



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2013

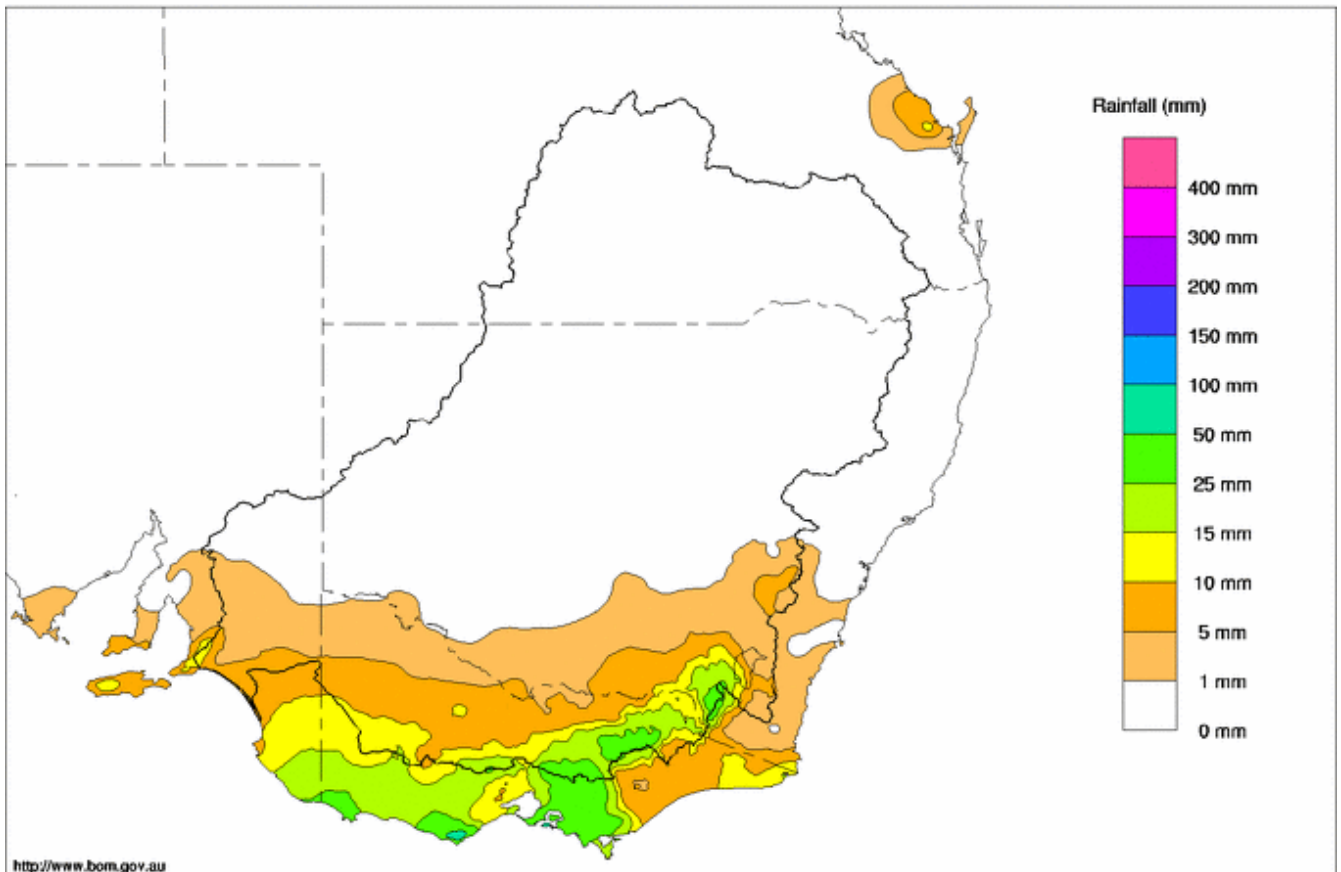
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Rainfall and Inflows

It was considerably drier across the Basin this week with rainfall confined to the south (Map 1). Earlier in the week a weakening low pressure system over the southeastern coast and a cold front moving across the Bight brought rain to southeast South Australia, Victoria and southern New South Wales. This was followed by a number of cold fronts that moved across the Bight to produce further light falls during the week.

Highest precipitation totals for the week were recorded along the southern divide. In Victoria, totals included 60 mm at Rocky Valley, 59 mm at Mt Buller, 39 mm at Mt Buffalo, 31 mm at Mt Wombat and 27 mm at Gibbo Park. In New South Wales there was 42 mm recorded at Cabramurra, 32 mm at Thredbo, and 15 mm at Khancoban, Batlow and Tooma.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 25th September 2013
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 25 September 2013 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).

Streamflows along the upper Murray system tributaries mostly receded this week following last week's wet conditions. Upstream of Dartmouth Reservoir, the flow at Hinnomunjie Bridge fell from 3,200 to 2,000 ML/day. Upstream of Hume Reservoir, the flow at Biggara also decreased from 3,200 to 2,000 ML/day, while downstream at Jingellic the flow peaked at 20,800 ML/day and is currently 10,600 ML/day. On the Kiewa River at Bandiana, the flow receded from 5,200 to 3,100 ML/day and on the Ovens River, the flow at Wangaratta fell from 8,500 to 6,200 ML/day.



River Operations

MDBA active storage decreased by 16 GL this week to 7,931 GL (92% capacity).

At Dartmouth Reservoir, the storage volume increased by 5 GL to 3,807 GL (99% capacity). The volume in the reservoir is expected to continue to slowly rise towards “effectively full” (about 3,820 GL which provides nearly 40 GL airspace at a level about 60 cm below the spillway crest). The release, measured at Colemans, increased to 4,600 ML/day, but is expected to reduce in the coming week. For the foreseeable future, Dartmouth releases and flows along the lower Mitta Mitta River will continue to depend on rainfall forecasts, inflows and any changes in release to manage the airspace in the reservoir.

At Hume Reservoir, inflows peaked at around 27,000 ML/day following the rain late last week and early this week. The storage volume reached 2,987 GL before reducing to 2,978 GL (99% capacity), an increase of 10 GL from last week. In response to rising inflows, the release was increased early in the week to target a flow of around 25,000 ML/day (nominal channel capacity) at Doctors Point. Due to a forecast of rain to fall early on Thursday 26 September, this release was continued throughout the week in order to increase airspace. However, as at Thursday 26 September, significant rain had not fallen and releases are currently being reduced to maximise water in storage in anticipation of increasing demand. Without further significant rainfall in the coming weeks, releases to supply demands could be expected to draw down the level of Hume Reservoir.

At Yarrawonga, the pool level in Lake Mulwala is currently 124.82 m AHD. Diversions to Mulwala Canal and Yarrawonga Main Channel were relatively low at around 1,000 ML/day earlier in the week but have increased gradually in the last few days (currently 2,300 ML/day). The release downstream was increased to about 30,000 ML/day during the week, but is expected to reduce in the coming days.

Flow through the Edward and Gulpa offtakes is about 2,900 ML/day. At Toonalook, the flow is starting to rise again and is currently 7,100 ML/day, while inflow from Bullatale Creek has increased to 1,100 ML/day. The flow at Liewah is 3,850 ML/day and receding. Downstream on the Wakool River, the flow at Stoney Crossing peaked at 5,400 ML/day and is currently 5,100 ML/day.

On the Goulburn River, the flow at McCoys Bridge peaked at 9,900 ML/day and is expected to continue receding in the coming days. Downstream on the Murray, the flow through Torrumbarry Weir is 22,100 ML/day and close to its peak. At Swan Hill, the flow has been fairly steady averaging 18,800 ML/day and is forecast to remain around this rate for the coming week. On the Murrumbidgee River, the flow at Balranald is steady, averaging 1,330 ML/day.

At Euston Weir, the flow is 26,000 ML/day and is expected to remain around this rate over the coming week. The pool at Euston Weir is 0.24 m above full supply level as the flow through the weir is constrained by ongoing construction works.

On the Darling River, the total storage in Menindee Lakes fell by 28 GL to 1,186 GL (69% capacity). Higher releases continued from Lake Cawndilla, to provide about 50 GL of environmental water to the Darling Anabranch from mid-September to late-November. In response to warmer temperatures the release to the lower Darling River (measured at Weir 32), has been increased slightly to 250 ML/day to help maintain flow further downstream in the lower Darling River.

At Lake Victoria, the storage volume fell by 4 GL to 634 GL (94% capacity). The level is expected to remain fairly steady over the coming week.

The flow to South Australia is currently around 25,000 ML/day. At the Lower Lakes, the 5-day average level at Lake Alexandrina increased 4 cm to 0.74 m AHD. The release through the barrages was around 6,000 ML/day for most of the week.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Management



Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 25 Sep 2013

MDBA Storages	Full Supply Level	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	Active Storage (GL)	Change in Total Storage for the Week (GL)
	(m AHD)		(m AHD)	(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 856	485.25	3 807	99%	71	3 736	+5
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	191.86	2 978	99%	23	2 955	+10
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.65	634	94%	100	534	-4
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 186	69%	(480 #)	706	-28
Total		9 269		8 605	93%	--	7 931	-16
Total Active MDBA Storage							92% ^	

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	687	67%	3	684	+150
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 465	90%	24	1 441	+28
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	3 092	93%	100	2 992	+45

* 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 24 Sep 2013

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2013
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 826	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+4	487
Snowy-Murray Component	692	n/a	Tooma-Tumut	+12	173
Target Storage	1 240		Net Diversion	-8	314
			Murray 1 Release	+20	684

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This Week	From 1 July 2013	Victoria	This Week	From 1 July 2013
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	5.8	155	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0.3	3
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	-1	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	1.7	79
Western Murray Irrigation	0.4	2	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.7	10
Licensed Pumps	3.0	25	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.2	3
Lower Darling	8.2	32	Licensed pumps - LMW	5	29
TOTAL	17.4	213	TOTAL	8.9	124

* 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 the commencement of unregulated flows.

Entitlement this month	135.0 *	
Flow this week	172.6	(24 700 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	459.0	
Flow last month	388.7	

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

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2013
Swan Hill	140	110	110
Euston	80	80	120
Red Cliffs	80	100	130
Merbein	90	90	140
Burtundy (Darling)	470	470	450
Lock 9	110	110	140
Lake Victoria	330	320	310
Berri	240	220	340
Waikerie	200	260	420
Morgan	230	270	440
Mannum	360	410	520
Murray Bridge	420	450	550
Milang (Lake Alex.)	640	650	620
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	460	570	690
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 630	2 610	2 630
Goolwa Barrages	900	970	2 260



River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 25 Sep 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	-	-	-	4 640	F	5 200	5 030
Jingellic	4.0	2.41	208.93	10 600	F	14 690	9 970
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.72	219.61	5 550	F	5 010	3 470
Heywoods	5.5	3.49	157.12	21 100	S	20 710	16 520
Doctors Point	5.5	3.77	152.24	24 290	S	24 420	19 810
Albury	4.3	2.91	150.35	-	-	-	-
Corowa	3.8	4.36	130.38	24 480	S	23 330	19 700
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	3.75	118.79	29 880	S	29 070	23 630
Tocumwal	6.4	4.44	108.28	30 940	S	28 460	22 950
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	5.85	84.40	22 120	R	19 250	18 240
Swan Hill	4.5	3.19	66.11	18 670	S	18 830	18 750
Wakool Junction	8.8	6.43	55.55	25 320	F	25 530	24 190
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	3.96	45.80	25 970	S	25 670	23 930
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.28	29.04	26 120	R	25 770	23 750
Rufus Junction	-	5.59	22.52	23 760	S	23 300	15 690
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	1.57	-	22 240	R	20 230	15 190
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.53	155.76	3 140	F	3 810	3 540
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.82	147.50	6 160	F	7 150	5 060
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	5.25	96.67	9 250	F	6 760	1 260
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	3.99	83.76	6 500	S	6 310	7 090
Edward at Liewah	-	3.74	59.12	3 860	F	4 110	4 290
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	3.19	56.68	5 060	F	5 280	4 680
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.81	57.77	1 360	R	1 330	1 350
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.21	-	130	F	160	220
Darling at Bourke	-	4.12	-	450	S	470	400
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.78	-	220	R	180	170

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	23 310	19 470
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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
Yarrawonga	124.90	-0.08	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.41	+3.24
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	+1.45
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.24	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.01	+1.17
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.01	+1.40	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.02	+2.11
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+1.64	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.04	+1.39
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.17	+1.05	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.05	+1.49
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.46	+1.25	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.82

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.74
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Barrages

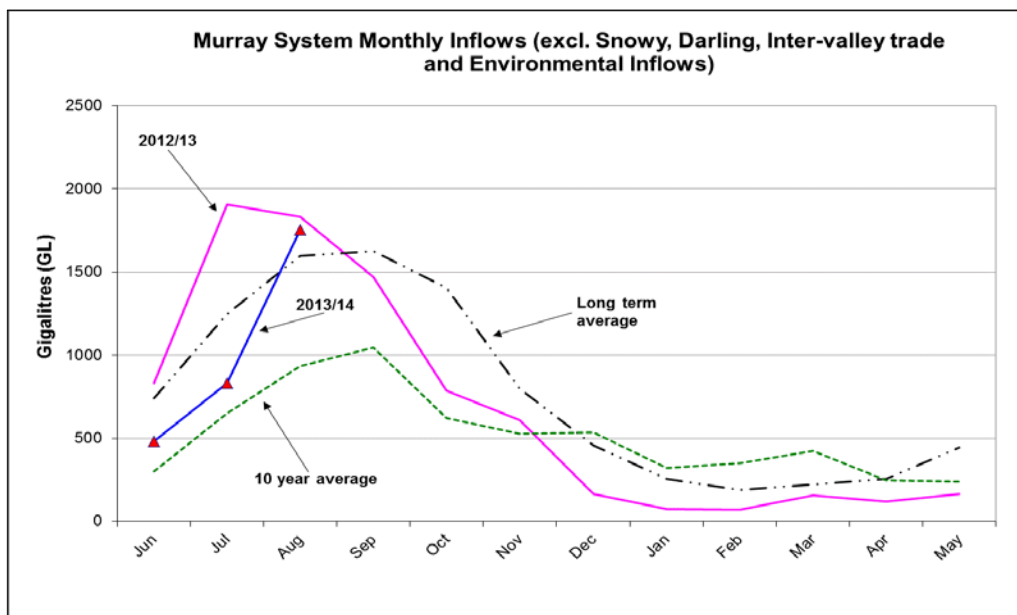
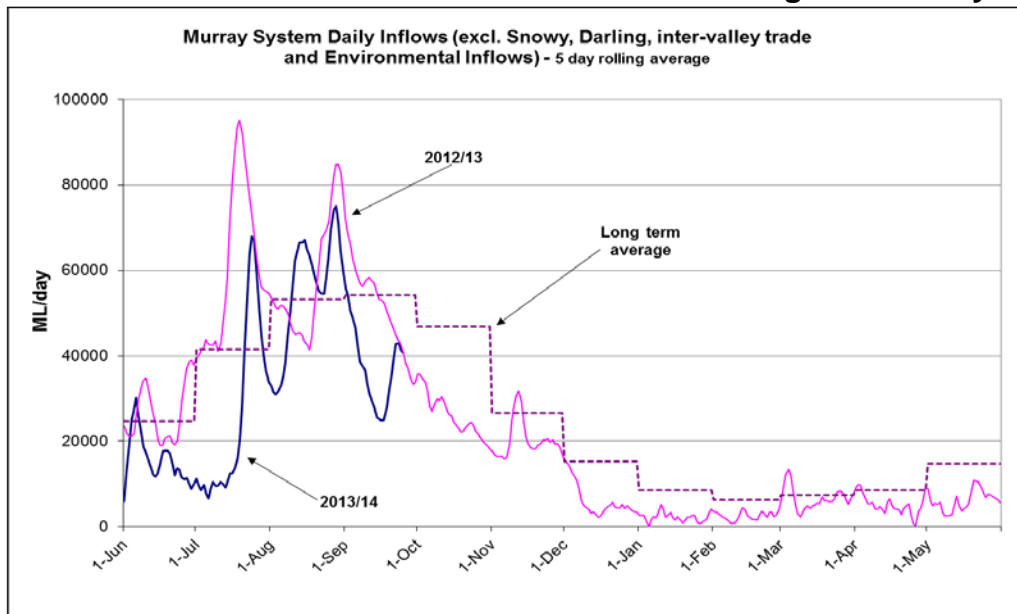
Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.73	10	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.72	2	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	0.1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	5	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.75	20	Open	Open

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



Week ending Wednesday 25 Sep 2013



State Allocations (as at 25 Sep 2013)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	97%
General security	91%

Victorian - Murray Valley

High reliability	100%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	33%

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/Water-management/Water-availability/Water-allocations/Water-allocations-summary/water-allocations-summary/default.aspx>

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

SA : <http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources/river-murray>