



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 29 AUGUST 2012

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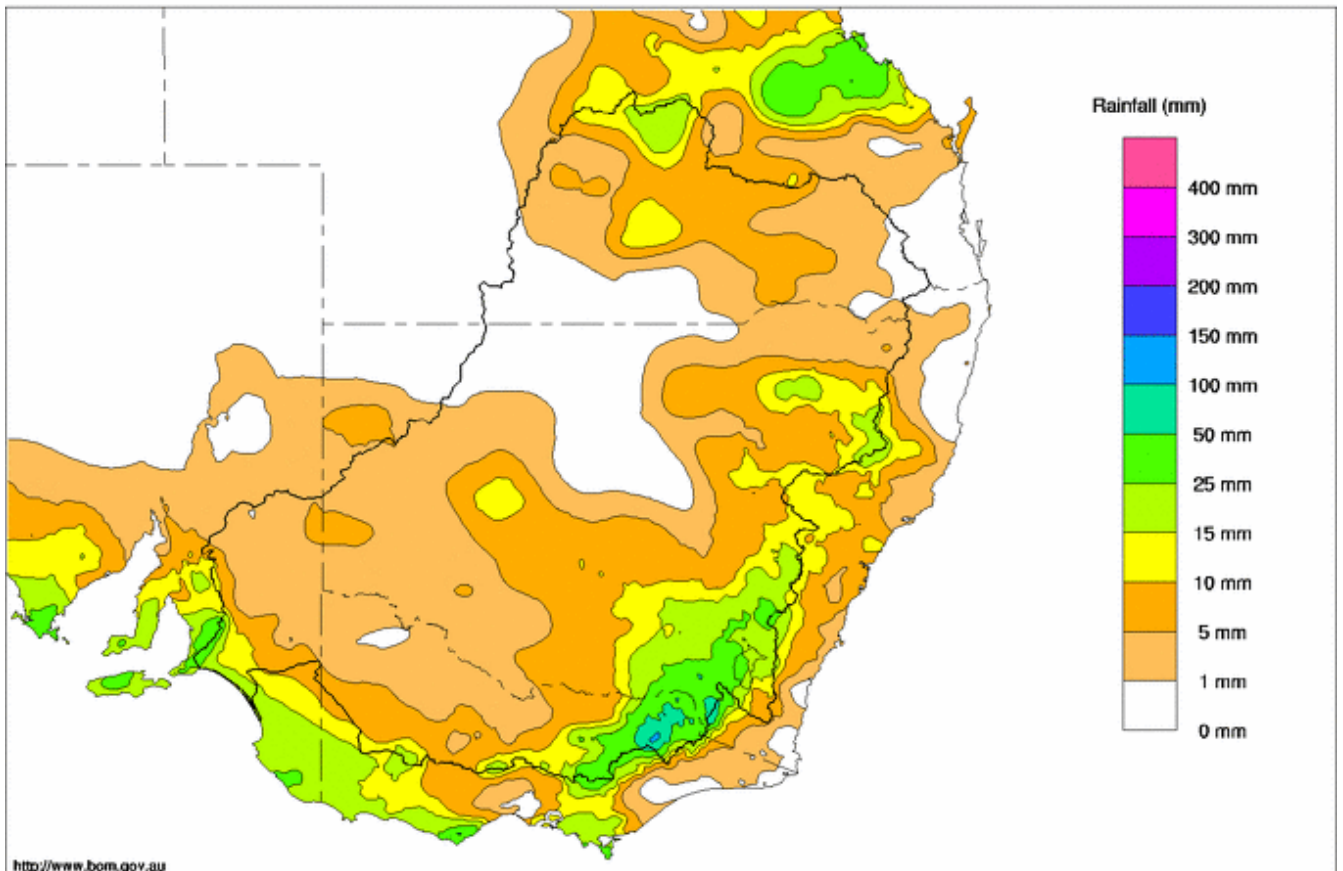
Rainfall and Inflows

Further significant rain has been recorded in the upper catchments of the Murrumbidgee, Murray, Kiewa and Ovens Rivers this week. Highest weekly totals include 70 mm at Falls Creek, 53 mm at Tumbarumba and 47 mm at Dartmouth Reservoir. There was lighter rain over most parts of the remainder of the basin, with 24 mm recorded at Narrabri in north-western NSW, 24 mm at Chesterton in south-western Queensland and 43 mm at Mount Compass in south-eastern South Australia.

The rain has boosted flows upstream of Dartmouth Reservoir with a peak at Hinnomunjie on the Mitta Mitta River of 2,560 ML/day. Flow in the Gibbo River at Gibbo Park reached 2,120 ML/day, with 69 mm of rain recorded at that station. On the River Murray upstream of Hume Reservoir, the flow at Jingellic reached 24,140 ML/day while, downstream of Hume, a peak flow of 4,310 ML/day was recorded at Bandiana on the Kiewa River.

Flows have also increased along the Ovens River, with Rocky Point recording 9,700 ML/day while, further downstream, the flow at Wangaratta reached 13,130 ML/day during the week. The Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting light rain in the south-eastern catchments prior to the weekend, which will slow the recession of flows in these areas.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 29th August 2012
Product of the National Climate Centre



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

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Map 1 – Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 29 August 2012 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).



River Operations

MDBA active storage increased by 113 GL during the week and is currently 8,383 GL, which is 98% capacity. Information on upper State shares within each storage can be found on the MDBA water accounting page at <http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/water-accounting>.

At Dartmouth Reservoir, the storage increased by 49 GL to 3,602 GL (93% capacity). The storage level is now less than 4 m below the spillway crest. The release from Dartmouth, measured at Colemans, has varied between 200–820 ML/day, as AGL Hydro has used its entitlement water for electricity generation.

The release from Hume Reservoir increased to 28,700 ML/day during the week, but has since reduced to 24,000 ML/day. The higher releases preceded higher inflows, with the storage decreasing by 2 GL during the week. The current storage volume is 2,913 GL (97% capacity) and, with more showers forecast for the next week, this storage volume is likely to remain relatively stable over the coming week.

Yarrowonga Weir is currently releasing 41,260 ML/day, and the weir pool level is 124.73 m AHD. The release from the weir will be reduced over the coming week, but the flow is likely to remain higher than 25,000 ML/day during the first week of September.

On the Edward River system, the flow through the Edward and Gulpa offtakes has increased to a combined total of 3,060 ML/day as the higher flows arrive from upstream. At Toonalook, the flow continues to rise and is currently 8,620 ML/day. At Stevens Weir, the flow is 8,320 ML/day with further rises expected during the coming week. Further downstream, the flow is just starting to rise at Moulamein, while the flow in the Wakool River at Stoney Crossing is still receding from a previous peak.

Inflow from the Goulburn River is receding, with the flow at McCoys Bridge currently 16,220 ML/day. At Torrumbarry Weir, on the Murray, the flow is 33,590 ML/day after a peak yesterday of 33,750 ML/day. At Swan Hill, the flow is expected to continue at about 22,000 ML/day for the next week or two. The flow in the Murrumbidgee River at Balranald has slowly risen to 12,260 ML/day. This gradual increase in flow is expected to continue for the next couple of weeks.

At Euston, downstream of junctions of the Murray with the Wakool and Murrumbidgee Rivers, the flow is currently at a peak of 48,020 ML/day. This flow is expected to recede to about 43,000 ML/day during early September before rising again in mid-September. Downstream of Euston, the Mildura Weir was removed last week due to the high flows.

During the week, the storage at Menindee Lakes increased by 19 GL to 2,033 GL, which is very close to the maximum surcharge capacity of 2,050 GL. The release from the lakes, measured at Weir 32, is currently about 7,000 ML/day and is expected to be reduced in the next week or so as inflow to the lakes recedes. In the lower Darling River, the flow at Burtundy is continuing to rise and is currently 6,100 ML/day.

Lake Victoria gained 46 GL of water storage during the week to a volume of 509 GL (75% capacity). The lake is capturing up to 9 GL water per day, to maintain the flow to South Australia at less than 45,000 ML/day while environmental construction works continue downstream at Chowilla.

At the Lower Lakes, the 5-day average level at Lake Alexandrina is 0.78 m AHD. This lake level is planned to be lowered in the coming week as conditions are expected to be favourable for higher releases through the barrages.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Management



Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 29 Aug 2012

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	482.04	3 602	93%	71	3 531	+49	
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	191.54	2 913	97%	23	2 890	-2	
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.56	509	75%	100	409	+46	
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		2 033	117%	(480 #)	1 553	+19	
Total		9 269		9 057	98%	- -	8 383	+113	
Total Active MDBA Storage							98% ^		

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	1 021	100%	3	1 018	+7
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 599	98%	24	1 575	+1
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	3 190	96%	100	3 090	+32

* 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 28 Aug 2012

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2012
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 179	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+7	436
Snowy-Murray Component	749	n/a	Tooma-Tumut	+10	100
Target Storage	1 190		Net Diversions	-3	336
			Murray 1 Release	+18	524

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This Week	From 1 July 2012	Victoria	This Week	From 1 July 2012
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	15.4	85	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0.9	6
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	0	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	8.1	43
Western Murray Irrigation	0.1	1	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.8	3
Licensed Pumps	2.0	8	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0	1
Lower Darling	13.4	55	Licensed pumps - LMW	1	9
TOTAL	30.9	149	TOTAL	10.1	55

* 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 this month due to Unregulated Flows and Additional Dilution Flow.

Entitlement this month	124.0 *	
Flow this week	297.3	(42 500 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	1,161.6	
Flow last month	911.4	

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

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2012
Swan Hill	170	130	100
Euston	100	100	100
Red Cliffs	100	100	110
Merbein	140	130	110
Burtundy (Darling)	510	490	440
Lock 9	130	120	110
Lake Victoria	240	260	260
Berri	190	190	190
Waikerie	200	210	210
Morgan	200	200	210
Mannum	190	180	210
Murray Bridge	230	230	250
Milang (Lake Alex.)	430	400	430
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	210	220	340
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	3 310	3 390	3 560
Goolwa Barrages	2 840	3 580	1 690



River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 29 Aug 2012

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	-	-	-	5 750	F	5 100	6 610
Jingellic	4.0	3.09	209.61	18 170	F	19 050	13 990
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.30	219.19	3 470	R	3 090	2 610
Heywoods	5.5	3.71	157.34	24 000	F	26 910	22 070
Doctors Point	5.5	4.04	152.51	27 510	F	30 070	25 640
Albury	4.3	3.22	150.66	-	-	-	-
Corowa	3.8	5.00	131.02	31 120	S	30 000	23 270
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	4.63	119.67	41 260	S	40 580	30 610
Tocumwal	6.4	5.24	109.08	41 320	S	39 510	28 220
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	6.99	85.53	33 590	S	31 790	26 450
Swan Hill	4.5	3.62	66.54	21 740	S	21 860	22 170
Wakool Junction	8.8	8.02	57.14	38 610	F	39 830	39 530
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	5.83	47.67	48 020	S	47 400	44 660
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	47 550	F	47 550	-
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	5.96	30.72	55 400	R	53 360	48 190
Rufus Junction	-	6.67	23.60	43 020	R	42 470	39 930
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	2.66	-	38 500	S	38 190	37 510
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.69	155.92	3 610	F	3 730	3 380
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	10.79	148.47	11 330	F	11 990	12 570
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	7.49	98.91	16 220	F	17 840	11 960
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	4.55	84.32	8 320	S	6 860	5 850
Edward at Liewah	-	4.16	59.54	4 760	F	5 260	6 430
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	4.89	58.38	12 200	F	13 540	14 240
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	5.92	61.88	12 260	S	12 070	11 270
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.16	-	20	S	30	270
Darling at Bourke	-	4.82	-	6 280	F	6 750	8 270
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	-	-	6 100	R	5 620	4 370

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	33 290	19 640
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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	-0.17	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+1.50	+4.39
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.49	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.06	+2.45
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.68	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.27	+2.14
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.89	+2.71	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.12	+2.34
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.09	+3.32	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+2.67
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.05	+2.38	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.16	+2.85
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.65	+3.10	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.08	+1.91

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

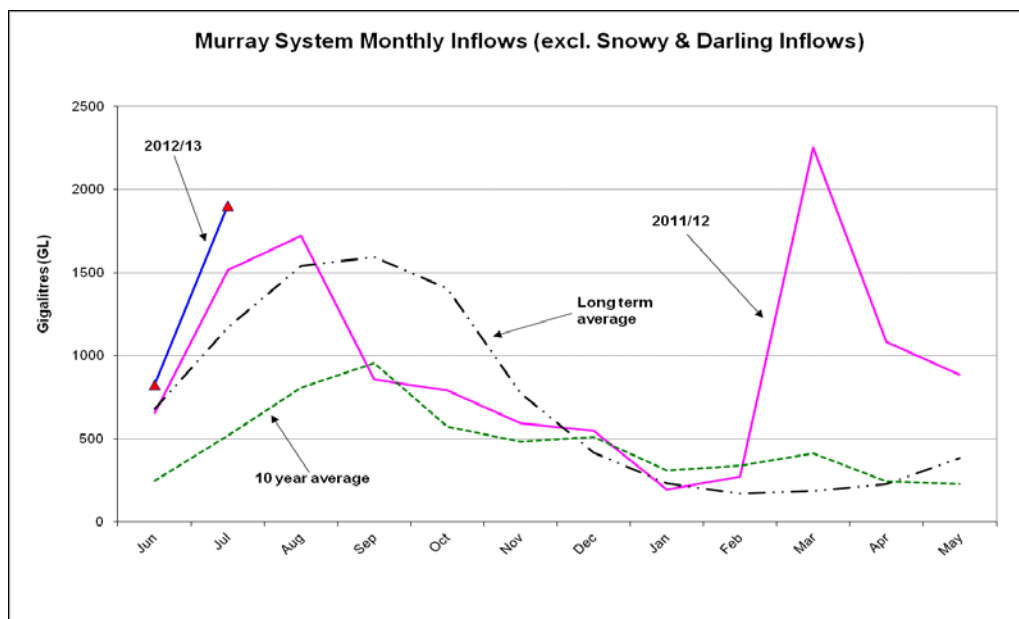
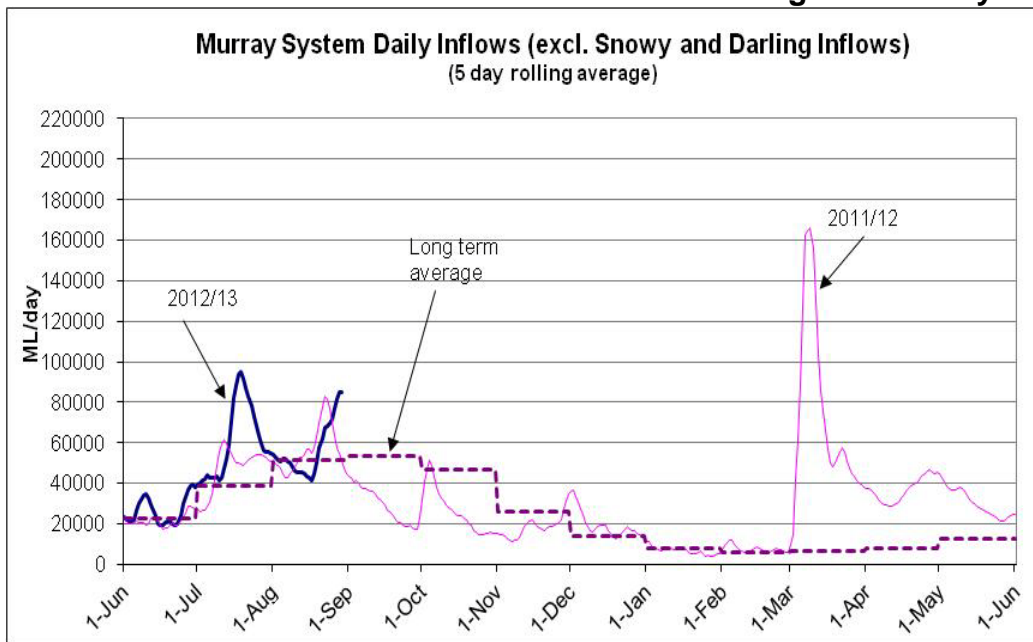
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.78
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Barrages

Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.65	75	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.70	6	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	50	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.76	163	Open	Open

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



State Allocations (as at 29 Aug 2012)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victorian - Murray Valley

High reliability	52%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	64%

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/>