

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 3 August 2005

Our Ref : M2005/00066
Trim Ref : 05/12892

5 August, 2005



Rainfall and Inflow

Dry conditions prevailed across the Basin this week (*see attached map*), however on the evening of Wednesday 3 August over 50 mm of rain fell over parts of the Murray, Mitta Mitta, Kiewa and Ovens catchments. The Bureau of Meteorology has issued a moderate flood warning for the River Murray upstream of Lake Hume, a minor flood warning for the Mitta Mitta River upstream of Dartmouth Reservoir and a minor flood warning for the Kiewa River (<http://www.bom.gov.au/hydro/flood/>). This event may generate significant inflow to the headwater storages and a further update will be provided next week.

The flow in the Darling River at Wilcannia is now receding after reaching a peak of about 9 500 ML/day on Sunday 31 July. The inflow to Menindee Lakes has increased to 9 000 ML/day and the storage has increased during the week by 59 GL to 413 GL (26% capacity).

River Murray Operations

The release from Hume Reservoir was temporarily increased earlier this week to about 5 000 ML/day in response to the commencement of the irrigation season and the need to begin transferring water to Lake Victoria to ensure sufficient water supply to downstream users over the summer months. However in response to the current higher inflow from the Kiewa and Ovens catchments, the release from Hume Dam is currently being reduced. The release from Dartmouth Reservoir has remained steady at 750 ML/day.

The release from Yarrawonga Weir has been increased to 10 000 ML/day, which is very close to the channel capacity of the River Murray as it flows through the Barmah-Millewa Forest (10 200 ML/day). Depending on the inflow from the Ovens and Kiewa Rivers, the release from Yarrawonga Weir may be increased further this week and result in parts of the forest being watered.

Further downstream at Torrumbarry Weir, the field inspection of bank erosion has been completed and the weir pool is gradually being refilled. This study identified significant areas of bank erosion along the weir pool. The release from Torrumbarry Weir was temporarily reduced this week to assist in refilling the weir pool and to commence irrigation diversions via the National Channel.

The level of Lake Alexandrina has remained steady this week at about 0.85m AHD. At Tauwitchere Barrage, the two fishways remain open and the number of open bays has been increased to four. To assist in reducing the salinity of the Goowla Channel, five bays of the Goolwa Barrage remain partially opened. In response to high tide and strong winds on the evening of 3 August, all barrage bays were temporarily closed to prevent the back flow of sea water increasing the salinity of the lake and Goolwa Channel.

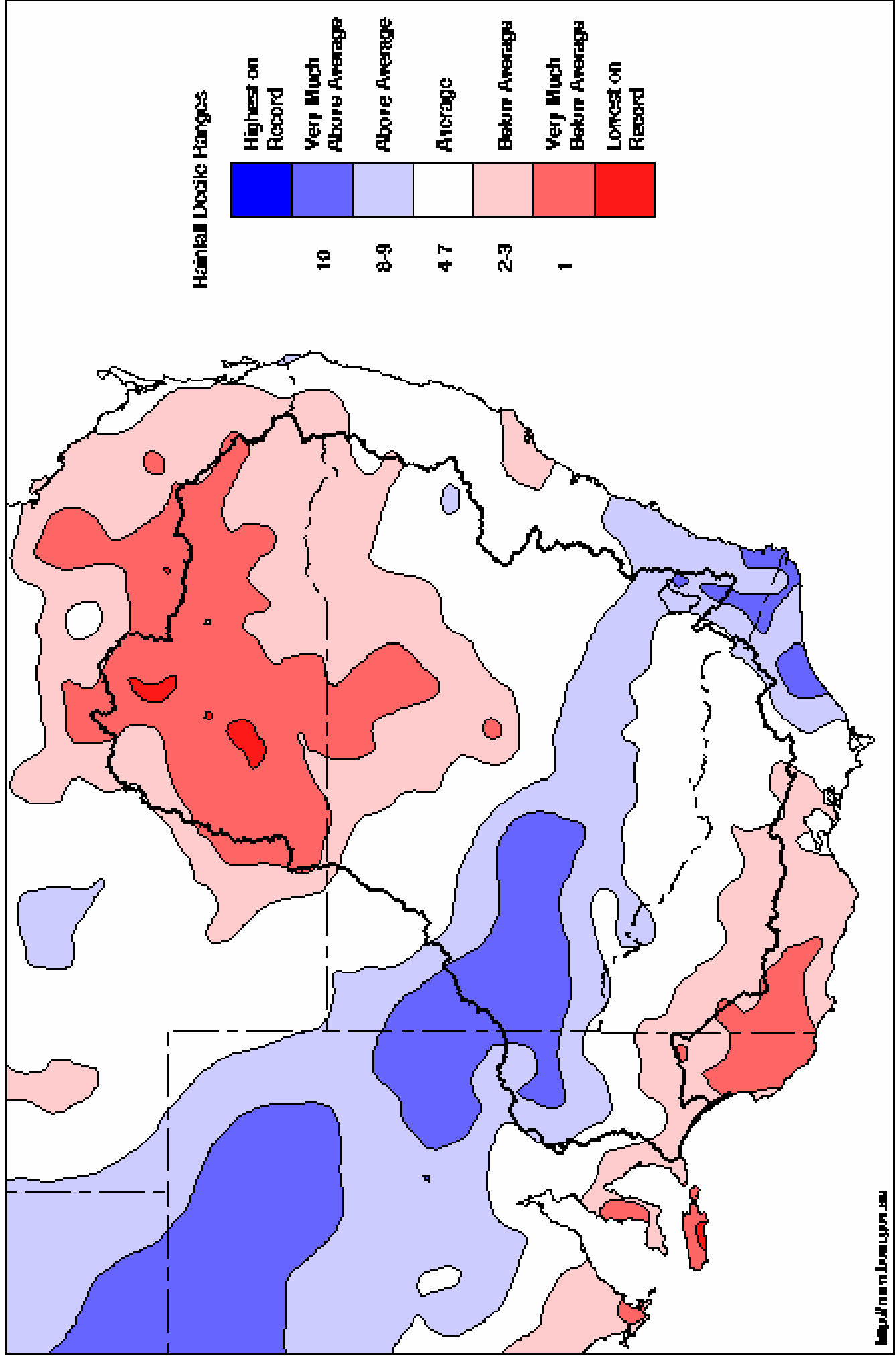
Summary for July 2005

After a very wet June, there was a return to average or below average rainfall for the majority of the Basin during July (*see attached map*). Inflow to the River Murray System during July was approximately 550 GL, which is well below the July average (1 200 GL) and at a level expected to be exceeded 6 years in 10.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

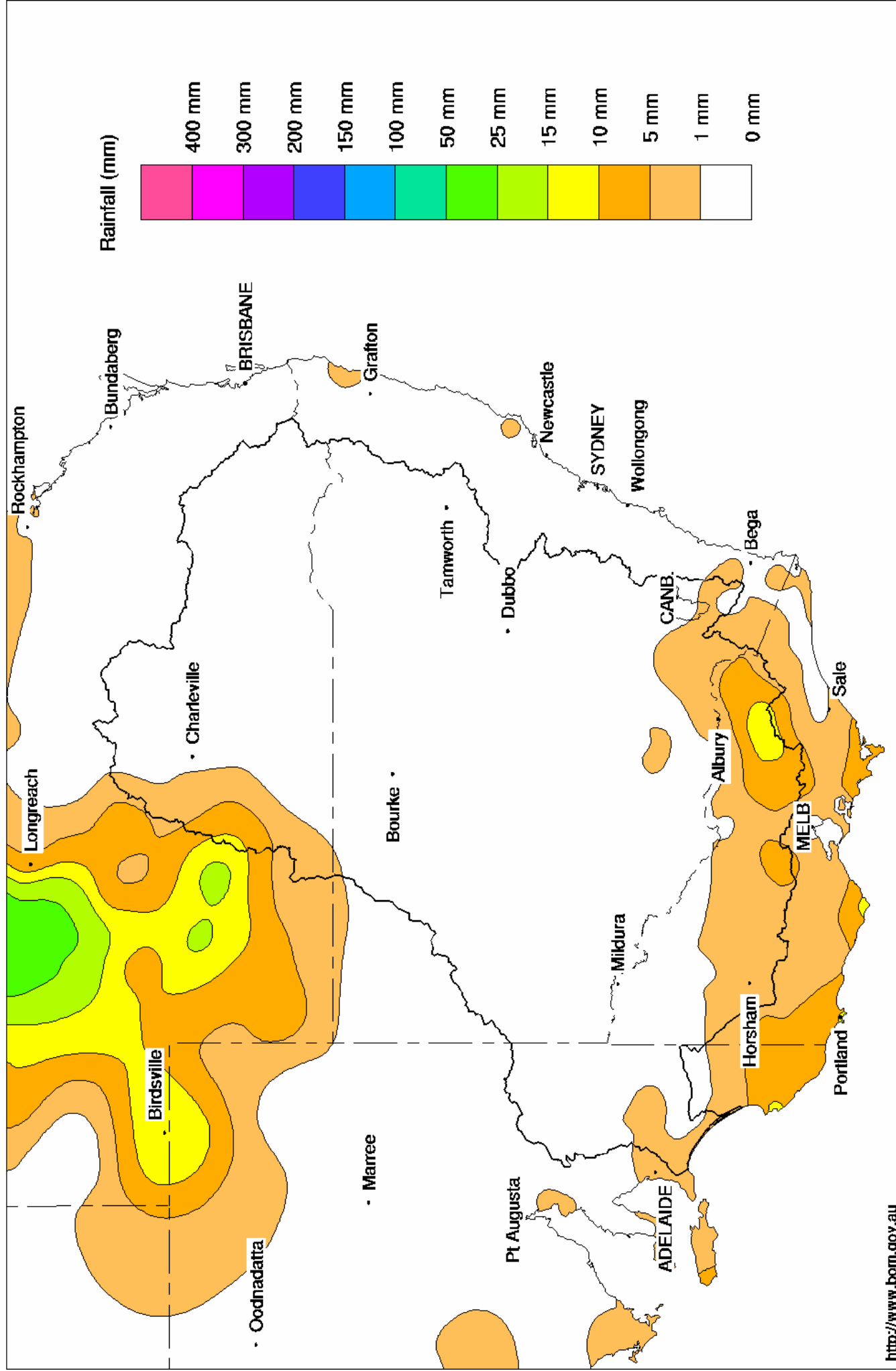
Murray Darling Rainfall Deciles July 2005

Distribution Based on Gridded Data
Product of the National Climate Centre



Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 3rd August 2005

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	447.35	1 834	47%	80	1 754	+18
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	180.58	1 226	40%	30	1 196	+34
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	24.80	427	63%	100	327	+23
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		413	24%	(-) #	0	+59
Total		9 352		3 900	42%	--	3 277	+134

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **39%**

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	381	37%	3	378	+7
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	501	31%	24	477	+42
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	1 022	30%	100	922	+25

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 02-Aug-2005

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2005
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 821	+23	Snowy-Murray	+3	270
Snowy-Murray Component	808	+16	Tooma-Tumut	+11	61
Target Storage	1 190		Nett Diversion	-7.5	209
			Murray 1 Release	+15	328

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2005
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	11.0	19.7
Wakool System loss	0.5	4.5
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	.2
Licensed Pumps	0.6	3.1
Lower Darling	0.1	.2
TOTAL	12.3	27.7

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2005
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	.0	
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	3.3	3
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.2	1
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	1
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.6	8
TOTAL	5.2	13

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	124	
Flow this week	26.1	(3 700 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	12	
Flow last month	109	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2005
Swan Hill	170	150	160
Euston	130	130	130
Red Cliffs	130	150	130
Merbein	130	120	130
Burtundy (Darling)	540	560	550
Lock 9	200	160	170
Lake Victoria	200	200	200
Berri	310	320	320
Waikerie	-	520	-
Morgan	480	480	480
Mannum	450	450	450
Murray Bridge	450	430	420
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 400	1 370	1 370
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	880	910	880
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 140	2 120	2 150
Goolwa Barrages	1 810	2 130	1 830

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	-	-	-	3 020	S	3 190	3 070
Jingellic	4.0	1.94	208.46	6 640	F	7 310	6 990
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.80	218.69	1 900	F	2 020	1 890
Heywoods	5.5	2.13	155.76	5 750	R	4 600	1 000
Doctors Point	5.5	2.46	150.93	8 120	R	6 950	2 170
Albury	4.3	1.45	148.89	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.82	127.84	6 920	F	5 600	2 170
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.76	116.80	10 000	F	8 010	6 380
Tocumwal	6.4	2.19	106.03	9 600	R	7 110	6 260
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.67	80.22	4 580	R	5 040	5 720
Swan Hill	4.5	1.08	64.00	5 080	F	5 600	5 460
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.82	51.94	7 260	F	7 360	7 370
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.74	43.58	8 820	R	8 250	7 920
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.03	8 320	F	7 920	8 040
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.02	27.78	7 360	R	7 290	7 270
Rufus Junction	-	3.01	19.94	3 470	F	3 250	3 040
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 980	S	3 960	4 030
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.93	155.16	2 270	R	2 360	1 480
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.15	146.83	4 086	F	4 750	3 580
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.35	92.77	685	R	600	850
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	460	F	580	1 140
Edward at Liewah	-	1.96	57.34	1 300	F	1 540	1 790
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.25	54.74	143	S	140	150
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	2.07	58.03	1 480	F	1 350	610
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.32	-	270	R	190	310
Darling at Bourke	-	4.14	-	603	F	3 590	11 080
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.68	-	48	S	60	90

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	13 040	10 380
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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	+0.10	+0.73
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.36	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.04	+0.05
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.03	+0.18
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.07	+0.23	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.06	+0.48
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.38	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+0.15
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.02	+0.01	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.01	+0.08
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.02	+0.13	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.02	+0.01

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.21	1.23	70.58	1250
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	0.97	62.27	1190

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.85

Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.92	5
Mundoo	26 openings	0.92	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.93	4

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

