



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 31ST OCTOBER 2012

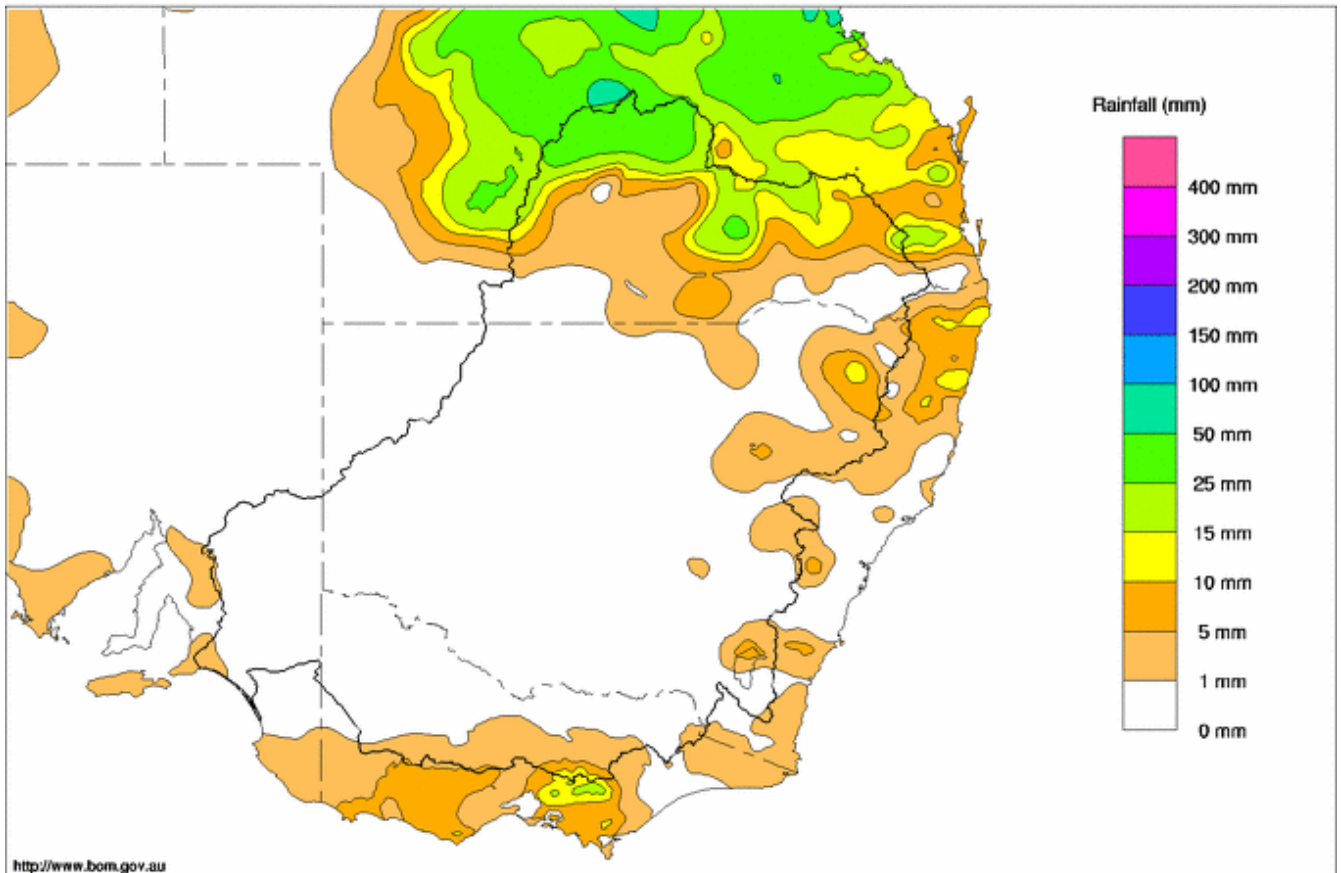
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Rainfall and Inflows

For the second week in succession, the weather has been dry across most of the Murray-Darling Basin, with only the far north of the Basin receiving rainfall of any significance. This activity affected the upper Paroo, Warrego, Maranoa and Balonne catchments, while isolated showers and thunderstorms brought patchy lighter rain to eastern and southern districts (Map 1). Heaviest totals included 44 mm at Derbyshire Downs, 37 mm at Karoola Park, 30 mm at Balmacarra and 26 mm at Surat. In NSW, there was 15 mm at Inverell, and in the far southern Basin, there was 6 mm at Mt Buller, 5 mm at Daylesford and 5 mm at Woods Point.

The on-going dry weather across the upper Murray system catchments has resulted in continuing recessions along all the main tributaries. On the Mitta Mitta River, the flow at Hinnomunjie Bridge decreased from 1,400 to 1,000 ML/day. On the upper River Murray, the flow at Biggara receded from 1,800 to 1,400 ML/day; and on the Ovens River, the flow at Rocky Point dropped below 1,000 ML/day after starting the week at 1,200 ML/day.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 31st October 2012
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 31st October 2012 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology)



River Operations

MDBA active storage decreased by 117 GL this week and is currently 8,603 GL, or 100% 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 volume increased by just 6 GL to 3,817 GL (99% capacity) as operations to pass inflows and maintain the storage level below the top of the spillway commenced. The release, measured at Colemans, has been increased to 3,000 M/day and will be decreased slowly over the coming week in order to produce a flow pulse along the lower Mitta Mitta River. The flow downstream at Tallandoon has increased to 3,500 ML/day.

At Hume Reservoir, the storage volume decreased by 78 GL to 2,878 GL (96% capacity). The release peaked at around 19,000 ML/day mid-week and has now been decreased to 16,000 ML/day and may be decreased further in the coming days to match irrigation demands.

At Yarrawonga Weir, the current release is just over 10,000 ML/day. Total diversions through Mulwala Canal and Yarrawonga Main Channel have eased during the last few days and are currently at around 9,600 ML/day. Lower than expected demands in the last few days have resulted in extra water being stored in Lake Mulwala to prevent the downstream flow from exceeding channel capacity. The current level in Lake Mulwala is 124.88 m AHD (2 cm below FSL) and the level could rise very slightly above FSL in the next day or two.

On the Edward River system, combined inflow through the Edward and Gulpa offtakes has receded very slowly and is currently just below 2,000 ML/day. At Stevens Weir, the flow eased to a low of 1,200 ML/day mid week, but has since increased to 1,900 ML/day. The current pool level is 5.07 m on the local gauge, which is 13 cm below FSL.

On the Goulburn River, flows have receded this week, with the current flow at McCoys now just under 1,000 ML/day. At Torrumbarry Weir, the flow on the River Murray has receded from 11,800 to 6,200 ML/day, with about 2,200 ML/day being diverted through National Channel. Flows between 5,000 and 6,000 ML/day are expected downstream of Torrumbarry Weir during the coming week.

On the lower Murrumbidgee River, the flow at Balranald has receded slightly and is currently 5,100 ML/day. At Euston Weir the flow along the Murray remains above 20,000 ML/day, however a more rapid recession is expected for the coming week. The flow will likely drop below 15,000 ML/day in around seven day's time, with a similar pattern of recession expected downstream at Mildura.

Total storage at Menindee Lakes decreased by 48 GL this week to 1,914 GL (111% capacity). The release to the lower Darling River (measured at Weir 32) has averaged 4,600 ML/day this week, but will be decreased over the coming days and is expected to be close to 2,500 ML/day by week's end. Downstream on the lower Darling River, the flow at Burtundy has increased from 800 to 3,000 ML/day as higher releases arrive from Menindee Lakes and will continue increasing in the days ahead.

At Wentworth Weir, the flow has started increasing again due to higher inflows from the Darling River. The current flow is 20,300 ML/day and may increase above 22,000 ML/day during the coming week. At Lake Victoria the volume increased this week from 666 to 668 GL (99% capacity). The flow to South Australia is currently 19,300 ML/day and may rise above 21,000 ML/day later this week.

The flow over Lock 1 has decreased to 20,800 ML/day and at the Lower Lakes, the 5 day average level for Lake Alexandrina is 0.75 m AHD.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Management



Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 31 Oct 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	485.41	3 817	99%	71	3 746	+6
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	191.36	2 878	96%	23	2 855	-78
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.93	668	99%	100	568	+2
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 914	111%	(480 #)	1 434	-48
Total		9 269		9 277	100%	--	8 603	-117
Total Active MDBA Storage							100% ^	

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	923	90%	3	920	-46
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 489	91%	24	1 465	+4
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	3 312	99%	100	3 212	-6

* 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 30 Oct 2012

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2012
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 427	+12	Snowy-Murray	+3	474
Snowy-Murray Component	924	+19	Tooma-Tumut	+3	169
Target Storage	1 400		Net Diversion	0	305
			Murray 1 Release	+13	698

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)	55.7	409	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	12.2	81
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	0	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	14.6	163
Western Murray Irrigation	0.8	5	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	3.3	23
Licensed Pumps	6.5	65	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.5	6
Lower Darling	2.8	98	Licensed pumps - LMW	5	54
TOTAL	65.8	577	TOTAL	35.6	327

* 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	170.0 *	
Flow this week	138.6	(19 800 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	1,071.9	
Flow last month	1,383.7	

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

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2012
Swan Hill	120	110	120
Euston	120	120	120
Red Cliffs	110	110	110
Merbein	130	200	140
Burtundy (Darling)	480	500	430
Lock 9	150	140	130
Lake Victoria	230	230	240
Berri	210	220	200
Waikerie	360	450	240
Morgan	370	410	230
Mannum	280	250	200
Murray Bridge	280	260	240
Milang (Lake Alex.)	330	340	410
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	220	220	260
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	3 500	3 480	3 430
Goolwa Barrages	410	470	2 300



River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 31 Oct 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	-	-	-	4 320	F	3 400	3 210
Jingellic	4.0	1.99	208.51	7 220	R	6 400	7 800
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.30	219.19	3 530	R	1 740	980
Heywoods	5.5	3.16	156.79	15 970	F	17 690	11 920
Doctors Point	5.5	3.26	151.73	17 820	F	19 890	15 340
Albury	4.3	2.29	149.73	-	-	-	-
Corowa	3.8	3.91	129.93	20 610	S	18 980	14 120
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.66	116.70	10 100	R	9 340	8 270
Tocumwal	6.4	2.31	106.15	9 810	R	9 360	9 260
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.17	80.72	6 240	F	8 370	11 310
Swan Hill	4.5	1.70	64.62	8 790	F	10 270	11 380
Wakool Junction	8.8	4.54	53.66	14 740	F	15 600	17 690
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	3.19	45.03	20 070	F	20 610	22 460
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	20 210	F	20 640	22 880
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.94	28.70	20 340	R	19 860	22 650
Rufus Junction	-	5.06	21.99	18 210	R	18 610	21 920
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	1.42	-	20 760	S	21 430	38 890
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.55	154.78	1 340	F	1 830	2 440
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.35	146.03	1 530	R	1 650	2 430
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.59	93.01	1 040	R	1 330	3 540
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.95	81.72	1 910	F	1 580	2 330
Edward at Liewah	-	2.59	57.97	2 020	F	2 090	2 450
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.88	55.37	1 740	F	1 980	2 730
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	4.02	59.98	5 140	F	5 540	4 160
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.20	-	50	F	50	0
Darling at Bourke	-	4.14	-	540	S	550	610
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	-	-	3 080	R	1 610	930

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	8 650	11 690
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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	-0.02	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.18	+2.77
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.02	+1.01
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.01	+0.93
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.01	+0.94	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.12	+1.86
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.10	+1.30	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.02	+1.28
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.08	+0.65	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.18	+1.25
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.02	+1.07	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.09	+0.67

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

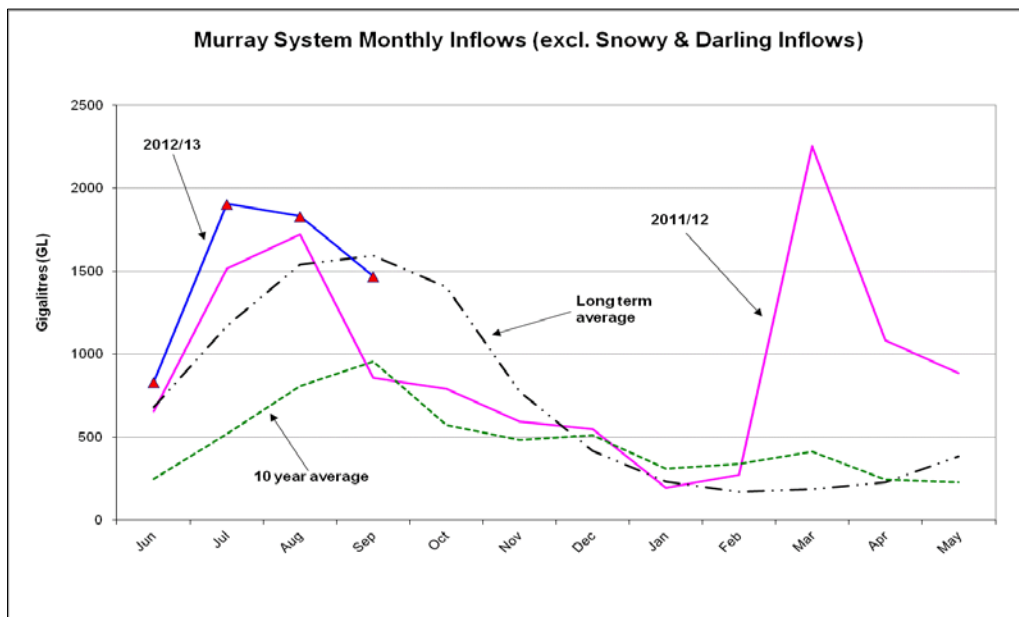
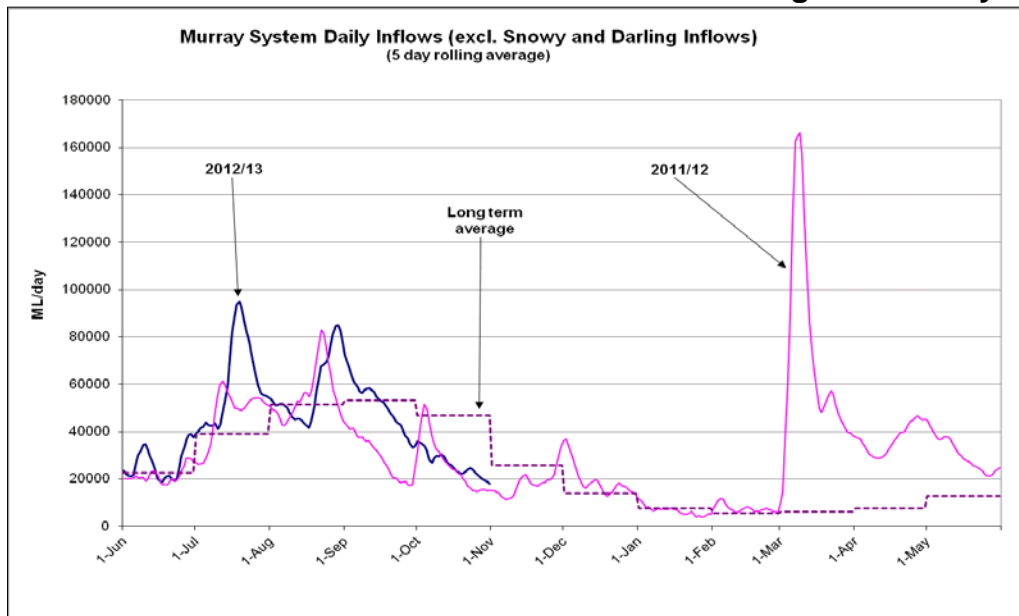
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.75
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Barrages

Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.74	10	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.54	1	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	5	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.73	20	Open	Open

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



State Allocations (as at 31 Oct 2012)

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	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/>