

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 3 October 2001

Our Ref : MDBC:269 :ng/bwh

5 October, 2001



Widespread rain was again recorded across the Murray-Darling Basin. Falls ranged from 1 to 5 mm in South Australia and southern Queensland, while heavier falls were recorded in the south-eastern portion of the Basin. Falls of between 25 and 50 mm blanketed the upper Murray catchment, and there were isolated falls of between 50 and 100 mm in the upper Ovens River catchment.

Inflows to the River Murray from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers peaked at about 5 000 and 8 500 ML/day respectively. As this has assisted in meeting downstream demand, release from Hume Dam has been reduced by 4 000 ML/day to 9 000 ML/day to conserve resources, and a further reduction will be made early next week before subsequent increases are expected to be made.

Release from Yarrawonga Weir was increased from 8 000 to 10 400 ML/day this week to meet increasing demands and river losses downstream. Flow from the River Murray to the Edward River has been increased to 1 100 ML/day, and will be increased to the maximum regulated flow of about 1 600 ML/day next week. Release downstream of Stevens Weir remained steady at about 250 ML/day for most of the week, however will be increased to about 500 ML/day next week. This will assist in meeting demand along the River Murray as the contribution from the Murrumbidgee River has receded from 4 900 to 1 000 ML/day during the week, and is forecast to fall to minimum rates next week.

Water level of the River Murray at Swan Hill temporarily fell about 5 cm below the target minimum level of 0.6 m gauge height during the week because of unusually high river losses and very high private diversions between Torrumbarry and Swan Hill at this time of year. Flow downstream of Torrumbarry Weir was increased during the week to assist in meeting downstream requirements as the Murrumbidgee River recedes. Consequently, the river level at Swan Hill rose to 0.63 m gauge height (or 3 cm above the target minimum level) by 5 October, and is forecast to continue to rise to about 0.9 m by mid October as flows are increased to meet downstream requirements.

High river losses and private diversions have also been recorded between Swan Hill and Euston Weir, and inflows to Euston Weir pool next week will be lower than anticipated. Consequently, the water level of Euston Weir pool will be temporarily drawn down next week (to about 0.4 m below full supply level by mid October) to assist in meeting flow requirements between Euston and Wentworth (*see Media Release attached*). It is currently expected that the water level in Euston Weir pool will return to full supply level by late October.

With the falling river levels in the mid Murray and the Murrumbidgee Rivers, flow in the Murray at Euston has fallen from 8 200 to 6 200 ML/day, and it is expected to be reduced to about 3 000 ML/day next week to meet the current flow requirement in the Sunraysia region.

Storage in Lake Victoria has risen by 43 GL to 440 GL (65% of capacity, and 2.2 below full supply level) as increased flows in the Murray and lower Darling are conserved in the Lake.

Flow to South Australia has been increased to the October requirement of 8 500 ML/day (comprising 5 500 ML/day October entitlement, plus 3 000 ML/day additional dilution flow).

DAVID DOLE  
General Manager

# MEDIA RELEASE

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Friday, 5 October 2001

## Temporary Drawdown of Euston Weir Pool Level



River Murray Water announced today that the water level of Euston Weir pool will be temporarily drawn down to assist in meeting flow requirements between Euston and Wentworth.

Recent warm and dry conditions have resulted in unusually high river losses and private river diversions along the mid Murray at this time of year. Consequently, flows in transit upstream of Euston Weir pool have temporarily declined more rapidly than expected, and it will now be necessary to temporarily draw on water in the Euston Weir pool to assist in meeting requirements in the Sunraysia region.

Euston Weir pool is drawn down from time to time for this purpose to respond to any rapid changes in diversion demand and river loss patterns which cannot readily be met because of the significant travel time from Hume Reservoir. This mode of operation allows requirements to be met whilst conserving resources in Hume Reservoir for subsequent use.

The water level of Euston Weir pool is currently near full supply level of 47.6 m AHD. It is currently expected that the pool level will be drawn down by as much as 0.4 m below full supply level (about 47.2 m) by mid October, however the extent of the drawdown may be less if there is a change to cooler weather conditions. It is anticipated that the pool level will return to 0.2 m below full by about 20 October, and to near full supply level by late October.

River pumpers and recreational users are advised to make any necessary adjustments in response to the lower pool level.

If required, the Weir pool may again be drawn down throughout the current irrigation season to assist in supplying downstream requirements.

As flow in the Murrumbidgee River is now declining to minimum rates, release from Yarrawonga Weir has been increased to channel capacity to meet requirements along the mid Murray. In addition, water is now being transferred via the Edward River system to augment flow in the River Murray to meet downstream requirements.

River Murray Water will issue a further media release if there is a significant change in this operation.

For further information contact:

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

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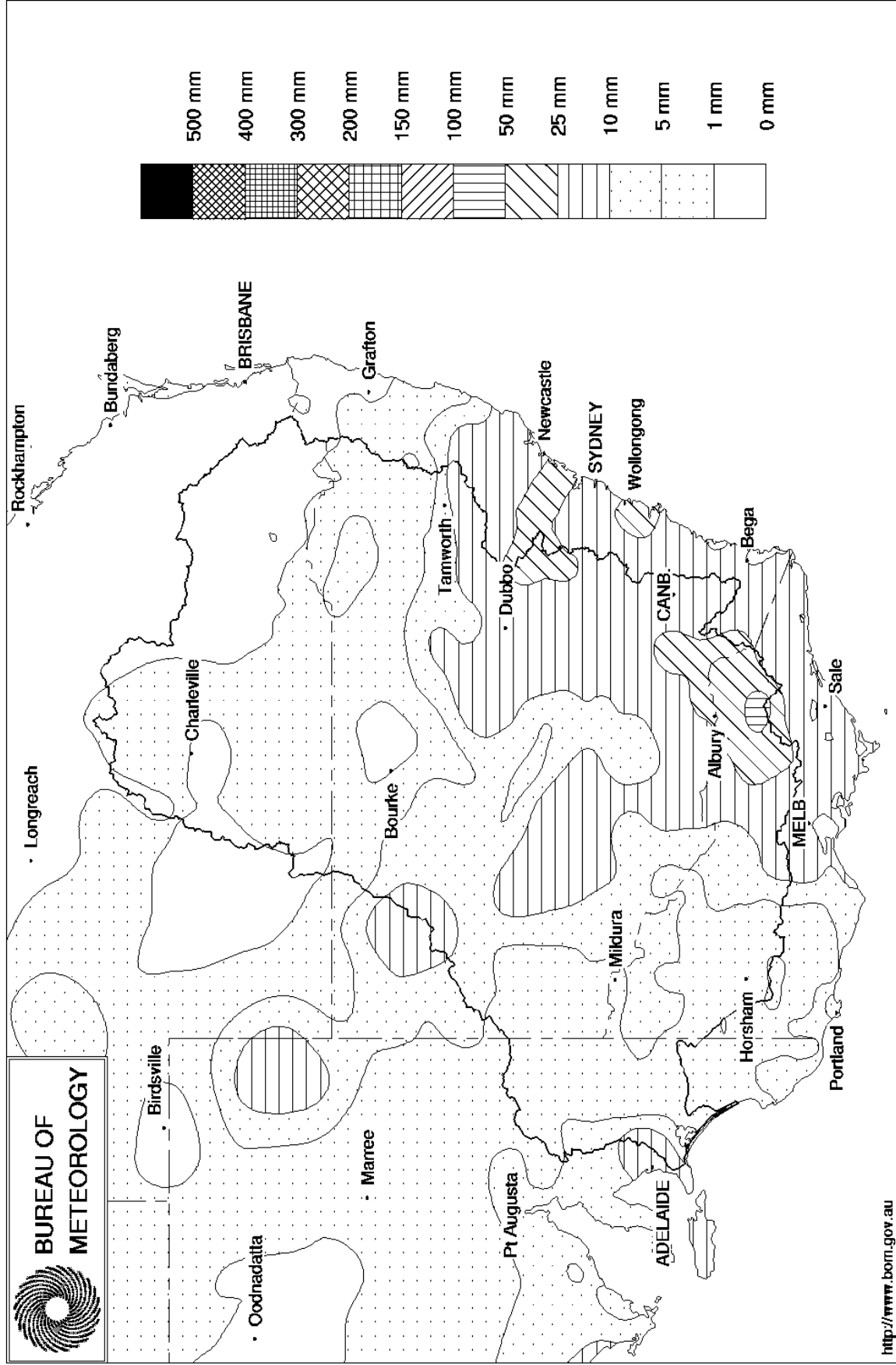
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(Daniel Connell is *not* to be quoted as a spokesperson)

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 3rd October 2001

Product of the National Climate Centre



Week ending 03-Oct-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	478.03	3404	87%	80	3324	+28
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3038	186.18	1998	66%	30	1968	-12
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	24.78	440	65%	100	340	+43
Menindee		1682 *		1683	100%	480 #	1203	-79
<b>Total</b>		<b>9306</b>		<b>7525</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>6835</b>	<b>-19</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **79%**

# NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

### Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	578	56%	3	575	+8
Blowering Reservoir	1631	1126	69%	24	1102	-27
Eildon Reservoir	3390	1382	41%	100	1282	-15

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 02-Oct-2001

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2915	+46	Snowy-Murray	+0	402
Snowy-Murray Component	1324	-	Tooma-Tumut	+9	134
Target Storage	1400		Nett Diversion	-8.5	268
			Murray 1 Release	+16	574

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	46.2	202.9
Wakool System loss	2.0	3.3
Western Murray Irrig.	0.4	1.9
Licensed Pumps	11.4	45.8
Lower Darling	0.5	2.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60.5</b>	<b>256.4</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	13.1	75.7
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	24.4	136.4
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.3	10.9
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.3	18.3
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.7	36.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>277.2</b>

### Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	170
Flow this week	55.0
Flow so far this month	26
Flow last month	228

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	310	377	264
Euston	240	320	282
Red Cliffs	460	380	333
Merbein	330	290	294
Burtundy	410	422	396
Lock 9	340	320	351
L. Victoria	360	357	355
Berri	440	422	413
Waikerie	-	-	500
Morgan	500	505	507
Mannum	480	486	525
Murray Bridge	540	531	571
Meningie	1170	1110	1118
Goolwa Barrages	1160	1207	1577



**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	-	-	4970	F	3800	6440
Jingellic	4.0	2.37	10880	R	8910	11140
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.70	1600	F	1380	1440
Heywoods	5.5	2.53	10410	F	12610	9680
Doctors Point	5.5	3.01	13900	F	15510	13160
Albury	4.3	1.97	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.24	17200	F	16260	12040
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.74	10000	R	9480	6390
Tocumwal	6.4	2.23	9037	S	8360	5750
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.23	2879	R	2360	2710
Stevens Weir (d/s)		1.03	812	R	316	306
Swan Hill	4.5	0.55	1330	R	1580	3830
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.65	2445	F	3350	5210
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.42	6270	F	7720	8140
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.49	13810	S	13490	12770
Rufus Junction	-	3.80	8370	R	7520	7520
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	6570	F	7100	6230
<b>Tributaries</b>						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.45	4740	R	3200	3260
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	10.26	8285	R	4050	4060
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.37	712	F	670	600
Edward at Liewah	-	1.17	630	F	930	800
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.43	368	F	450	640
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.27	950	F	3450	3650
Darling at Bourke	-	4.17	780	F	850	730
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	4.09	7910	R	7400	6500
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.24	120	F	240	310

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	15670	18360
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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	+0.07	+1.48
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.09	+0.26
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.05	+0.32
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.03	+0.22	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+1.05
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.85	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.26
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.11	+0.11	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.03	+0.27
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.05	+0.24	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.03	+0.12

<b>Murrumbidgee</b>	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.21	0.66	355
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.02	0.24	353

**Barrages**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.72	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.75	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwicheere	322 gates	0.76	5

