



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

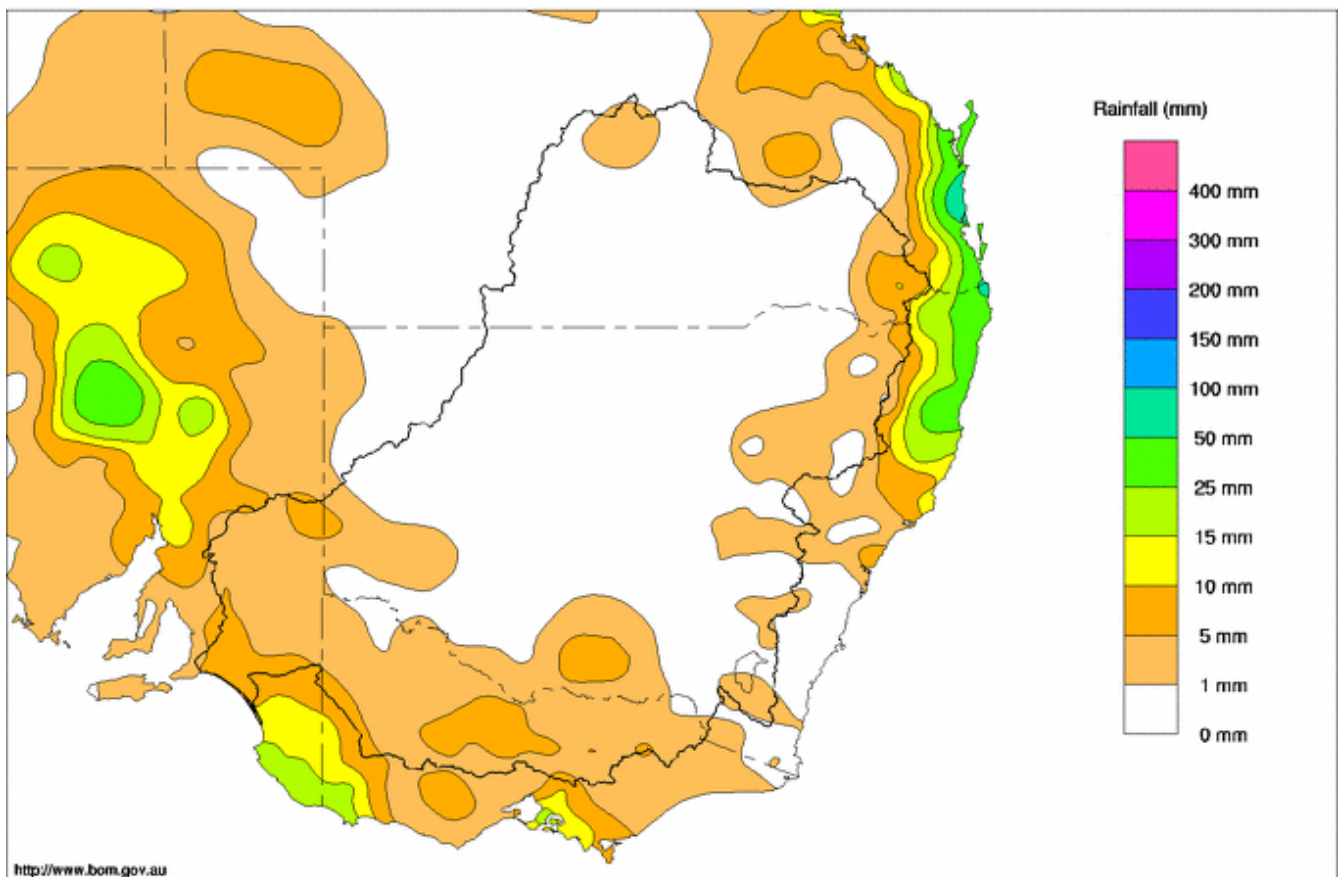
FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 21 APRIL 2010

Trim Ref: D10/10095

Rainfall and Inflows

Warm, dry conditions have persisted across most regions of the Murray-Darling Basin (see Map), including the upper catchments of the River Murray system where streamflows have remained very low. For instance, the flow at Biggara on the upper reaches of the Murray, has only averaged 260 ML/day, and the flow at Hinnomunjie on the Mitta Mitta River averaged 380 ML/day. For the month of April, Murray system inflows (excluding Snowy releases and Menindee inflows) continue to track at about 3.5 GL/day, which is well below the April long term average of about 8 GL/day.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 21st April 2010
Product of the National Climate Centre



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River Operations

MDBA active storage (which now includes Menindee Lakes) increased by 110 GL to 2,341 GL (or 27% capacity), which is well below the long term average for April of 4,790 GL

Total storage in Dartmouth Reservoir remained steady at 1,216 GL (31% capacity), and storage in Hume Reservoir has fallen by 2 GL to 475 GL (16% capacity). Downstream of Hume Dam, the flow at Doctors Point was increased from 7,200 to 9,270 ML/day in response to a temporary increase in downstream irrigation demand caused by the unusually warm and dry weather. Over the next few weeks, the flow at Doctors Point is expected to decline as irrigation demand decreases and the main irrigation diversion channels are closed in early to mid May. The release at Yarrawonga Weir is currently 4,400 ML/day, and is also likely to be gradually reduced over the next few weeks.

At Torrumbarry Weir, the release has decreased from 2,840 to 2,090 ML/day. Over the next few days, the weir pool level will be lowered by 2 cm/day to help maintain the downstream flow. The low flows at Torrumbarry Weir are expected to arrive at Swan Hill during the coming week, and the river height is likely to approach the normal minimum of 0.6 m (local gauge). Further downstream, the flow at Euston has been steady at 3,630 ML/day, while at Wentworth Weir the flow has decreased from 3,980 to 3,050 ML/day. If the weather remains dry, the low flows between Torrumbarry and Wentworth Weirs are expected to continue for the next few weeks.

On the Darling River, the floodwaters moving towards Menindee Lakes peaked at Louth on 19 April with a flow of 37,700 ML/day. This is significantly lower than the peak associated with the December-January flood of about 47,000 ML/day (see Figure 1). The Bureau of Meteorology has forecast the peak to arrive at Tilpa on 25 or 26 April, and at Wilcannia in May. Current MDBA forecasts indicate that a total of about 1,000 GL is likely to reach Menindee Lakes by mid-June, but this will depend on the volume of water that enters the Darling River from the Paroo River overflow. Based on this forecast, it is unlikely that the volume of water stored in Menindee lakes will exceed full capacity. The release from Menindee Lakes (measured at Weir 32) is steady at the normal April minimum of 300 ML/day.

Storage in Lake Victoria decreased by 23 GL to 512 GL (76% capacity) and is expected to continue decreasing over the next few weeks. The flow to South Australia is steady at about 6,800 ML/day, and consists of the normal entitlement flow for April plus water traded from upstream. The flow at Lock 1 remains steady at 5,060 ML/day and continues to replenish the Lower Lakes. In response, the water level in Lake Alexandrina has increased by 0.05 m to -0.58 m AHD.

Algal Alerts

Red alerts have been lifted for all sections of the River Murray, with the exception of Heywoods, immediately downstream of Hume Dam. However, amber alerts remain in place for many locations between Hume Reservoir and Wentworth. Further information can be obtained from the Regional Algal Coordinating Committee hotline on 1800 999 457 or by visiting the MDBA website at www.mdba.gov.au.

For media inquiries contact: Sam Leone on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
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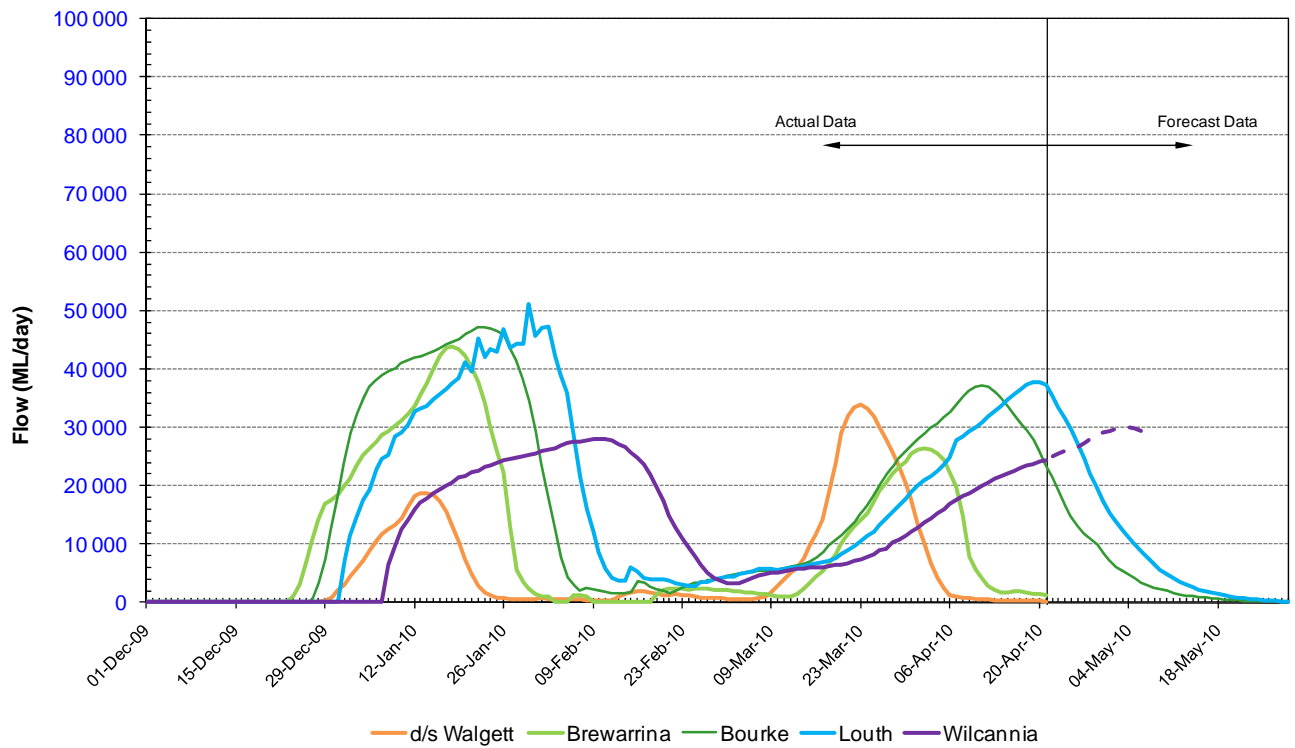


Figure 1. Flows at key sites along the Barwon-Darling River since December 2009

Note; The forecast flow for Wilcannia is highly dependent on both the timing and the volume of water that overflows from the Paroo River.

Week ending Wednesday 21 Apr 2010

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	430.62	1 216	31%	80	1 136	+0
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	172.97	475	16%	30	445	-2
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.61	512	76%	100	412	-23
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		828	48%	(480 #)	348	+135
Total		9 352		3 031	32%	--	2 341	+110

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **27%**

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		415	40%	3	412	-16
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		593	36%	24	569	-2
Eildon Reservoir	3 334		807	24%	100	707	-9

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 20-Apr-2010

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2009
Lake Eucumbene - Total	710	-25	Snowy-Murray	+33	775
Snowy-Murray Component	471	+22	Tooma-Tumut	+2	249
Target Storage	1 340		Nett Diversion	30.5	526
			Murray 1 Release	+33	1 022

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)	13.9	230	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	3.0	129
Wakool Sys Allowance	-0.2	59	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	15.7	290
Western Murray Irrig.	0.3	23	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.8	122
Licensed Pumps	1.5	98	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.7	22
Lower Darling	0.0	7	Licensed pumps - LMW	3.2	239
TOTAL	15.5	417	TOTAL	24.4	802

* 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	47.3	(6 800 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	142 *	
Flow last month	241	

* Flow to South Australia includes entitlement plus trade

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2009
Swan Hill	60	60	60
Euston	130	120	90
Red Cliffs	110	110	100
Merbein	110	110	100
Burtundy (Darling)	300	280	440
Lock 9	160	170	140
Lake Victoria	190	200	200
Berri	230	230	310
Waikerie	-	270	360
Morgan	290	290	460
Mannum	280	280	540
Murray Bridge	290	290	660
Milang (Lake Alex)	5 490	5 470	5 600
Poltalloch (Lake Alex)	1 340	1 780	4 700
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	18 970	18 800	12 540
Goolwa Barrages	19 180	19 350	14 470

Week ending Wednesday 21 Apr 2010

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	-	-	-	5 530	F	4 770	5 590
Jingellic	4.0	1.84	208.36	5 860	R	5 420	5 850
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.54	218.43	750	R	620	550
Heywoods	5.5	2.50	156.13	8 330	R	5 960	5 990
Doctors Point	5.5	2.53	151.00	9 270	R	7 290	7 460
Albury	4.3	1.50	148.94	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.71	127.73	6 720	S	6 570	6 380
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.88	115.92	4 470	S	4 490	5 030
Tocumwal	6.4	1.34	105.18	4 770	R	4 940	5 540
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	0.91	79.46	2 090	F	2 360	3 090
Swan Hill	4.5	0.64	63.56	2 350	F	2 650	2 830
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.63	50.75	2 990	F	3 480	3 370
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.83	42.67	3 630	S	3 630	3 620
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	3 330	F	3 170	3 480
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.92	27.68	3 050	R	3 250	4 640
Rufus Junction	-	3.43	20.36	6 330	F	6 380	6 360
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.22	-	4 840	S	4 970	5 060
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.15	154.38	760	R	800	750
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.95	145.63	740	F	1 020	880
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.15	92.57	420	S	470	850
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.66	80.43	390	F	400	470
Edward at Liewah	-	1.05	56.43	520	F	560	540
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.31	54.80	230	S	260	310
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.42	56.38	190	S	200	210
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.26	-	130	R	110	110
Darling at Bourke	-	7.79	-	23 510	F	29 110	36 190
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.91	-	670	F	750	1 560

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	1 180	1 240
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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	-0.21	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.04	+1.13
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.02	+0.09
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.06	+0.21
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.06	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.01	+0.77
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.03	+0.28	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+0.38
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.09	-0.18	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.07	+0.31
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.18	+0.42	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.09	-0.97

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-2.92	0.64	69.99	282
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.09	0.07	61.37	206

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.58

Barrages

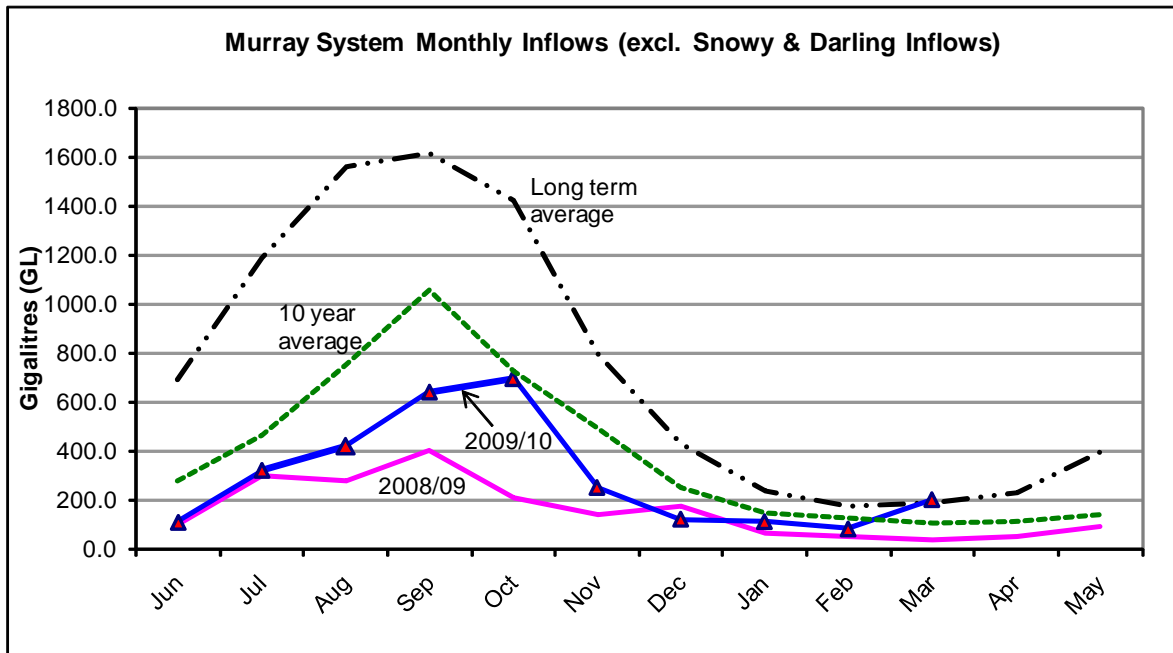
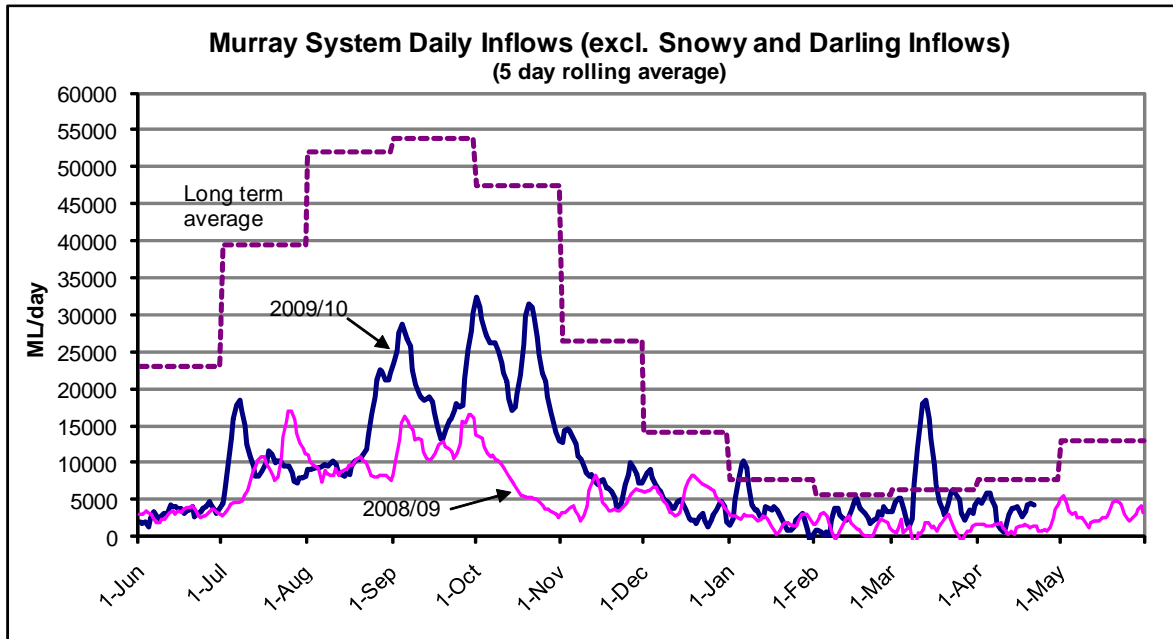
Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	-0.05	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	-	All closed	Closed	Closed

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



Week ending Wednesday 21 April 2010



State Allocations (as at 21 April 2010)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	97%
General security	27%

Victoria - Murray Valley

High reliability	100%
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NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	27%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

High reliability	71%
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NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	100%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	62%
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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.dwbc.sa.gov.au/media.html>