



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

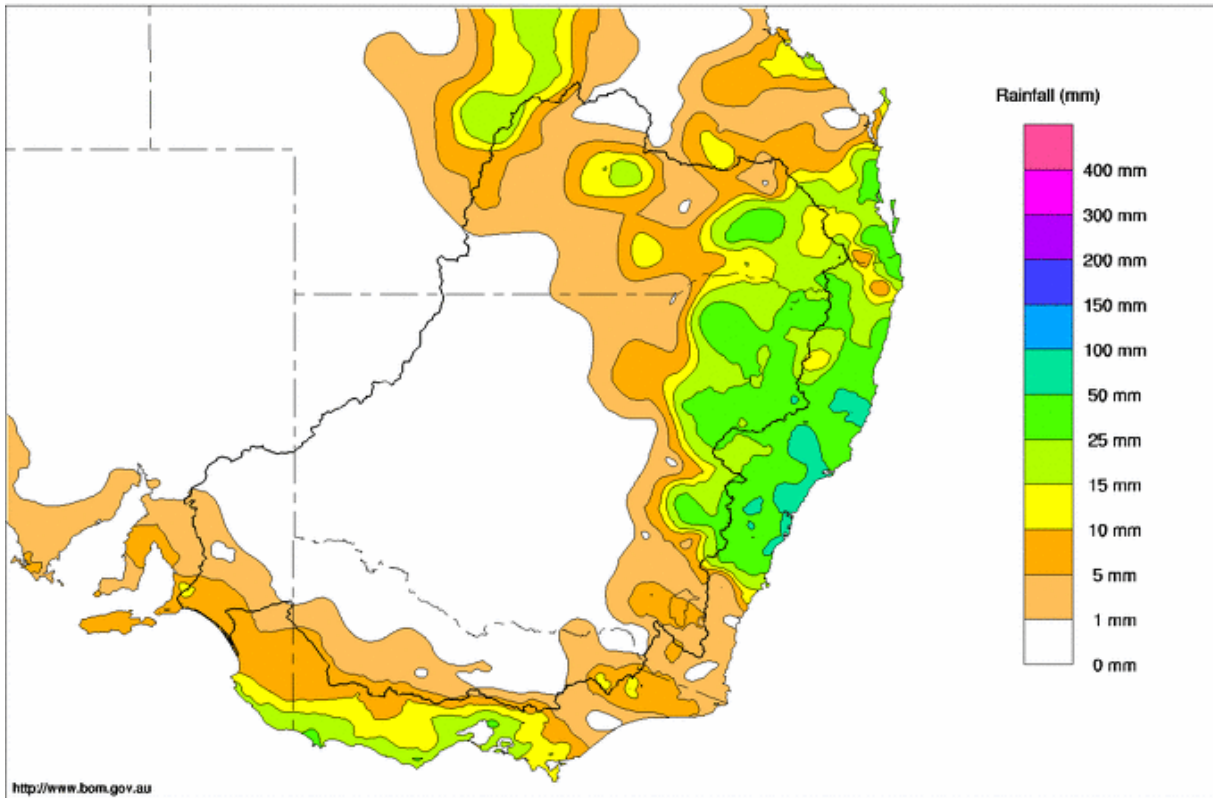
FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY 2013

Trim Ref: D13/6661

Rainfall and Inflows

It was a relatively dry week across the Murray-Darling Basin, with a spatial pattern of rainfall similar to recent weeks. In the west and south of the Basin, the recent run of mostly dry weather continued. Across eastern NSW and south-eastern Queensland there were further showers and storms with the passage of another trough. The system delivered patchy rain that fell mostly across the north-eastern slopes and ranges (Map 1). Some of the higher totals included 53 mm at Tamworth, 43 mm at Wee Waa, 37 mm at Stanthorpe, 36 mm at Applethorpe, 28 mm at Coonabarabran and 25 mm at Crookwell.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 6th February 2013
Product of the National Climate Centre



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http://www.bom.gov.au
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Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 13th February 2013 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology).

High flows and areas of flooding continue along the Barwon-Darling River following the rain event in late January. Major flooding has affected both Mungindi and Mogil Mogil where the river is currently peaking at around 8.55 m. A minor flood peak is expected downstream at Walgett in around a week's time.

Flooding is also continuing along the Condamine-Balonne system with a peak flow of almost 80,000 ML/day at St George with major flooding. Downstream on the Culgoa River, rising flows have now reached NSW. The Bureau of Meteorology is warning that the flow at Brenda should rise steadily towards the minor flood level during the next few weeks, with minor to moderate flooding also expected on the Bokhara and Narran Rivers. However, these rivers form a very extensive floodplain that soaks up much of the floodwaters resulting in only a relatively small proportion of the upstream volume contributing to flows on the Darling River downstream of Bourke. For more information regarding flood warnings, see the Bureau of Meteorology website at www.bom.gov.au.



Rainfall across the upper Murray catchments was, once again, only light with many stations remaining dry. Low stream flows continued with the flow on the upper River Murray at Biggara decreasing to around 450 ML/day. Downstream at Bringenbrong, a flow peak of around 6,500 ML/day was due to increased Snowy Hydro releases; while on the Ovens River, the flow at Rocky Point averaged only around 190 ML/day.

River Operations

MDBA active storage decreased by 180 GL and is currently 6,096 GL, or 71% capacity. At Dartmouth Reservoir, the storage volume decreased by 33 GL and is currently 3,720 GL (96% capacity). The release, measured at Colemans, was reduced to 4,500 ML/day early in the week and will average around 4,000 ML/day over the coming week. Higher releases from Dartmouth are currently being undertaken as part of 'harmony' transfers between Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs.

At Hume Reservoir, the storage volume decreased by 50 GL to 1,739 GL (58% capacity). Releases eased from 16,700 ML/day to 15,500 ML/day over the week in response to reduced downstream demand.

At Yarrawonga Weir, the Lake Mulwala pool level eased 6 cm and is currently 124.77 m AHD. Total demand at the irrigation offtakes reduced further, with around 60 GL diverted for the week. The release downstream of Yarrawonga is now 8,500 ML/day and is expected to remain around this rate during the coming week.

On the Edward River, flow through the Edward River and Gulpa Creek offtakes is 1,250 ML/day and 350 ML/day respectively. Flow through the Edward River offtake has been reduced to allow for an inspection of the Edward River's banks as it flows through the Millewa forest. To supplement River flows, inflow from the Edward Escape has been increased from around 1,200 ML/day to 1,500 ML/day. An environmental flow of around 400 ML/day is being diverted to Yallakool Creek for the benefit of native fish. Demand at the Wakool Main Canal has reduced from 1,600 ML/day to 1,300 ML/day over the week. At Stevens Weir, the flow averaged around 700 ML/day this week.

On the Goulburn River, the flow at McCoys Bridge increased from 900 ML/day to around 2,000 ML/day. Flow rates are expected to vary between 1,500 ML/day and 2,500 ML/day during the remainder of February with additional environmental water being released. At Torrumbarry Weir, diversions through National Channel were around 3,150 ML/day. Downstream of Torrumbarry Weir, the flow increased from around 4,800 ML/day to 5,500 ML/day.

On the Murrumbidgee River, the flow at Balranald increased from 300 ML/day to 700 ML/day. Downstream on the River Murray at Euston Weir, the flow averaged around 4,000 ML/day.

At Menindee Lakes, the total storage volume decreased by 58 GL to 981 GL (57% capacity). The release (measured at Weir 32) is currently 3,200 ML/day and will continue to slowly recede over the coming week. At Burtundy, the flow has decreased to just below 3,400 ML/day. On the River Murray, downstream of the Darling confluence, the flow at Wentworth Weir is currently 4,900 ML/day and expected to remain around this rate for the coming week.

At Lake Victoria, the storage level is currently 23.86 m AHD (330 GL, 49% capacity) and falling. The flow into South Australia reduced from 9,600 ML/day to 8,100 ML/day. The flow is expected to continue at around 8,100 ML/day over the coming week. At the Lower Lakes, the five day average level is 0.63 m AHD with small releases through the Barrages continuing.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

TONY MORSE

Acting Executive Director, River Management



Water in Storage

Week ending Wednesday 13 Feb 2013

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	483.91	3 720	96%	71	3 649	-33	
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	184.68	1 739	58%	23	1 716	-50	
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.86	330	49%	100	230	-39	
Menindee Lakes		1 731*		981	57%	(480 #)	501	-58	
Total		9 269		6 770	73%	--	6 096	-180	
Total Active MDBA Storage							71% ^		

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	374	36%	3	371	-18
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 105	68%	24	1 081	-52
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	2 740	82%	100	2 640	-58

* 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 12 Feb 2013

Storage	Active Storage (GL)	Weekly Change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This Week	From 1 May 2012
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 131	-35	Snowy-Murray	+29	590
Snowy-Murray Component	903	-31	Tooma-Tumut	+0	207
Target Storage	1 460		Net Diversion	29	384
			Murray 1 Release	+28	840

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)	47.1	1179	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	12	259
Wakool Sys Allowance	3.8	41	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	21.3	356
Western Murray Irrigation	1.2	23	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	3.9	97
Licensed Pumps	6.8	178	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	6.5	37
Lower Darling	6.2	78	Licensed pumps - LMW	11.2	228
TOTAL	65.1	1499	TOTAL	54.9	977

* 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 normal entitlement for this month due to traded environmental water.

Entitlement this month	194.0 *
Flow this week	63.9
Flow so far this month	120.0
Flow last month	329.4

(9 100 ML/day)

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

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2012
Swan Hill	120	110	100
Euston	120	110	120
Red Cliffs	170	170	130
Merbein	200	170	150
Burtundy (Darling)	510	500	450
Lock 9	380	390	230
Lake Victoria	270	260	240
Berri	430	410	270
Waikerie	400	400	290
Morgan	400	410	290
Mannum	490	470	290
Murray Bridge	460	450	310
Milang (Lake Alex.)	450	470	400
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	490	490	310
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	3 580	3 540	3 430
Goolwa Barrages	1 100	990	1 420



River Levels and Flows

Week ending Wednesday 13 Feb 2013

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	-	-	-	1 720	F	4 310	1 780
Jingellic	4.0	1.60	208.12	4 170	F	6 040	2 730
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.55	219.44	4 680	R	5 300	4 070
Heywoods	5.5	3.12	156.75	15 480	F	16 020	17 320
Doctors Point	5.5	3.08	151.55	15 640	F	16 380	17 650
Albury	4.3	2.07	149.51	-	-	-	-
Corowa	3.8	3.28	129.30	15 970	S	16 520	17 930
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.45	116.49	8 480	F	8 780	9 640
Tocumwal	6.4	2.10	105.94	8 370	F	8 670	9 320
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.95	80.50	5 460	R	5 070	4 810
Swan Hill	4.5	1.06	63.98	4 740	R	4 530	4 570
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.34	51.46	5 440	R	5 320	5 400
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.91	42.75	4 040	S	4 000	4 610
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 650	F	2 840	3 210
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.93	27.69	4 920	R	5 090	5 720
Rufus Junction	-	3.71	20.64	7 400	F	8 480	8 740
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.77	-	4 990	F	6 300	7 100
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.70	153.93	210	F	210	260
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.74	145.42	320	R	320	340
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	2.10	93.52	2 010	F	1 770	940
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.88	80.65	630	F	690	710
Edward at Liewah	-	1.43	56.81	800	F	770	650
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.40	54.89	370	R	340	310
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.10	57.06	700	R	430	390
Barwon at Mungindi	-	7.25	-	15 740	F	23 500	3 710
Darling at Bourke	-	4.14	-	540	R	110	120
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	2.27	-	3 390	F	3 440	3 540

Natural Inflow to Hume (i.e. Pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	630	750
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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	-0.13	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.09	+1.39
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.02	+0.27
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.01	+0.20
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.02	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.92
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.29	No. 3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.02	+0.34
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.08	+0.12	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.06	+0.29
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.14	+0.13	No. 1 Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.02

Lower Lakes FSL = 0.75 m AHD

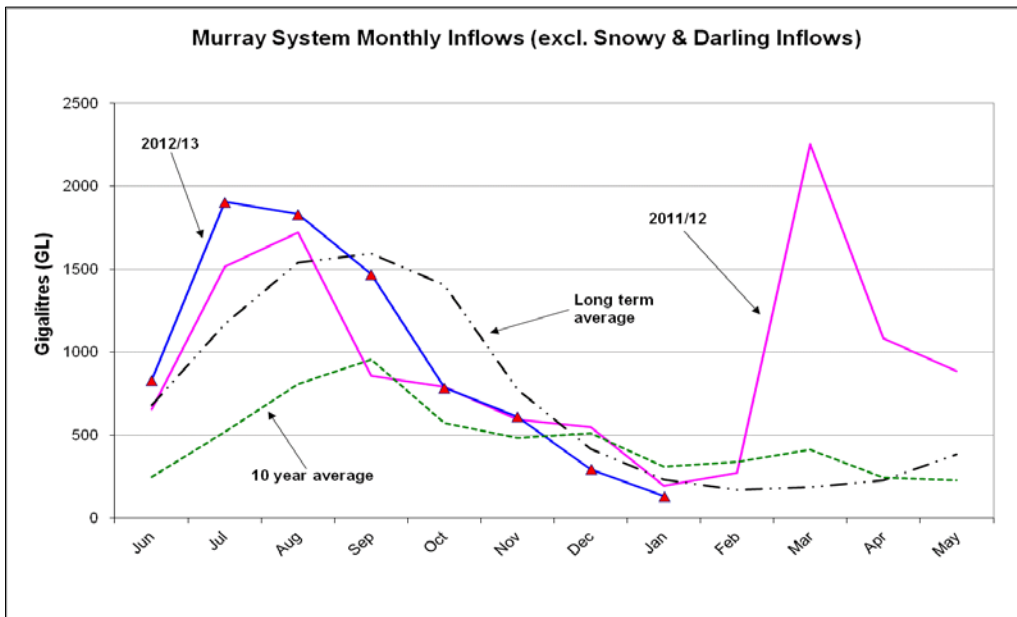
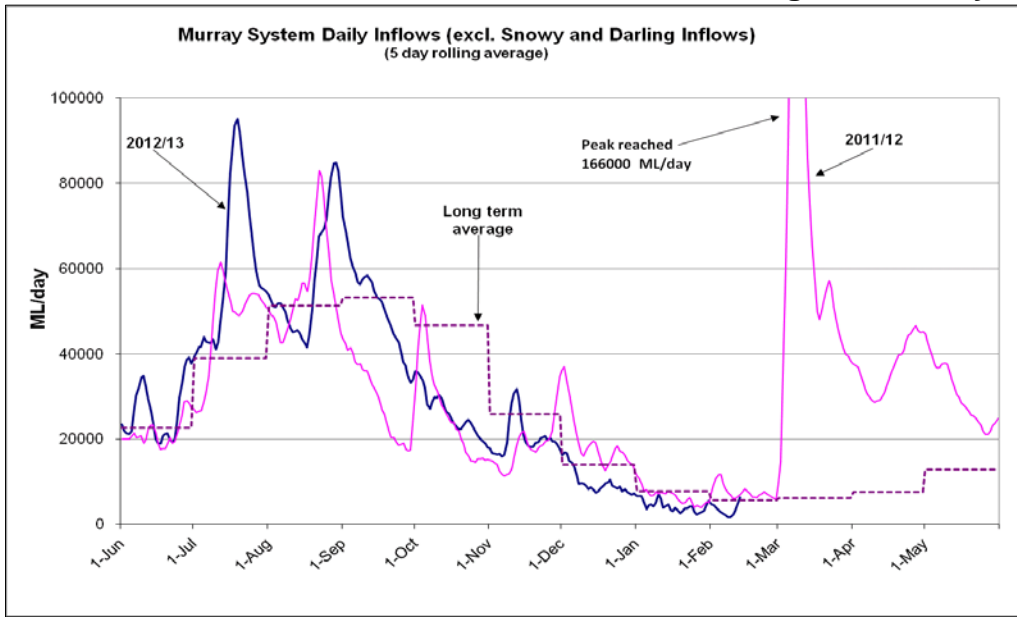
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days (m AHD)	0.63
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Barrages

Fishways at Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	No. Open	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.67	1	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.63	0.2	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	0.1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.63	2	Open	Open

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



State Allocations (as at 13 Feb 2013)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victorian - Murray Valley

High reliability	100%
Low reliability	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

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/>