

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 31 August 2005

Our Ref : M2005/00066/prs
Trim Ref : 05/14545

1 September, 2005



Rainfall and Inflow

Widespread rain fell across the southern part of the Basin this week, with over 100 mm falling in parts of the Ovens catchment (*see attached map*). This rain has generated significant rises in stream levels and the Bureau of Meteorology has issued flood warnings for a number of streams in north-eastern Victoria (for more detail go to <http://www.bom.gov.au/hydro/flood/>). This event will generate increased inflow to the headwater storages and a slightly higher flow along the River Murray.

River Murray Operations

Release from Dartmouth Dam was reduced during the week to the minimum release of 200 ML/day. Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by 34 GL to 1 991 GL (51% capacity). Release from Hume Dam has been maintained at the minimum release of 600 ML/day, with the combined inflow from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers contributing to the majority of the 14 000 ML/day currently being released downstream of Yarrowonga Weir. Storage in Hume Reservoir increased to 1 717 GL (57% capacity) and the chance of Hume Reservoir filling later this year is now about 20%. The chance of Dartmouth Reservoir filling this year remains very low.

Release from Torrumbarry Weir was temporarily increased to 11 300 ML/day during the week to pass a slightly higher inflow from the Goulburn River. As a result of this most recent rain event, a further rise in inflow from the Goulburn River is expected over the coming weeks. Release from Euston Weir is currently about 12 500 ML/day and the Euston Weir pool will be gradually refilled to the full supply level over the coming week after being temporarily lowered to 30 cm below full supply level during mid August. The storage level in Lake Victoria has steadily increased over the past month and is currently 513 GL (76% capacity).

Barrages and Lower Lakes

The level of the Lower Lakes has fallen slightly during the week and is currently about 0.86m AHD. A number of barrage gates remain open at Ewe Island Barrage, Boundary Creek Barrage and Tauwitchere Barrage. However, in response to a high tide and strong winds on the 31st August, the gates at Ewe Island Barrage were temporarily closed for a few hours to prevent the back flow of sea water into the lake.

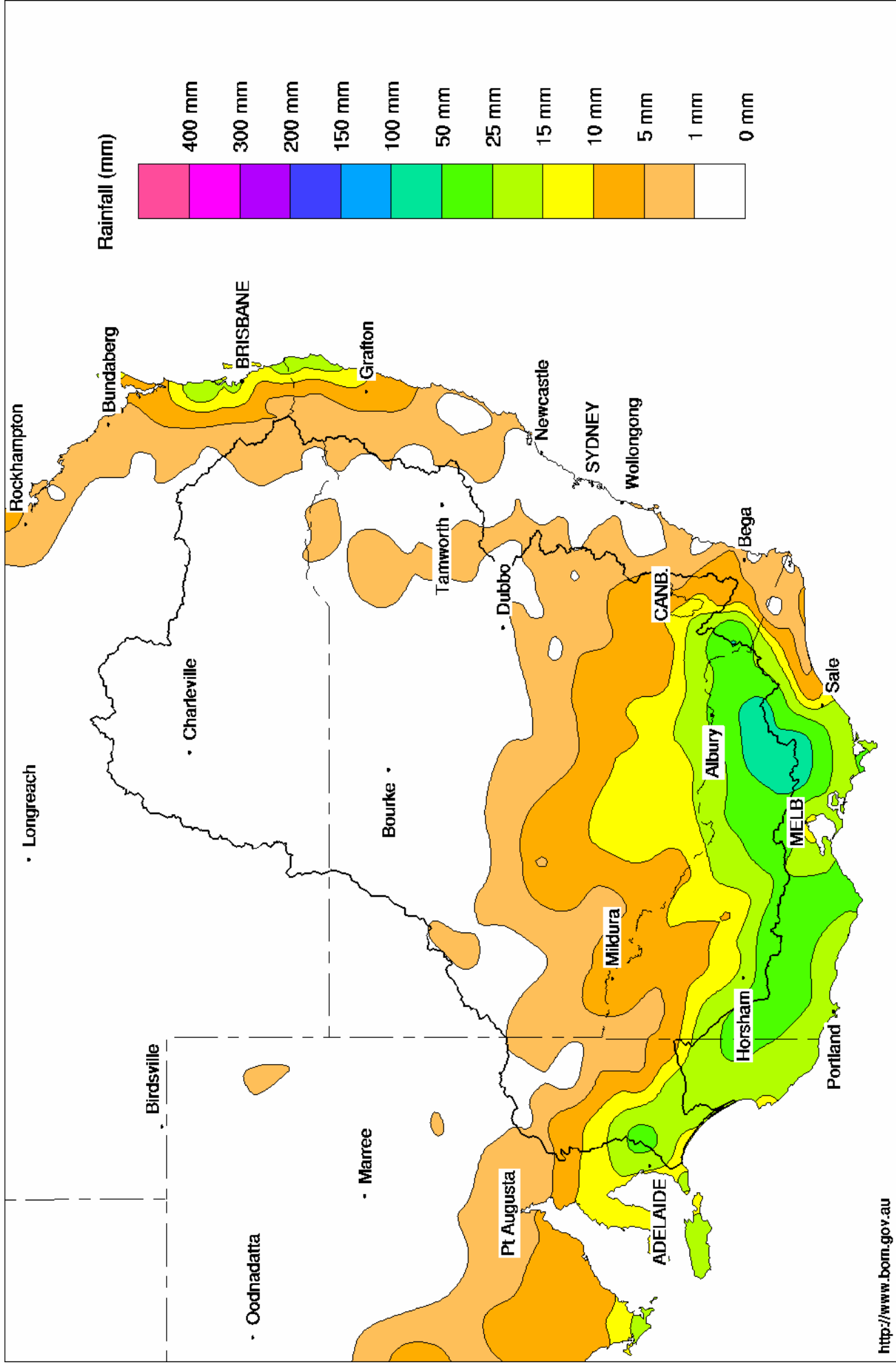
Summary for August

During August there was a return to average or above average rainfall across the southern part of the Basin (*see attached map*). This generated approximately 1 100 GL of inflow to the River Murray System, which is near median (i.e. can be expected to be exceeded about 5 years in 10). During the month, storage in Hume Reservoir increased by about 500 GL and storage in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by about 160 GL.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

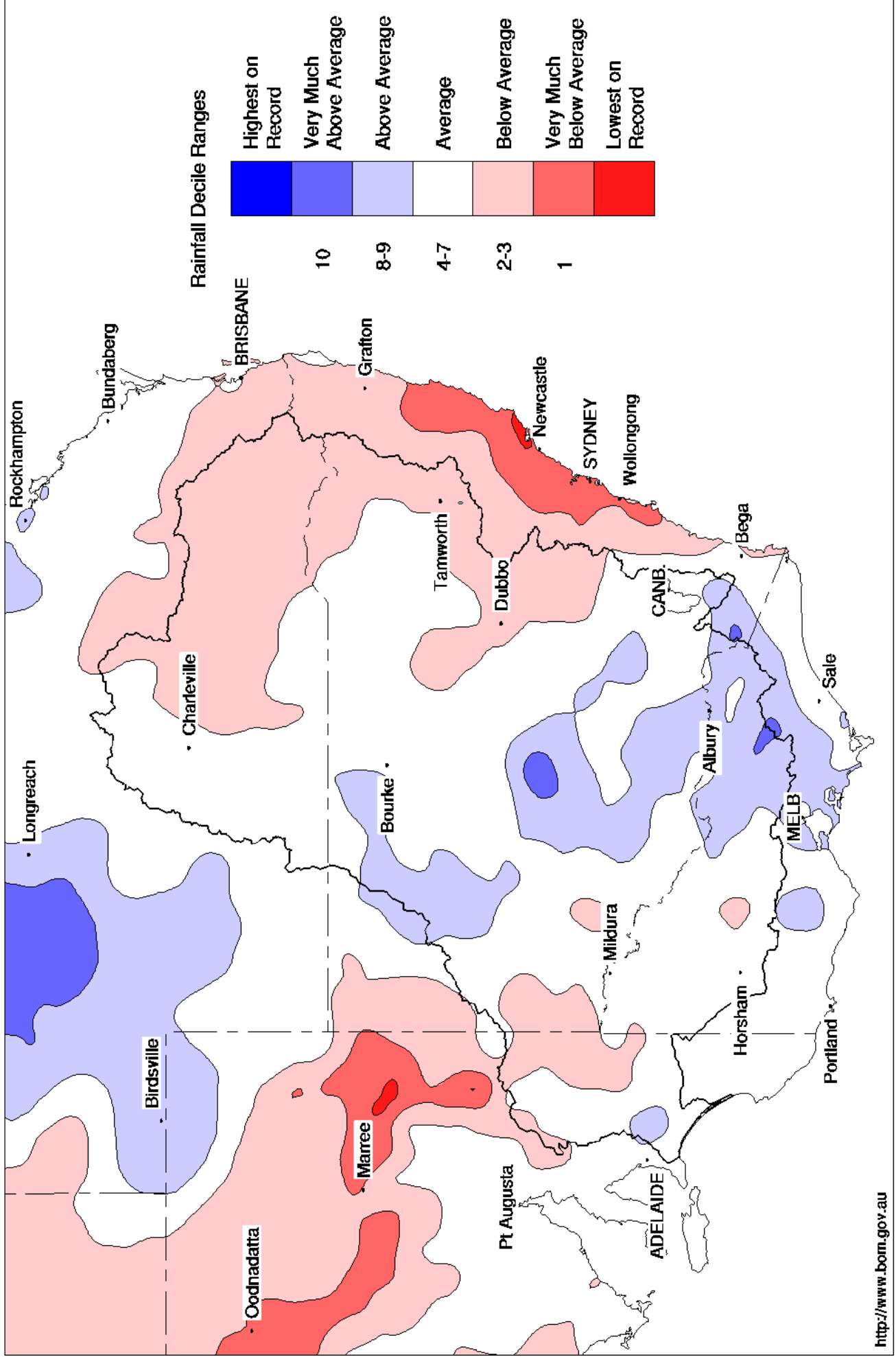
Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 31st August 2005

Product of the National Climate Centre



Murray Darling Rainfall Deciles August 2005

Distribution Based on Gridded Data
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)	MDBC Active Storage (GL)	Change in Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	451.01	1 991	51%	80	1 911	+34
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	184.31	1 717	57%	30	1 687	+91
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.60	513	76%	100	413	+41
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		478	28%	(- -) #	0	+1
Total		9 352		4 699	50%	--	4 011	+168

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **47%**

NSW takes control of Menindee Lakes when storage falls below 480 GL, and control reverts to MDBC when storage next reaches 640 GL

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		471	46%	3	468	+10
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		734	45%	24	710	+30
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		1 223	36%	100	1 123	+53

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 30-Aug-2005

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2005
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 990	+31	Snowy-Murray	+7	292
Snowy-Murray Component	884	+19	Tooma-Tumut	+8	105
Target Storage	1 190		Nett Diversion	-1.7	187
			Murray 1 Release	+18	406

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2005
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	2.1	33.3
Wakool System loss	1.7	10.5
Western Murray Irrig.	0.2	.6
Licensed Pumps	1.3	6.6
Lower Darling	2.7	6.7
TOTAL	8.0	57.8

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2005
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	1.3	3
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	5.3	49
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.5	3
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	1
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.4	17
TOTAL	10.6	73

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	124	
Flow this week	28.0	(4 000 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	124	
Flow last month	109	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2005
Swan Hill	90	90	120
Euston	150	150	140
Red Cliffs	140	160	150
Merbein	120	120	110
Burtundy (Darling)	520	520	530
Lock 9	170	150	150
Lake Victoria	200	190	190
Berri	300	290	300
Waikerie	-	-	490
Morgan	430	440	470
Mannum	460	460	450
Murray Bridge	440	440	430
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 380	1 410	1 390
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	860	1 160	1 040
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 080	2 060	2 100
Goolwa Barrages	2 070	1 810	2 330



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	-	-	-	10 570	R	4 850	3 090
Jingellic	4.0	2.24	208.76	9 370	R	9 160	9 310
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.43	219.32	4 920	R	2 650	2 740
Heywoods	5.5	1.24	154.87	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.92	150.39	3 440	R	3 690	4 030
Albury	4.3	0.99	148.43	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.14	127.16	3 420	F	4 270	4 010
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.14	117.18	13 200	S	14 460	12 100
Tocumwal	6.4	2.77	106.61	14 260	F	14 880	12 000
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.16	81.71	10 120	F	10 490	8 240
Swan Hill	4.5	1.90	64.82	10 450	R	9 150	7 280
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.96	53.08	12 880	R	11 720	8 810
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.28	44.12	12 260	R	12 260	9 690
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.24	12 400	F	12 480	7 690
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.28	28.04	10 220	S	10 030	6 840
Rufus Junction	-	3.01	19.94	3 470	F	3 500	3 530
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 830	F	4 170	4 240
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.28	155.51	3 110	R	3 670	4 520
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.83	147.51	6 462	F	8 570	12 310
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.63	93.05	1 101	F	2 190	1 710
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 930	F	2 910	2 910
Edward at Liewah	-	3.20	58.58	3 000	R	2 910	2 460
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.62	55.11	847	S	780	300
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.74	56.70	346	F	830	3 110
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.24	-	120	S	120	120
Darling at Bourke	-	4.13	-	552	F	670	1 000
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.66	-	26	S	30	30

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	16 840	19 650
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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	-0.05	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.11	+0.73
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.02	+0.05
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.30	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.16
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.01	+0.44	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.47
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.06	+0.64	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+0.18
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.08	+0.06	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.02	+0.14
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.03	+0.20	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.01	+0.22

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.05	1.23	70.58	1250
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.17	0.32	61.62	436

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.86

Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.46	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.58	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	2
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	9
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.47	3



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