

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 24 August 2005

Our Ref : M2005/00066/jm  
Trim Ref : 05/13772

26 August, 2005



## ***Rainfall and Inflow***

Friday 19 August brought widespread rain to the south of the Murray-Darling Basin. The heaviest falls, of up to 50 mm, fell over the upper River Murray catchment and the Adelaide Hills. The rain generated reasonable responses in stream flow, particularly in the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers, which peaked at about 6 500 ML/day and 18 000 ML/day respectively. Inflow from the Goulburn River also increased to about 4 000 ML/day.

As a result of rainfall in early August, inflow to the River Murray from the Murrumbidgee River peaked at 4 000 ML/day on Sunday 21 August. Since then, the inflow has fallen to about 1 500 ML/day and is expected gradually recede further over the coming weeks.

## ***River Murray Operations***

Release from Dartmouth Reservoir was held steady at about 500 ML/day this week for the purposes of electricity generation. However, commencing Friday 26 August, the release will gradually be reduced to the minimum requirement of 200 ML/day.

Release from Hume Reservoir was maintained at minimum this week. In response to the rises in the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers, release from Yarrawonga Weir has been increased to 15 000 ML/day. The inflows from these tributaries have kept the release from Yarrawonga Weir at levels in excess of the channel capacity downstream (through the Barmah "Choke") for nearly three weeks, providing a welcome watering to low-lying areas of the Barmah-Millewa Forest.

Further downstream, the level of the Torrumbarry Weir pool was gradually refilled to full supply level this week. The release from the Torrumbarry Weir is currently 9 300 ML/day, and is expected to increase to about 10 000 ML/day in the next few days due to the combined flow from the Murray and Goulburn Rivers.

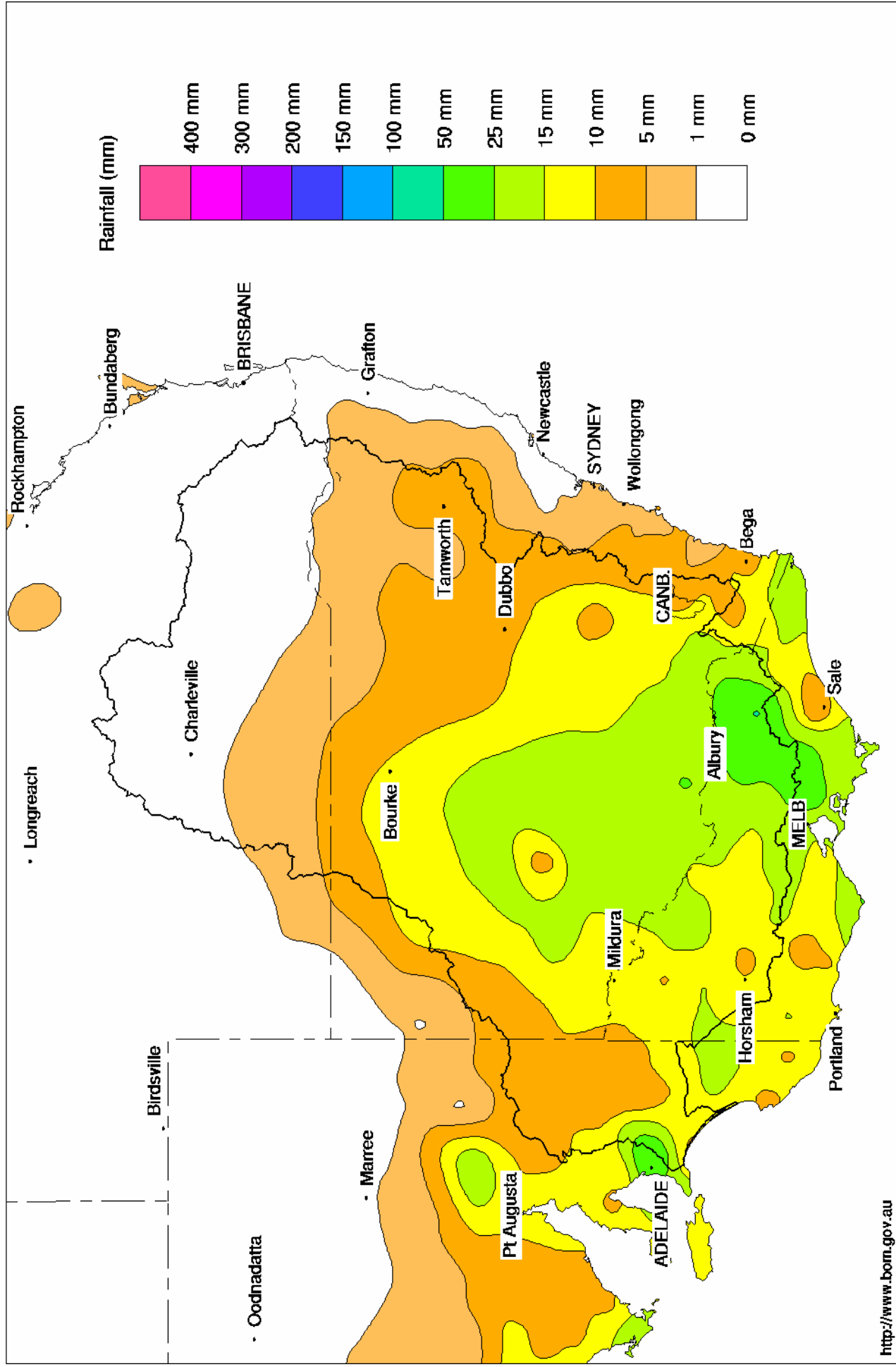
## ***Lower Lakes and Barrages***

The rain on the Adelaide Hills has produced a welcome boost in inflows to the Lower Lakes in South Australia. The Lake levels have risen, and are currently quite high at about 0.88 m AHD, permitting additional barrage gates to be opened this week. Of note, two gates on the Boundary Creek Barrage were opened, in addition to six gates on the Ewe Island Barrage. Gates on these Barrages have not been opened since 1996 and 2000 respectively.

Water released from the Boundary Creek Barrage passes through Boundary Creek (between Ewe Island and Mundoo Island) before reaching the Coorong Channel. The narrow nature of this creek means that estuarine conditions produced by the freshwater releases from the barrage might be sustained for a longer period given the small volume of water currently available to release. It is hoped that this will have benefits for all estuarine species and encourage the aggregation and spawning of estuarine fish such as black bream, congolli and gobies.

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General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 24th August 2005  
 Product of the National Climate Centre





**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)				
<b>River Murray</b>							
Khancoban	-	-	-	3 930	R	3 090	4 980
Jingellic	4.0	2.31	208.83	10 030	R	9 310	13 010
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	2.00	218.89	2 740	F	2 740	3 640
Heywoods	5.5	1.22	154.85	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	2.13	150.60	4 960	F	4 030	3 730
Albury	4.3	1.16	148.60	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.53	127.55	5 270	R	4 010	4 220
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.36	117.40	15 000	R	12 100	12 840
Tocumwal	6.4	2.57	106.41	12 570	R	12 000	12 940
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.80	81.35	8 660	S	8 240	6 420
Swan Hill	4.5	1.52	64.44	7 980	R	7 280	5 520
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.53	52.65	10 560	R	8 810	5 850
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.33	44.17	12 650	R	9 690	6 540
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.07	10 010	F	7 690	6 730
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.10	27.86	8 880	R	6 840	6 250
Rufus Junction	-	3.03	19.96	3 580	F	3 530	3 620
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	4 440	R	4 240	4 040
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.53	155.76	6 000	F	4 520	3 960
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	11.20	148.88	15 535	F	12 310	10 340
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	2.98	94.40	3 774	R	1 710	1 120
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 910	F	2 910	2 910
Edward at Liewah	-	3.09	58.47	2 810	R	2 460	1 020
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.47	54.96	474	R	300	140
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	2.32	58.28	1 780	F	3 110	590
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.24	-	120	S	120	130
Darling at Bourke	-	4.18	-	827	F	1 000	1 380
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.66	-	26	S	30	20

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	19 650	23 080
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**Weirs and Locks**

**Pool levels above or below design level**

<b>Murray</b>	FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.15	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.11	+0.75
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	+0.05
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.32	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.17
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.08	+0.27	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.06	+0.51
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.07	+0.46	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.19
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	+0.02	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.13
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.02	+0.16	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.05	+0.12

<b>Murrumbidgee</b>	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.05	2.04	71.39	2950
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.15	1.15	62.45	1420

**Lower Lakes**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.88

**Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.90	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.90	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	2
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	6
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.92	6

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

