



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2009

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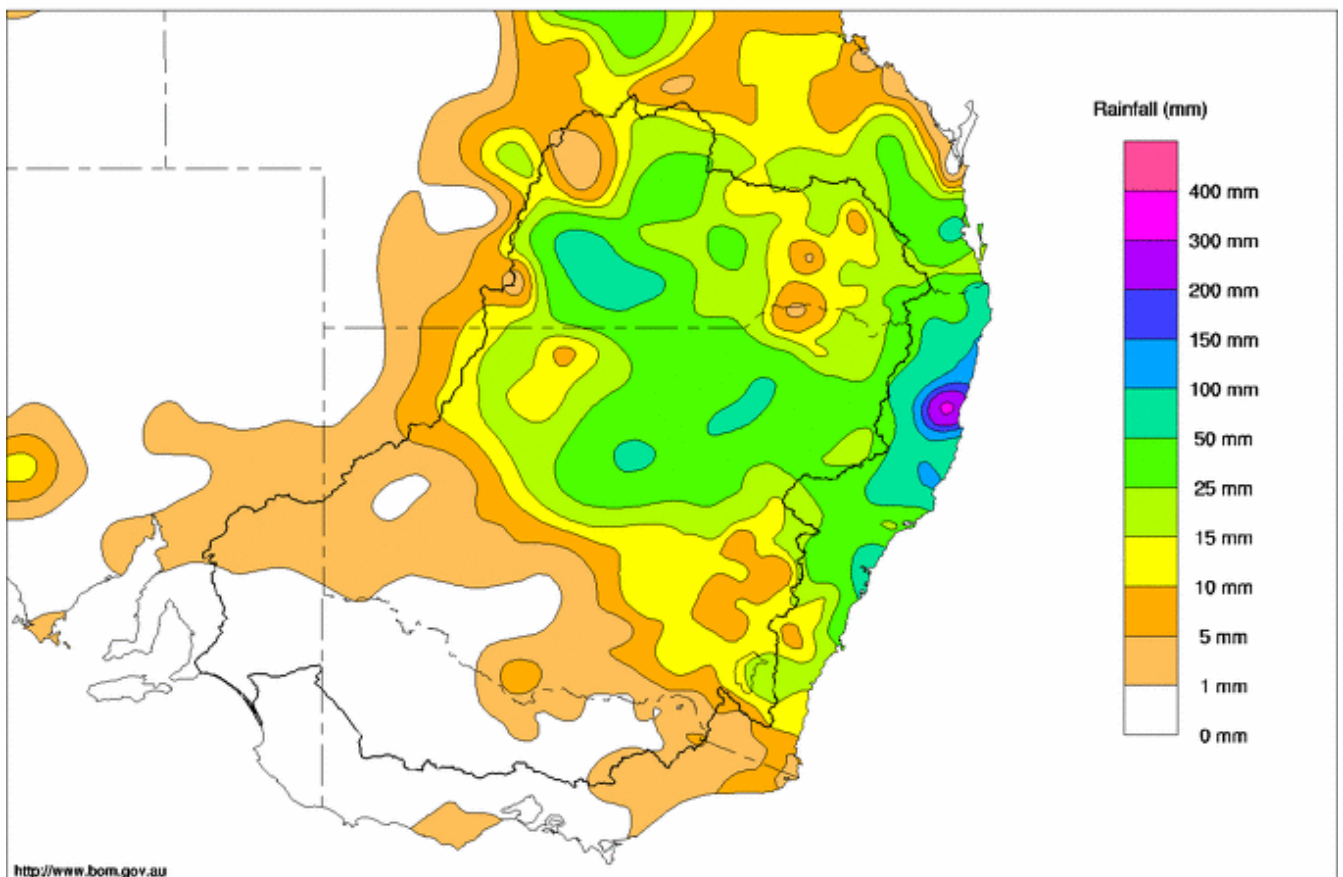
Rainfall and Inflows

The northern Basin has finally received some temporary relief from the dry conditions experienced over the last few months. 15 to 50 mm of rainfall was recorded across much of northern NSW and southern Queensland, with isolated falls of up to 90mm (see Map). However there was no response from streamflows.

The southern Basin was relatively dry, with less than 5 mm recorded in the catchments of the upper Murray and its tributaries. As a result, streamflows have continued to recede. At Hinnomunjie on the upper reaches of the Mitta Mitta River, the flow has now receded from a peak of 4,240 ML/day on 15th October, to 1,300 ML/day. Likewise, at Rocky Point on the Ovens River, the flow has receded from a peak of 8,120 ML/day to 2,310 ML/day.

Murray System inflows for October to date (up to 28th October) are 650 GL and are expected to be about 680 to 700 GL for the whole month. This will be significantly higher than October 2008 (210 GL) but well below the long term average for October of 1,400 GL.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 28th October 2009
Product of the National Climate Centre



<http://www.bom.gov.au>

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River Operations

MDBA active storage increased by 78 GL to 2,558 GL (or 30% capacity), which is higher than this time last year (1,940 GL) but well below the October long term average of 6,530 GL.

Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by 20 GL to 1,176 GL (30% capacity) and the release remains steady at the normal minimum of 200 ML/day. Storage in Hume Reservoir increased by 33 GL to 1,222 GL (40 % capacity). The release has been increased to 6,600 ML/day and is likely to continue increasing during the coming week to about 8,000 ML/day. During the coming week, the storage in Hume Reservoir is likely to peak as a result of receding inflows and increasing releases.

The release from Yarrowonga Weir is steady at 10,000 ML/day and the pool level is 124.74 m AHD (or 16 cm below FSL). At Stevens Weir on the Edward River, the release is currently 870 ML/day and is expected to gradually increase during the coming week. Last week, the NSW Office of Water announced that the improvement in water availability in the NSW Murray valley will ensure that a continuous flow can now be delivered into the Wakool River system. This will provide environmental benefits and will also enable current restrictions on irrigation in these tributaries to be removed. Further information can be obtained from <http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/About-Us/Media-Releases/default.aspx>.

The release from Torrumbarry Weir is currently 3,940 ML/day and should increase during the coming week as the filling of storages in the Torrumbarry Irrigation Area by Goulburn-Murray Water is completed, allowing diversions into National Channel to be reduced.

Further downstream, the release from Euston Weir is 6,400 ML/day and is likely to decrease slightly during the coming week before the forecast higher flows from Torrumbarry Weir start to arrive in about two weeks time.

Storage in Menindee Lakes decreased by 7 GL to 195 GL (or 11% capacity) and the inflow from the Darling River remains at zero. The flow at Weir 32 (downstream of Menindee lakes) has been temporarily increased to 480 ML/day to help maintain a flow along the full length of the lower Darling River.

Storage in Lake Victoria increased by 25 GL to 370 GL (55% capacity) and is expected to remain fairly steady during the coming week. The flow to South Australia has been increased to 3,200 ML/day in response to higher losses and increased diversions for irrigation, and the target flow past Lock 1 is currently 1,200 ML/day. The salinity at Morgan has been gradually increasing, from about 430 EC in July 2009, to 700 EC. This is slightly higher than in October 2008 (600 EC) and similar to October 2007 (700 EC).

The water level in Lake Alexandrina remains steady at about -0.78 m AHD (or 1.53 m below FSL), compared with about -0.30 m AHD in October 2008. The water level in Goolwa Channel (which is currently separated from Lake Alexandrina) is steady at about +0.66 m AHD which is close to the target level of +0.70 m AHD. The water level in Lake Albert decreased slightly during the past week and is currently about -0.31 m AHD.

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DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Murray



Week ending Wednesday 28 Oct 2009

River Levels and Flows

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	-	-	-	5 420	R	4 290	5 770
Jingellic	4.0	1.98	208.50	7 110	R	8 280	12 390
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.57	218.46	810	S	890	1 240
Heywoods	5.5	2.25	155.88	6 630	R	4 680	2 270
Doctors Point	5.5	2.49	150.96	8 980	R	7 070	5 320
Albury	4.3	1.48	148.92	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.78	127.80	7 090	R	6 110	5 350
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.64	116.68	9 960	S	9 960	9 980
Tocumwal	6.4	2.16	106.00	9 580	F	9 730	9 420
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.44	79.99	3 940	F	4 570	5 610
Swan Hill	4.5	0.98	63.90	4 440	S	4 560	7 060
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.30	51.42	5 410	F	6 060	8 520
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.43	43.27	6 400	F	7 730	10 180
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	5 960	F	7 360	7 900
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.96	27.72	5 800	R	6 670	7 280
Rufus Junction	-	2.76	19.69	2 650	F	2 420	2 060
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.56	-	1 210	R	1 200	1 140
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.99	155.22	2 300	R	2 690	4 980
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.83	146.51	3 220	F	4 180	7 920
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.14	92.56	410	F	480	400
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.13	80.90	860	S	930	1 400
Edward at Liewah	-	2.01	57.39	1 350	F	1 400	1 620
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.08	54.57	40	S	40	30
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.30	57.26	850	R	880	950
Barwon at Mungindi	-	2.76	-	0	F	0	0
Darling at Bourke	-	3.73	-	0	F	0	0
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.58	-	0	F	0	20

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme) 13 080 21 630

Weirs and Locks

Pool levels above or below Full Supply Level (FSL)

Murray	FSL (mAHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (mAHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.16	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.03	+0.42
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.07	-0.04
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.09	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.01	+0.07
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.03	+0.18	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.02	+0.30
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.32	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.03	+0.08
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.03	-0.04	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.01	+0.05
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.00	+0.08	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.01	-1.31

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.19	1.37	70.72	1408
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	1.085	62.385	1340

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.78

Barrages

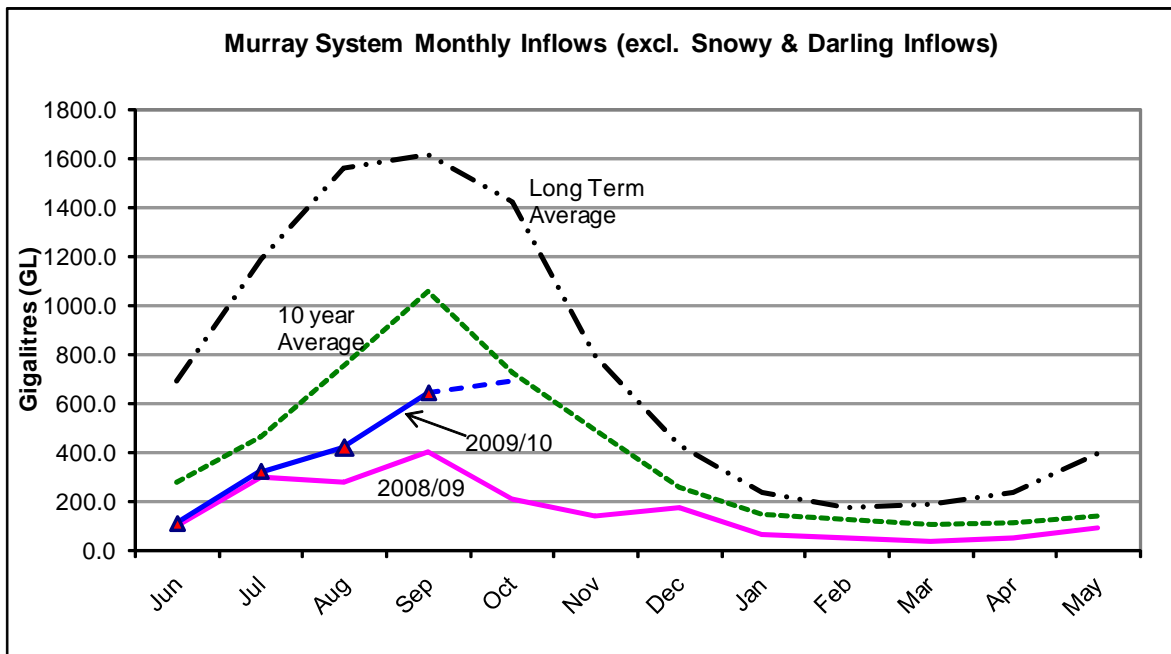
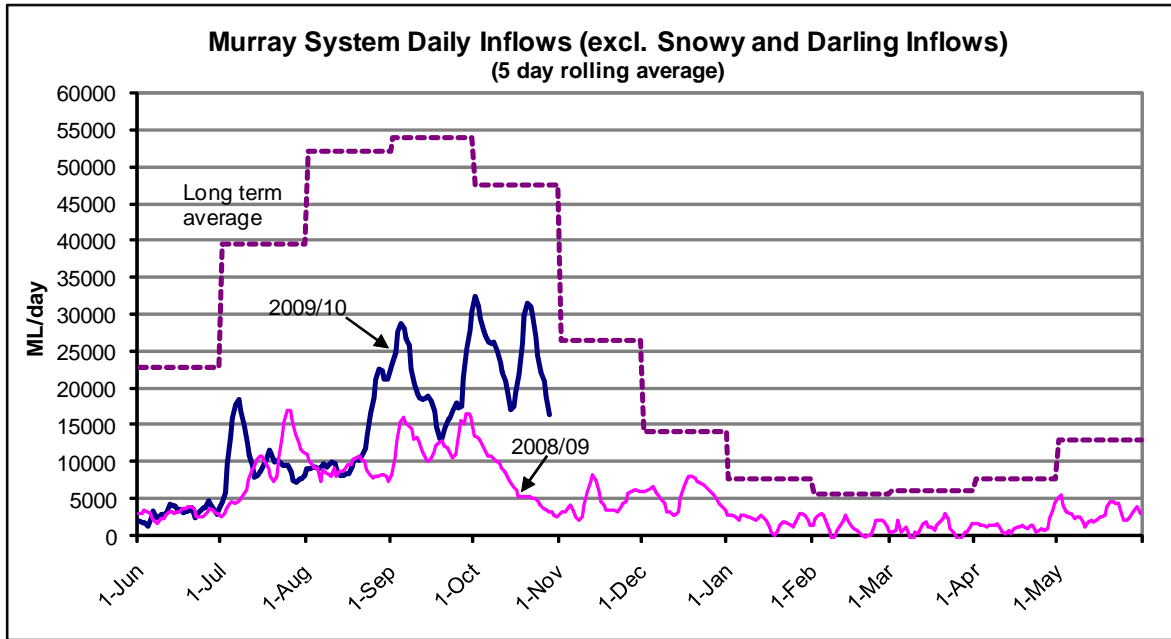
Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.66	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	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



Week ending Wednesday 28th October 2009



State Allocations (as at 28th October 2009)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	97%
General security	9%

Victoria - Murray Valley

high reliability	37%
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NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	11%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

high reliability	33%
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NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	25%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	34%
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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.aspx>

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