



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 24 APRIL 2013

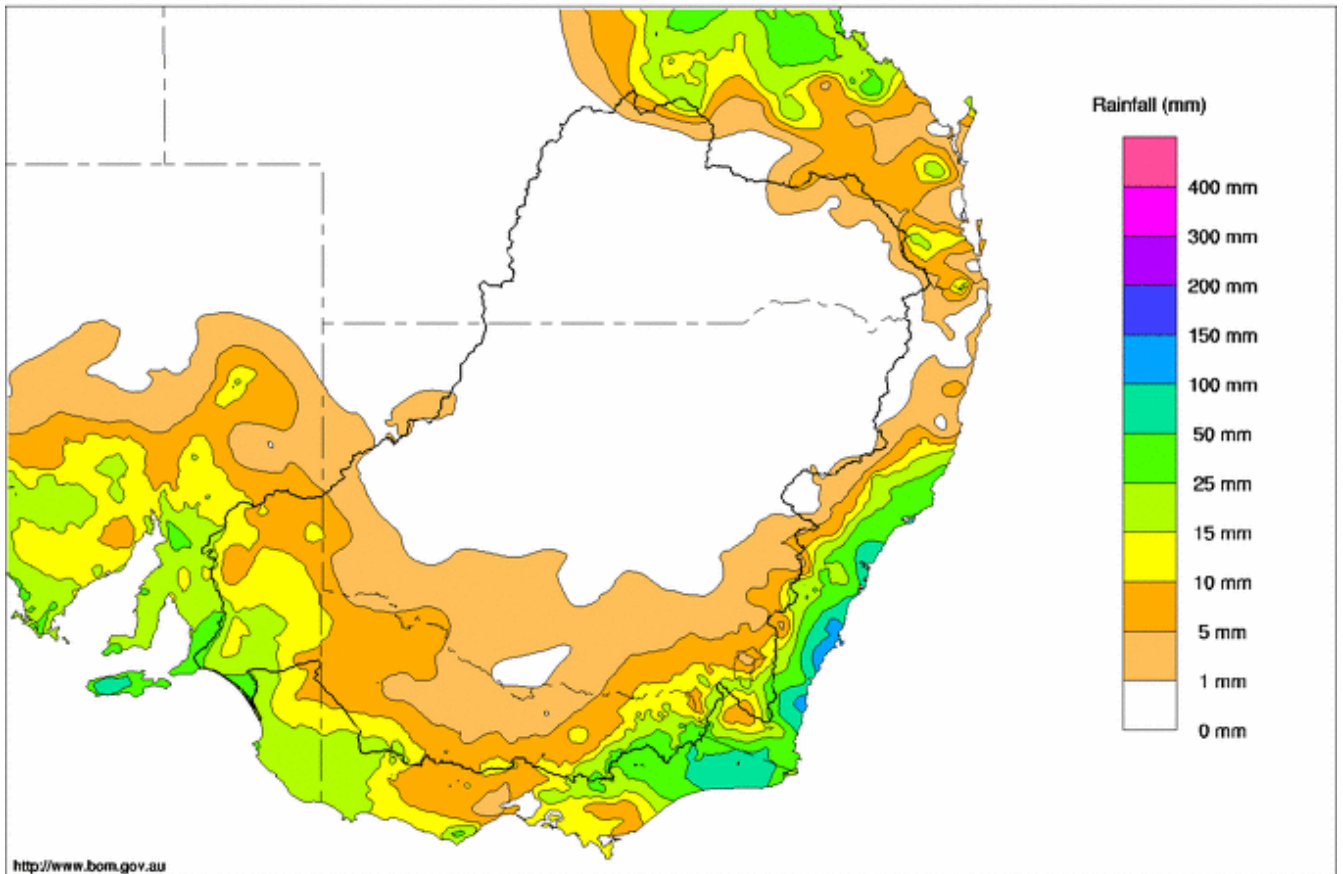
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Rainfall and Inflows

Rainfall in the Murray-Darling Basin this week fell mostly across southern areas under the influence of a Tasman Sea low and a trough system that crossed the region over the weekend. The majority of the central and northern Basin remained mostly dry. Highest totals were recorded across the upper Murray tributary catchments and over the eastern Mt Lofty Ranges and lower Murray regions in South Australia (Map 1).

Notable totals in the south-east included 47 mm at Mt Hotham, 43 mm at Mt Buller, 28 mm at Omeo, 22 mm at Captains Flat and 13 mm at Hume Reservoir. In central Victoria, Daylesford recorded 21 mm, while further west at Mt William there was 25 mm. The highest totals in South Australia included 37 mm at Meningie, 28 mm at Goolwa, 22 mm at Milang and 21 mm at Mt Barker.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 24th April 2013
Product of the National Climate Centre



<http://www.bom.gov.au>
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Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 24 April 2013 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).

There was little in the way of stream flow response in the upper Murray system tributaries. On the upper River Murray, the flow at Biggara has been fairly steady at around 600 ML/day, with flows in the Mitta Mitta River at Hinnomunjie Bridge increasing from around 400 to 550 ML/day. On the Ovens River, flows increased early in the week to around 1,000 ML/day, however this was due mostly to increased releases by Goulburn-Murray Water from Lake Buffalo. The flow at Rocky Point has now decreased to around 750 ML/day.



River Operations

MDBA active storage increased during the week by 25 GL to 5,769 GL (67% capacity).

At Dartmouth Reservoir, the release has been about 500 ML/day, measured at Colemans gauge, for most of the last week. However, on 23 April, the flow at Colemans was gradually increased to 2,300 ML/day (1.75 m gauge height). This high flow will last for just 2 days, with a reduction in flow commencing on 25 April. The flow will be gradually reduced to 350 ML/day on 26 April and is expected to remain steady for at least the next 3 weeks (see attached flow advice). The storage volume at Dartmouth is currently 3,575 GL (93% capacity), which is a decrease of 2 GL since last week.

Releases from Hume Reservoir have averaged 10,300 ML/day during the week, with the current flow at Doctors Point, downstream of the Kiewa River junction, being nearly 11,000 ML/day. Releases from Hume are expected to decrease markedly during May as downstream demand reduces. Hume Reservoir has decreased in volume during the week by 37 GL and is now 1,385 GL (46% capacity).

At Yarrowonga Weir, the release is now steady at about 6,800 ML/day. Similar to Hume Reservoir, these releases are also expected to decrease during May, if dry conditions continue. Diversions from Lake Mulwala for the week averaged about 3,400 ML/day through Mulwala Canal and 1,400 ML/day through Yarrowonga Main Channel. The weir pool level is currently 124.77 m AHD, and is expected to remain higher than 124.7 m in the forthcoming week.

Flow into the Edward River system via the Edward River and Gulpa Creek offtakes has been steady at about 1,350 ML/day. Inflow from the Goulburn River has been steady at 900 ML/day while diversions through National Channel are also steady at about 2,150 ML/day. The release from Torrumbarry Weir this week has averaged 4,150 ML/day, but is expected to be slightly lower in the coming week.

At Barham, the flow averaged 3,950 ML/day last week and flows of about 3,750 ML/day are expected in the coming week. The flow in the Murrumbidgee River at Balranald has just receded below 300 ML/day while, in the Wakool River at Stoney Crossing, the flow is edging down towards 400 ML/day.

At Euston, the flow has been as high as 5,350 ML/day during the week but lower flows of the order of 4,500 ML/day are expected for the remainder of April. Mildura flows are expected to remain between 4,500 and 5,500 ML/day in the next week.

At Menindee Lakes, the volume in storage has increased by 49 GL to 1,265 GL (73% capacity). The level in the lakes is expected to continue rising for the next week or so. At Weir 32, the flow is currently 9,000 ML/day and is expected to continue at that rate for at least the next week. At Burtundy, the flow has increased to 6,600 ML/day. On the River Murray, downstream of the Darling confluence, the flow at Wentworth Weir is currently 10,800 ML/day and is expected to continue rising over the coming week to around 11,500 ML/day.

The storage level at Lake Victoria continues to rise and is currently 22.68 m AHD (218 GL, 32% capacity) which is a gain of 16 GL. The flow into South Australia averaged around 7,400 ML/day and is expected to be around 6,800 mL/day for the remainder of April. At the Lower Lakes, the five day average level is 0.62 m AHD. The releases through the Barrages increased this week, whilst conditions were favourable, to an estimated rate of around 4,000 ML/day.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Management



Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 24 Apr 2013

MDBA Storages	Full Supply Level	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	Active Storage (GL)	Change in Total Storage for the Week (GL)
	(m AHD)		(m AHD)	(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 856	481.62	3 575	93%	71	3 504	-2
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	182.07	1 385	46%	23	1 362	-37
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	22.68	218	32%	100	118	+15
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 265	73%	(480 #)	785	+49
Total		9 269		6 443	70%	--	5 769	+25
Total Active MDBA Storage							67% ^	

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	388	38%	3	385	-1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	976	60%	24	952	-13
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	2 340	70%	100	2 240	-33

* Menindee surcharge capacity – 2050 GL

** All Data is rounded to nearest GL **

NSW takes control of Menindee Lakes when storage falls below 480 GL, and control reverts to MDBA when storage next reaches 640 GL

^ % of total active MDBA storage

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 23 Apr 2013

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2012
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 801	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+37	862
Snowy-Murray Component	668	n/a	Tooma-Tumut	+2	211
Target Storage	1 340		Net Diversion	34	651
			Murray 1 Release	+34	1 130

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This Week	From 1 July 2012	Victoria	This Week	From 1 July 2012
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	26.1	1455	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	9.4	369
Wakool Sys Allowance	2.5	72	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.1	529
Western Murray Irrigation	0.3	29	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.2	121
Licensed Pumps	n/a	250	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	3	57
Lower Darling	0.1	94	Licensed pumps - LMW	2.5	278
TOTAL	29.0	1986	TOTAL	16.2	1354

* Figures derived from estimates and monthly data. Please note that not all data may have been available at the time of creating this report.

** All data above is rounded to nearest 100 ML for weekly data and nearest GL for cumulative data**

Flow to South Australia (GL)

* Flow to SA will be greater than normal entitlement for this month due to traded environmental water.

Entitlement this month	135.0 *
Flow this week	51.7
Flow so far this month	178.2
Flow last month	261.6

(7 400 ML/day)

Salinity (EC) (microSiemens/cm at 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2012
Swan Hill	110	100	100
Euston	110	120	130
Red Cliffs	150	150	140
Merbein	170	170	160
Burtundy (Darling)	410	430	470
Lock 9	310	320	260
Lake Victoria	350	360	260
Berri	430	420	310
Waikerie	440	440	340
Morgan	430	430	330
Mannum	490	500	340
Murray Bridge	530	540	360
Milang (Lake Alex.)	580	570	430
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	510	520	360
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	3 430	3 490	3 450
Goolwa Barrages	5 030	3 790	1 520



River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 24 Apr 2013

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	-	-	-	6 130	F	4 950	5 240
Jingellic	4.0	2.01	208.53	7 390	R	6 590	6 310
Tallandoo (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.08	218.97	2 510	R	1 010	1 590
Heywoods	5.5	2.77	156.40	10 370	R	10 280	11 020
Doctors Point	5.5	2.68	151.15	10 990	R	10 840	11 520
Albury	4.3	1.65	149.09	-	-	-	-
Corowa	3.8	2.52	128.54	10 830	F	11 220	11 700
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.24	116.28	6 860	S	6 870	7 240
Tocumwal	6.4	1.85	105.69	6 880	S	6 920	7 210
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.52	80.06	4 030	F	4 150	3 390
Swan Hill	4.5	0.92	63.84	3 810	R	3 450	3 220
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.21	51.33	4 940	R	4 630	5 240
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.13	42.97	5 140	F	4 730	5 390
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	4 610	F	4 980	5 480
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.14	27.90	10 770	R	10 770	9 520
Rufus Junction	-	3.41	20.34	5 620	F	6 580	6 680
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.67	-	6 150	R	5 910	5 960
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.87	154.10	400	S	410	410
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.06	145.74	850	F	930	710
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.50	92.92	890	S	890	870
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.71	80.48	460	F	470	530
Edward at Liewah	-	1.33	56.71	720	F	740	910
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.41	54.91	410	F	510	810
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.56	56.52	300	F	460	840
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.49	-	720	F	950	1 210
Darling at Bourke	-	4.49	-	3 090	F	5 080	18 740
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	3.87	-	6 560	R	6 140	5 030

Natural Inflow to Hume	670	670
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(i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)

Weirs and Locks Pool levels above or below Full Supply Level (FSL)

Murray	FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.13	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.08	+1.11
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.02	+0.19
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.10	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.03	+0.30
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.07	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.01	+0.87
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.50	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.05	+0.39
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.03	+0.11	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.09	+0.30
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.09	+0.18	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.06	-0.08

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.62
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Barrages

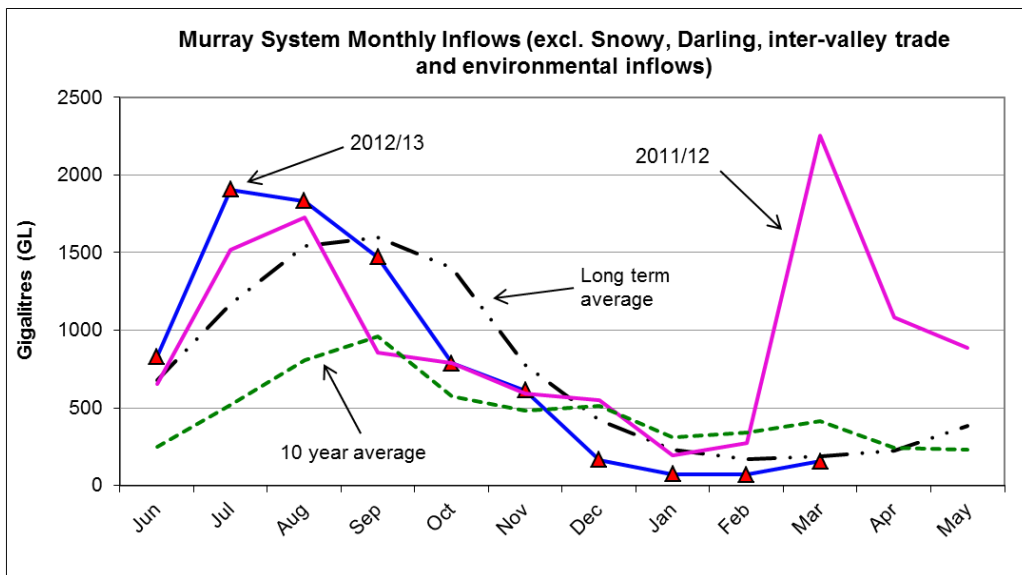
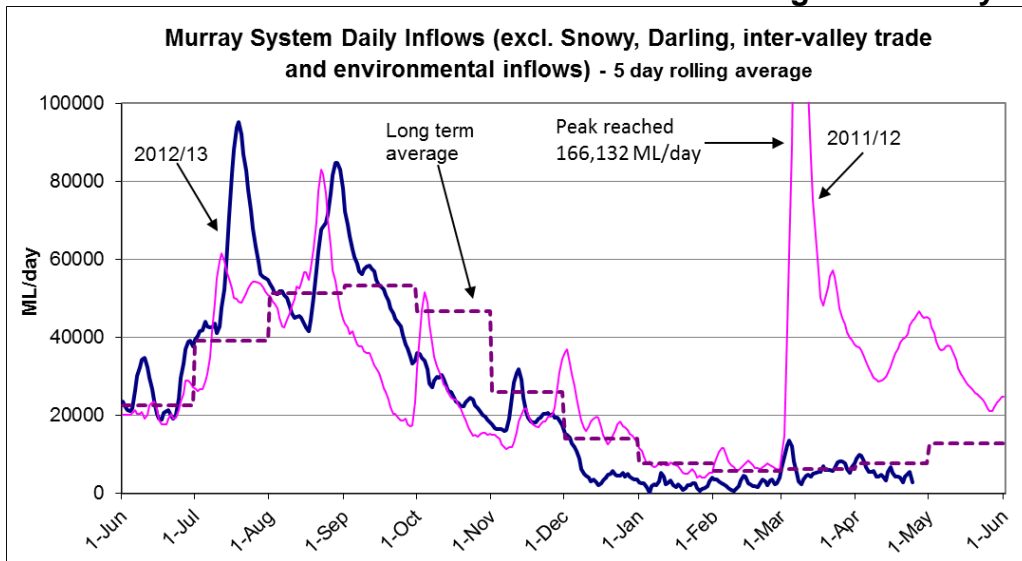
Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.62	All closed	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.61	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	0.1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.64	13	Open	Open

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



Week ending Wednesday 24 Apr 2013



State Allocations (as at 24 Apr 2013)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victorian - Murray Valley

High reliability	100%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victorian - Goulburn Valley

High reliability	100%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	100%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	100%
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- NSW : <http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/About-us/Media-releases/media/default.aspx>
- VIC : <http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp>
- SA : <http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au/category/news/>

Mitta Mitta River

Flow advice



24 April 2013

The release from Dartmouth Reservoir will be reduced commencing 4 pm 25 April from about 2,300 ML/day (1.75 m) to a flow of 350 ML/day (1.05 m) at Colemans gauge by 4 pm 26 April. Thereafter, the flow at Colemans will remain steady at 350 ML/day until at least mid-late May. This return to low flows is occurring 2 days earlier than indicated in the previous flow advice of 19 March for operational reasons.

If inflows from Snowy Creek remain low, the flow at Tallandoon is expected to recede to about 500 ML/day (1.4 m gauge height) by mid-May.

A further flow advice will be issued if these plans are significantly changed.

The transfer of significant volumes of water from Dartmouth to Hume Reservoir may re-commence during late May depending on the relative volumes of water stored in each reservoir.

MDBA provides a flow forecast each Wednesday for the following week on the MDBA website at http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/river_info/storage_volumes, as well as information each Friday in the Weekly Report at http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/river_info/weekly_reports.

Landholders and river users, including pumpers, should take in to account the reduced flow rates along the Mitta Mitta River and make any necessary adjustments to their river activities.

ENDS

For media information contact the MDBA Media Office at media@mdba.gov.au or 02 6279 0141. For other information contact MDBA at inquiries@mdba.gov.au or 02 6279 0100.

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