



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 18 AUGUST 2010

Trim Ref: D10/24126

Rainfall and Inflow

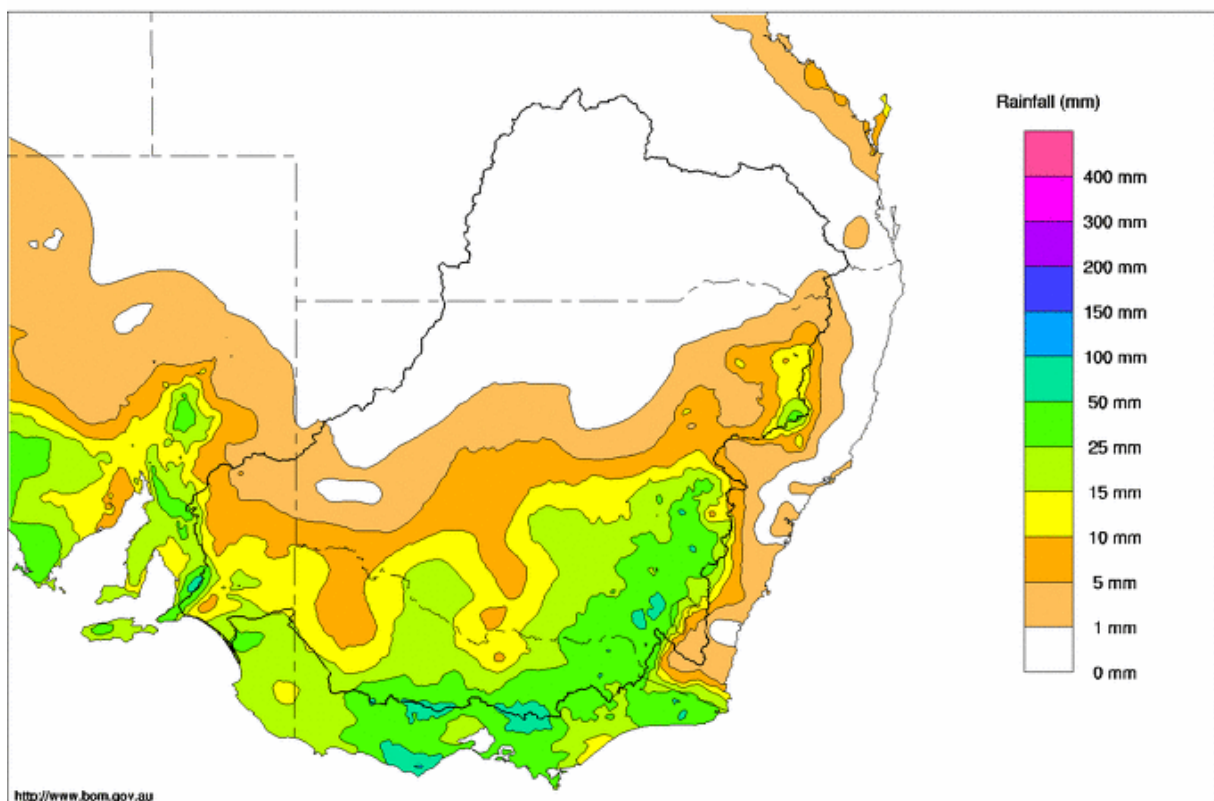
For the past two weeks, there has been good rainfall across the southern Murray–Darling Basin with moderate follow-up rain occurring again this week. Around 40 mm was recorded in the Broken and Goulburn catchments in northeast Victoria and there was also good rain in the Riverina region of NSW, with recorded falls of around 30 mm.

As the headwater catchments of the Murray are now saturated, good streamflow responses were observed. In the Goulburn catchment, diversions to Waranga Basin ceased yesterday afternoon, so all inflow generated downstream of Eildon will flow through. As a result, these flows are expected to result in Murray inflows from the Goulburn over the next week in the order of 10,000 ML/day, but could be higher.

Flows at Rocky Point on the Ovens River were climbing due to ongoing rainfall, and were around 10,700 ML/day on Thursday 19 August. In the Riverina, due to rainfall in early August, the flow at Wagga Wagga peaked during the week at about 30,600 ML/day. Most of this flow will provide local benefits and will not reach the Murray.

With moderate rainfall forecast for the south-east of the Basin over the coming week it is expected that August Murray System inflows could exceed 1,000 GL. Further rainfall is forecast for the northern Basin but as transit times in the north are long and losses are difficult to estimate it would be weeks before the impact on the Murray system is known

Murray Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 18th August 2010
Product of the National Climate Centre



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River Operations

MDBA active storage (including Menindee Lakes) increased by 151 GL to 4,000 GL (46% capacity). Total storage in Dartmouth Reservoir is currently 1,419 GL (36% capacity), an increase of 32 GL since last week and total storage in Hume Reservoir increased by 119 GL to 1,314 GL (43% capacity). Releases from these storages remain at winter minimums.

Releases from Yarrawonga Weir have now increased to 17,000 ML/day; this is the highest release from Yarrawonga Weir since October 2005. The release is expected to increase further in the coming days as higher inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers arrive. The pool level is now at 124.78 m AHD (0.12 m below FSL).

Downstream of Yarrawonga Weir, all regulators are now open in the Barmah–Millewa forest, to help pass flows in excess of channel capacity at the Barmah ‘Choke’. On the Edward River, the flow past Toonalook has increased to around 2,000 ML/day as returning flows from the Millewa forest enter the Edward River. Release from Stevens Weir is expected to increase significantly in the coming week.

Further downstream on the Murray, the flow at Torrumbarry Weir has increased to around 18,000 ML/day. The high releases are mainly due to inflows from the Goulburn River but also from the upper Murray and from the Campaspe River which peaked during the week at about 2,500 ML/day. Salinities at Torrumbarry Weir saw a temporary spike due to the inflows from the Goulburn and Campaspe Rivers of 118 EC and are now at 100EC. Release from Torrumbarry Weir may increase during the coming week in response to rising inflows from the Goulburn River.

At Euston Weir the release is around 10,000 ML/day and is expected to rise to around 12,000 ML/day in the next week. Mildura and Wentworth Weirs are both at Full Supply Level and the release at Wentworth is around 7,100 ML/day.

Total storage in Menindee Lakes increased by 5 GL to 1,577 GL (91% capacity) and will continue to slowly rise. Upstream of Menindee Lakes on the Darling River, the flow at Bourke has risen from around 680 to 5,500 ML/day. Flow at Bourke will continue to rise in the coming week, due to rainfall in northern NSW in early August. These flows are forecast to reach Menindee Lakes from late August. With wetter conditions in the Murray, bulk transfers from Menindee Lakes have been delayed and releases remain at the normal August minimum of 200 ML/day. Further updates will be provided in the coming weeks.

Lake Victoria’s total storage decreased slightly by 5 GL to 380 GL (56% capacity), and is expected to begin to increase during the week as higher inflows arrive from the Murray. The average flow to South Australia during the week was around 7,000 ML/day, comprised of 4,000 ML/day of entitlement and 3,000 ML/day of Additional Dilution Flow. The average flow over Lock 1 was about 6,000 ML/day. Lake Alexandrina’s water level is currently +0.15 m AHD and increasing steadily at around 1 cm/day. The water level in Goolwa Channel is +0.46 m AHD and Lake Albert’s water level is -0.37 m AHD.

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DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Murray

Week ending Wednesday 18 Aug 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	436.62	1 419	36%	80	1 339	+32
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	181.29	1 314	43%	30	1 284	+119
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	24.34	380	56%	100	280	-5
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		1 577	91%	(480 #)	1 097	+5
Total		9 352		4 690	50%	--	4 000	+151

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **46%**

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	635	62%	3	632	+71
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 049	64%	24	1 025	+65
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	1 246	37%	100	1 146	+78

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 17-Aug-2010

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2010
Lake Eucumbene - Total	522	+4	Snowy-Murray	+8	307
Snowy-Murray Component	407	+1	Tooma-Tumut	+11	87
Target Storage	1 190		Net Diversion	-2.8	220
			Murray 1 Release	+18	389

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2010	Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2010
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	0.2	18.0	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0.2	0.0
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.8	2.0	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	1.9	53.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	0.0	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.1	1.0
Licensed Pumps	0.3	3.0	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.2	1.0
Lower Darling	1.2	2.0	Licensed pumps - LMW	2.0	9.0
TOTAL	2.6	25.0	TOTAL	4.4	64.0

* 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	124.0 *	(7 000 ML/day)
Flow this week	49.1	
Flow so far this month	123.8	
Flow last month	139.5	

* Flow to SA will be greater than entitlement for August due to Additional Dilution Flow

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2010
Swan Hill	90	70	70
Euston	70	90	90
Red Cliffs	110	110	100
Merbein	90	70	90
Burtundy (Darling)	270	260	250
Lock 9	130	150	130
Lake Victoria	150	180	170
Berri	190	190	210
Waikerie	-	-	290
Morgan	310	330	340
Mannum	370	350	350
Murray Bridge	360	330	310
Milang (Lake Alex.)	3 760	3 570	3 810
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	2 090	1 750	1 730
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	12 110	12 160	12 600
Goolwa Barrages	18 630	19 090	19 810

Week ending Wednesday 18 Aug 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	-	-	-	6 770	F	3 890	3 660
Jingellic	4.0	2.84	209.36	16 270	R	13 580	8 520
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.80	218.69	1 430	F	1 460	1 010
Heywoods	5.5	1.22	154.85	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.93	150.40	3 770	R	3 420	2 310
Albury	4.3	1.01	148.45	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.93	126.95	2 970	R	3 160	2 690
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.28	117.32	14 970	S	13 510	12 050
Tocumwal	6.4	2.80	106.64	14 620	R	12 550	11 300
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.61	83.16	16 900	R	12 760	8 010
Swan Hill	4.5	1.98	64.90	10 930	R	10 130	5 140
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.67	52.79	11 240	R	9 000	6 440
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.31	44.15	10 080	R	7 900	7 160
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	7 090	F	6 580	7 580
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.14	27.90	7 100	R	6 350	6 550
Rufus Junction	-	3.53	20.46	6 290	F	6 290	6 320
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.30	-	6 350	R	5 990	5 850
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.55	155.78	3 390	R	3 260	2 060
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	11.09	148.77	14 620	R	12 810	9 220
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	6.30	97.72	13 750	R	7 740	3 330
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.51	81.28	1 310	F	1 300	1 050
Edward at Liewah	-	1.89	57.27	1 210	R	1 220	1 200
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.15	54.65	80	S	80	70
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.43	56.39	200	F	290	410
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.63	-	1 370	R	1 150	570
Darling at Bourke	-	4.74	-	5 530	R	2 800	470
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.76	-	190	R	180	190

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	22 340	12 130
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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	-0.12	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.09	+1.22
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.05	+0.17
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.07	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.07	+0.26
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.00	+0.22	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.03	+0.92
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.01	+0.50	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.00	+0.36
No. 9 Kulline	27.40	+0.11	-0.01	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.27
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.03	+0.52	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	-0.45

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	+0.00	1.217	70.567	1168
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.08	0.557	61.857	699

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.15

Barrages

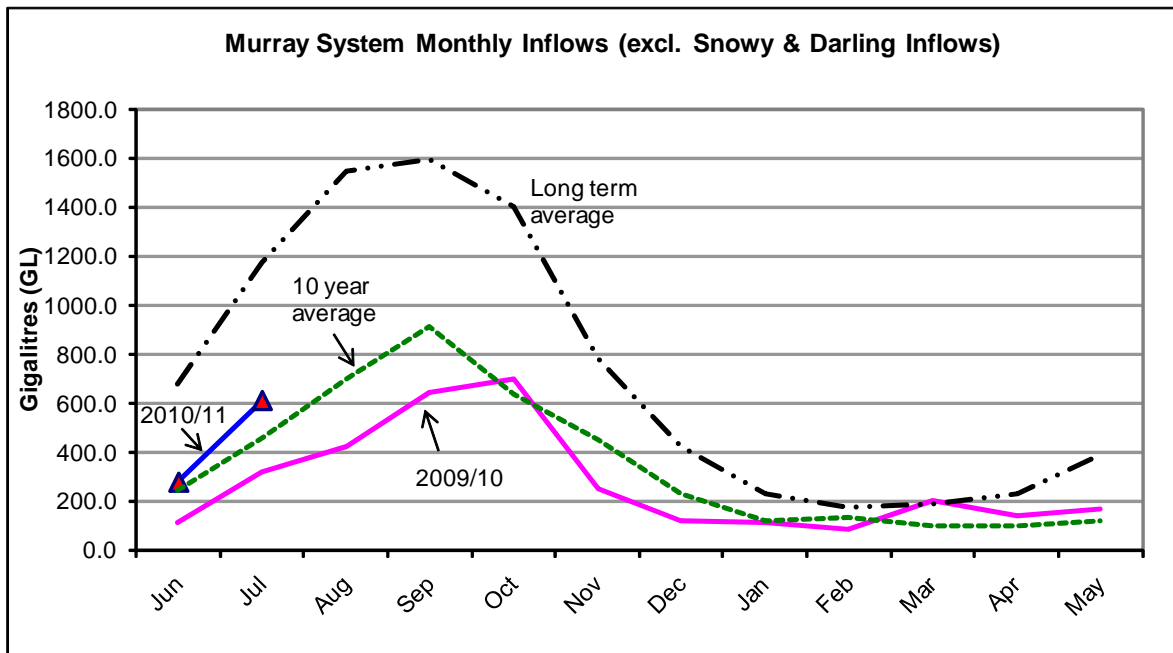
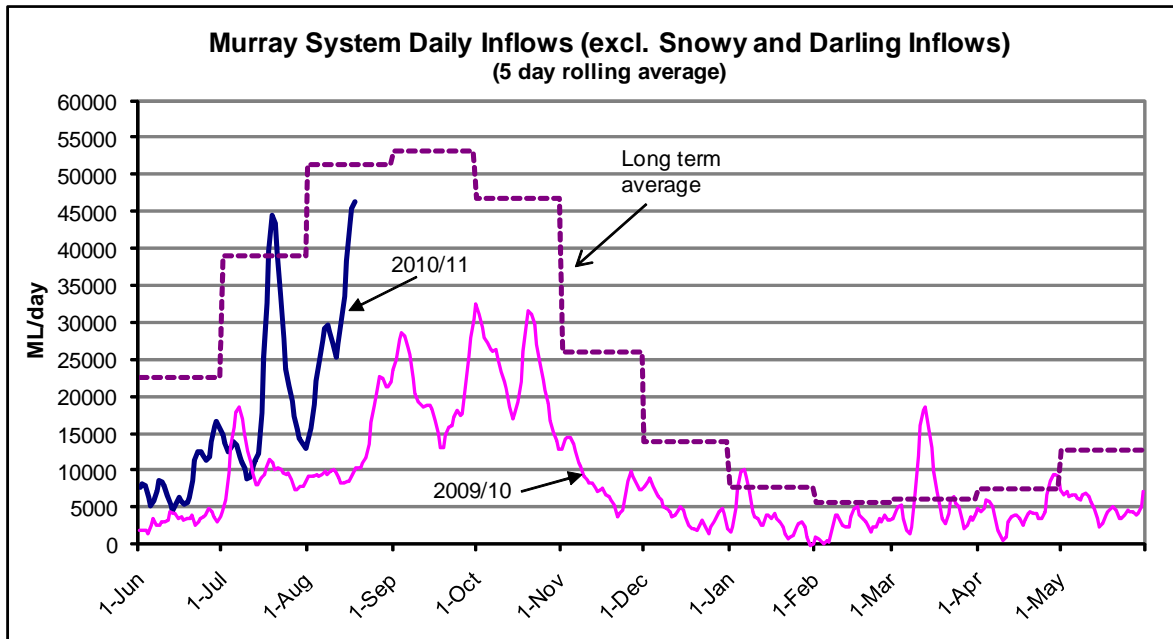
Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.46	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

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



Week ending Wednesday 18 August 2010



State Allocations (as at 18 August 2010)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	70%
General security	0%

Victoria - Murray Valley

High reliability	23%
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NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	0%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

High reliability	26%
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NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	100%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	34%
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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.waterforgood.sa.gov.au/category/news/>