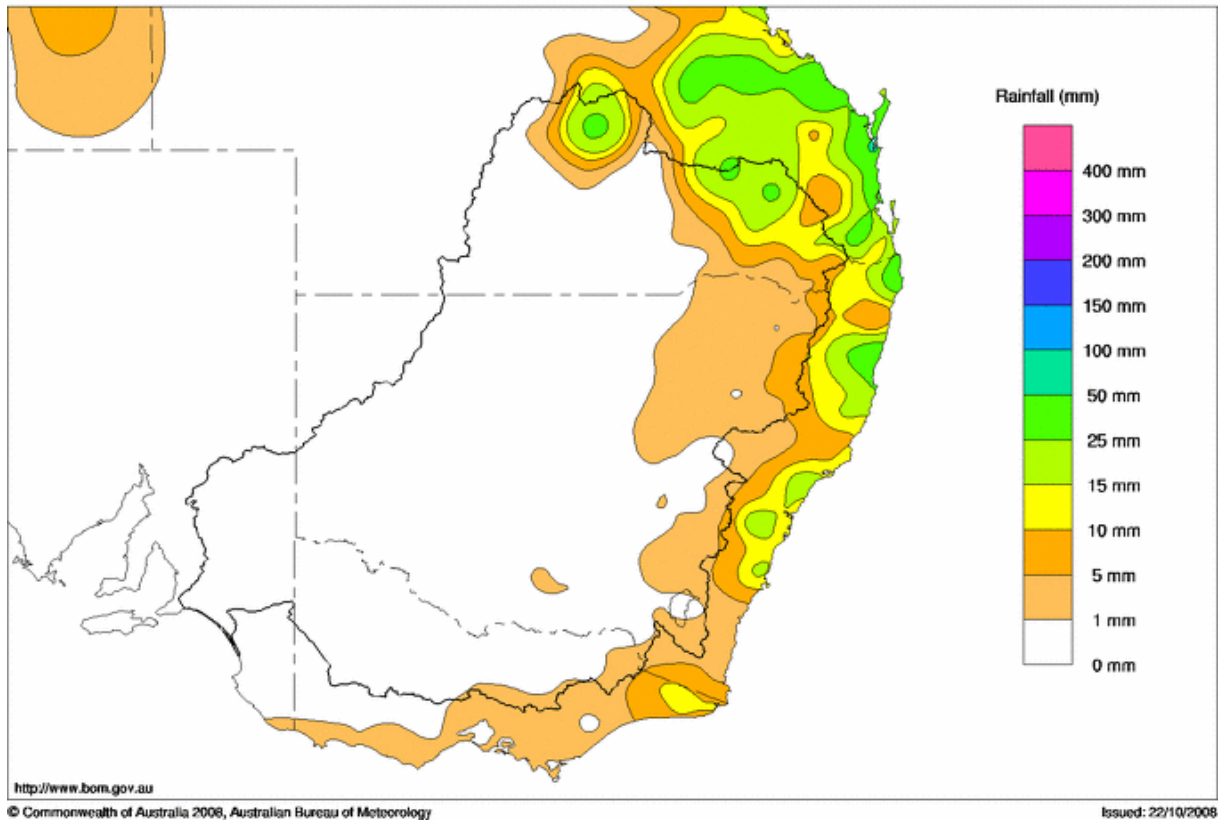


Figure 1

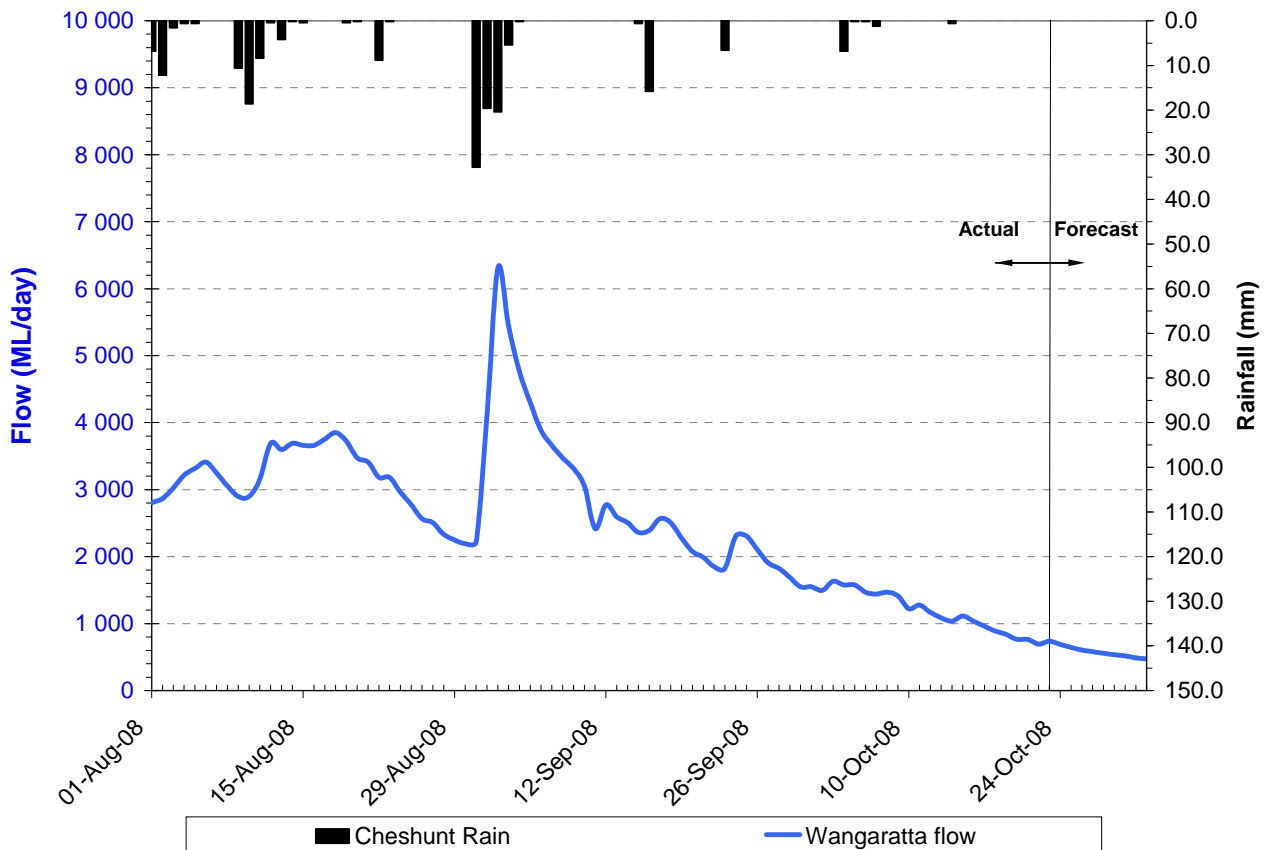


Figure 2

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	418.54	864	22%	80	784	+6
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	179.06	1 050	35%	30	1 020	-13
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.17	263	39%	100	163	-3
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		387	22%	(- -) #	0	-32
Total		9 352		2 565	27%	--	1 967	-41

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **23%**

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	494	48%	3	491	-8
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	759	47%	24	735	-20
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	773	23%	100	673	-8

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 21-Oct-2008

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2008
Lake Eucumbene - Total	630	+15	Snowy-Murray	+5	328
Snowy-Murray Component	336	+5	Tooma-Tumut	+0	150
Target Storage	1 400		Nett Diversion	4.8	178
			Murray 1 Release	+14	493

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2008
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	3.0	41.6
Wakool System loss	6.6	8.5
Western Murray Irrig.	0.6	3.3
Licensed Pumps	2.3	16.2
Lower Darling	0.3	1.8
TOTAL	12.8	71.5

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2008
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	3.7	29
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	4.5	36
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.9	17
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	2
Licensed pumps - LMW	0.0	2
TOTAL	11.2	86

* Figures derived from Estimates and Monthly Data. Please note that not all data may have been available at the time of creating this report.

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	170 *	(3 600 ML/day)
Flow this week	25.5	
Flow so far this month	77	
Flow last month	77	

* Reduced to approx. 107 GL during October drought contingency operations

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2008
Swan Hill	60	70	80
Euston	80	80	80
Red Cliffs	130	130	130
Merbein	120	120	130
Burtundy (Darling)	360	360	380
Lock 9	170	150	180
Lake Victoria	240	240	240
Berri	320	340	410
Waikerie	-	550	530
Morgan	600	610	550
Mannum	560	560	520
Murray Bridge	550	530	540
Milang (Lake Alex.)	4 610	4 080	3 630
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	3 450	3 470	3 180
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	5 310	5 270	5 080
Goolwa Barrages	17 990	16 360	17 120



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	-	-	-	2 070	F	2 590	2 310
Jingellic	4.0	1.55	208.07	3 520	F	3 890	4 050
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.34	218.23	390	S	390	480
Heywoods	5.5	2.11	155.74	6 090	R	5 560	4 730
Doctors Point	5.5	2.30	150.77	6 830	R	6 420	6 120
Albury	4.3	1.27	148.71	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.60	127.62	5 650	F	5 530	5 350
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.97	116.01	4 980	R	4 540	4 280
Tocumwal	6.4	1.31	105.15	4 550	F	4 460	4 300
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.22	79.77	3 090	R	3 060	3 030
Swan Hill	4.5	0.71	63.63	2 790	R	2 700	2 940
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.59	50.71	2 800	S	2 910	3 140
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.45	42.29	2 170	F	2 510	2 730
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 320	F	1 730	1 560
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.84	27.60	3 890	F	4 100	2 720
Rufus Junction	-	2.92	19.85	3 220	R	3 150	3 020
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.14	-	1 300	F	1 690	1 890
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.08	154.31	668	F	810	1 440
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.93	145.61	692	F	850	1 190
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.04	92.46	240	S	260	250
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.81	80.58	540	F	480	320
Edward at Liewah	-	0.76	56.14	321	F	370	430
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.74	54.23	0	F	0	0
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.30	56.26	101	R	100	110
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.07	-	-	F	-	0
Darling at Bourke	-	4.02	-	85	S	100	170
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	2.15	-	3 520	F	3 490	2 530

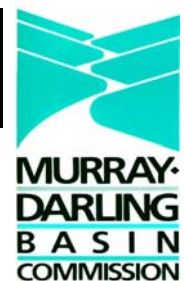
Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	4 070	6 040
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Weirs and Locks

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	-0.22	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.12	+0.61
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.03	-0.04
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.03	+0.03
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.00	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.05	+0.30
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.20	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.04	+0.08
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.03	-0.04	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.04	+0.09
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.01	-0.07	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	-0.89

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-2.03	0.865	70.215	532
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.68	0.026	61.326	173.33



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

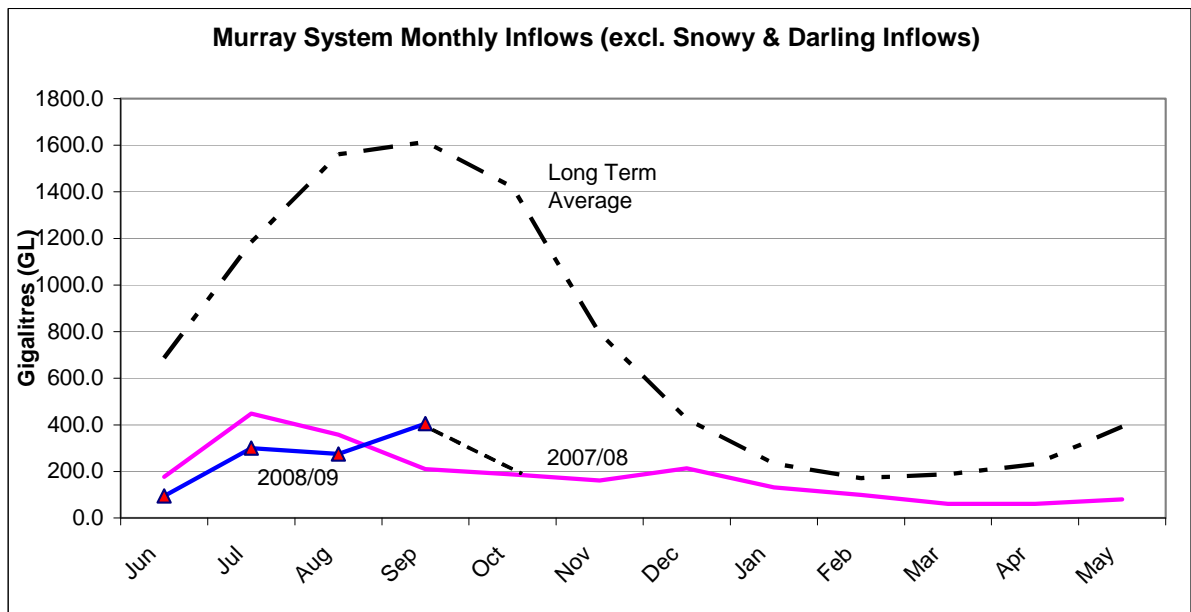
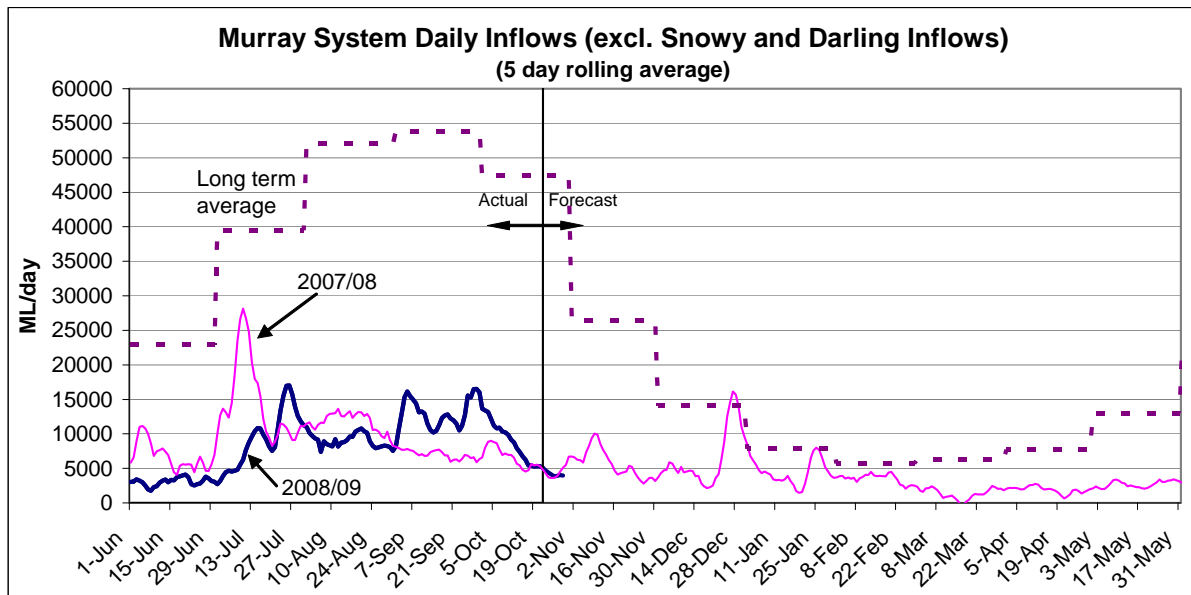
	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.31

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	-0.14	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-0.30	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	-	All closed	Closed	Closed

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



State Allocations (as at 8th October 2008)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	95%
General security	2%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	9%

NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	20%

Victoria - Murray Valley

high reliability	17%
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Victoria - Goulburn Valley

high reliability	12%
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South Australia - Murray Valley

irrigation allocation (on 1st Nov)	15%
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NSW : http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/mediarelnr/mr_toc_currnr.html

VIC : <http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp>

SA : <http://www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/media.html>