



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 09 NOVEMBER 2011

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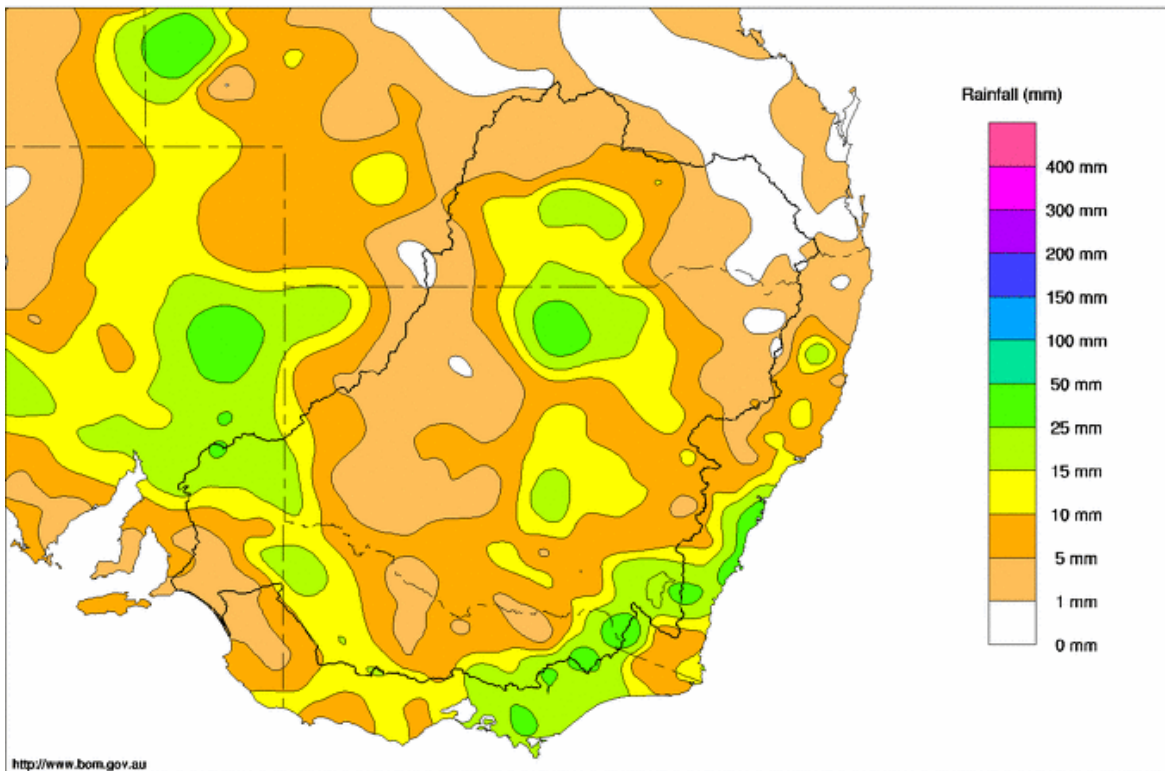
Rainfall and Inflows

It was a mostly fine and dry start to the week across the Murray-Darling Basin, but became progressively more unsettled during the last few days as a broad trough approached from the west bringing increased humidity and scattered thunderstorms to the region. This unstable weather is forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology to intensify further over the coming day or two. With the potential for heavy rainfall, the Bureau has issued flood watches for a number of southern Basin tributaries including several in the upper Murray catchments.

The highest rainfall totals over the last seven days were mainly recorded over the south-east ranges including the upper Murrumbidgee, upper Murray, Ovens and Kiewa catchments (Map 1). The Victorian High Country was once again an area of rainfall focus, with 60 mm recorded at Rocky Valley and 38 mm at Mt Buller. North of the Murray, reasonable totals were recorded over the NSW Snowy Mountains as well as around Canberra, with 37 mm at Captains Flat and 35 mm at both Mt Ginini and Gungahlin. There were also isolated higher totals through central northern NSW and southern Queensland including 58 mm at Mulga Downs and 38 mm at Brewarrina; and 21 mm in the far west at Lake Victoria.

Stream flows in the upper Murray System tributaries receded during the first half of the week before renewed rises were observed after the weekend. For example, at Jingellic the upper Murray had receded to 3,700 ML/day by Sunday morning before increasing to its current flow of 8,100 ML/day. On the Ovens River, the flow at Rocky Point had eased to 1,250 ML/day over the weekend but is now flowing at 3,400 ML/day, due mostly to increased releases from Lake Buffalo ahead of the forecast rain.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 9th November 2011
Product of the National Climate Centre



Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 9 November 2011 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).



River Operations

MDBA active storage decreased by 24 GL during the week to 7,489 GL (87% capacity). At Dartmouth Reservoir, the total storage increased by 5 GL to 2,859 GL, which is 74% capacity. The release remained steady at the normal minimum of 200 ML/day.

At Hume Reservoir, the release peaked at 16,300 ML/day earlier in the week but has since been reduced to 7,500 ML/day as both downstream demands and transmission losses dropped back. The storage is currently holding 2,784 GL (or 93% capacity), which is a decrease of 45 GL since last week.

At Lake Mulwala, the pool level is currently 124.78 m AHD. Diversions at both Mulwala Canal and the Yarrowonga Main Channel increased slightly early in the week but have both since dropped back. Release from Yarrowonga Weir is currently 12,100 ML/day after being at 11,000 ML/day for the majority of the past week. This release is being targeted to supply environmental entitlements that are maintaining over-bank flows to the Barmah-Millewa forest. With heavy rain forecast in the coming days, higher releases at Yarrowonga Weir may be required later in the week.

On the Edward River, inflows through the Edward and Gulpa offtakes have remained relatively steady over the past week and are currently at 1,660 and 755 ML/day respectively. At Stevens Weir, the flow has eased from 2,200 to 1,900 ML/day during the week and is expected to remain around this level over the coming days. Further downstream, the flows at most locations on the Edward-Wakool system are expected to continue receding slowly over the coming days.

On the Goulburn River, the flow at McCoys Bridge has averaged just under 1,200 ML/day over the past week with the flow elevated as a result of environmental releases. Higher flows are expected resulting from rainfall forecast over the coming days.

At Torrumbarry Weir, diversions to the National Channel have been averaging around 2,000 ML/day during the past week but are expected to decrease over the coming days. Flow downstream of the Weir has decreased from 9,200 to 7,200 ML/day during the week and is expected to remain around 8,000 ML/day over the coming days. Downstream at Euston, the flow has decreased from 16,000 to 10,000 ML/day and is expected to recede only slightly in the coming week.

The release from Menindee Lakes—currently surcharged at 107% capacity—continues to vary between 300 and 700 ML/day at Weir 32. Higher releases are expected to commence in late November. These higher releases will be required to transfer water from the Menindee Lakes to reduce the rate of fall at Lake Victoria and to contribute to the delivery of entitlement flows and trade to South Australia. Further information will be provided in a flow advice in the near future.

Lake Victoria is now effectively full with a water level of 26.95 m AHD (99% capacity). The lake is expected to remain close to full supply level for the next week before higher releases are required which will draw the lake level down. The flow into South Australia has averaged 11,200 ML/day during the week and is expected to be fully regulated by early next week.

The water level in the Lower Lakes has varied between 0.75 and 0.8 m AHD during the last couple of weeks. Flow from the River Murray into the sea continues through the barrages at Goolwa, Boundary Creek, Ewe Island and Tauwitchere and the fishways remain open.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Murray

Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 09 Nov 2011

MDBA Storages	Full Supply Level	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	Active Storage (GL)	Change in Total Storage for the Week (GL)
	(m AHD)		(m AHD)	(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 856	469.38	2 859	74%	71	2 788	+5
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	190.88	2 784	93%	23	2 761	-45
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.95	672	99%	100	572	+21
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 848	107%	(480 #)	1 368	-5
Total		9 269		8 163	88%	--	7 489	-24
Total Active MDBA Storage							87% ^	

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	920	90%	3	917	-7
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 499	92%	24	1 475	-15
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	3 314	99%	100	3 214	-14

* 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 08 Nov 2011

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2011
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 863	+19	Snowy-Murray	+0	274
Snowy-Murray Component	595	+17	Tooma-Tumut	+3	188
Target Storage	1 450		Net Diversion	-3	86
			Murray 1 Release	+14	519

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This Week	From 1 July 2011	Victoria	This Week	From 1 July 2011
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	33.1	373	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	10.7	84
Wakool Sys Allowance	-0.2	-2	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	17.5	163
Western Murray Irrigation	0.8	5	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	3.7	22
Licensed Pumps	4.7	59	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.5	9
Lower Darling	1.7	18	Licensed pumps - LMW	6	63
TOTAL	40.1	453	TOTAL	38.4	341

* 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 November due to Additional Dilution Flow and Unregulated Flows.

Entitlement this month	180.0 *
Flow this week	78.6
Flow so far this month	105.3
Flow last month	502.6

(11 200 ML/day)

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

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2011
Swan Hill	160	150	140
Euston	130	130	130
Red Cliffs	-	-	110
Merbein	140	130	110
Burtundy (Darling)	410	410	360
Lock 9	150	150	130
Lake Victoria	200	200	200
Berri	270	250	210
Waikerie	-	-	-
Morgan	290	310	240
Mannum	290	290	230
Murray Bridge	300	290	220
Milang (Lake Alex.)	510	490	530
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	300	290	260
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	5 380	5 320	5 540
Goolwa Barrages	540	560	1 410

River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 09 Nov 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	-	-	-	3 650	F	3 210	2 300
Jingellic	4.0	2.13	208.65	8 140	R	5 390	6 090
Tallandoo (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.53	218.42	780	S	780	890
Heywoods	5.5	2.24	155.87	7 500	F	12 700	11 390
Doctors Point	5.5	2.46	150.93	8 480	F	13 980	12 740
Albury	4.3	1.43	148.87	-	-	-	-
Corowa	3.8	2.93	128.95	12 900	F	14 210	13 410
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.93	116.97	12 110	R	11 200	12 290
Tocumwal	6.4	2.49	106.33	10 930	R	10 880	12 200
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.32	80.87	7 240	F	7 950	9 280
Swan Hill	4.5	1.51	64.43	6 850	F	7 150	8 650
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.68	52.80	11 450	F	12 410	17 510
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.01	43.85	9 970	R	11 870	18 360
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	12 700	F	14 390	20 320
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.32	28.08	10 950	F	12 810	17 860
Rufus Junction	-	4.15	21.08	10 520	R	10 450	12 960
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	1.00	-	10 900	F	12 110	12 400
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.60	154.83	1 430	F	1 490	1 440
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.49	146.17	1 880	R	1 800	2 160
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.60	93.02	1 120	F	1 170	810
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.91	81.68	1 870	F	2 050	2 330
Edward at Liewah	-	2.85	58.23	2 370	S	2 410	3 260
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.64	55.13	880	S	970	2 250
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.95	56.91	590	R	630	920
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.63	-	1 320	R	1 100	1 360
Darling at Bourke	-	4.35	-	1 800	F	2 250	2 480
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.91	-	610	F	520	370

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	10 010	11 400
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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
Yarrawonga	124.90	-0.12	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.12	+1.85
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.04	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.09	+0.43
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.03	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.05	+0.38
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.03	+0.46	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.05	+1.09
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.05	+0.68	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.49
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	+0.21	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.54
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.04	+0.49	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	-0.01	+0.25

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

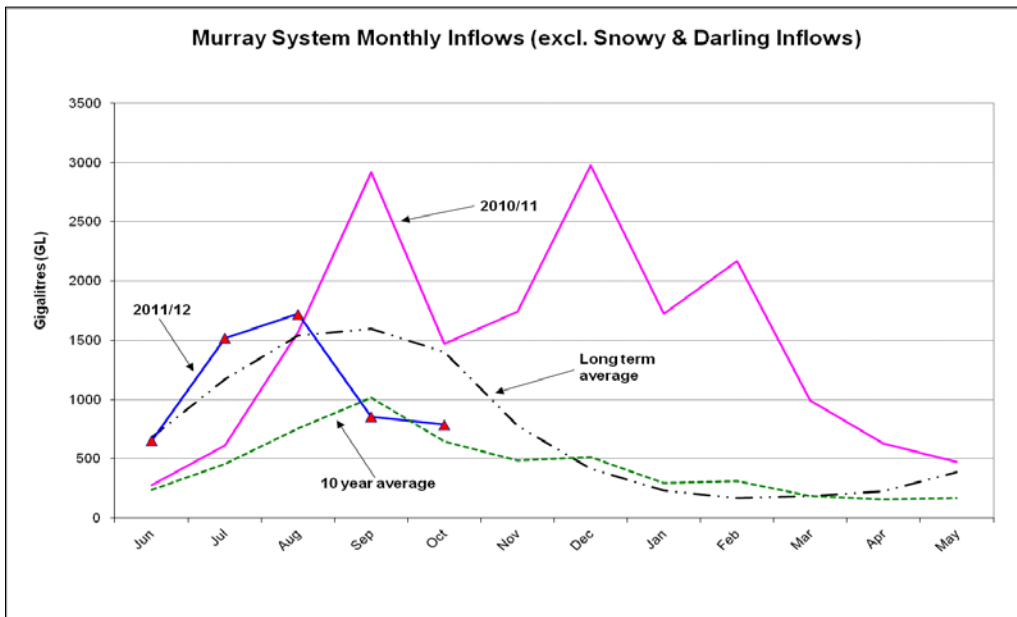
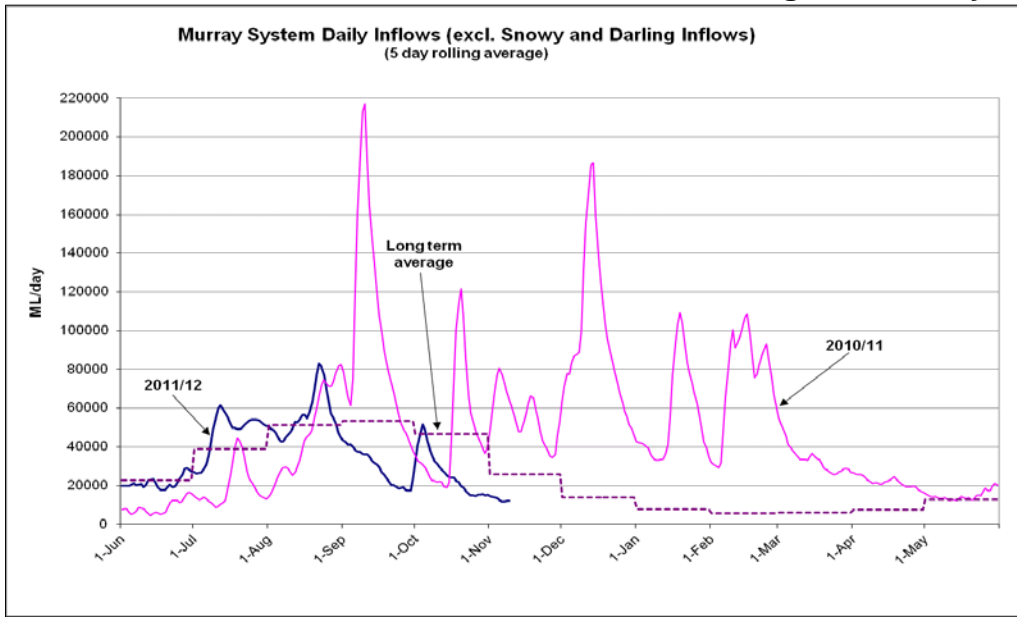
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.78
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Barrages

Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.84	3	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.83	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	3	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.87	7	Open	Open

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



State Allocations (as at 09 Nov 2011)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victorian - Murray Valley

High reliability	95%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	69%

Victorian - Goulburn Valley

High reliability	100%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	100%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	100%
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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/>