



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 15TH MAY 2013

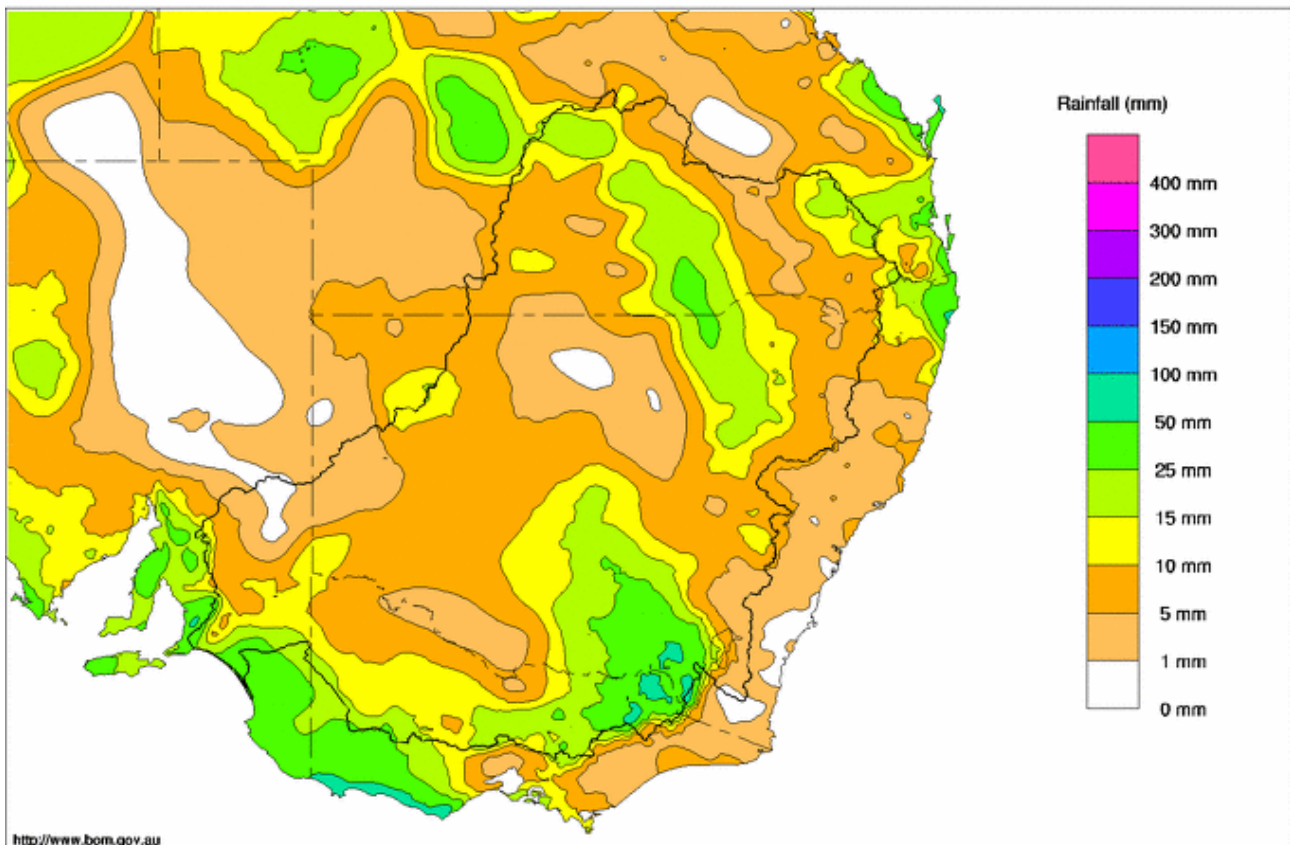
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Rainfall and Inflows

After a spell of unseasonably warm weather across the Murray-Darling Basin, conditions cooled across southern areas in the wake of a cold front. The system also brought rain to parts of the northern and southern Basin with continuing showers and alpine snow in the south-east. The bulk of the rain fell in an arc across the NSW south-west slopes, and through north-east Victoria with highest totals over the ranges. Reasonable totals were also recorded along a band covering the north-western slopes of NSW and south central Queensland (Map 1).

Highest totals in Victoria included 89 mm at Rocky Valley, 73 mm at Hunters Hill, 65 mm at Mt Buffalo, 56 mm at Mt Hotham and 42 mm at Mt William. In NSW there was 69 mm at Batlow, 51 mm at Mungindi, 43 mm at Tumut, 37 mm at Wagga and 31 mm at Mogil Mogil. There were also falls up to 35 mm in Queensland; and at the Lower Lakes in South Australia there was 47 mm at Meningie.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 15th May 2013
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 15 May 2013 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).

Stream flow responses were modest following the rain, and with catchments mostly drying out during the last few months, further rain over the coming weeks will be necessary before any substantial flow increases begin. On the upper River Murray, the flow at Biggara increased from 500 ML/day to a peak of 1,300 ML/day before receding to 850 ML/day. On the Kiewa River, the flow at Mongans Bridge increased to 800 ML/day; while at Rocky Point, the Ovens River is currently flowing at around 850 ML after starting the week at 350 ML/day.



River Operations

MDBA active storage increased by 42 GL during the week to 5,840 GL (68% capacity).

At Dartmouth Reservoir, the storage volume increased by 1 GL to 3,573 GL (93% capacity). The flow at the Colemans gauge varied during the week between 350 ML/day and 3,000 ML/day due to entitlement releases by AGL Hydro for electricity generation. The current flow is 350 ML/day.

At Hume Reservoir, the storage volume increased by 19 GL to 1,348 GL (45% capacity). Releases reduced to 700 ML/day during the week and are likely to remain around the seasonal minimum of 600 ML/day over the coming weeks.

At Yarrawonga Weir, the pool level is currently 124.79 m AHD and rising. Diversions through Mulwala Canal and Yarrawonga Main Channel ceased this week. The release was decreased to the minimum rate of 1,800 ML/day during the week; however releases between 2,000 and 3,000 ML/day are expected in the coming days to maintain the pool level as higher tributary inflows arrive.

Flow into the Edward River system via the Edward River and Gulpa Creek offtakes reduced to about 400 ML/day. Inflows from the Edward Escape increased to around 1,500 ML/day at the end of the week as Murray Irrigation Limited commenced draining its irrigation system. At Stevens Weir the pool level is currently 4.43 m on the local gauge and falling. The release remains close to 600 ML/day but is expected to be increased slightly during the coming week. Downstream on the Wakool River, the flow at Stoney Crossing is holding fairly steady at around 340 ML/day.

On the Goulburn River, the flow at McCoys Bridge has been fairly steady at around 950 ML/day. Flows are expected to fall away slightly later in the coming week. At Torrumbarry Weir the flow reduced as expected during the week and is currently around 1,800 ML/day. Diversions at National Channel were ceased on 15 May and this should result in a temporary rise in flows downstream of Torrumbarry to above 4,000 ML/day during the next few days before receding again.

Downstream at Barham, the flow has also receded to 2,200 ML/day; while at Euston the flow is currently 4,700 ML/day, although lower flows are expected this week.

At the Menindee Lakes, the inflow recession has slowed, with average inflow for this week calculated at around 4,000 ML/day. Total storage decreased by 15 GL during the week with a current total volume of 1,253 GL (72% capacity). The release, measured at Weir 32, continues to decrease and is currently 4,000 ML/day. Downstream at Burtundy, the flow has fallen away to around 5,700 ML/day.

At Wentworth Weir, the Murray peaked at around 12,100 ML/day on 11 May and has now receded to 10,700 ML/day. A flow below 9,000 ML/day is expected by early June.

Storage in Lake Victoria has increased to 340 GL (50% capacity) and the flow into South Australia is currently 5,000 ML/day. The flow is expected to remain in the vicinity of 5,000 ML/day for the remainder of May.

At the Lower Lakes, the five-day average water level for Lake Alexandrina fell slightly to 0.60 m AHD. However the level is likely to rise a little in the coming week as high tides have forced the closure of most barrage gates with similar conditions expected for the coming week.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Management



Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 15 May 2013

MDBA Storages	Full Supply Level	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	Active Storage (GL)	Change in Total Storage for the Week (GL)
	(m AHD)			(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 856	481.58	3 573	93%	71	3 502	+1
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	181.78	1 348	45%	23	1 325	+19
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.96	340	50%	100	240	+37
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 253	72%	(480 #)	773	-15
Total		9 269		6 514	70%	--	5 840	+42
Total Active MDBA Storage							68% ^	

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	390	38%	3	387	+1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 006	62%	24	982	+11
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	2 278	68%	100	2 178	-19

* Menindee surcharge capacity – 2050 GL

** All Data is rounded to nearest GL **

NSW takes control of Menindee Lakes when storage falls below 480 GL, and control reverts to MDBA when storage next reaches 640 GL

^ % of total active MDBA storage

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 14 May 2013

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2013
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 721	-26	Snowy-Murray	+23	50
Snowy-Murray Component	606	-18	Tooma-Tumut	+4	6
Target Storage	1 290		Net Diversion	19	45
			Murray 1 Release	+24	53

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This Week	From 1 July 2012	Victoria	This Week	From 1 July 2012
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	8.8	1517	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	6.6	392
Wakool Sys Allowance	1.6	76	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0	566
Western Murray Irrigation	0.2	29	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.9	125
Licensed Pumps	3.0	265	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1	71
Lower Darling	2.1	99	Licensed pumps - LMW	4.6	292
TOTAL	15.7	1986	TOTAL	13.1	1446

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

** All data above is rounded to nearest 100 ML for weekly data and nearest GL for cumulative data**

Flow to South Australia (GL)

* Flow to SA will be greater than normal entitlement for this month due to traded environmental water.

Entitlement this month	93.0 *
Flow this week	36.4
Flow so far this month	77.9
Flow last month	219.2

(5 200 ML/day)

Salinity (EC) (microSiemens/cm at 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2012
Swan Hill	110	110	100
Euston	120	120	120
Red Cliffs	160	160	140
Merbein	170	170	160
Burtundy (Darling)	490	470	470
Lock 9	300	310	260
Lake Victoria	370	340	270
Berri	460	450	320
Waikerie	500	480	340
Morgan	470	460	340
Mannum	460	460	350
Murray Bridge	-	- 690	350
Milang (Lake Alex.)	580	580	450
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	520	530	370
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	3 130	3 160	3 440
Goolwa Barrages	6 930	2 580	1 600



River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 15 May 2013

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	-	-	-	9 400	R	4 160	3 310
Jingellic	4.0	2.22	208.74	9 280	R	5 200	4 690
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.63	218.52	1 000	F	1 470	490
Heywoods	5.5	1.37	155.00	730	F	3 390	6 750
Doctors Point	5.5	1.59	150.06	1 770	F	3 870	7 150
Albury	4.3	0.71	148.15	-	-	-	-
Corowa	3.8	1.18	127.20	3 990	F	5 410	9 010
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.31	115.35	1 820	R	2 630	5 590
Tocumwal	6.4	0.99	104.83	2400	F	3 410	6 220
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	0.89	79.44	1800	F	2 500	4 100
Swan Hill	4.5	0.72	63.64	2 610	F	3 360	3 590
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.04	51.16	4 360	F	4 630	4 710
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.05	42.89	4 740	S	4 480	4 530
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	4 580	F	4 530	4 560
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.16	27.92	10 670	F	11 500	12 170
Rufus Junction	-	3.12	20.05	4 220	F	4 330	4 310
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.71	-	4 770	R	4 370	4 520
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.31	154.54	990	R	450	440
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.06	145.74	850	R	620	570
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.56	92.98	980	R	930	900
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.84	80.61	600	F	510	440
Edward at Liewah	-	1.12	56.50	560	R	500	590
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.38	54.87	340	S	330	360
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.65	56.61	300	F	310	330
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.31	-	310	F	350	470
Darling at Bourke	-	4.28	-	1 280	S	1 370	1 790
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	3.48	-	5 660	F	6 520	7 390

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	1 470	2 230
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Weirs and Locks Pool levels above or below Full Supply Level (FSL)

Murray	FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.11	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.13	+0.86
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.02	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.00	+0.06
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.00	+0.17
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.03	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.05	+0.62
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.52	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.01	+0.20
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.08	+0.14	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.02	+0.21
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.13	+0.21	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.03	-0.04

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.60
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Barrages

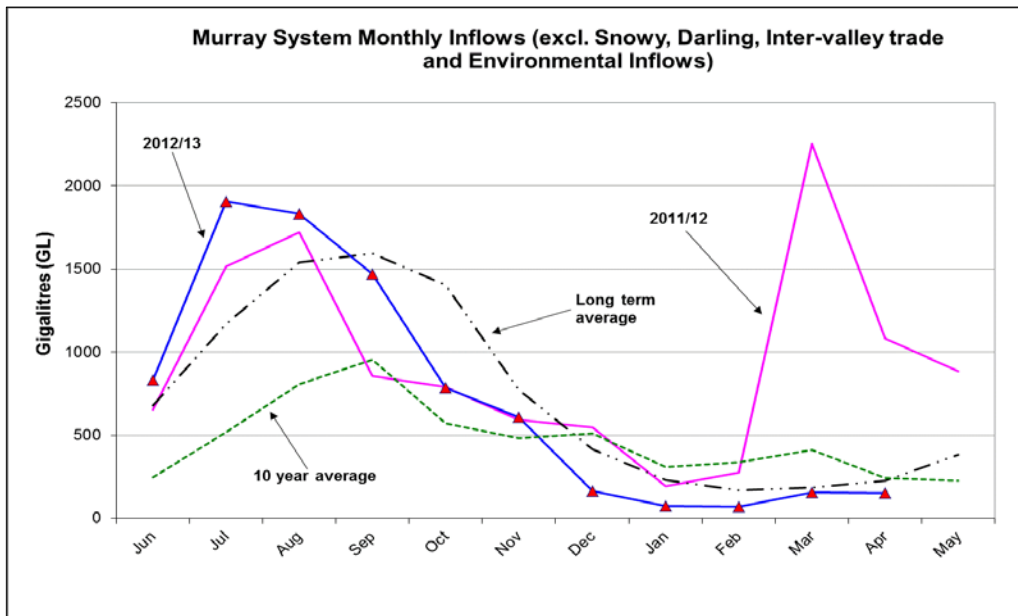
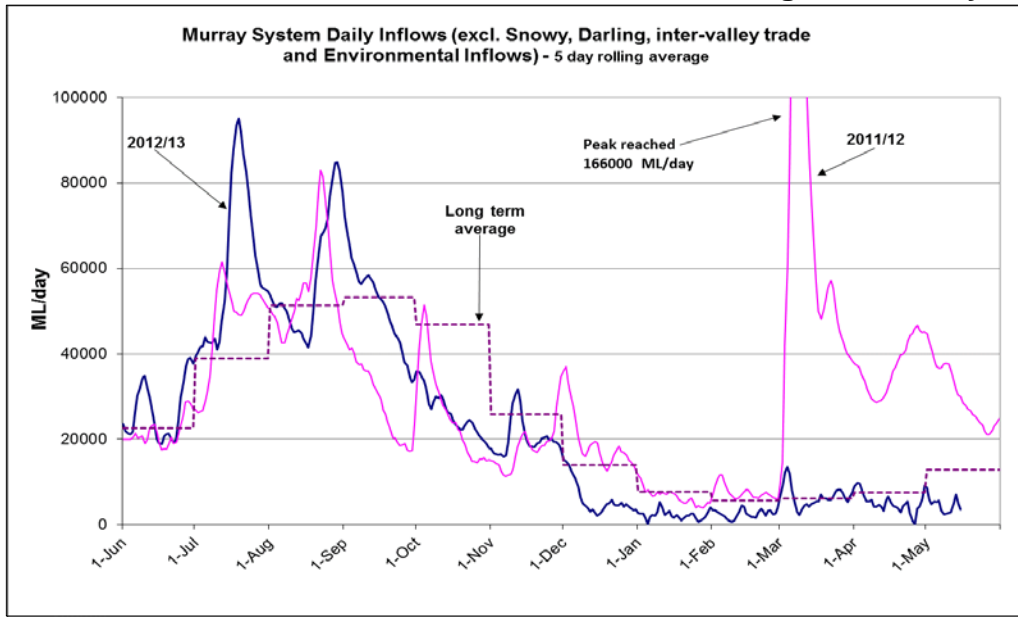
Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.57	All closed	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.57	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	0.1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.59	2	Open	Open

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



Week ending Wednesday 15 May 2013



State Allocations (as at 15 May 2013)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victorian - Murray Valley

High reliability	100%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victorian - Goulburn Valley

High reliability	100%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	100%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	100%
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NSW : <http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/About-us/Media-releases/media/default.aspx>
 VIC : <http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp>
 SA : <http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au/category/news/>