

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 21 March 2007



Our Ref : M2006/01015/prs, bwg
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26 March, 2007

Rainfall and Inflows

There was significant rainfall this week across the River Murray System. In the Victorian alpine area there was 193 mm at Mt Buller and 148 mm at Falls Creek. Less rain fell on the lower slopes and along the River Murray with 26 mm at Hume Reservoir, 17 mm at Yarrawonga, 9 mm at Mildura and 19 mm at Berri.

As the heaviest falls were restricted to a relatively small area of the catchment the stream responses have been limited and highly variable. However, it is promising that many of the smaller streams have begun to flow once more. The Kiewa River showed the greatest response with the flow at Mongans Bridge temporarily increasing from 182 to 1 700 ML/day for one day before returning to 300 ML/day. In comparison the Owen River at Rocky Point only increased from 100 to 200 ML/day followed by a reduction to 170 ML/day.

River Operations

Release from Dartmouth Reservoir continues to be gradually reduced and is currently 3 800 ML/day, down from 5 000 ML/day last Friday. The rain had little impact on inflow rates and the storage volume reduced this week by 32 GL to 520 GL (13% capacity). Storage in Hume Reservoir increased by 11 GL to 142 GL (5 % capacity) primarily due to a further 33 GL release from the Snowy Mountains Scheme and a reduction in the release from Hume Reservoir from 7 000 to 6 000 ML/day.

Release from Yarrawonga Weir has been reduced from 4 900 to 4 600 ML/day and it is likely that a further small reduction will be made over the coming week. If there is no significant rain this weekend, then the upstream pool level at Torrumbarry Weir may need to be lowered by 5-6 cm to enable an increase in the flow downstream of the weir from 2 500 to 2 700 ML/day. These changes will assist in meeting the diversion requirements to both the National Channel, upstream of the weir, and the Merran Creek system located downstream near Barham.

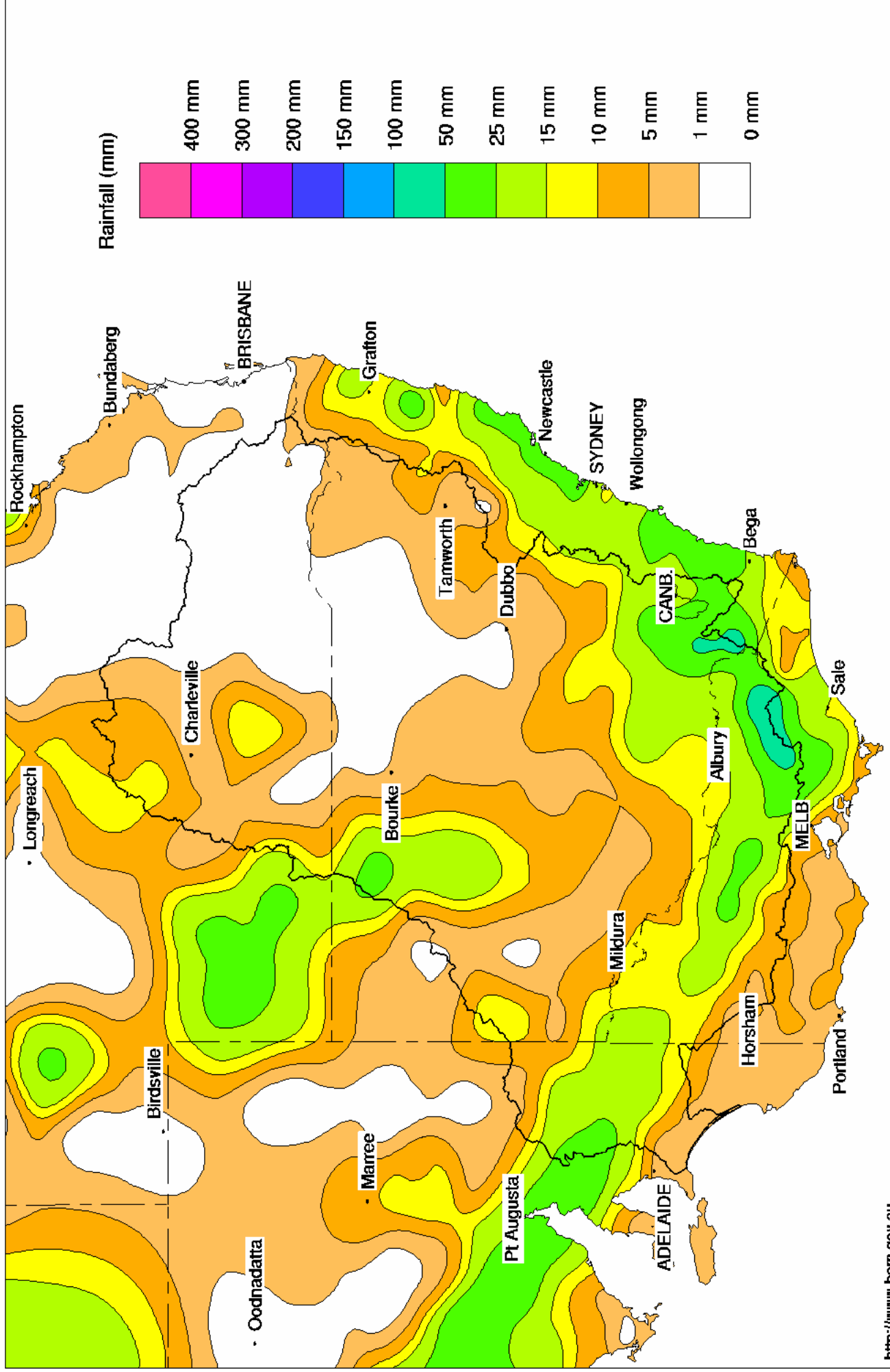
The rain earlier this week has reduced irrigation diversions and evaporative losses along the river system and this has delayed the onset of the very low flows through the mid Murray and Sunraysia regions that were earlier forecast if conditions had remained dry. At this stage it is expected that the river at Swan Hill (currently 0.71 m) will remain above 0.65 m for another week or more and that the flow downstream of Euston Weir (currently 2 600 ML/day) will remain above 2 000 ML/day until early April.

The flow to South Australia has been further reduced from to 2 800 to 2 300 ML/day, however weir pool levels and flow rates along most of the River Murray in South Australia have been steady or have increased as a result of local rain. In particular the flow downstream of Lock 2 temporarily increased from 1 000 to 2 500 ML/day. The level of the Lower Lakes has continued to gradually fall and is now 0.21 m AHD.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 21st March 2007

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	403.15	520	13%	80	440	-32
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	167.09	142	5%	30	112	+11
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.01	248	37%	100	148	-5
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		124	7%	(- -) #	0	-5
Total		9 352		1 033	11%	--	699	-30

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **8%**

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		270	26%	3	267	-3
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		143	9%	24	119	-14
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		257	8%	100	157	-8

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 20-Mar-2007

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2006
Lake Eucumbene - Total	377	-25	Snowy-Murray	+28	834
Snowy-Murray Component	243	-23	Tooma-Tumut	+0	57
Target Storage	1 410		Nett Diversion	27.8	776
			Murray 1 Release	+33	948

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2006
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	.7	310.2
Wakool System loss	1.6	61.3
Western Murray Irrig.	0.4	21.2
Licensed Pumps	2.7	156.7
Lower Darling	0.1	17.8
TOTAL	5.5	567.2

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2006
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	5.9	325
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	11.4	545
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.1	127
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.6	154
Licensed pumps - LMW	7.2	187
TOTAL	27.2	1 337

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	186	
Flow this week	18.7	(2 700 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	66	
Flow last month	194	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2006
Swan Hill	70	90	70
Euston	120	110	90
Red Cliffs	-	-	110
Merbein	110	120	100
Burtundy (Darling)	1 110	1 110	830
Lock 9	130	130	120
Lake Victoria	180	170	160
Berri	350	270	230
Waikerie	290	290	330
Morgan	320	320	360
Mannum	380	380	440
Murray Bridge	410	410	430
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 500	1 500	1 260
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 510	1 490	1 110
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 590	2 590	2 330
Goolwa Barrages	5 420	6 130	2 700



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	-	-	-	7 210	R	5 510	820
Jingellic	4.0	1.85	208.37	5 880	R	4 110	1 120
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.39	219.28	4 370	F	5 100	6 440
Heywoods	5.5	2.04	155.67	5 760	F	6 220	7 430
Doctors Point	5.5	2.21	150.68	5 930	S	6 400	7 770
Albury	4.3	1.23	148.67	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.66	127.68	5 980	F	6 500	7 250
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.93	115.97	4 620	S	4 770	4 880
Tocumwal	6.4	1.41	105.25	4 570	R	4 600	4 640
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.10	79.65	2 520	F	2 740	2 960
Swan Hill	4.5	0.71	63.63	2 550	R	2 420	3 140
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.68	50.80	2 890	R	2 920	4 180
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.63	42.47	2 620	S	2 770	4 200
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 520	F	2 640	3 570
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.80	27.56	1 960	R	2 160	3 120
Rufus Junction	-	2.68	19.61	2 170	F	2 210	2 620
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.18	-	2 310	R	980	1 530
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.57	153.80	114	R	80	70
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.42	145.10	11	S	10	20
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.20	92.62	445	R	350	290
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.72	80.49	470	F	400	340
Edward at Liewah	-	0.68	56.06	305	R	330	520
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.37	54.86	301	F	320	310
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.49	56.45	209	R	180	200
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.31	-	233	F	300	60
Darling at Bourke	-	3.06	-	-	F	-	-
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.66	-	18	S	20	10

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	570
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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	-0.07	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.04	+0.37
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.02	-0.02
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.06
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.08	+0.04	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.26
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.03	+0.16	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.19
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.03	-0.02	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.10	+0.08
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.00	+0.08	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.02	-0.57

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-2.54	0.66	70.01	355
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-3.74	0.17	61.47	287



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.22

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.22	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.22	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.21	All closed	Closed	Closed

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