

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 30 January 2002

Our Ref : MDBC:269 :brc:bwh

1 February, 2002



Isolated thunderstorm activity associated with a low pressure trough was responsible for variable rainfall totals in the Basin this week. Little to no rain fell in the Murray Valley, however, cooler temperatures following last week's change led to lower demand for irrigation water. Rainfall totals in the north of the Basin were highly variable due to some thunderstorm activity. However, these falls had little effect on streamflows in the Darling River system because of dry antecedent conditions.

Release from Hume Reservoir averaged 20 900 ML/day at Albury, which was significantly less than the average of 24 400 ML/day last week, in response to reduced irrigation demand and losses. Flow at Albury is likely to be increased to about 23 000 ML/day next week unless there is further rain. Storage in Hume fell by 107 GL this week to 1 437 GL (47% capacity), which compares with 1 869 GL (62% capacity) at the same time last season.

Diversion from Lake Mulwala averaged 11 300 ML/day (about 86% of maximum) this week. Release from Yarrawonga Weir was reduced from 10 400 ML/day to 9 800 ML/day in view of reduced requirements further downstream; however, the release rate is expected to be increased to near channel capacity at Barmah next week if conditions remain dry. In the Edward/Wakool River system, flow at the Wakool River Escape (via Mulwala Canal) was increased to 500 ML/day this week to assist in bypassing the Barmah Choke and assisting in meeting downstream water demand along the Murray. Wakool Escape flow will be reduced next week in response to the recent easing of demand downstream of the Barmah Choke.

Diversion from the Torrumbarry Weir pool to National Channel was reduced from 3 800 to 2 800 ML/day toward the end of the week, as irrigation water demand in the Torrumbarry Irrigation system remained relatively low after last week's rainfall, and Kow Swamp was filled early in the week.

Euston Weir pool level was drawn down in the range of 5 to 15 cm below full since early December, in order to assist in meeting flow requirements along the mid Murray during period of high demand. However, recent reductions in diversions and losses following last week's rainfall have resulted in increased flow downstream of Torrumbarry Weir which has assisted in refilling Euston Weir pool. Flow passing Euston Weir is expected to average about 4 300 ML/day next week, slightly above the average requirement of about 3 500 ML/day, as a result of rain rejection of ordered irrigation water.

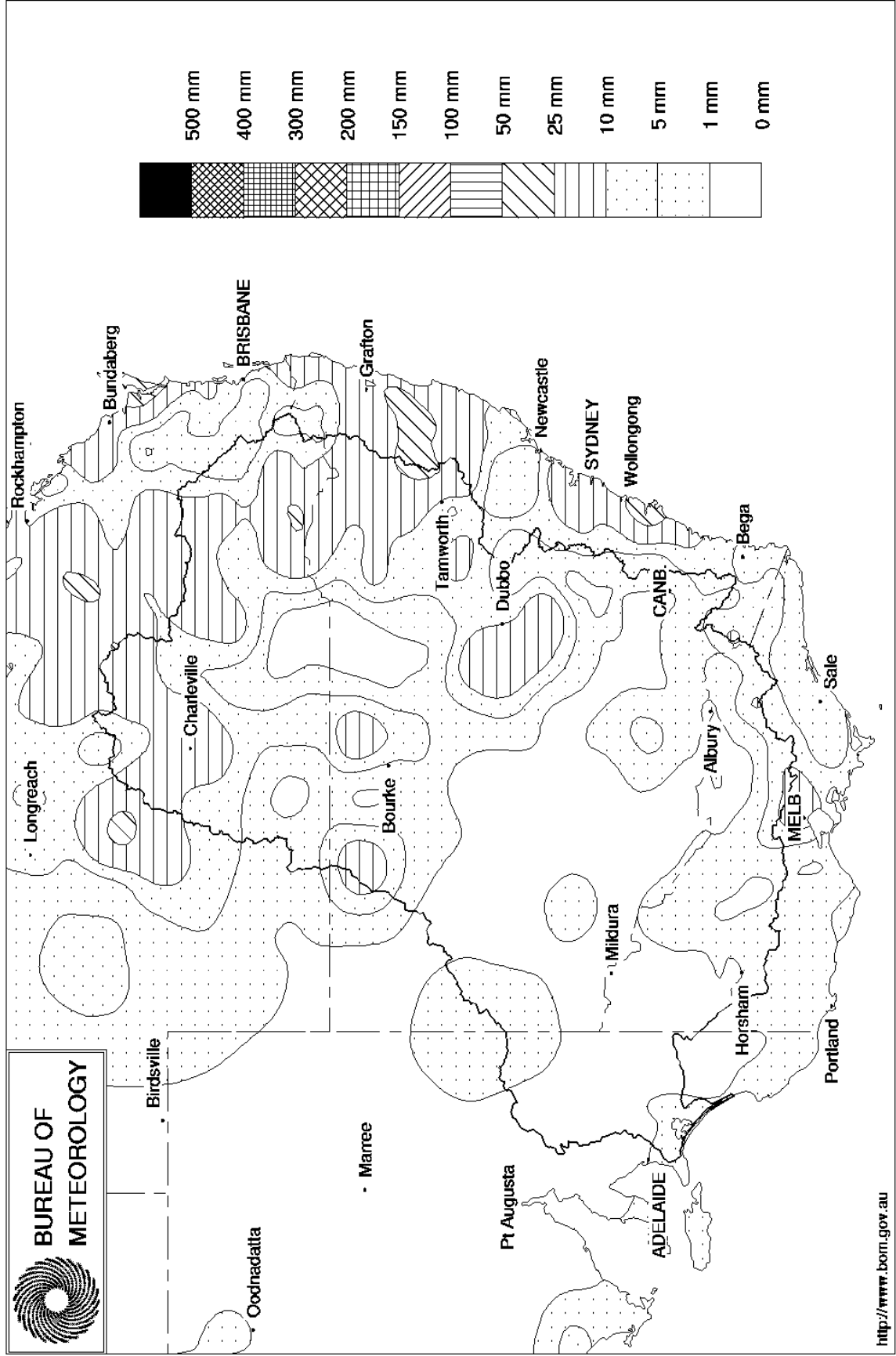
Flow at Mildura has increased slightly to 2 500 ML/day, and is forecast to rise further next week as increased flows in transit in the mid-Murray reach Mildura. Flows in the Sunraysia region in recent weeks (including pulsing of flow downstream of Euston Weir) are shown on the attached diagram.

Storage in Menindee Lakes has continued to recede steadily as water is released to assist in meeting downstream requirements; and storage has fallen by 21 GL to 637 GL (32% of surcharge capacity). Upstream, no significant increase in flow in the Darling River at Wilcannia is expected without further rainfall. As a result, storage in Menindee Lakes is expected to fall to the level where control of release will revert to New South Wales (for regional water supply requirements and security) in late February or early March.

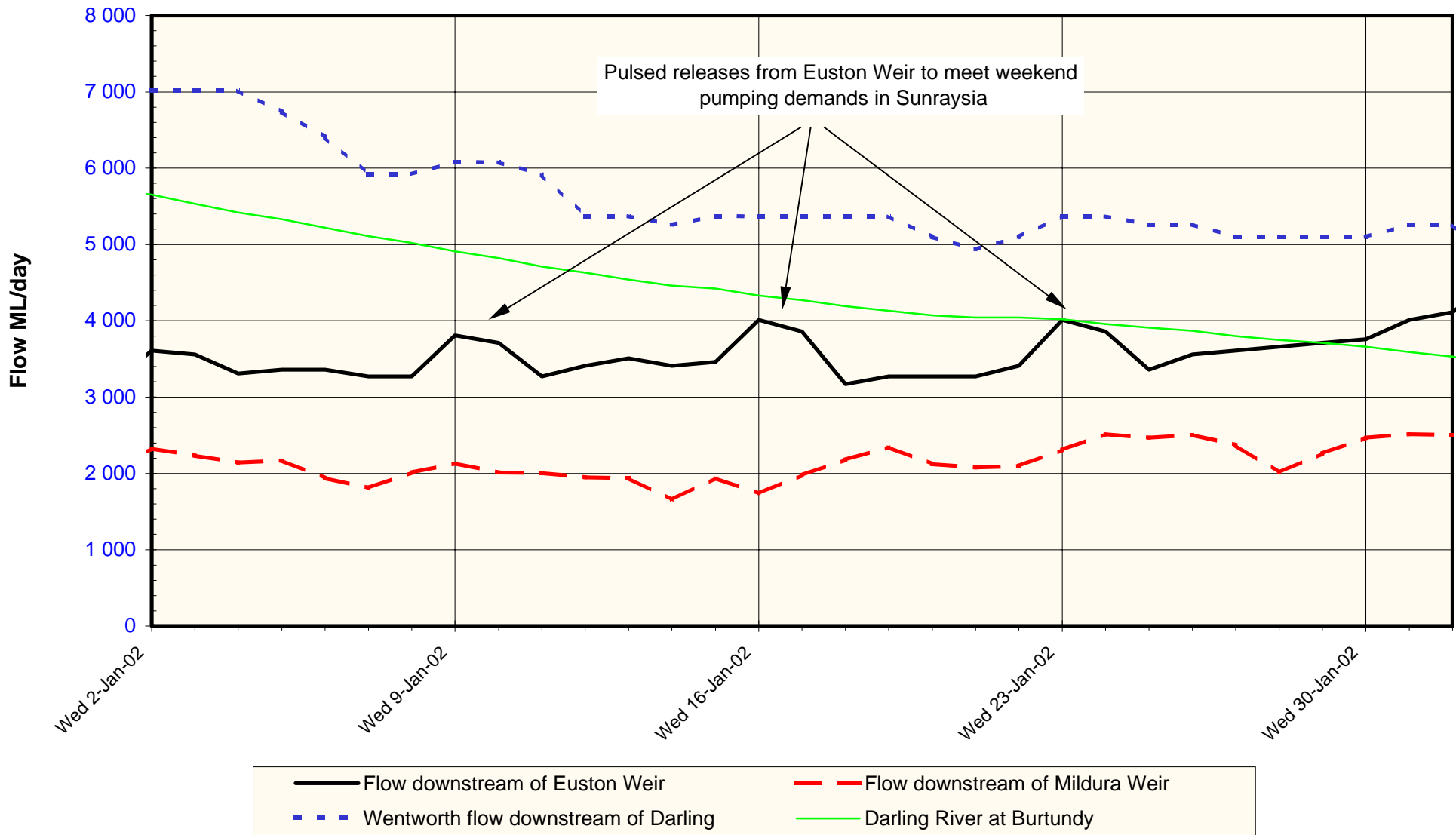
DAVID DOLE
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 30th January 2002

Product of the National Climate Centre



River Murray Flow: Euston to Wentworth



Week ending 30-Jan-2002

Water in Storage

| MDBC Storages | Full Supply Level m AHD | Full Supply Capacity GL | Storage Level m AHD | Current Storage | | Dead storage GL | Active storage GL | Change for the week GL |
|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | GL | % | | | |
| Dartmouth Reservoir | 486.00 | 3906 | 476.93 | 3338 | 85% | 80 | 3258 | -2 |
| Hume Reservoir | 192.00 | 3038 | 182.26 | 1437 | 47% | 30 | 1407 | -107 |
| Lake Victoria | 27.00 | 680 | 25.48 | 514 | 76% | 100 | 414 | -22 |
| Menindee | | 1682 * | | 637 | 38% | 480 # | 157 | -21 |
| Total | | 9306 | | 5926 | 64% | 690 | 5236 | -153 |

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **61%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|------|--|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Burrinjuck Reservoir | 1026 | | 178 | 17% | 3 | 175 | -20 |
| Blowering Reservoir | 1631 | | 476 | 29% | 24 | 452 | -50 |
| Eildon Reservoir | 3390 | | 1083 | 32% | 100 | 983 | -31 |

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 29-Jan-2002

| Storage (GL) | Current storage | Weekly change | Diversion | This week | From 1st May |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Lake Eucumbene - Total | 3072 | -19 | Snowy-Murray | +20 | 592 |
| Snowy-Murray Component | 1382 | - | Tooma-Tumut | +1 | 216 |
| Target Storage | 1520 | | Nett Diversion | 19.1 | 376 |
| | | | Murray 1 Release | +23 | 876 |

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

| New South Wales | This week | From 1 July | Victoria | This week | From 1 July |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net) | 52.8 | 1010.0 | Yarrowonga Main Channel (net) | 18.8 | 336.3 |
| Wakool System loss | 2.0 | 24.3 | Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net) | 20.1 | 512.8 |
| Western Murray Irrig. | 1.4 | 18.7 | Sunraysia Pumped Districts | 6.6 | 105.9 |
| Licensed Pumps | 13.2 | 220.8 | Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s) | 2.4 | 46.5 |
| Lower Darling | 5.3 | 70.7 | Licensed pumps - SRW | 4.9 | 120.4 |
| TOTAL | 74.7 | 1344.5 | TOTAL | 52.7 | 1121.9 |

Flow to South Australia (GL)

| | |
|------------------------|------|
| Entitlement this month | 217 |
| Flow this week | 49.9 |
| Flow so far this month | 213 |
| Flow last month | 220 |

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25 C)

| | Current | Average over the last week | Average since 1 August |
|-----------------|---------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Swan Hill | 150 | 178 | 214 |
| Euston | 190 | 178 | 236 |
| Red Cliffs | 240 | 250 | 308 |
| Merbein | 280 | 280 | 297 |
| Burtundy | 580 | 559 | 449 |
| Lock 9 | 490 | 490 | 400 |
| L. Victoria | 450 | 449 | 385 |
| Berri | 540 | 538 | 447 |
| Waikerie | 580 | 580 | 538 |
| Morgan | 590 | 594 | 535 |
| Mannum | 600 | 600 | 522 |
| Murray Bridge | 630 | 619 | 558 |
| Meningie | 1390 | 1360 | 1203 |
| Goolwa Barrages | 1570 | 1685 | 1404 |



Week ending 30-Jan-2002

River Levels and Flows

| | Minor Flood stage | Gauge height | Flow | Trend | Average flow this week | Average flow last week |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------|-------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | m | m | ML/day | | ML/day | ML/day |
| River Murray | | | | | | |
| Khancoban | - | - | 4320 | R | 3500 | 4010 |
| Jingellic | 4.0 | 1.63 | 4350 | F | 5330 | 4940 |
| Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River) | 4.2 | 1.56 | 1160 | R | 1190 | 1220 |
| Heywoods | 5.5 | 3.48 | 21030 | R | 20000 | 23860 |
| Doctors Point | 5.5 | 3.65 | 22100 | R | 20930 | 24370 |
| Albury | 4.3 | 2.68 | - | F | - | - |
| Corowa | 7.0 | 3.72 | 20900 | R | 22190 | 24840 |
| Yarrowonga Weir (d/s) | 6.4 | 1.74 | 10000 | F | 10300 | 10400 |
| Tocumwal | 6.4 | 2.28 | 9697 | F | 9820 | 9810 |
| Torrumbarry Weir (d/s) | 7.3 | 1.87 | 5154 | F | 5040 | 3980 |
| Stevens Weir (d/s) | - | -9.00 | 1290 | F | 1560 | 1310 |
| Swan Hill | 4.5 | 1.06 | 4650 | R | 3930 | 3320 |
| Wakool Junction | 8.8 | 2.36 | 5102.5 | R | 4740 | 4390 |
| Euston Weir (d/s) | 8.8 | 0.96 | 3760 | R | 3650 | 3470 |
| Mildura Weir (d/s) | | 30.82 | 2467 | F | 2370 | 2160 |
| Wentworth Weir (d/s) | 7.3 | 2.88 | 5100 | S | 5180 | 5230 |
| Rufus Junction | - | 3.56 | 6856 | R | 6600 | 6630 |
| Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s) | - | - | 4220 | S | 4350 | 3910 |
| Tributaries | | | | | | |
| Kiewa at Bandiana | 2.7 | 0.72 | 260 | F | 430 | 270 |
| Ovens at Wangaratta | 11.9 | 7.72 | 270 | F | 390 | 230 |
| Goulburn at McCoys Bridge | 9.0 | 1.19 | 433 | F | 600 | 500 |
| Edward at Liewah | - | 1.67 | 1060 | R | 1050 | 1070 |
| Wakool at Stoney Crossing | - | 0.51 | 521 | R | 530 | 530 |
| Murrumbidgee at Balranald | 5.0 | 0.45 | 200 | F | 220 | 210 |
| Darling at Bourke | - | 4.00 | 170 | F | 230 | 340 |
| Darling at Burtundy Rocks | - | 2.23 | 3660 | F | 3810 | 4110 |
| Barwon at Mungindi | - | 2.61 | 0 | F | 0 | 0 |

| | | |
|---|------|------|
| Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme) | 3230 | 1410 |
|---|------|------|

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 | +0.04 | - | No. 7 Rufus River | 22.10 | +0.11 | +1.25 |
| No 26 Torrumbarry | 86.05 | +0.00 | - | No. 6 Murtho | 19.25 | +0.05 | +0.13 |
| No. 15 Euston | 47.60 | +0.01 | - | No. 5 Renmark | 16.30 | +0.02 | +0.21 |
| No. 11 Mildura | 34.40 | +0.07 | +0.02 | No. 4 Bookpurnong | 13.20 | +0.03 | +0.70 |
| No. 10 Wentworth | 30.80 | +0.00 | +0.24 | No.3 Overland Corner | 9.80 | +0.01 | +0.19 |
| No. 9 Kulnine | 27.40 | +0.01 | -0.01 | No. 2 Waikerie | 6.10 | +0.02 | +0.15 |
| No. 8 Wangumma | 24.60 | +0.02 | +0.12 | No 1. Blanchetown | 3.20 | +0.03 | +0.02 |

| Murrumbidgee | FSL (M AHD) | relation to FSL | d/s gauge ht. metres | Flow ML/day |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|
| No. 7 Maude | 75.40 | -0.05 | 1.03 | 865 |
| No. 5 Redbank | 66.90 | -1.17 | 0.16 | 278 |

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

| | Openings | Level | Status |
|----------------|--------------|-------|------------|
| Goolwa | 128 openings | 0.70 | All closed |
| Mundoo | 26 openings | 0.68 | All closed |
| Boundary Creek | 6 openings | - | All closed |
| Ewe Island | 111 gates | - | All closed |
| Tauwichee | 322 gates | 0.68 | All closed |

