



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

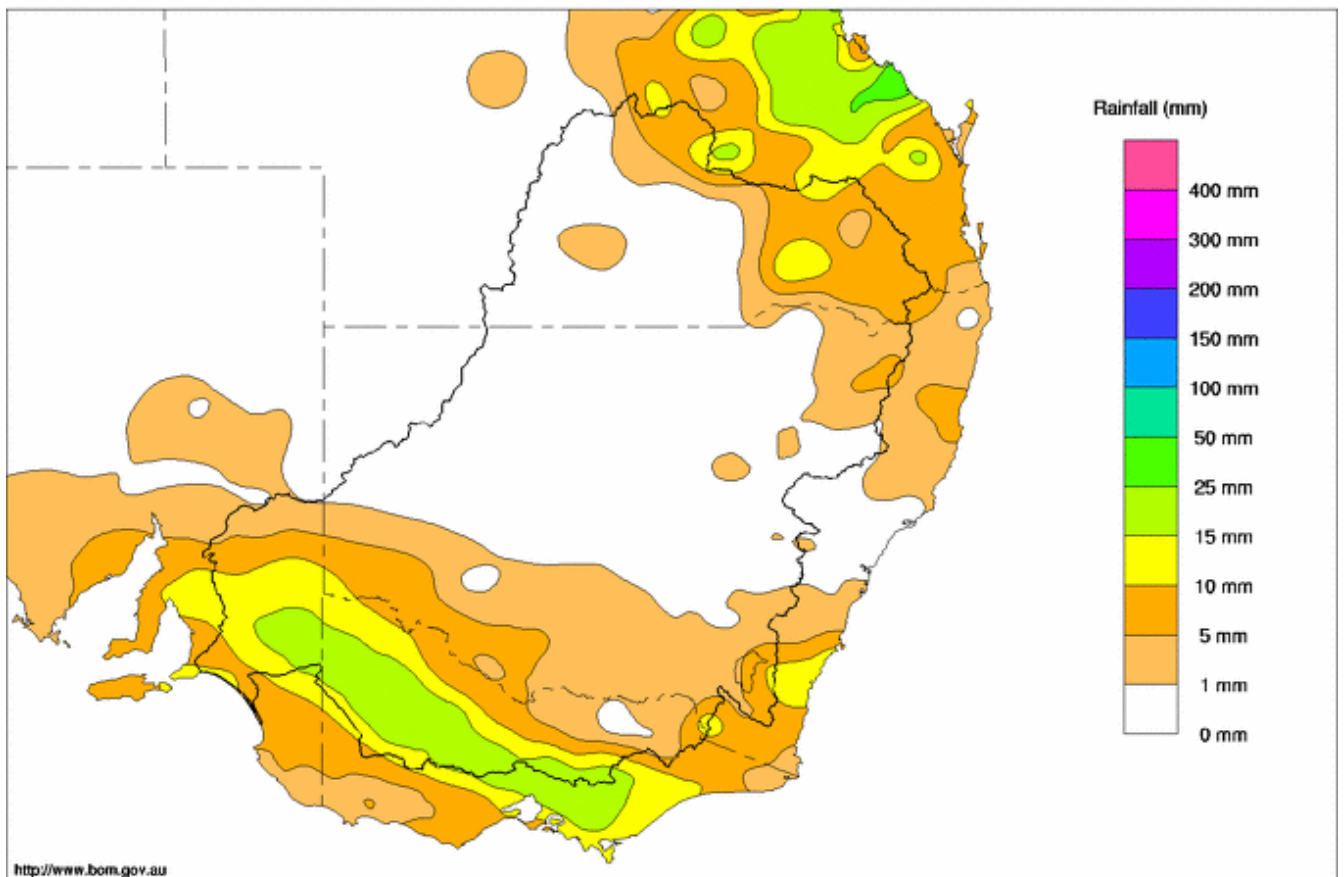
FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 09 DECEMBER 2009

Trim Ref: D09/23623

Rainfall and Inflows

During the past week, the southern Basin received light rainfall, particularly in central and western Victoria and near Pinnaroo in South Australia (see Map). The alpine regions received less than 15 mm and streamflows in the upper Murray and its tributaries continued to recede. Total Murray system inflows for the first 9 days of December were about 50 GL.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 9th December 2009
Product of the National Climate Centre



© Commonwealth of Australia 2009, Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Issued: 09/12/2009



River Operations

MDBA active storage decreased by 47 GL to 2,393 GL (or 28 % active capacity), which is higher than this time last year (1,834 GL or 22 % active capacity), but well below the December long term average of 5,950 GL.

Total storage in Dartmouth Reservoir is steady at 1,208 GL (31 % capacity), and the release (measured at Colemans gauge) is steady at 500 ML/day. This season's first pulsed release of water from Dartmouth Dam has now been completed and a second pulse will commence on 17th December. This pulse will be slightly larger, with a peak flow at Colemans gauge of 4,500 ML/day on the 18th and 19th December (compared with a peak of 3,000 ML/day for the first pulse). The flow rate will then be gradually decreased over the following two weeks to target a flow of 600 ML/day at Tallandoon by 3rd January 2010.

Storage in Hume Reservoir decreased by 52 GL to 1,046 GL (34 % capacity) and the release is currently 11,500 ML/day. The water level in Lake Mulwala is 124.72 m AHD (-0.18 m below FSL) and the release from Yarrawonga weir is steady at 10,000 ML/day.

On the Edward River, the release from Stevens Weir is currently 2,200 ML/day and will be increased to about 2,600 ML/day during the coming week. The replenishment flow along the Wakool River system, which commenced in mid-September, has now reached the lower reaches of the Wakool River. NSW State Water has issued a Customer Notice warning water users in the Stoney Crossing area about possible high salinity levels while the first flush of water passes downstream (for further information, see www.statewater.com.au/About+Us/News+and+Events/Media+releases).

On the mid Murray, the release at Euston Weir which is currently 11,400 ML/day, is likely to decrease slightly during the coming week, while the release at Wentworth Weir should remain fairly steady at about 7,300 ML/day. The pool levels at Euston, Mildura and Wentworth Weirs are all close to, or slightly above, Full Supply Level.

Storage in Menindee Lakes (which remain under NSW control) decreased by 7 GL to 158 GL (or 9 % capacity) and inflows from the Darling River remain at zero.

Storage in Lake Victoria increased by 11 GL to 349 GL (52 % capacity) as higher flows arrive from the Murray, and the target flow to South Australia is steady at 4,700 ML/day. In South Australia, the pool levels in Weirs 1 to 5 are all slightly above Full Supply Level, and the pool level in Weir 6 is 7 cm below Full Supply Level.

The water level in Lake Alexandrina is steady at -0.81 m AHD and in Lake Albert is -0.50 m AHD. The water level in Goolwa Channel (which is separated from Lake Alexandrina by an earth embankment) decreased from 0.60 to 0.56 m AHD.

Algal Blooms

The Murray Regional Algal Coordinating Committee (RACC) has recently announced Amber alerts for blue-green algae at Moama and Barham on the Murray, and at Deniliquin on the Edward River. Algal growth is historically most prevalent in the summer and autumn months when suitable environmental conditions exist, including warm water temperatures, high nutrient levels and slow moving water. Further updates will be provided over the coming months.

For media inquiries contact: Sam Leone on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN

Executive Director, River Murray

Week ending Wednesday 09 Dec 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	430.39	1 208	31%	80	1 128	+0
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	179.03	1 046	34%	30	1 016	-52
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	24.04	349	52%	100	249	+11
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		158	9%	(- -) #	0	-7
Total		9 352		2 761	30%	- -	2 393	-47

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **28%**

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	441	43%	3	438	-4
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	576	35%	24	552	+2
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	1 086	33%	100	986	-5

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 08-Dec-2009

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2009
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 216	-9	Snowy-Murray	+8	380
Snowy-Murray Component	792	-7	Tooma-Tumut	+3	218
Target Storage	1 510		Nett Diversion	5.5	162
			Murray 1 Release	+9	581

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales			Victoria		
	This week	From 1 July 2009		This week	From 1 July 2009
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	3.3	89.9	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	3.9	56
Wakool Sys Allowance	2.8	29.2	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	4.5	102
Western Murray Irrig.	0.9	8.4	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	5.2	41
Licensed Pumps	2.5	41.3	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.4	2
Lower Darling	0.3	3.9	Licensed pumps - LMW	9.0	94
TOTAL	9.8	172.6	TOTAL	23.0	294

* 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	217 *	
Flow this week	33.2	(4 700 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	43	
Flow last month	142	

* Reduced to approx. 145 GL during December drought contingency operations

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2009
Swan Hill	70	60	70
Euston	80	70	80
Red Cliffs	70	80	110
Merbein	80	80	100
Burtundy (Darling)	570	560	520
Lock 9	130	140	150
Lake Victoria	200	190	200
Berri	260	280	400
Waikerie	460	480	530
Morgan	560	590	610
Mannum	650	640	600
Murray Bridge	590	600	690
Milang (Lake Alex)	5 930	5 870	5 350
Poltalloch (Lake Alex)	5 120	4 950	4 890
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	11 710	11 700	9 780
Goolwa Barrages	10 440	10 360	14 210

Week ending Wednesday 09 Dec 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	-	-	-	3 180	F	1 980	3 390
Jingellic	4.0	1.62	208.14	4 100	R	2 920	5 080
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.52	218.41	710	S	1 000	2 410
Heywoods	5.5	2.72	156.35	11 500	R	10 720	8 510
Doctors Point	5.5	2.80	151.27	12 100	R	11 360	9 590
Albury	4.3	1.76	149.20	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.48	128.50	11 530	F	11 030	9 250
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.64	116.68	9 960	F	9 970	10 330
Tocumwal	6.4	2.17	106.01	9 870	S	9 860	10 400
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.14	80.69	6 410	F	7 500	8 170
Swan Hill	4.5	1.57	64.49	8 300	F	8 550	8 250
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.31	52.43	9 550	S	9 470	8 720
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.22	44.06	11 440	R	11 220	10 600
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	8 260	F	7 180	7 800
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.17	27.93	7 350	R	6 980	7 550
Rufus Junction	-	3.05	19.98	4 010	F	4 020	4 000
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.47	-	2 330	R	2 140	2 260
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.95	154.18	490	R	620	1 040
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.97	145.65	790	F	1 000	1 580
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.26	92.68	580	S	610	710
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	2.16	81.93	2 240	F	2 280	2 590
Edward at Liewah	-	2.69	58.07	2 130	S	2 120	1 990
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.33	54.82	240	R	200	80
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.62	57.58	1 150	R	1 120	1 210
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.14	-	0	F	30	0
Darling at Bourke	-	3.36	-	0	F	0	0
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.72	-	110	F	100	100

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	2 400	5 120
---	-------	-------

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	-0.18	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.07	+0.76
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.07	+0.01
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.01	+0.16
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.33	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.03	+0.59
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.05	+0.53	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.06	+0.16
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.01	-0.00	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.19
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.03	+0.88	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.08	-1.22

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.82	1.575	70.925	1828
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	1.42	62.72	1792

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.81

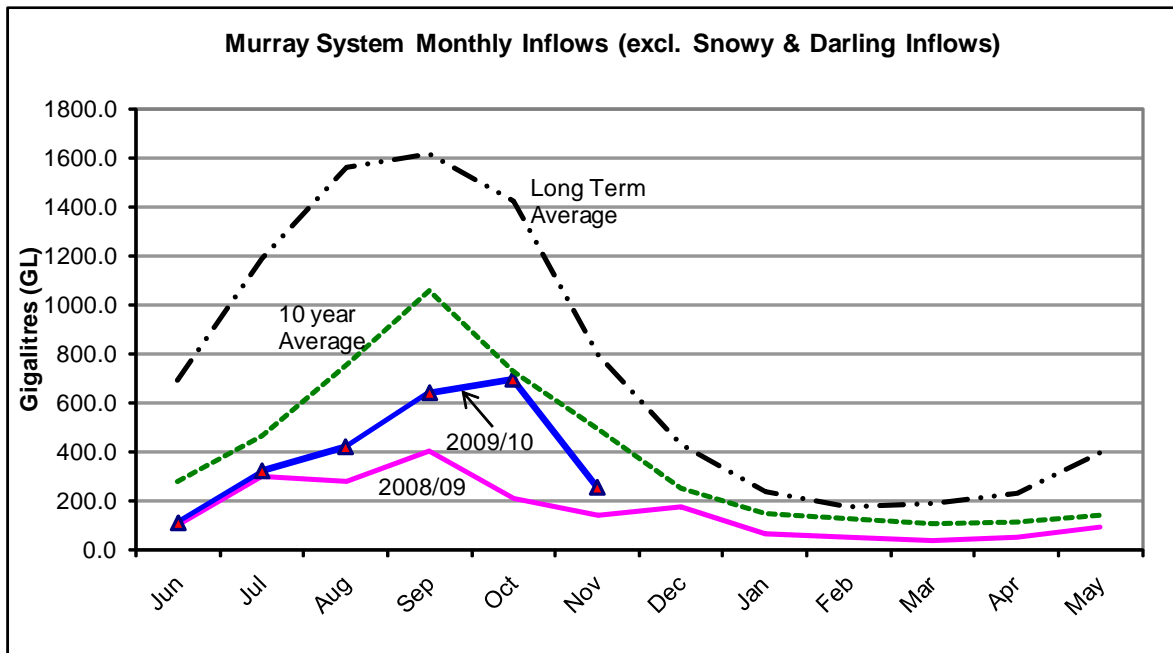
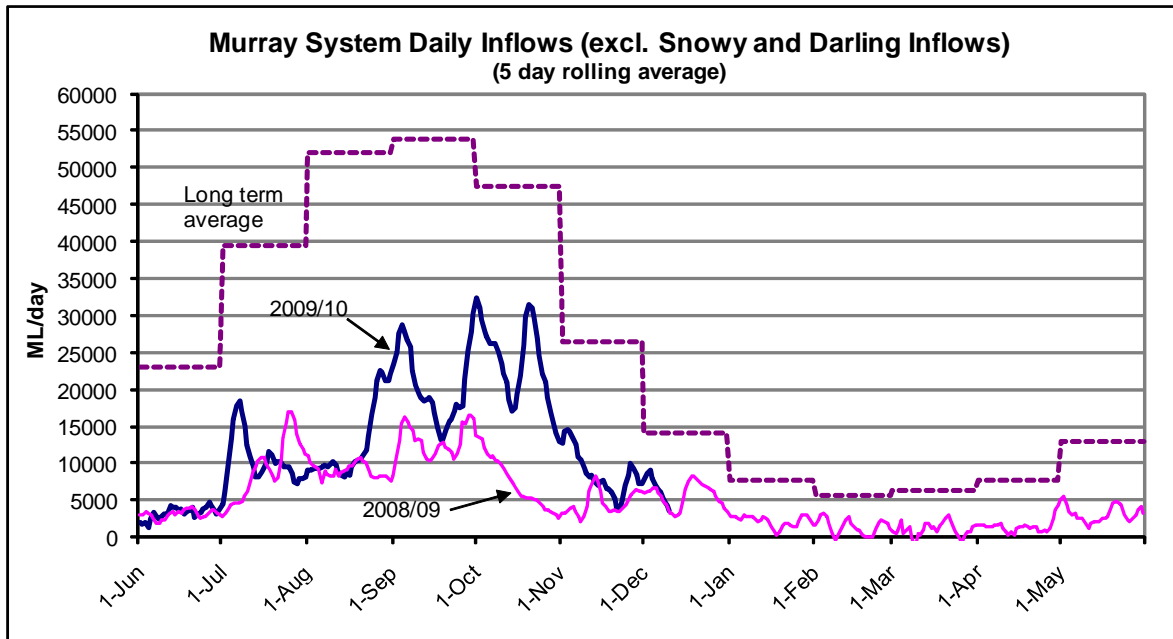
Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.56	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	-	All closed	Closed	Closed



Week ending Wednesday 9th December 2009



State Allocations (as at 9th December 2009)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	97%
General security	10%

Victoria - Murray Valley

High reliability	57%
------------------	-----

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	15%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

High reliability	46%
------------------	-----

NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	25%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	48%
---------------	-----