

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 4 September 2002

Our Ref: MDBC:269 :ng:bwh

6 September, 2002



## *Rain brings little improvement*

The very dry conditions experienced over the past few months throughout the Basin are continuing. Despite widespread rain across southern parts of the Basin in two events over the last week, totals were generally less than 20 mm. This had little effect on inflows in the upper Murray, and very little effect on tributary inflows downstream of Hume Dam. The increase in inflow to upper Murray storages arising from the recent rain is only about 25 GL – this is equivalent to less than 1% of capacity of Hume Reservoir, or equivalent to about one day of channel capacity release from Hume.

Irrigation demand has declined significantly throughout the week, partly in response to the recent rain and partly due to some NSW Murray irrigators having already exhausted their allocation for this irrigation season. As a result, release from Hume Reservoir has been reduced from channel capacity rates of 25 000 ML/day at Albury/Wodonga to 18 000 ML/day. Transfer of water from Dartmouth Reservoir to Hume is being maintained at channel capacity in the Mitta Mitta River.

Total diversion from Lake Mulwala was reduced from 12 300 ML/day (89% of capacity) to 7 800 ML/day (57% of capacity), however this includes about 2 600 ML/day being transferred through the Edward/Wakool system to assist with transfer of water to Lake Victoria. Diversion to the Torrumbarry Irrigation system via National Channel has been reduced from 4 100 (near current capacity) to 2 700 ML/day (about 64% of capacity). Similar reductions in private diversions have been seen along the mid reaches of the River Murray.

## *Transfer of water to Lake Victoria*

Flow downstream of Yarrawonga Weir has been maintained at about 13 000 ML/day, of which about 3 500 is a transfer of water from Hume Reservoir to Lake Victoria. Currently RMW is transferring about 2 600 ML/day through the Edward/Wakool River system via Mulwala Canal, and this is forecast to increase slightly next week. The rate of transfer will be reviewed if there is a significant improvement in inflow conditions. With increased flow in transit along the River Murray, flow downstream of Mildura Weir (currently 2 300 ML/day) is expected to gradually rise to about 7 000 ML/day by late September. Storage in Lake Victoria, currently 372 GL (55% of capacity), is expected to continue to fall to about 350 GL by about 20 September then begin to gradually rise as increased Murray flows arrive.

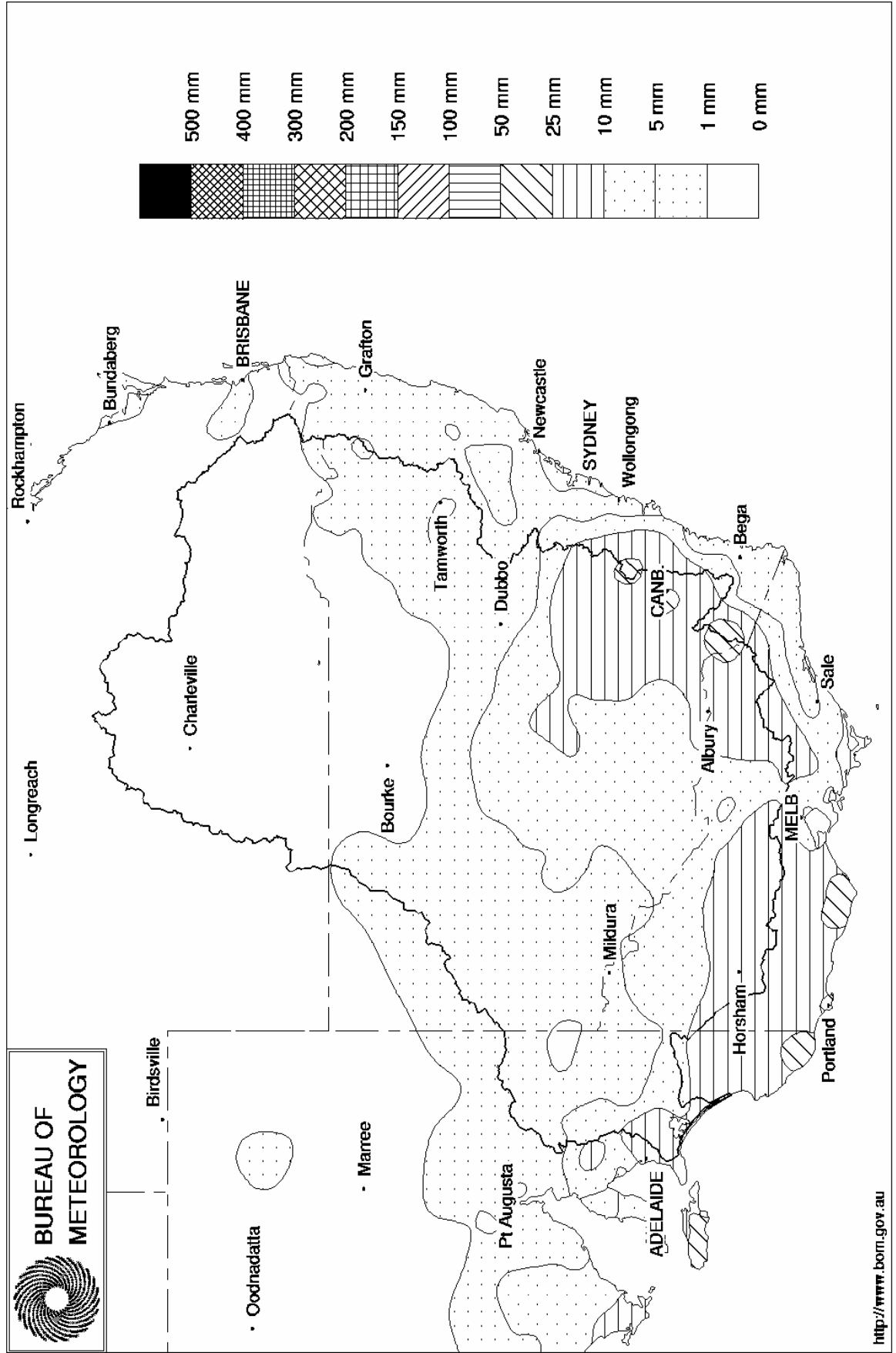
## *Murray Mouth*

There has been no flow through the barrages at the Murray Mouth since November 2001, and significant volumes of accumulated sand remain near the Mouth and the Coorong channel. There is virtually no prospect of increased flow in the River Murray in South Australia in coming months due to dry conditions upstream. If no action is taken, there is a high likelihood of closure of the Mouth, or the Coorong channel adjacent to the Mouth, due to natural weather and tidal conditions. A proposal for works aimed at keeping the Mouth open is being prepared with South Australian agencies for consideration by the Commission in mid September.

DAVID DOLE  
General Manager

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 3rd September 2002

Product of the National Climate Centre



## Week ending Wednesday 04 Sep 2002

### Water in Storage

MDBC Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	Active Storage (GL)	Change in Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	469.29	2 898	74%	80	2 818	-56
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	176.50	784	26%	30	754	-42
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	24.12	373	55%	100	273	-22
Menindee Lakes		1 682 *		350	21%	640 #	0	-7
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 306</b>		<b>4 404</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>3 844</b>	<b>-127</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 1999 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **45%**

# NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

### Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	307	30%	3	304	+6
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	517	32%	24	493	+5
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	792	23%	100	692	-20

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 03-Sep-2002

Storage (GL)	Current storage	Weekly change	Diversion	This week	From 1 May 2002
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 959	+25	Snowy-Murray	+4	172
Snowy-Murray Component	1 353	-	Tooma-Tumut	+5	101
Target Storage	1 240		Nett Diversion	-0.6	71
			Murray 1 Release	+11	278

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2002
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	40.8	151.9
Wakool System loss	2.3	6.8
Western Murray Irrig.	0.3	2.0
Licensed Pumps	7.8	34.5
Lower Darling	4.2	35.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>231.0</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2002
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	11.8	58
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	24.3	195
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.2	9
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.5	5
Licensed pumps - SRW	2.0	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41.7</b>	<b>286</b>

### Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	135	(4 300 ML/day)
Flow this week	29.8	
Flow so far this month	18	
Flow last month	124	

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2002
Swan Hill	130	112	137
Euston	140	152	205
Red Cliffs	310	280	227
Merbein	250	250	220
Burtundy	810	809	822
Lock 9	290	289	269
Lake Victoria	380	369	352
Berri	400	399	421
Waikerie	-	-	-
Morgan	640	640	643
Mannum	660	656	658
Murray Bridge	750	742	724
Meningie	1 390	1 350	1 387
Goolwa Barrages	3 530	3 584	4 155



**River Levels and Flows**

	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)				
<b>River Murray</b>							
Khancoban	-	-	-	3 800	R	2 300	2 060
Jingellic	4.0	1.77	208.29	5 410	R	4 810	4 650
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	3.10	219.99	9 400	F	9 740	9 570
Heywoods	5.5	3.15	156.78	17 730	F	19 710	24 320
Doctors Point	5.5	3.32	151.79	18 000	F	20 390	24 790
Albury	4.3	2.35	149.79	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.82	129.84	21 700	R	22 670	24 070
Yarrawonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.13	117.17	13 000	S	13 000	12 290
Tocumwal	6.4	2.66	106.50	12 840	R	12 730	11 780
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.20	80.75	6 450	R	5 000	3 270
Swan Hill	4.5	0.91	63.83	3 810	R	3 300	2 300
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.19	51.31	4 410	R	3 900	2 900
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.03	42.87	4 510	R	3 630	3 260
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.83	2 320	F	2 210	2 260
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.79	27.55	2 180	R	2 180	2 390
Rufus Junction	-	3.02	18.08	4 050	S	3 780	3 560
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	2 590	F	2 630	2 860
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.15	154.38	830	R	840	860
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.13	145.81	1 000	R	1 000	1 260
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.27	92.69	553	R	480	420
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 900	F	2 340	1 470
Edward at Liewah	-	1.97	57.35	1 370	R	1 430	1 160
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.18	54.67	75	R	60	60
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.50	56.46	230	S	230	290
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.14	-	0	F	30	40
Darling at Bourke	-	3.99	-	140	R	130	150
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.64	-	10	S	10	30

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	5 760	5 180
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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	-0.08	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.11	+0.69
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	+0.02
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.12
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.03	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.03	+0.40
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.01	+0.15	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.02	+0.13
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.00	+0.00	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.01	+0.08
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.03	+0.11	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	-0.01

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-1.08	0.55	69.9	252
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.36	0.08	61.38	212

**Barrages**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.66	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.64	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.73	All closed

AHD = Level relative to Australian Height Datum, i.e. height above sea level

