

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 16 October 2002

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :dj:bc

17 October, 2002



No Relief to Dry Conditions

Dry conditions have continued across the Murray-Darling Basin this week with little or no rain recorded across the majority of the basin. A small amount of rainfall (up to between 10 and 25 mm) was however recorded about the southern ranges but had little impact to River Murray inflows. Inflows to the River Murray system so far during October have been close to historical minimums.

Storage in Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs Continue To Decline

Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir is continuing to steadily decline as a result of continued releases at channel capacity in the Mitta Mitta River (10,000 ML/day at Tallandoon). Currently storage in Dartmouth is 2 611 GL or 67 % of capacity (56 GL less than last week).

Similarly, storage in Hume Reservoir fell by a further 32 GL this week to 799 GL or 26 % of capacity. Currently, release from Hume is being reduced at Albury/Wodonga from 21 500 ML/day to 20 000 ML/day. Storage in Hume Reservoir is expected to slowly fall over the remainder of the season unless there is a significant improvement in conditions.

Diversions at Major Offtakes Reduce

Diversion from Lake Mulwala at the major offtakes reduced slightly this week from 7 900 to 7 600 ML/day (58% of capacity), although this included about 2 800 ML/day being transferred via the Mulwala Canal to the Edward/Wakool system. Release from Yarrawonga Weir has continued to be maintained at 14 000 ML/day as a result of the transfer of water from Hume Reservoir to Lake Victoria. This rate of release is currently expected to continue until about mid December. Hume to Lake Victoria transfers averaged about 6 800 ML/day this week.

Diversion from Torrumbarry Weir pool at National Channel also declined this week from 3 400 to 3 000 ML/day (71% of capacity) due to slightly cooler conditions and internal storages approaching capacity. Currently, release from Torrumbarry Weir is expected remain relatively steady at the current rate of 7 800 ML/day.

Further downstream at Euston Weir, release has increased from 9 300 to 9 800 ML/day as a result of previous reductions made to diversion at National Channel. This is expected to further rise to about 10 200 ML/day in late October.

Hume to Lake Victoria Transfers Continue To Increase Storage at Lake Victoria

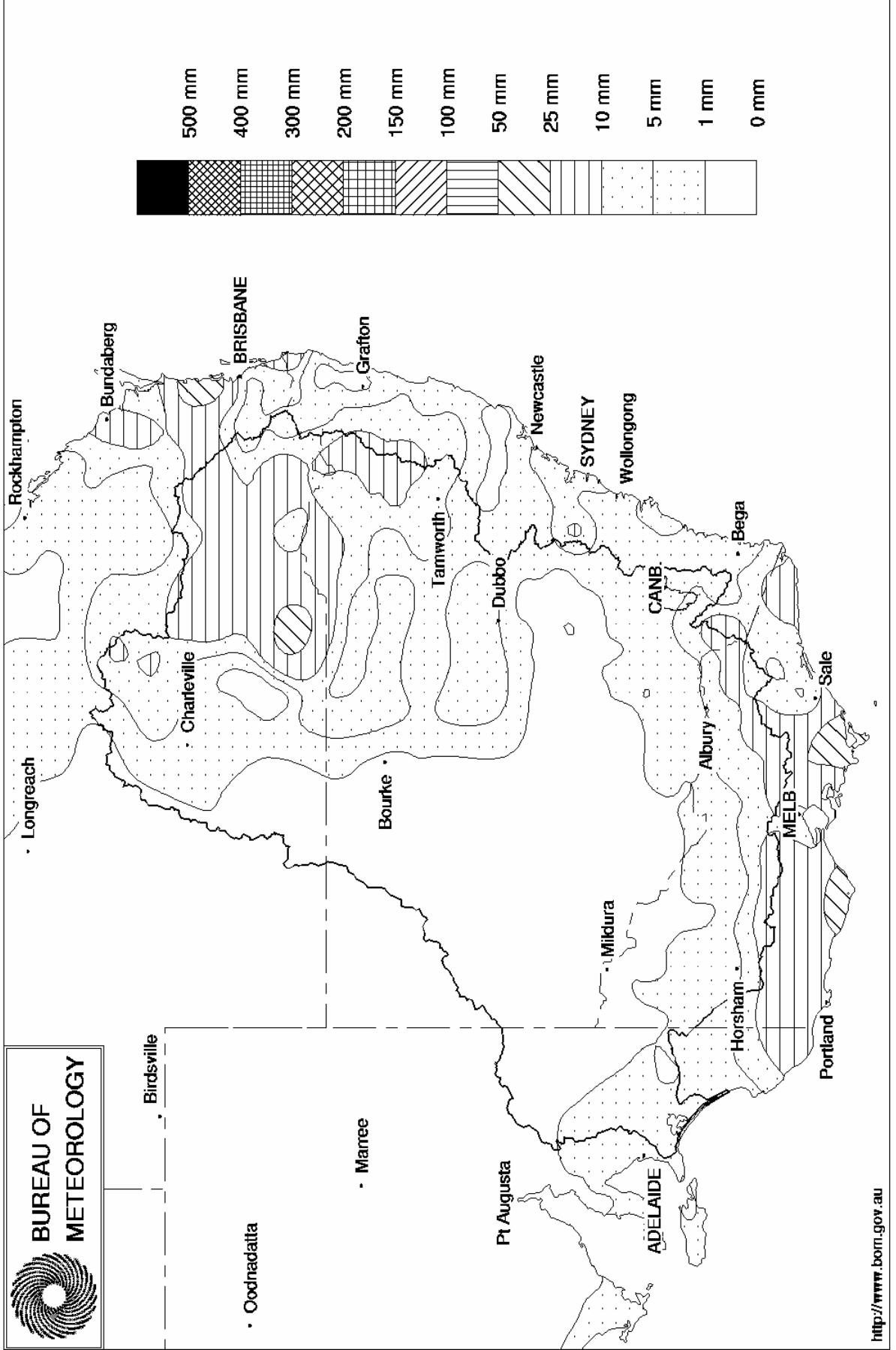
Storage in Lake Victoria is continuing to slowly rise as a result of the transfer of water from Hume Reservoir and is currently 440 GL or 65 % of capacity. If conditions remain dry, storage in Lake Victoria is expected to continue rising slowly until about late November.

At Menindee Lakes, storage is currently 286 GL or 14 % of surcharge capacity. Release at Weir 32 has temporarily been increased by the Department of Land and Water Conservation from 10 to 160 ML/day for a short period of time in order to maintain stock and domestic water supply in the lower Darling.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 16th October 2002

Product of the National Climate Centre



Week ending Wednesday 16 Oct 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	463.95	2 611	67%	80	2 531	-56
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	176.66	799	26%	30	769	-32
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	24.78	440	65%	100	340	+14
Menindee Lakes		1 682 *		286	17%	640 #	0	-25
Total		9 306		4 136	44%	850	3 640	-99

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **43%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		336	33%	3	333	-8
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		401	25%	24	377	-13
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		775	23%	100	675	-11

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 15-Oct-2002

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1 May 2002
Lake Eucumbene - Total	3 194	+21	Snowy-Murray	+3	185
Snowy-Murray Component	1 534	-	Tooma-Tumut	+7	168
Target Storage	1 400		Nett Diversion	-3.8	17
			Murray 1 Release	+17	400

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2002
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	17.1	248.3
Wakool System loss	0.8	14.5
Western Murray Irrig.	0.6	5.1
Licensed Pumps	6.4	72.4
Lower Darling	0.8	52.0
TOTAL	25.7	392.4

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2002
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	17.5	138
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	21.7	320
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	3.5	28
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.4	16
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.5	38
TOTAL	47.6	539

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	170	(5 600 ML/day)
Flow this week	39.3	
Flow so far this month	89	
Flow last month	136	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2002
Swan Hill	130	110	110
Euston	100	110	180
Red Cliffs	130	140	200
Merbein	200	140	210
Burtundy (Darling)	1 060	900	840
Lock 9	220	260	260
Lake Victoria	370	360	360
Berri	410	400	420
Waikerie	-	-	580
Morgan	600	600	620
Mannum	650	650	660
Murray Bridge	740	750	730
Milang (Lake Alex.)	990	980	950
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 060	1 170	1 130
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 480	1 540	1 460
Goolwa Barrages	2 950	3 200	3 800



Week ending Wednesday 16 Oct 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	-	-	-	3 410	F	3 200	2 590
Jingellic	4.0	1.84	208.36	5 990	R	5 560	5 480
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	3.20	220.09	10 020	F	10 010	10 020
Heywoods	5.5	3.39	157.02	20 140	R	19 060	18 690
Doctors Point	5.5	3.61	152.08	21 600	R	20 460	19 730
Albury	4.3	2.68	150.12	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.76	129.78	21 300	R	20 740	21 090
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.24	117.28	14 000	S	14 000	14 030
Tocumwal	6.4	2.78	106.62	13 950	R	13 750	13 770
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.57	81.12	7 820	R	7 390	6 630
Swan Hill	4.5	1.36	64.28	6 660	R	6 480	5 910
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.48	52.60	9 720	R	9 580	9 300
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.96	43.80	9 840	R	9 800	9 750
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.09	7 530	F	7 260	7 750
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.07	27.83	8 170	R	7 900	8 390
Rufus Junction	-	3.25	18.43	5 270	R	5 010	4 770
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 340	S	3 650	2 960
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.50	154.73	1 400	R	1 330	1 340
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.34	146.02	1 495	R	1 390	1 770
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.22	92.64	463	S	440	460
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 900	F	2 900	2 900
Edward at Liewah	-	2.94	58.32	2 640	S	2 710	2 780
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.83	55.32	1 520	S	1 490	1 620
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.50	56.46	230	S	250	290
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.21	-	70	S	50	90
Darling at Bourke	-	3.98	-	120	R	120	180
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.57	-	0	F	0	10

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	7 370	9 380
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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	-0.23	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.17	+0.95
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	+0.05
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.04	+0.14
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.29	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.03	+0.53
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.43	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.19
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.05	+0.07	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.05	+0.12
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.05	+0.24	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.02	-0.03

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-1.39	0.57	69.92	269
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.98	0.1	61.4	228

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.76	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.73	All closed

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

