

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 18 October 2006



*Our Ref : M2006/00012/prs, dwg  
Trim Ref : 06/21975*

20 October, 2006

## Rainfall and Inflows

The passing of several cold fronts across south-eastern Australia provided cooler conditions across the River Murray System and light rain in the Upper Murray, Mitta Mitta, Kiewa and Ovens Catchments. Rainfall totals were generally less than 10 mm, however 32 mm fell at Cabramurra. There was only a very minor response in stream flow and total inflow to the River Murray System remains at very low levels.

## River Murray System Operations

Release from Dartmouth Reservoir has continued at 10 000 ML/day, which is near channel capacity along the Mitta Mitta River. Inflow to Dartmouth Reservoir has been steady at about 1 000 ML/day and the storage volume reduced by 63 GL to 1 909 GL (49% capacity). In response to a reduction in irrigation demand, the flow at Albury/Wodonga has been reduced from 17 500 ML/day to 16 000 ML/day. Storage in Hume Reservoir reduced by 31 GL to 394 GL (13% capacity).

On Friday 13 October, a fire was reported near the Top Island wetland in the Barmah-Millewa Forest. The fire burnt about 800 Ha but is now under control thanks to the exhausting efforts of fire crews. MDBC provided assistance by allowing the opening of a regulator for a short period which suppressed of an area of the blaze inaccessible by fire tankers.

A higher inflow from the Broken Creek and a reduction to irrigation diversions via the National Channel have resulted in the flow downstream of Torrumbarry Weir increasing from 4 200 ML/day to 4 700 ML/day.

The flow along Colligen Creek has been gradually increased to 900 ML/day to transfer additional water to Lake Victoria. This is resulting in a higher flow along the Niemur and lower Wakool Rivers. The flow in the Wakool River at Stony Crossing is currently 650 ML/day and is expected to reach 850 ML/day by late October if conditions remain dry.

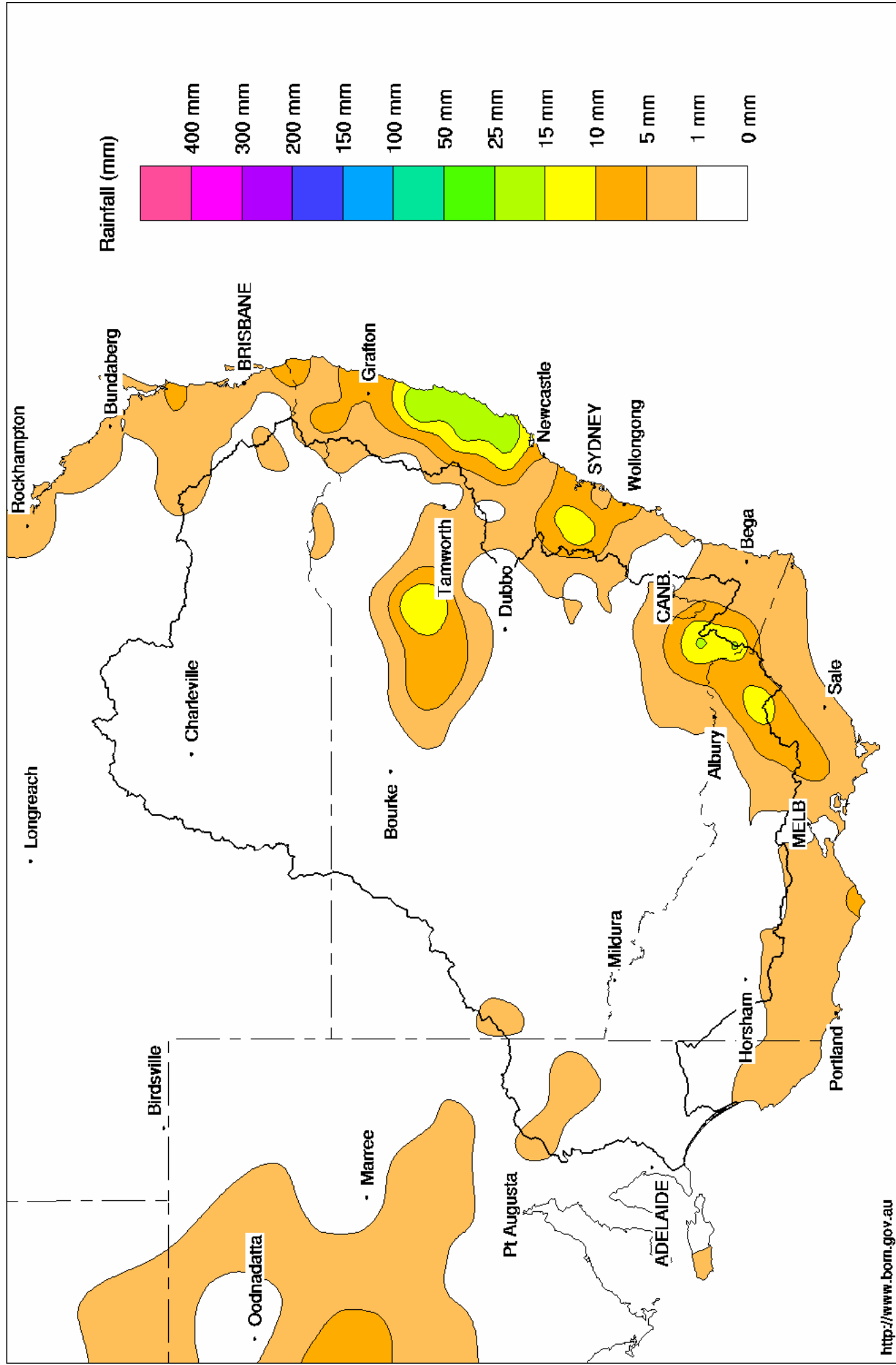
Storage in Lake Victoria reduced by 20 GL to 524 GL (77% capacity). To assist in meeting irrigation demands in Sunraysia and the flow to South Australia over the coming months, RMW has requested the delivery of an additional 500 ML/day from the Murrumbidgee Inter-valley Trade account. This is water traded from Murrumbidgee irrigators to River Murray irrigators and is expected to increase the flow at Balranald from 200 to 700 ML/day during early November.

The flow to South Australia has averaged 4 900 ML/day (600 ML/day below the usual September entitlement flow) and there is about 3 000 ML/day passing Lock 1. The level of the Lower Lakes, near the Murray Mouth, has reduced from 0.78 m to 0.76 m AHD and the fishways at the Barrages remain open.

DAVID DREVERMAN  
General Manager

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 18th October 2006

Product of the National Climate Centre



**Week ending Wednesday 18 Oct 2006**

**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	449.12	1 909	49%	80	1 829	-63
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	171.88	394	13%	30	364	-31
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.70	524	77%	100	424	-20
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		222	13%	(- -) #	0	-9
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>3 050</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>2 617</b>	<b>-124</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **31%**

# 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	312	30%	3	309	-5
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	647	40%	24	623	-59
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	622	18%	100	522	-18

**Snowy Mountains Scheme**

Snowy diversions for week ending 17-Oct-2006

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2006
Lake Eucumbene - Total	700	-24	Snowy-Murray	+27	607
Snowy-Murray Component	447	-16	Tooma-Tumut	+0	34
Target Storage	1 400		Nett Diversion	26.6	573
			Murray 1 Release	+28	690

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2006
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	16.3	207.1
Wakool System loss	2.3	14.5
Western Murray Irrig.	0.7	4.8
Licensed Pumps	7.3	66.1
Lower Darling	0.5	10.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>302.6</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2006
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	14.8	114
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	24.6	236
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	3.8	21
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	4.9	21
Licensed pumps - LMW	5.0	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53.1</b>	<b>403</b>

**Flow to South Australia (GL)**

Entitlement this month	170	(4 900 ML/day)
Flow this week	34.2	
Flow so far this month	89	
Flow last month	120	

**Salinity (EC)**

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2006
Swan Hill	80	80	80
Euston	80	90	100
Red Cliffs	140	130	120
Merbein	120	110	110
Burtundy (Darling)	690	680	640
Lock 9	120	130	130
Lake Victoria	150	160	150
Berri	220	220	240
Waikerie	-	370	380
Morgan	410	400	400
Mannum	480	470	440
Murray Bridge	450	430	400
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 170	1 170	1 140
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 020	1 000	840
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 130	2 130	2 190
Goolwa Barrages	1 730	1 750	1 590



**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	-	-	-	3 480	F	4 180	1 970
Jingellic	4.0	1.59	208.11	3 850	S	4 330	2 270
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	3.29	220.18	10 000	R	9 950	9 960
Heywoods	5.5	3.06	156.69	16 310	F	17 200	17 530
Doctors Point	5.5	3.18	151.65	16 200	F	17 310	17 690
Albury	4.3	2.17	149.61	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.36	129.38	18 400	F	18 610	18 660
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.73	116.77	9 790	S	9 790	9 790
Tocumwal	6.4	2.25	106.09	10 040	F	10 080	10 020
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.67	80.22	4 620	R	4 290	4 080
Swan Hill	4.5	0.93	63.85	3 940	R	3 750	3 740
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.61	51.73	6 340	R	5 900	5 970
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.14	42.98	5 230	R	5 050	5 600
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	3 430	F	3 710	4 470
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.88	27.64	3 180	S	3 350	4 330
Rufus Junction	-	3.10	20.03	4 370	F	4 340	4 330
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.93	-	2 840	F	2 840	2 650
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.69	153.92	220	F	320	270
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.60	145.28	163	R	170	180
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.17	92.59	383	S	390	380
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	2.44	-	2 710	F	2 710	2 710
Edward at Liewah	-	2.97	58.35	2 530	S	2 540	2 540
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.55	55.04	642	R	460	210
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.49	56.45	209	R	200	220
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.27	-	154	R	110	100
Darling at Bourke	-	3.68	-	-	F	-	-
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.49	-	0	F	0	0

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	640	1 050
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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	-0.16	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.15	+0.80
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.11	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.07	+0.08
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.03	+0.13
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.06	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.03	+0.48
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.24	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.20
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.05	+0.02	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.08
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.03	+0.15	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.02	+0.18

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-2.49	0.49	69.84	204
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-1.54	0.17	61.47	287



**Lower Lakes**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	(m AHD)
	0.77

**Barrages**

**Fishways @ Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.70	All closed	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.70	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.75	All closed	Open	Open

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