

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 25 July 2001

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :ng

26 July, 2001



Light to moderate falls of rain were recorded across much of the Basin this week. Falls in Victoria, southern New South Wales and along the Great Divide north to Queensland were generally limited to 5 mm, however heavier falls of between 10 and 25 mm were recorded west of the Divide in New South Wales and Queensland. Tributary inflows to the River Murray have shown little or no response to the light falls of rain.

Inflows to Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs receded during the week, and storage volumes increased by 8 GL and 48 GL respectively. Storage in Hume Reservoir is now at 1 433 GL (or 47% of capacity). Release from Hume is being maintained at the minimum requirement, however, without further significant rain, an increase in release may be required in early August to supply increasing demands downstream.

Flow downstream of Yarrawonga Weir has been reduced to 2 800 ML/day, and without further rain will remain near this rate over the coming weekend. If conditions remain dry, release is likely to be increased in early August to supply downstream requirements.

Works have begun on a major upgrade of Yarrawonga Weir to bring it in line with current design and engineering standards. An official launch of the works took place at the Weir on 24 July as described in the attached media release issued by Goulburn-Murray Water.

Maintenance work currently underway on the gates of Stevens Weir is nearing completion. Release to the Edward River from the River Murray will be increased in early August to allow the refilling of the Weir pool in time for filling of irrigation channels for the coming irrigation season.

Diversion from Torrumbarry Weir pool to National Channel commenced this week at 500 ML/day (about 25% of capacity) in order to start filling channels within the Torrumbarry Irrigation System. An increase in diversion to 1 200 ML/day is scheduled to occur early next week, and as a result, flow downstream of Torrumbarry Weir is expected to decline from the current level of 4 200 ML/day to about 2 000 ML/day by Wednesday 1 August. Flow will then be maintained at or above this level to ensure that the river level at Swan Hill remains above the minimum requirement.

Inflow to the River Murray from the Murrumbidgee River is currently about 1 800 ML/day, and will remain at or above this level into early August. Further downstream, flow in the Murray downstream of Euston Weir is currently about 7 000 ML/day, and is forecast to remain near this rate for the remainder of July, and then without further rain, is forecast to slowly recede in early August.

Flow to South Australia remains at about the current requirement of 6 500 ML/day (comprising 3 500 ML/day entitlement plus 3 000 ML/day additional dilution flow), and will be increased on 1 August to 7 000 ML/day (4 000 ML/day entitlement plus 3 000 ML/day additional dilution flow). The storage level of Lake Victoria is steady at about 24.1 m (370 GL or 54% of capacity).

DAVID DOLE
General Manager



Media Release

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24 JULY, 2001

Works commence on \$13M Yarrawonga Weir upgrade

An estimated 80 people attended today's launch of the works to begin the \$13 million upgrade of the Yarrawonga Weir.

This upgrade will bring the Weir in line with current design and engineering standards to protect its viability for future generations.

Goulburn-Murray Water Chief Executive, Denis Flett, officially launched the works and said the upgrade will ensure the Weir continues to provide a constant and reliable source of irrigation to the region.

"The Weir feeds many industries including the huge dairy, rice and horticultural industries that thrive in this area," said Mr Flett.

Mr Flett commended the Murray Darling Basin Commission for the significant investment they are making as owners of the Weir.

"This demonstrates the Murray Darling Basin Commission's role as the responsible owner of this important asset," he said.

"Today's ceremony was well attended and reflects the strong support from many stakeholders including irrigators, landowners, businesses, tourism operators and the community.

"It also represents the strong, mutual co-operation that exists between the Shire of Corowa and the Shire of Moira."

The Weir is considered to be one of the most important structures on the River Murray as it is the point of greatest diversion and feeds many industries such as dairy, rice and horticultural industries.

The direct economic value of these industries to this region is \$440 million each year.

Along with Lake Mulwala, the Weir plays an important role in the local tourism industry, attracting a major influx of tourists to the region each year.

As the Authority responsible for carrying out the works, Goulburn-Murray Water will maximise the benefits to the local economy and anticipate injecting around \$7 million throughout the course of the project.

Goulburn-Murray Water has consulted with and listened to the community, and is committed to continue to do so throughout the project.

The works will require closure of road access across the Weir from July to December 2001 and February to October, 2002. The road will be reopened during December and January.

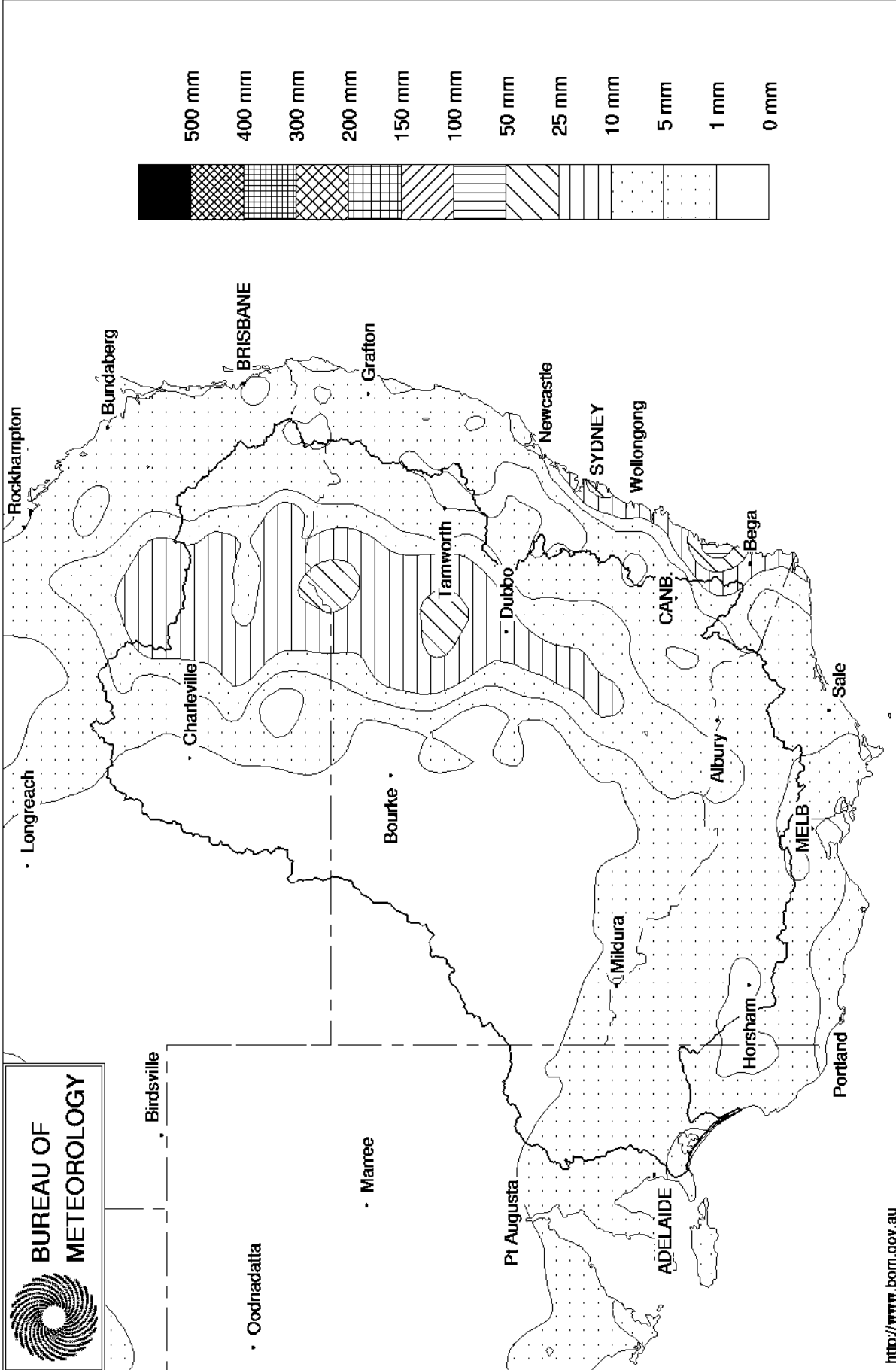
For more information on the upgrade telephone 1800 111 202.

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Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 25th July 2001

Product of the National Climate Centre



<http://www.bom.gov.au>

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Issued: 25/07/2001

Week ending 25-Jul-2001

Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	Full Supply Level m AHD	Full Supply Capacity GL	Storage Level m AHD	Current Storage		Dead storage GL	Active storage GL	Change for the week GL
				GL	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3906	474.06	3168	81%	80	3088	+8
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3038	182.23	1433	47%	30	1403	+48
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	24.09	370	54%	100	270	+0
Menindee		1682 *		1981	118%	480 #	1501	+4
Total		9306		6952	75%	690	6262	+60

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = 73%

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	427	42%	3	424	+2
Blowering Reservoir	1631	965	59%	24	941	+29
Eildon Reservoir	3390	1110	33%	100	1010	+11

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 24-Jul-2001

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2607	+4	Snowy-Murray	+9	339
Snowy-Murray Component	1159	-	Tooma-Tumut	+5	47
Target Storage	1170		Nett Diversion	3.6	293
			Murray 1 Release	+15	397

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	0.0	0.0
Wakool System loss	0.0	0.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	0.1
Licensed Pumps	0.7	3.2
Lower Darling	0.1	0.2
TOTAL	0.7	3.5

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	0.0	0.0
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	1.1	1.1
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.3	0.7
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.2	14.6
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.9	6.5
TOTAL	3.6	23.0

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	108.5
Flow this week	46.1
Flow so far this month	163
Flow last month	106

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	210	220	222
Euston	290	279	209
Red Cliffs	320	290	258
Merbein	250	230	239
Burtundy	410	430	414
Lock 9	360	347	286
L. Victoria	360	352	315
Berri	430	449	353
Waikerie	540	540	402
Morgan	550	528	419
Mannum	550	520	412
Murray Bridge	510	488	409
Meningie	1140	1130	1229
Goolwa Barrages	870	1066	1245



Week ending 25-Jul-2001

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	-	-	2160	F	3410	2840
Jingellic	4.0	1.69	4820	F	6390	6590
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.49	960	S	990	1080
Heywoods	5.5	1.26	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.82	2710	R	2680	2920
Albury	4.3	0.91	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.96	2790	F	3320	3160
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.80	3500	F	4340	3890
Tocumwal	6.4	1.44	4350	F	4520	3810
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.64	4222	R	4170	3680
Stevens Weir (d/s)		0.63	332	R	330	448
Swan Hill	4.5	0.99	3940	R	3710	3240
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.46	4862	R	4720	4600
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.56	7080	F	6530	6300
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.00	6370	S	6340	6950
Rufus Junction	-	3.40	5960	F	6180	5990
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	6500	S	6640	6490
Tributaries						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.86	2220	R	2180	2440
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.23	1228	F	1440	1230
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.28	572	F	620	610
Edward at Liewah	-	1.69	1080	F	1110	1150
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.42	352	S	340	380
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.93	1760	F	1680	1530
Darling at Bourke	-	4.19	900	F	940	980
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.89	654	S	670	650
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.31	250	R	260	340

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	7240	8860
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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	-0.12	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.09	+1.09
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.02	+0.08
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.00	+0.19
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.14	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.01	+0.77
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.03	+0.36	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.00	+0.21
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.07	+0.06	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.05	+0.26
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.06	+0.17	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.12

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.09	1.58	1980
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.04	1.75	2260

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.82	8
Mundoo	26 openings	0.80	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.81	4

