

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 28 May 2003

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :ng:bwh

30 May, 2003



Little further rain

In general, little rain was recorded across the Murray-Darling Basin this week, however, the most significant falls of between 10 and 25 mm were confined to the south-west.

System Update

Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by 5 GL to 1 442 GL or 29% of capacity. Storage in Hume Reservoir increased by 50 GL to 340 GL (11% of capacity), however, about half of the inflow was from release from the Snowy Mountains Scheme. In response to minor increases in tributary flow, release from Yarrawonga Weir was increased from 1 800 to 2 500 ML/day, but without further rain it will be reduced next week to about 2 000 ML/day. Release from Torrumbarry Weir peaked at 3 800 ML/day, and is expected to be reduced to about 3000 ML/day next week. On 22 May, release from Euston Weir was temporarily increased to about 5 000 ML/day to assist in the refilling of the Mildura Weir pool. The level of Euston Weir pool fell by about 0.1 m, and is expected to return to full supply level next week.

Mildura Weir pool is currently being refilled after weir trestle replacement was completed earlier in the week. The pool level, currently about 1.5 m below full supply level, is expected to be returned to near full supply level by the end of next week. River salinity at Mildura peaked at about 650 EC as a result of additional inflows of saline groundwater when the weir pool level was temporarily lowered for weir trestle maintenance. This salinity 'spike' is now near Merbein and slowly moving downstream, however, Lake Victoria will be operated so as to minimise the rise in river salinity in South Australia.

Flow to South Australia

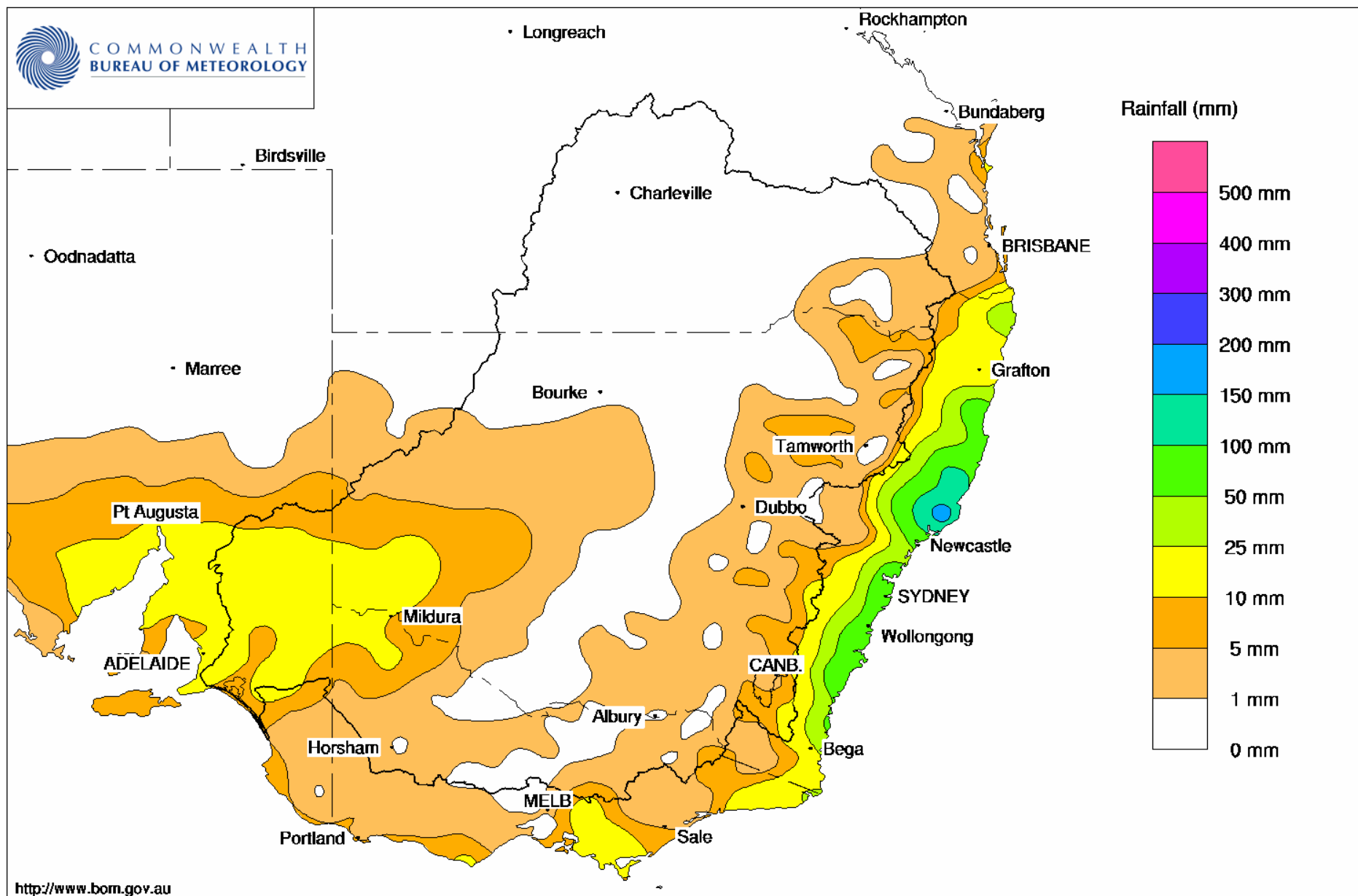
Flow to South Australia is currently being maintained at the May entitlement rate of 3 000 ML/day. Water reserves in the River Murray System are currently very low, and consequently water availability to the States for 2003/04 is currently very low. Flow to South Australia for the months of June and July 2003 will be regulated, in accordance with a request from South Australia, to 80% of the relevant monthly entitlement volumes of 90 GL and 108.5 GL respectively. South Australia will manage diversions from the river to ensure that the flow component for dilution and losses of 58 GL per month is met.

South Australia has taken this action, which is within the provisions of the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement, in order to increase the probability of achieving full monthly entitlement flows in subsequent months should conditions remain dry. Accordingly, flow to SA in June will be reduced to an average rate of 2 400 ML/day or 80% of the normal June entitlement rate. The situation will be kept under review, and any changes will be advised in future Weekly Reports. It is expected that salinity levels throughout the lower Murray will gradually rise, with salinity at Morgan predicted to rise from 500 EC to about 700 EC by August.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 28th May 2003

Product of the National Climate Centre



Week ending Wednesday 28 May 2003

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	428.28	1 142	29%	80	1 062	+5
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	171.07	340	11%	30	310	+49
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	23.13	275	40%	100	175	-2
Menindee Lakes		1 682 *		64	4%	640 #	0	+0
Total		9 306		1 821	20%	850	1 546	+52

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **18%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	56	5%	3	53	+3
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	61	4%	24	37	+8
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	300	9%	100	200	+6

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 27-May-2003

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1 May 2003
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 943	-56	Snowy-Murray	+37	119
Snowy-Murray Component	831	-	Tooma-Tumut	+4	9
Target Storage	1 290		Nett Diversion	32.7	110
			Murray 1 Release	+42	126

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2002
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	- .2	522.7
Wakool System loss	0.0	55.3
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	29.3
Licensed Pumps	1.4	202.2
Lower Darling	0.7	123.4
TOTAL	1.9	933.0

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2002
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	.0	484
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	812
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.3	157
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	4.9	78
Licensed pumps - SRW	2.4	190
TOTAL	8.6	1 720

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	93	(3 000 ML/day)
Flow this week	21.2	
Flow so far this month	84	
Flow last month	135	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2002
Swan Hill	160	140	80
Euston	140	140	120
Red Cliffs	300	340	140
Merbein	590	380	150
Burtundy (Darling)	1 420	1 450	1 190
Lock 9	180	180	170
Lake Victoria	270	270	290
Berri	320	330	320
Waikerie	-	-	400
Morgan	460	440	470
Mannum	440	440	550
Murray Bridge	490	490	620
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 120	1 110	1 160
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 020	990	1 150
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 630	1 590	1 630
Goolwa Barrages	3 540	3 990	3 280



Week ending Wednesday 28 May 2003

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	-	-	-	6 460	F	6 350	5 990
Jingellic	4.0	1.99	208.51	7 350	F	7 290	6 740
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.31	218.20	560	S	520	460
Heywoods	5.5	1.28	154.91	930	R	720	1 120
Doctors Point	5.5	1.54	150.01	1 210	R	1 370	1 290
Albury	4.3	0.70	148.14	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.59	126.61	1 220	F	1 500	1 720
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.52	115.56	2 470	S	2 260	1 830
Tocumwal	6.4	0.93	104.77	2 360	S	2 090	2 040
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.39	79.94	3 550	F	3 450	2 760
Swan Hill	4.5	0.93	63.85	3 940	R	3 650	2 700
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.20	51.32	4 810	F	4 710	3 040
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.07	42.91	4 720	F	4 720	3 050
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.87	4 220	F	3 370	4 530
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.78	27.54	2 220	R	2 770	5 150
Rufus Junction	-	2.74	19.67	2 550	F	2 790	2 530
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	2 720	S	2 830	2 410
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.92	154.15	520	R	810	300
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.06	145.74	927	F	1 140	430
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.47	92.89	845	F	1 250	650
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	200	F	240	460
Edward at Liewah	-	1.29	56.67	730	F	830	570
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.36	54.85	234	F	270	350
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.79	56.75	370	S	340	210
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.27	-	170	S	200	230
Darling at Bourke	-	4.13	-	610	F	770	1 030
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.68	-	70	R	60	100

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	4 300	1 640
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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	-0.19	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.00	+0.38
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.00	-0.02
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.09	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.04	+0.08
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-1.57	+0.07	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.13	+0.32
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.14	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.05	+0.13
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.01	-0.20	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.02	+0.06
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.19	+0.00	No. 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	-0.31

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.99	0.75	70.1	457
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-2.85	0.19	61.49	305

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.50	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.48	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.48	All closed

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

