

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

**Wednesday, 14 November 2001**

*Our Ref: MDBC:269 :ng:bwh*

**15 November, 2001**



Rain was recorded in all but the central and western parts of the Murray-Darling Basin this week. Falls of between 50 and 100 mm were recorded in the upper Condamine River catchment in Queensland. In the south of the Basin, falls were generally less than 10 mm with some heavier falls of up to 25 mm recorded in the upper Murray.

Streamflows in the upper Murray showed little or no response to the rain, and inflows to Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs as well as flows in the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers are continuing to recede. Release from Dartmouth Reservoir is currently steady at 4 000 ML/day with storage falling 6 GL to 3 469 GL (89% of capacity).

Storage in Hume Reservoir has continued to slowly rise as inflow has exceeded release as a result of rain over the last few weeks. However, release from Hume has been increased from about 3 500 to 11 500 ML/day since 8 November to meet rising demand. Further increases in release are expected if there is no further significant rain, and storage in Hume (currently 2 429 GL or 80% of capacity) is forecast to begin to fall late next week under these conditions.

Release from Yarrawonga Weir has been maintained at about 7 500 ML/day, and is likely to be increased next week to meet increasing demands and river losses downstream. Flow in the Edward River downstream of Stevens Weir has been increased to 2 100 ML/day as part of the trial watering of wetlands in the Werai Forest. It is anticipated that this trial will continue until late November, and additional system flows consumed for this purpose will be debited to the NSW Murray Wetlands environmental account.

Inflow to the River Murray from the Murrumbidgee River has receded to about 400 ML/day, however a temporary minor rise is expected next week. Flow in the River Murray at Euston Weir is currently 6 700 ML/day and is forecast to recede to about 4 000 ML/day by late November.

Release to the lower Darling River from Menindee Lakes (currently 5 000 ML/day) will be gradually increased to 7 500 ML/day next week (*see Media Release attached*). Release from the lakes is then expected to gradually reduce throughout December and January as the falling lake levels restrict the outlet capacity. However, it may be further reduced at any time in response to any significant increases in flow along the River Murray upstream of the Darling Junction.

As advised last week, the pattern of delivery of flow to South Australia is currently being altered to provide minor environmental benefits in South Australia, whilst maintaining the total flow requirement for November. Flow peaked on 12 November at about 13 000 ML/day, and will be gradually reduced to the November entitlement of 6 000 ML/day by 16 November. Additional dilution flow to South Australia has been supplied since April 2000 (a period of about 19 months), apart from a temporary period of cessation in June 2001 for the purposes of undertaking a river salinity survey. However, additional dilution flow has now ceased, and for water accounting purposes this is deemed to have occurred on 14 November when storage in Menindee Lakes fell below the relevant November target of 1 300 GL.

DAVID DOLE  
General Manager

# MEDIA RELEASE

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Tuesday, 13 November 2001

## Increase in Release from Menindee Lakes



River Murray Water announced today that release from Menindee Lakes will be increased in order to maintain storage levels in Lake Victoria as flows in the River Murray upstream of the Darling Junction begin to recede.

Under the combined operating rules for the two storages, water is currently being transferred from Menindee Lakes to Lake Victoria to assist in meeting flow requirements for South Australia over the remainder of the irrigation season. As flow in the Murray upstream of the Darling Junction is currently receding it is now necessary to increase release from Menindee Lakes to the lower Darling at Weir 32.

Commencing Friday 16 November, flow at Weir 32 (currently 5 000 ML/day, 2.26 m gauge height) will be increased to 7 500 ML/day (2.74 m gauge height) by Tuesday 20 November. This increase is forecast to produce a rise in the water level at Burtundy from the current level of 2.9 m to approximately 3.7 m by late November.

The release rate from Menindee Lakes will be kept under review according to flows in the River Murray and storage in Lake Victoria. If flow in the River Murray upstream of the Darling Junction increases significantly as a result of rain, release from Menindee Lakes will be reduced to conserve resources. Even without rain along the Murray, the release rate from Menindee Lakes will need to be gradually reduced over coming months as the outlet capacity declines as the storage level declines in the Lakes of the Menindee scheme.

A further media release will be issued if a significant change to the pattern of release from Menindee Lakes is required.

For further information contact:

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(Keith Bashford is *not* to be quoted as a spokesperson)

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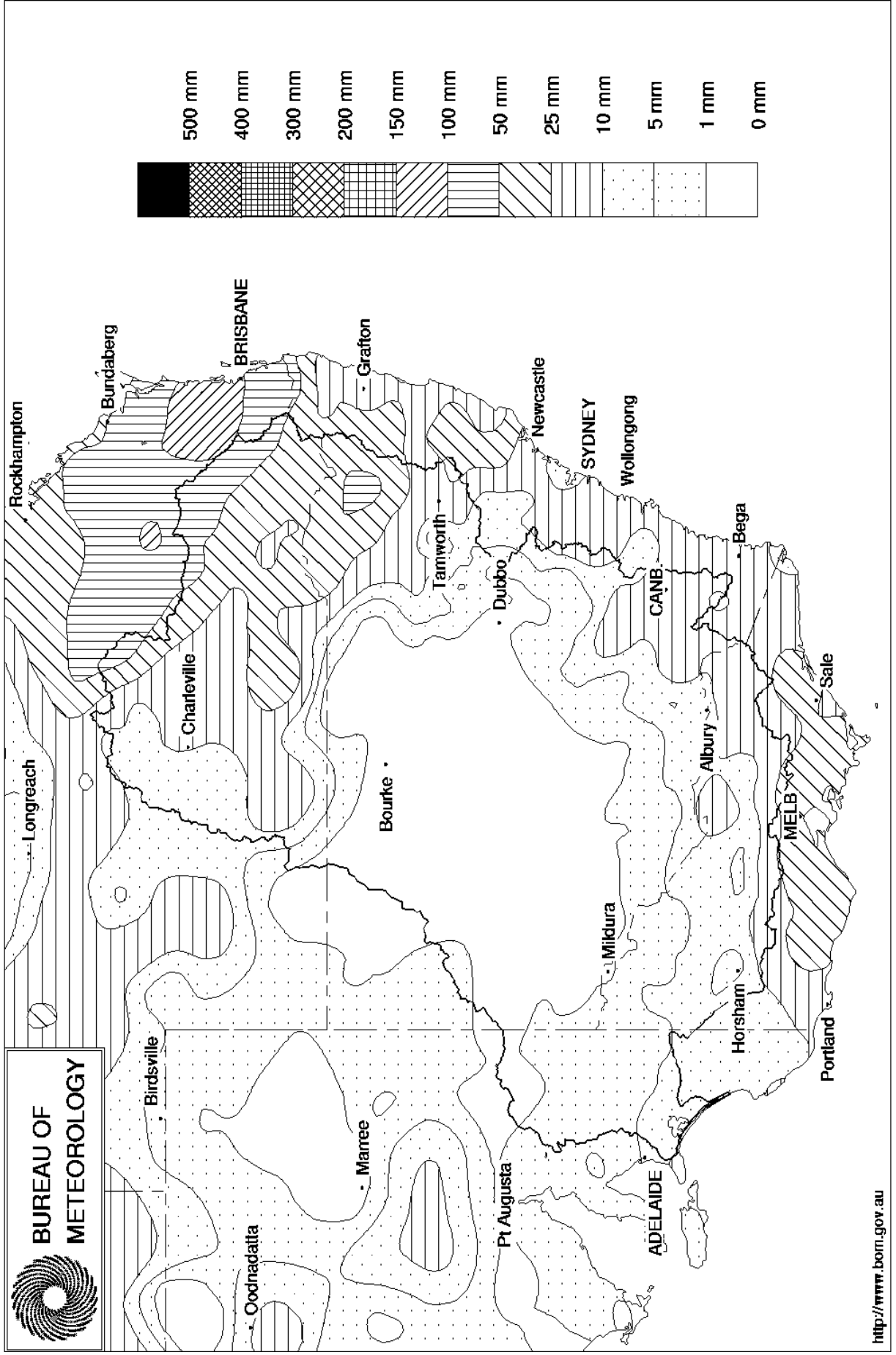
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(Daniel Connell is *not* to be quoted as a spokesperson)

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 14th November 2001

Product of the National Climate Centre



**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	479.09	3469	89%	80	3389	-6
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3038	188.79	2429	80%	30	2399	+64
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	25.98	567	83%	100	467	+9
Menindee		1682 *		1291	77%	480 #	811	-60
<b>Total</b>		<b>9306</b>		<b>7757</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>7067</b>	<b>+7</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **82%**

# NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

**Major State Storages**

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	527	51%	3	524	+7
Blowering Reservoir	1631	974	60%	24	950	-42
Eildon Reservoir	3390	1471	43%	100	1371	+12

**Snowy Mountains Scheme**

Snowy diversions for week ending 13-Nov-2001

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversions	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	3139	+39	Snowy-Murray	+2	435
Snowy-Murray Component	1453	-	Tooma-Tumut	+4	183
Target Storage	1450		Nett Diversion	-2.4	252
			Murray 1 Release	+15	689

**Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)**

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	37.1	428.3
Wakool System loss	1.7	7.7
Western Murray Irrig.	1.0	5.7
Licensed Pumps	9.0	98.6
Lower Darling	3.9	11.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>551.6</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	7.0	125.1
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	15.3	242.8
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	5.2	33.0
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.8	25.0
Licensed pumps - SRW	4.4	62.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>488.5</b>

**Flow to South Australia (GL)**

Entitlement this month	180
Flow this week	75.4
Flow so far this month	125
Flow last month	266

**Salinity (EC)**

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	230	197	246
Euston	200	201	269
Red Cliffs	250	260	336
Merbein	250	280	311
Burtundy	460	460	407
Lock 9	390	390	371
L.Victoria	390	391	364
Berri	450	449	418
Waikerie	-	500	499
Morgan	510	508	505
Mannum	500	502	510
Murray Bridge	550	528	553
Meningie	1230	1230	1160
Goolwa Barrages	730	725	1379



**River Levels and Flows**

	Minor Flood stage	Gauge height	Flow	Trend	Average flow this week	Average flow last week
<b>River Murray</b>	m	m	ML/day		ML/day	ML/day
Khancoban	-	-	2570	F	3580	4300
Jingellic	4.0	2.02	7630	R	9880	9180
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	2.47	5200	F	5450	5830
Heywoods	5.5	2.64	11310	R	6310	4220
Doctors Point	5.5	2.93	13000	R	8750	7180
Albury	4.3	1.88	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.37	11000	R	8880	6900
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.39	7480	S	7300	7730
Tocumwal	6.4	1.90	6859	R	6690	8610
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.60	4090	F	4970	6200
Stevens Weir (d/s)		2.04	2130	R	1899	884
Swan Hill	4.5	1.14	4910	F	5200	5920
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.73	5831	F	6220	7160
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.49	6680	F	7340	9620
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.22	10530	S	12080	13880
Rufus Junction	-	3.98	9605	F	10260	6680
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	7560	R	5990	6450
<b>Tributaries</b>						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.69	1900	F	2680	3250
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.05	3578	F	3950	6090
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.31	625	S	600	750
Edward at Liewah	-	1.83	1220	R	1010	1220
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.52	542	F	630	690
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.74	420	R	490	1530
Darling at Bourke	-	4.12	570	S	580	440
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	2.88	4950	F	5550	6680
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.22	90	F	100	90

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	15100	13550
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**Weirs and Locks**

**Pool levels above or below design level**

<b>Murray</b>	FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.10	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.06	+1.66
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.07	+0.52
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.15	+0.52
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.03	+0.06	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.08	+1.36
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.58	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.10	+0.47
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.01	+0.10	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.10	+0.35
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.07	+0.16	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.03	+0.22

<b>Murrumbidgee</b>	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.04	1.58	1980
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.00	0.21	324

**Barrages**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.86	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.88	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.88	5

