

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 5 June 2002

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :djc:bwh

7 June, 2002



Little or no rain was recorded across most of the Murray-Darling Basin, but isolated falls between 25 and 50 mm were registered along the northern boundary of the basin in Queensland.

Release from Dartmouth Reservoir was increased to 1 000 ML/day at the end of the week specifically for the purpose of electricity generation. Whilst electricity generation requirements have now reduced, as of 7 June the flow rate of 1 000 ML/day will be maintained by River Murray Water in the short term in preparation for commencement of transfer of water to Hume Reservoir. Commencing on Tuesday 11 June, the release will be gradually increased to 3 000 ML/day to augment storage in Hume Reservoir in order to provide sufficient storage in Hume to meet forecast requirements through the remainder of the coming irrigation season. This transfer is being made in view of the current low storage in Hume Reservoir (currently 11% of capacity and slowly rising), and the dry conditions in recent weeks. Inflow conditions and storage in Hume will be continually kept under review, however, further increases in release from Dartmouth to rates approaching channel capacity in the Mitta Mitta River can be expected in coming weeks, particularly if conditions remain dry (*refer to Media Release*).

Full drawdown of Lake Mulwala for the purposes of remedial works on Yarrawonga Weir was achieved by early June, and the lake level is currently about 5.8 below full supply level. Release from Yarrawonga Weir will be maintained near the minimum flow of 1 800 ML/day unless inflows to Lake Mulwala occur as a result of rain in the Ovens or Kiewa Rivers.

In response to low flow in the River Murray, effluent flow to the Edward River and Gulpa Creek will be reduced to minimum rates by early next week (100 ML/day at Edward River Offtake and 80 ML/day at Gulpa Offtake). This will result in a reduction in flow downstream of Stevens Weir from the current rate of 1 600 ML/day to about 200 ML/day over the next week, and will assist with maintenance works at Stevens Weir.

Flow in the Murray downstream of Torrumbarry Weir has declined from 8 500 to 3 600 ML/day as a result of completion of draining of Lake Mulwala, and is expected to continue to level out at about 2 500 ML/day by late next week if conditions remain dry.

Flow downstream of Euston Weir peaked at 10 900 ML/day on 5 June, and without significant rain upstream, is expected to gradually recede to about 3 000 ML/day by end of June.

The temporary removal and replacement of some weir trestles from Mildura Weir was completed during the week, and refilling of the weir pool commenced on 4 June. With good flow rates still in transit upstream, the pool level (currently 1.1 m below full supply level on 7 June) is expected fill relatively quickly by about 10 June.

Storage in Menindee Lakes is now 408 GL or 20 % of capacity. With release from the lakes still under New South Wales control, the NSW Department of Land and Water conservation reduced the release from 200 to 100 ML/day in late May to conserve water over the winter months. It is expected that the reduced flow will be maintained until irrigation demand in the lower Darling increases in spring.

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MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 7 June 2002



Commencement of Transfer from Dartmouth Reservoir to Hume Reservoir

River Murray Water announced today that releases from Dartmouth Reservoir for the purpose of transferring water to Hume Reservoir in preparation for next irrigation season are scheduled to commence on 11 June, unless there is a significant change in weather conditions.

Conditions in the River Murray catchment have been very dry since the beginning of autumn. As a result, inflow to Hume Reservoir has remained low, and storage is currently low at 11% of capacity. If conditions remain very dry, large volumes will need to be transferred from Dartmouth to Hume to ensure that water stored in Dartmouth can be delivered to meet commitments in the Murray Valley, including delivery of South Australia's entitlement flow, throughout the 2002/03 season.

Recognising the limits of channel capacity of the Mitta Mitta River downstream of Dartmouth Dam, it is often necessary to commence transfers well in advance of periods of high water use later in the season downstream of Hume Reservoir. However, if unregulated inflow to Hume subsequently improves significantly, there is a small risk that some of the water transferred to Hume will spill.

Flow in the Mitta Mitta River at Colemans is currently 1 000 ML/day, which includes some of Southern Hydro's entitlement for the purpose of electricity generation. Whilst electricity demand has now decreased, the flow rate will be maintained at 1 000 ML/day over the next few days prior to commencement of further transfer to Hume Reservoir. Commencing on 11 June, flow at Colemans will be gradually increased to 3 000 ML/day by 13 June, unless there is a significant rain in the Hume catchment in the intervening period. If conditions remain dry, the flow will be increased to at least 5 000 ML/day toward the end of June.

River Murray Water is continuing to closely monitor weather and inflow conditions. If dry conditions continue, further increases in release from Dartmouth to rates approaching channel capacity at Tallandoon can be expected. Under an extended period of dry conditions, transfers at high rates would be required into early 2003.

A further media release will be issued when there is a significant change in the release program.

For further information contact:

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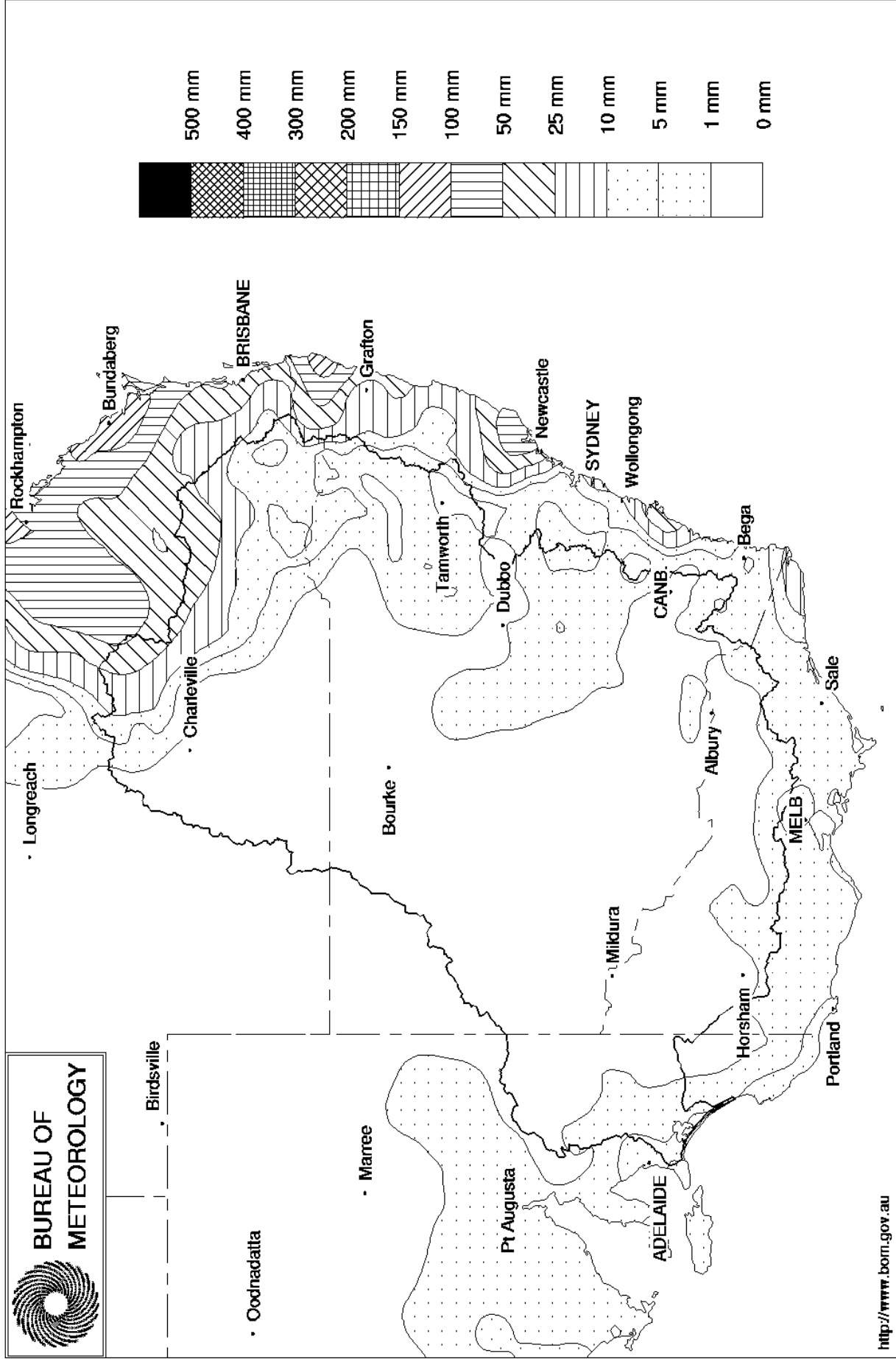
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Murray-Darling Basin Commission

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Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 5th June 2002

Product of the National Climate Centre



Week ending Wednesday 05 Jun 2002

Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	Active Storage (GL)	Change in Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	476.25	3 297	84%	80	3 217	-2
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	170.87	326	11%	30	296	+27
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	23.57	318	47%	100	218	+24
Menindee Lakes		1 682 *		408	24%	640 #	0	-2
Total		9 306		4 350	47%	850	3 732	+45

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **44%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		241	23%	3	238	-0
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		291	18%	24	267	+34
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		651	19%	100	551	-8

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 04-Jun-2002

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1 May 2002
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 752	-42	Snowy-Murray	+14	56
Snowy-Murray Component	1 299	-	Tooma-Tumut	+2	9
Target Storage	1 240		Nett Diversion	12.3	48
			Murray 1 Release	+16	66

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2001
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	- .4	1 528.5
Wakool System loss	0.0	45.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.2	29.5
Licensed Pumps	2.1	435.1
Lower Darling	0.1	123.6
TOTAL	2.0	2 161.7

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2001
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	.0	545
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	842
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.0	155
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	100
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.6	185
TOTAL	2.6	1 827

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	90	(3 000 ML/day)
Flow this week	20.8	
Flow so far this month	16	
Flow last month	93	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2001
Swan Hill	120	127	181
Euston	150	217	207
Red Cliffs	360	310	276
Merbein	280	240	266
Burtundy	800	800	549
Lock 9	300	269	378
Lake Victoria	320	430	409
Berri	510	517	481
Waikerie	690	690	573
Morgan	690	687	590
Mannum	620	622	560
Murray Bridge	690	648	608
Meningie	1 560	1 530	1 259
Goolwa Barrages	2 460	2 499	1 583



Week ending Wednesday 05 Jun 2002

River Levels and Flows

River Murray	Minor Flood stage (m)	Gauge height		Flow (ML/day)	Trend	Average flow this week (ML/day)	Average flow last week (ML/day)
		local (m)	(m AHD)				
Khancoban	-	-	-	2 530	F	2 080	3 360
Jingellic	4.0	1.51	208.03	3 440	R	3 280	4 540
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.32	218.21	580	F	860	1 640
Heywoods	5.5	1.36	154.99	980	S	890	820
Doctors Point	5.5	1.57	150.04	1 350	R	1 250	1 250
Albury	4.3	0.69	148.13	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.60	126.62	1 260	R	1 300	1 550
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.48	115.52	1 850	F	2 270	8 980
Tocumwal	6.4	1.00	104.84	2 450	F	3 570	10 280
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.40	79.95	3 550	F	6 200	8 400
Swan Hill	4.5	1.37	64.29	6 790	F	8 070	6 940
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.61	52.73	10 320	F	10 180	6 910
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.12	43.96	10 850	R	10 030	6 120
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.06	8 500	F	7 050	4 030
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.02	27.78	7 560	R	7 760	5 240
Rufus Junction	-	2.68	17.86	2 230	F	2 430	2 700
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	2 510	S	2 440	2 630
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.93	154.16	520	R	430	490
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.83	145.51	421	F	460	610
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.16	92.58	368	F	420	550
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 550	F	2 030	2 000
Edward at Liewah	-	2.84	58.22	2 490	R	2 230	1 350
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.50	54.99	500	F	540	380
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.61	56.57	310	S	360	400
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.25	-	130	F	120	120
Darling at Bourke	-	4.04	-	280	S	290	280
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.74	-	180	S	190	200

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	3 030	3 320
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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	-5.74	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.18	+0.37
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.01	+0.00
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.05	+0.07
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-2.00	+0.26	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.29
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.38	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.12
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.02	+0.08	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.06
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.10	+0.18	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.03	-0.21

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.14	0.67	70.02	366
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.02	0.24	61.54	353

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.68	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.69	All closed

AHD = Level relative to Australian Height Datum, i.e. height above sea level

