

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 28 March 2007



Our Ref : M2006/01015 / prs
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30 March, 2007

Rainfall and Inflows

There were some further good falls of rain in the Upper Murray catchment over the past week (*see attached map*) and more rain fell overnight on 28 March, primarily in north-eastern Victoria. Mt Buller received 69 mm of rain and there was 27 mm at Falls Creek and 10 mm at Yarrowonga. Stream responses to the rainfall remain relatively small, variable and short lived. Although the unregulated inflow to Hume Reservoir increased from 300 to 700 ML/day it is still very low. The flow in the Ovens River at Wangaratta has increased from 5 to 100 ML/day but is expected to recede again without further rain.

River Murray Operations

Release from Hume Reservoir averaged 6 000 ML/day for the week and the storage volume increased by 21 GL to 162 GL (5% capacity). There was a small temporary reduction in irrigation demand following last week's rain, however irrigation diversion rates have now increased to higher levels than prior to the rain. In response, release from Hume Reservoir has been increased from 6 000 to 7 500 ML/day and release from Yarrowonga Weir increased from 4 600 to 4 800 ML/day.

To meet irrigation demand at the National Channel and to also maintain sufficient flow to meet downstream requirements, the Torrumbarry Weir pool has been gradually lowered by 15 cm. This has also resulted in a 15 cm lowering of the river level at Echuca. At this stage it is planned to begin refilling the weir pool early next week so that it is close to the full supply level by Easter.

Release downstream of Euston Weir has gradually reduced this week from 2 600 to 2 400 ML/day and is expected to be about 2 000 ML/day in early April. The last time the flow at Euston Weir was below 2 000 ML/day was for 4 days in April 1968. Given the current water demand throughout Sunraysia, it is planned to maintain the flow downstream of Euston Weir near 2 000 ML/day over the coming weeks. To sustain this flow rate a partial lowering of the Euston Weir pool, of up to 10 cm, may be required.

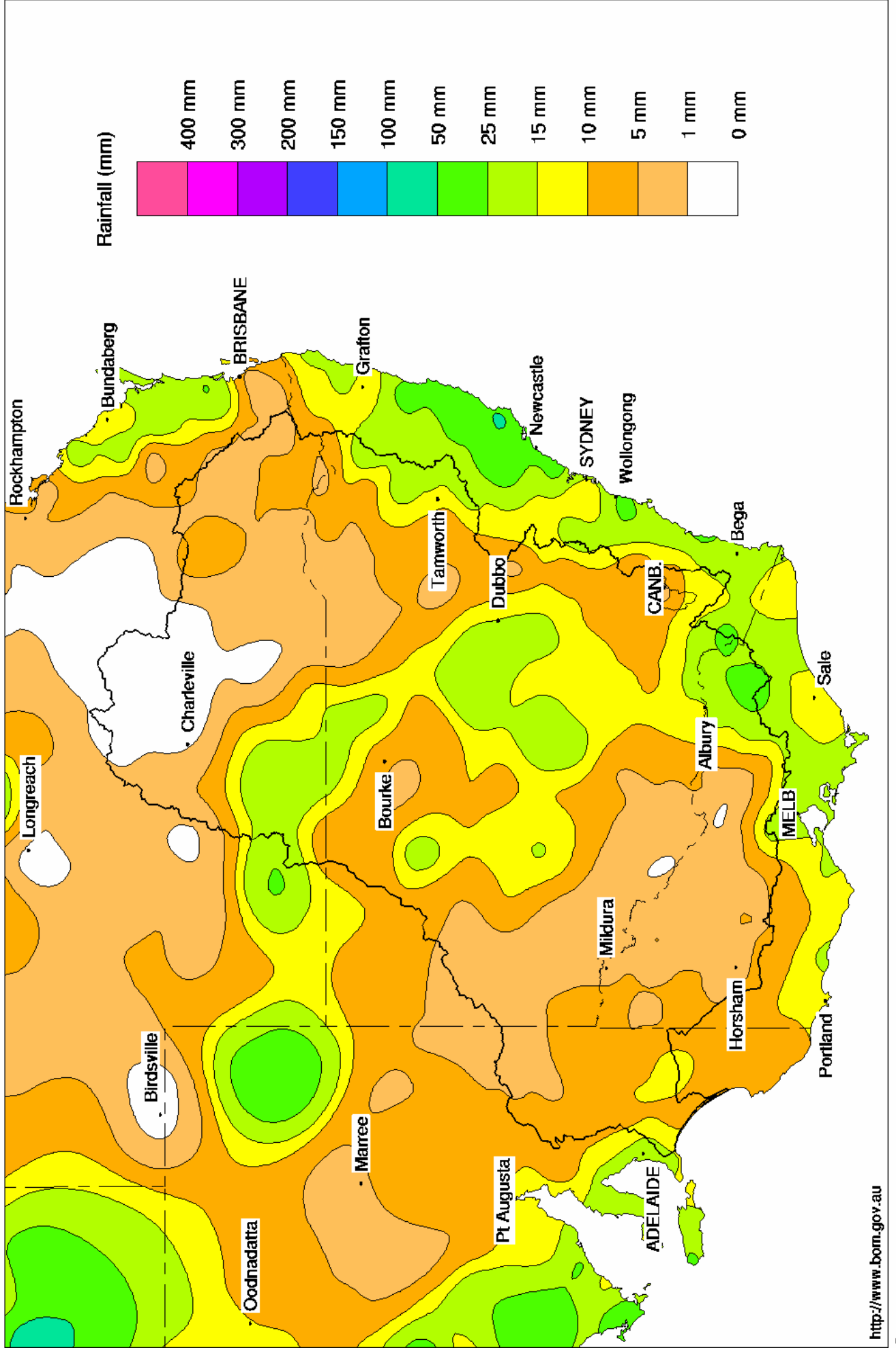
The flow downstream of Wentworth Weir is currently 1 700 ML/day and is expected to gradually reduce to about 1 000 ML/day by Easter if the current rate of irrigation diversions and 'river losses' continue. In order to maintain the Lock 7 weir pool and sufficient flow into Mullaroo Creek, it is expected that the Lock 8 Weir pool will need to be partially lowered by about 40 cm over the coming weeks.

The flow to South Australia has been further reduced from 2 300 to 2 000 ML/day. Although this has slightly reduced the downstream river level at Locks 4, 5 and 6 by about 8 cm, the upstream weir pool levels remain at or near the full supply level. The flow to South Australia will continue to be gradually reduced over the coming weeks to about 1 300 ML/day in consultation with South Australian government agencies. The current flow past Lock 1 is 1 100 ML/day and the level of the Lower Lakes fallen a further 2 cm to 0.19m AHD.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 28th 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	402.03	499	13%	80	419	-21
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	167.64	162	5%	30	132	+21
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	22.98	245	36%	100	145	-3
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		119	7%	(- -) #	0	-5
Total		9 352		1 026	11%	--	696	-8

* 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	262	25%	3	259	-9
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	214	13%	24	190	+70
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	255	8%	100	155	-2

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 27-Mar-2007

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2006
Lake Eucumbene - Total	349	-27	Snowy-Murray	+21	854
Snowy-Murray Component	237	-6	Tooma-Tumut	+4	61
Target Storage	1 410		Nett Diversion	16.7	793
			Murray 1 Release	+18	966

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2006
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	1.2	311.3
Wakool System loss	1.5	62.6
Western Murray Irrig.	0.4	21.6
Licensed Pumps	3.2	159.8
Lower Darling	0.1	17.9
TOTAL	6.3	573.3

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2006
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	5.6	331
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	13.8	559
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.0	128
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.4	154
Licensed pumps - LMW	7.2	194
TOTAL	27.9	1 365

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	186	(2 200 ML/day)
Flow this week	15.5	
Flow so far this month	82	
Flow last month	194	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2006
Swan Hill	80	80	70
Euston	120	110	90
Red Cliffs	160	160	110
Merbein	110	110	100
Burtundy (Darling)	1 120	1 110	840
Lock 9	130	130	120
Lake Victoria	150	170	160
Berri	270	280	230
Waikerie	290	290	330
Morgan	340	330	360
Mannum	380	380	440
Murray Bridge	410	410	430
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 550	1 520	1 270
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 480	1 470	1 120
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 630	2 600	2 330
Goolwa Barrages	6 640	7 140	2 830

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	-	-	-	390	F	2 740	5 510
Jingellic	4.0	1.15	207.67	1 030	F	3 760	4 110
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.25	219.14	3 570	S	3 770	5 100
Heywoods	5.5	2.23	155.86	7 150	R	5 480	6 220
Doctors Point	5.5	2.40	150.87	7 850	R	6 110	6 400
Albury	4.3	1.40	148.84	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.61	127.63	5 700	R	5 470	6 500
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.96	116.00	4 780	R	4 540	4 770
Tocumwal	6.4	1.35	105.19	4 210	R	4 310	4 600
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.09	79.64	2 520	R	2 420	2 740
Swan Hill	4.5	0.64	63.56	2 120	R	2 260	2 420
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.54	50.66	2 460	F	2 730	2 920
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.58	42.42	2 390	F	2 530	2 770
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 900	F	2 180	2 640
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.80	27.56	1 590	F	1 980	2 160
Rufus Junction	-	2.57	19.50	1 700	F	1 870	2 210
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.40	-	1 100	F	1 760	980
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.88	154.11	431	F	640	80
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.55	145.23	98	R	80	10
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.18	92.60	430	F	450	350
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.55	80.32	300	F	330	400
Edward at Liewah	-	0.76	56.14	347	R	320	330
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.32	54.81	232	S	260	320
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.45	56.41	185	S	190	180
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.34	-	303	S	300	300
Darling at Bourke	-	3.40	-	-	F	-	-
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.65	-	12	F	20	20

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	2 560
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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	-0.15	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.03	+0.25
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.09	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.03	-0.08
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.03	+0.01
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.01	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.00	+0.22
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.16	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.17
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.02	-0.05	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.09	+0.03
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.01	+0.05	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	-0.35

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-2.58	0.66	70.01	355
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-3.88	0.17	61.47	287



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.20

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.07	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	0.18	All closed	Closed	Closed

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