

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 9 August 2000

Our Ref : MDBC:269 :ng/bwh

10 August, 2000



Widespread rain was recorded across the Murray-Darling Basin this week. Falls generally between 30 and 50 mm were recorded in the upper Murray catchment, with isolated falls of about 90 mm. Falls of up to 50 mm were received in Queensland in the Warrego and Manoa River catchments.

Inflows to Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs have begun to respond to the rainfall, and further increases in inflows will continue next week. The total increase in upper Murray storage was 133 GL compared with 174 GL last week. Irrigation releases from Hume Reservoir will now be delayed until at least mid August as a result of the rain and increased tributary flows downstream of Hume.

Storage in Hume Reservoir on 10 August (2 064 GL) is now higher than it has been at any time since late 1996 following the special drawdown of Hume Reservoir (*see attached diagram*).

Tributary inflows generally receded early in the week, however, inflow to the River Murray from the Kiewa River has already responded to the recent rain. Inflows to the River Murray from the Ovens and Goulburn Rivers are forecast to rise significantly next week.

Release from Yarrawonga Weir was reduced to 8 500 ML/day by 7 August, but was increased to 10 500 ML/day on 9 August in anticipation of increased inflows to Lake Mulwala arising from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers. Without further rain, flow downstream of Yarrawonga Weir is expected to be increased to at least 15 000 ML/day next week.

Diversions from Lake Mulwala to Mulwala Canal are expected to commence at low rates on 11 August for filling of the Canal (and the irrigation systems which it supplies) prior to commencement of irrigation. Diversion to Yarrawonga Main Canal is expected to commence at low rates for channel filling purposes on about 21 August.

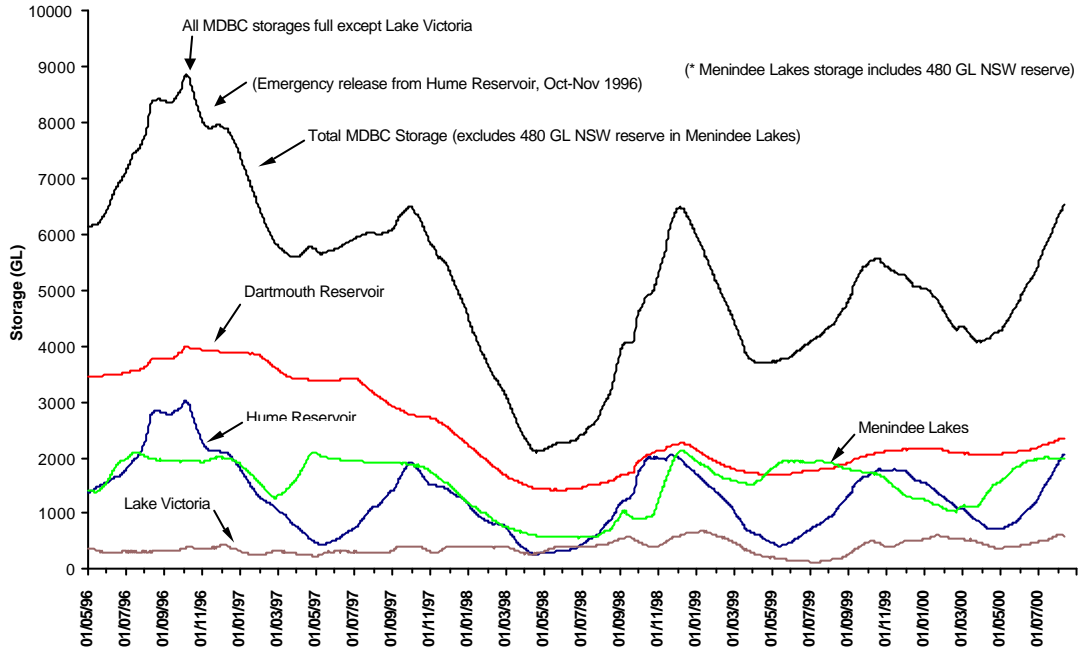
Flow in the River Murray downstream of Torrumbarry Weir peaked during the week at about 9 800 ML/day. Diversion from the Torrumbarry Weir pool to National Channel (currently 2000 ML/day) is forecast to increase to 4 000 ML/day (near capacity) by mid August if conditions remain dry.

Salinity of the River Murray Swan Hill peaked at 420 EC during the week due to increased saline inflows from the Victoria tributaries, but has since declined to 250 EC. This short duration increase in river salinity is expected to be mitigated as it passes downriver, and salinity at Mildura (currently 220 EC) is forecast to increase to about 350 EC by late August.

Flow to South Australia was increased to about 16 000 ML/day during the week according to the plan to delay filling of the Lake Victoria. Operation of the Lake, and flow to South Australia will be reviewed next week when better estimates of flow in the River Murray, resulting from the recent rain, become available.

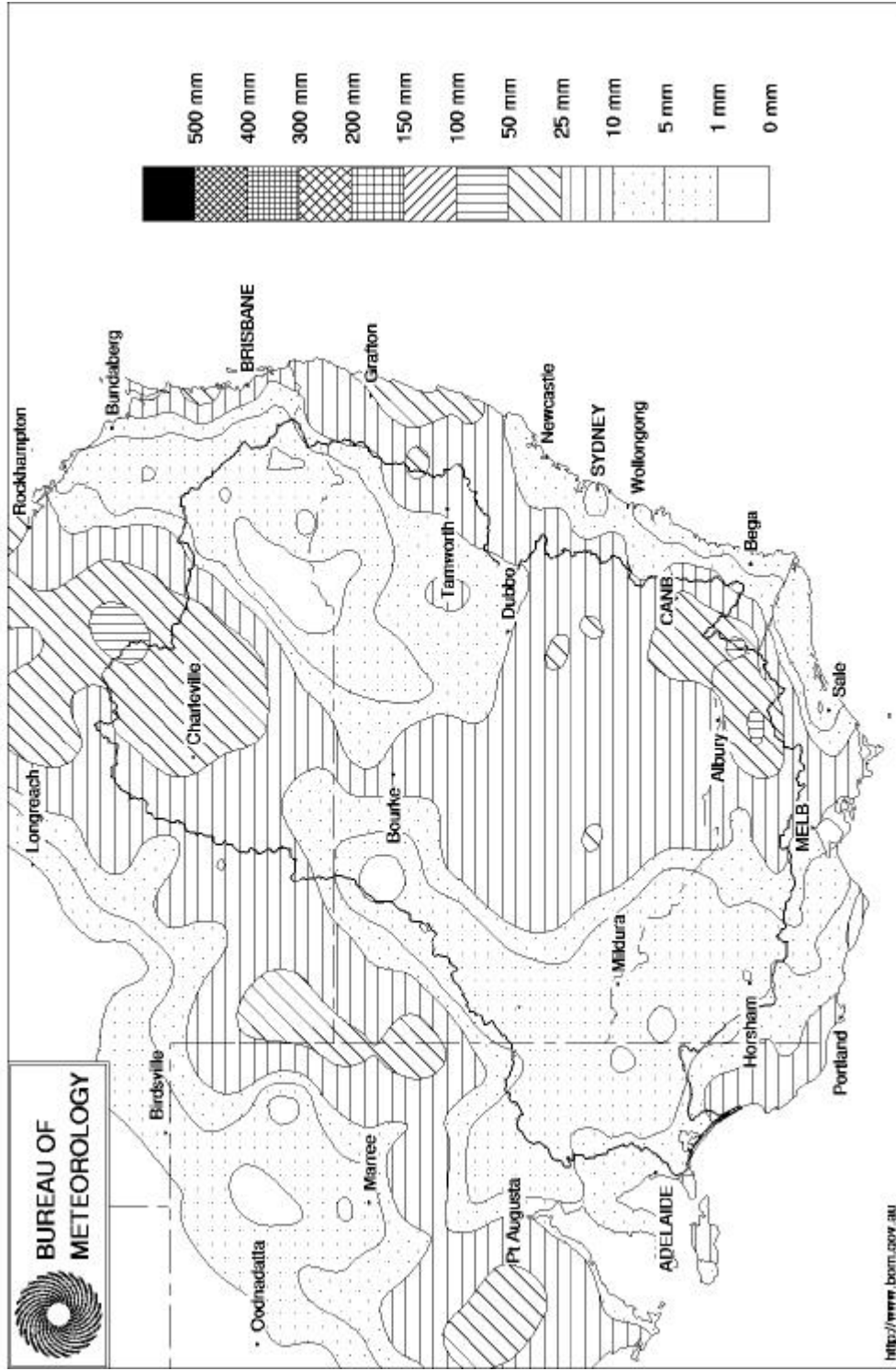
DAVID DOLE
General Manager

MDBC Storages : 1 May 1996 to 10 August 2000



Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 9th August 2000

Product of the National Climate Centre



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Issued: 09/08/2000

Week ending 09-Aug-2000

Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	FSL	Full Supply	Level	Storage		Dead storage	Active storage	Change for week
	m AHD	GL	m AHD	GL	%	GL	GL	GL
Dartmouth Reservoir	486	3906	458.73	2349	60%	80	2269	+23
Hume Reservoir	192	3038	186.45	2040	67%	30	2010	+110
Lake Victoria	27	680	26.32	604	89%	100	504	-12
Menindee		1682 *		1982	118%	480 #	1502	+11
Total		9306		6975	75%	690	6285	+132

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = 73%

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	444	43%	3	441	+9
Blowering Reservoir	1631	925	57%	24	901	+45
Eildon Reservoir	3390	844	25%	100	744	+29

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 08-Aug-2000

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2247	-26	Snowy-Murray	+39	369
Snowy-Murray Component	1067	-24	Tooma-Tumut	+5	66
Target Storage	1190		Nett Diversion	33.9	303
			Murray 1 Release	+43	425

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	1.0	1.0
Wakool System loss	0.6	0.8
Western Murray Irrig.	0.2	0.4
Licensed Pumps	2.4	5.7
Lower Darling	3.6	39.5
TOTAL	7.8	47.4

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0.0	0.0
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	13.0	24.5
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.3	1.5
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	0.5
Licensed pumps - SRW	1.6	9.2
TOTAL	16.0	35.7

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	124
Flow this week	108.9
Flow so far this month	129
Flow last month	211

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	250	318	282
Euston	160	169	174
Red Cliffs	230	220	223
Merbein	190	180	177
Burtundy	370	349	346
Lock 9	240	251	251
L.Victoria	360	312	301
Berri	300	339	346
Waikerie	-	-	454
Morgan	430	477	479
Mannum	440	462	468
Murray Bridge	430	435	435
Meningie	1180	1160	1180
Goolwa Barrages	900	1064	1115



River Levels and Flows

	Minor Flood stage m	Gauge height m	Flow ML/day	Trend	Average flow this week ML/day	Average flow last week ML/day
River Murray						
Khancoban	-	-	8460	R	7150	6780
Jingellic	4.0	2.76	15260	R	12470	14340
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.96	2580	R	1910	2350
Heywoods	5.5	1.23	600	S	600	620
Doctors Point	5.5	2.06	4290	R	2470	3080
Albury	4.3	1.08	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.85	2290	F	2620	3900
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.53	8480	S	10420	15770
Tocumwal	6.4	2.08	9058	F	11670	15150
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.82	8858	F	9370	10120
Swan Hill	4.5	1.68	8850	F	9150	9420
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.72	11000	F	11560	11460
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.27	11940	R	12240	12130
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.48	13450	S	13520	13600
Rufus Junction	-	4.74	15153	F	14820	7840
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	16000	R	13060	7240
Tributaries						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.50	4300	R	2220	2780
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	10.19	7922	R	5610	10730
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.47	860	F	1290	2390
Edward at Liewah	-	2.40	1870	F	2350	2460
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.36	260	F	270	280
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.07	730	F	760	580
Darling at Bourke	-	4.39	2430	F	2490	2640
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	1.69	2650	F	3030	3310
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.23	100	S	120	140

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	13840	21790
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Weirs and Locks

Pool levels above or below design level

Murray	FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	+0.01	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.21	+2.43
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.02	+0.79
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.78
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.44	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.05	+1.72
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.01	+0.84	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.06	+0.91
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	+0.16	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.88
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.05	+0.43	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.41

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	+0.04	1.97	2620
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.26	0.18	296

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.62	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.64	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.64	20

