REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 8 November 2000

Our Ref : MDBC:269 :ng:bwh **10 November, 2000**

River Murray Water
A Business Unit of MDBC

Widespread rain was again received across the Basin this week. Falls of between 10 and 50 mm were recorded along the length of the Great Divide from central Victoria to southern Queensland, with the central and western portions of the Basin receiving light falls of up to 10 mm.

Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir has continued to increase and is now at 76% of capacity. Total Commission active storage available across the River Murray system is currently at 90% of capacity, which is the highest since early 1997.

Inflow to Hume Reservoir has receded from about 24 000 ML/day to 13 500 ML/day, and release has been reduced from 20 000 ML/day to 15 000 ML/day by 10 November. Hume is still effectively spilling as release is currently slightly above downstream requirements. However, without further rain, Hume release will return to fully regulated conditions early next week. Release will be maintained at the current level to meet downstream requirements, which includes resuming the provision of additional flows for watering of the Barmah-Millewa Forest after the recession of the Ovens River. Under these circumstances, Hume Reservoir will be drawn down, however further significant rain may result in renewed stream rises and may generate further spill from the storage.

Flow at Albury returned to channel capacity (25 000 ML/day) on 6 November for the first time since 19 October. Further downstream at Yarrawonga Weir, flood release was reduced from 82 000 ML/day to 41 000 ML/day this week. Without further rain, the release will return to regulated conditions by 12 November with a minimum release rate of 24 000 ML/day being maintained throughout next week for continued watering of the Barmah-Millewa Forest.

The Edward River at Deniliquin peaked on 9 November at 6.69 m (2.1 m above minor flood level) and is now falling slowly. The Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting peaks further downstream in both the Edward River at Moulamein and the River Murray at Wakool Junction to approach minor flood level.

River Murray flow at Barmah continues to rise and is expected to peak next week. A second inflow peak in as many weeks flowed into the River Murray from the Goulburn River this week reaching about 15 800 ML/day at McCoys Bridge. The combined flow from the Murray and Goulburn is currently producing a peak in the Murray at Torrumbarry Weir of about 36 000 ML/day.

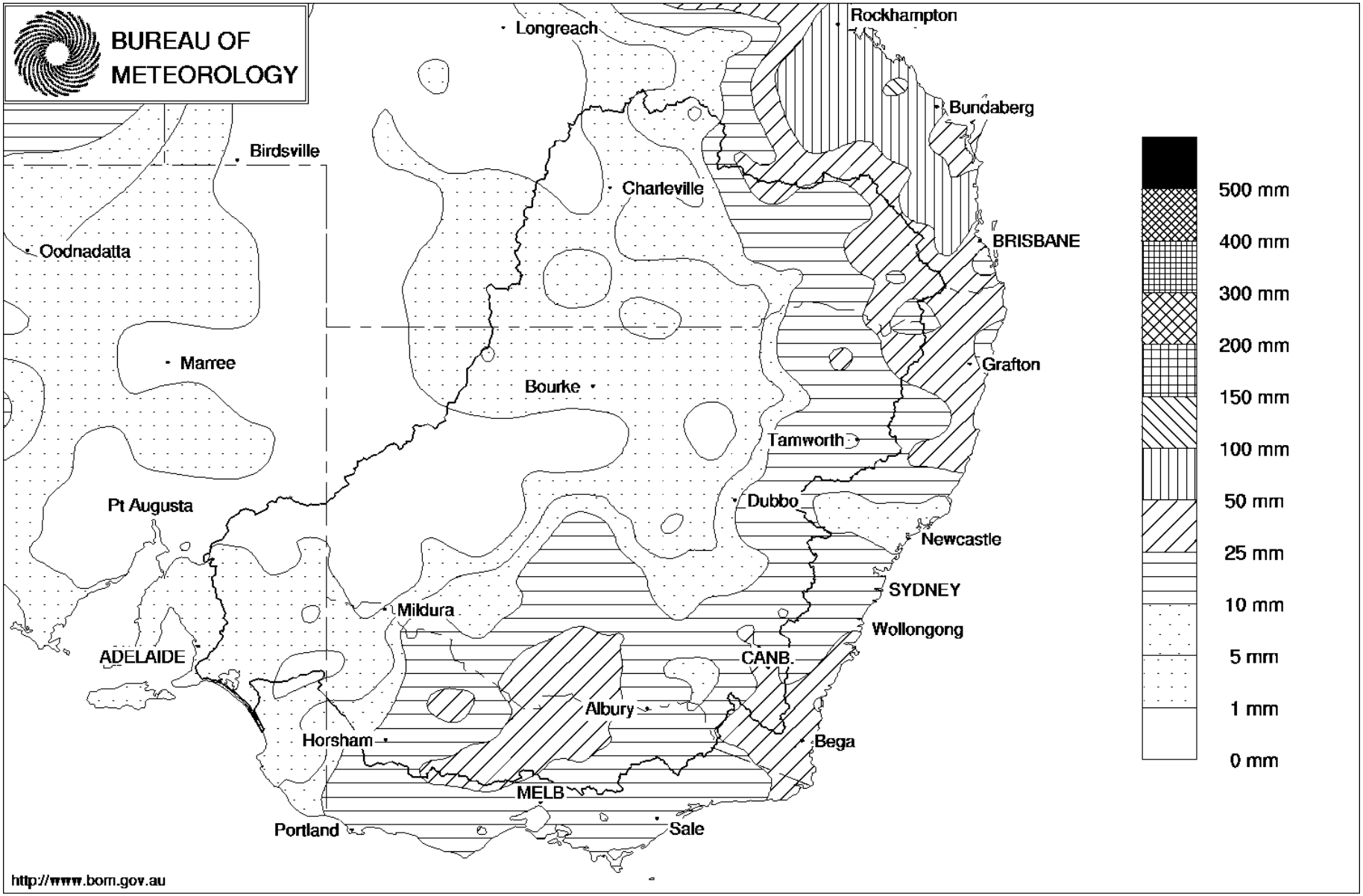
Inflow to the River Murray from the Murrumbidgee River peaked on 8 November at 3 900 ML/day. As a result of these flows in transit in the Murray and tributaries, a *preliminary* forecast for the Murray at Euston is for a peak in the range 40 000 to 45 000 ML/day in late November followed by a typically rapid recession through mid December. More reliable forecasts will be possible when peaks upstream in the Murray at Barmah and the Wakool River at Stoney Crossing occur.

Flow rates to South Australia have continued at about 25 000 ML/day (about 4 times the November average daily entitlement of 6 000 ML/day), and flow is expected to remain near this rate until late November before rising as the latest Murray peak progresses toward South Australia. This is providing good prospects for further clearance of accumulated sand at the Murray Mouth.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 8th November 2000

Product of the National Climate Centre



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Week ending 08-Nov-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	470.58	2969	76%	80	2889	+31
Hume Reservoir	192	3038	191.99	3037	100%	30	3007	-0
Lake Victoria	27	680	25.85	553	81%	100	453	+8
Menindee		1682 *		1915	114%	480 #	1435	-11
Total		**9306**		**8474**	**91%**	**690**	**7784**	**+27**

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **90%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026		786	77%	3	783	+20
Blowering Reservoir	1631		1452	89%	24	1428	-13
Eildon Reservoir	3390		1640	48%	100	1540	+42

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 07-Nov-2000

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2886	+40	Snowy-Murray	+3	506
Snowy-Murray Component	1400	+24	Tooma-Tumut	+13	262
Target Storage	1450		Nett Diversion	-9.4	244
			Murray 1 Release	+13	797

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	11.8	370.6
Wakool System loss	0.0	4.4
Western Murray Irrig.	0.5	4.1
Licensed Pumps	3.7	74.1
Lower Darling	0.2	124.5
TOTAL	**16.2**	**577.7**

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	2.2	61.8
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	1.0	213.1
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.6	21.4
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	8.8
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.7	48.4
TOTAL	**9.6**	**353.5**

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	180
Flow this week	174.7
Flow so far this month	202
Flow last month	997

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	260	279	209
Euston	220	219	191
Red Cliffs	240	230	229
Merbein	260	170	184
Burtundy	420	415	422
Lock 9	160	148	218
L.Victoria	220	275	315
Berri	230	228	304
Waikerie	290	290	357
Morgan	300	292	361
Mannum	290	294	360
Murray Bridge	310	312	354
Meningie	1400	1340	1278
Goolwa Barrages	850	1372	1762

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Week ending 08-Nov-2000

River Levels and Flows

River Murray	Minor Flood stage m	Gauge height m	Flow ML/day	Trend	Average flow this week ML/day	Average flow last week ML/day
Khancoban	-	-	1730	S	3970	5890
Jingellic	4.0	2.24	9620	F	13490	24480
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.97	2620	F	3340	6380
Heywoods	5.5	3.12	16600	F	19530	44510
Doctors Point	5.5	3.56	21000	F	25430	57990
Albury	4.3	2.59	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	4.43	26900	F	35140	60770
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	4.72	41400	F	57300	77540
Tocumwal	6.4	5.81	53241	F	74820	64190
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	7.06	35320	R	31910	21950
Stevens Weir (d/s)		6.24	27000	S	19371	8104
Swan Hill	4.5	3.75	23180	S	22700	18730
Wakool Junction	8.8	6.78	29091	R	27460	25180
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	4.77	34560	R	29480	27690
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.40	25680	R	24920	27570
Rufus Junction	-	5.56	23447	S	23680	28250
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	24700	F	27040	34230
Tributaries						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.22	3060	R	3940	8090
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	10.16	7779	F	11880	28450
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	6.89	15051	F	12570	11590
Edward at Liewah	-	3.94	4460	R	3990	3700
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	2.42	5070	R	4200	4370
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	3.28	3880	R	3500	950
Darling at Bourke	-	4.36	2160	S	1960	1500
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.87	573	S	590	650
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.37	390	F	370	320

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	26000	52890

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
Yarrawonga	124.90	+0.18	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.44	+3.26
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	+1.41
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.00	+1.25
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.01	+1.60	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.01	+2.21
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.06	+1.76	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.02	+1.51
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.07	+0.94	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.00	+1.58
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.14	+1.48	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.08	+0.96

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	+0.09	1.73	2080
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.10	2.65	3780

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.82	10
Mundoo	26 openings	0.88	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.88	All closed

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