

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 6 July 2005

*Our Ref : M2005/00066/jde*  
*Trim Ref : 05/9195*

7 July, 2005



## ***Rainfall and Inflow***

Some good follow up rain has been received in parts of the Basin this week. Falls of up to 100 mm were recorded in parts of the Namoi and Gywdir catchments with minor flooding in some locations. The Namoi River peaked last week and the higher flows are starting to reach the Barwon River. The flow in the upper parts of the Darling River is expected to increase over the coming week. Some inflow is now expected into Menindee Lakes in late July and August, but it is likely to be small. Updates on this will be provided when more information becomes available. The rainfall in the Murray, Kiewa and Ovens catchments has been patchier, in the range of about 35 to 40 mm (*see attached map*).

## ***Summary for June 2005***

The June rainfalls were well above average over much of the Basin. However, the runoff from this rain and the resulting inflow to the River Murray system has been relatively low, with June inflows in the driest quarter of records. The June rainfall has, however, commenced the “wetting” up of the catchments to the extent that some minor stream flow responses are now being observed.

Further widespread rainfall over the coming winter and spring months is required to significantly increase the volume of runoff into headwater storages and the River Murray.

Storage levels in Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs increased by 33 and 194 GL respectively over June. Lake Victoria storage decreased by 30 GL to 344 GL and Menindee Lakes declined by 7 GL to 330 GL compared to the levels at the start of June.

The Bureau of Meteorology outlook shows no strong tendencies towards wet or dry conditions.

## ***River Murray Operations***

River Murray Water (RMW) has advised (*see attached media release*) that the water level of Torrumbarry Weir pool will be temporarily drawn down by about 40 cm below normal pool level commencing 10 July 2005. The purpose of this operation is to enable an inspection of the river banks upstream of the Torrumbarry Weir.

The average level in the lower lakes has steadily increased to full supply level (0.75m AHD) this week in response to recent heavy rainfall. RMW and the SA Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation will closely monitor the level as water may need to be discharged from the Barrages if the water level reaches the surcharge level of 0.85m AHD. The last time water was discharged through the Barrages was in August and September 2004. The volume discharged at this time was approximately 100 GL.

DAVID DREVERMAN  
General Manager

# MEDIA RELEASE

---

Thursday, 7 July 2005

## Minor Drawdown of Torrumbarry Weir



The Torrumbarry Weir pool level will be gradually lowered to about 40 cm below full supply level starting this Sunday July 10, River Murray Water General Manager David Dreverman confirmed today.

“The weir pool will be maintained at this lower level until early August to enable an inspection of the river banks for erosion upstream of the Torrumbarry Weir,” Mr Dreverman said.

“Recent rain has increased flows in this reach of the River Murray and, as a result, the effect of the drawdown on river levels upstream of Torrumbarry Weir at Echuca is likely to be minor.

“River boat operators have advised that the operation of river boats and houseboats in the vicinity of Echuca is expected to continue as normal”.

The water level of Torrumbarry Weir pool is currently about 86.05 m AHD. Commencing 10 July 2005, the weir pool level will be gradually lowered by about 4 cm per day so that by 20 July 2005 it will be approximately 85.65 m AHD. The pool level will be held at this lower level for about 12 days, until 1 August 2005, while the bank inspection is undertaken. The weir pool level will then be gradually increased in early August to cater for the start of the irrigation season.

“Depending on river flow conditions at the time, the water level is expected to be lowered by about 20-25 cm at the Deep Creek Marina, while at the Echuca wharf the water level is expected to be similar to, or slightly lower than, the current level of about 86.4 m AHD. The levels may be higher than this if there is further heavy rain and runoff” Mr Dreverman said.

“River pumpers, boat operators and other river users upstream of Torrumbarry Weir are advised to take these changed water levels into account and make any necessary adjustments in response to the lower weir pool level,” he said.

*For further information contact:*

**Lawrie Kirk**

Manager Communication

**Phone: 02 6279 0107**

**Mobile: 0417 219 158**

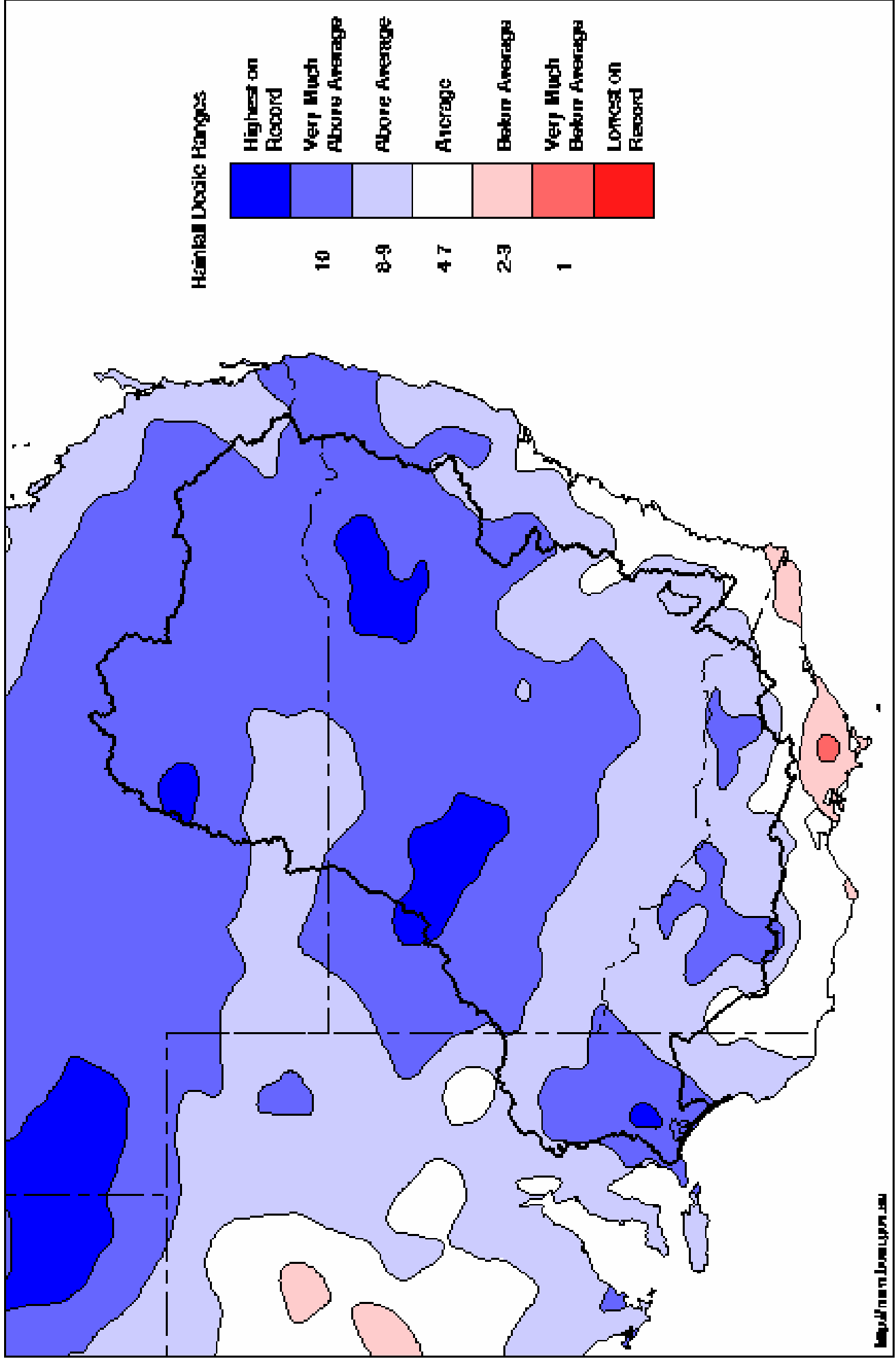
E-mail: [lawrie.kirk@mdbc.gov.au](mailto:lawrie.kirk@mdbc.gov.au)

*(Lawrie Kirk is not to be quoted as a spokesperson)*

TRIM Ref: 05/9345

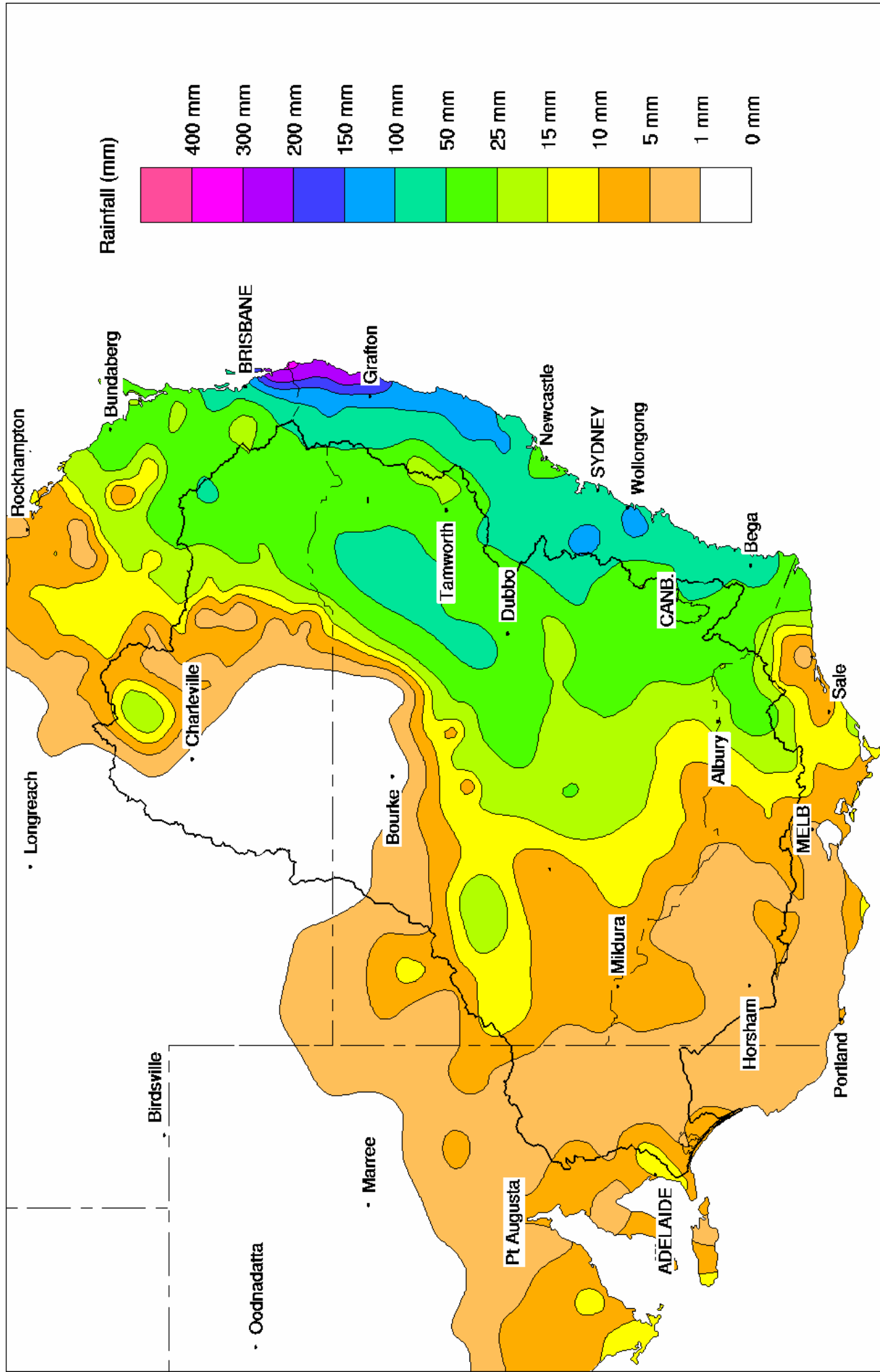
# Murray Darling Rainfall Deciles June 2005

Distribution Based on Gridded Data  
Product of the National Climate Centre



# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 6th July 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	445.53	1 759	45%	80	1 679	+12
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	178.30	967	32%	30	937	+63
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	24.00	344	51%	100	244	-5
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		329	19%	(- -) #	0	-1
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>3 399</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>2 860</b>	<b>+69</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **34%**

# 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		275	27%	3	272	+27
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		321	20%	24	297	+41
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		953	28%	100	853	+14

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 05-Jul-2005

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2005
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 809	+34	Snowy-Murray	+5	223
Snowy-Murray Component	793	+18	Tooma-Tumut	+12	30
Target Storage	1 170		Nett Diversion	-7.4	194
			Murray 1 Release	+19	249

### Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2005
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	.0	.0
Wakool System loss	0.1	.1
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	.0
Licensed Pumps	0.9	.8
Lower Darling	0.1	.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.0</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2005
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	.0	
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.3	
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.2	
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.6	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2</b>

### Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	108.5	
Flow this week	24.2	(3 500 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	21	
Flow last month	91	

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2004
Swan Hill	150	130	110
Euston	170	180	120
Red Cliffs	170	160	140
Merbein	120	120	130
Burtundy (Darling)	520	520	540
Lock 9	160	170	150
Lake Victoria	200	200	190
Berri	350	330	240
Waikerie	470	470	370
Morgan	430	420	380
Mannum	420	410	450
Murray Bridge	410	410	460
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 390	1 390	1 360
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 050	1 170	1 100
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 970	2 010	2 160
Goolwa Barrages	3 130	3 250	2 130



**River Levels and Flows**

River Murray	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)				
Khancoban	-	-	-	3 350	F	3 810	6 130
Jingellic	4.0	1.99	208.51	7 080	F	7 270	9 700
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.61	218.50	1 220	F	1 300	1 460
Heywoods	5.5	1.19	154.82	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.69	150.16	1 980	F	2 150	2 700
Albury	4.3	0.83	148.27	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.98	127.00	2 780	F	2 360	3 150
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.40	116.44	7 490	R	5 990	7 260
Tocumwal	6.4	1.67	105.51	6 090	R	5 890	6 680
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.87	80.42	5 270	F	6 370	4 990
Swan Hill	4.5	1.30	64.22	6 480	F	5 940	3 730
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.76	51.88	7 000	R	5 700	3 690
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.33	43.17	6 320	R	5 270	3 430
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.90	5 280	F	4 040	3 290
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.94	27.70	5 290	R	3 660	3 170
Rufus Junction	-	2.94	19.87	3 070	S	2 920	2 420
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	4 140	R	3 680	3 770
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.65	154.88	1 690	F	1 870	2 560
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.08	146.76	3 858	F	3 700	3 950
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.27	92.69	535	F	670	1 040
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 450	F	1 480	710
Edward at Liewah	-	1.40	56.78	783	R	600	440
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.26	54.75	153	R	120	110
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.52	56.48	224	R	230	250
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.41	-	500	F	350	10
Darling at Bourke	-	4.04	-	191	R	170	100
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.69	-	61	S	60	50

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	9 530	10 680
---	-------	--------

**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
Yarrawonga	124.90	-0.07	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.13	+0.65
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	+0.02
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.01	+0.13
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.10	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.47
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.01	+0.30	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.06	+0.17
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	+0.04	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.02	+0.10
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.05	+0.16	No. 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	-0.04

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	1.5	70.85	1810
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.15	0.86	62.16	1050

**Lower Lakes**

**FSL = 0.75 m AHD**

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.76

**Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.80	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.80	All closed

