

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 16 August 2000

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :ng **17 August, 2000**



Rainfall totals of between 50 and 100 mm were recorded in the catchments of Hume and Dartmouth Reservoirs this week. Minor flooding was occurring at Jingellic, on the River Murray upstream of Hume Dam, and a peak inflow of about 50 000 ML/day was entering Lake Hume. Lake Hume is currently about 1 metre higher than any time in the last 3 years.

Total storage in Hume and Dartmouth Reservoirs increased by 239 GL this week, compared to 133 GL last week. Storage in Hume Reservoir increased from 67% to 74% of total capacity, and without further rain, it is expected that storage in Hume will exceed 80% by the end of next week.

The chance of Hume Reservoir filling this season has increased, however further significant rain is required to fill the storage. The flows currently in transit upstream of the Dam are not yet sufficient to trigger 'pre-releases'. 'Pre-releases' are releases made in advance of the storage filling for the purposes of maintaining airspace for flood mitigation. These releases are made only when the filling of Hume Reservoir is ensured based on likely minimum inflows over the remainder of spring. River Murray Water is closely monitoring catchment and demand conditions and will provide updates in coming weeks on the likelihood of pre-releases and Hume spilling.

Falls of rain of between 10 and 50 mm have also produced renewed rises in the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers. Minor flooding in the lower reaches of the Kiewa River resulted in a peak flow in the River Murray at Doctors Point of over 8 000 ML/day. Flow downstream of Yarrowonga Weir increased to 19 000 today and without further rain is expected to reach about 21 000 ML/day next week.

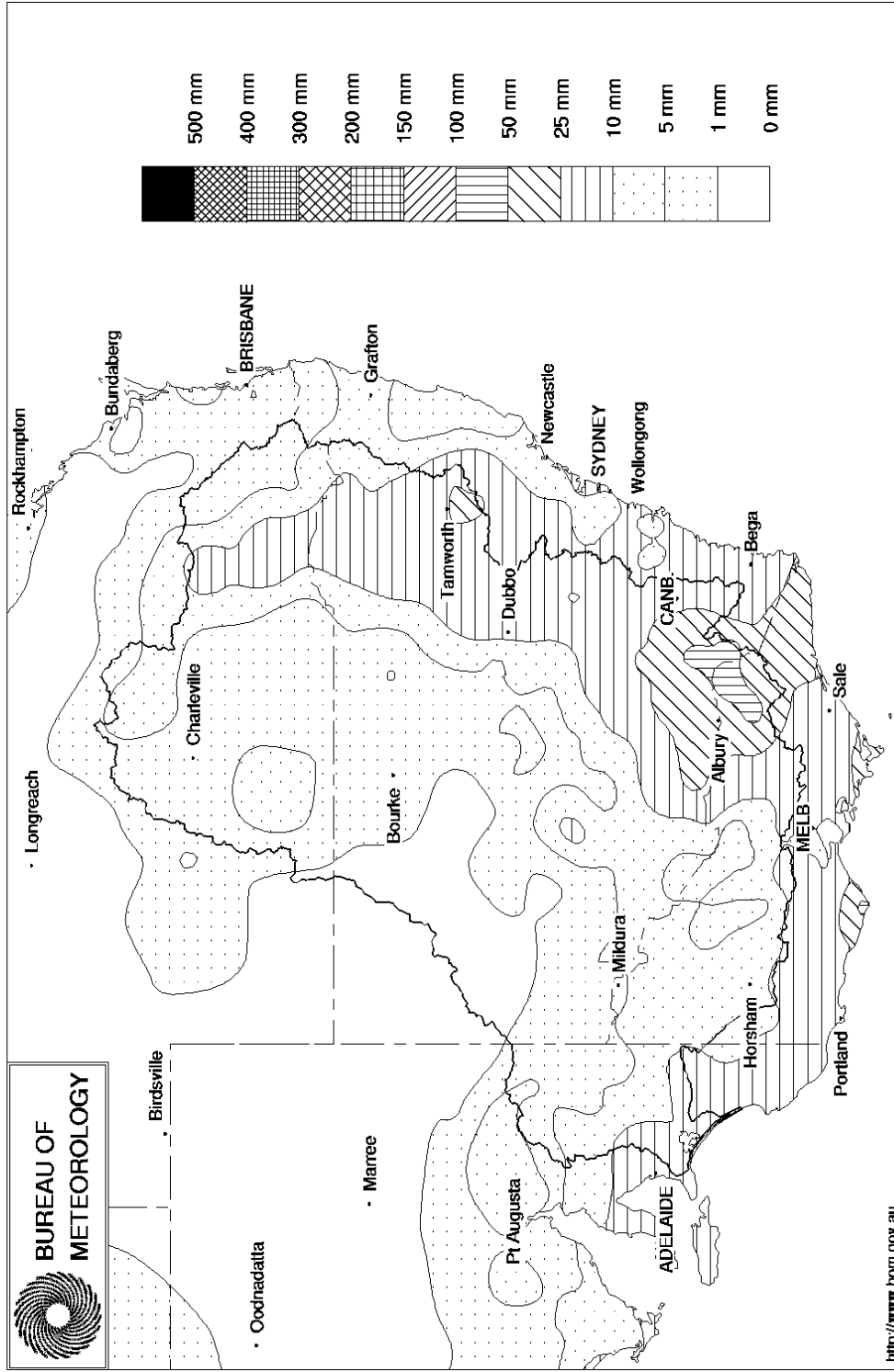
Inflow to the River Murray from the Goulburn River peaked during the week at about 7 000 ML/day following last week's rain. Flow in the River Murray downstream of Torrumbarry Weir has risen to more than 10 000 ML/day in response to the Goulburn River inflows, and is expected to remain at about this level throughout next week as higher flows arrive from the River Murray upstream. Further downstream at Euston and Wentworth, flows will fall away next week ahead of the rise which will see in excess of 12 000 ML/day pass through this reach by the end of August.

Storage in Menindee Lakes remains at the maximum surcharge limit. Releases from Lake Cawndilla to the Great Darling Anabranch were increased to 2000 ML/day this week. In addition, the flow in the Darling River at Weir 32 was increased slightly to 1 500 ML/day. Inflows to the Lakes are steady at present, with the flow at Wilcannia also steady at a peak of about 5 200 ML/day. The Paroo River is continuing to contribute approximately 50% of the flow at Wilcannia.

The water level in Lake Victoria is presently 26.17 m and falling at about 25 mm/day. Storage in the Lake is presently 586 GL (86% capacity). Releases from Lake Victoria will continue next week following recent improvements in inflows to the River Murray downstream of Hume Dam. The Lake will be refilled later in spring to conserve water resources for use later in the season.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 16th August 2000
 Product of the National Climate Centre



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Week ending 16-Aug-2000

Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	FSL	Full Supply	Level	Storage		Dead storage	Active storage	Change for week
	m AHD	GL	m AHD	GL	%	GL	GL	GL
Dartmouth Reservoir	486	3906	459.58	2390	61%	80	2310	+42
Hume Reservoir	192	3038	187.68	2238	74%	30	2208	+199
Lake Victoria	27	680	26.17	588	86%	100	488	-16
Menindee		1682 *		1997	119%	480 #	1517	+15
Total		9306		7214	78%	690	6524	+239

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **76%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	500	49%	3	497	+56
Blowering Reservoir	1631	1006	62%	24	982	+81
Eildon Reservoir	3390	879	26%	100	779	+36

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 15-Aug-2000

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2275	+29	Snowy-Murray	+19	388
Snowy-Murray Component	1063	-4	Tooma-Tumut	+13	79
Target Storage	1190		Nett Diversion	5.7	309
			Murray 1 Release	+28	453

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	12.7	13.7
Wakool System loss	1.2	2.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	0.5
Licensed Pumps	6.9	12.7
Lower Darling	3.6	43.0
TOTAL	24.5	71.9

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	0.0	0.0
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	21.3	45.8
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.2	1.7
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	0.6
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.6	10.8
TOTAL	23.3	58.9

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	124
Flow this week	108.6
Flow so far this month	238
Flow last month	211

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	180	196	245
Euston	330	281	221
Red Cliffs	220	210	217
Merbein	150	170	174
Burtundy	400	383	362
Lock 9	240	236	244
L.Victoria	360	355	325
Berri	330	304	328
Waikerie	370	370	389
Morgan	350	392	441
Mannum	440	443	457
Murray Bridge	380	392	416
Meningie	1310	1220	1193
Goolwa Barrages	1000	916	1028



River Levels and Flows

	Minor Flood stage	Gauge height	Flow	Trend	Average flow this week	Average flow last week
	m	m	ML/day		ML/day	ML/day
River Murray						
Khancoban	-	-	7380	R	5890	7150
Jingellic	4.0	3.47	23810	R	18390	12470
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.48	5220	R	2750	1910
Heywoods	5.5	1.37	600	S	590	600
Doctors Point	5.5	2.53	8550	R	5270	2470
Albury	4.3	1.49	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.72	6830	R	5320	2620
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.67	18000	R	15370	10420
Tocumwal	6.4	3.07	16403	R	13170	11670
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.19	10345	R	8260	9370
Swan Hill	4.5	1.32	6380	F	7480	9150
Wakool Junction	8.8	N/A	N/A	F	9950	11560
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.98	9990	F	11010	12240
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.31	11810	F	12520	13520
Rufus Junction	-	4.56	13736	F	14870	14820
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	16000	F	16210	13060
Tributaries						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.69	7950	R	4430	2220
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	11.05	13586	R	14290	5610
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	3.59	4725	F	3940	1290
Edward at Liewah	-	2.51	2010	R	1770	2350
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.42	352	R	230	270
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.71	390	F	450	760
Darling at Bourke	-	4.36	2160	R	2160	2490
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	1.13	1510	F	1940	3030
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.20	60	F	70	120

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	31670	13840
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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	+0.07	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.13	+2.24
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.04	+0.71
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.01	+0.76
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.01	+0.36	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+1.67
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.03	+0.67	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.05	+0.91
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.01	+0.06	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.07	+0.91
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.01	+0.27	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.52

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.45	1.20	1090
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.18	0.18	296

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.78	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.77	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.78	30

