



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2010

Trim Ref: D10/30055

Rainfall and Inflows

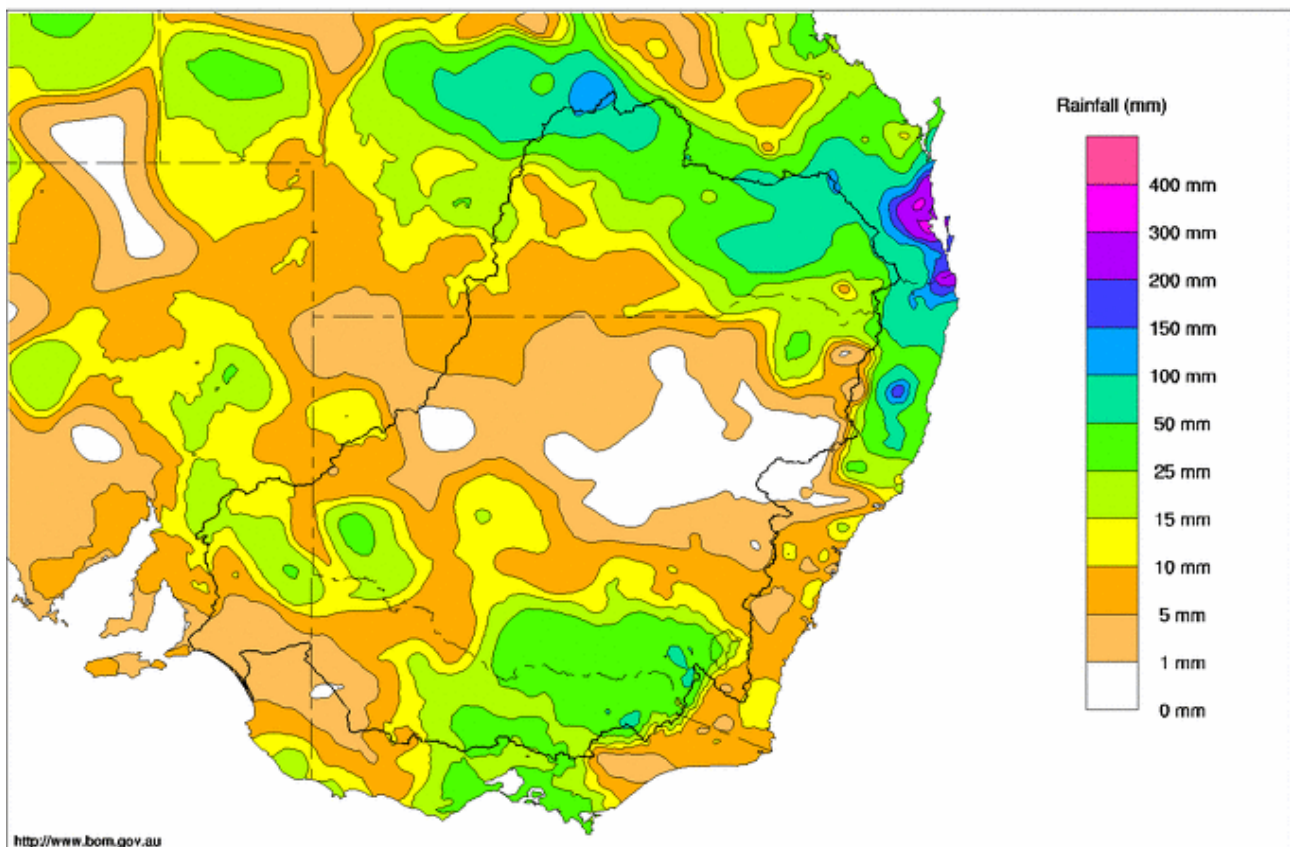
There has been further welcome rain across most of the Murray-Darling Basin in the last week. In the upper catchment of the Darling River in Queensland rainfall totals included 58 mm at Dalby, 63 mm at Meandarra and 89 mm at Westmar. This rain has boosted flows in the Border Rivers and will sustain flows in the Darling River in the coming weeks. The flow at Bourke increased this week from 11,380 ML/day to 14,180 ML/day and is expected to keep rising and exceed 20,000 ML/day by late October.

Rainfalls in the upper Murray catchment prior to Wednesday 13 October were relatively light and, as a result, tributary inflows have generally declined during the week. For example, the Ovens River at Wangaratta fell from 5,000 to 3,410 ML/day and the Mitta Mitta River at Hinnomunjie declined from 4,600 to 1,900 ML/day.

Inflows to Hume Reservoir were about 12,000 ML/day a week ago and have now declined to about 7,000 ML/day. At Dartmouth Reservoir, the daily inflow has fallen from about 8,000 to 2,000 ML/day. Murray system inflows during the last week totalled 142 GL, an average of 20,000 ML/day.

However rainfalls recorded on 13 October were in the range of 10–25 mm and the Bureau of Meteorology has forecast further widespread rain for the Basin on 13–15 October. Flows in the tributaries of the Murray and Darling Rivers are therefore likely to increase significantly in the next week.

Murray Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 13th October 2010
Product of the National Climate Centre



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

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River Operations

MDBA active storage continues to increase—the volume of active storage (including Menindee Lakes) is currently 6,092 GL, which is an increase of 102 GL since last week. Dartmouth Reservoir is currently storing 1,764 GL of water (46% capacity), while Hume Reservoir is currently at 2,485 GL (83% capacity). Release from Dartmouth Reservoir is at the normal minimum while release from Hume Reservoir has been reduced to 5,180 ML/day. Storage in Hume Reservoir is expected to rise next week in response to the rain, however a spill of the storage is not yet assured and further information regarding Hume operations will be provided next week.

There has been a further minor revision to the capacity table for Hume Reservoir. The full supply volume at Hume is 3,005 GL (not 3,003 GL as announced last week). Information on the MDBA, State agency and BoM websites will be updated in coming weeks.

Release from Yarrowonga Weir increased from 9,700 to 11,050 ML/day during the week, and is likely to increase further during the coming week in response to expected higher inflows from the Ovens and Kiewa Rivers. The pool level at Yarrowonga Weir was raised during the week to 124.84 m AHD and is likely to decline to about 124.6 m AHD in the next few days to assist with management of the expected higher inflows.

On the Edward River, the flow past Stevens Weir continues to fall and is currently 1,540 ML/day. The flow in the Wakool River at Kyalite peaked at about 16,500 ML/day on 10 October falling to about 14,000 by week's end. River flows in the Wakool River are expected to continue falling next week as return flows from the Koondrook and Perricoota Forests diminish.

At Torrumbarry Weir, the flow is currently 7,790 ML/day and falling rapidly. The pool level at Torrumbarry Weir was returned to full supply level during the week after the gates on the weir were re-instated. Further downstream, Swan Hill spent 45 days with flows greater than 20,000 ML/day—these flows are now 12,940 ML/day and falling. At Euston, the flow has been greater than 37,000 ML/day for the last 9 days, but will start falling in the next few days. Flows are also close to their peak at Mildura (about 33,000 ML/day) and at Wentworth and flow to South Australia is expected to remain at around 30,000 ML/day throughout next week.

Menindee Lakes are currently surcharged to 1,866 GL (108% capacity), and have risen 36 GL during the week. Higher inflows to the lakes, from the Darling River, are expected during the next 4–5 weeks. Releases from Menindee Lakes will increase from 15 October, with target flows through Weir 32 of 9,000 ML/day by 22 October. It is possible that higher release rates may be required in coming weeks and updates will be provided.

At Lake Victoria, the level has risen by 19 GL in the last week. The storage is currently 651 GL (96% capacity) and this volume is expected to increase slightly during the next week.

The water level in Lakes Albert and Alexandrina is currently +0.72 m AHD. Releases through the Barrages, which are currently about 16,000 ML/day, will continue rising as the higher flows arrive from upstream.

Temporary closures of Lock 10

The lock at Wentworth will be closed for maintenance on Tuesday 19 and Thursday 21 October, but will be open on Wednesday 20 October (see attached media release).

For media inquiries contact the MDBA Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Murray



Week ending Wednesday 13 Oct 2010

Water in Storage

MDBA Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	MDBA Active Storage (GL)	Change in Total Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 856	446.41	1 764	46%	71	1 693	+16
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	189.27	2 485	83%	23	2 462	+30
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.77	651	96%	100	551	+19
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		1 866	108%	(480 #)	1 386	+36
Total		9 269		6 766	73%	--	6 092	+102

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **71%**

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

** All Data is rounded to nearest GL **

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		969	94%	3	966	+8
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		1 445	89%	24	1 421	+5
Eildon Reservoir	3 334		2 026	61%	100	1 926	+19

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 12-Oct-2010

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2010
Lake Eucumbene - Total	821	+34	Snowy-Murray	+11	376
Snowy-Murray Component	577	+24	Tooma-Tumut	+3	201
Target Storage	1 400		Net Diversion	7.9	175
			Murray 1 Release	+30	589

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales			Victoria		
	This week	From 1 July 2010		This week	From 1 July 2010
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	26.1	94.0	Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	2.1	12.0
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	6.0	Torrumbary System + Nyah (net)	18.1	84.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.4	1.0	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.6	8.0
Licensed Pumps	3.3	12.0	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.2	2.0
Lower Darling	4.6	33.0	Licensed pumps - LMW	6.2	38.0
TOTAL	34.4	146.0	TOTAL	28.2	144.0

* 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 is rounded to nearest 100 ML for the above**

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	170.0 *	
Flow this week	197.6	(28 200 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	361.5	
Flow last month	495.4	

* Flow to SA will be greater than entitlement for October due to Additional Dilution Flow and Unregulated Flow s.

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2010
Swan Hill	150	130	140
Euston	130	130	130
Red Cliffs	120	150	130
Merbein	120	130	110
Burtundy (Darling)	280	290	270
Lock 9	180	190	150
Lake Victoria	160	170	170
Berri	180	190	180
Waikerie	220	220	200
Morgan	270	260	270
Mannum	250	220	300
Murray Bridge	220	210	320
Milang (Lake Alex.)	3 070	3 110	3 410
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	630	690	1 610
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	9 750	9 610	11 990
Goolwa Barrages	3 420	3 810	13 510



Week ending Wednesday 13 Oct 2010

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	-	-	-	7 730	R	6 370	6 150
Jingellic	4.0	2.17	208.69	8 740	R	9 830	9 480
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.61	218.50	980	R	970	1 100
Heywoods	5.5	1.98	155.61	5 180	F	7 090	7 780
Doctors Point	5.5	2.32	150.79	7 320	F	9 490	10 050
Albury	4.3	1.34	148.78	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.07	128.09	8 890	F	10 430	8 420
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.79	116.83	11 050	R	10 130	10 030
Tocumwal	6.4	2.32	106.16	10 910	R	10 740	10 810
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.47	81.02	7 790	F	11 290	25 520
Swan Hill	4.5	2.29	65.21	12 940	F	19 250	23 550
Wakool Junction	8.8	7.11	56.23	33 820	F	36 410	34 250
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	5.12	46.96	37 120	F	37 730	35 720
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	32 710	F	31 600	29 570
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	5.08	29.84	38 800	R	38 140	34 160
Rufus Junction	-	5.92	22.85	28 310	R	28 220	25 600
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	1.75	-	26 000	R	25 040	20 500
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.16	155.39	2 460	R	2 740	2 730
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.89	146.57	3 410	R	3 850	4 480
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.81	93.23	1 470	F	1 450	4 740
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.67	81.45	1 540	F	1 490	2 200
Edward at Liewah	-	3.63	59.01	3 630	F	4 480	5 250
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	4.26	57.75	9 230	F	10 660	8 890
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.60	56.56	320	F	780	5 040
Barwon at Mungindi	-	7.16	-	15 840	F	15 090	9 400
Darling at Bourke	-	6.02	-	14 180	R	12 870	10 610
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.86	-	440	R	380	180

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	12 690	9 370
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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	-0.08	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.77	+3.56
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.02	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.02	+1.70
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.18	+1.52
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.04	+2.24	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.01	+2.39
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+2.44	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.01	+1.87
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.18	+1.33	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+1.69
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.22	+2.42	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.03	+1.00

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.06	0.83	70.18	595
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.00	0.147	61.447	267

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.72

Barrages

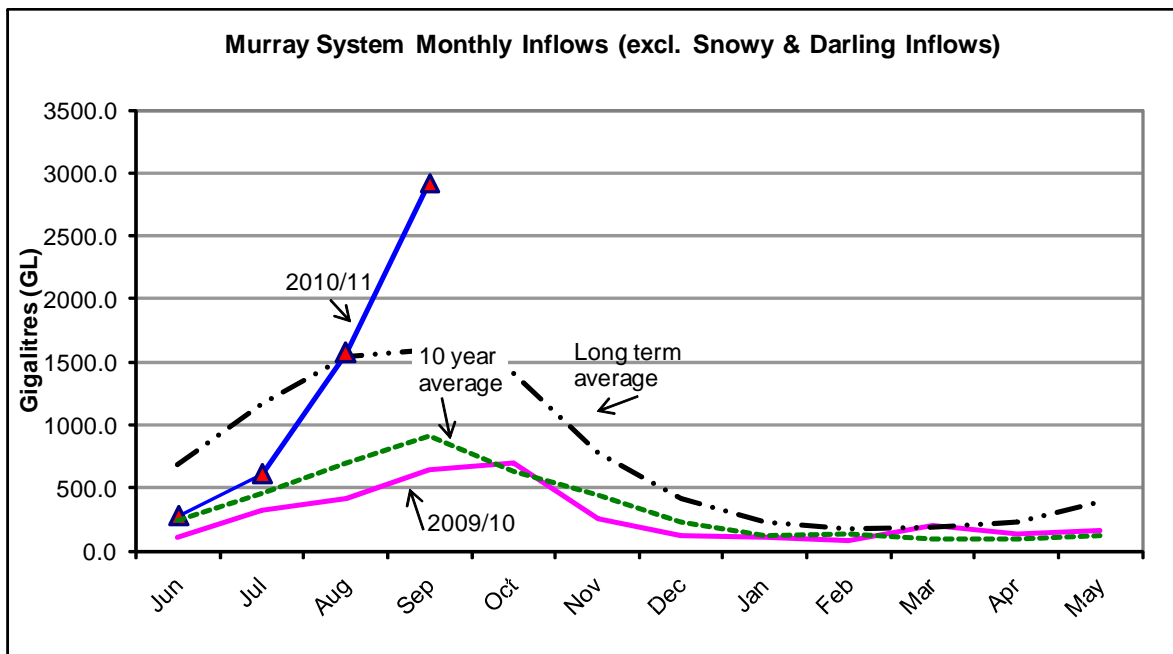
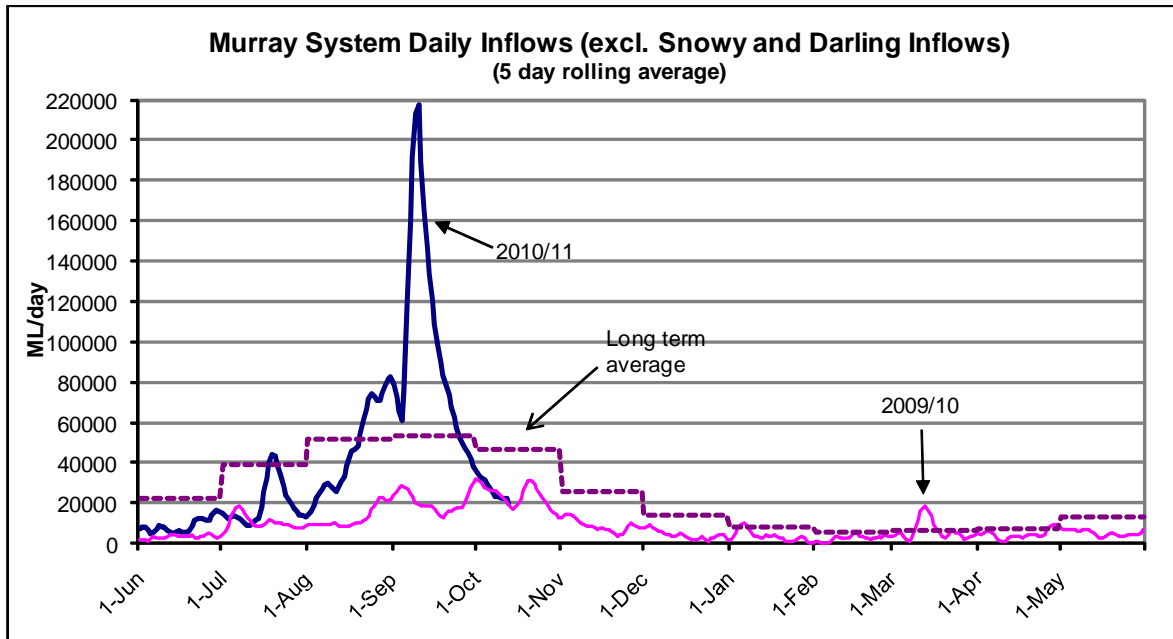
Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.70	33	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.73	3	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	4	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.72	15	Open	Open

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



Week ending Wednesday 13 October 2010



State Allocations (as at 13 October 2010)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	97%
General security	36%

Victoria - Murray Valley

High reliability	97%
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NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	47%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

High reliability	70%
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NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	100%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	67%
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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/>

MEDIA RELEASE

12 October 2010



Lock at Wentworth closed on 19 and 21 October

To assist with maintenance works, the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and NSW State Water will require the closure of the lock at Wentworth on Tuesday 19 October and Thursday 21 October 2010. Passage through the lock will be available on Wednesday 20 October.

Further advice will be issued if circumstances change.

Contact: MDBA Media Office, phone (02) 6279 0141

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