



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 28 AUGUST 2013

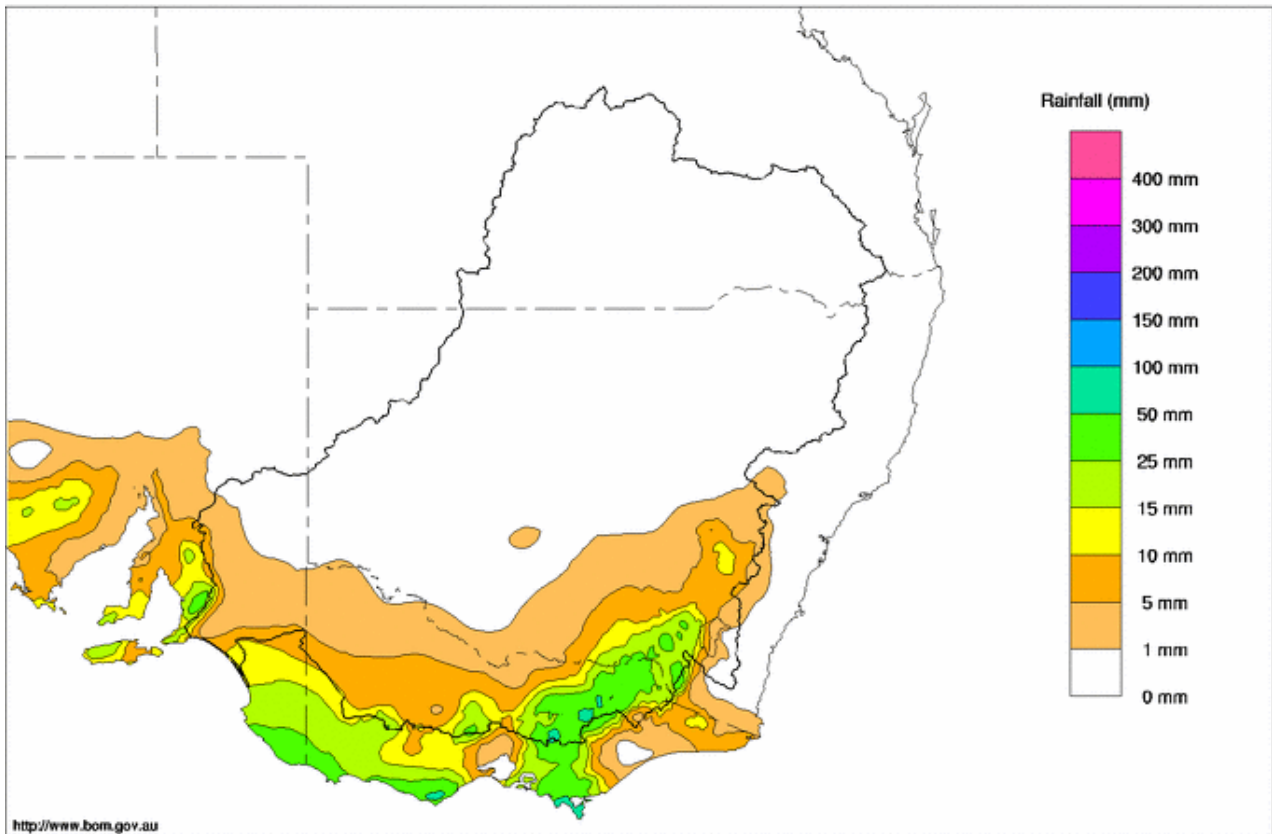
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Rainfall and Inflows

Rain persisted during the first half of the week across southern parts of the Murray-Darling Basin before dry and warmer weather developed during the last few days. In the central and northern Basin, conditions remained dry throughout the week. The Bureau of Meteorology is predicting relatively warm late-winter temperatures for most districts in the days ahead.

Highest precipitation totals were once again recorded in the south-east ranges and included 74 mm at Rocky Valley, 69 mm at Dohertys, 61 mm at Lake Buffalo, 57 mm at Hunters Hill and 56 mm at Marysville. Away from the ranges, there were totals between 25 and 50 mm in north-east Victoria and in western Victoria there was 67 mm at Mt William. In NSW there were totals above 50 mm over the Snowy Mountains (Map 1).

Murray-Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 28th August 2013
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Issued: 28/08/2013

Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 28 August 2013 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).

Streamflows along the upper Murray system tributaries increased again during the week before peaking and receding in recent days. On the Tooma River, the flow at Pinegrove peaked at around 5,000 ML/day and is now at 1,700 ML/day. On the upper Murray, the flow at Jingellic peaked at almost 21,000 ML/day and has now receded to 15,000 ML/day. On the Kiewa River, flows reached 6,500 ML/day at Bandiana with the current flow holding above 5,000 ML/day. On the Ovens River, there was a peak of 22,500 ML/day at Rocky Point and 33,500 ML/day at Wangaratta. The flow at Wangaratta has now receded to 21,500 ML/day.



River Operations

MDBA active storage increased by 154 GL this week which brings the total active storage volume to 7,825 GL (91% capacity).

Dartmouth Reservoir is currently storing 3,795 GL (98% capacity), which is a gain of 9 GL during the week. The flow at Colemans gauge, just downstream of Dartmouth, has averaged about 6,700 ML/day during the week, while the flow at Tallandoon has averaged 9,900 ML/day. The flow at Tallandoon is expected to remain close to 10,000 ML/day throughout the next week, if further rain is forecast.

At Hume Reservoir, the release has averaged 11,800 ML/day and is being adjusted on a daily basis depending on weather forecasts, inflows and anticipated downstream demand. The Hume storage volume gained 147 GL during the week and is currently 2,887 GL (96% capacity). With a relatively dry and warm outlook for the next week, releases will be managed to gradually increase the storage volume. However, if significant rain is forecast, releases will be increased to actively manage the airspace in Hume Reservoir.

Yarrowonga Weir is currently releasing 42,000 ML/day, which is slightly higher than last week. The release is expected to recede below 30,000 ML/day in the coming week as inflows from the Ovens River decline. Diversions to the irrigation areas from Lake Mulwala have begun to rise and with warm conditions forecast next week further increases in demand are expected. The level in Lake Mulwala remained in the range 124.7–124.8 m AHD during last week.

On the Edward River system, the flow at Stevens Weir continues to climb and is currently 8,600 ML/day. The flow is expected to exceed 10,000 ML/day in the coming week. Further downstream, the flow in the Wakool River at Stoney Crossing is expected to continue rising for at least the next two weeks.

On the Goulburn River, the flow at McCoys Bridge is currently 7,100 ML/day and expected to peak above 8,000 ML/day during the weekend. Downstream on the River Murray, the flow through Torrumbarry Weir is now 16,200 ML/day and is expected to continue rising to at least 23,000 ML/day during the next week.

The flow in the River Murray at Euston has been relatively steady at 17,000–18,000 ML/day. The flow is expected to remain at about these rates for a few more days before rising to more than 25,000 ML/day during early-mid September. The weir pool level is currently 47.24 m AHD.

The Menindee Lakes' storage volume decreased by 5 GL during the week, bringing their combined volume to 1,233 GL (71% capacity). The flow at Weir 32 has been steady at about 220 ML/day while the flow in the lower Darling River at Burtundy is about 200 ML/day.

At Wentworth Weir, the River Murray flow is currently 19,000 ML/day and expected to remain relatively steady during the coming week, before rising in early-mid September.

Lake Victoria is slowly rising and gained 2 GL during the week to 584 GL (86% capacity). The current level is 26.22 m AHD and further rises are forecast for next week. The flow to South Australia is currently 15,000 ML/day and is expected to be increased in the next 1–2 weeks.

At the Lower Lakes, the 5-day average level at Lake Alexandrina is 0.80 m AHD and this level is slowly returning to the current target range of 0.7–0.75 m. Flows through the barrages are greater than 10,000 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 28 Aug 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	485.06	3 795	98%	71	3 724	+9
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	191.41	2 887	96%	23	2 864	+147
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.22	584	86%	100	484	+2
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 233	71%	(480 #)	753	-5
Total		9 269		8 499	92%	--	7 825	+154
Total Active MDBA Storage							91% ^	

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	519	51%	3	516	+13
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 468	90%	24	1 444	+72
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	2 928	88%	100	2 828	+159

* 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 27 Aug 2013

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2013
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 569	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+1	474
Snowy-Murray Component	575	n/a	Tooma-Tumut	+13	128
Target Storage	1 190		Net Diversion	-12	346
			Murray 1 Release	+10	597

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This Week	From 1 July 2013	Victoria	This Week	From 1 July 2013
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	15.7	49	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0.1	1
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	-1	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	3.9	38
Western Murray Irrigation	0.1	1	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.7	2
Licensed Pumps	0.7	4	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	1
Lower Darling	2.6	11	Licensed pumps - LMW	1.2	9
TOTAL	19.1	64	TOTAL	6	51

* 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 the commencement of unregulated flows.

Entitlement this month	124.0 *
Flow this week	105.4
Flow so far this month	334.1
Flow last month	142.3

(15 100 ML/day)

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

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2013
Swan Hill	90	80	110
Euston	110	130	150
Red Cliffs	140	140	160
Merbein	140	170	170
Burtundy (Darling)	420	430	450
Lock 9	180	180	150
Lake Victoria	300	330	340
Berri	360	310	380
Waikerie	350	390	510
Morgan	360	420	530
Mannum	600	590	580
Murray Bridge	620	640	600
Milang (Lake Alex.)	640	620	610
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	910	790	670
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 590	2 590	2 610
Goolwa Barrages	2 360	2 270	3 360



River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 28 Aug 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	-	-	-	4 350	F	5 160	3 980
Jingellic	4.0	2.83	209.35	15 000	F	17 250	15 660
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	3.43	220.32	10 030	R	9 890	9 310
Heywoods	5.5	2.57	156.20	10 180	R	11 790	23 880
Doctors Point	5.5	3.02	151.49	15 020	F	17 020	28 080
Albury	4.3	2.04	149.48	-	-	-	-
Corowa	-	3.17	129.19	15 150	F	21 710	22 540
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	4.68	119.72	42 020	F	43 370	35 730
Tocumwal	6.4	5.34	109.18	43 060	R	41 290	31 870
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.72	83.27	16 150	R	14 060	14 040
Swan Hill	4.5	2.34	65.26	12 840	R	12 600	12 080
Wakool Junction	8.8	4.91	54.03	15 970	S	16 020	13 170
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	3.01	44.85	17 940	S	17 580	14 460
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.71	28.47	19 000	R	17 250	14 810
Rufus Junction	-	4.58	21.51	14 110	F	14 340	14 430
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	1.16	-	15 060	R	13 850	12 480
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.87	156.10	5 170	S	5 570	5 000
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	11.95	149.63	21 450	F	24 140	16 100
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	4.42	95.84	7 060	R	4 030	4 200
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	4.64	84.41	8 640	R	7 550	4 150
Edward at Liewah	-	3.08	58.46	2 690	R	2 680	2 840
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.99	55.48	2 310	R	1 980	1 280
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.79	57.75	1 340	F	1 670	1 530
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.18	-	90	F	170	420
Darling at Bourke	-	4.20	-	850	S	880	1 030
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.77	-	200	S	200	210

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	35 040	32 210
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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
Yarrawonga	124.90	-0.12	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.01	+2.28
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.05	+0.69
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.36	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.06	+0.62
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.80	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.01	+1.54
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+1.07	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.05	+0.81
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.10	+0.69	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.02	+0.85
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.45	+0.60	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.02	+0.41

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.80
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Barrages

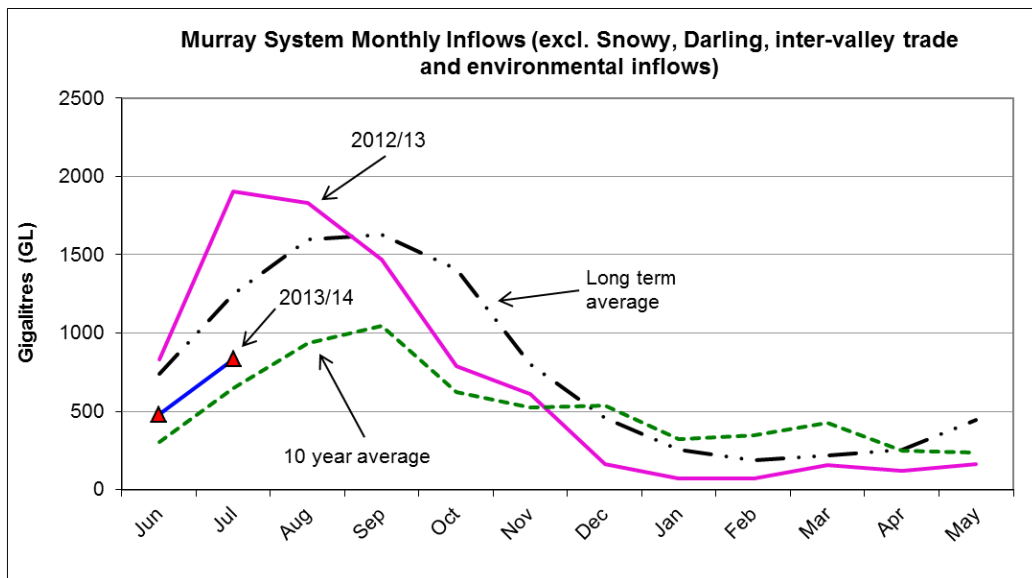
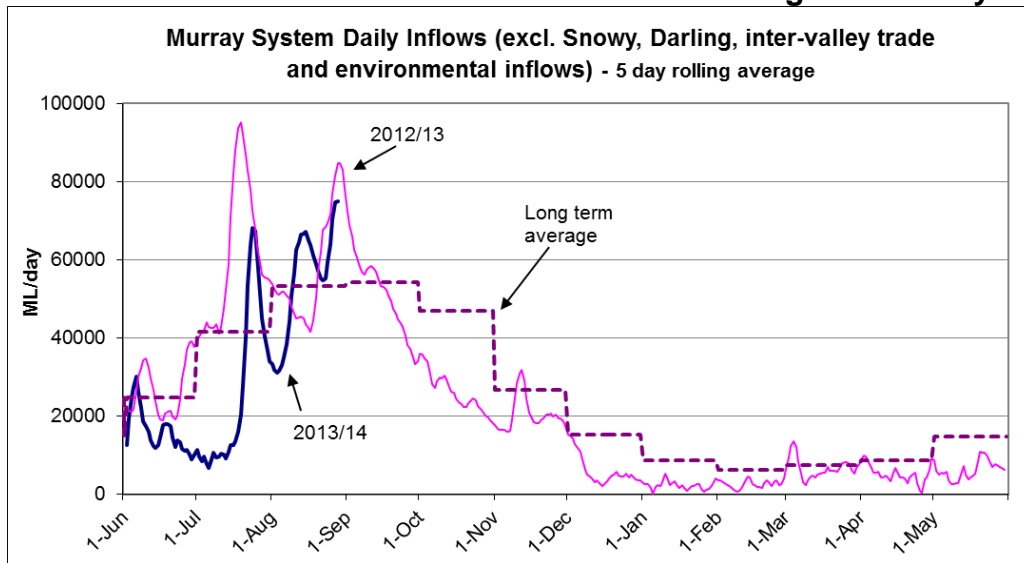
Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	-	30	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.72	4	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	0.1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	10	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.76	50	Open	Open

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



Week ending Wednesday 28 Aug 2013



State Allocations (as at 28 Aug 2013)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	97%
General security	57%

Victorian - Murray Valley

High reliability	57%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	28%

Victorian - Goulburn Valley

High reliability	95%
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/Water-management/Water-availability/Water-allocations/Water-allocations-summary/water-allocations-summary/default.aspx>
- VIC : <http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp>
- SA : <http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources/river-murray>