



# RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

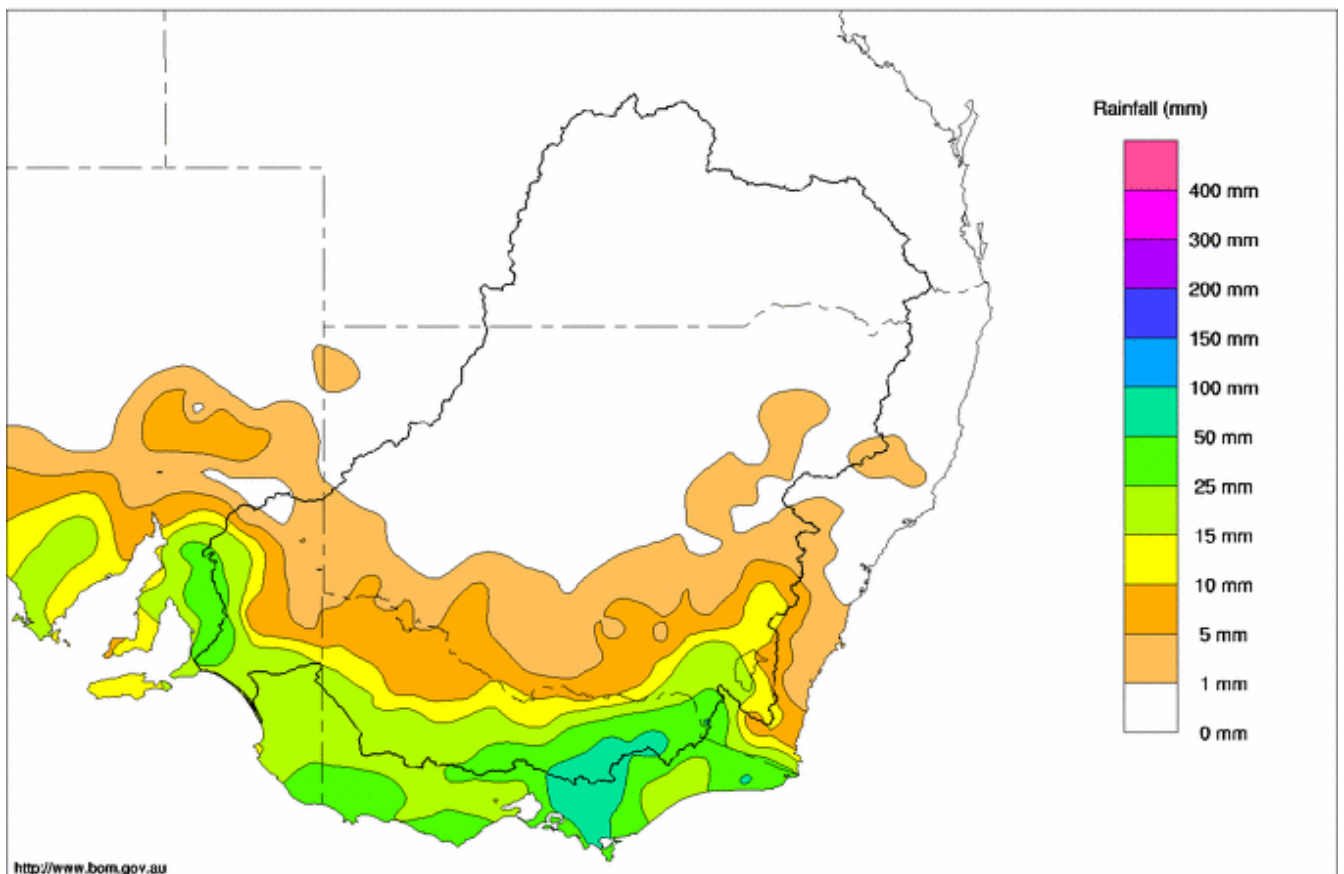
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## Rainfall and Inflows

For the second week in a row, up to 100 mm of rain was recorded across north-eastern Victoria (see Map 1). This generated good streamflow responses, particularly in the Ovens and Goulburn River catchments. In the River Murray system, the best response was at Wangaratta on the Ovens River, where the flow increased from 3,000 ML/day to a peak of 13,100 ML/day, which is the highest flow since July 2007. At Hinnomunjie on the Mitta Mitta River (upstream of Dartmouth Dam) the flow increased from 2,100 to 6,500 ML/day, and at Mongans Bridge on the Kiewa River it increased from 1,600 to 4,900 ML/day. All streams are now gradually receding, but the catchments remain wet.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 30th September 2009

Product of the National Climate Centre



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Issued: 30/09/2009

Map 1



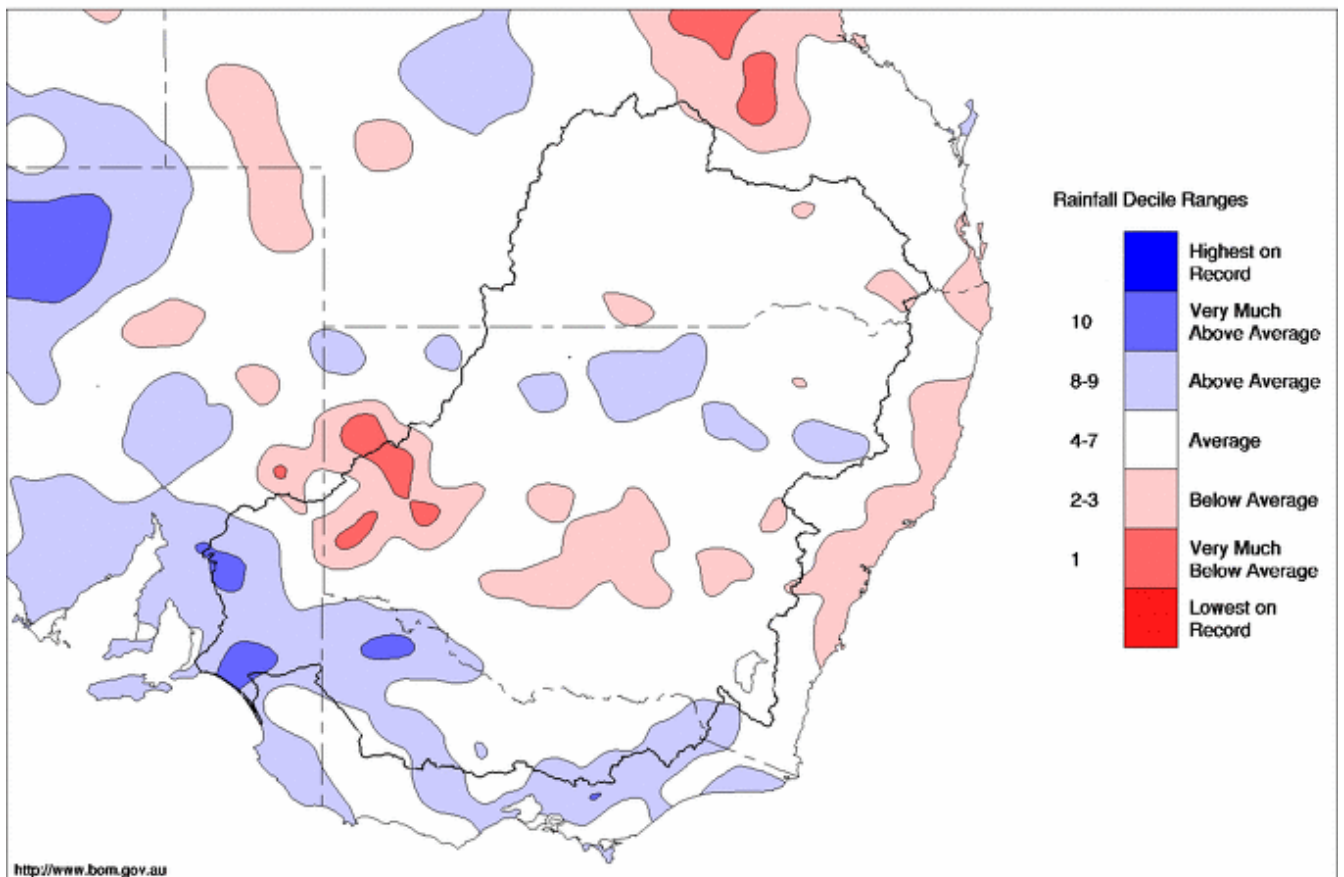
## September 2009 summary

September rainfall was average, or above average, across all catchments of the River Murray system (see Map 2). In response, Murray System inflows for September were about 640 GL (subject to confirmation), which is the highest monthly inflow since November 2005. However, it is still well below the September long term average of 1,590 ML/day.

The northern Basin remains dry and the flows along the entire length of the Darling River are close to zero.

Murray Darling Rainfall Deciles September 2009

Distribution Based on Gridded Data  
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Issued: 30/09/2009

Map 2

## River Operations

MDBA active storage increased by 119 GL to 2,116 GL (or 25 % capacity), which is higher than both September 2008 (1,972 GL) and September 2007 (1,865 GL), but well below the long term average for September of 6,430 GL.

Storage in Dartmouth Dam increased by 38 GL to 1,057 GL (27 % capacity) and the release remains at the normal minimum and 200 ML/day. Storage in Hume Reservoir increased by 68 GL to 979 GL (32 % capacity). During the past week, the Hume release was reduced to the normal minimum of 600 ML/day and will remain at this rate while the higher inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers can supply all downstream demands along the Murray.



In the past few days, the peak inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers have reached Yarrawonga Weir, and the water level in Lake Mulwala has increased from 124.54 to 124.64 m AHD (0.26 m below FSL). During the coming week, the water level is expected to continue increasing towards the Full Supply Level of 124.90 m AHD. In response to the higher tributary inflows, the Yarrawonga release has been increased from 9,000 to 10,500 ML/day. This is equivalent to the maximum channel capacity further downstream at the Barmah Choke and at the Edward and Gulpa offtakes. A small amount of water is also being diverted through the Mulwala Canal to the Edward River.

At Stevens Weir on the Edward River, the release is currently 1,300 ML/day and is expected to increase to about 2,200 ML/day during the coming week due to the higher flows through the Edward and Gulpa offtakes and via Edward Escape (from the Mulwala Canal).

At Torrumbarry Weir, the release is currently 6,250 ML/day and, during the coming week, is expected to increase to about 7,400 ML/day. The release at Euston Weir has increased from 4,090 to 5,260 ML/day and should continue to gradually increase over the coming weeks in response to the higher flows from upstream (along both the Murray and Edward Rivers). Torrumbarry, Euston, Mildura and Wentworth weir pools all remain close to Full Supply Level

Storage in Menindee Lakes decreased by 4 GL to 219 GL (13 % capacity) and the flow past Weir 32 on the lower Darling River remains steady at about 150 ML/day.

Storage in Lake Victoria increased by 14 GL to 291 GL (43 % capacity), and the average flow to South Australia was 2,400 ML/day. The weir pool levels at Locks 1 to 5 all remain above Full Supply Level, and at Lock 6 is slightly below Full Supply Level.

The water level in Lake Alexandrina is steady at -0.75 m AHD (1.5 m below FSL) and the water level in Lake Albert is steady at about -0.15 m AHD. The water level in the Goolwa Channel (which is now separated from Lake Alexandrina by a blocking bank at Clayton) has increased to +0.3 m AHD in response to local inflows and pumping from Lake Alexandrina.

As a result of the recent improvement in inflows, South Australia, Victoria and NSW have all increased their water allocations for the River Murray system (see page 6 for details).

**For media inquiries contact: Sam Leone on 02 6279 0141**

DAVID DREVERMAN  
Executive Director, River Murray

## Week ending Wednesday 30 Sep 2009

### Water in Storage

MDBA Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	MDBA Active Storage (GL)	Change in Total Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	425.47	1 057	27%	80	977	+38
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	178.41	979	32%	30	949	+68
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.46	291	43%	100	191	+14
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		219	13%	(- -) #	0	-4
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>2 545</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>2 116</b>	<b>+115</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **25%**

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

\*\* All Data is rounded to nearest GL \*\*

### Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	423	41%	3	420	+16
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	648	40%	24	624	+10
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	908	27%	100	808	+97

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 29-Sep-2009

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2009
Lake Eucumbene - Total	991	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+0	257
Snowy-Murray Component	491	-	Tooma-Tumut	+8	160
Target Storage	1 240		Nett Diversion	-7.4	97
			Murray 1 Release	+14	393

### Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) \*

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2009	Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2009
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	1.3	40.2	Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	1.3	18
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.3	.0	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	2.0	25
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	1.9	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.4	8
Licensed Pumps	1.2	13.9	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	1
Lower Darling	0.1	.7	Licensed pumps - LMW	3.8	24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>56.8</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>76</b>

\* 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 is rounded to nearest 100 ML for the above\*\*

### Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	135 *	
Flow this week	16.8	(2 400 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	68	
Flow last month	56	

\* Reduced to approx. 70 GL during September drought contingency operation:

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2009
Swan Hill	50	50	80
Euston	80	70	90
Red Cliffs	100	100	130
Merbein	100	100	110
Burtundy (Darling)	540	530	440
Lock 9	180	170	160
Lake Victoria	220	220	220
Berri	450	440	450
Waikerie	580	580	500
Morgan	610	600	540
Mannum	550	590	600
Murray Bridge	690	710	690
Milang (Lake Alex.)	5 040	5 110	5 100
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	-	-	4 640
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	8 740	8 810	9 160
Goolwa Barrages	12 090	13 290	18 050

Week ending Wednesday 30 Sep 2009

### 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	-	-	-	3 620	F	3 970	6 690
Jingellic	4.0	2.33	208.85	10 250	F	9 860	8 400
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.80	218.69	1 430	F	1 350	860
Heywoods	5.5	1.18	154.81	630	F	2 210	1 130
Doctors Point	5.5	1.99	150.46	4 220	F	5 460	3 270
Albury	4.3	1.04	148.48	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.36	127.38	4 820	F	5 180	2 570
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.72	116.76	10 530	S	9 610	5 850
Tocumwal	6.4	2.20	106.04	9 870	R	8 290	5 670
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.09	80.64	6 250	R	5 210	3 610
Swan Hill	4.5	0.97	63.89	4 390	R	3 880	3 160
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.16	51.28	4 890	R	4 700	4 160
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.20	43.04	5 260	R	5 110	4 350
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	4 780	F	4 560	4 140
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.84	27.60	4 040	S	4 160	3 430
Rufus Junction	-	2.62	19.55	1 960	R	1 760	2 130
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.71	-	1 180	S	1 160	1 260
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.68	155.91	7 540	F	4 860	2 330
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	10.81	148.49	12 250	F	8 070	3 010
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.05	92.47	290	R	250	200
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.50	81.27	1 300	F	1 050	940
Edward at Liewah	-	1.69	57.07	980	F	1 140	1 000
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.04	54.53	20	R	10	0
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.28	57.24	840	R	750	930
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.09	-	0	F	0	0
Darling at Bourke	-	3.93	-	10	S	10	30
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.67	-	40	S	50	90

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	17 830	13 330
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### Weirs and Locks

Pool levels above or below Full Supply Level (FSL)

Murray	FSL (mAHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (mAHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrawonga	124.90	-0.26	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.09	+0.30
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-1.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.06	-0.02
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.04	+0.09
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.03	+0.04	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.06	+0.35
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.06	+0.20	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.16	+0.17
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.02	-0.05	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.11	+0.13
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.02	+0.03	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.12	-1.46

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-2.19	1.29	70.64	1274
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-2.77	0.935	62.235	1141

### Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.75

### Barrages

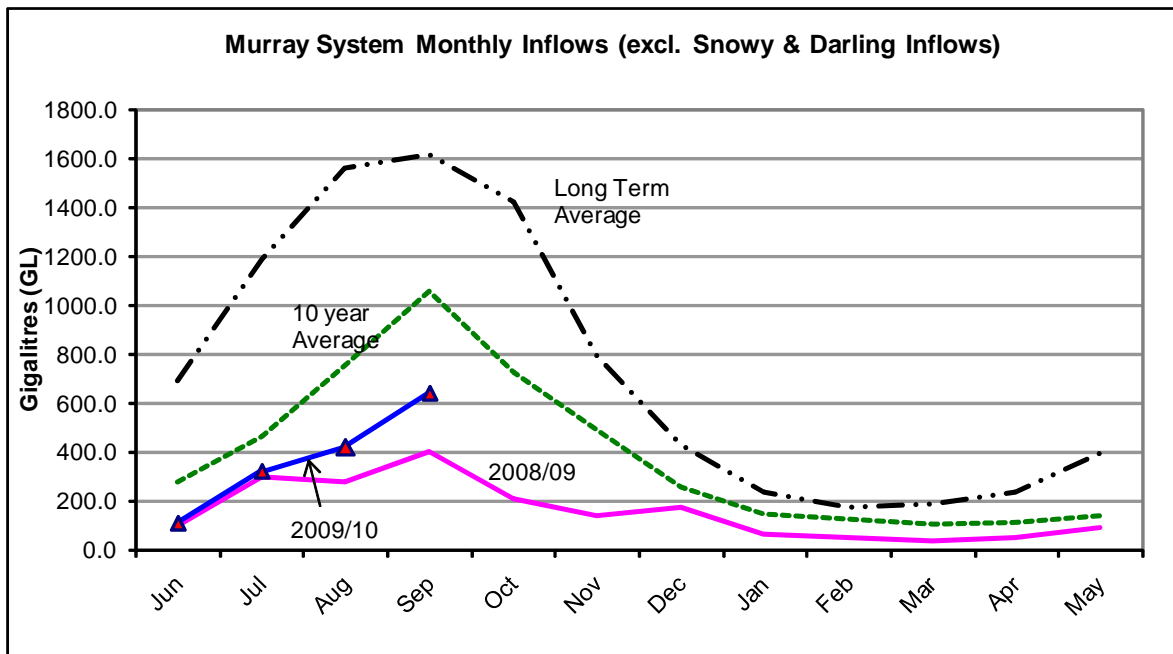
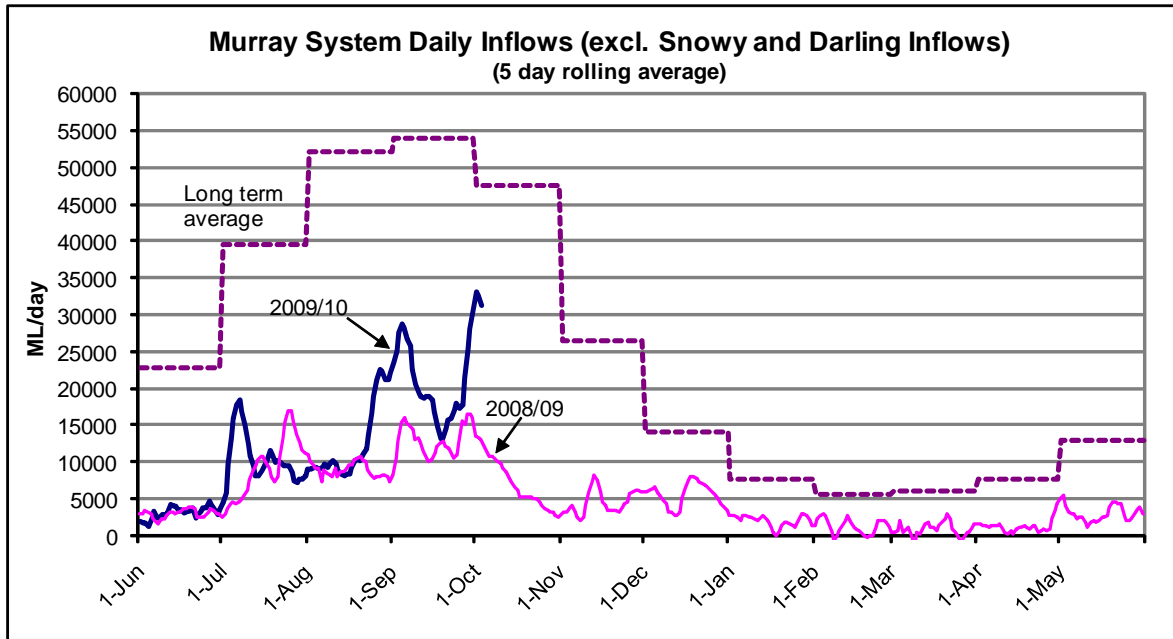
Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.32	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwicheere	322 gates	-	All closed	Closed	Closed

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



Week ending Wednesday 30th September 2009



**State Allocations (as at 1st October 2009)**

**NSW - Murray Valley**

High security	97%
General security	1%

**Victoria - Murray Valley**

high reliability	29%
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**NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley**

High security	95%
General security	3%

**Victoria - Goulburn Valley**

high reliability	30%
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**NSW - Lower Darling**

High security	100%
General security	25%

**South Australia - Murray Valley**

High security	25%
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NSW : [http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/mediarelnr/mr\\_toc\\_currnr.html](http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/mediarelnr/mr_toc_currnr.html)

VIC : <http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp>

SA : <http://www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/media.html>