

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 13 June 2007



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15 June, 2007

Rainfall and inflows

During the past week light rain fell across most regions in the southern part of the Murray-Darling Basin. Moderate rain fell in Alpine areas of north-east Victoria with the highest falls of about 10mm (*see attached map*). This rain had negligible effect on inflows to the River Murray System, which have gradually reduced. Flow in the Ovens River at Wangaratta has steadily fallen from 6 000 to 1 850 ML/day.

The heavy coastal rain centred around the Hunter Valley penetrated into the upper reaches of the Macquarie, Castlereagh and Namoi Rivers, having a temporary increase in flows in that area. Total volumes are unlikely to result in flows reaching the Darling River. The small flush in the Darling River which originated from rain near Burke in May has passed Tilpa but is yet to reach Wilcannia. By the time this pulse reaches Menindee Lakes it is expected to be less than 10 GL in volume.

River Murray Operations

During the week, release from Dartmouth Reservoir was maintained at the normal minimum rate of 200 ML/day and storage has increased from 484 GL to 492 GL (12.6% capacity). Release from Hume Reservoir was maintained at the rate of 600 ML/day and the storage volume has increased from 258 GL to 290 GL (9.6% capacity). The increase was primarily due to 32 GL from the Snowy Mountain Scheme. As part of the drought contingency planning, a reduction in the release from Hume Reservoir from 600 to 400 ML/day (*see attached media release*) commenced on 14 June to store additional water for next year.

During the week, the release from Yarrawonga Weir peaked at 6 300 ML/day as a result of the rain in the Ovens and Kiewa catchments in late May. The release downstream of Yarrawonga Weir is currently 3 400 ML/day and, if there is no further significant rain, is expected to gradually reduce to about 1 800 ML/day by late next week. The peak flow is currently passing Torrumbarry Weir with a downstream release of 6 140 ML/day on 13 June.

The flow downstream of Euston Weir has remained steady at about 2 200 ML/day and a peak flow of about 6 000 ML/day is expected to arrive late next week. The flow downstream of Wentworth Weir has reduced from 2 100 to 1 800 ML/day and a peak flow of about 5 000 ML/day is expected to arrive at Wentworth Weir in late June.

When the higher flows reach Lock 9, they will be diverted into Lake Victoria storage via Frenchmans Creek. The current storage volume is 250 GL (37% capacity) and is expected to increase to about 290 GL (43% capacity) by the end of the June.

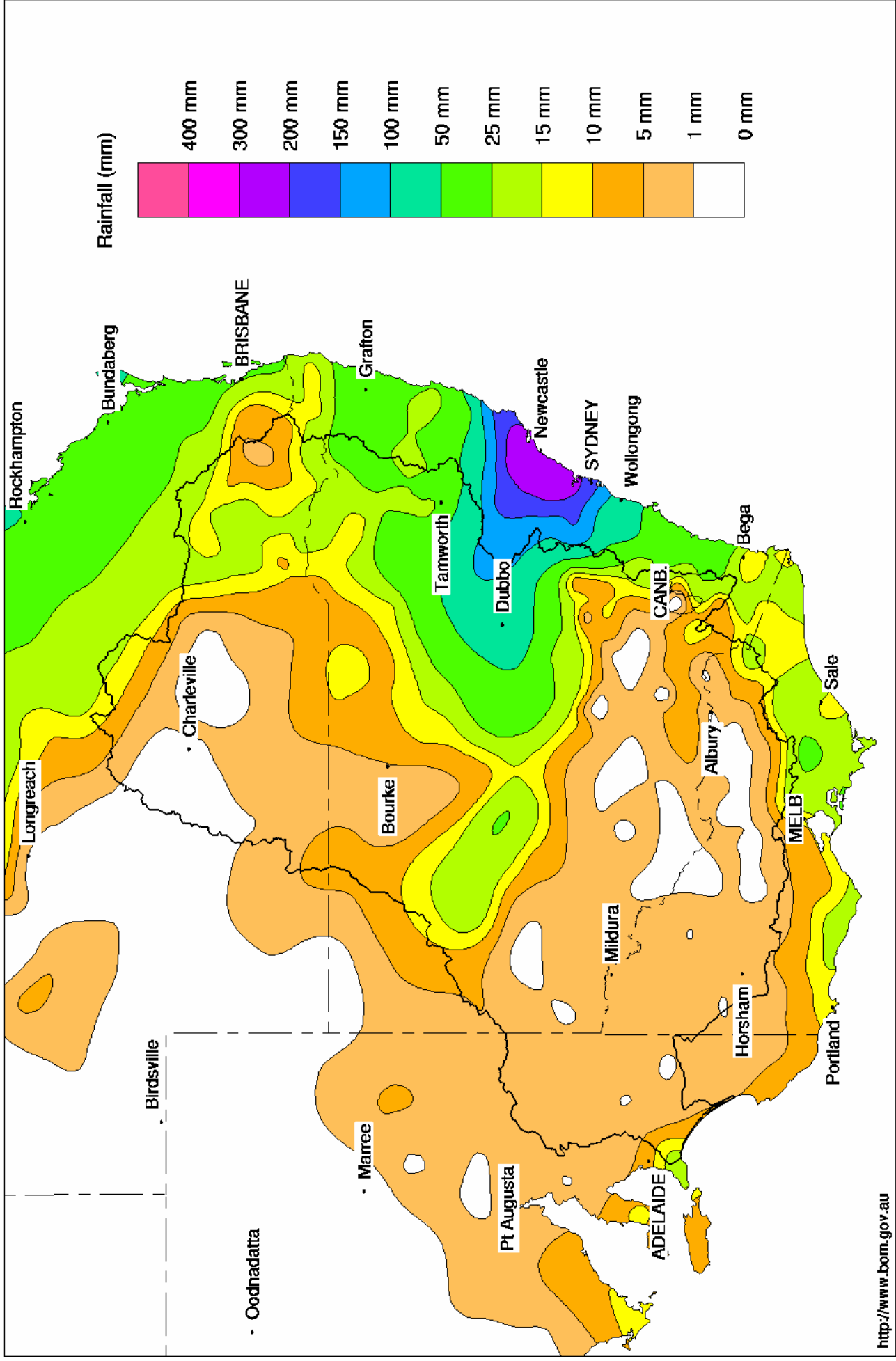
As part of the drought contingency plan, the flow to South Australia has been maintained at about 1 000 ML/day (normal South Australia entitlement for June is 3 000 ML/day). Lock 7 upper pool is currently 5 cm below FSL to assist in lowering the flow into South Australia via the Mullaroo Creek, and also the upper pool level of Lock 6 is 6 cm below FSL as a result of the low flows passing into South Australia. During the past week, the average level of the Lower Lakes has risen slightly from 0.17 to 0.18 m AHD assisted by small inflows for local streams flowing out of the Adelaide Hills.

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Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 13th June 2007

Product of the National Climate Centre



MEDIA RELEASE



Tuesday, 12 June 2007

RELEASE FROM HUME RESERVOIR TO BE REDUCED

The Murray-Darling Basin Commission today announced that the release from Hume Dam will be reduced below the normal minimum winter flow rate to conserve water in Hume Reservoir for the 2007-08 water year.

David Dreverman, General Manager of River Murray Water, said that; “the recent increase in inflow to the River Murray from the Kiewa River has enabled the release from Hume Dam to be reduced below the usual minimum of 600 ML/day and still meet the current downstream flow requirements”.

Commencing 14 June 2007, the release from Hume Dam will be gradually reduced from 600 to 400 ML/day. This is expected to reduce the level of the River Murray at Heywoods Bridge by about 10 cm to 1.07 m (gauge height).

“The lower release will only affect a small section of the River Murray (about 18 km) between Hume Dam and the junction with the Kiewa River”, he said.

Further downstream at Doctors Point (near Albury), the river flow is currently 1 450 ML/day (1.55 m gauge height) comprising 600 ML/day release from Hume Reservoir and about 850 ML/day inflow from the Kiewa River.

If inflows from the Kiewa River reduce to less than 400 ML/day, then the release from Hume Dam will be increased to maintain the flow at Doctors Point above 800 ML/day.

Boat operators, stock owners, river pumpers and other river users are advised to take these changed water levels into account and make any necessary adjustments to their activities.

For further information contact:

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(Sam Leone is not to be quoted as a spokesperson)

TRIM Ref: 07/7927

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	401.67	493	13%	80	413	+8
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	170.28	291	10%	30	261	+33
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.04	250	37%	100	150	+4
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		97	6%	(- -) #	0	-1
Total		9 352		1 130	12%	--	824	+43

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = 10%

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	254	25%	3	251	+0
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	273	17%	24	249	+0
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	266	8%	100	166	+17

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 12-Jun-2007

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2007
Lake Eucumbene - Total	141	-17	Snowy-Murray	+27	91
Snowy-Murray Component	179	-21	Tooma-Tumut	+2	6
Target Storage	1 240		Nett Diversion	24.8	85
			Murray 1 Release	+29	115

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2006
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	.0	382.1
Wakool System loss	-0.6	67.8
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	23.3
Licensed Pumps	0.5	173.5
Lower Darling	0.0	18.3
TOTAL	-0.1	665.0

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2006
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	.0	419
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	613
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.3	136
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	159
Licensed pumps - LMW	1.6	227
TOTAL	1.9	1 555

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	90 *	(100 ML/day)
Flow this week	1.0	
Flow so far this month	12	
Flow last month	52	

* Reduced to approx. 30GL during June drought contingency operations

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2006
Swan Hill	40	60	70
Euston	130	130	100
Red Cliffs	-	-	110
Merbein	160	160	110
Burtundy (Darling)	1 280	1 190	900
Lock 9	160	160	130
Lake Victoria	190	190	170
Berri	400	420	260
Waikerie	-	480	340
Morgan	460	440	370
Mannum	450	450	430
Murray Bridge	490	490	440
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 590	1 550	1 340
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 620	1 640	1 210
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 450	2 330	2 350
Goolwa Barrages	16 620	19 080	4 840



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	-	-	-	4 700	R	4 550	3 520
Jingellic	4.0	1.72	208.24	4 850	S	4 820	5 030
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.30	218.19	440	F	480	730
Heywoods	5.5	1.16	154.79	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.56	150.03	1 510	R	1 720	2 130
Albury	4.3	0.69	148.13	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.68	126.70	1 780	S	1 850	1 830
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.69	115.73	3 390	F	4 990	3 810
Tocumwal	6.4	1.29	105.13	4 150	F	5 390	2 810
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.11	80.66	6 140	R	4 870	1 800
Swan Hill	4.5	0.95	63.87	4 060	R	2 500	1 490
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.73	50.85	3 250	R	2 500	2 240
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.60	42.44	2 620	R	2 260	2 250
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 230	F	2 180	2 300
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.82	27.58	1 850	S	1 960	2 230
Rufus Junction	-	2.42	19.35	680	R	680	860
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.14	-	1 070	R	1 050	1 720
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.41	154.64	1 204	R	1 320	1 690
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.37	146.05	1 851	F	2 540	3 640
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.19	92.61	430	F	540	440
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.38	80.15	150	F	150	150
Edward at Liewah	-	0.66	56.04	295	S	300	330
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.21	54.70	110	F	130	170
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.45	56.41	185	F	200	200
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.19	-	33	S	30	20
Darling at Bourke	-	3.98	-	34	S	40	160
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.67	-	25	F	30	50

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	3 210	5 110
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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	-0.14	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.03	+0.10
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.06	-0.03
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.04	+0.13
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.00	-0.01	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.01	+0.13
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.02	+0.18	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.00	+0.11
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.04	+0.08	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.06
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.10	-0.01	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.06	-0.61

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-4.53	0.56	69.91	260
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-4.10	0.14	61.44	261



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.17

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.19	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.20	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.17	All closed	Closed	Closed

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