



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 08 JULY 2009

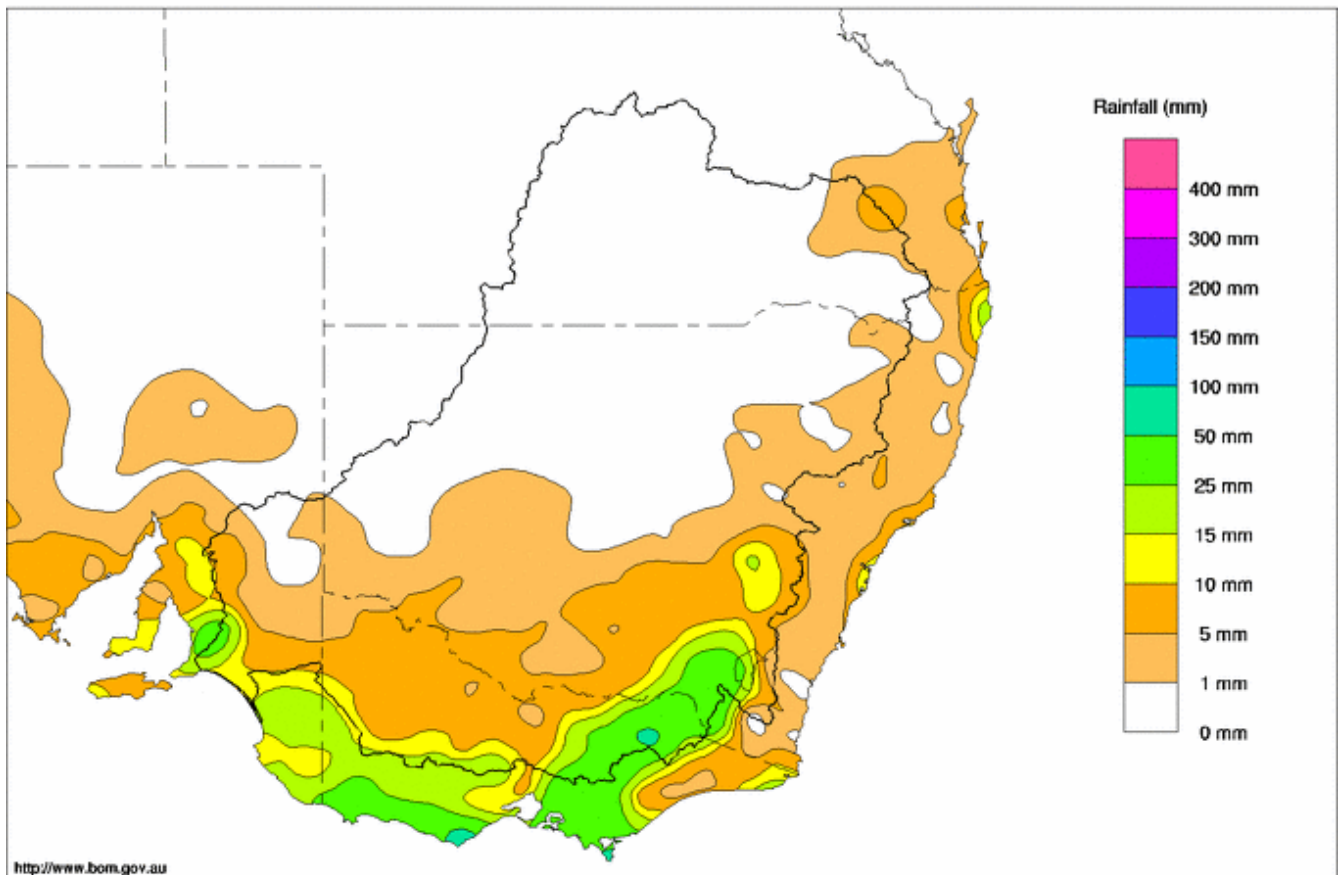
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Rainfall and Inflows

During the past week, north-eastern Victoria received good falls of rain, particularly in the Upper Murray where most locations received over 25 mm (see Map). Mt Buffalo, in the catchment of the Ovens River received the highest fall of 109 mm. The remainder of the southern Basin received some rain (between 5 and 10 mm), while the north received little or none.

The increased streamflows in the Upper Murray Catchment, resulting from the rain in late June, are now gradually receding. For instance, at Rocky Point on the Ovens River, the flow reduced from a peak of 8,600 ML/day on 3 July to 2,100 ML/day on 8 July and at Hinnomunjie on the Mitta Mitta River upstream of Dartmouth Dam, the flow decreased from 4,900 to 900 ML/day. Until there is further rain, these streamflows will continue to recede.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 8th July 2009
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Issued: 08/07/2009



Lake Mulwala Refill

The water level in Lake Mulwala was increased by 90 cm to 120.4 m AHD (or 4.5 m below Full Supply Level) over the past week to capture some of the extra inflows generated by the rain in late June. Lake Mulwala will continue to be refilled over the next three weeks. The lake has been held at 119.5 m AHD (or 5.4 m below FSL) for the last four weeks to help control the spread of the invasive aquatic weed *Egeria densa*. Lowering the Lake has helped to dry out the weed and expose it to frost (see figure 1).

The release from Yarrawonga Weir will be gradually reduced over the next five days resulting in an initial slow rise (< 20 cm / day) to the Lake level. The main filling will commence from mid July when the Yarrawonga release will be reduced to about 1500 ML/day. The lake level is planned to be at a minimum of 122.5 m AHD by the 22 July in order to meet diversion requirements at Mulwala Canal. Note that the refilling plans may be revised to take into account any changed conditions such as increased flows if there is further rain. Further updates will be provided in subsequent weekly reports.



Figure 1 Frost on the exposed *Egeria densa* covering the Lake Mulwala river bed. Photo courtesy of Pat Doyle.

River Operations

Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by 21 GL to around 857 GL (or 22 % capacity) and the release remains at 200 ML/day. Storage in Hume Reservoir has continued to increase, rising by 56 GL to 388 GL (or 13 % capacity). Increased flows along the Kiewa River resulted in the flow at Doctors Point peaking at 3 400 ML/day earlier this past week. The flow at Doctors Point has receded to around 1,800 ML/day.

State Water Corporation will commence partially refilling Stevens Weir starting 10 July to deliver small volumes of water into the Wakool Main Canal. The Edward River height at Deniliquin is expected to be approximately 0.9 metres when the partial filling of the weir pool is complete (see media release attached).



The storage in Lake Victoria has been gradually increasing since May, rising from 140 GL to 249 GL (37% of capacity). This increase in storage is a result of decreasing river losses and reductions in the flow to South Australia. Lake Victoria is likely to continue to rise over coming months.

The flow to South Australia is currently 1,800 ML/day. Locks 1 to 5 are all close to, or slightly above, FSL and Lock 6 remained around 8 cm below FSL. The flow past Lock 1 this week averaged 1,000 ML/day. The water level in Lake Alexandrina held steady at around -0.9 m AHD and the water level in Lake Albert also remained steady at around - 0.2 m AHD. The salinity of Lake Alexandrina at Milang has remained fairly steady since March, averaging 5,700 EC and the salinity at Lake Albert at Meningie has gradually declined since April 2009, falling from 12,000 to 8,500 EC.

For media inquiries contact: Sam Leone on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Murray



Week ending Wednesday 08 Jul 2009

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	3 906	418.27	857	22%	80	777	+21
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	171.79	388	13%	30	358	+56
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.02	249	37%	100	149	+9
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		237	14%	(- -) #	0	+8
Total		9 352		1 732	19%	- -	1 285	+93

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **15%**

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

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		390	38%	3	387	+8
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		575	35%	24	551	+32
Eildon Reservoir	3 334		480	14%	100	380	+45

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 07-Jul-2009

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2009
Lake Eucumbene - Total	427	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+3	172
Snowy-Murray Component	289	-	Tooma-Tumut	+16	47
Target Storage	1 170		Nett Diversion	-13.4	124
			Murray 1 Release	+18	216

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2009	Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2009
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	0.0	.0	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0.0	0
Wakool Sys Allowance	-0.2	-.2	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	.0	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.0	0
Licensed Pumps	1.0	1.2	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	0
Lower Darling	0.0	.0	Licensed pumps - LMW	0.8	1
TOTAL	0.9	1.0	TOTAL	0.8	1

* Figures derived from Estimates and Monthly Data. Please note that not all data may have been available at the time of creating this report.

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	109 *	(1 800 ML/day)
Flow this week	12.5	
Flow so far this month	14	
Flow last month	52	

* Reduced to approx. 56 GL during July drought contingency operations

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2008
Swan Hill	60	60	60
Euston	130	130	100
Red Cliffs	140	140	120
Merbein	120	120	120
Burtundy (Darling)	360	360	450
Lock 9	120	120	190
Lake Victoria	200	210	260
Berri	410	380	350
Waikerie	410	390	470
Morgan	430	440	500
Mannum	600	600	620
Murray Bridge	700	720	650
Milang (Lake Alex)	5 130	5 230	4 560
Poltalloch (Lake Alex)	4 780	4 430	4 240
Meningie (Lake Alb)	8 720	8 620	7 920
Goolwa Barrages	22 710	27 220	23 950

Week ending Wednesday 08 Jul 2009

River Levels and Flows

	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)				
River Murray							
Khancoban	-	-	-	3 530	F	3 960	3 290
Jingellic	4.0	1.87	208.39	6 180	R	7 320	3 720
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.44	218.33	550	F	870	350
Heywoods	5.5	1.18	154.81	600	S	600	670
Doctors Point	5.5	1.57	150.04	1 560	F	2 610	1 290
Albury	4.3	0.79	148.23	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.85	126.87	2 320	F	2 070	1 300
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.43	116.47	8 320	F	4 990	2 340
Tocumwal	6.4	1.75	105.59	6 960	R	3 620	2 450
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.05	79.60	2 530	R	2 420	2 570
Swan Hill	4.5	0.66	63.58	2 470	S	2 380	2 380
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.65	50.77	3 060	R	3 060	3 480
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.74	42.58	3 090	S	3 440	3 970
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	3 200	F	3 290	3 850
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.87	27.63	3 130	S	3 200	3 860
Rufus Junction	-	2.47	19.40	1 240	F	1 190	1 320
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.80	-	1 050	R	970	1 120
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.72	154.95	1 730	F	2 480	790
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.73	146.41	2 900	F	4 540	810
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.06	92.48	290	F	320	380
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.51	80.29	260	S	230	230
Edward at Liewah	-	0.88	56.26	380	F	440	730
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.09	54.58	30	S	30	50
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.40	56.36	180	S	180	180
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.42	-	500	R	430	500
Darling at Bourke	-	4.21	-	910	S	950	1 230
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.65	-	20	F	30	40

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	13 040	3 180
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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
Yarrawonga	124.90	-4.52	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.04	+0.16
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.08	-0.03
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.04	+0.05
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.05	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.15
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.23	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.02	+0.16
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.03	-0.00	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.11	+0.08
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.04	+0.06	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.05	-1.55

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-2.51	0.795	70.145	435
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.07	0.32	61.62	436

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.90

Barrages

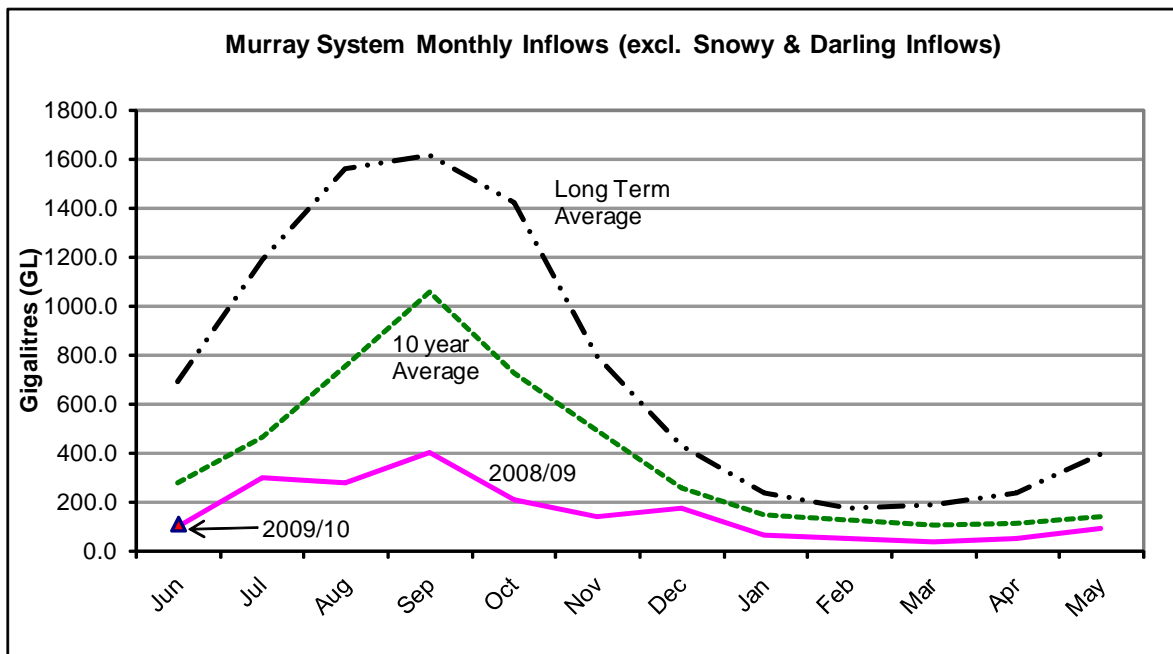
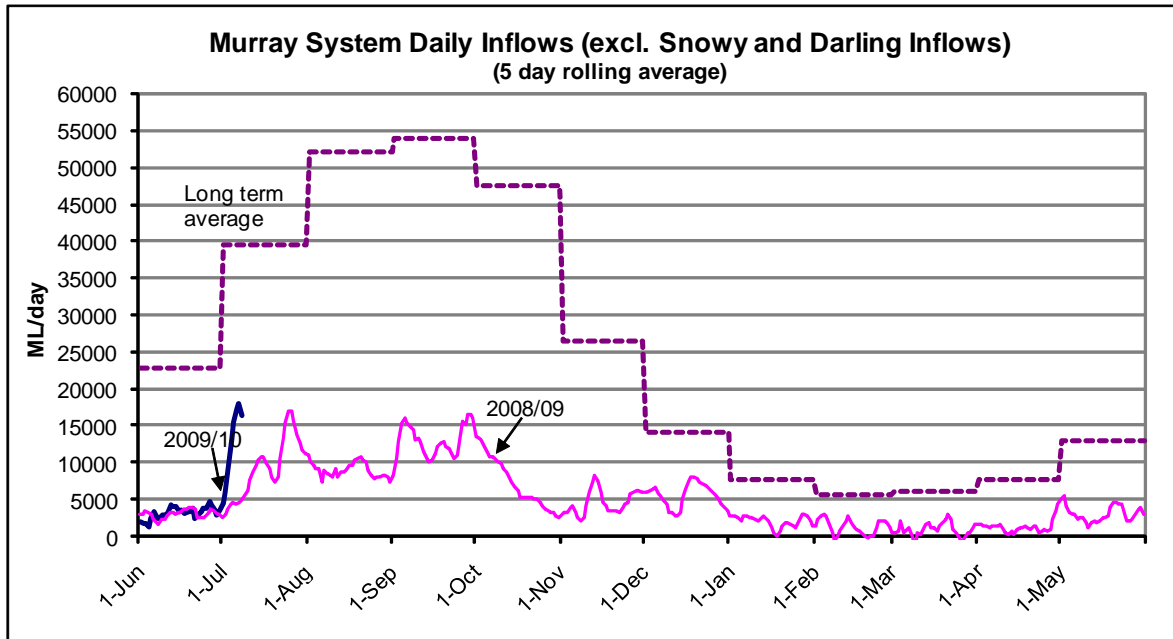
Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	-0.73	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwicheere	322 gates	-	All closed	Closed	Closed

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



Week ending Wednesday 8th July 2009



State Allocations (as at 8th July 2009)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	0%
General security	0%

Victoria - Murray Valley

high reliability	0%
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NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	0%
General security	0%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

high reliability	0%
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NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	0%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	2%
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NSW : http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/mediarelnr/mr_toc_currnr.html

VIC : <http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp>

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

PARTIAL REFILLING OF STEVENS WEIR POOL

10 July 2009

State Water Corporation announced today that the partial refilling of Stevens Weir pool on the Edward River will begin during the week commencing Friday 10 July in preparation to deliver domestic and stock water into Murray Irrigation's Wakool Irrigation District.

State Water's Water Delivery Manager Southern, Ned Hamilton said water levels within the weir pool would be managed to deliver small volumes of water into the Wakool Main Canal, while minimising evaporation and transmission losses within the weir pool.

"Water used to partially refill Stevens Weir pool will be delivered into the system through the Edward River Offtake and Gulpa Creek Offtake taking advantage of the recent increase of tributary inflow in to mid Murray," Mr Hamilton said.

"State Water advises river users within the influence of the Stevens Weir pool to watch for changing river levels during the coming weeks and plan their activities accordingly."

The Edward River height at Deniliquin is currently 0.46 metres, and is expected to be approximately 0.9 metres when the partial filling of the weir pool is complete.

Customers requiring further information on river flows can contact the Duty Operations Officer on (03) 5898 3925.

Authorised by:

Ned Hamilton
Water delivery Manager
Southern

For **Water Delivery Announcements** and State Water Media Releases go to:
<http://www.statewater.com.au/whanew/mediareleases.htm>

For **Available Water Determinations** and Department of Water and Energy Media Releases go to: http://www.dwe.nsw.gov.au/water/avail_awd.shtml

For more information about **storage levels** and **river heights** go to the *Waterinfo Website* at <http://www.waterinfo.nsw.gov.au>