

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 19 July 2006



Our Ref : M2006/00012/jw, prs
Trim Ref : 06/16148

21 July, 2006

Rainfall and Inflows

Widespread rainfall was observed across south-eastern Australia this week, with most of the Basin receiving greater than 25 mm (*see attached map*). These showers were a welcome break from the very dry conditions experienced across the Basin in recent months, and produced localised runoff in South Australia and the upper Darling. Unfortunately this rainfall failed to produce significant inflows to the River Murray from either the Ovens or Kiewa Rivers, or into the upper storages. The combined storage in Hume and Dartmouth remains at 46% of capacity (3 195 GL).

River Murray Operations

In order to meet water demands and to transfer additional water to Lake Victoria, release from Hume Reservoir has been increased over the past week to 9 500 ML/day, increasing flow at Doctors Point to 10 000 ML/day, up from 8 000 ML/day last week. Further increases in Hume release are expected over the coming week. Releases from Dartmouth Reservoir will be increased over the coming week to an average of about 1 100 ML/day, and will increase further through August (*see attached Media Release*).

Releases from Yarrawonga Weir have been increased from 7 000 ML/day to 9 000 ML/day. Diversions into the Mulwala Canal commenced this week in preparation for the 2006-07 irrigation season. Increased flow in the Edward River has also enabled the Stevens Weir pool to commence refilling, and this will allow diversions into the Wakool Main Canal from late July. The release from Torrumbarry Weir has been increased to 6 000 ML/day and the upstream pool level is currently 85.66 m AHD, which is 39cm below the full supply level of 86.05 m AHD. The pool will be maintained at this level for several days and then gradually increased over the coming week to facilitate National Channel diversions from early August. Flow downstream from Euston Weir has increased to 5 000 ML/day, with the upper pool increased close to full supply level.

The lowering of the upstream pool for Weir and Lock 8 Wangumma has continued over the past week. On 20th July the level was 24.44m AHD, which is 16 cm below full supply level. The pool level will continue to fall gradually over the coming weeks to a target level of 24.20m AHD. Storage in Lake Victoria dropped slightly over the past week to 391 GL. The transfer of water from Hume Reservoir is expected to raise the storage level to about 400 GL by the end of July, which is slightly lower than the level at this time last year.

Flow downstream from Weir and Lock 1 Blanchetown has temporarily increased from 3 500 ML/day to 5 000 ML/day. This additional flow has seen the level of the Lower Lakes increase to 0.83m AHD, with a small number of gates in the Goolwa, Tauwitchere and Boundary Creek barrages remaining open.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

MEDIA RELEASE

20 July 2006

Water Transfers from Dartmouth to Hume Reservoir about to Commence



TRIM Ref: 06/16322

The transfer of water from Dartmouth Reservoir to Hume Reservoir is scheduled to commence on Monday 31 July, River Murray Water General Manager David Dreverman announced today.

“This increase in release is required to supplement storage in Hume Reservoir in preparation for the coming 2006-07 irrigation and water supply season”, he added.

“January to June 2006 was an exceptionally dry period across the River Murray system. Consequently, by the end of the 2005-06 season River Murray system storage was drawn down to low levels (40%). The majority of the Commission’s current active storage is held in Dartmouth Reservoir (75 %) and Menindee Lakes remain under NSW control”, Mr Dreverman said.

“If dry conditions persist, substantial volumes of water will need to be transferred from Dartmouth Reservoir to Hume Reservoir and from Hume Reservoir to Lake Victoria to meet requirements across the River Murray system for NSW, Victoria and South Australia this season”, he added.

Beginning on 31 July the release from Dartmouth Reservoir will be progressively increased to target an average flow of about 5 000 ML/d in August. It is expected that the release will be varied on a fortnightly basis. “The variable release is aimed at providing environmentally beneficial variation in river levels in the Mitta Mitta River and to minimise the impact of sustained high flows on riverbank stability”, Mr Dreverman said. RMW will issue a Flow Advice to Mitta Mitta valley landholders by 28 July to provide further details.

“Unless there is significant rain over the coming months, further increases in release from Dartmouth and an extended period of transfers at higher flow rates may be required this season”, Mr Dreverman added.

River Murray Water will provide regular updates throughout the season on the program of release from Dartmouth Reservoir, particularly when significant changes are required.

For further information contact:

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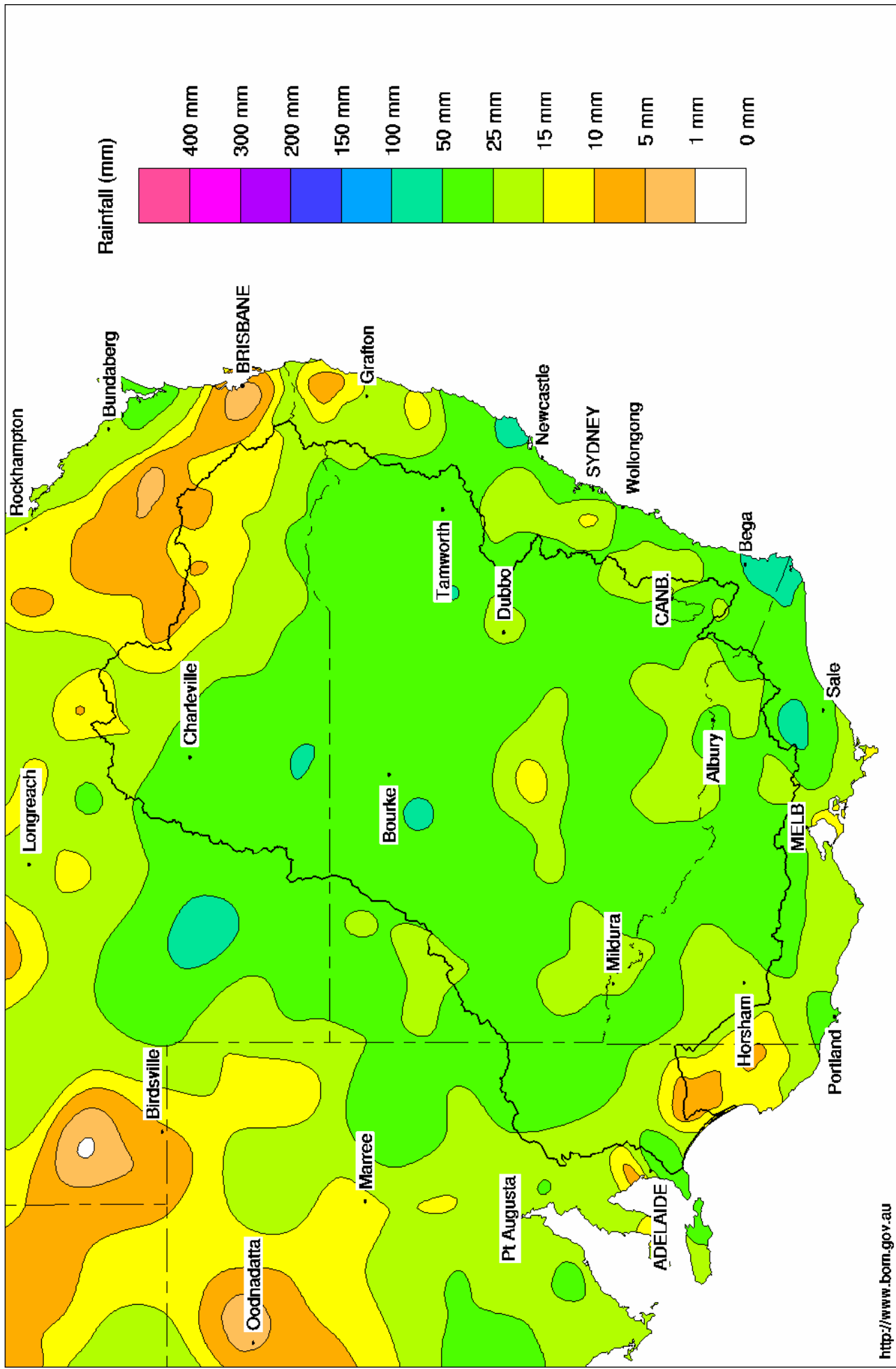
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(Allison Hicks is not to be quoted as a spokesperson)

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 19th July 2006

Product of the National Climate Centre



Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	MDBC Active Storage (GL)	Change in Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	462.43	2 533	65%	80	2 453	+4
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	175.21	663	22%	30	633	-1
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	24.46	391	58%	100	291	-3
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		264	15%	(- -) #	0	-2
Total		9 352		3 852	41%	--	3 377	-2

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL % of Total Active MDBC Storage = **40%**
 # NSW takes control of Menindee Lakes when storage falls below 480 GL, and control reverts to MDBC when storage next reaches 640 GL

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		348	34%	3	345	+4
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		940	58%	24	916	+29
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		760	22%	100	660	+6

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 18-Jul-2006

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2006
Lake Eucumbene - Total	884	-55	Snowy-Murray	+36	318
Snowy-Murray Component	592	-31	Tooma-Tumut	+2	15
Target Storage	1 170		Nett Diversion	33.7	303
			Murray 1 Release	+36	348

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2006
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	1.0	1.0
Wakool System loss	0.1	.4
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	.2
Licensed Pumps	0.7	2.0
Lower Darling	0.1	.2
TOTAL	1.9	3.8

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2006
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	- .1	
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.7	1
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	1
Licensed pumps - LMW	0.0	2
TOTAL	0.6	3

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	108.5	(3 500 ML/day)
Flow this week	24.4	
Flow so far this month	66	
Flow last month	90	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2005
Swan Hill	110	110	100
Euston	140	140	110
Red Cliffs	170	160	130
Merbein	100	110	110
Burtundy (Darling)	620	660	610
Lock 9	120	120	130
Lake Victoria	150	160	190
Berri	260	240	230
Waikerie	-	-	340
Morgan	390	390	340
Mannum	390	390	360
Murray Bridge	320	340	360
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 250	1 180	1 230
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	880	750	940
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 200	2 140	2 210
Goolwa Barrages	1 440	1 430	1 850



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	-	-	-	4 940	R	5 520	5 250
Jingellic	4.0	1.80	208.32	5 470	F	6 660	6 110
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.64	218.53	1 190	R	830	710
Heywoods	5.5	2.38	156.01	8 440	R	7 780	5 770
Doctors Point	5.5	2.56	151.03	9 110	R	8 700	6 710
Albury	4.3	1.52	148.96	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.15	128.17	9 030	F	8 470	6 060
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.62	116.66	8 990	S	8 000	6 340
Tocumwal	6.4	2.12	105.96	9 350	R	7 870	5 670
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.05	80.60	5 970	R	5 980	3 430
Swan Hill	4.5	1.24	64.16	5 910	R	4 860	2 560
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.53	51.65	6 000	R	4 400	2 800
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.02	42.86	4 600	R	3 390	3 150
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 840	F	2 720	2 560
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.80	27.56	3 760	F	3 280	2 500
Rufus Junction	-	2.89	19.82	3 190	S	3 130	3 090
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.84	-	5 490	R	4 040	3 110
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.15	154.38	800	R	700	540
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.01	145.69	887	F	680	570
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.25	92.67	504	R	520	580
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.25	-	1 010	F	650	180
Edward at Liewah	-	1.01	56.39	495	F	470	420
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.20	54.69	96	S	70	40
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.53	56.49	229	F	230	210
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.07	-	0	F	0	0
Darling at Bourke	-	4.01	-	85	S	90	100
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.67	-	41	R	30	10

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	2 980	1 590
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Weirs and Locks

Pool levels above or below design level

Murray	FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.27	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.06	+0.59
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.39	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.01	+0.03
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.05	+0.13
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.01	+0.03	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.48
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.16	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.05	+0.14
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.02	-0.18	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.01	+0.17
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.16	+0.07	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.09

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.10	1.29	70.64	1380
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-1.22	0.1	61.4	228



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.81

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.84	1	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.86	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.83	4	Open	Open

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