

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 22 September 2004

Our Ref : RMW305/01/01/prs
Trim Ref : 04/10672DO

23 September, 2004



Rainfall and Inflows

Warm and dry conditions prevailed across most of the Basin this week, with less than 5mm of rain falling in the headwaters of the River Murray system (see attached rainfall map). Consequently, flows in tributary streams have receded significantly this week, leading to reduced rates of rise in storage in Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs.

Storage in Hume Reservoir has risen to 42% of capacity. At this time last season it had risen to about 60% of capacity. Total system storage has increased to about 4 120 GL (45% of capacity), which is also very similar to the position that existed at the same time last year (4 030 GL or 44%).

System Operation

Release from Yarrawonga Weir has been gradually reduced from a peak of 35 000 ML/day to 12 000 ML/day. Further heavy rain in the mountains is required to bring further rises in the Murray in this area. All forest regulators along the Murray were opened to pass water through the Barmah/Millewa Forests. Water is now returning from the Forests back into the Murray, where the flow at Barmah is nearing 10 000 ML/day (a peak slightly above this is expected in the next few days) and the flow at Toonlook (on the Edward River) has reached 4780 ML/day and is still rising.

Inflow from the Goulburn River peaked at 10 000 ML/day on 16th September, and flow at Torrumbarry Weir experienced a peak of 14 200 ML/day on the 18th September. Flow at Swan Hill peaked at 11 900 ML/day on 20th and 21st September. Inflow from the Murrumbidgee River has risen only slightly from about 200 ML/day to about 400 ML/day.

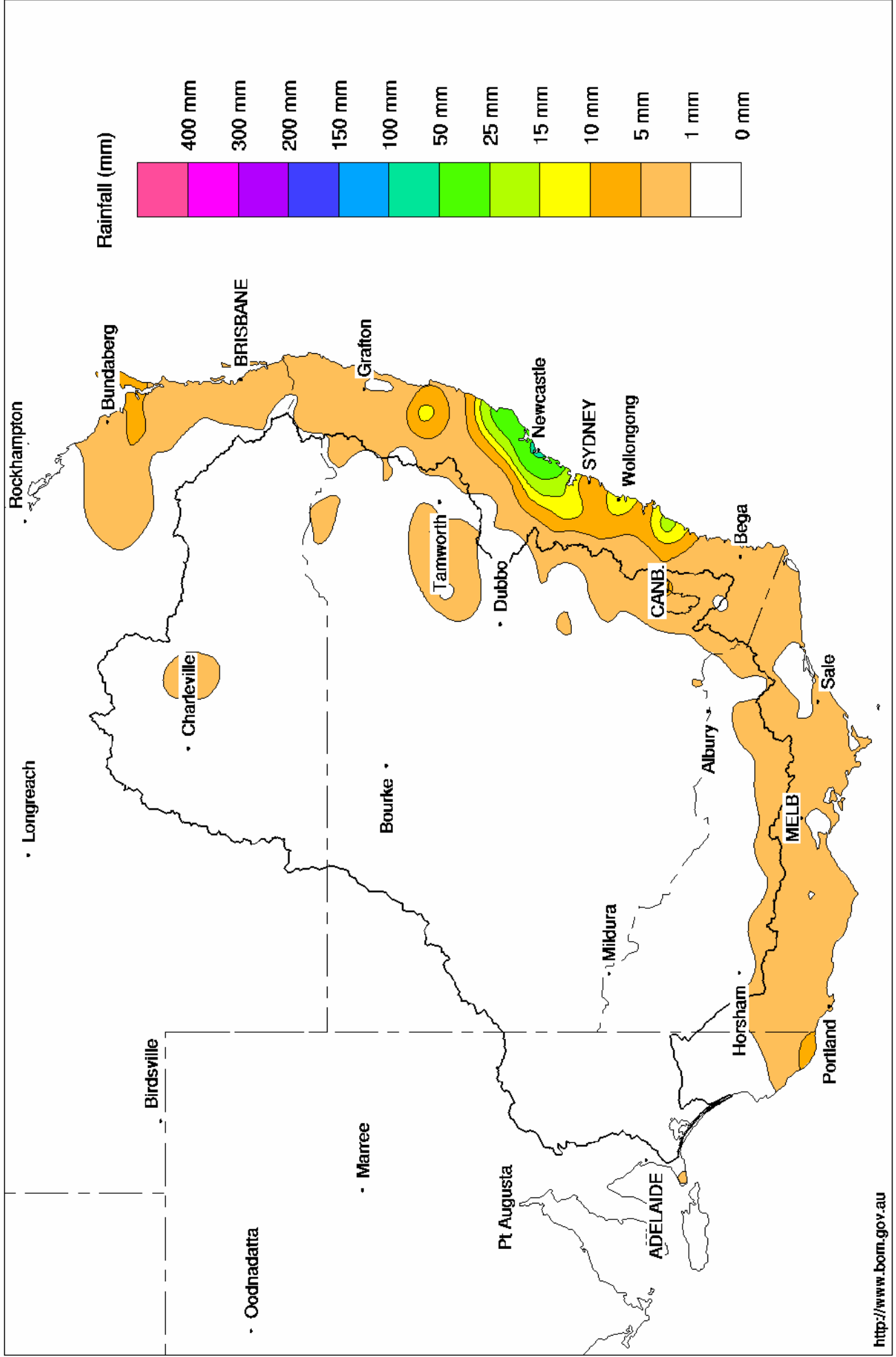
As Lake Victoria is expected to fill in a few weeks as a result of this rainfall/runoff event, NSW announced last week a short period of access to supplementary water for its irrigators. Access to this water has already ceased or is about to cease for most of the upstream water users. Victoria did not announce any off-allocation water use for its irrigators on this occasion in view of the short duration of the event. Some water is being taken into Gunbower Forest and Lake Boga in Victoria for environmental purposes.

Release from the Barrages continues at about 3 000 ML/day as the lake level has been sustained in recent times by further rain and remains above full supply level (which is 0.75 mAHD). The release through the Barrages will be sustained until the lake level falls to the surcharge level of 0.85 mAHD. Flow through the two new fishways at the Barrages has also been maintained - the fishways are being actively utilised by fish such as callop, smelt, bony bream, redfin and carp.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 22nd September 2004

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	450.08	1 950	50%	80	1 870	+10
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	181.02	1 279	42%	30	1 249	+124
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.21	583	86%	100	483	+3
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		310	19%	640 #	0	-5
Total		9 224		4 122	45%	850	3 602	+132

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

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

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	389	38%	3	386	+4
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	435	27%	24	411	+31
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	1 325	39%	100	1 225	+64

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 21-Sep-2004

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2004
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 184	+49	Snowy-Murray	+3	247
Snowy-Murray Component	914	-	Tooma-Tumut	+14	128
Target Storage	1 240		Nett Diversion	-10.4	119
			Murray 1 Release	+15	372

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2004
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	44.2	93.4
Wakool System loss	-1.0	4.7
Western Murray Irrig.	0.4	2.3
Licensed Pumps	7.7	29.0
Lower Darling	0.3	1.5
TOTAL	51.6	130.9

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2004
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	2.5	17
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	10.3	91
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.3	9
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	-0.1	1
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.5	29
TOTAL	18.6	148

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	135	(4 500 ML/day)
Flow this week	31.8	
Flow so far this month	101	
Flow last month	124	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2004
Swan Hill	120	110	110
Euston	100	130	120
Red Cliffs	130	150	90
Merbein	170	180	90
Burtundy (Darling)	450	440	380
Lock 9	160	150	120
Lake Victoria	170	180	190
Berri	240	250	280
Waikerie	390	400	450
Morgan	430	430	470
Mannum	510	510	530
Murray Bridge	550	560	530
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 290	1 280	1 150
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	190	1 010	1 020
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	-	-	2 030
Goolwa Barrages	1 680	1 680	2 090

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	-	-	-	4 380	F	4 150	6 480
Jingellic	4.0	2.27	208.79	9 890	F	11 120	17 840
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.63	219.52	6 230	F	6 110	6 130
Heywoods	5.5	1.22	154.85	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	2.02	150.49	4 150	F	5 260	8 790
Albury	4.3	1.07	148.51	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.48	127.50	5 010	F	6 240	9 000
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.03	117.07	12 200	F	18 530	22 560
Tocumwal	6.4	3.08	106.92	17 020	F	24 120	15 480
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.49	82.04	11 560	F	13 190	7 210
Swan Hill	4.5	2.08	65.00	11 480	F	10 230	4 560
Wakool Junction	8.8	4.02	53.14	13 200	R	10 280	5 950
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.09	43.93	10 660	R	8 490	5 680
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.02	7 680	F	6 490	6 840
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.99	27.75	6 680	R	5 680	6 320
Rufus Junction	-	3.09	20.02	4 310	R	4 180	4 020
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 310	R	3 490	3 860
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.44	155.67	4 110	F	5 090	8 580
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	10.14	147.82	7 744	F	12 750	27 740
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	2.17	93.59	2 091	F	6 040	4 430
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 010	F	1 220	2 430
Edward at Liewah	-	2.52	57.90	1 970	F	1 840	1 720
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.42	54.91	340	R	350	480
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.74	56.70	420	F	360	220
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.61	-	1 160	S	960	80
Darling at Bourke	-	3.96	-	32	S	50	70
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.65	-	18	R	20	50

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	21 970	38 350
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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	-0.11	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.08	+0.79
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.10	+0.03
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.04	+0.14
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.01	+0.22	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.43
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.35	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+0.16
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.04	+0.05	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.08
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.04	+0.16	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.01	+0.05

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.89	0.79	70.14	507
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.74	0.38	61.68	504

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.88	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.87	7

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

