

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 6 September 2000

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :ng:bwh

8 September, 2000



Between 25 and 50 mm of rain in the catchments of Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs has maintained inflows to these upper Murray storages. Elsewhere in the Basin, falls of between 10 and 25 mm were received across much of South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales with some lighter falls of less than 5 mm recorded in Queensland.

Inflow to Hume Reservoir remained near 25 000 ML/day most of the week, and is now slowly receding. The rate of pre-release from Hume was increased during the week to assist in maintaining airspace for flood mitigation purposes, and is now at 16 000 ML/day with the river level at Albury steady at 2.5 m. Storage in Hume is now at 91% of capacity (2778 GL or 1.3 m below full supply level) and rising slowly. If there is significant further rain the rate of pre-release will be increased. River Murray Water is also closely monitoring trends in irrigation demand, to ensure that the storage is subsequently filled, particularly if there is a return to drier conditions.

In response to renewed rises in the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers, and the continuing pre-release from Hume Reservoir, release from Yarrawonga Weir has been increased to 30 000 ML/day. Further increases in the release at Yarrawonga to at least 32 000 ML/day will be made next week, and higher release rates can be expected with further significant rain upstream.

Inflow to the River Murray from the Goulburn River peaked at 10 000 ML/day, and is now receding. Consequently, flow in the River Murray at Swan Hill has risen to 15 500 ML/day and will remain near this level next week. Inflow from the Murrumbidgee River has increased and is now steady at about 7 000 ML/day. Accordingly, flow in the River Murray at Euston increased to about 21 000 ML/day this week, and is expected to peak at about 25 000 ML/day next week. Further downstream at Wentworth, flow is also expected to peak at about 25 000 ML/day by about 20 September.

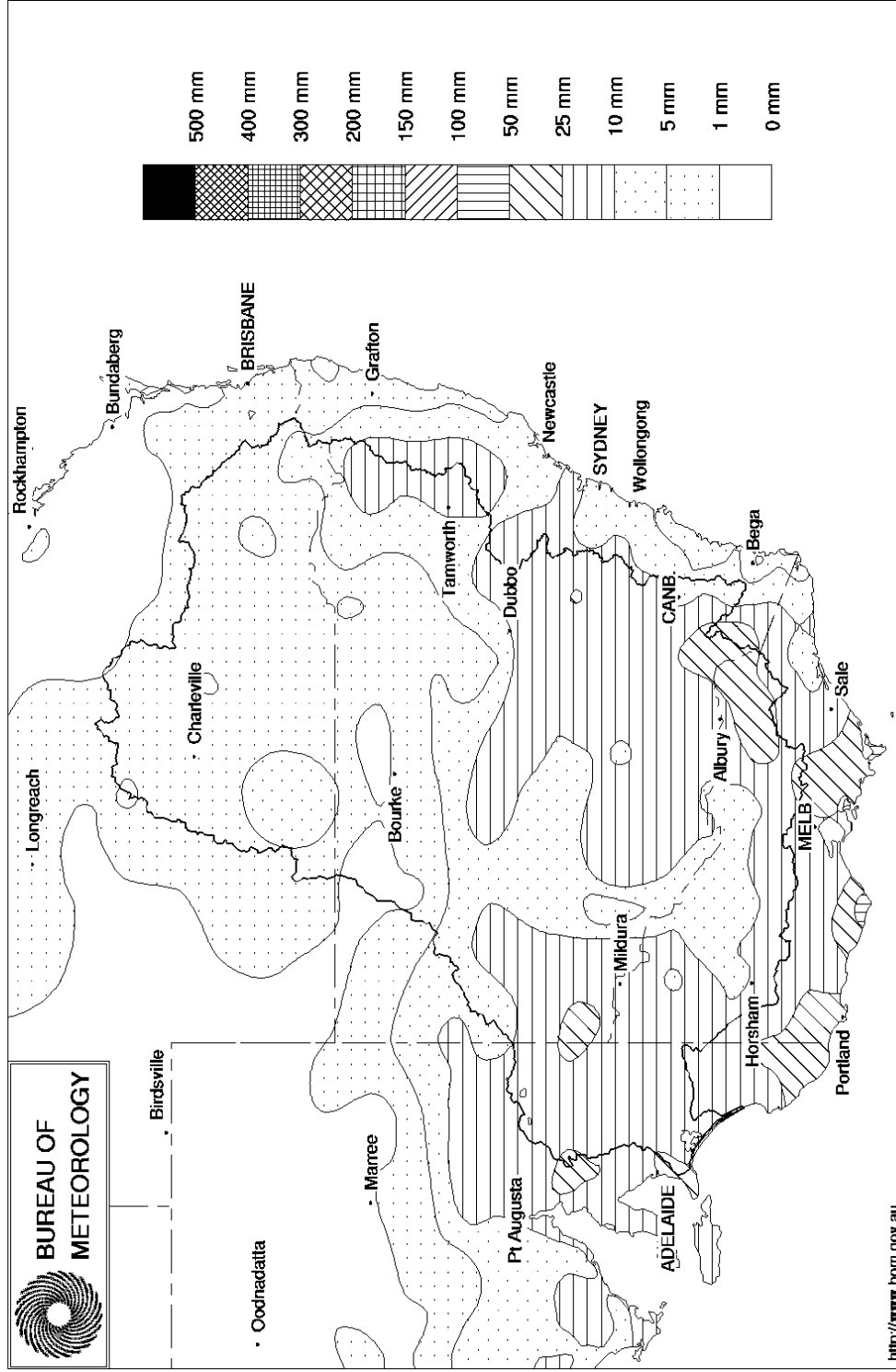
Flow in the Darling River at Wilcannia declined by 500 ML/day to 4 000 ML/day, and inflow to Menindee Lakes has continued to slowly decline. Rainfall on the Lakes this week has raised the storage slightly above the maximum surcharge volume. Release from the Lakes to the lower Darling will now be maintained at 1 500 ML/day until further notice to bring the storage back to maximum surcharge volume.

Lake Victoria water level was drawn down by 0.1 m to 81% of capacity (549 GL or 1.2 m below Full Supply Level). As a result of this operation and existing flows in the Murray, flow to South Australia has been increased by 6 000 ML/day to 22 000 ML/day (well above the current September entitlement of 4 500 ML/day plus 3 000 ML/day additional dilution flow), and a further increase to about 23 000 ML/day is expected next week. With increased flow volume now in the mid-Murray, Lake Victoria water level can be further drawn down prior to subsequently filling the Lake.

The lower Lakes near the Murray Mouth are currently being surcharged with increased flows from the River Murray. In the near future, the surcharged volume will be used, when tidal conditions are favourable, to make a short-term pulsed release from the Barrages aimed at scouring accumulated sand from the Murray Mouth.

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General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 6th September 2000
 Product of the National Climate Centre



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Week ending 06-Sep-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	461.71	2497	64%	80	2417	+32
Hume Reservoir	192	3038	190.68	2778	91%	30	2748	+121
Lake Victoria	27	680	25.81	549	81%	100	449	-10
Menindee		1682 *		2006	119%	480 #	1526	+10
Total		9306		7829	84%	690	7139	+153

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL
NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **83%**

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1026	556	54%	3	553	+14
Blowering Reservoir	1631	1140	70%	24	1116	+43
Eildon Reservoir	3390	1017	30%	100	917	+58

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 05-Sep-2000

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1st May
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2255	+10	Snowy-Murray	+26	485
Snowy-Murray Component	994	-14	Tooma-Tumut	+8	101
Target Storage	1240		Nett Diversion	18.5	384
			Murray 1 Release	+31	563

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	13.0	71.3
Wakool System loss	0.6	4.4
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	0.7
Licensed Pumps	2.4	24.0
Lower Darling	9.1	79.8
TOTAL	25.0	180.1

Victoria	This week	From 1 July
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	1.7	5.0
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	14.4	98.8
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.1	2.1
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.5	1.5
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.0	17.2
TOTAL	19.7	124.5

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	135
Flow this week	134.1
Flow so far this month	118
Flow last month	443

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August
Swan Hill	250	278	210
Euston	200	225	214
Red Cliffs	290	250	255
Merbein	280	190	206
Burtundy	430	434	397
Lock 9	200	261	252
L. Victoria	370	373	344
Berri	340	343	333
Waikerie	370	370	374
Morgan	370	404	405
Mannum	340	317	402
Murray Bridge	300	307	376
Meningie	1290	1180	1219
Goolwa Barrages	1160	1063	1045



Week ending 06-Sep-2000

River Levels and Flows

	Minor Flood stage	Gauge height	Flow	Trend	Average flow this week	Average flow last week
River Murray	m	m	ML/day		ML/day	ML/day
Khancoban	-	-	6020	F	6580	7730
Jingellic	4.0	2.85	16310	F	17220	18570
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.95	2540	R	2650	2960
Heywoods	5.5	3.05	16100	S	10200	620
Doctors Point	5.5	3.42	19300	R	13900	4810
Albury	4.3	2.48	-	F	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.46	18900	R	11330	5760
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	3.85	30000	R	22330	15810
Tocumwal	6.4	3.90	24444	R	19120	15900
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.71	17409	R	16160	12090
Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	2.78	3570	R	3104	2317
Swan Hill	4.5	2.65	15520	F	14070	9950
Wakool Junction	8.8	5.00	18000	R	15170	11630
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	3.43	21270	R	18790	13710
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.80	18540	R	16960	12600
Rufus Junction	-	5.33	20956	R	18370	13900
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	20700	R	17610	14290
Tributaries						
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.45	3860	S	4070	3800
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	11.24	16037	F	15730	11890
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	4.89	8302	F	8780	4800
Edward at Liewah	-	3.21	3070	R	2250	1520
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.58	672	S	700	650
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	4.82	7270	S	7060	4780
Darling at Bourke	-	4.39	2430	R	2090	2090
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	1.24	1770	S	1780	1730
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.20	60	F	100	60

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	27930	25560
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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
Yarrawonga	124.90	+0.00	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.20	+3.01
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.02	+1.15
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.03	+1.06
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.92	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.01	+1.98
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+1.16	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.02	+1.24
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.00	+0.35	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+1.24
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.05	+0.70	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	+0.80

Murrumbidgee	FSL (M AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht. metres	Flow ML/day
No. 7 Maude	75.40	+0.25	4.26	9340
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.15	4.60	7670

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.86	20
Mundoo	26 openings	0.86	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.88	30

