



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 13 JULY 2011

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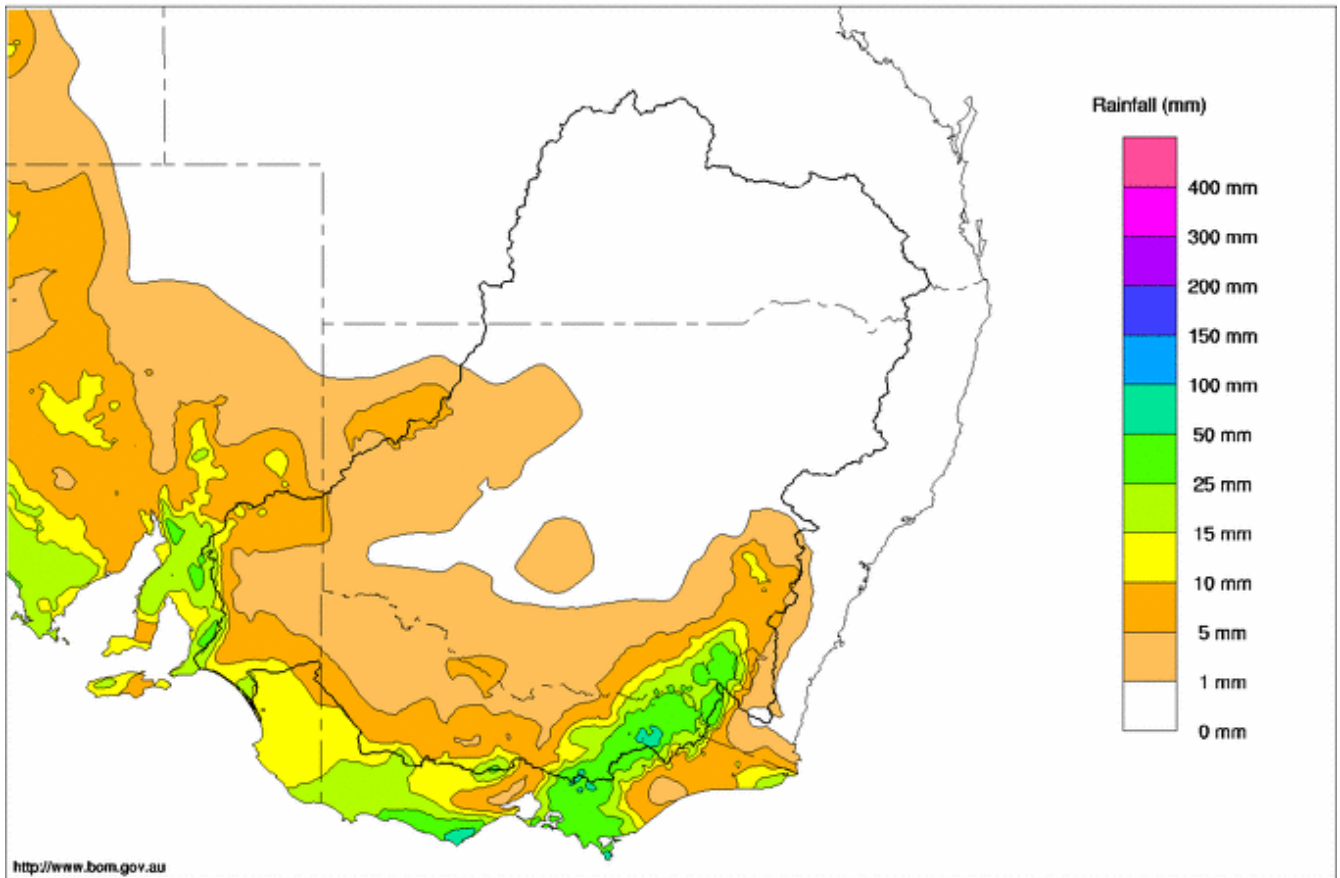
Rainfall and Inflows

Persistent winter westerlies and a series of cold fronts resulted in further showers over southern areas of the Murray-Darling Basin through much of the past week. In contrast, a ridge of high pressure over inland NSW and Queensland maintained fine and dry weather in the north (Map 1).

The heaviest precipitation fell in the south-east over the slopes and ranges. Highest weekly totals included 104 mm at Rocky Valley and 79 mm at Mt Buffalo in north-east Victoria, and 87 mm at Perisher Valley in the NSW Snowy Mountains.

Flows in the upper tributaries peaked during the week following last week's rain; and with the on-going precipitation over the headwater catchments, streams have continued to flow well. On the upper River Murray, the flow at Jingellic started the week at 10,500 ML/day, reached a peak of 20,300 ML/day over the weekend and is currently flowing at 15,000 ML/day. On the Ovens River, the flow at Wangaratta increased from 8,300 ML/day to a peak of around 17,000 ML/day and is now flowing at 10,700 ML/day.

Murray Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 13th July 2011
Product of the National Climate Centre



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

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Issued: 13/07/2011

Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 13 July 2011 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).

River Operations

MDBA active storage has increased this week by 73 GL to 7,197 GL (84% capacity). Dartmouth storage level rose by 34 GL to 2,542 GL, which is 66% capacity. Release from Dartmouth was



increased on Monday afternoon to 2,500 ML/day for hydro-electric power generation. The release has now been reduced to 1,000 ML/day and is expected to return to the normal minimum of 200 ML/day later this week.

At Hume Reservoir, the storage has increased by 21 GL to 2,838 GL (94% capacity) and the release reached a peak of 22,000 ML/day over the weekend. The release is currently 19,000 ML/day (14 July) and is expected to decrease further in coming days as inflows decline. The flow downstream of the dam at Doctors Point reached a peak of 26,100 ML/day on Sunday, which is slightly above channel capacity, and the flow past Doctors Point is now about 22,000 ML/day. Further rain is forecast for the next week which could again necessitate higher releases from Hume Reservoir.

At Yarrowonga Weir, the release has been increased progressively over the past week, as higher inflows from the Murray and Ovens Rivers arrive, and is currently 32,000 ML/day (14 July). This flow rate is expected to be the peak release from this event. The level of Lake Mulwala has been raised by around 61 cm over the past week and is currently at 122.71 m AHD. The lake will be raised further during the coming week and is expected to be close to 123.5 m AHD by the middle of next week, on its way back up to its normal operating level of 124.7 m AHD by early August.

Flows into the Edward–Wakool system through the Gulpa offtake have been increased during the week to target a flow of 750 ML/day - up from 350 ML/day. This increase will help manage the water level through the Murray at Picnic Point as higher flows from Yarrowonga Weir arrive. On the Edward River at Stevens Weir, the river rose slightly to a peak of 5,800 ML/day during the week. The flow at Stevens Weir is now about 5,000 ML/day, but renewed rises are expected next week. The Wakool River at Kyalite is rising, with flows of about 6,400 ML/day expected in about 7–10 days.

On the Goulburn River, Goulburn-Murray Water have advised that the pre-release from Eildon Dam has been increased to 10,000 ML/day and further increases may occur depending on rainfall in the coming weeks. The flow at McCoys Bridge rose from 4,300 ML/day to 14,000 ML/day during the week, and is expected to reach a peak of around 15,000 ML/day over the next few days.

On the River Murray at Torrumbarry Weir, the flow has increased to 20,500 ML/day and is now likely to increase to around 27,000 ML/day over the next week.

Flow in the Murrumbidgee River at Balranald is currently 8,700 ML/day and falling, but renewed rises are expected in late July. Downstream of the confluence with the Murrumbidgee, the River Murray at Euston is flowing at 25,660 ML/day, and the flow is expected to remain at about this rate for the next week. At Mildura, flows are rising and expected to be about 25,000 ML/day by mid next week.

At the Menindee Lakes, the storage levels are steady at a surcharge volume of 1,956 GL (113% capacity). Without further rain in their catchment or increased releases, the lakes are expected to remain at about this storage volume for the next few weeks. Releases from the lakes are now close to the normal minimums of 500 ML/day flow past Weir 32.

At Lake Victoria, the storage level increased by 16 GL to 535 GL (79% capacity) during the week. As there is sufficient water in transit to fill the lake at a later date, the releases from Lake Victoria are currently being increased to lower the water level in the lake. This lowering will assist the establishment of foreshore vegetation.

The flow into South Australia has continued to remain much higher than the required entitlement flow, and is currently about 26,000 ML/day and expected to reach 30,000 ML/day later this week. The water level in the Lower Lakes remains close to the full supply level of 0.75 m AHD. The salinity in Lake Alexandrina is about 500 EC units, while in Lake Albert, near Meningie, the salinity during the last week has fallen to an average of less than 4000 EC units.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Murray

Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 13 Jul 2011

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	463.37	2 542	66%	71	2 471	+34	
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	191.16	2 838	94%	23	2 815	+21	
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.79	535	79%	100	435	+16	
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 956	113%	(480 #)	1 476	+1	
Total		9 269		7 871	85%	--	7 197	+73	
Total Active MDBA Storage							84% ^		

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	934	91%	3	931	+20
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 598	98%	24	1 574	+13
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	2 988	90%	100	2 888	+46

* 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 12 Jul 2011

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2011
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 233	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+19	246
Snowy-Murray Component	371	n/a	Tooma-Tumut	+10	58
Target Storage	1 170		Net Diversion	9	188
			Murray 1 Release	+27	304

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This Week	From 1 July 2011	Victoria	This Week	From 1 July 2011
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	0.9	1	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0	0
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	0	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0	0
Western Murray Irrigation	0.1	0	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.6	1
Licensed Pumps	0.6	1	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0	2
Lower Darling	n/a	0	Licensed pumps - LMW	0.8	1
TOTAL	1.6	2	TOTAL	1.4	4

* 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 July due to Additional Dilution Flow and Unregulated Flows.

Entitlement this month	108.5 *
Flow this week	162.3
Flow so far this month	270.4
Flow last month	633.9

(23 200 ML/day)

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

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2010
Swan Hill	130	130	200
Euston	130	140	170
Red Cliffs	130	130	160
Merbein	100	100	170
Burtundy (Darling)	310	320	300
Lock 9	130	130	220
Lake Victoria	260	260	200
Berri	250	290	240
Waikerie	-	-	210
Morgan	320	310	330
Mannum	330	350	330
Murray Bridge	340	350	330
Milang (Lake Alex.)	560	620	1 900
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	420	450	910
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	4 330	3 880	7 820
Goolwa Barrages	2 300	10 980	5 580

River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 13 Jul 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	-	-	-	7 770	F	6 620	3 380
Jingellic	4.0	2.82	209.34	15 060	R	16 400	7 130
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.43	219.32	4 500	R	2 820	1 190
Heywoods	5.5	3.31	156.94	19 000	F	17 560	7 280
Doctors Point	5.5	3.68	152.15	21 970	F	21 530	9 900
Albury	4.3	2.76	150.20	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	4.29	130.31	23 670	R	17 390	10 420
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	3.78	118.82	30 240	R	22 660	17 040
Tocumwal	6.4	4.02	107.86	25 810	R	20 250	18 950
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	5.30	83.85	20 450	R	17 240	16 170
Swan Hill	4.5	2.67	65.59	15 670	R	15 320	14 670
Wakool Junction	8.8	5.56	54.68	21 830	S	21 630	20 710
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	3.97	45.81	25 660	S	25 100	20 260
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	-	F	-	-
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.53	29.29	29 260	R	27 430	24 810
Rufus Junction	-	5.64	22.57	24 320	R	21 920	17 540
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	1.62	-	18 470	R	16 700	15 940
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.48	155.71	3 010	F	3 660	2 030
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	10.69	148.37	10 720	F	13 210	5 040
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	6.27	97.69	13 920	R	8 990	5 450
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	3.47	83.25	5 040	F	5 470	4 330
Edward at Liewah	-	3.22	58.60	2 890	R	2 780	2 880
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	2.15	55.64	2 840	R	2 510	2 460
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	5.27	61.23	8 680	F	9 080	7 380
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.38	-	470	R	330	510
Darling at Bourke	-	4.28	-	1 350	R	1 200	1 070
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	1.29	-	1 720	F	1 770	1 290

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	23 160	9 850
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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	-2.19	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-31.10	+3.33
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-28.25	+1.43
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.10	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.03	+1.25
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+1.52	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.08	+2.15
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.05	+1.89	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+1.58
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.15	-33.60	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.11	+1.58
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.18	+1.59	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.03	+0.87

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

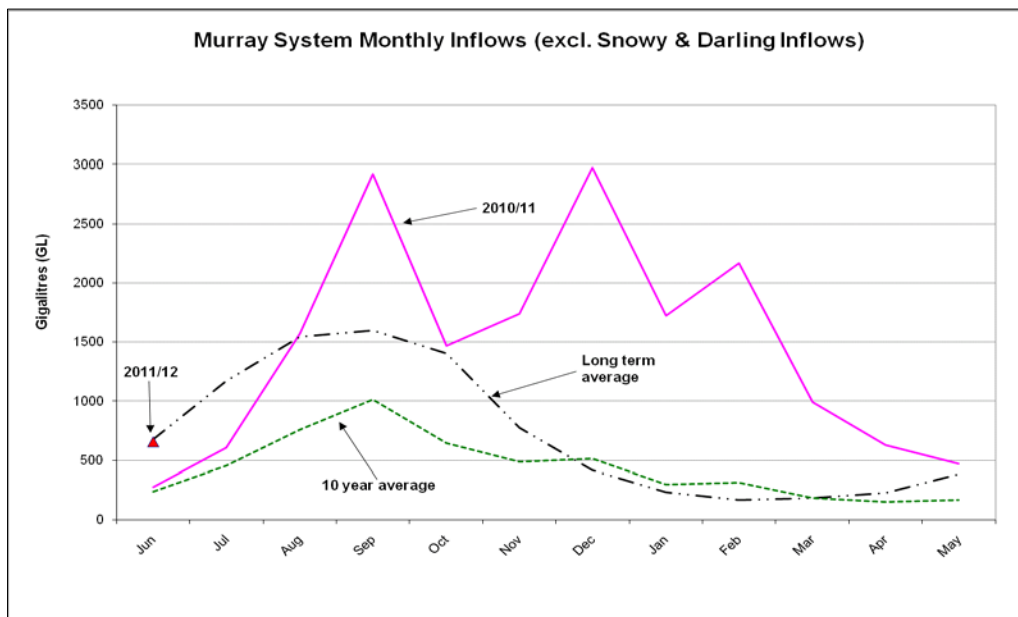
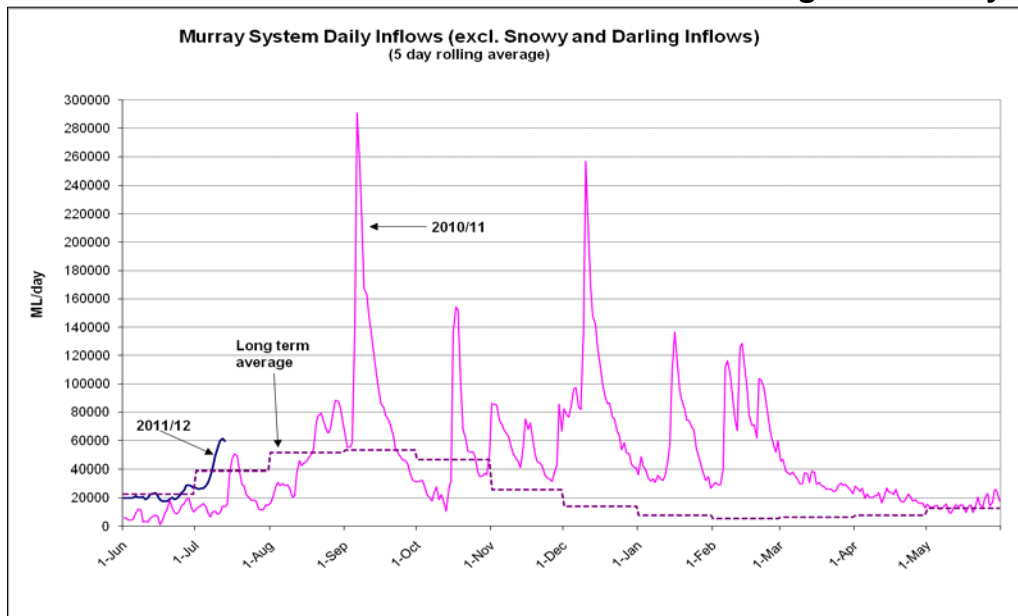
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.77
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Barrages

Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.73	All closed	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.66	6	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	22	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.76	20	Open	Open

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



State Allocations (as at 13 Jul 2011)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	97%
General security	0%

Victorian - Murray Valley

High reliability	21%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	44%

Victorian - Goulburn Valley

High reliability	48%
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/>