

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 5 November 2003

Our Ref: RMW305/01/01/ms:bwh

29 April, 2004



Upper Murray flow and storages

Rainfall was mainly limited to the southern part of the Basin, with falls ranging from 5 to 25 mm in upper Murray catchment areas, resulting in only minor rises in streamflow. Inflow for the whole of the River Murray System (excluding contribution from the Snowy Scheme) for October 2003 was at a level of 83% chance of exceedence (i.e., expected to be exceeded about 8 years in 10 over the long term). Natural inflow to Hume Reservoir for October was at a level of 51% chance of exceedence – close to median, or expected to be exceeded one year in two.

Upper Murray Storage

Inflow to Hume Reservoir has receded to about 7 000 ML/day, while release has been increased from 6 500 to nearly 10 000 ML/d during the week. As a consequence, storage in Hume peaked at a volume of 2 222 GL (73% of capacity) on 3 November, and has since gradually declined. This peak compares with a peak of 944 GL in August 2002 and 2 430 GL in November 2001. Without further significant rain, storage is forecast to continue to fall over the remainder of the irrigation season.

With release from Dartmouth Reservoir continuing at minimal rates, storage volume has risen by 23 GL to 1 737 GL (45% of capacity) by 5 November.

Mid Murray Operation

Rainfall and cooler temperatures over the weekend led to reduced irrigation demand through Mulwala Canal, however, diversions are expected to rise toward 3 000 ML/d by early next week as filling of rice bays continues. Diversions through Yarrawonga Main Channel are expected to rise only slightly to about 2 000 ML/d. Flow requirements downstream of Yarrawonga Weir have also been less than expected, and release from Yarrawonga has been maintained at 10 000 ML/day. Without further rain, it is expected that release will be increased to maximum regulated flow of about 10 300 ML/day (channel capacity for the Barmah-Millewa Forest) some time next week.

Lake Victoria storage commenced being drawn down from full supply level over the week to 14 cm below full, and will continue to fall unless conditions change significantly.

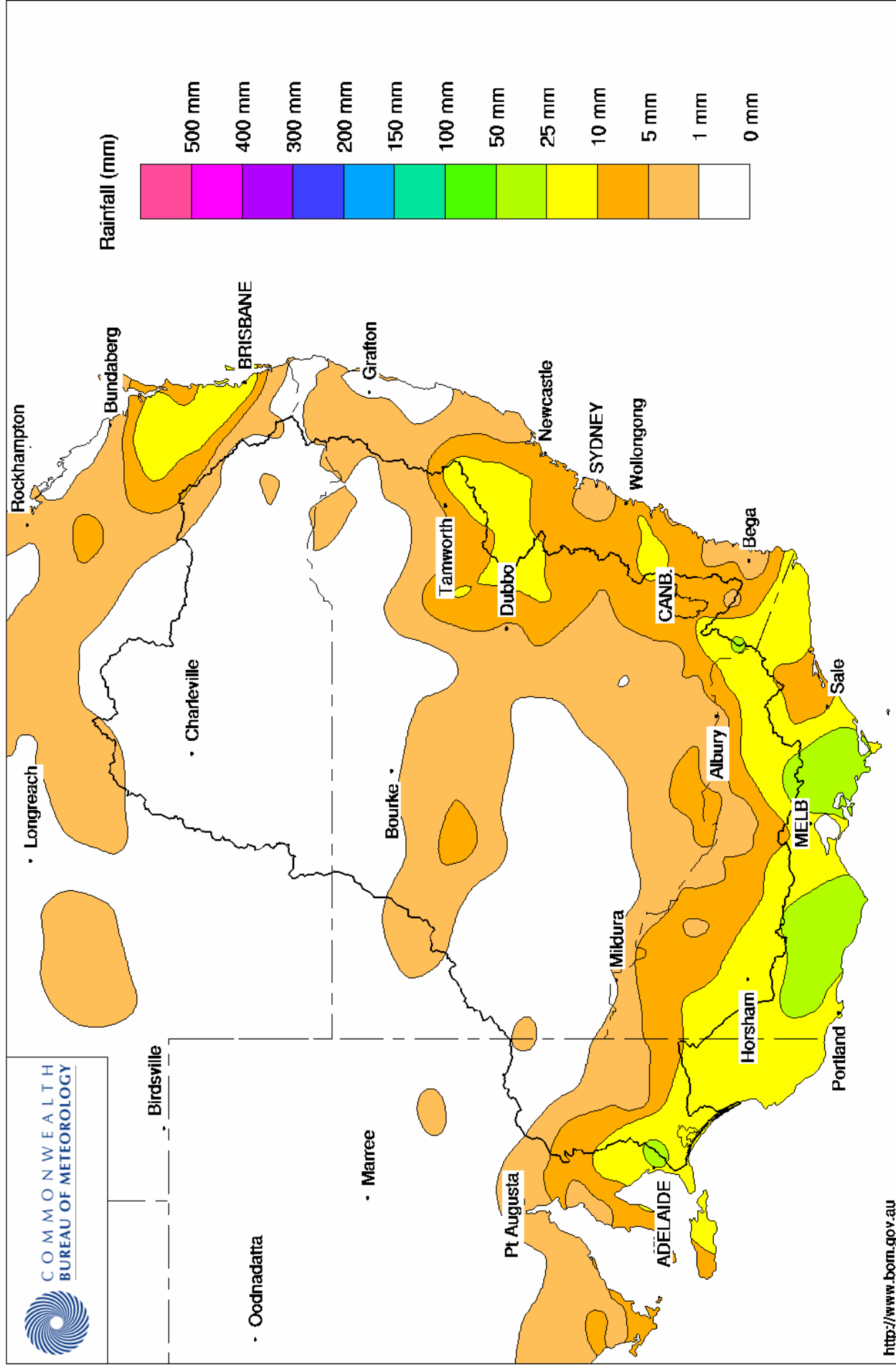
Recent Release from Barrages

Release from the Barrages concluded in late October, and the associated ongoing monitoring program found evidence of black bream in the Coorong in spawning condition. In addition, there is anecdotal evidence of aggregations of a range of fish species near the Barrages at the time of the releases. Monitoring of fish movement through the Barrages in mid October indicated large numbers of native 'diadromous' fish (i.e. fish that migrate between freshwater and saltwater) such as galaxids and congoli, moving from the Coorong to the Lower Lakes. Salinity levels downstream of Goolwa Barrage, and in parts of the Coorong, fell during the period of release, however, have risen in recent weeks (approaching sea water salinity levels) as a result of recent closure of all Barrage gates.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 5th November 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	444.98	1 737	44%	80	1 657	+23
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	187.55	2 217	73%	30	2 187	+5
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	26.86	664	98%	100	564	-16
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		53	3%	640 #	0	-1
Total		9 227		4 670	51%	850	4 408	+11

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **53%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	440	43%	3	437	+5
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	916	56%	24	892	+8
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	1 425	42%	100	1 325	+36

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 04-Nov-2003

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2003
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 817	-7	Snowy-Murray	+6	515
Snowy-Murray Component	950	-	Tooma-Tumut	+6	189
Target Storage	1 450		Nett Diversion	-0.4	326
			Murray 1 Release	+9	758

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2003
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	17.3	190.8
Wakool System loss	2.4	5.7
Western Murray Irrig.	0.6	4.1
Licensed Pumps	4.5	51.3
Lower Darling	0.4	1.9
TOTAL	25.2	253.8

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2003
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	8.8	56
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	9.3	158
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	3.2	22
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.5	4
Licensed pumps - SRW	4.0	58
TOTAL	25.7	298

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	180	
Flow this week	41.4	(5 900 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	30	
Flow last month	208	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2003
Swan Hill	90	90	120
Euston	130	120	130
Red Cliffs	140	140	130
Merbein	150	140	130
Burtundy (Darling)	1 830	1 790	1 700
Lock 9	160	160	170
Lake Victoria	220	220	230
Berri	250	240	290
Waikerie	-	-	450
Morgan	380	370	440
Mannum	310	320	490
Murray Bridge	400	420	540
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 030	1 030	1 020
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 120	1 050	1 090
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 460	1 540	1 480
Goolwa Barrages	1 300	1 200	2 600



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	-	-	-	2 030	F	2 780	2 680
Jingellic	4.0	1.82	208.34	5 810	F	7 060	7 540
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.54	218.43	1 100	F	1 180	1 420
Heywoods	5.5	2.46	156.09	9 950	R	7 610	6 040
Doctors Point	5.5	2.80	151.27	11 400	S	9 300	8 190
Albury	4.3	1.74	149.18	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.38	128.40	11 000	R	9 480	9 440
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.76	116.80	10 000	S	9 800	8 770
Tocumwal	6.4	2.29	106.13	10 690	S	10 340	9 220
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.00	80.55	5 790	R	5 410	3 680
Swan Hill	4.5	1.13	64.05	5 130	R	4 350	3 790
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.41	51.53	5 590	R	5 020	6 010
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.00	42.84	4 360	R	4 570	6 500
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.82	3 770	F	4 830	6 800
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.80	27.56	3 130	F	4 460	6 170
Rufus Junction	-	3.32	20.25	5 680	S	5 590	5 200
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	4 170	S	4 120	4 140
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.94	155.17	2 290	F	2 370	2 880
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.94	146.62	3 429	F	3 740	4 030
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.23	92.65	490	F	580	620
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	890	F	1 070	810
Edward at Liewah	-	1.37	56.75	757	R	680	950
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.45	54.94	398	F	460	710
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.58	56.54	244	F	250	250
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.29	-	210	F	320	700
Darling at Bourke	-	4.14	-	603	R	170	0
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.62	-	8	S	20	40

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	12 540	14 090
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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	-0.13	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.05	+1.01
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.04	+0.06
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.04	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.16
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.01	+0.02	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.64
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.01	+0.16	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.20
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.00	+0.01	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.14
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.02	+0.08	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.13

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.10	0.7	70.05	398
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.38	0.13	61.43	252

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.89	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.86	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.88	All closed



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