



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2013

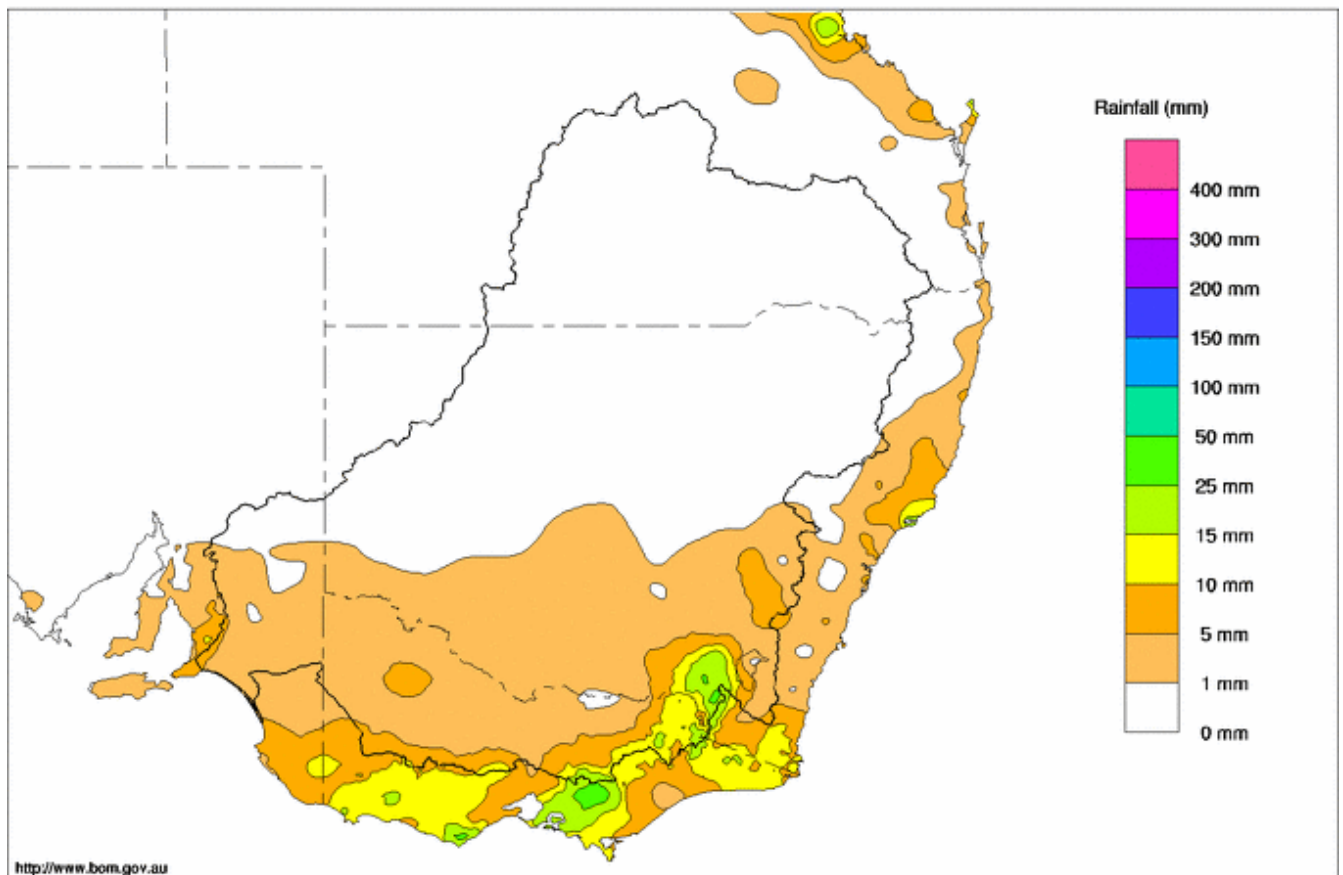
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Rainfall and Inflows

There was some light rain through the southern Murray-Darling Basin at the beginning of the week although for the most part conditions were generally dry (Map 1).

The highest weekly precipitation totals were in the NSW Snowy Mountains including 30 mm at Cabramurra and totals in excess of 30 mm around the higher peaks. In the Victorian ranges there was 20 mm at Woods Point, 19 mm at Rocky Valley and 16 mm at Mt Buller.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 9th October 2013
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 9 October 2013 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology). Issued: 09/10/2013

Generally, flows along the upper Murray tributaries receded throughout the week. At Hinnomunjie, on the Mitta Mitta River upstream of Dartmouth Reservoir, the flow decreased from a peak of 2,800 ML/day at the beginning of the week to the current flow of 1,500 ML/day. On the upper River Murray, the flow at Biggara receded from 2,100 to 1,400 ML/day. On the Ovens River, the flow at Wangaratta, reached a small peak of 5,600 ML/day on 3 October but has since receded to a flow of 4,100 ML/day with a continued recession expected for the next few days.



River Operations

Increasing demands for water due to the warm and dry conditions have reduced MDBA active storage this week by 52 GL to 7,856 GL (91% capacity).

The storage volume in Dartmouth Reservoir has been steady at 3,819 GL (99% capacity). The release from Dartmouth, measured at Colemans gauge, was reduced during the week from 3,500 to 2,500 ML/day. If conditions remain dry, further reductions in the flow at Colemans are likely in the coming week to maintain the reservoir volume at about 99% capacity (approximately 40 GL airspace).

At Hume Reservoir, the storage level reduced by 25 GL to 2,930 GL (98% capacity) as releases from the reservoir were increased from 12,000 to 20,000 ML/day to supply demand. Downstream of the Kiewa River junction, the flow at Doctors Point is now 22,200 ML/day with further increases towards the channel capacity of 25,000 ML/day expected during the next week.

At Yarrowonga Weir, a steady release of about 18,000 ML/day has been maintained for almost one week. This flow rate is planned to continue for one more week, before being reduced to 15,000 ML/day. These high flows include releases of environmental water which are aimed at maintaining high water levels in Barmah Forest for the benefit of Moira grass and other wetland vegetation. Additional water flowing through the Millewa Forest is prompting waterbirds such as ibis and cormorants to nest.

Flow into the Edward River system is set at about 700 ML/day through the Gulpa Creek offtake, while about 2,000 ML/day is flowing through the Edward River offtake, where the gates are currently fully open. The flow downstream of Stevens Weir has receded to 5,000 ML/day and is expected to continue receding for the next few weeks. The Edward River at Moulamein has reached a peak of 4,100 ML/day while the Wakool River at Stoney Crossing is expected to remain steady for the next week at about 4,000 ML/day.

The Goulburn River at McCoys Bridge is gradually receding with the flow now 1,400 ML/day. Downstream on the River Murray at Torrumbarry Weir, the flow is 15,400 ML/day and forecast to drop below 12,000 ML/day during the next week. Diversions through National Channel have increased from 1,500 to 2,000 ML/day during the week, with further increases expected.

Flow in the Murrumbidgee River at Balranald has been steady at about 1,000 ML/day, while downstream on the River Murray at Euston Weir, the flow is 25,200 ML/day and expected to start slowly receding soon. The weir pool level is currently 8 cm above full supply level (FSL) but, as the flow recedes, the pool level will be slowly lowered to about 5 cm below FSL.

The volume in the Menindee Lakes fell by 23 GL during the week to 1,148 GL (66% capacity). The release from the Lakes is maintaining the flow at Weir 32 at about 250 ML/day. The flow through the Lake Cawndilla outlet is currently 1,500 ML/day, which is contributing environmental water to the Great Darling Anabranch.

At Lake Victoria, the storage level reduced by 4 GL to 633 GL (94% capacity). The flow into South Australia is currently 25,000 ML/day. The flow to South Australia will be gradually reduced over the coming weeks to ensure that Lake Victoria is filled by late October/early November.

The water level in the Lower Lakes is currently 0.8 m AHD. Flows through the barrages have averaged about 30,000 ML/day during the past week with about 150 gates open. Many of these barrage openings are expected to be closed over the coming weekend due to forecast high tides, large swells and strong winds.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Management



Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 09 Oct 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	485.43	3 819	99%	71	3 748	+0
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	191.62	2 930	98%	23	2 907	-25
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.64	633	94%	100	533	-4
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 148	66%	(480 #)	668	-23
Total		9 269		8 530	92%	--	7 856	-52
Total Active MDBA Storage							91% ^	

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	699	68%	3	696	+9
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 482	91%	24	1 458	-10
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	3 159	95%	100	3 059	+34

* 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 08 Oct 2013

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2013
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 875	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+3	492
Snowy-Murray Component	726	n/a	Tooma-Tumut	+3	182
Target Storage	1 400		Net Diversion	0	311
			Murray 1 Release	+10	716

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)	29.0	200	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	12.7	55
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	-1	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	9.3	94
Western Murray Irrigation	0.5	3	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.3	14
Licensed Pumps	5.0	35	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.5	4
Lower Darling	10.6	52	Licensed pumps - LMW	5	39
TOTAL	45.1	289	TOTAL	29.8	206

* 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	170.0 *
Flow this week	174.9
Flow so far this month	224.6
Flow last month	584.8

(25 000 ML/day)

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

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2013
Swan Hill	100	100	100
Euston	100	100	120
Red Cliffs	100	110	130
Merbein	100	120	130
Burtundy (Darling)	530	510	460
Lock 9	130	110	150
Lake Victoria	220	280	310
Berri	170	170	310
Waikerie	210	210	380
Morgan	190	190	390
Mannum	240	250	470
Murray Bridge	240	280	510
Milang (Lake Alex.)	680	670	630
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	490	510	670
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 600	2 590	2 620
Goolwa Barrages	860	2 120	2 210



River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 09 Oct 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	-	-	-	3 010	F	3 020	4 200
Jingellic	4.0	1.99	208.51	6 660	R	7 640	9 250
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.25	219.14	3 190	F	3 650	3 340
Heywoods	5.5	3.43	157.06	20 080	R	15 550	16 670
Doctors Point	5.5	3.60	152.07	22 230	R	17 920	19 130
Albury	4.3	2.70	150.14	-	-	-	-
Corowa	3.8	3.74	129.76	19 220	R	16 620	22 200
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.62	117.66	17 930	F	18 350	25 450
Tocumwal	6.4	3.33	107.17	18 230	S	19 610	27 760
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.54	83.09	15 360	F	17 000	21 600
Swan Hill	4.5	3.05	65.97	17 660	F	18 910	19 120
Wakool Junction	8.8	6.22	55.34	23 950	F	24 230	24 640
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	3.88	45.72	25 170	R	25 080	25 600
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.24	29.00	25 670	S	25 750	26 090
Rufus Junction	-	5.54	22.47	23 200	F	23 470	23 660
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	1.67	-	23 530	S	23 390	23 030
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.91	155.14	1 890	F	2 370	2 700
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.29	146.97	4 110	F	4 780	5 000
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.76	93.18	1 390	F	1 510	6 210
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	3.44	83.21	4 960	F	6 380	6 980
Edward at Liewah	-	3.71	59.09	3 770	R	3 640	3 680
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	2.89	56.38	4 060	S	4 090	4 420
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.41	57.37	1 010	F	1 070	1 330
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.19	-	110	R	40	100
Darling at Bourke	-	4.07	-	260	S	270	380
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.75	-	160	R	150	170

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	11 900	15 330
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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
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.19	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.42	+3.24
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.01	+1.40
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.08	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.00	+1.21
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.03	+1.34	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.05	+2.18
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.02	+1.60	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.06	+1.46
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.13	+1.07	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.03	+1.56
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.43	+1.25	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.03	+0.92

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

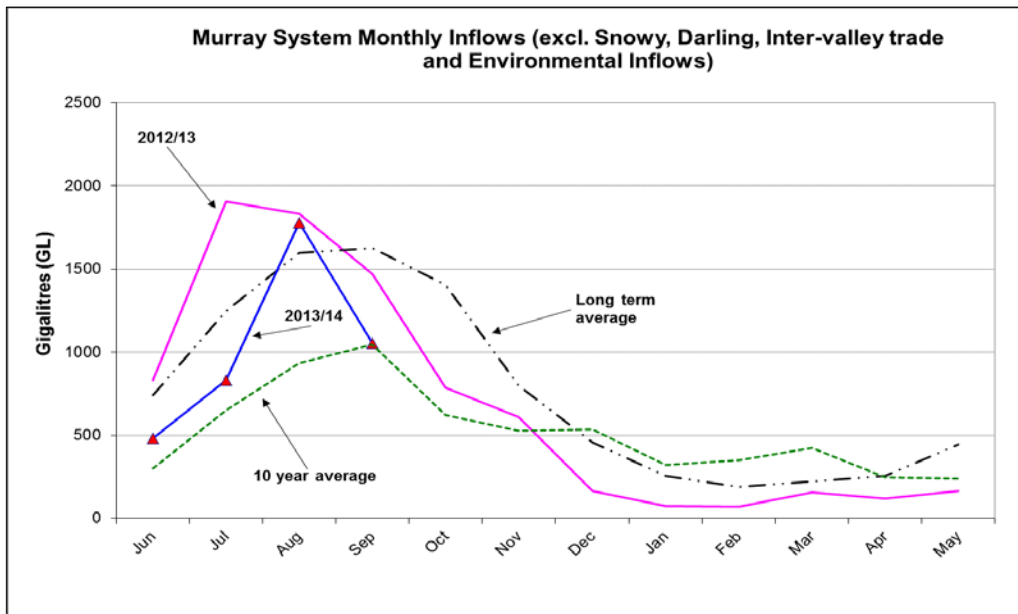
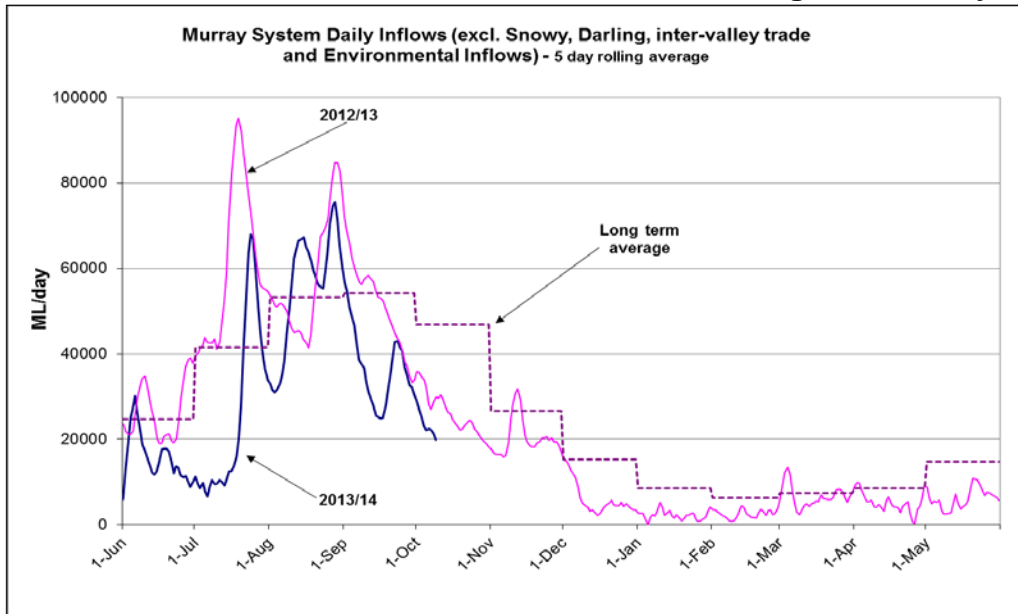
Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.85	20	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.81	5	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	0.1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	50	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.87	81	Open	Open

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



Week ending Wednesday 09 Oct 2013



State Allocations (as at 09 Oct 2013)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victorian - Murray Valley

High reliability	100%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	43%

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/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>