

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 23 July 2003

Our Ref: RMW305/01/01/ng:bwh

25 July, 2003



Significant Streamflow Rises in Upper Catchments

Light falls of rain were recorded across the southern half of the Basin in the week ending Wednesday 23 July. However, in the subsequent 24 hours to 9 am Thursday 24 July, good falls of between 50 and 100 mm were recorded in the Goulburn, Broken, Ovens and Kiewa catchments with falls in the catchments of Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs generally between 25 and 60 mm (*see two rainfall maps attached*).

By 24 July, streamflows in the upper Mitta Mitta, Kiewa and Ovens Rivers had risen to levels not seen since October 2000. With these significant rises in tributary flows, the Bureau of Meteorology has issued flood warnings in several valleys (*more details are available from Bureau of Meteorology on its web site at <http://www.bom.gov.au/hydro/flood/vic/>*).

Inflow to Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs has increased to about 15 000 and 14 000 ML/day respectively by 25 July (both near to a peak), which is resulting in increased rates of rise in storage. At this stage, and without further rain, it is expected that the rises in streamflows will be relatively shortlived. More details of the effects of the rain will be provided in next week's report.

Rainfall Outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's latest three month rainfall outlook for August to October 2003 shows that neither wet nor dry conditions are favoured for the upper River Murray catchment. The Bureau also reports that "*Although the chance of a regeneration of El Niño remains low, and a mid-winter or spring transition into El Niño is unusual, the probability of returning to this phase has increased slightly this month*".

System Operation

Releases from headwater storages remain at minimum requirements in order to maximise resource conservation for the coming season. Significant rises in flows in the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers are forecast to begin to reach the Murray on 25 July, and consequently release from Yarrawonga Weir (6 000 ML/day on 23 July) will be increased significantly next week.

The filling of channels in the Torrumbarry Irrigation District commenced this week with diversion to National Channel beginning on 18 July at about 1 000 ML/day. As a result, release from Torrumbarry Weir was reduced from about 4 400 to 3 400 ML/day late in the week and is likely to remain at about this level until the end of July.

Flow in the Darling River upstream of Menindee Lakes continues to gradually recede with the flow at Bourke falling from 500 to 200 ML/day since the end of May.

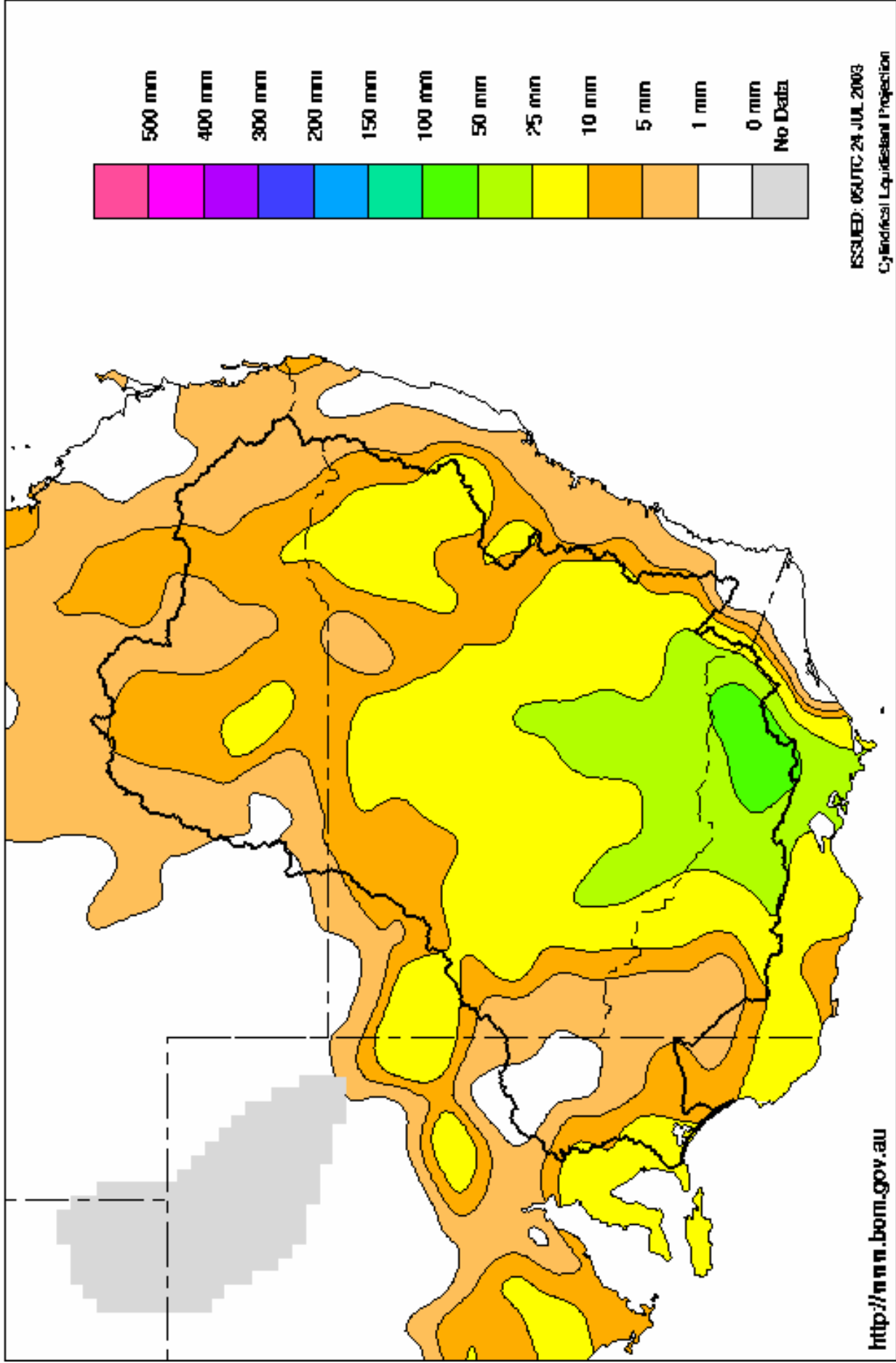
Storage in Lake Victoria increased by 17 GL to 317 GL (47% of capacity, or 3.4 m below full supply level). Storage in the lake will continue to rise steadily in coming weeks, and will be boosted by the streamflows generated by recent rainfall.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Daily Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) VALID: 9AM 24 July 2003
Product of the National Meteorological and Oceanographic Centre



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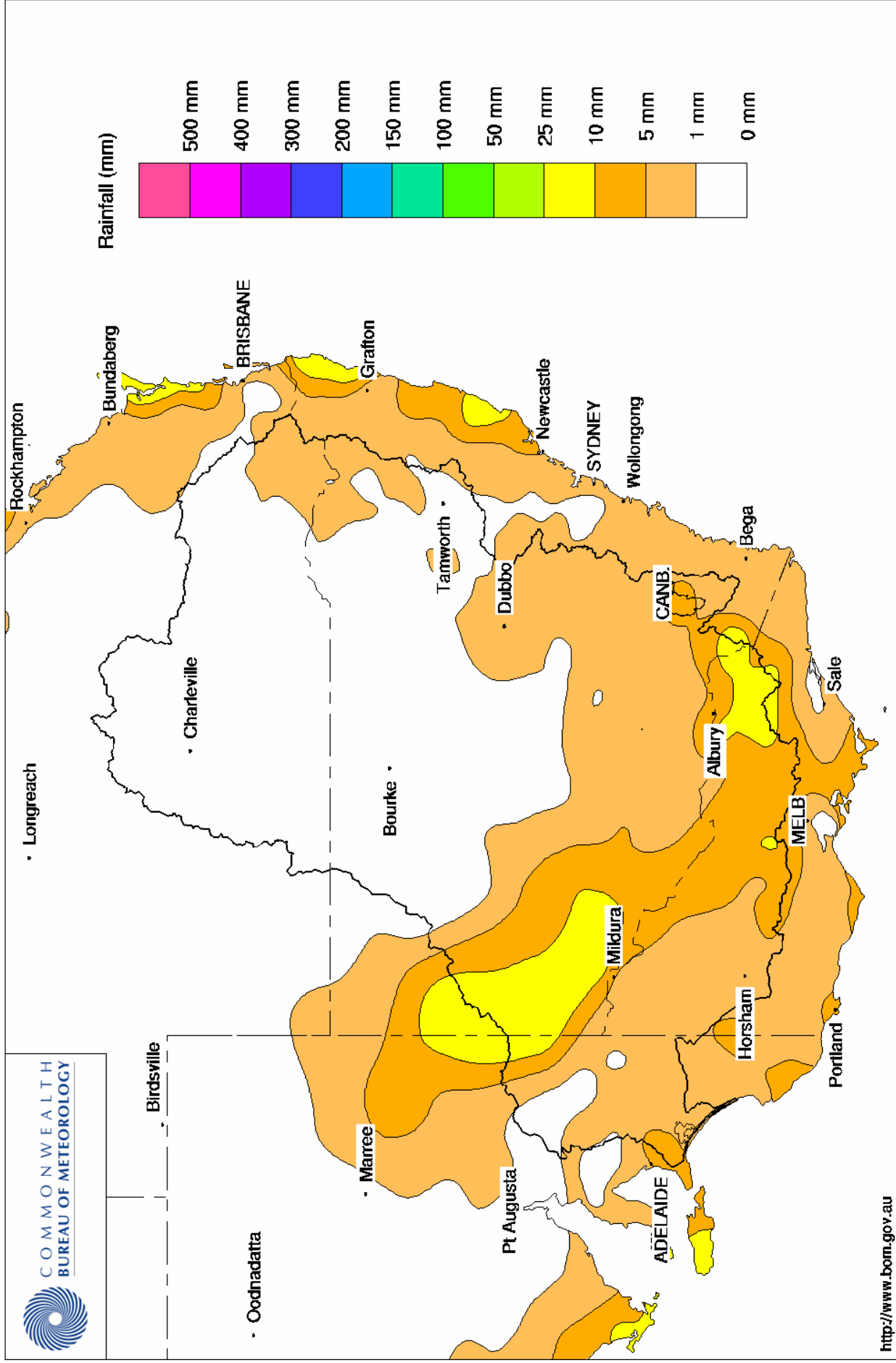


<http://www.bom.gov.au>

ISSUED: 06UTC 24 JUL 2003
Cylindrical Quasi-Cylindrical Projection

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 23rd July 2003

Product of the National Climate Centre



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	430.32	1 206	31%	80	1 126	+8
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	175.21	663	22%	30	633	+41
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	23.56	317	47%	100	217	+17
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		72	4%	640 #	0	+0
Total		9 227		2 258	24%	850	1 976	+65

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **24%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	91	9%	3	88	+4
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	335	21%	24	311	+51
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	429	13%	100	329	+14

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 22-Jul-2003

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2003
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 640	-35	Snowy-Murray	+20	307
Snowy-Murray Component	705	-11	Tooma-Tumut	+5	38
Target Storage	1 170		Nett Diversion	15.9	269
			Murray 1 Release	+27	352

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2003
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	.0	.0
Wakool System loss	0.0	.1
Western Murray Irrig.	0.2	.3
Licensed Pumps	0.9	2.9
Lower Darling	0.0	.1
TOTAL	1.2	3.4

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2003
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	.0	
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	5.2	8
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.3	
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.6	5
TOTAL	7.2	14

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	108.5	(2 800 ML/day)
Flow this week	19.8	
Flow so far this month	65	
Flow last month	72	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2002
Swan Hill	190	170	90
Euston	130	150	120
Red Cliffs	150	160	140
Merbein	170	180	160
Burtundy (Darling)	1 610	1 630	1 240
Lock 9	210	220	180
Lake Victoria	260	280	290
Berri	420	410	330
Waikerie	-	530	410
Morgan	540	540	480
Mannum	460	310	520
Murray Bridge	500	490	600
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 020	1 030	1 140
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 000	1 020	1 140
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 470	1 460	1 610
Goolwa Barrages	3 880	4 120	3 460

River Levels and Flows

	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)				
River Murray							
Khancoban	-	-	-	4 580	F	4 320	5 380
Jingellic	4.0	1.85	208.37	6 080	R	5 730	7 330
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.37	218.26	680	R	550	630
Heywoods	5.5	1.16	154.79	610	F	640	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.55	150.02	1 260	F	1 440	1 560
Albury	4.3	0.68	148.12	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.59	126.61	1 220	F	1 490	1 420
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.00	116.04	5 080	F	6 000	4 470
Tocumwal	6.4	1.65	105.49	6 200	R	6 120	3 930
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.33	79.88	3 350	F	3 730	4 530
Swan Hill	4.5	0.87	63.79	3 560	R	3 740	5 030
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.27	51.39	5 060	F	5 550	6 000
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.20	43.04	5 400	R	5 930	5 740
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.88	5 680	F	6 220	5 100
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.84	27.60	4 960	F	5 570	4 390
Rufus Junction	-	2.81	19.74	2 650	R	2 570	2 490
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	2 580	S	2 510	2 890
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.28	154.51	1 020	R	1 080	1 180
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.48	146.16	2 053	R	2 130	2 190
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.20	92.62	450	S	470	650
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 140	F	830	990
Edward at Liewah	-	1.76	57.14	1 150	F	1 100	880
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.33	54.82	197	F	210	200
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.50	56.46	198	R	190	210
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.30	-	230	S	220	210
Darling at Bourke	-	4.01	-	190	S	200	230
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.66	-	5	R	0	40

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	5 060	5 580
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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	-0.59	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.06	+0.50
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.02	-0.03
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.09
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.08	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.03	+0.29
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.01	+0.20	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.00	+0.13
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.00	-0.03	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.09
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.01	+0.06	No. 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	-0.29

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.20	0.61	69.96	305
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.07	0.13	61.43	252

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.64	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.62	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.65	All closed

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

