



# RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

## FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 26 AUGUST 2009

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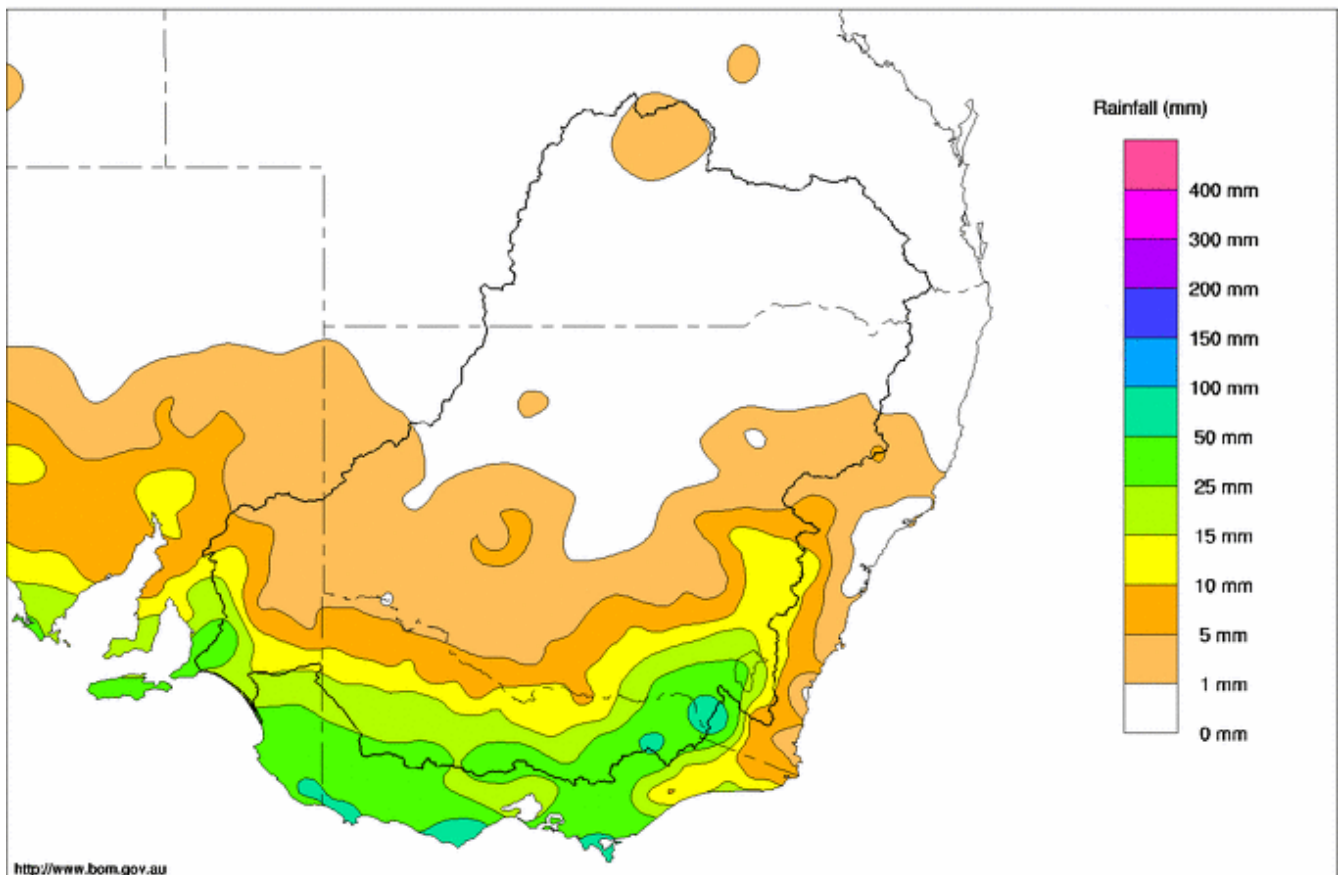
### Rainfall and Inflows

Good falls of rain were recorded over the southern Murray-Darling Basin for the week ending 26<sup>th</sup> August, with 85 mm recorded at Perisher in the Snowy Mountains and Jokers Creek in the Victorian Alps receiving 70 mm (see Map 1). As a result of this rain and the catchments being previously wet, streamflows in the upper Murray responded well with Rocky Point on the Ovens River increasing to 4,800 ML/day and Hinnomunjie on the Mitta Mitta River increasing to 4,600 ML/day. Mongan's Bridge on the Kiewa River peaked at 5,000 ML/day.

There were also some falls of rain recorded at the Lower Lakes in South Australia with Hindmarsh Island receiving up to 15 mm during the past week. The northern half of the Basin continues to receive little or no rain.

Murray system Inflows for August to date are currently around 300 GL which is higher than last year's August total of 275 GL but still well below the long term average of 1,550 GL.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 26th August 2009  
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Issued: 26/08/2009



## River Operations

MDBA active storage is currently 1,639 GL (or 19% capacity) and has increased by 245 GL in the past 4 weeks. Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by 27 GL over the last week to 929 GL (or 24% capacity) and Hume Reservoir increased by 47 GL to 636 GL (or 21% capacity). Releases for Hume and Dartmouth Reservoirs are currently at the normal minimum of 600 and 200 ML/day respectively. The flow past Doctors Point is now at 4,500 ML/day due to the increased inflow from the Kiewa River.

Lake Mulwala continues to refill and has reached 124.48 m AHD (or 0.42 m below FSL). The level of Lake Mulwala will be increased over the coming week and will then be held steady at around 124.7 m AHD. Releases from Yarrawonga weir are currently running at around 4,000 ML/day but will be increased as flows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers are passed downstream as the lake level is steadied.

The pool level at Torrumbarry is steady at 85.86 m AHD (or 0.19 m below FSL) and releases have averaged around 2,600 ML/day increasing slightly as the higher releases from Yarrawonga Weir arrive. During the coming weeks, the pool level will be gradually raised towards full supply level. The National Channel irrigation offtake from Torrumbarry Weir pool is currently diverting around 500 ML/day for channel filling. Further downstream at Euston Weir the release has been increased from 1,600 to around 2,000 ML/day. The pool levels at Euston, Mildura and Wentworth are all close to full supply level.

Storage in Menindee Lakes (which remain under NSW control) is steady at 242 GL (or 14% capacity). Upstream of Menindee Lakes flows continue to decline, for instance Wilcannia is currently running at around 100 ML/day, downstream at Burtundy, flows have averaged around 30 ML/day over the past week.

Storage in Lake Victoria remains steady at 284 GL (or 42% capacity). In the coming weeks increased flows from the Murray will help maintain the storage level in Lake Victoria. The target flow to South Australia continues for August at 1,800 ML/day and the average flow past Lock 1 for the past week was 850 ML/day. Lake Alexandrina's average water level is now at -0.69 m AHD.

The NSW Office of Water announced last week the relaxation of the temporary embargo on the annual trade of water from the Murrumbidgee Valley into the Murray Valley; details can be found at [http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/mediarelnr/mr\\_toc\\_currnr.html](http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/mediarelnr/mr_toc_currnr.html)

**For media inquiries contact: Sam Leone on 02 6279 0141**

DAVID DREVERMAN  
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## Week ending Wednesday 26 Aug 2009

### Water in Storage

MDBA Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	MDBA Active Storage (GL)	Change in Total Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	420.97	929	24%	80	849	+27
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	174.91	636	21%	30	606	+47
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.40	284	42%	100	184	-5
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		242	14%	(- -) #	0	-2
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>2 091</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1 639</b>	<b>+67</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **19%**

# NSW takes control of Menindee Lakes when storage falls below 480 GL, and control reverts to MDBA when storage next reaches 640 GL

\*\* All Data is rounded to nearest GL \*\*

### Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	388	38%	3	385	+2
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	664	41%	24	640	+1
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	664	20%	100	564	+36

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 25-Aug-2009

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2009
Lake Eucumbene - Total	634	+71	Snowy-Murray	+1	256
Snowy-Murray Component	306	+38	Tooma-Tumut	+13	107
Target Storage	1 190		Nett Diversion	-12.5	149
			Murray 1 Release	+15	324

### Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) \*

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2009	Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2009
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	5.3	24.5	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	1.7	4
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	-.5	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	1.0	1
Western Murray Irrig.	0.2	.9	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.0	2
Licensed Pumps	1.3	6.4	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	
Lower Darling	0.1	.3	Licensed pumps - LMW	1.5	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>15</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 is rounded to nearest 100 ML for the above\*\*

### Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	124 *	
Flow this week	13.0	(1 900 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	47	
Flow last month	56	

\* Reduced to approx. 56 GL during August drought contingency operations

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2009
Swan Hill	60	70	100
Euston	100	100	100
Red Cliffs	140	130	130
Merbein	110	110	110
Burtundy (Darling)	390	390	390
Lock 9	170	170	160
Lake Victoria	210	220	220
Berri	450	440	440
Waikerie	-	-	450
Morgan	450	510	510
Mannum	620	620	600
Murray Bridge	700	690	690
Milang (Lake Alex.)	5 110	5 290	5 130
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	4 150	4 310	4 650
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	8 570	9 020	9 250
Goolwa Barrages	20 810	20 260	20 390

Week ending Wednesday 26 Aug 2009

### River Levels and Flows

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	-	-	-	4 310	F	3 790	2 410
Jingellic	4.0	2.22	208.74	9 180	R	6 820	4 280
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.65	218.54	1 000	R	960	550
Heywoods	5.5	1.23	154.86	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	2.03	150.50	4 470	R	3 350	1 940
Albury	4.3	1.06	148.50	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.10	127.12	3 640	R	2 630	1 880
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.80	115.84	4 000	S	3 480	2 350
Tocumwal	6.4	1.18	105.02	3 800	R	3 260	2 220
Torrumbary Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.16	79.71	2 910	R	2 600	2 010
Swan Hill	4.5	0.63	63.55	2 290	R	1 990	1 740
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.39	50.51	2 220	R	2 010	1 880
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.45	42.29	2 000	R	1 910	1 770
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 220	F	1 940	2 260
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.77	27.53	1 150	R	1 190	1 620
Rufus Junction	-	2.49	19.42	1 330	R	1 270	1 120
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.43	-	910	R	860	900
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.72	155.95	8 910	R	4 480	1 590
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.46	147.14	5 320	S	4 640	2 850
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.08	92.50	330	F	330	250
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.45	80.23	210	F	200	190
Edward at Liewah	-	0.45	55.83	180	F	200	190
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.96	54.45	0	S	0	0
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.36	56.32	140	F	150	150
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.20	-	30	S	40	70
Darling at Bourke	-	4.04	-	160	S	180	250
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.67	-	40	F	30	50

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	12 530	6 550
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### Weirs and Locks

#### Pool levels above or below Full Supply Level (FSL)

Murray	FSL (mAHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (mAHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrawonga	124.90	-0.42	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.11	+0.15
No 26 Torrumbary	86.05	-0.19	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.09	-0.03
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.04	+0.10
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.06	+0.01	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.08	+0.16
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.01	+0.13	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.01	+0.13
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.00	-0.07	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.06	+0.09
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.04	-0.03	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.08	-1.18

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-2.05	0.52	69.87	186
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-1.10	-0.012	61.288	148

### Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

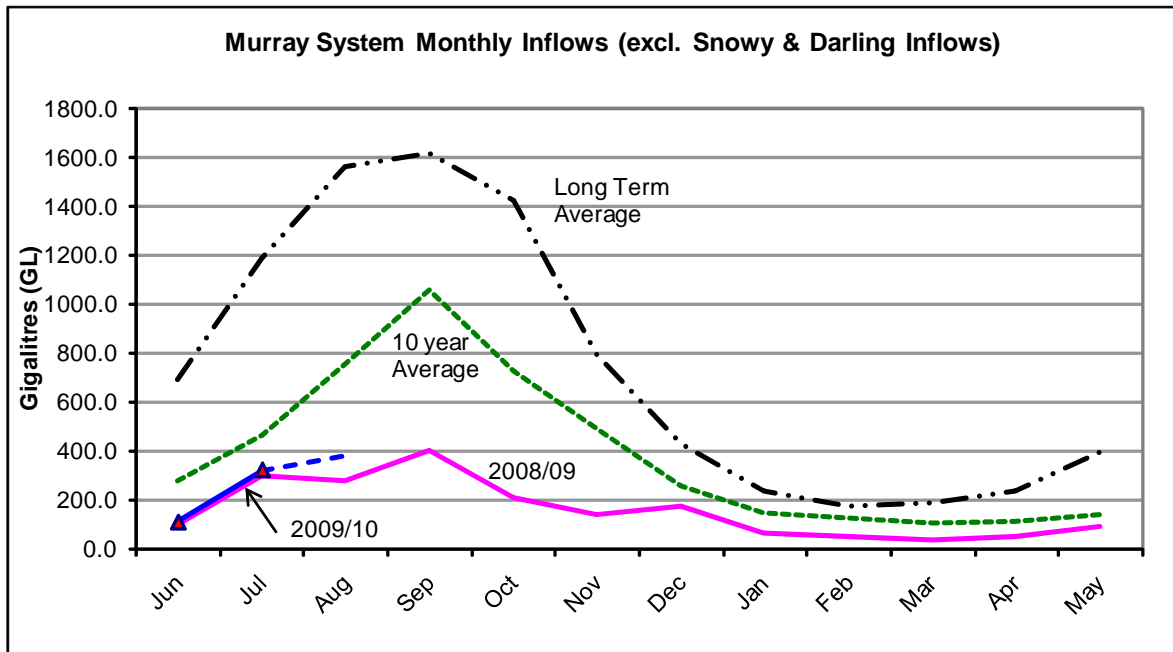
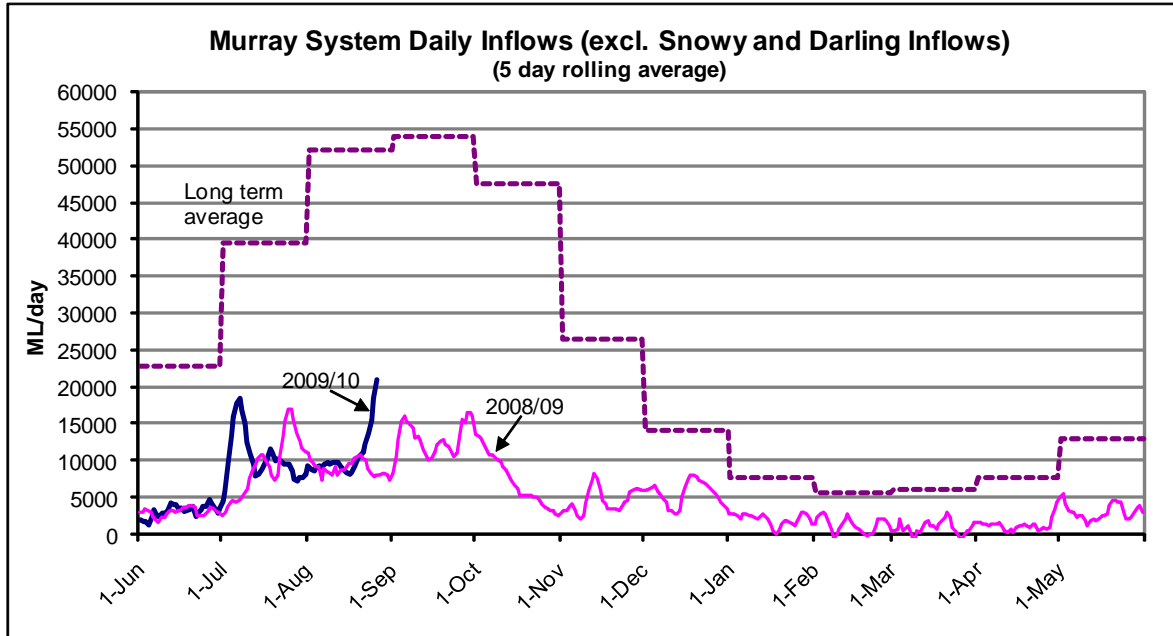
	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.69

### Barrages

#### Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	-	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-0.67	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwicheere	322 gates	-	All closed	Closed	Closed

Week ending Wednesday 26th August 2009



**State Allocations (as at 26th August 2009)**

**NSW - Murray Valley**

High security	8%
General security	0%

**Victoria - Murray Valley**

high reliability	0%
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**NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley**

High security	20%
General security	0%

**Victoria - Goulburn Valley**

high reliability	0%
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**NSW - Lower Darling**

High security	100%
General security	0%

**South Australia - Murray Valley**

High security	5%
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NSW : [http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/mediarelnr/mr\\_toc\\_currnr.html](http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/mediarelnr/mr_toc_currnr.html)

VIC : <http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp>

SA : <http://www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/media.htm>