

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 13 September 2000

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :brc **15 September, 2000**



Widespread rainfall of up to 100 mm of rainfall was recorded in upper Murray and tributary catchment areas mainly during 8-10 September, resulting in significant increases in inflows to storages and along the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers.

Inflows to Hume Reservoir rose from about 22 500 ML/day on 7 September to a peak of about 66 000 ML/day on 11 September. In response, release from Hume was increased to 35 000 ML/day on 10 September to retain some airspace for flood mitigation, whilst generally maintaining the river level at Albury gauge near 4.2 m (or 0.1 m below minor flood level). Albury river level temporarily exceeded minor flood level on 11 September following short-lived peak from the Kiewa River, and local inflow to the River Murray. Storage in Hume on 13 September was 2 940 GL, or 98 GL below full supply level. Early next week, releases from Hume will continue near the current rate to maintain flow at Albury slightly below minor flood level, with the aim of holding airspace in Hume for mitigation of any subsequent inflow events.

Areas of moderate flooding have been experienced along parts of the Ovens River catchment over the last week, and flow at Wangaratta peaked at about 50 000 ML/day with moderate flooding late on 10 September. Further rainfall produced a second smaller peak on 12 September, and flow at Wangaratta is now expected to slowly recede to below minor flood level by 16 September.

Release from Yarrawonga Weir was increased to about 66 000 ML/day on 13 September in response to the arrival of the peak from the Ovens River. This release was maintained until 15 September because inflows to Lake Mulwala were maintained by the arrival of the peak release from Hume Reservoir. Release from Yarrawonga Weir is expected to be maintained between 65 000 and 70 000 ML/day or 5.9-6.1 m (below minor flood level of 81 100 ML/day or 6.4 m gauge height) until about 17 September, and then reduced if conditions are dry.

Bureau of Meteorology preliminary forecasts are for peak River levels below minor flood levels at all locations downstream of Yarrawonga Weir. A peak of about 23 000 ML/day or 5.3 m gauge height (minor flood level 6.0 m) is expected in early October at Barmah. Early indications also show that the flow at Deniliquin is expected to approach minor flood level of 4.6 m in late September/early October without further rain. Further information will be provided by the Bureau as the peak moves downstream.

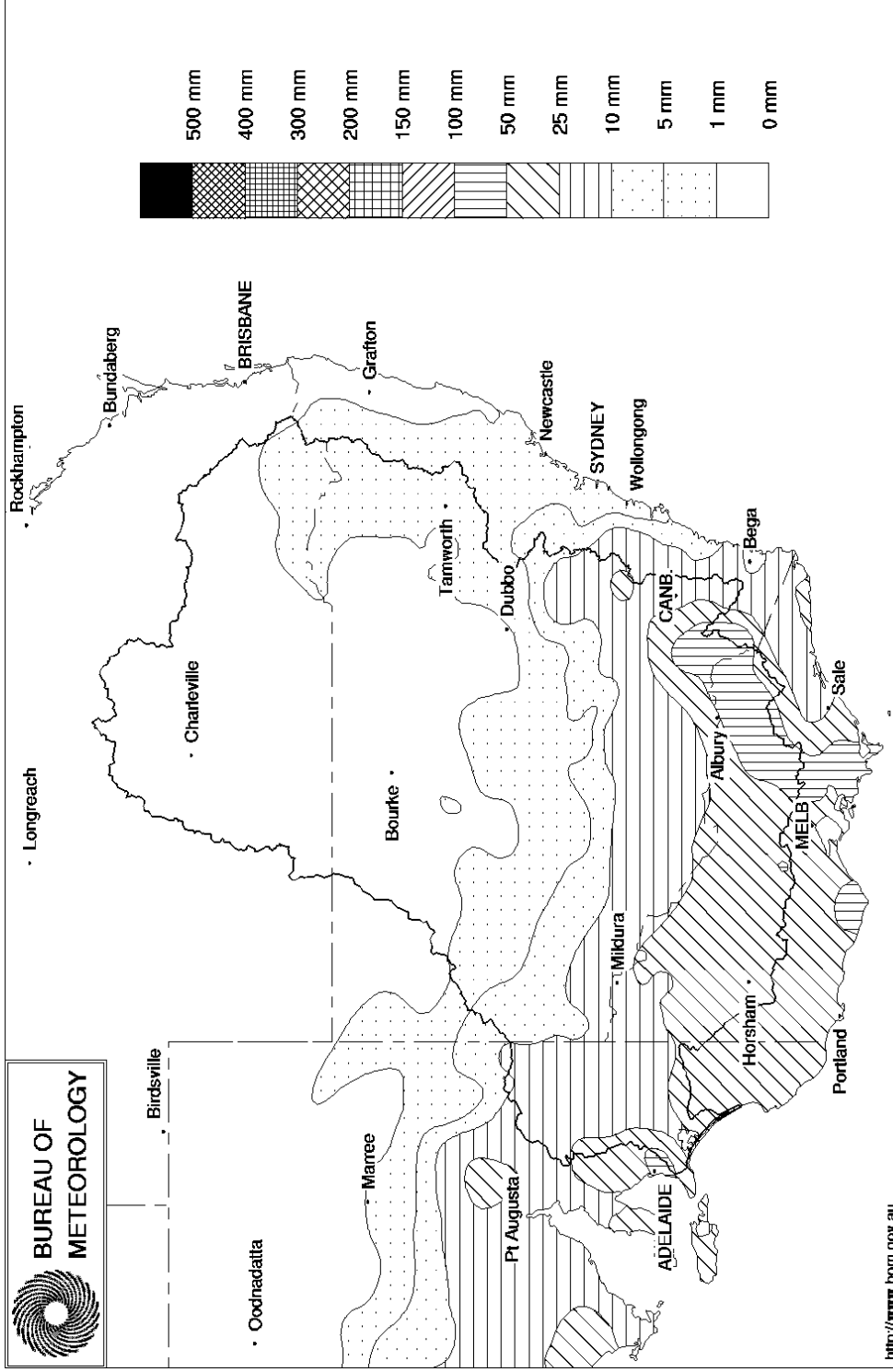
At Torrumbarry Weir, a peak of about 32 000 ML/day is expected by 20 September, as a result of a small flush in the Goulburn River. The flow downstream of Torrumbarry Weir is then expected to slowly recede to about 23 000 ML/day by the end of September.

At Euston Weir, very early predictions show a peak of about 35 000-40 000 ML/day by about mid October. These early predictions are subject to error, and will be refined as the peak travels downstream.

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General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 13th September 2000

Product of the National Climate Centre



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Week ending 13-Sep-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	463.18	2571	66%	80	2491	+75
Hume Reservoir	192	3038	191.51	2940	97%	30	2910	+163
Lake Victoria	27	680	25.70	537	79%	100	437	-12
Menindee		1682 *		2001	119%	480 #	1521	-5
Total		9306		8050	87%	690	7360	+221

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL
NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **85%**

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	610	59%	3	607	+55
Blowering Reservoir	1631	1249	77%	24	1225	+109
Eildon Reservoir	3390	1198	35%	100	1098	+181

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 12-Sep-2000

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2337	+82	Snowy-Murray	+4	489
Snowy-Murray Component	1022	+28	Tooma-Tumut	+18	119
Target Storage	1240		Nett Diversion	-14.9	369
			Murray 1 Release	+23	587

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	5.8	77.1
Wakool System loss	0.1	4.4
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	0.7
Licensed Pumps	3.1	27.1
Lower Darling	12.0	91.8
TOTAL	21.0	201.1

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	2.0	7.0
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	7.5	106.4
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.5	2.6
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.8	2.3
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.0	20.2
TOTAL	13.9	138.4

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	135
Flow this week	173.3
Flow so far this month	291
Flow last month	443

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	390	234	214
Euston	190	216	214
Red Cliffs	230	210	248
Merbein	170	210	207
Burtundy	400	444	404
Lock 9	240	251	251
L. Victoria	340	353	345
Berri	320	344	335
Waikerie	390	380	377
Morgan	390	398	404
Mannum	360	365	396
Murray Bridge	350	331	369
Meningie	1340	1340	1238
Goolwa Barrages	2740	2772	1320



Week ending 13-Sep-2000

River Levels and Flows

	Minor Flood stage	Gauge height	Flow	Trend	Average flow this week	Average flow last week
River Murray	m	m	ML/day		ML/day	ML/day
Khancoban	-	-	7360	F	7380	6580
Jingellic	4.0	4.08	31580	F	28690	17220
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.50	5330	F	4780	2650
Heywoods	5.5	4.21	35730	R	24440	10200
Doctors Point	5.5	5.00	41400	F	31600	13900
Albury	4.3	4.22	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	4.93	32300	R	23890	11330
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	5.94	65900	R	42640	22330
Tocumwal	6.4	5.11	39364	R	32250	19120
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.98	18796	R	17100	16160
Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	3.69	5890	R	4487	3104
Swan Hill	4.5	3.13	18880	R	17010	14070
Wakool Junction	8.8	5.65	21800	R	20190	15170
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	3.99	26500	R	24600	18790
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.22	24100	S	21790	16960
Rufus Junction	-	5.74	25581	R	23550	18370
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	24300	R	22060	17610
Tributaries						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.61	6190	F	6940	4070
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	12.41	41763	R	31380	15730
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	7.24	16328	R	8210	8780
Edward at Liewah	-	3.70	3950	R	3610	2250
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.15	1520	R	1040	700
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	4.63	6730	F	6890	7060
Darling at Bourke	-	4.35	2070	F	2220	2090
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	1.23	1750	S	1750	1780
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.22	90	R	70	100

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	57040	27930
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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
Yarrawonga	124.90	-0.11	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.60	+3.43
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.06	+1.52
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.04	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.01	+1.34
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.00	+1.32	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.03	+2.24
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.05	+1.58	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.00	+1.49
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.07	+0.63	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.05	+1.52
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.02	+1.32	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.03	+1.02

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	+0.24	4.87	11500
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.15	4.44	7330

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.98	30
Mundoo	26 openings	1.02	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	20
Tauwitchere	322 gates	1.03	70

