



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 29 JUNE 2011

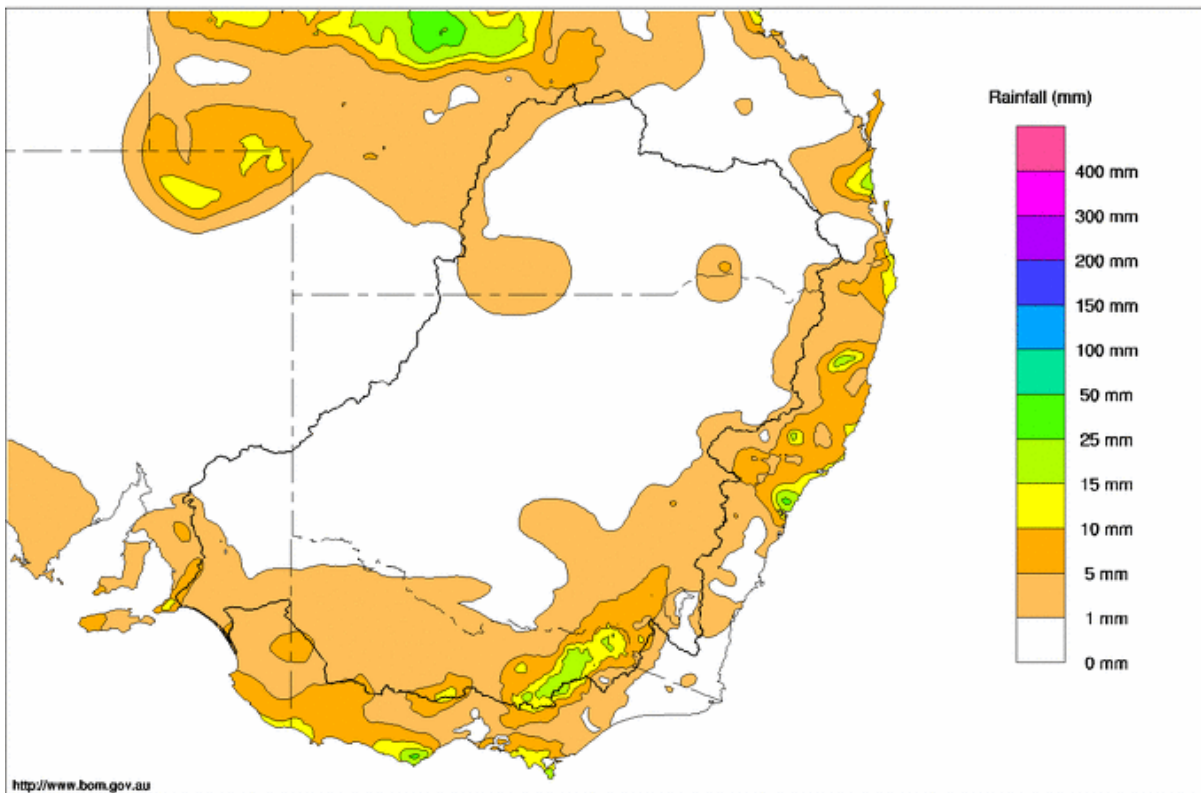
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Rainfall and Inflows

Showers and cold weather over the south-east ranges cleared during the week as a slow moving high pressure system moved over the Murray-Darling Basin. Precipitation fell predominantly over the Victorian Alps, although even the highest totals were only small (Map 1). At the top of the Goulburn catchment, 35 mm was recorded at Mt Buller; while in the Ovens catchment, Eurobin received 23 mm for the week. Elsewhere in the Basin, conditions remained mostly fine and dry.

Most streams in the upper catchments peaked early in the week following last week's cold front and rain. These flows have receded quite slowly due to some lingering light rain early this week. For example, on the Mitta Mitta River, the flow at Tallandoon began the week at 1,500 ML/day and remains at 1,000 ML/day, while on the upper Murray, the flow at Biggara began the week at 1,900 ML/day and is now 1,100 ML/day. On the Ovens River, the flow at Rocky Point climbed from 2,700 ML/day to a peak of 4,300 ML/day on Saturday 25 June and is still up at 3,000 ML/day.

Murray Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 29th June 2011
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Map 1 – Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 29 June 2011 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).

River Operations

MDBA active storage (including Menindee Lakes) increased by 67 GL during the week to 7,056 GL (82% capacity).

The total storage at Dartmouth Reservoir increased by 20 GL to 2,488 GL (65% capacity) and release remains at the normal minimum of 200 ML/day.



At Hume Reservoir, the total storage increased by 4 GL to 2,807 GL (93% capacity). As expected, inflows increased during the week and averaged around 11,000 ML/day. The release peaked at 14,000 ML/day and has now been reduced to 9,000 ML/day.

Rainfalls across the Murray have been below average in June and the Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting only modest falls of rain over the coming week or so. With these relatively dry conditions and the approaching commencement of the irrigation season, historical inflow data for Hume Reservoir indicates that it is prudent to begin to gradually raise the storage level in Hume reservoir in order to safeguard the supply of entitlements this season. Initially, the target airspace will be reduced from the current 200 GL, which has been in place since February, towards 150 GL; however MDBA will continue to review the conditions on a daily basis, including longer-term rainfall forecasts, and will also liaise with State agencies on potential demands. A return to wetter conditions or the forecast of heavy rain may permit a subsequent reduction in target levels. Further information will be provided in future Weekly Reports.

Downstream at Yarrawonga, inflow to Lake Mulwala increased during the week as higher releases from Hume Dam, and increased inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers, arrived. The release was increased from 11,000 to 20,500 ML/day which is expected to be the peak release resulting from the latest rain event. The lake level continues to remain drawn down to between 122.0 and 122.2 m AHD to control the aquatic weed, *Egeria densa*. Refilling of Lake Mulwala is expected to commence in about 7–10 days.

On the Edward system, the flows at most locations are slowly receding, however higher flows are expected to enter from the Murray in the coming week leading to a gradual rise through Stevens Weir during early July. Further downstream on the Wakool River, the flow at Kyalite is now at around 6,000 ML/day and should continue receding for several weeks.

On the Goulburn River, the peak flow from last week's rain is now passing McCoys Bridge, where the flow has increased from 3,500 to 7,300 ML/day. Downstream on the River Murray at Torrumbarry, higher Goulburn River inflows along with increased flows along the Murray are now arriving after the release reached a low of around 14,000 ML/day during the week. The current release is now up to 15,000 ML/day and is expected to increase towards 17,000 ML/day in the coming days.

On the Murrumbidgee River, flows resulting from an environmental water release from Blowering and Burrinjuck Reservoirs are now arriving at Balranald, where the flow is currently 3,200 ML/day. The flow here is expected to rise to more than 8,000 ML/day by mid-July.

Total storage at Menindee Lakes decreased by 4 GL to 1,959 GL (113% capacity) and is expected to be steady over the coming week. Release was increased during the week to target a flow at Weir 32 of 1,500 ML/day for a few days to improve water quality between Lake Wetherell and Weir 32.

Further downstream on the Darling River at Burtundy, the flow has receded slowly over the past week and is now at 1,300 ML/day. It is expected to remain around this level for the next few days. At the confluence of the Murray and Darling Rivers, the flow at Wentworth has decreased slightly from 28,700 to 26,200 ML/day and is expected to continue falling slowly during the next week.

High flows into Lake Victoria continued during the week, and as a result the total storage increased by 48 GL to 476 GL (70% capacity). The flow into South Australia averaged around 20,800 ML/day during the week and is expected to decrease towards 16,500 ML/day during the coming week.

Flow over Lock 1 is currently around 17,800 ML/day and is expected to decrease slightly in the coming week. The level of the Lower Lakes is around +0.75 m AHD, up from +0.68 m AHD last week.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Murray

Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 29 Jun 2011

MDBA Storages	Full Supply Level	Full Supply Volume	Current Storage Level	Current Storage		Dead Storage	Active Storage	Change in Total Storage for the Week
	(m AHD)	(GL)	(m AHD)	(GL)	%	(GL)	(GL)	(GL)
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 856	462.31	2 488	65%	71	2 417	+20
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	190.99	2 807	93%	23	2 784	+4
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.23	476	70%	100	376	+48
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 959	113%	(480 #)	1 479	-4
Total		9 269		7 730	83%	--	7 056	+67
Total Active MDBA Storage							82% ^	

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	903	88%	3	900	+6
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 580	97%	24	1 556	+18
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	2 906	87%	100	2 806	+65

* 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 28 Jun 2011

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2011
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 187	+15	Snowy-Murray	+17	199
Snowy-Murray Component	378	-10	Tooma-Tumut	+9	36
Target Storage	1 240		Net Diversion	8	163
			Murray 1 Release	+25	238

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This Week	From 1 July 2010	Victoria	This Week	From 1 July 2010
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	0.0	478	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0	111
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	-3	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0	178
Western Murray Irrigation	0.2	13	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.2	52
Licensed Pumps	1.0	82	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1	23
Lower Darling	0.0	315	Licensed pumps - LMW	0.6	257
TOTAL	1.2	885	TOTAL	1.8	621

* 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 entitlement for June due to Additional Dilution Flow and Unregulated Flows.

Entitlement this month	90.0 *
Flow this week	145.6
Flow so far this month	615.4
Flow last month	946.1

(20 800 ML/day)

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

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2010
Swan Hill	160	150	200
Euston	130	130	170
Red Cliffs	130	130	160
Merbein	100	100	170
Burtundy (Darling)	330	330	290
Lock 9	130	140	230
Lake Victoria	210	230	200
Berri	220	230	240
Waikerie	-	-	210
Morgan	380	370	330
Mannum	350	350	330
Murray Bridge	330	330	330
Milang (Lake Alex.)	460	470	1 950
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	420	430	930
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	6 050	6 140	7 960
Goolwa Barrages	3 600	19 890	5 350

River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 29 Jun 2011

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	-	-	-	5 080	S	4 790	4 840
Jingellic	4.0	2.19	208.71	8 790	R	10 060	7 170
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.62	218.51	1 000	F	1 180	860
Heywoods	5.5	2.47	156.10	9 250	F	11 100	6 720
Doctors Point	5.5	2.72	151.19	11 270	F	13 950	9 390
Albury	4.3	1.68	149.12	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.18	129.20	16 730	F	14 850	9 970
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.92	117.96	20 870	R	16 640	12 450
Tocumwal	6.4	3.41	107.25	20 120	R	15 600	14 440
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.24	82.79	15 060	R	14 420	16 250
Swan Hill	4.5	2.40	65.32	13 750	F	14 570	14 060
Wakool Junction	8.8	-	-	20 450	F	21 750	23 360
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	3.52	45.36	19 720	F	21 450	23 410
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	21 170	F	21 700	-
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.31	29.07	26 210	F	27 970	27 670
Rufus Junction	-	5.13	22.06	18 900	F	19 910	19 160
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	1.58	-	17 750	S	17 260	17 050
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.72	154.95	1 630	F	2 170	1 250
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.51	147.19	5 560	F	6 260	2 660
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	4.36	95.78	7 330	R	5 420	4 310
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	2.69	82.46	3 180	F	3 720	4 910
Edward at Liewah	-	3.31	58.69	3 050	S	3 130	3 280
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	2.14	55.63	2 800	F	3 150	3 770
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	3.17	59.13	3 210	R	2 890	4 500
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.54	-	1 010	F	870	110
Darling at Bourke	-	-	-	-	F	1 020	1 310
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	1.11	-	1 280	F	1 470	1 870

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	12 630	5 350
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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	-2.73	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.15	N/A
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.05	+1.17
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.07	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.00	+1.05
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	N/A	+1.33	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+1.98
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	N/A	+1.67	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+1.32
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.05	+0.72	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.05	+1.43
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.06	+1.17	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.83

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.75
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Barrages

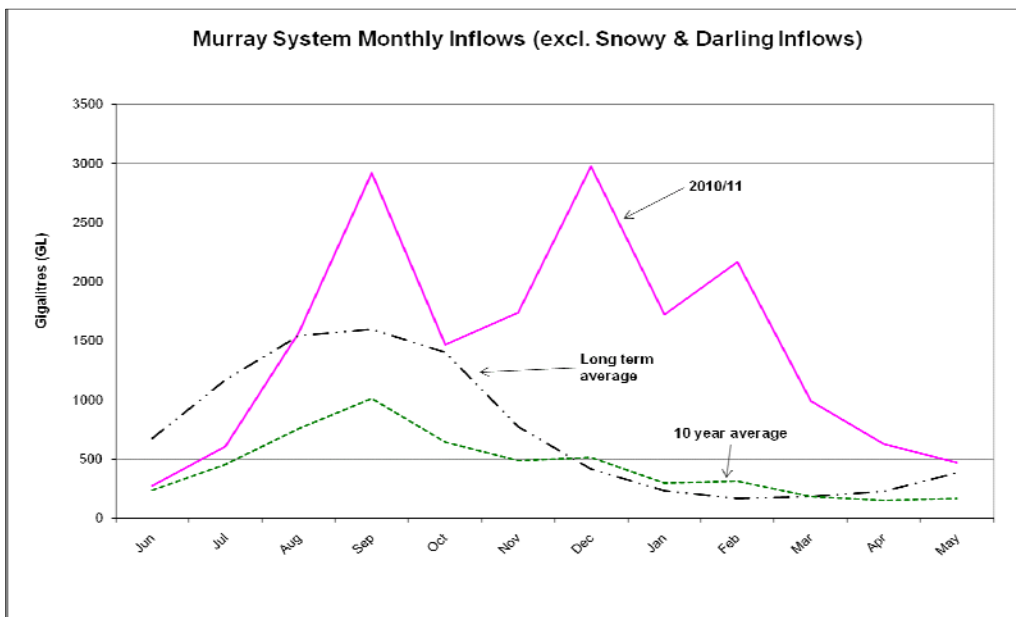
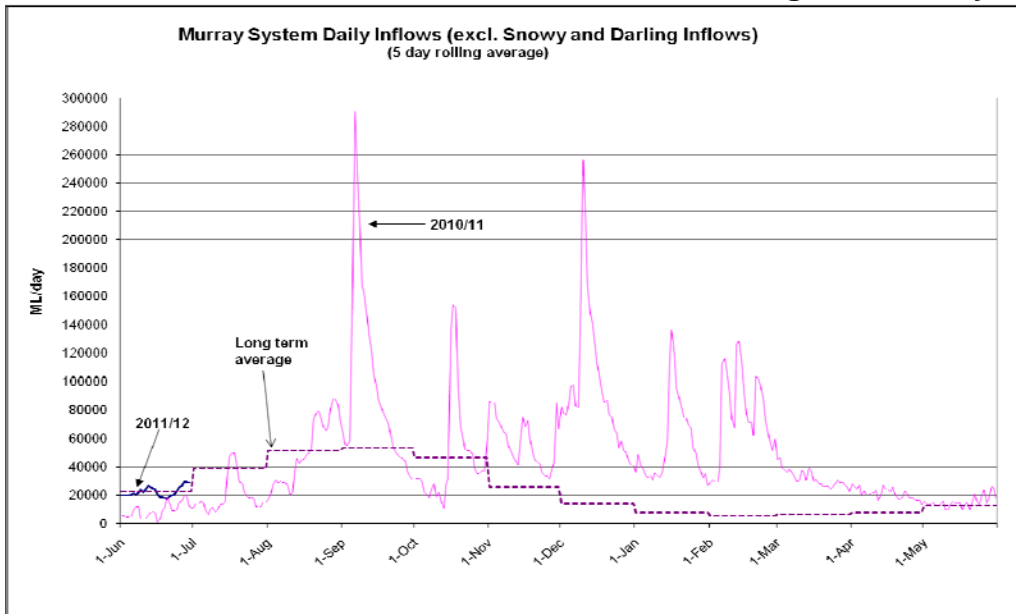
Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.74	20	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.68	5	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	12	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.79	10	Open	Open

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



Week ending Wednesday 29 Jun 2011



State Allocations (as at 29 Jun 2011)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

NSW - Murrumbidgee

High security	100%
General security	100%

NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victoria - Murray Valley

High reliability	100%
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VIC - Goulburn

High reliability	100%
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SA - Murray

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/>