

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 15 November 2006



Our Ref : M2006/00012/prs, dwg  
Trim Ref : 06/23739

16 November, 2006

## Rainfall and inflows

There was widespread rain across the southern part of the Basin this week with between 20 and 50 mm falling in the upper Murray catchment (*see attached map*). Unregulated inflow to Hume Reservoir increased from about 250 to 1 000 ML/day but is expected to decline over the coming days. Inflow to Dartmouth Reservoir also temporarily increased from 500 to 1 000 ML/day.

The Ovens catchment received less rain (5 to 20 mm) and as such the flow at Wangaratta has only increased from 70 to 150 ML/day. There was significant rain in some irrigation districts and along the lower Murray, with 24 mm at Finley, 19 mm at Yarrowonga and 10 mm at Waikerie.

## River Operations

To assist in meeting demand from Hume Reservoir over the coming months, the release from Dartmouth Reservoir has been increased to provide a river level at Tallandoon of about 3.34 m (10 300 ML/day). Another 3 cm increase in the river level at Tallandoon is planned to occur on the Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November, which will raise the flow to about 10 500 ML/day. Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir reduced by 63 GL to 1655 GL (42 % capacity).

The wetter conditions have reduced 'river losses' and eased irrigation demand, enabling releases from Hume Reservoir to be reduced from 14 000 to 12 500 ML/day. This reduction in release and the slightly higher inflows have significantly slowed the rate of fall in Hume storage. Over the past week Hume storage reduced by 14 GL to 294 GL (9.7% capacity).

Release downstream of Yarrowonga Weir has been temporarily reduced to 9 900 ML/day to minimise the risk of local rain and runoff causing overbank flow into the Barmah-Millewa Forest. A reduction in diversion to the National Channel has contributed to a temporary increase in flow downstream of Torrumbarry Weir from 5 900 to 6 300 ML/day.

RMW has requested additional flow from the Murrumbidgee Inter-valley Trade Account to assist in meeting irrigation demands along the River Murray over the coming months. The inflow from the Murrumbidgee River has increased to 1 100 ML/day at Balranald. Lower river losses, reduced irrigation demand and the higher inflow from the Murrumbidgee River have resulted in the flow at Wentworth Weir increasing from 5 000 to 7 000 ML/day. This has contributed to the storage in Lake Victoria remaining relatively steady at about 485 GL (72% capacity).

The effect of the rain on slowing the rate of fall of both Hume and Lake Victoria storages is very good news as it increases operational flexibility in managing the River Murray System, with the aim of meeting the water supply requirements of all three States over the coming months. However, further sustained rainfall is required to provide a significant improvement to the water availability outlook for this season.

The average level of the Lower Lakes in South Australia fell by about 4 cm to 0.67 m AHD. High winds resulted in large fluctuations in lake level at some sites. For example, the level upstream of Tauwichee Barrage fell from 0.7 m to 0.2 m and then increased back up to 0.7 m AHD over 2 days.

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General Manager

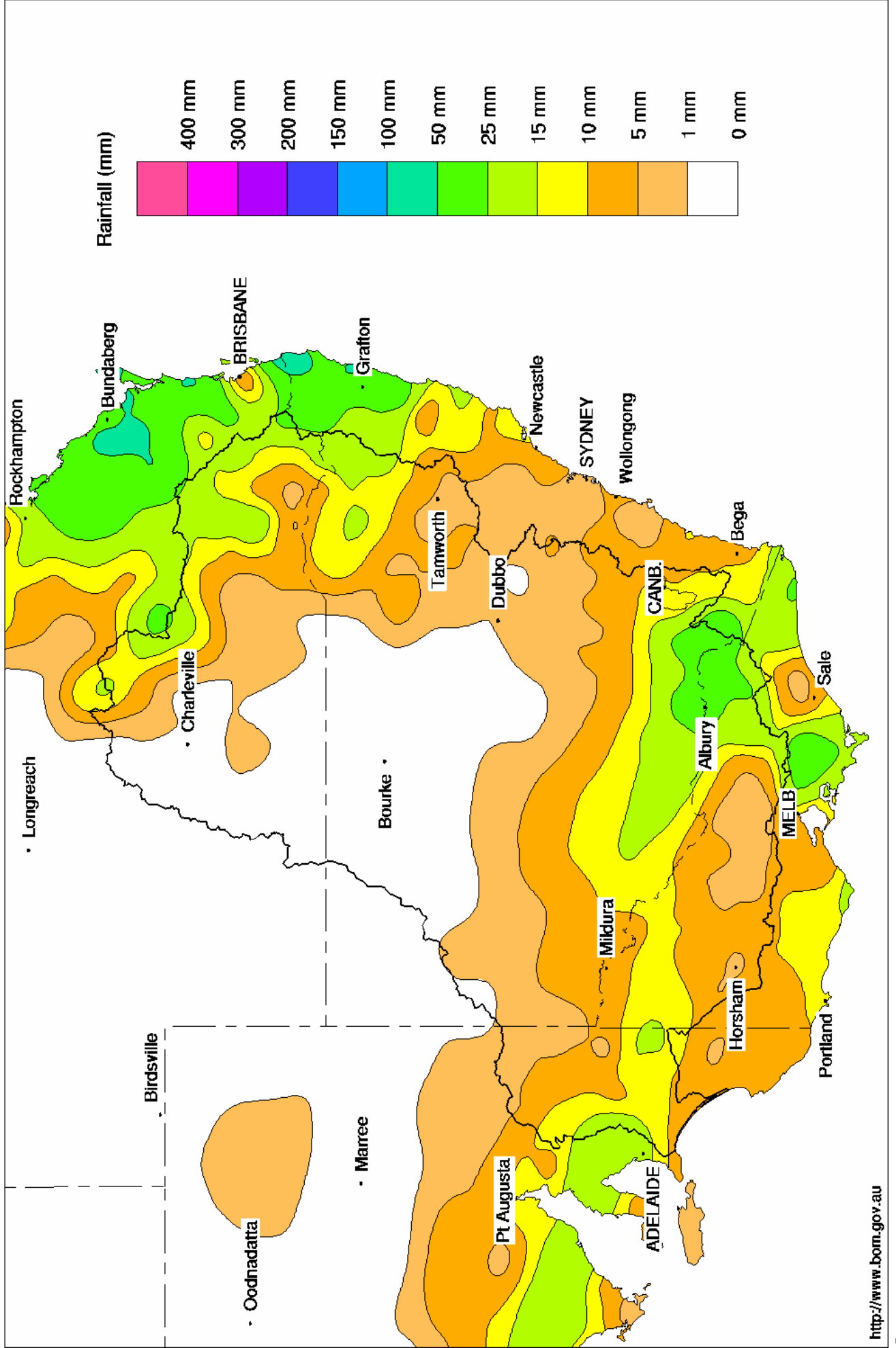
*River Murray Water*

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# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 15th November 2006

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	442.92	1 655	42%	80	1 575	-63
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	170.34	294	10%	30	264	-14
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.34	485	72%	100	385	-1
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		198	11%	(- -) #	0	-9
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>2 631</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>2 223</b>	<b>-88</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **26%**

# 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	308	30%	3	305	-1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	476	29%	24	452	-30
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	550	16%	100	450	-17

**Snowy Mountains Scheme**

Snowy diversions for week ending 14-Nov-2006

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2006
Lake Eucumbene - Total	667	+1	Snowy-Murray	+14	666
Snowy-Murray Component	404	-2	Tooma-Tumut	+0	34
Target Storage	1 450		Nett Diversion	14.1	632
			Murray 1 Release	+17	757

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2006
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	4.6	233.7
Wakool System loss	2.1	24.6
Western Murray Irrig.	0.5	7.4
Licensed Pumps	5.0	89.0
Lower Darling	0.4	11.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>366.6</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2006
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	9.0	155
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	15.5	313
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	4.2	45
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	8.5	50
Licensed pumps - LMW	5.1	35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>598</b>

**Flow to South Australia (GL)**

Entitlement this month	163*	(5 500 ML/day)
Flow this week	38.6	
Flow so far this month	82	
Flow last month	153	

\*Reduced from 180 GL

**Salinity (EC)**

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2006
Swan Hill	60	60	70
Euston	80	80	100
Red Cliffs	120	120	120
Merbein	110	110	110
Burtundy (Darling)	790	790	670
Lock 9	120	130	130
Lake Victoria	160	160	150
Berri	220	210	230
Waikerie	310	320	370
Morgan	360	360	400
Mannum	470	460	450
Murray Bridge	470	470	410
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 220	1 220	1 160
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 200	1 170	910
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 160	2 140	2 190
Goolwa Barrages	2 390	1 870	1 640



**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	-	-	-	2 860	F	2 890	2 440
Jingellic	4.0	1.59	208.11	3 850	R	3 180	2 530
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	3.31	220.20	10 120	F	10 130	9 900
Heywoods	5.5	2.74	156.37	12 550	F	14 050	14 360
Doctors Point	5.5	2.84	151.31	12 200	F	13 910	14 210
Albury	4.3	1.82	149.26	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.92	128.94	14 500	F	15 070	15 670
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.67	116.71	9 850	S	10 090	10 300
Tocumwal	6.4	2.22	106.06	9 820	F	9 990	10 130
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.17	80.72	6 340	R	6 120	5 680
Swan Hill	4.5	1.22	64.14	5 780	F	5 610	5 180
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.25	52.37	9 170	R	8 800	8 230
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.70	43.54	8 580	R	8 350	7 430
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	7 050	F	6 380	5 300
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.04	27.80	6 980	R	6 040	5 020
Rufus Junction	-	3.23	20.16	5 160	R	5 040	4 920
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.99	-	4 660	R	3 840	3 170
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.65	153.88	180	R	140	180
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.56	145.24	123	R	90	100
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.15	92.57	385	S	400	400
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	2.43	82.20	2 690	F	2 700	2 710
Edward at Liewah	-	3.05	58.43	2 650	S	2 640	2 620
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.74	55.23	1 190	S	1 190	1 110
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.74	57.70	1 140	R	790	350
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.31	-	233	R	100	50
Darling at Bourke	-	3.32	-	-	F	-	-
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.75	-	197	F	230	190

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	790	610
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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	-0.06	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.12	+0.91
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.14	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.01	+0.05
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.02	+0.16
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.06	+0.26	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.56
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.06	+0.40	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.23
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.02	+0.05	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.16
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.00	+0.24	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	+0.24

<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	-0.11	1.75	71.1	2320
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	1.59	62.89	2030



**Lower Lakes**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.67

**Barrages**

**Fishways @ Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.24	All closed	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.30	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.20	All closed	Open	Open

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