



# RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

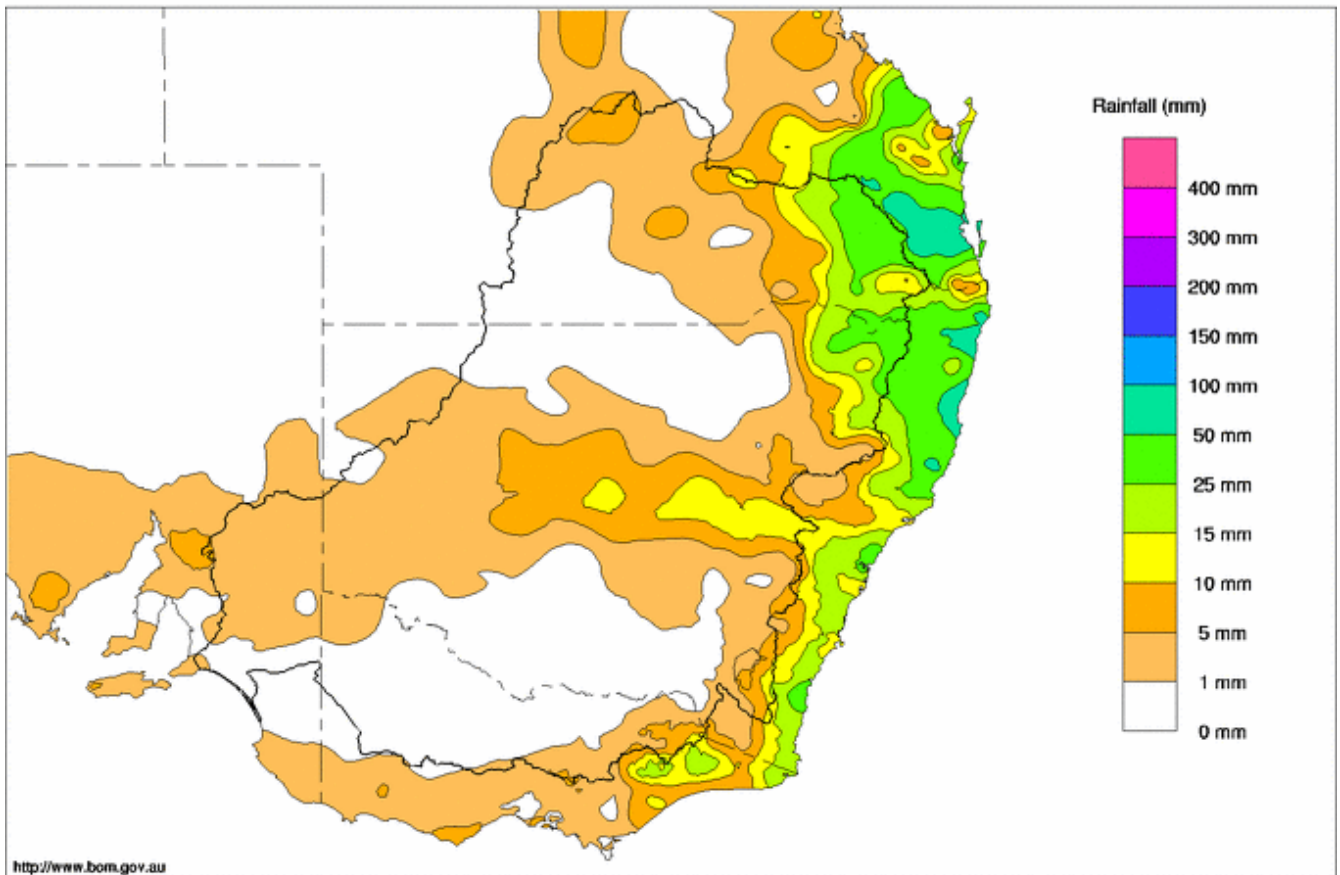
FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2012

Trim Ref: D12/48226

## Rainfall and Inflows

The eastern edge of the Murray-Darling Basin received the most rain this week. A surface trough over eastern Australia generated storms that penetrated inland across the ranges in the second half of the week. Highest totals were recorded in southeast Queensland and northeast NSW (Map 1). In Queensland's Darling Downs, 51 mm was recorded at Jondaryan, 50 mm at Cambooya, 47 mm at Jandowae and 42 mm at Pittsworth. On the northern tablelands of NSW, 75 mm was recorded at Gowan Brae and 26 mm at Glen Innes AP AWS, while on the northwest slopes, 35 mm was recorded at Granite Heights. Lesser totals were recorded in central NSW, with 15 mm recorded at Mudgee on the tablelands, at Wellington in the western slopes and at Narromine in the western plains.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 21st November 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 21st November 2012 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology)

Tributaries in the upper Murray catchment have continued to recede this week. On the Mitta Mitta River, the flow at Hinnomunjie Bridge reduced from 900 ML/day to 620 ML/day. On the upper Murray, the flow at Biggara fell from 1,500 ML/day to 1,250 ML/day while downstream at Jingellic the flow reduced from 6,900 ML/day to 3,900 ML/day. On the Kiewa River, the flow at Mongans Bridge has been relatively steady throughout the week at 1,300 ML/day and on the Ovens River the flow at Rocky Point reduced from 1,300 ML/day to 1,000 ML/day.



## River Operations

MDBA active storage decreased by 115 GL this week and is currently 8,478 GL, or 99% capacity. At Dartmouth Reservoir, the storage volume held relatively steady, decreasing by only 3 GL to 3,810 GL (99% capacity). Inflows initially reduced from 2,100 ML/day to 800 ML/day earlier in the week, however rain caused inflows to briefly rise again to 2,200 ML/day. The release, measured at Colemans, was reduced from 2,700 ML/day to 900 ML/day and will be reduced further to 350 ML/day by this weekend. See the attached flow advice for more details.

At Hume Reservoir, the storage volume reduced by 58 GL to 2,871 GL (96% capacity). Inflows receded over the week from 11,000 ML/day to around 6,000 ML/day. The release averaged 14,700 ML/day.

At Yarrowonga Weir, total diversions at the irrigation offtakes increased from 8,000 ML/day to 9,000 ML/day this week. Demand is anticipated to rise in the coming week as temperatures in the irrigation districts are forecast to reach close to 40°C on the weekend. The pool level in Lake Mulwala is 124.78 m AHD. The downstream release was around 8,100 ML/day for most of the week and is currently 9,000 ML/day.

On the Edward River system, flow through the Edward and Gulpa offtakes held relatively steady at around 1,450 ML/day and 500 ML/day respectively. Inflow from the Edward Escape averaged 1,700 ML/day, while diversion to the Wakool Main Canal averaged 1,300 ML/day. Downstream of Stevens Weir, the flow averaged 1,100 ML/day but is expected to reduce to around 900 ML/day in the coming week.

On the Goulburn River, the flow at McCoys Bridge increased to 5,000 ML/day due to the release of an environmental pulse from Lake Eildon which commenced on 9 November. The higher flows are expected to continue at McCoys Bridge for around two weeks. At Torrumbarry Weir, the diversion at National Channel averaged 3,100 ML/day but is expected to reduce to 2,300 ML/day in the coming week as diversions of environmental water to Gunbower Creek cease. Downstream of Torrumbarry Weir, the release has risen to 6,300 ML/day and will continue rising over the coming week in response to increased inflows from the Goulburn River.

On the lower Murrumbidgee River, the flow at Balranald peaked at 6,000 ML/day, and will fall away over the coming week. This peak was less than expected due to higher diversions at Maude and Redbank Weirs to the Lowbidgee irrigation district. Downstream on the Murray at Euston the flow held relatively steady at around 12,600 ML/day.

Total storage at Menindee Lakes decreased by 43 GL this week to 1,819 GL (105% capacity). The release to the lower Darling River (measured at Weir 32) increased to 4,900 ML/day. Releases will continue to increase to 9,000 ML/day by Sunday 25 November. See the attached flow advice for more details. Downstream on the lower Darling River, the flow at Burtundy eased further and is currently 2,800 ML/day.

At Wentworth Weir, the flow was relatively steady averaging 13,100 ML/day. Further downstream at Lake Victoria the volume reduced by 11 GL to 652 GL (26.8 m AHD, 96% capacity). It is expected to continue falling away over the coming weeks. The flow to South Australia decreased from 16,500 ML/day to around 14,000 ML/day, where it is expected to remain over the coming week.

At the Lower Lakes, the 5 day average level for Lake Alexandrina was 0.80 m AHD. The level will fall away toward 0.75 m AHD in the coming week as water is released to help maintain the water level in the Coorong. Currently a small number of Barrage gates remain open with an estimated release of around 4,000 ML/day to the Coorong.

**For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141**

DAVID DREVERMAN  
Executive Director, River Management



**Water in Storage**

**Week ending Wednesday 21 Nov 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	485.30	3 810	99%	71	3 739	-3
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	191.32	2 871	96%	23	2 848	-58
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.80	652	96%	100	552	-11
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		1 819	105%	(480 #)	1 339	-43
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 269</b>		<b>9 152</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>8 478</b>	<b>-115</b>
Total Active MDBA Storage							99% ^	

**Major State Storages**

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	829	81%	3	826	-33
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 497	92%	24	1 473	-19
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	3 251	98%	100	3 151	-44

\* 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 20 Nov 2012

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2012
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 441	-11	Snowy-Murray	+0	479
Snowy-Murray Component	973	+9	Tooma-Tumut	+4	186
Target Storage	1 450		Net Diversion	-4	293
			Murray 1 Release	+4	718

**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)	43.3	517	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	13.1	113
Wakool Sys Allowance	1.6	4	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	18.8	216
Western Murray Irrigation	0.8	7	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	3.5	33
Licensed Pumps	5.5	83	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.6	9
Lower Darling	4.6	107	Licensed pumps - LMW	10.5	85
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>456</b>

\* 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	180.0 *	
Flow this week	101.7	(14 500 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	362.6	
Flow last month	1,071.9	

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

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2012
Swan Hill	110	120	120
Euston	150	140	120
Red Cliffs	130	110	110
Merbein	150	150	140
Burtundy (Darling)	-	430	430
Lock 9	210	210	140
Lake Victoria	240	240	240
Berri	260	270	210
Waikerie	280	260	250
Morgan	250	240	230
Mannum	300	310	230
Murray Bridge	340	370	260
Milang (Lake Alex.)	320	320	390
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	400	270	260
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	3 520	3 500	3 440
Goolwa Barrages	430	480	1 960





**River Levels and Flows**

**Week ending Wednesday 21 Nov 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	-	-	-	930	F	1 160	3 080
Jingellic	4.0	1.57	208.09	4 020	F	4 830	10 750
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.80	218.69	1 390	F	2 200	4 440
Heywoods	5.5	2.97	156.60	14 090	F	14 650	9 530
Doctors Point	5.5	3.08	151.55	15 770	F	16 590	11 980
Albury	4.3	2.08	149.52	-	-	-	-
Corowa	3.8	3.49	129.51	17 450	S	15 820	11 510
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.52	116.56	9 030	R	8 230	8 230
Tocumwal	6.4	2.10	105.94	8 440	R	8 350	8 800
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.19	80.74	6 310	R	5 430	5 740
Swan Hill	4.5	1.20	64.12	5 600	F	5 890	6 130
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.26	52.38	8 860	F	9 080	9 410
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.27	44.11	12 510	F	12 620	13 120
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	11 750	F	11 900	13 390
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.44	28.20	13 020	F	13 100	15 840
Rufus Junction	-	4.53	21.46	13 430	S	13 750	16 380
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	1.17	-	12 480	F	13 510	16 850
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.61	154.84	1 450	S	1 330	1 940
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.24	145.92	1 240	F	1 380	2 040
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	3.66	95.08	5 010	R	2 800	1 020
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.42	81.19	1 220	F	1 080	1 190
Edward at Liewah	-	2.21	57.59	1 560	F	1 610	1 820
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.73	55.22	1 300	S	1 250	990
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	4.38	60.34	6 020	R	5 730	4 710
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.15	-	30	R	10	10
Darling at Bourke	-	4.15	-	590	R	520	520
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	1.87	-	2 820	S	2 900	3 490

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	6 570	18 510
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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	-0.12	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.06	+2.23
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.02	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	+0.61
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.03	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.63
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.06	+0.40	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+1.43
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.06	+0.80	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.02	+0.77
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.03	+0.39	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.74
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.05	+0.66	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	+0.42

**Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD**

Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.80
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**Barrages**

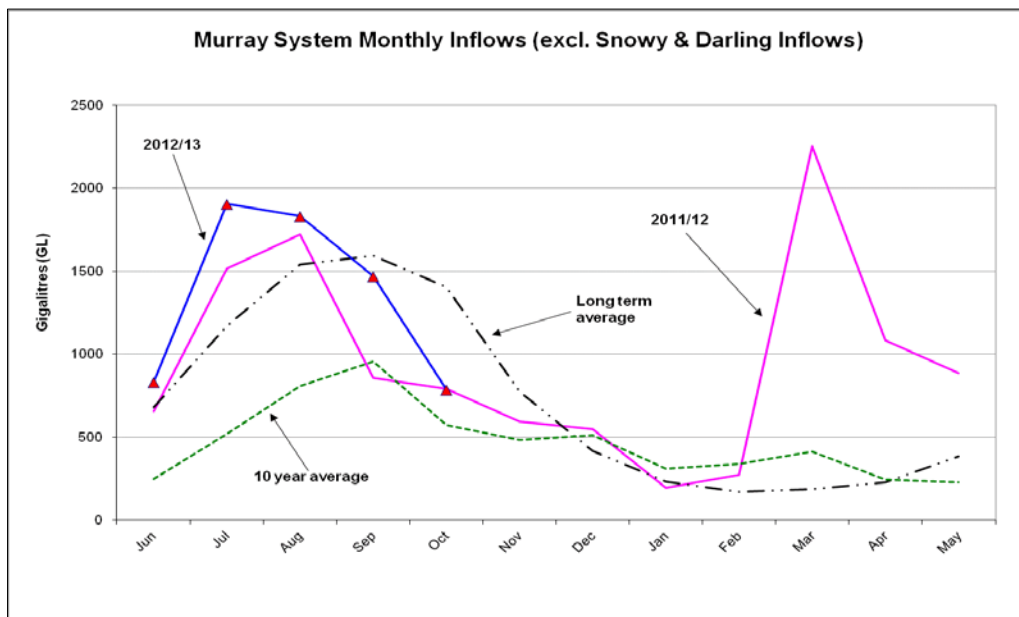
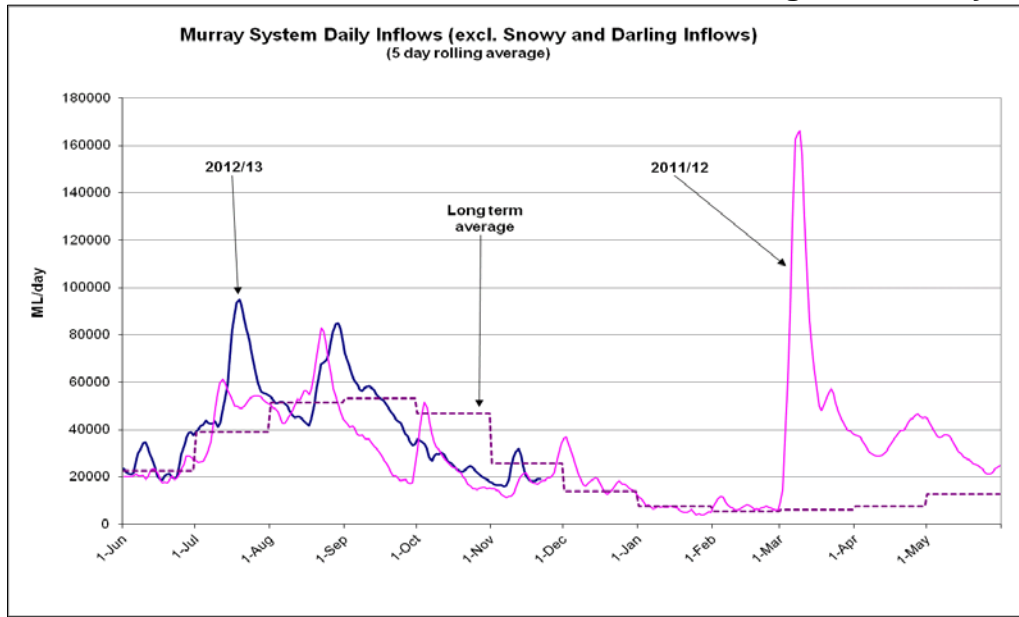
**Fishways at Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.62	1	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.87	1	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	2	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.62	11	Open	Open

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



Week ending Wednesday 21 Nov 2012



### State Allocations (as at 21 Nov 2012)

#### NSW - Murray Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

#### Victorian - Murray Valley

High reliability	100%
Low reliability	0%

#### NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	68%

#### 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/>

# Mitta Mitta River

## Flow advice



20 November 2012

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## Dartmouth releases continue to reduce

The release of water from Dartmouth Dam will continue to be gradually reduced over the coming week. Although Dartmouth Dam is currently at 99% capacity, inflows to Lake Dartmouth are receding and very little rain is forecast for the coming week.

The flow at Colemans is currently 900 ML/day. This flow will be gradually reduced to about 350 ML/day by 24 November. At Tallandoon, the flow is expected to recede from about 1,600 to 650 ML/day by late November, depending on inflows from Snowy Creek.

The maximum rate of fall in the river level at Colemans will be 30 mm/hr.

In the next few weeks, if conditions remain dry, releases are planned to maintain the flow at Tallandoon at about 600 ML/day. Therefore, during this period, the flow at Colemans is likely to remain in the range of 200–400 ML/day, depending on flows in Snowy Creek.

MDBA will provide a flow forecast each Wednesday for the following week on the MDBA website at [http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/river\\_info/storage\\_volumes](http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/river_info/storage_volumes).

Landholders and river users, including pumpers, should take in to account these variations in flow rates along the Mitta Mitta River and make any necessary adjustments to their river activities.

ENDS

**For media information contact the MDBA Media Office at [media@mdba.gov.au](mailto:media@mdba.gov.au) or 02 6279 0141. For other information contact MDBA at [inquiries@mdba.gov.au](mailto:inquiries@mdba.gov.au) or 02 6279 0100.**

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Trim: D12/47747

# Lower Darling River Flow advice



20 November 2012

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## Release from Menindee Lakes to increase to 9,000 ML/day

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority advises that releases from Menindee Lakes to the lower Darling River will continue increasing up to 9,000 ML/day due to operational demands and warming weather.

Currently, the release measured at Weir 32 is at 3,100 ML/day (2.25 m). The release will be gradually increased to 9,000 ML/day (3.28 m) by Sunday 25 November.

At Burtundy, the flow is currently 2,850 ML/day (1.89 m). The flow is expected to continue falling to about 2,500 ML/day (1.67 m) by the last week in November and then gradually increase to about 7,700 ML/day (4.3 m) in early December.

Landholders and river users, including pumpers, should take into account the changing flow rates along the lower Darling River and make necessary adjustments to their activities.

MDBA will provide regular updates in the River Operations Weekly Report [http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/river\\_info/weekly\\_reports](http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/river_info/weekly_reports) as release patterns vary over the coming months.

Forecast flows are also available on the MDBA website (see [http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/river\\_info](http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/river_info) (click on 'storage volumes & releases' for Menindee storage volume and Weir 32 flows or 'river flows & levels' for Burtundy flows)).

Information on any significant variations to the planned releases will be made available in future flow advices.

ENDS

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