



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 3RD APRIL 2013

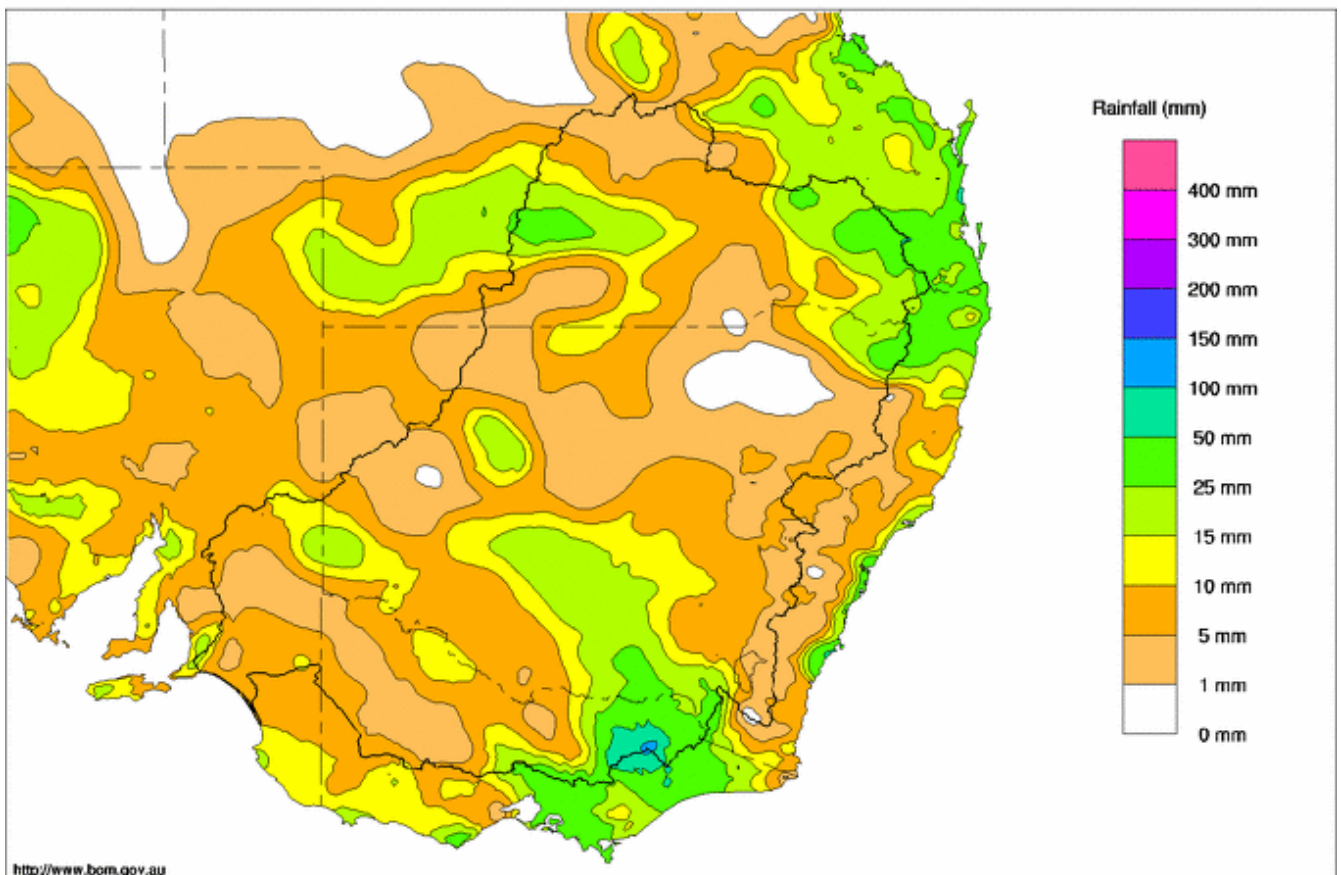
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Rainfall and Inflows

The passage of another frontal system early in the week resulted in further heavy rainfall across the south-east ranges. Totals in excess of 25 mm were also recorded in the far north-west of the Murray-Darling Basin and over the upper Condamine and Border Rivers catchments in the north-east, with lighter rain falling in most other areas of the Basin (Map 1).

The heaviest rainfall was in the Victoria Alps including 129 mm at Mt Hotham, 102 mm at Rocky Valley Dam, 87 mm at Mt Buller and 77 mm at Harrietville. Elsewhere in Victoria there was 34 mm at Kilmore Gap and 30 mm at Mt William. In NSW, totals in excess of 50 mm were recorded over the Snowy Mountains; while further west there was 34 mm at Hume Dam and 25 mm at Griffith. In northern NSW, there was 44 mm at Deepwater and 33 mm at Glen Innes. On Queensland's Darling Downs, there was 37 mm at Ellangowan and 31 mm at Toowoomba Airport.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 3rd April 2013
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Issued: 03/04/2013

Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 3 April 2013 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).

There were similar or slightly stronger stream flow responses in the upper Murray catchments compared to the preceding week. On the upper River Murray, the flow at Biggara peaked at 1,200 ML/day and has receded to 600 ML/day. On the Ovens River, the flow at Rocky Point increased to a peak of 3,000 ML/day and is currently flowing at 750 ML/day.

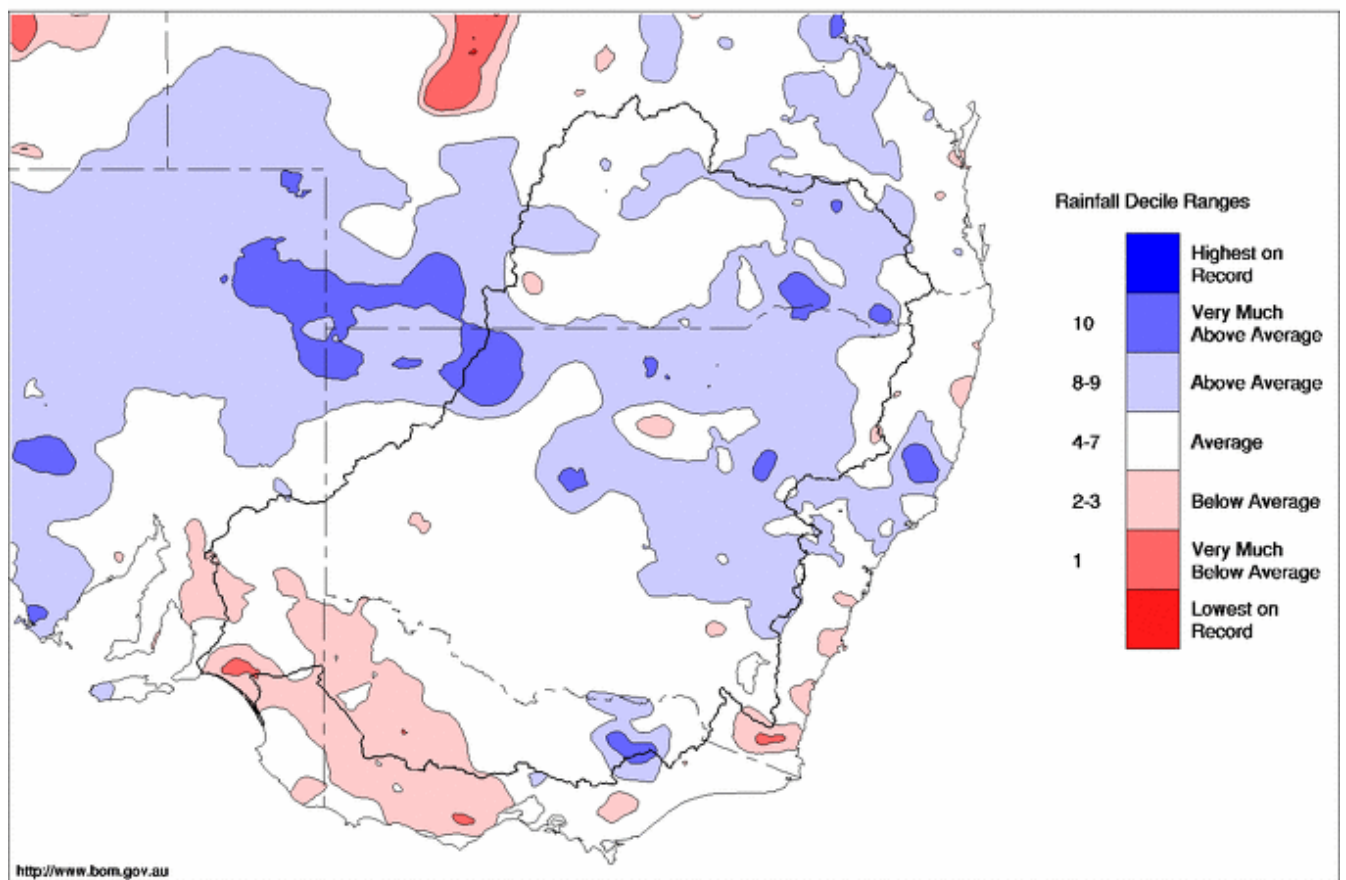


In the northern Basin, the flow in the Darling River at Bourke has increased to 21,500 ML/day and is approaching a peak expected early next week.

March 2013 Summary

Rainfall during March 2013 was slightly above the long-term average for the Murray-Darling Basin, with the Bureau of Meteorology reporting a total of 43.2 mm averaged across all monitoring sites (12% above the mean). Regionally, large parts of the northern Basin received above average rain with a small area covering the Victorian Alps recording above average to very much above average rain. In the south-western Basin including western Victoria and eastern South Australia, conditions were both dry and very warm, with particularly high temperatures during the first half of the month.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Deciles March 2013
Distribution Based on Gridded Data
Product of the National Climate Centre



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

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Map 2 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall deciles for March 2013 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).

River Murray system inflows for March 2013 totalled around 150 GL, which is below the long-term average for March of 220 GL and well below last year's record March inflow of almost 2,300 GL. These system inflows exclude Snowy and Darling inflows, as well as inter-valley trades and managed environmental inflows from the tributaries. Environmental inflows from the Goulburn River contributed around an extra 60 GL to system inflows during March.

River Operations

MDBA active storage has decreased by 4 GL during the week to 5,745 GL (67% capacity).

At Dartmouth Reservoir, the storage volume decreased by 7 GL to 3,616 GL (94% capacity). The flow at Colemans gauge was increased to 8,000 ML/day on Wednesday 3 April and will remain at this flow for two days before gradually reducing to approximately 500 ML/day by 16 April. These high flows are



part of continuing harmony transfers to provide a range of benefits, including additional flood mitigation capacity at Dartmouth Reservoir for the coming winter and spring. For further information on planned releases from Dartmouth Reservoir, please refer to the flow advice of 19 March at http://www.mdba.gov.au/media_centre/media_releases.

At Hume Reservoir, the storage volume fell by 22 GL to 1,474 GL (49%), with the flow at Doctors Point reducing to 8,400 ML/day during the past week. If conditions remain dry, the flow at Doctors Point is likely to increase to within the range 11,000–15,000 ML/day during the coming week.

In Lake Mulwala, the water level is currently 124.84 m AHD and is expected to decrease below 124.8 m AHD in the coming days. The flow downstream of Yarrawonga Weir has been reduced to 7,000 ML/day. This lower flow enables more water to be saved in Hume and Dartmouth Reservoirs for future use, while demands downstream of Wentworth are met by higher releases from the Menindee Lakes.

The flow into the Edward River from the Murray, through the Edward and Gulpa offtakes, totals about 1,650 ML/day. At Stevens Weir, the pool is currently 4.73 m on the local gauge and the flow downstream is 720 ML/day.

On the Goulburn River, the flow at McCoys Bridge is currently 1,150 ML/day and is expected to be about 900 ML/day by mid-April. Torrumbarry Weir pool remains at the Full Supply Level of 86.05 m AHD, while the downstream flow is currently 4,600 ML/day and is expected to recede to about 3,000 ML/day in the coming week.

The flow in the Wakool River at Kyalite is about 1,650 ML/day and is expected to remain fairly steady in the coming week. Downstream of the Wakool confluence with the Murray, the flow at Euston is about 5,250 ML/day and may increase slightly over the weekend before receding. The flow at Mildura is also expected to increase slightly in the coming week.

High inflows continue into the Menindee Lakes, with the stored volume increasing by 35 GL during the week to a total volume of 1,127 GL (65% capacity). At Weir 32, downstream of the lakes, the release has been increased to 4,400 ML/day, with a flow of 8,000 ML/day targeted for Tuesday 9 April. For further information on planned releases from the Menindee Lakes, please refer to the flow advice of 26 March at http://www.mdba.gov.au/media_centre/media_releases.

At Wentworth Weir, the flow is 7,850 ML/day and is likely to continue increasing during April as the higher flows from the lower Darling River join the Murray.

The water level in Lake Victoria is currently 22.51 m AHD (202 GL, 30% capacity) and may fall slightly during the coming week. The water level in Lake Victoria is expected to rise after mid-April as higher flows arrive from upstream. A storage volume of 350 GL is being targeted at Lake Victoria for the end of May.

At the Lower Lakes, the five day average water level is currently 0.63 m AHD, which is a rise of 3 cm since last week. This rise in lake level is due to inflows boosted by environmental water, lower evaporation rates and the temporary closure of the Goolwa and Mundoo barrages over the Easter weekend due to high tides and large swells. Flows through the barrages are likely to increase in the coming week due to favourable tide conditions.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Management



Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 03 Apr 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	482.27	3 616	94%	71	3 545	-7
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	182.76	1 474	49%	23	1 451	-22
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	22.51	202	30%	100	102	-10
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 127	65%	(480 #)	647	+35
Total		9 269		6 419	69%	--	5 745	-4
Total Active MDBA Storage							67% ^	

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	390	38%	3	387	+0
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	984	60%	24	960	-2
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	2 455	74%	100	2 355	-17

* 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 02 Apr 2013

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2012
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 913	-9	Snowy-Murray	+7	776
Snowy-Murray Component	754	-1	Tooma-Tumut	+0	207
Target Storage	1 340		Net Diversion	7	569
			Murray 1 Release	+9	1 036

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This Week	From 1 July 2012	Victoria	This Week	From 1 July 2012
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	21.0	1378	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	8.3	333
Wakool Sys Allowance	2.7	64	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	22.4	483
Western Murray Irrigation	0.3	27	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.2	116
Licensed Pumps	5.7	231	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.1	50
Lower Darling	0.1	94	Licensed pumps - LMW	2.5	270
TOTAL	29.8	1794	TOTAL	35.5	1252

* 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 traded environmental water.

Entitlement this month	135.0 *	
Flow this week	59.2	(8 500 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	23.5	
Flow last month	261.6	

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

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2012
Swan Hill	110	110	100
Euston	110	110	130
Red Cliffs	140	140	140
Merbein	160	170	160
Burtundy (Darling)	-	-	470
Lock 9	360	350	250
Lake Victoria	320	310	250
Berri	410	400	310
Waikerie	460	470	330
Morgan	470	460	320
Mannum	500	500	330
Murray Bridge	490	490	340
Milang (Lake Alex.)	520	510	420
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	490	490	350
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	3 500	3 490	3 450
Goolwa Barrages	3 200	3 390	1 450



River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 03 Apr 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	-	-	-	4 210	F	1 990	2 880
Jingellic	4.0	1.83	208.35	5 910	R	4 510	4 300
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.17	219.06	2 870	R	2 820	1 710
Heywoods	5.5	2.61	156.24	8 730	R	9 650	12 380
Doctors Point	5.5	2.57	151.04	9 650	R	10 450	12 940
Albury	4.3	1.55	148.99	-	-	-	-
Corowa	3.8	2.18	128.20	8 830	F	12 080	13 240
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.27	116.31	7 060	F	8 710	9 150
Tocumwal	6.4	2.07	105.91	8 180	F	8 700	8 790
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.69	80.24	4 610	F	4 980	4 750
Swan Hill	4.5	1.06	63.98	4 740	F	4 600	4 600
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.56	51.68	6 190	R	5 820	6 090
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.15	42.99	5 250	F	5 020	5 620
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	4 870	F	4 970	5 370
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.00	27.76	7 850	S	8 030	8 090
Rufus Junction	-	3.66	20.59	7 080	R	7 760	8 210
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.77	-	7 130	S	6 900	7 320
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.02	154.25	570	F	800	500
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.10	145.78	960	F	1 260	840
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.65	93.07	1 150	F	1 530	1 870
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.96	80.74	720	F	930	880
Edward at Liewah	-	1.62	57.00	960	R	780	690
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.58	55.07	790	S	730	500
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.93	56.89	570	R	410	370
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.73	-	1 580	F	3 660	7 230
Darling at Bourke	-	7.66	-	21 500	R	19 700	15 220
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	2.52	-	3 810	S	3 790	3 750

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	2 110	3 540
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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	-0.06	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.07	+1.34
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.01	+0.21
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.01	+0.32
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.06	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.97
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.03	+0.36	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.42
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.02	+0.11	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.07	+0.37
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.10	+0.14	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.05	+0.02

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.63
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Barrages

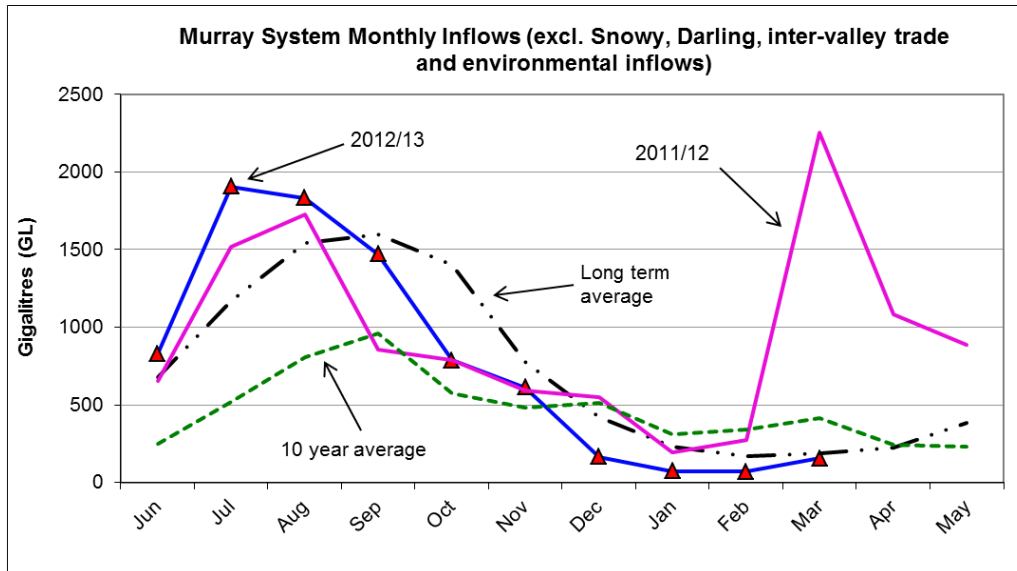
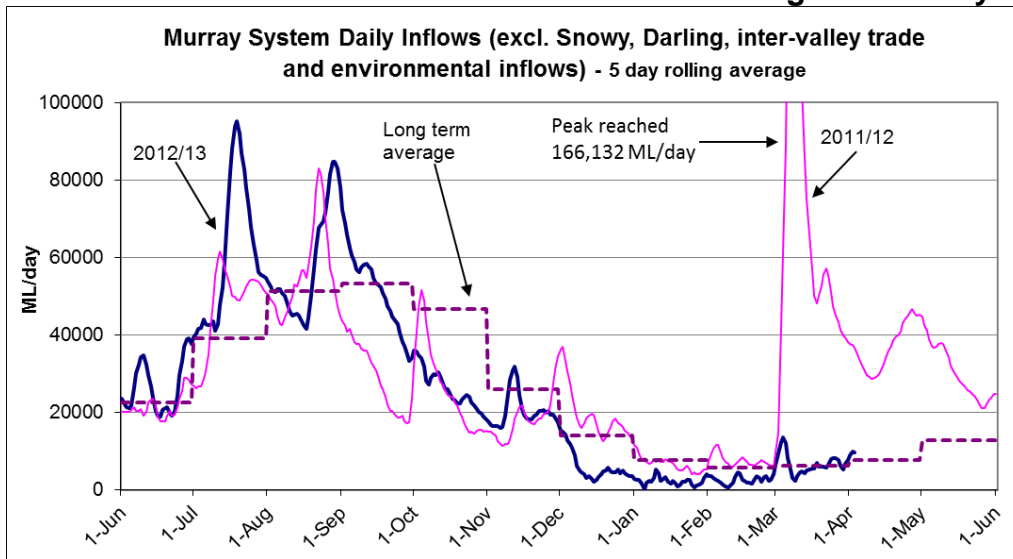
Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.72	All closed	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.69	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	0.1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.69	1	Open	Open

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



Week ending Wednesday 03 Apr 2013



State Allocations (as at 03 Apr 2013)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victorian - Murray Valley

High reliability	100%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

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/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/>