

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 9 November 2005

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11 November, 2005



Rainfall and Inflow

Widespread rain, generally up to about 50 mm, fell across the Murray-Darling Basin during the week. Across the River Murray and tributary catchments, rainfall was generally in the range 20 to 60 mm and produced renewed rises particularly in the Ovens and Kiewa Rivers. Whilst rainfall in the Hume catchment was not as high as other areas, the combined effect of increased inflow and reduced release from Hume Reservoir has brought the storage to 92% of capacity.

Barmah-Millewa Forest Watering

The special release of the accumulated Environmental Water Allocation (for Barmah-Millewa Forest) from Hume Reservoir has continued for the purpose of environmental benefit for the forest. This has been recently assisted by natural flow events in the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers, and has allowed a reduction in the rate of use of the forest environmental account as the release rate from Hume has been reduced. A volume of about 270 GL has been released from the forest account since commencement of the special release in early October.

The release from Yarrawonga was increased to 27 000 ML/day on Thursday 10 November, and may be increased to a peak near 30 000 ML/day by 12 November, in order to pass increased inflow to Lake Mulwala. Flow rates at Yarrawonga in coming weeks will be set in consultation with forest and natural resource agencies having regard to monitoring of ecological processes in the forest (including vegetation response and water bird and fish breeding events) and management of the remaining environmental allocation volume.

Mid and Lower River Murray Operation

The increased flow in the mid Murray has provided an extension of the period of 'flow surplus to regulated requirements' available to the upper States downstream of the Barmah-Millewa Forest, and an extension of the period of above-entitlement flow to South Australia. The flow into South Australia is currently about 13 000 ML/day, considerably more than the November entitlement of 6 000 ML/day.

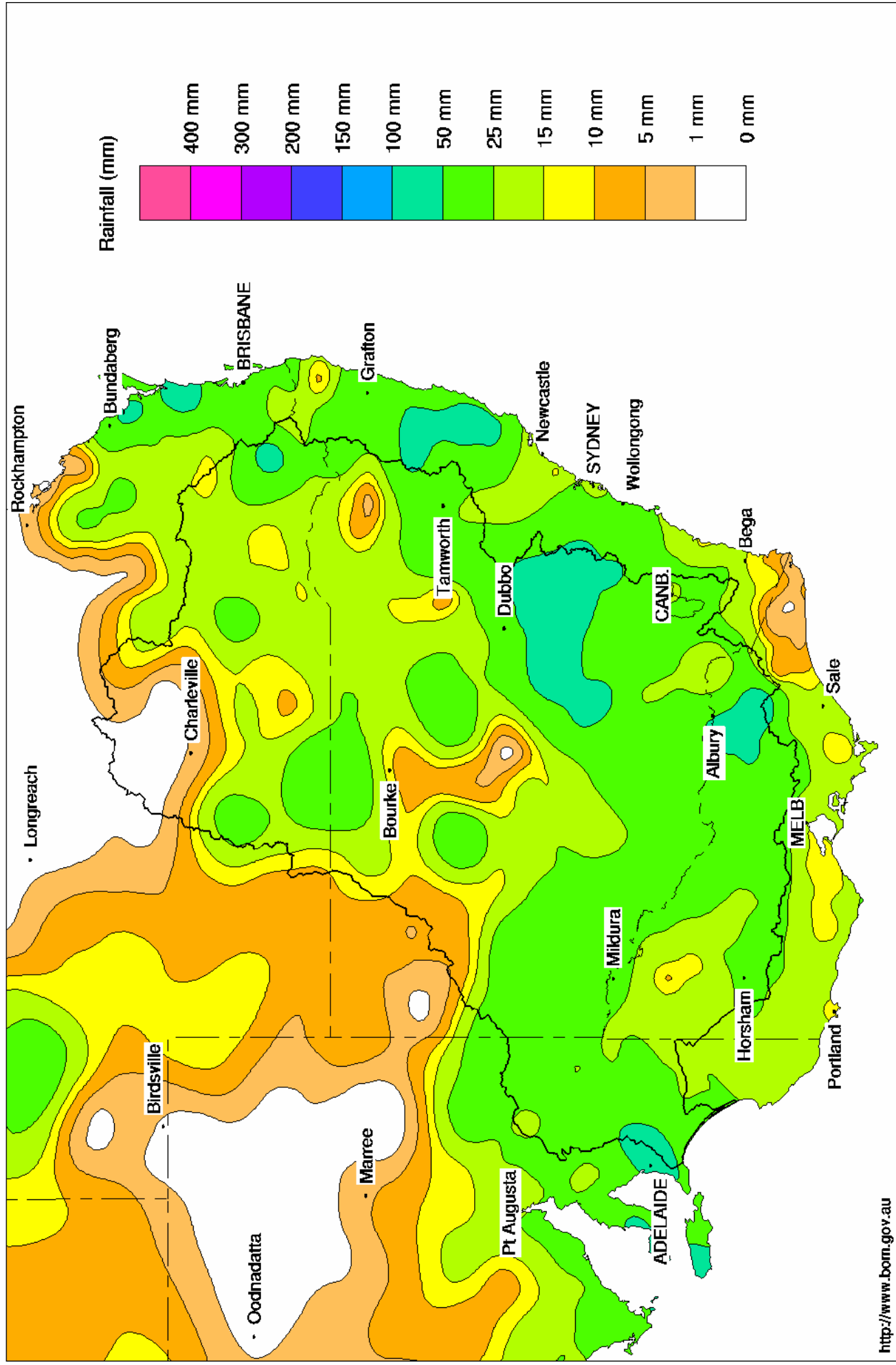
Storage in Lake Victoria is being held just below full supply level to minimise the duration of high levels and the associated risk of erosion on the upper foreshore, and the storage is to be filled on the recession of the flow on the Murray in order to maximise conservation of resources.

Release from the Barrages near the Murray Mouth is continuing. With increased inflows to the Lower Lakes arising from increased local rain and run-off, it has been necessary to increase the rate of release from the Barrages to about 9 000 ML/day. A total of about 480 GL has been released from the Barrages since late July 2005, and the release is expected to continue until the end of November, or beyond if there is further significant rain. Salinity at Goolwa barrage has declined from 3 000 EC to 1 450 EC since July. A new fishway on Goolwa Barrage was used for the first time in early November.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 9th November 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	460.76	2 449	63%	80	2 369	+20
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	190.75	2 792	92%	30	2 762	+41
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.88	662	98%	100	562	-5
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		462	27%	(-) #	0	-0
Total		9 352		6 365	68%	--	5 693	+56

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **67%**

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	721	70%	3	718	+32
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 075	66%	24	1 051	+25
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	1 638	48%	100	1 538	+19

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 08-Nov-2005

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2005
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 310	+7	Snowy-Murray	+21	397
Snowy-Murray Component	1 141	+5	Tooma-Tumut	+8	211
Target Storage	1 450		Nett Diversion	13.6	186
			Murray 1 Release	+26	661

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2005
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	10.4	263.3
Wakool System loss	0.0	7.2
Western Murray Irrig.	0.4	3.0
Licensed Pumps	4.6	78.1
Lower Darling	0.7	16.2
TOTAL	16.2	367.8

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2005
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	.9	44
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	8.6	174
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.6	14
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.6	6
Licensed pumps - SRW	7.7	72
TOTAL	19.3	310

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	180	
Flow this week	75.7	(10 800 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	92	
Flow last month	300	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2005
Swan Hill	160	120	110
Euston	130	120	130
Red Cliffs	120	120	140
Merbein	120	120	110
Burtundy (Darling)	530	530	530
Lock 9	130	130	140
Lake Victoria	190	190	190
Berri	200	190	240
Waikerie	-	280	390
Morgan	280	270	370
Mannum	300	300	430
Murray Bridge	340	340	430
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 280	1 290	1 360
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	720	740	940
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 120	2 050	2 090
Goolwa Barrages	1 480	1 460	1 850



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	-	-	-	4 790	R	5 250	5 330
Jingellic	4.0	2.18	208.70	8 800	F	9 760	10 710
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.86	218.75	2 160	F	2 030	2 010
Heywoods	5.5	2.11	155.74	6 050	F	8 080	11 330
Doctors Point	5.5	3.11	151.58	15 400	R	12 010	14 540
Albury	4.3	2.17	149.61	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.42	129.44	19 000	R	14 440	16 610
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.97	118.01	20 000	R	21 710	19 570
Tocumwal	6.4	3.52	107.36	21 180	F	23 220	20 800
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.78	82.33	12 830	R	11 740	11 700
Swan Hill	4.5	2.10	65.02	11 650	R	11 870	9 670
Wakool Junction	8.8	4.53	53.65	15 770	S	15 180	11 070
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.65	44.49	15 140	R	13 640	9 670
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.40	14 210	F	11 660	8 300
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.36	28.12	11 190	R	9 590	7 440
Rufus Junction	-	4.31	21.24	11 860	R	10 340	7 520
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	11 900	R	9 310	7 300
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.75	155.98	11 570	F	5 920	4 540
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	11.32	149.00	17 213	R	9 710	7 050
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.64	93.06	1 137	R	1 190	1 700
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	5 600	F	5 280	4 210
Edward at Liewah	-	3.21	58.59	3 010	R	2 800	2 460
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.96	55.45	2 070	R	1 680	850
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.58	56.54	254	F	260	290
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.19	-	30	F	30	70
Darling at Bourke	-	4.06	-	223	S	230	220
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.64	-	14	S	10	10

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	14 720	16 230
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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	-0.06	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.11	+1.96
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.14	+0.77
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.46	+0.61
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.05	+0.60	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.21	+1.38
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.72	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.61
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	+0.79	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.12	+0.56
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.60	+0.70	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.08	+0.31

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.08	1.52	70.87	1850
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.22	0.54	61.84	681

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	0.86	5
Mundoo	26 openings	0.86	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.83	8

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

