

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 1 November 2000

*Our Ref: MDBC:269 :ng:brc*

2 November, 2000



Further rain was received across much of the Basin this week with the heaviest falls occurring in southern Queensland. Much of the catchment of the Culgoa/Balonne/Condamine River system received between 25 and 100 mm. Northern New South Wales also received between 10 and 25 mm, however these totals are not expected to generate significant inflows to Menindee Lakes. Upper Murray and Victorian tributaries received light falls of between 5 and 25 mm, and heavier falls are expected early next week.

In response to previous rain, spill from Hume Reservoir was maintained at a peak of 58 000 ML/day early in the week, and combined with a peak inflow from the Kiewa River of about 24 000 ML/day resulted in the River Murray at Albury exceeding moderate flood level (4.9 m) to a peak of 5.13 m gauge height. Spill from Hume has subsequently been reduced to 20 000 ML/day, however, as storage is at capacity, increases in release are likely if there is further significant rain.

The recent wet conditions in the upper Murray in October are reflected in the estimated 'natural' inflow to Hume Reservoir for October 2000 of about 1 300 GL. This level of inflow in October is reached or exceeded only 1 year in 9 in the long term.

Inflow to the River Murray from the Ovens River, combined with the peak flow which passed Corowa (0.16 m below minor flood level) resulted in a peak inflow to Lake Mulwala of about 95 000 ML/day. As a result, release from Yarrawonga Weir was increased to a peak on 29/30 October at about 88 500 ML/day (6.55 m gauge height downstream gauge, or 0.15 m above minor flood level). Release is now 82 000 ML/day and is being progressively reduced as inflows recede.

Inflow to the River Murray from the Goulburn River peaked at about 16 400 ML/day, which is lower than forecast last week. Inflow from the Murrumbidgee River is currently 2 600 ML/day, but is now not expected to reach last week's forecast of 5 000 ML/day due to increases in diversions arising from 'off allocation' supplies recently being announced in the lower Murrumbidgee River.

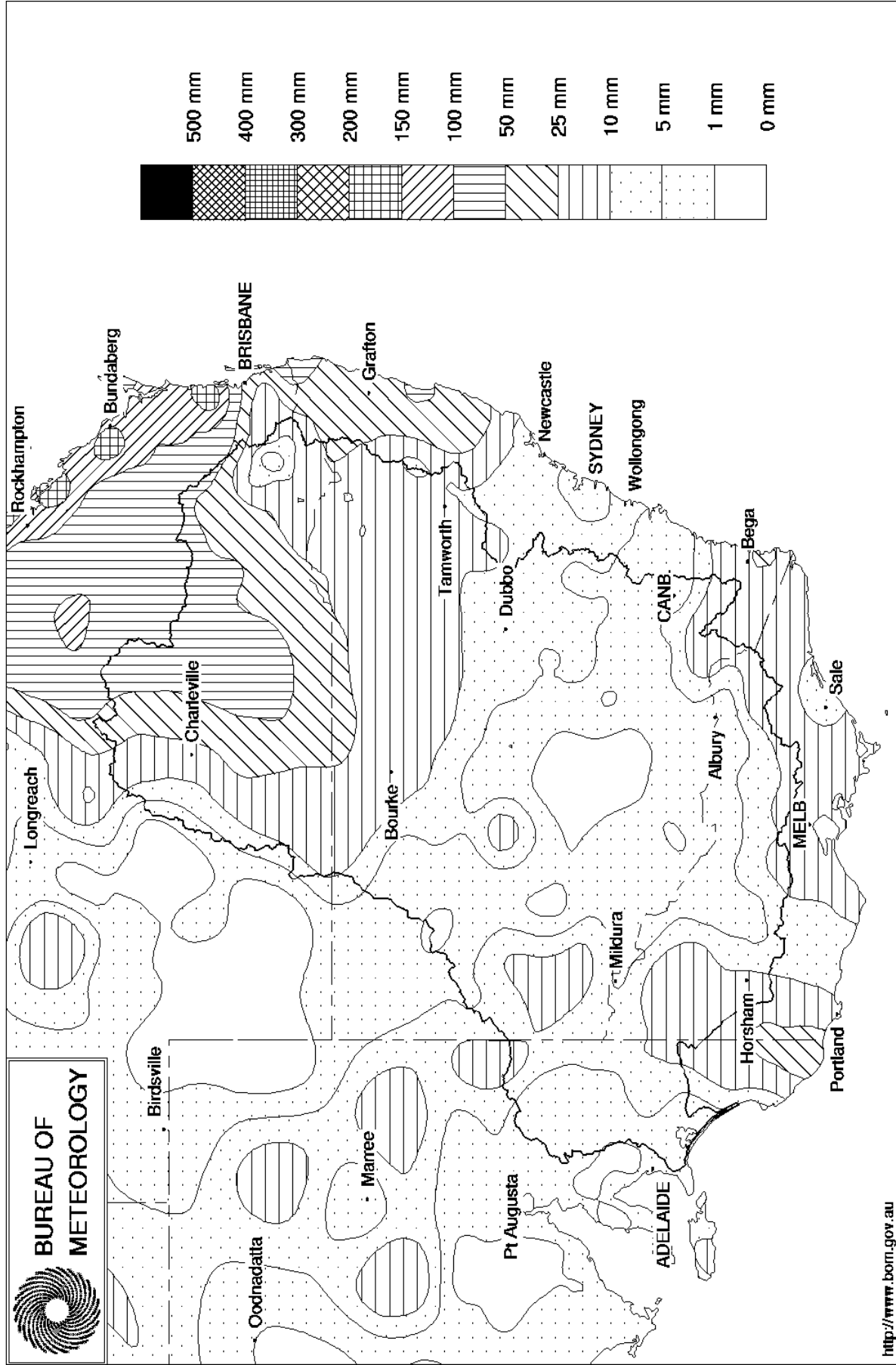
A preliminary forecast for the River Murray at Euston is for flow to reach a peak of about 35 000 ML/day in late November. However, early forecasts may be unreliable as it is very difficult to predict the influence of the Barmah-Millewa Forest on the peak flow at Barmah and in the Edward River system at Deniliquin. Additional rainfall in tributary catchments downstream of Barmah, and the timing of associated inflows, may produce a higher peak at Euston. This forecast will be refined after details of the peak in the River Murray at Barmah become available by about 8 November.

Salinity in the River Murray at Swan Hill increased from an average of 130 EC last week to a peak of 430 EC on 28 October, as a result of increased saline input from Victorian tributaries following rainfall in the Torrumbarry Irrigation District early in the week. Inflow from the Loddon River is expected to peak early next week, however the influx of slightly more saline water from the Loddon will be offset by rising flow in the River Murray.

DAVID DOLE  
General Manager

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 1st November 2000

Product of the National Climate Centre



<http://www.bom.gov.au>

© Commonwealth of Australia 2000, Bureau of Meteorology ID code: IDCRFXMD.2000102620001101.bw.img

Issued: 01/11/2000

**Water in Storage**

MDBC Storages	FSL	Full Supply GL	Level m AHD	Storage		Dead storage GL	Active storage GL	Change for week GL
	m AHD			GL	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486	3906	470.02	2938	75%	80	2858	+72
Hume Reservoir	192	3038	191.99	3037	100%	30	3007	-29
Lake Victoria	27	680	25.78	546	80%	100	446	+1
Menindee		1682 *		1926	115%	480 #	1446	-11
<b>Total</b>		<b>9306</b>		<b>8447</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>7757</b>	<b>+33</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **90%**

# NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

**Major State Storages**

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	766	75%	3	763	+29
Blowering Reservoir	1631	1465	90%	24	1441	+42
Eildon Reservoir	3390	1597	47%	100	1497	+73

**Snowy Mountains Scheme**

Snowy diversions for week ending 31-Oct-2000

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversions	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2846	+64	Snowy-Murray	+1	503
Snowy-Murray Component	1376	+35	Tooma-Tumut	+11	249
Target Storage	1450		Nett Diversion	-9.3	254
			Murray 1 Release	+15	783

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	17.7	358.8
Wakool System loss	0.0	4.4
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	3.6
Licensed Pumps	3.6	70.3
Lower Darling	0.2	124.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>561.5</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	3.2	59.6
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	2.6	212.1
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.5	19.1
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.3	8.7
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.7	44.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>344.1</b>

**Flow to South Australia (GL)**

Entitlement this month	180
Flow this week	201.0
Flow so far this month	27
Flow last month	997

**Salinity (EC)**

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	210	304	204
Euston	170	126	189
Red Cliffs	160	170	229
Merbein	110	130	184
Burtundy	440	445	422
Lock 9	150	153	224
L. Victoria	180	259	318
Berri	230	241	310
Waikerie	300	300	363
Morgan	300	305	367
Mannum	300	294	365
Murray Bridge	300	290	357
Meningie	1240	1250	1275
Goolwa Barrages	670	712	1792



**River Levels and Flows**

	Minor Flood stage	Gauge height	Flow	Trend	Average flow this week	Average flow last week
<b>River Murray</b>	m	m	ML/day		ML/day	ML/day
Khancoban	-	-	3890	S	5890	9950
Jingellic	4.0	2.81	15860	F	24480	29240
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	2.32	4320	F	6380	5390
Heywoods	5.5	3.44	20280	F	44510	34150
Doctors Point	5.5	4.15	28400	F	57990	43830
Albury	4.3	3.32	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	6.50	63200	F	60770	30460
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	6.53	87100	S	77540	34090
Tocumwal	6.4	6.57	88704	R	64190	27020
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	6.59	29717	R	21950	14880
Stevens Weir (d/s)		4.83	9890	R	8104	4291
Swan Hill	4.5	3.40	20800	R	18730	16780
Wakool Junction	8.8	6.19	25227	S	25180	27700
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	4.00	26600	F	27690	31520
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.43	25680	F	27570	31730
Rufus Junction	-	5.74	25681	F	28250	31740
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	31800	F	34230	35740
<b>Tributaries</b>						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.49	4210	F	8090	7090
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	11.26	16316	F	28450	17180
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	6.05	12154	F	11590	1350
Edward at Liewah	-	3.45	3480	R	3700	4710
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.84	3410	F	4370	6790
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	2.54	2630	R	950	510
Darling at Bourke	-	4.30	1670	R	1500	960
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.89	654	S	650	630
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.36	370	F	320	200

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	52890	50200
---	-------	-------

**Weirs and Locks**

**Pool levels above or below design level**

<b>Murray</b>	FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (M AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	+0.11	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.60	+3.42
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.06	+1.65
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.16	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.16	+1.52
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.02	+1.56	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.08	+2.49
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.06	+1.79	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.00	+1.91
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.02	+1.02	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.05	+2.02
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.06	+1.67	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.10	+1.34

<b>Murrumbidgee</b>	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	+0.25	2.94	5120
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.15	2.80	4040

**Barrages**

**FSL = 0.75 m AHD**

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.68	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.75	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.76	All closed

