

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 28 November 2001

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

30 November, 2001



Rain was recorded in all but the central and western portions of the Murray-Darling Basin this week. Storm activity in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales resulted in falls of between 25 and 100 mm with isolated readings in excess of 100 mm. The Bureau of Meteorology has issued minor flood warnings for the Gwydir and McIntyre Rivers. It is possible that this flooding will lead to minor increases in inflows to Menindee Lakes later in January 2002, however, further updates on forecast inflows will be provided over the coming weeks. Light rain of between 1 and 25 mm was recorded in Victorian catchment areas, however this has had little or no impact on streamflows.

Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir continues to slowly decline, and is now 3 437 GL (88% of capacity). Release from Hume Reservoir has been increased from 15 000 to 19 000 ML/day to meet downstream requirements. Higher release rates, coupled with receding inflows, are now accelerating the rate of fall in water level in Hume, and storage volume has declined by 43 GL to 2 374 GL (78 % of capacity).

Total diversion from Lake Mulwala averaged about 9 600 ML/day during the week (about 70% of capacity) and this is expected to increase further next week if conditions remain dry. High irrigation demand downstream has required that release from Yarrowonga Weir be increased to channel capacity of about 10 400 ML/day. Without further rain, it is expected that release will be maintained near this level over the coming weeks.

In the Edward River, flow downstream of Stevens Weir has been reduced from 2 100 to 900 ML/day with the cessation of the trial watering of wetlands in the Werai Forest. However, flow will again be increased next week to about 1 800 ML/day in order to supplement flows in the Murray to assist in meeting increasing irrigation demand.

Diversion to National Channel from the Torrumbarry Weir pool increased from 2 400 to 3 000 ML/day, and is expected to be increased further next week. Release from Torrumbarry Weir was increased to about 3 000 ML/day, and is forecast to be increased to around 3 500 ML/day next week.

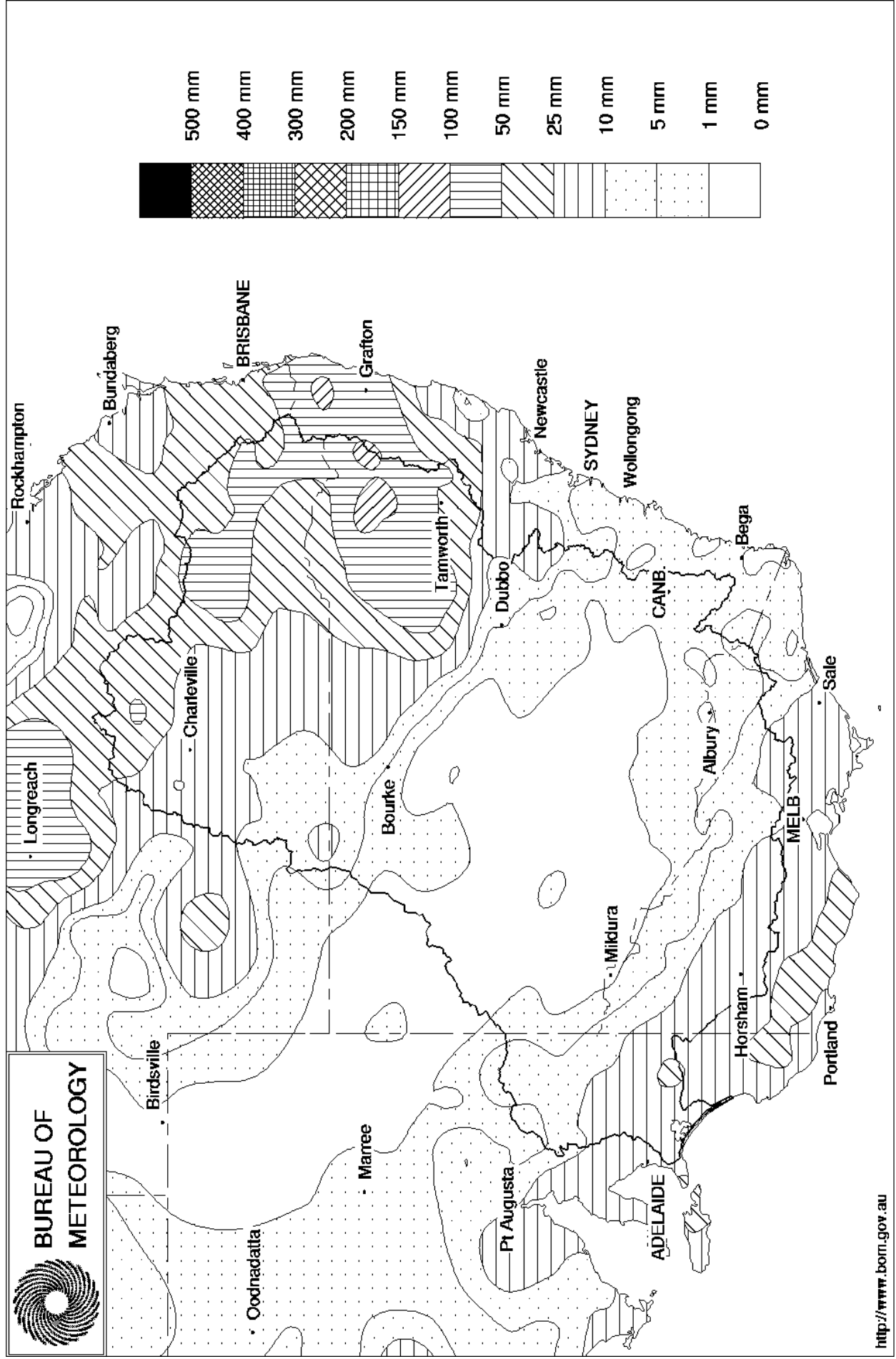
Flow in the River Murray downstream of Euston Weir has now receded to the current regulated requirement of about 3 700 ML/day. River Murray Water plans to reinstate a weekly pulsing pattern downstream of Euston Weir from next week. This operation is undertaken during summer when flows are at regulated requirement, and aims to reduce fluctuations caused by high pumping rates at weekends in the Sunraysia area. This operation is aimed at maintaining a near constant flow downstream of Mildura Weir, to assist in management of River Murray water quality in the Sunraysia region.

Release to the Lower Darling River from Menindee Lakes reached 7 500 ML/day during the week but will be gradually reduced next week to about 6 400 ML/day as a result of declining outlet capacity from the Lakes. Some 'airspace' is being maintained in Lake Victoria to enable capture of flow increases that may occur along the Murray as a result of any 'rain rejections' of irrigation orders, or from any significant increases in tributary flows.

DAVID DOLE  
General Manager

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 28th November 2001

Product of the National Climate Centre



# RMW Weekly Report

Week ending 28-Nov-2001

## Water in Storage

| MDBC Storages       | Full Supply Level<br>m AHD | Full Supply Capacity<br>GL | Storage Level<br>m AHD | Current Storage |            | Dead storage<br>GL | Active storage<br>GL | Change for the week<br>GL |
|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
|                     |                            |                            |                        | GL              | %          |                    |                      |                           |
| Dartmouth Reservoir | 486.00                     | 3906                       | 478.57                 | 3437            | 88%        | 80                 | 3357                 | -17                       |
| Hume Reservoir      | 192.00                     | 3038                       | 188.47                 | 2374            | 78%        | 30                 | 2344                 | -43                       |
| Lake Victoria       | 27.00                      | 680                        | 26.23                  | 595             | 87%        | 100                | 495                  | +12                       |
| Menindee            |                            | 1682 *                     |                        | 1165            | 69%        | 480 #              | 685                  | -69                       |
| <b>Total</b>        |                            | <b>9306</b>                |                        | <b>7571</b>     | <b>81%</b> | <b>690</b>         | <b>6881</b>          | <b>-116</b>               |

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **80%**

# NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

## Major State Storages

|                      |      |      |     |     |      |     |
|----------------------|------|------|-----|-----|------|-----|
| Burrinjuck Reservoir | 1026 | 490  | 48% | 3   | 487  | -24 |
| Blowering Reservoir  | 1631 | 906  | 56% | 24  | 882  | -34 |
| Eildon Reservoir     | 3390 | 1444 | 43% | 100 | 1344 | -26 |

## Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 27-Nov-2001

| Storage (GL)           | Current storage | Weekly change | Diversions       | This week | From 1st May |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Lake Eucumbene - Total | 3187            | +21           | Snowy-Murray     | +9        | 445          |
| Snowy-Murray Component | 1476            | -             | Tooma-Tumut      | +4        | 194          |
| Target Storage         | 1450            |               | Nett Diversion   | 4.9       | 250          |
|                        |                 |               | Murray 1 Release | +12       | 712          |

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

| New South Wales         | This week   | From 1 July  | Victoria                        | This week   | From 1 July  |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net) | 45.5        | 510.2        | Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)   | 17.7        | 158.6        |
| Wakool System loss      | 1.0         | 9.6          | Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net) | 19.4        | 281.1        |
| Western Murray Irrig.   | 1.1         | 7.6          | Sunraysia Pumped Districts      | 6.6         | 45.3         |
| Licensed Pumps          | 9.4         | 116.4        | Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s) | 1.2         | 27.5         |
| Lower Darling           | 4.1         | 19.3         | Licensed pumps - SRW            | 4.4         | 71.5         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>61.2</b> | <b>663.0</b> | <b>TOTAL</b>                    | <b>49.3</b> | <b>583.9</b> |

## Flow to South Australia (GL)

|                        |      |
|------------------------|------|
| Entitlement this month | 180  |
| Flow this week         | 42.0 |
| Flow so far this month | 209  |
| Flow last month        | 266  |

## Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

|                 | Current | Average over the last week | Average since 1 August |
|-----------------|---------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Swan Hill       | 210     | 161                        | 240                    |
| Euston          | 190     | 191                        | 260                    |
| Red Cliffs      | 280     | 260                        | 328                    |
| Merbein         | 260     | 260                        | 304                    |
| Burtundy        | 470     | 495                        | 416                    |
| Lock 9          | 370     | 371                        | 371                    |
| L. Victoria     | 380     | 390                        | 367                    |
| Berri           | 480     | 460                        | 423                    |
| Waikerie        | 540     | 530                        | 507                    |
| Morgan          | 550     | 550                        | 509                    |
| Mannum          | 550     | 502                        | 509                    |
| Murray Bridge   | 550     | 545                        | 551                    |
| Meningie        | 1370    | 1220                       | 1166                   |
| Goolwa Barrages | 1050    | 1012                       | 1341                   |



# RMW Weekly Report

Week ending 28-Nov-2001

## River Levels and Flows

|                                  | Minor Flood stage<br>m | Gauge height<br>m | Flow<br>ML/day | Trend | Average flow this week<br>ML/day | Average flow last week<br>ML/day |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>River Murray</b>              |                        |                   |                |       |                                  |                                  |
| Khancoban                        | -                      | -                 | 1730           | F     | 3200                             | 2540                             |
| Jingellic                        | 4.0                    | 1.70              | 4900           | F     | 6930                             | 6060                             |
| Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River ) | 4.2                    | 2.35              | 4490           | F     | 5020                             | 5360                             |
| Heywoods                         | 5.5                    | 3.26              | 19050          | R     | 16940                            | 12410                            |
| Doctors Point                    | 5.5                    | 3.49              | 20200          | R     | 18260                            | 13590                            |
| Albury                           | 4.3                    | 2.51              | -              | F     | -                                | -                                |
| Corowa                           | 7.0                    | 3.47              | 19000          | R     | 17590                            | 13710                            |
| Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)            | 6.4                    | 1.79              | 10400          | R     | 9260                             | 7650                             |
| Tocumwal                         | 6.4                    | 2.18              | 8707           | R     | 8030                             | 6820                             |
| Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)           | 7.3                    | 1.27              | 3005           | R     | 2830                             | 3230                             |
| Stevens Weir (d/s)               |                        | 1.11              | 939            | F     | 1496                             | 2124                             |
| Swan Hill                        | 4.5                    | 0.69              | 2080           | R     | 2170                             | 3590                             |
| Wakool Junction                  | 8.8                    | 2.20              | 4002           | F     | 4250                             | 5320                             |
| Euston Weir (d/s)                | 8.8                    | 0.96              | 3760           | S     | 4410                             | 5810                             |
| Wentworth Weir (d/s)             | 7.3                    | 3.11              | 8450           | F     | 8490                             | 9220                             |
| Rufus Junction                   | -                      | 3.42              | 6066           | R     | 5670                             | 5780                             |
| Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)         | -                      | -                 | 3980           | R     | 3740                             | 6520                             |
| <b>Tributaries</b>               |                        |                   |                |       |                                  |                                  |
| Kiewa at Bandiana                | 2.7                    | 1.18              | 960            | R     | 1160                             | 1500                             |
| Ovens at Wangaratta              | 11.9                   | 8.42              | 1701           | F     | 1930                             | 2650                             |
| Goulburn at McCoys Bridge        | 9.0                    | 1.22              | 476            | S     | 430                              | 500                              |
| Edward at Liewah                 | -                      | 2.58              | 2100           | F     | 2180                             | 1740                             |
| Wakool at Stoney Crossing        | -                      | 0.45              | 402            | S     | 450                              | 480                              |
| Murrumbidgee at Balranald        | 5.0                    | 1.17              | 840            | R     | 730                              | 570                              |
| Darling at Bourke                | -                      | 4.08              | 420            | S     | 460                              | 540                              |
| Darling at Burtundy Rocks        | -                      | 3.47              | 6310           | R     | 5570                             | 4780                             |
| Barwon at Mungindi               | -                      | 3.23              | 100            | R     | 140                              | 70                               |

|                                                                           |      |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|
| <b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme) | 8710 | 10240 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|

## 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      | -0.22 | -     | No. 7 Rufus River    | 22.10       | +0.06 | +1.11 |
| No. 26 Torrumbarry | 86.05       | +0.00 | -     | No. 6 Murtho         | 19.25       | +0.03 | +0.10 |
| No. 15 Euston      | 47.60       | +0.00 | -     | No. 5 Renmark        | 16.30       | +0.04 | +0.18 |
| No. 11 Mildura     | 34.40       | +0.02 | +0.02 | No. 4 Bookpurnong    | 13.20       | +0.04 | +0.63 |
| No. 10 Wentworth   | 30.80       | -0.01 | +0.47 | No.3 Overland Corner | 9.80        | +0.02 | +0.24 |
| No. 9 Kulnine      | 27.40       | +0.06 | +0.10 | No. 2 Waikerie       | 6.10        | +0.08 | +0.15 |
| No. 8 Wangumma     | 24.60       | +0.08 | +0.17 | No 1. Blanchetown    | 3.20        | +0.03 | +0.09 |

| Murrumbidgee  | FSL (M AHD) | relation to FSL | d/s gauge ht. metres | Flow ML/day |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|
| No. 7 Maude   | 75.40       | -0.20           | 0.85                 | 587         |
| No. 5 Redbank | 66.90       | -0.03           | 0.12                 | 244         |

## Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

|                | Openings     | Level | Status     |
|----------------|--------------|-------|------------|
| Goolwa         | 128 openings | 0.86  | 2          |
| Mundoo         | 26 openings  | -     | All closed |
| Boundary Creek | 6 openings   | -     | All closed |
| Ewe Island     | 111 gates    | -     | All closed |
| Tauwichee      | 322 gates    | 0.84  | 1          |

