REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 30 July 2008

Our Ref : M2008/00001/prs, AS **1 August, 2008**
Trim Ref : *08/6901*

Rainfall and inflows

Over the past week the best falls of rain were received in the north of the Basin, with 25 to 50 mm recorded across the Darling Downs in southern Queensland (see Map). Only light falls (up to 15mm) were recorded in the southern half of the Basin. Streamflows in the upper Murray catchments continue to slowly recede after the good falls of rain earlier in July. After peaking at 9 000 ML/day on 23 July, the flow at Wangaratta on the Ovens River has now receded to 3 300 ML/day.

Murray system inflows for July were about 300 GL. This is higher than the record low of 135 GL in 2006, but still well below the July long term average of 1 200 GL. Total MDBC active storage (excluding Menindee Lakes) is 1 480 GL (or 17%) which is similar to this time last year (1 380 GL) but well below the July long term average of 6 300 GL. A further 530 GL is stored in Menindee Lakes (which remains under NSW control).

River Operations

Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir is 730 GL (19% of capacity) after increasing by only 10 GL this week. Storage in Hume Reservoir increased by 50 GL and is now 640 GL (21%). Release from Hume Reservoir remains at 400 ML/day with the flow at Doctors Point averaging 1 800 ML/day.

During July, the increased flows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers partially refilled Lake Mulwala and the water level is now 124.4 m AHD (or 0.5 m below Full Supply Level). During the coming week the water level is expected to remain fairly steady at about 124.5 m AHD (0.4 m below FSL), unless there is significant rain. Maintaining the water level slightly below Full Supply Level provides 'airspace' for capturing and re-regulating any peak flows from the Ovens and Kiewa Rivers. This will help maximise water availability across the Murray system. During the past week release from Yarrawonga Weir was increased from 1 800 to 2 200 ML/day, and further small increases might occur during the coming week.

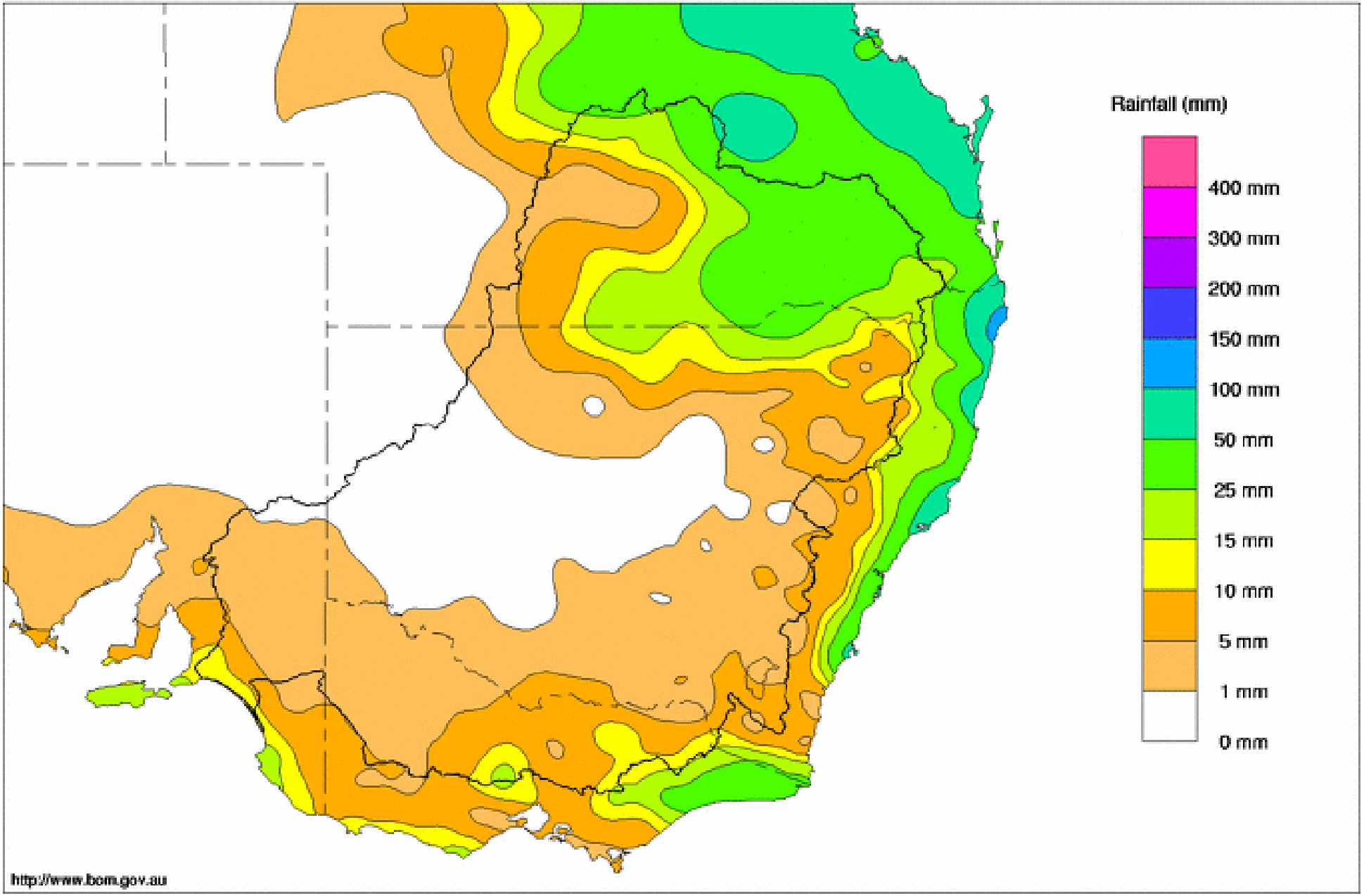
Torrumbarry Weir pool remains steady at 85.85 m AHD (20 cm below FSL) while Euston, Mildura and Wentworth Weirs are all close to their Full Supply Levels. The flow through the mid-Murray and Sunraysia district remains extremely low for this time of year. At Euston for instance, the average July flow was only 2 500 ML/day which is significantly lower than the previous minimum July average of 4 400 ML/day in July 1984.

The higher salinity water originating from the Mildura Weir pool drawdown continues to be diverted into Lake Victoria for dilution. This operation should be completed during the coming week. Storage in Lake Victoria increased by 8 GL to 315 GL (47% of capacity). The target flow to South Australia is 1 450 ML/day and the flow past Lock 1 averaged 1 500 ML/day. During winter the water level in Lake Alexandrina has been very slowly rising from the record minimum of -0.5 m AHD in autumn 2008, and is currently at -0.35 m AHD. The rise is due to lower evaporative losses, local rainfall and the small flow being maintained at Lock 1.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 30th July 2008

Product of the National Climate Centre



Issued: 30/07/2008

Week ending Wednesday 30 Jul 2008

Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage (GL)	Current Storage %	Dead Storage (GL)	MDBC Active Storage (GL)	Change in Storage for the week (GL)
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	413.15	731	19%	80	651	+10
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	174.99	644	21%	30	614	+52
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.71	315	47%	100	215	+8
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		528	31%	(- -) #	0	-3
Total		**9 352**		**2 218**	**24%**	**- -**	**1 480**	**+67**

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL % of Total Active MDBC Storage = **17%**

\# 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		446	43%	3	443	+5
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		714	44%	24	690	+37
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		593	17%	100	493	+30

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 29-Jul-2008

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2008
Lake Eucumbene - Total	169	-1	Snowy-Murray	+23	227
Snowy-Murray Component	168	-16	Tooma-Tumut	+6	58
Target Storage	1 170		Nett Diversion	17.0	170
			Murray 1 Release	+25	268

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2008
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	5.4	6.5
Wakool System loss	0.0	.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	.1
Licensed Pumps	0.4	1.6
Lower Darling	0.0	.1
TOTAL	**5.9**	**8.4**

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2008
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	.0	
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.0	1 *
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	1
Licensed pumps - LMW	0.3	1
TOTAL	**0.3**	3 *

* please note that these values do not include Millewa pumping figures.

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	109 *	
Flow this week	7.7	(1 100 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	39	
Flow last month	57	

* Reduced to approx. 45 GL during July drought contingency operations

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2007
Swan Hill	80	80	80
Euston	80	80	110
Red Cliffs	-	-	130
Merbein	140	140	160
Burtundy (Darling)	330	340	810
Lock 9	280	230	160
Lake Victoria	240	260	200
Berri	420	420	350
Waikerie	-	-	510
Morgan	450	460	530
Mannum	610	560	640
Murray Bridge	530	560	680
Milang (Lake Alex.)	4 010	3 540	3 070
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	2 910	3 160	2 660
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	4 790	4 890	3 540
Goolwa Barrages	21 040	21 100	21 040

MURRAY-DARLING BASIN COMMISSION

River Levels and Flows

River Murray	Minor Flood stage (m)	Gauge height local (m)	Gauge height (m AHD)	Flow (ML/day)	Trend	Average flow this week (ML/day)	Average flow last week (ML/day)
Khancoban	-	-	-	3 600	F	4 440	3 790
Jingellic	4.0	1.92	208.44	6 600	S	6 640	5 410
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.47	218.36	750	F	880	1 050
Heywoods	5.5	1.11	154.74	430	S	430	430
Doctors Point	5.5	1.62	150.09	1 780	R	1 780	1 700
Albury	4.3	0.76	148.20	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.55	126.57	1 420	F	1 810	1 350
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.42	115.46	2 210	S	1 930	1 810
Tocumwal	6.4	0.74	104.58	1 900	R	1 880	1 890
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	0.96	79.51	2 210	R	2 060	2 110
Swan Hill	4.5	0.57	63.49	1 930	S	1 960	2 010
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.34	50.46	2 030	F	2 100	2 180
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.49	42.34	2 330	R	2 370	2 420
Mildura Weir (d/s)		-	-	2 040	F	2 030	2 080
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.91	27.67	1 790	S	1 790	1 870
Rufus Junction	-	2.33	19.26	940	F	960	1 030
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.43	-	1 410	F	1 510	1 600
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.69	154.92	1 690	R	1 700	1 550
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.87	146.55	3 348	F	4 920	4 560
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.20	92.62	485	F	440	400
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.30	80.07	100	S	100	100
Edward at Liewah	-	0.34	55.72	133	S	130	160
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.89	54.38	0	S	0	0
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.30	56.26	101	R	90	190
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.20	-	44	S	30	10
Darling at Bourke	-	4.00	-	67	S	60	60
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.72	-	75	S	80	80

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	6 770	6 480

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
Yarrawonga	124.90	-0.51	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.16	+0.01
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.20	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.15	-0.08
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.03	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.01	+0.05
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.01	+0.01	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.11
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.27	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.01	+0.20
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.15	+0.11	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.11	+0.22
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.11	-0.16	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.17	-1.18

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. local (m)	d/s gauge ht. (m AHD)	Flow (ML/day)
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-3.86	0.474	69.824	152
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-5.24	-0.032	61.268	134.892

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

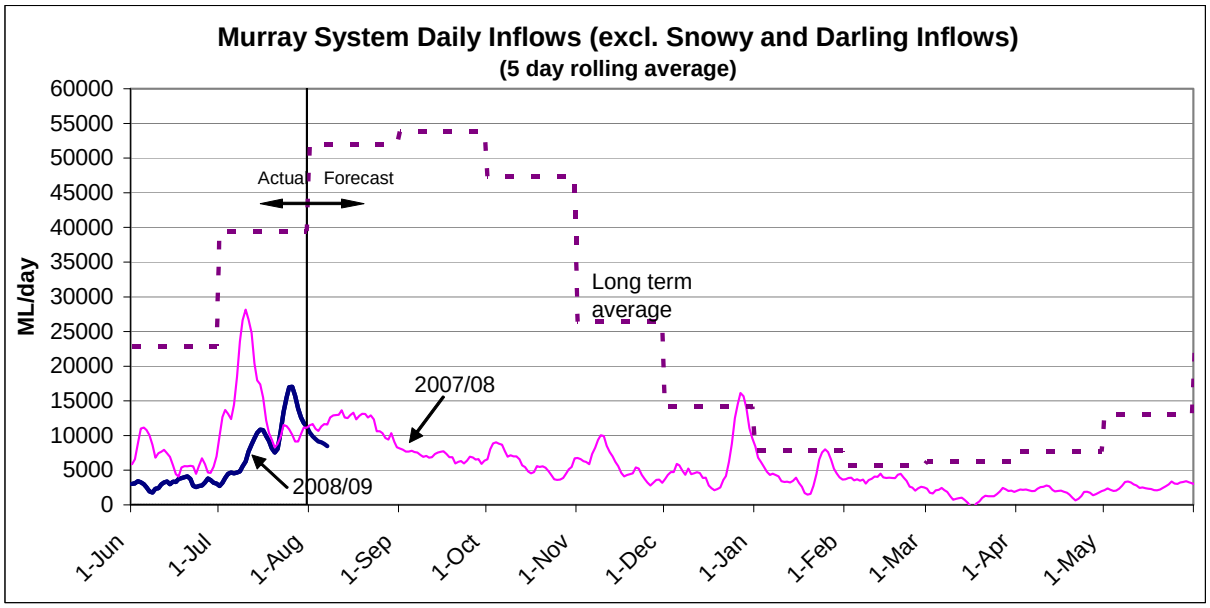
	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.38

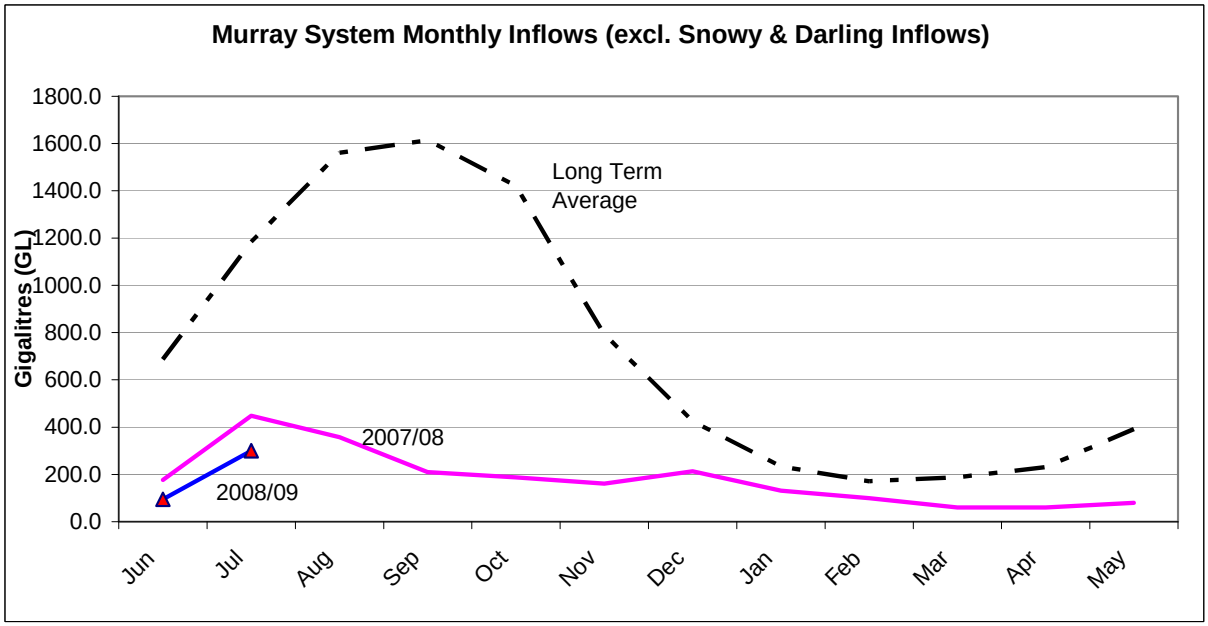
Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertcal Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	-0.27	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-0.32	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 30th July 2008)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	0%
General security	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	0%
General security	0%

NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	0%

Victoria - Murray Valley

high reliability	0%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

high reliability	0%

South Australia - Murray Valley

irrigation allocation	2%

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NSW : http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/water/state_mm_murr_water_quality.shtml#alloc
VIC : http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp
SA : http://www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/media.html