



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 01 JUNE 2011

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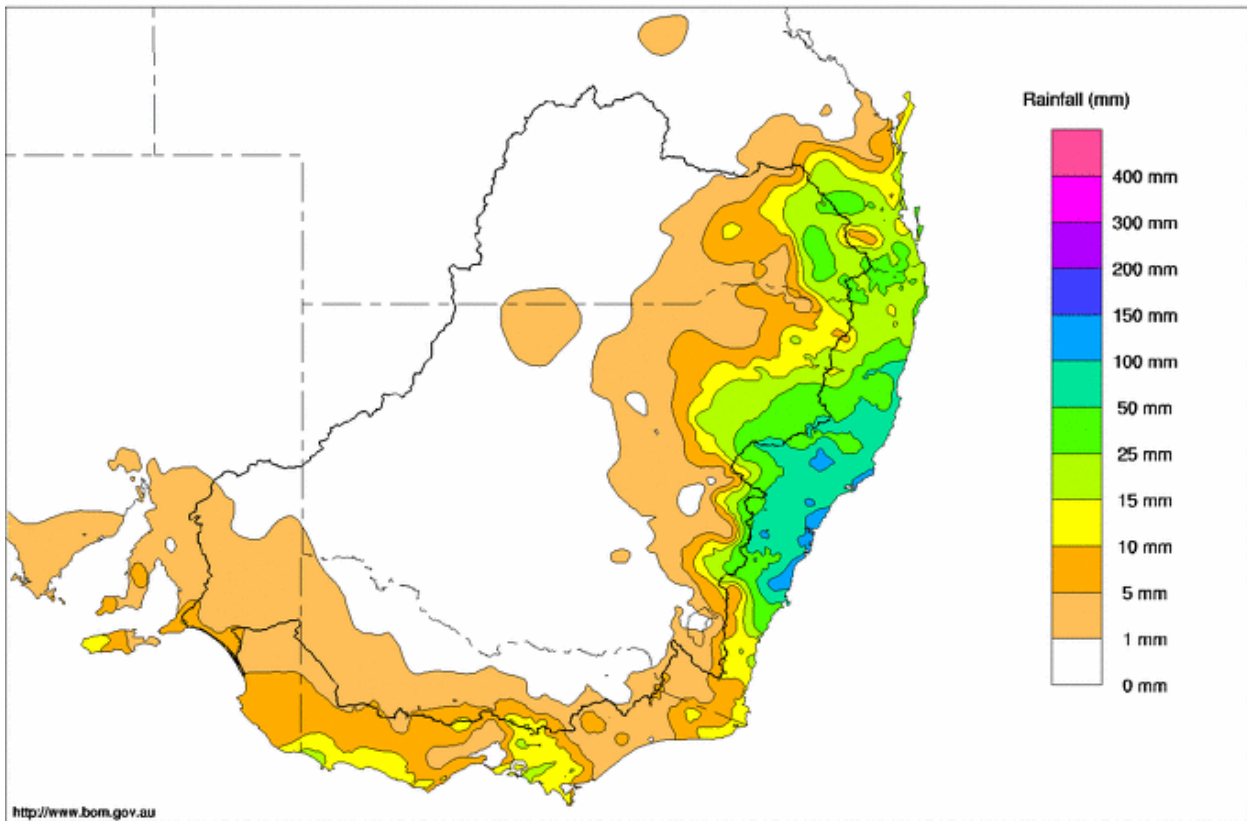
Rainfall and Inflows

Rainfall during the last week was confined to the eastern and southern parts of the Murray-Darling Basin (Map 1) with the highest falls recorded in southern Queensland and northern NSW. Notable falls included 33 mm at Jondaryan and 35 mm at Pittsworth, on the Darling Downs, while in NSW, 59 mm fell at Nundle and 38 mm at Quirindi.

Despite little rain in the upper Murray catchment, inflows have remained relatively high with a peak of 13,640 ML/day flowing past Jingellic on 26 May and 3,020 ML/day at Tallandoon on 31 May. These peak flows were in part due to upstream releases of water for electricity generation. Flow has receded in the Ovens River, falling from 4,040 to 2,830 ML/day at Wangaratta.

Inflow from the Goulburn River has increased during the week, with up to 8,720 ML/day flowing past McCoys Bridge. This flow includes water released for both electricity generation as well as for environmental purposes.

Murray Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 1st June 2011
Product of the National Climate Centre



Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 1 June 2011 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).

May 2011 Summary

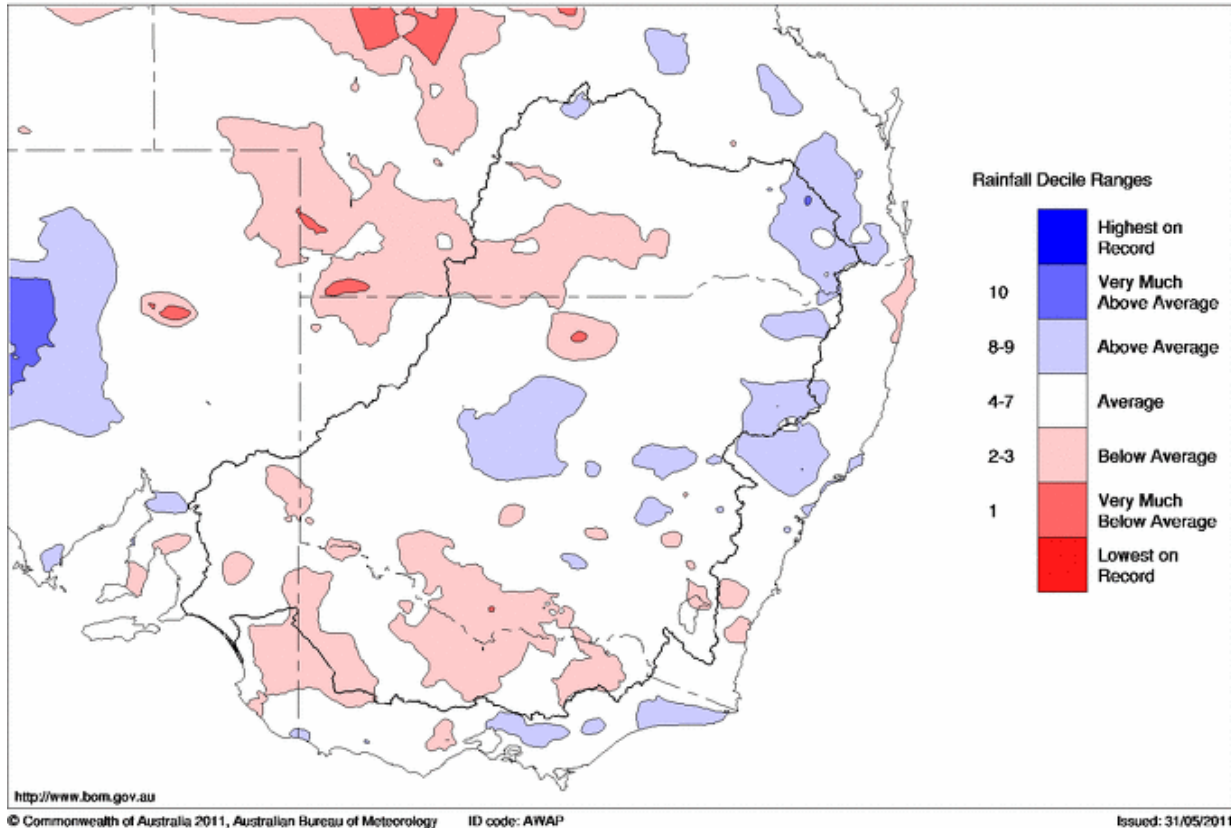
Rainfall during May across the Murray-Darling Basin was close to the median, but 34% below the long-term mean. Some parts of southern Queensland, northern NSW and central-western NSW had above average rainfall while parts of northern Victoria, southern NSW and south-western Queensland were below average (Map 2).



Murray system inflows (excluding Snowy releases and Menindee inflows) for May were about 470 GL, which is above the long-term average for May of 380 GL. However, due to the record summer rainfalls and recent falls late in May, the catchments remain quite wet and even moderate rainfall in winter should result in relatively high inflows.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Deciles May 2011

Distribution Based on Gridded Data
Product of the National Climate Centre



Map 2 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for May 2011 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).

River Operations

MDBA active storage (including Menindee Lakes) increased by 31 GL during the week to 6,890 GL (80% capacity).

During the weekend, there were releases from Dartmouth Reservoir for electricity generation, with a peak release of 2,500 ML/day. As a result there was a small decrease in storage of 3 GL and the current storage is 2,444 GL (63% capacity).

Releases from Hume Reservoir continue to match approximately the inflows to that storage, maintaining about 200 GL of airspace. Release reached 13,950 ML/day and the flow in the River Murray at Doctors Point, which includes Hume Reservoir releases and Kiewa inflows, is currently 11,790 ML/day – a little higher than a week ago.

At Yarrowonga Weir, release was maintained at about 18,000 ML/day for much of the week, due mainly to the higher inflows. Lake Mulwala was lowered to the target of 122.2 m AHD during the weekend and releases, currently about 17,000 ML/day, are now matching inflows. The lake drawdown is aimed at controlling the spread of the invasive aquatic weed, *Egeria densa*, and the lake level is expected to remain between 122.1–122.3 m AHD until mid-July.

On the Edward River system, the flow past Stevens Weir has increased during the week to 4,440 ML/day and this flow is expected to peak at about 4,900 ML/day in the next few days. Flows past Moulamein and Leiwah should start to increase during the next week.



The flow past Torrumbarry Weir is currently 17,820 ML/day and is expected to remain at about this rate for the next week. The pool level at Torrumbarry is currently 40 cm below full supply level, but will be slowly raised back to full supply level during the coming week.

At Euston Weir (Figure 1), construction work has continued on the upgrade to the navigable pass, as well as on the upstream extension of the existing “Denil” fishway and on a new fish-lock fishway. The flow through the weir is currently 16,450 ML/day and may rise slightly above this rate later next week.



Figure 1 – Construction works at Euston Weir are continuing.

The storage volume in Menindee Lakes rose by 31 GL during the week to 1,933 GL (112% capacity) as releases have been reduced back to 770 ML/day past Weir 32. Release can be expected to settle at about 500 ML/day from next week for the foreseeable future. With the catchments of the upper Murray relatively wet, releases from Menindee to meet Murray demands may not be required before the coming summer. However dry conditions downstream, or conversely wet conditions in the upper Darling, may result in rises in Menindee release in the coming months. Updates on expected releases from Menindee will be provided in future weekly reports. Downstream at Burtundy, the flow in the lower Darling River continues to recede and is currently 3,680 ML/day.

At Wentworth Weir, the flow is 24,480 ML/day and this flow is expected to continue receding as Darling River inflows decline and upstream River Murray flows remain fairly steady. The level in Lake Victoria has remained steady at 24.3 m AHD (375 GL, 55% capacity). Raising of the lake level is expected to commence in about 7–10 days. The flow into South Australia is currently 21,000 ML/day and unregulated flows are expected to persist at the South Australian border until at least late June.

The Lower Lakes have been drawn down to a level of 0.56 m AHD, to facilitate mixing between Lakes Alexandrina and Albert. The release through the barrages is being reduced over the next couple of weeks, to commence raising the lake level again.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Murray

Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 01 Jun 2011

MDBA Storages	Full Supply Level	Full Supply Volume	Current Storage Level	Current Storage		Dead Storage	Active Storage	Change in Total Storage for the Week
	(m AHD)	(GL)	(m AHD)	(GL)	%	(GL)	(GL)	(GL)
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 856	461.43	2 444	63%	71	2 373	-3
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	191.02	2 812	94%	23	2 789	+3
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	24.30	375	55%	100	275	-0
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 933	112%	(480 #)	1 453	+31
Total		9 269		7 564	82%	--	6 890	+31
Total Active MDBA Storage							80% ^	

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	1 003	98%	3	1 000	+3
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 589	97%	24	1 565	-0
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	2 798	84%	100	2 698	-9

* Menindee surcharge capacity – 2050 GL

** All Data is rounded to nearest GL **

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

^ % of total active MDBA storage

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 31 May 2011

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2011
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 212	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+32	117
Snowy-Murray Component	448	n/a	Tooma-Tumut	+5	16
Target Storage	1 240		Net Diversion	27	100
			Murray 1 Release	+40	136

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	477	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0	111
Wakool Sys Allowance	-1.5	-3	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0	177
Western Murray Irrigation	0.1	13	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1	51
Licensed Pumps	1.3	78	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.3	21
Lower Darling	0.0	304	Licensed pumps - LMW	N/A	255
TOTAL	-0.3	869	TOTAL	2.3	615

* 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 above is rounded to nearest 100 ML for weekly data and nearest GL for cumulative data**

Flow to South Australia (GL)

* Flow to SA will be greater than entitlement for June due to Additional Dilution Flow and Unregulated Flows.

Entitlement this month	90.0 *
Flow this week	153.3
Flow so far this month	21.9
Flow last month	946.1

(21 900 ML/day)

Salinity (EC) (microSiemens/cm at 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2010
Swan Hill	200	260	210
Euston	120	140	170
Red Cliffs	200	190	160
Merbein	190	150	170
Burtundy (Darling)	310	310	290
Lock 9	200	220	230
Lake Victoria	230	230	190
Berri	310	330	240
Waikerie	-	-	210
Morgan	n/a	370	330
Mannum	370	370	330
Murray Bridge	360	370	320
Milang (Lake Alex.)	510	440	2 070
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	400	400	970
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	6 140	6 510	8 120
Goolwa Barrages	1 720	4 100	4 770

River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 01 Jun 2011

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	-	-	-	7 870	F	7 550	5 130
Jingellic	4.0	2.24	208.76	9 270	S	10 510	7 800
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.96	218.85	2 100	F	1 660	1 120
Heywoods	5.5	2.52	156.15	10 000	F	11 630	8 480
Doctors Point	5.5	2.77	151.24	11 790	F	13 490	10 260
Albury	4.3	1.73	149.17	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.95	128.97	14 910	F	14 480	10 330
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.53	117.57	17 110	F	17 800	15 180
Tocumwal	6.4	3.28	107.12	18 880	R	18 700	14 880
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.79	83.34	17 820	R	15 600	13 910
Swan Hill	4.5	2.54	65.46	14 760	R	14 660	11 790
Wakool Junction	8.8	-	-	18 410	F	18 800	16 480
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	3.14	44.98	16 450	F	15 850	13 430
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	16 530	F	15 780	-
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.18	28.94	24 480	R	23 240	24 370
Rufus Junction	-	5.36	22.29	21 270	R	21 010	23 480
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	1.59	-	22 700	R	20 790	29 870
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.70	154.93	1 580	F	1 860	1 320
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.71	146.39	2 830	F	3 260	2 470
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	4.77	96.19	8 620	F	7 770	5 200
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	3.24	83.01	4 440	F	3 300	1 960
Edward at Liewah	-	2.69	58.07	2 150	F	2 330	2 630
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.73	55.22	1 120	F	1 230	1 650
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.88	57.84	1 410	R	1 240	1 360
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.30	-	260	F	250	140
Darling at Bourke	-	4.30	-	1 500	F	2 070	5 110
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	2.46	-	3 680	F	4 350	6 500

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	7 620	5 600
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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	-2.68	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.36	+3.10
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.39	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.16	+1.25
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.08	+1.17
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.05	+0.98	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.13	+2.08
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+1.54	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.15	+1.51
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.10	+0.88	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.14	+1.54
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.13	+1.38	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.84

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.56
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Barrages

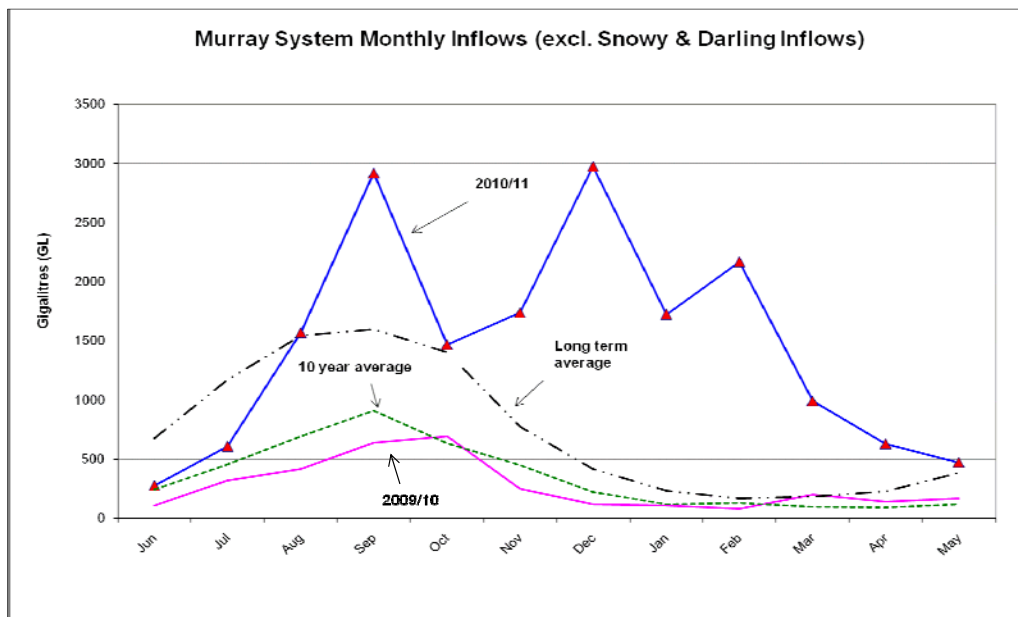
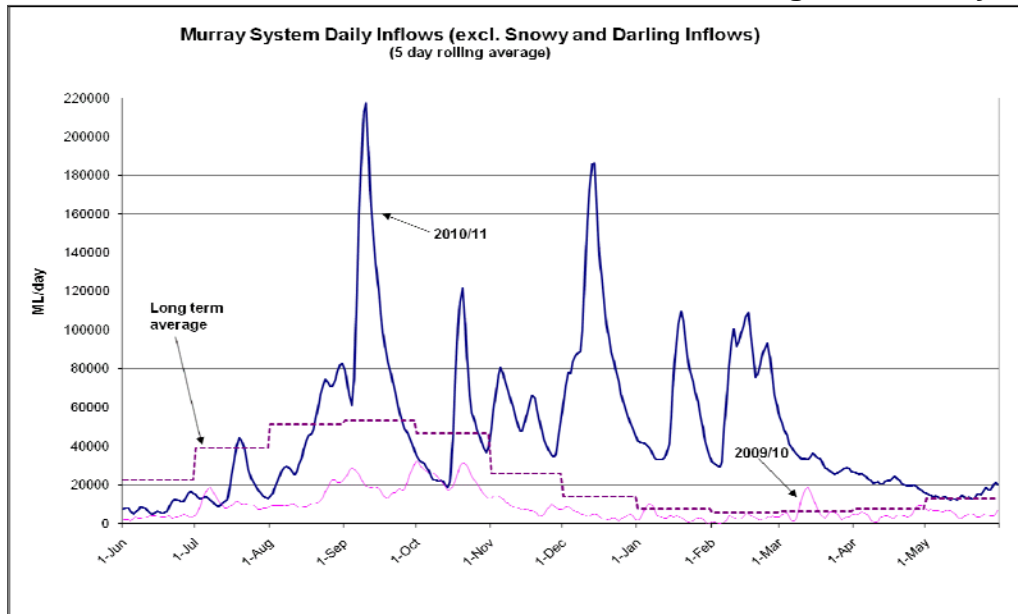
Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.35	67	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.28	23	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	13	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.55	20	Open	Open

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



Week ending Wednesday 01 Jun 2011



State Allocations (as at 01 June 2011)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

NSW - Murrumbidgee

High security	100%
General security	100%

NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victoria - Murray Valley

High reliability	100%
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VIC - Goulburn

High reliability	100%
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SA - Murray

High security	67%
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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/>