



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 01 SEPTEMBER 2010

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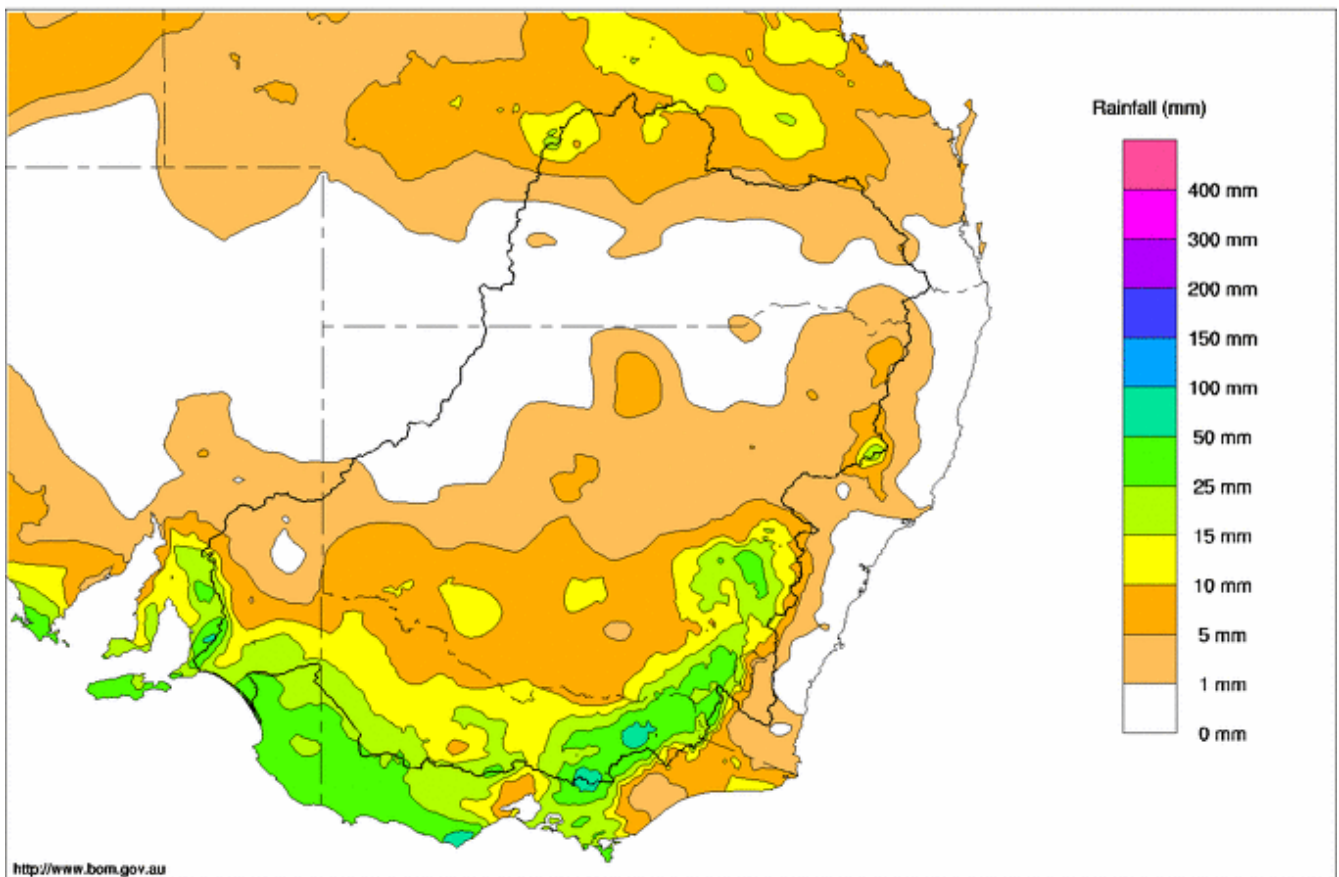
Rainfall and Inflows

Good falls of rain were recorded in the upper north-east of Victoria (see Map 1), particularly early in the week with rainfall totals of around 70 mm at both Lake William Hovell and at Mount Buller. Less rainfall occurred in NSW around the Snowy Mountains, with less than 50 mm recorded.

Steamflows responded well to the rain with Rocky Point, on the Ovens River, peaking at over 18,000 ML/day during the week. Further downstream, Wangaratta reached over 30,000 ML/day on Saturday 28 August. Bandiana on the Kiewa River peaked at around 6,500 ML/day during last weekend and is now running at around 4,000 ML/day.

Flow in the Darling River at Bourke peaked on Monday 30 August at around 10,350 ML/day in response to rain in northern NSW in early August. Further widespread rainfall is predicted this weekend across the Murray-Darling Basin and as many catchments remain wet, particularly the Murray headwaters, significant streamflow responses are expected.

Murray Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 1st September 2010
Product of the National Climate Centre



<http://www.bom.gov.au>

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Issued: 01/09/2010

Map 1 Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 1st September 2010 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).



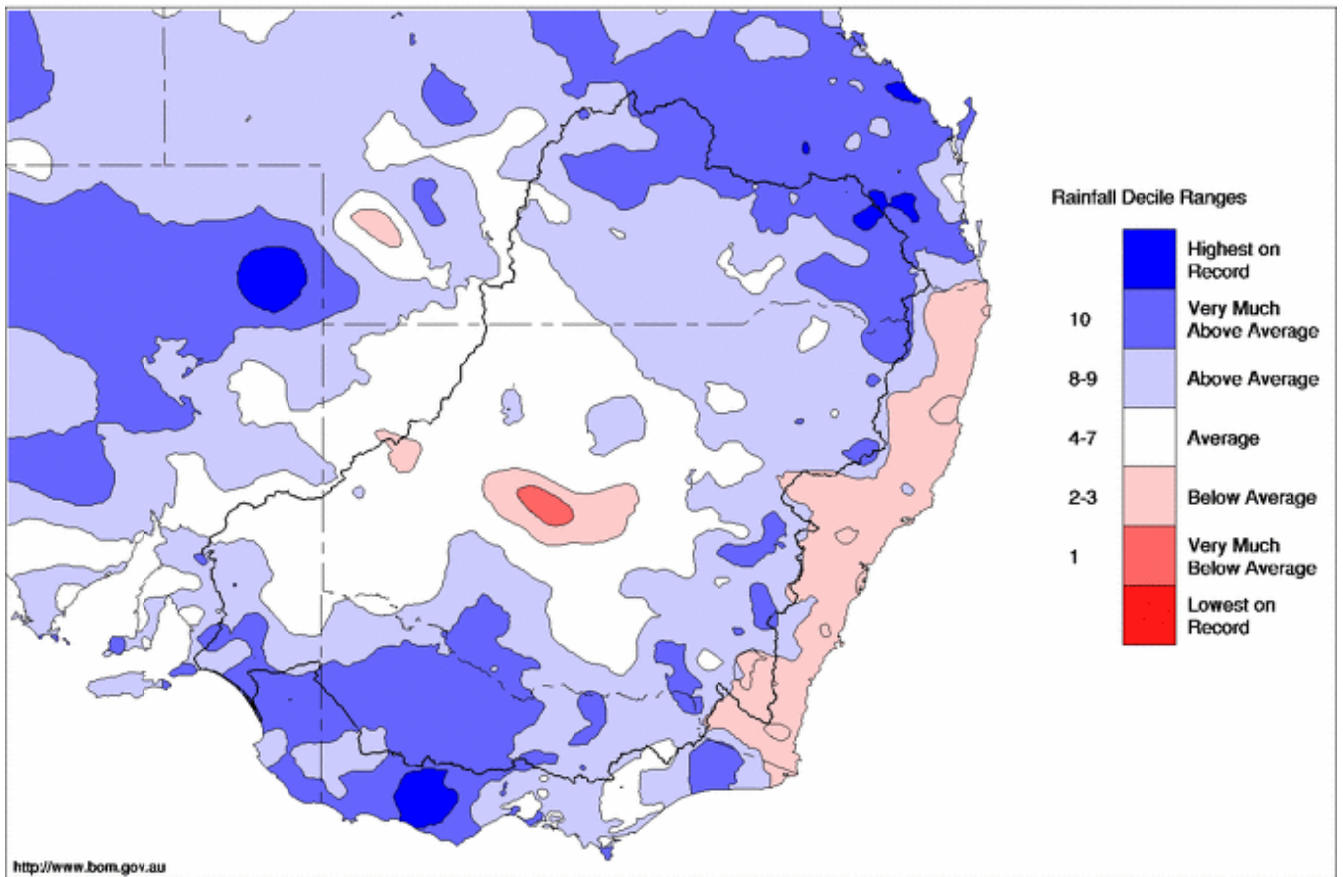
August 2010 Summary

Rainfall in August 2010 was average and above average for most of the Murray–Darling Basin (see Map 2). The Bureau of Meteorology has reported that overall the Basin recorded rainfall 36% above average for August. Victoria recorded 49% above average for August and had the wettest August since 1981. Queensland received 134% above August average rainfall this year.

As a result, August Murray System Inflows (excluding Menindee inflows and Snowy releases) were around 1,580 GL; this is the highest August inflow since 1996 and just above the long-term August average of 1,540 GL. In comparison, the inflow for the *whole* of the 2006-07 water year was less than 1,000 GL.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Deciles August 2010

Distribution Based on Gridded Data
Product of the National Climate Centre



<http://www.bom.gov.au>

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Issued: 31/08/2010

Map 2 Murray-Darling Basin rainfall deciles for August 2010 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology)



River Operations

MDBA active storage (including Menindee Lakes) increased by 263 GL to 4,468 GL (52% capacity). Dartmouth Reservoir is currently 1,505 GL (39% capacity), an increase of 40 GL since last week and total storage in Hume reservoir increased by 163 GL to 1,633 GL (54% capacity) Release from these two storages remain at normal minimums.

Releases from Yarrawonga Weir peaked at around 26,500 ML/day during the week and are now being reduced, as flows, particularly from the Ovens River recede. Due to the forecast rainfall for this weekend, releases are expected to be increased in the coming week. Flood Watch and Flood Warnings can be viewed at <http://www.bom.gov.au/hydro/flood/>. The pool level at Lake Mulwala is currently around 124.74 m AHD (0.16 m below FSL).

Regulators in the Barmah-Millewa Forest remain open. On the Edward River, the flow is about 4,150 ML/day at Toonalook due mainly to the returning flows from the Millewa forest. Downstream of Stevens Weir, the flow has been increased to around 3,300 ML/day and will continue to rise as increased flows from upstream arrive. Forest regulators downstream of Stevens Weir have also been opened to allow flow through the Werai Forest.

On the Murray, there have been continuing high inflows from the Goulburn River. During the week the flow at McCoy's Bridge reached around 20,500 ML/day. As a result, flow past Torrumbarry Weir is currently running above 25,000 ML/day.

At Balranald on the Murrumbidgee, the flow is around 1,850 ML/day after a peak of about 2,150 ML/day during the week. This water enters the Murray upstream of Euston Weir and flow is now at 20,850 ML/day downstream of Euston. The flow past Euston Weir is expected to rise to around 22,000 ML/day in the coming week.

Similarly the flows are expected to continue to rise this week at Mildura and Wentworth Weirs where flows are currently about 19,400 ML/day and 16,500 ML/day respectively.

Total storage at Menindee Lakes increased by 17 GL to 1,585 GL (92% capacity), due to increased inflows from upstream. Wilcannia, just upstream of the lakes, rose to 7,700 ML/day and is expected to continue slowly rising during the coming week. Release from Menindee remains at minimum.

Total Storage in Lake Victoria increased during the week by 43 GL to 435 GL (64% capacity). As the higher flows reach Lake Victoria, most will be diverted into the lake. However, some water cannot be regulated and, as such, an 'Unregulated Flow Event' has been declared for some reaches of the Murray. Flows to South Australia are expected to increase towards 15,000 ML/day by mid September.

The water level in Lake Alexandrina is currently +0.26 m AHD and the water level in Lake Albert and at Goolwa Channel are -0.29 and +0.7 m AHD respectively. Small releases are expected to commence through the Goolwa Barrage on 2 September 2010.

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Week ending Wednesday 01 Sep 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	438.99	1 505	39%	80	1 425	+40
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	183.71	1 633	54%	30	1 603	+163
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	24.84	435	64%	100	335	+43
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		1 585	92%	(480 #)	1 105	+17
Total		9 352		5 158	55%	--	4 468	+263

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **52%**

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	712	69%	3	709	+32
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 202	74%	24	1 178	+97
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	1 472	44%	100	1 372	+129

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 31-Aug-2010

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2010
Lake Eucumbene - Total	548	-7	Snowy-Murray	+15	325
Snowy-Murray Component	416	-4	Tooma-Tumut	+9	111
Target Storage	1 240		Net Diversion	5.9	214
			Murray 1 Release	+18	420

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)	3.4	22.0	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0.7	2.0
Wakool Sys Allowance	2.0	4.0	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.4	57.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	0.0	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.5	2.0
Licensed Pumps	0.2	3.0	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.2	1.0
Lower Darling	2.0	4.0	Licensed pumps - LMW	3.0	14.0
TOTAL	7.7	33.0	TOTAL	4.8	76.0

* 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	135.0 *	
Flow this week	54.0	(7 700 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	11.6	
Flow last month	218.7	

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

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2010
Swan Hill	140	130	90
Euston	110	100	90
Red Cliffs	90	80	100
Merbein	80	70	80
Burtundy (Darling)	280	270	260
Lock 9	100	120	130
Lake Victoria	140	180	170
Berri	210	190	200
Waikerie	-	-	290
Morgan	260	280	310
Mannum	360	360	350
Murray Bridge	360	360	330
Milang (Lake Alex)	3 450	3 110	3 640
Poltalloch (Lake Alex)	2 160	2 420	1 840
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	11 840	12 010	12 340
Goolwa Barrages	17 730	17 900	19 180

Week ending Wednesday 01 Sep 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	-	-	-	5 350	R	4 870	4 030
Jingellic	4.0	2.39	208.91	10 890	F	16 530	17 580
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.02	218.91	2 300	F	3 320	2 380
Heywoods	5.5	1.20	154.83	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.98	150.45	4 150	F	5 070	4 360
Albury	4.3	1.04	148.48	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.33	127.35	4 680	F	5 040	4 120
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	3.36	118.40	25 480	F	22 870	18 040
Tocumwal	6.4	3.81	107.65	23 820	R	21 160	16 860
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	6.12	84.67	25 630	F	24 930	21 270
Swan Hill	4.5	3.47	66.39	21 250	R	20 590	16 450
Wakool Junction	8.8	5.29	54.41	20 070	R	19 120	14 090
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	3.64	45.48	20 850	R	18 600	11 980
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	19 380	F	16 130	10 680
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.99	28.75	16 460	R	14 490	9 970
Rufus Junction	-	3.88	20.81	8 560	R	6 920	6 250
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.63	-	9 890	R	6 300	6 030
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.69	155.92	3 940	F	5 420	4 660
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	11.37	149.05	17 630	F	23 050	19 410
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	7.84	99.26	20 580	R	18 630	15 970
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	2.74	82.51	3 290	F	2 930	1 490
Edward at Liewah	-	2.28	57.66	1 650	R	1 530	1 350
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.40	54.89	340	R	190	100
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	2.29	58.25	1 870	F	1 700	430
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.75	-	1 780	R	1 770	1 600
Darling at Bourke	-	5.27	-	10 050	F	10 010	7 470
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.76	-	170	R	170	180

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	28 110	29 980
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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	-0.16	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.08	+1.56
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.01	+0.23
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.03	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.03	+0.35
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.01	+1.00	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.06	+1.20
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.05	+1.35	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.03	+0.51
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.26	+0.11	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.13	+0.45
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.00	+1.07	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	-0.05	-0.12

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	+0.09	1.94	71.29	2730
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.15	1.625	62.925	2076

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.26

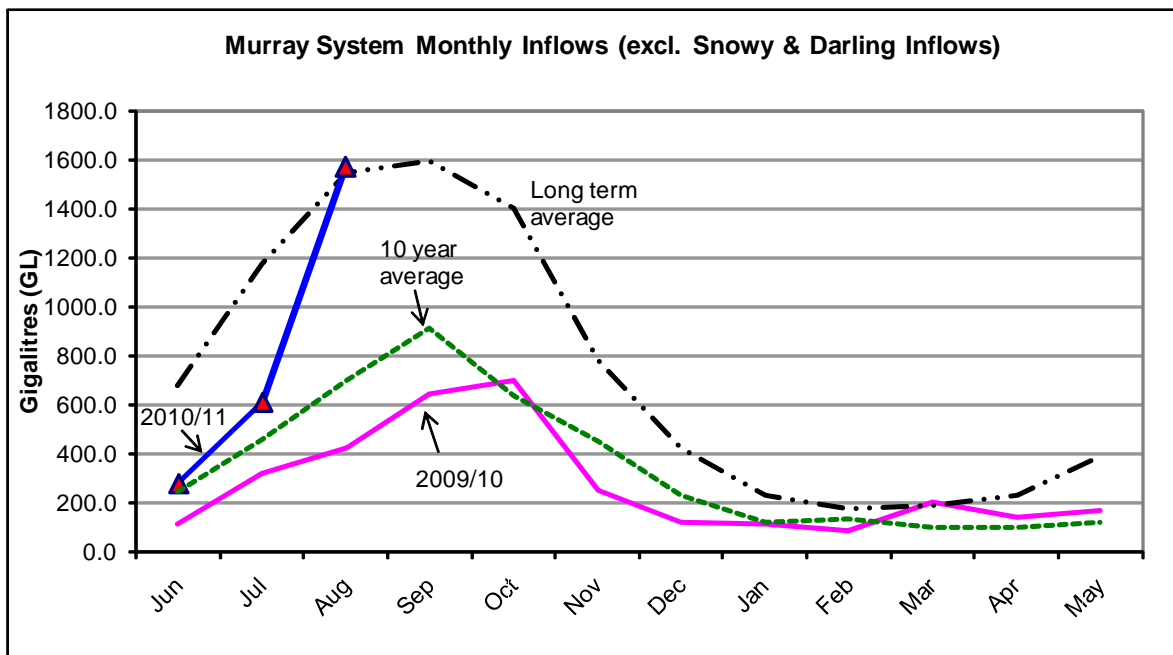
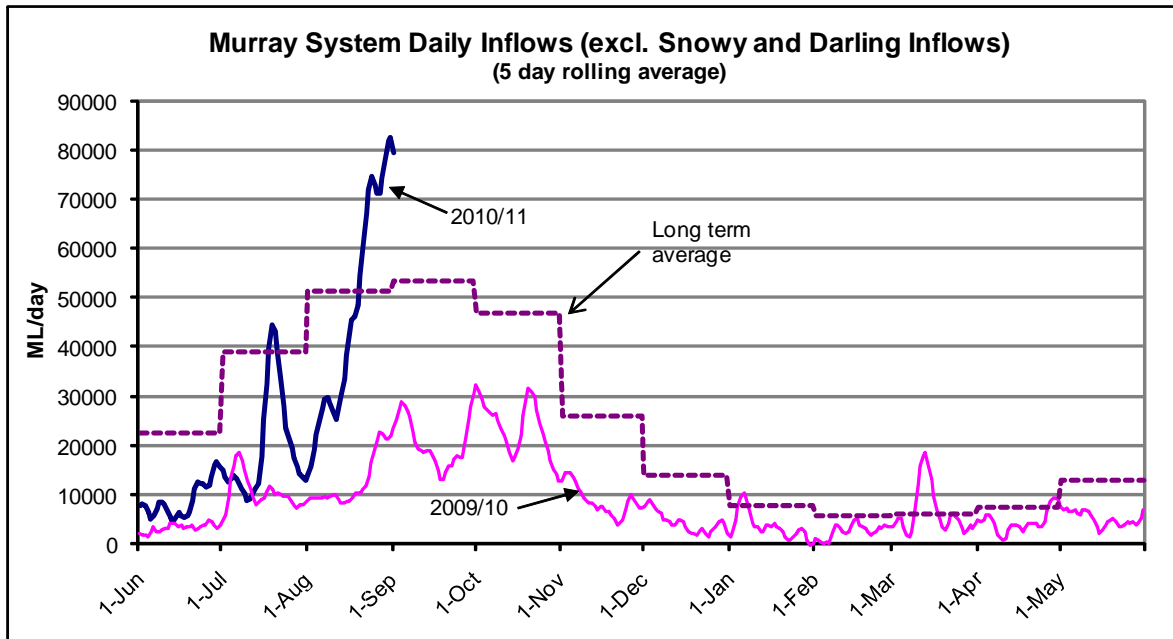
Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.70	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 1 September 2010



State Allocations (as at 1 September 2010)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	97%
General security	8%

Victoria - Murray Valley

High reliability	57%
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NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	9%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

High reliability	41%
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NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	100%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	41%
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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/>