

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 10 December 2003

Our Ref : RMW305/01/01/ms:bwh:djd

29 April, 2004



Welcome Rain

Thunderstorm activity persisted during the early part of the week producing up to 50 mm of rain in southern parts of the Murray-Darling Basin (*see attached map*). Falls of between 50 and 150 mm were recorded in the upper Darling River system catchment resulting in moderate flooding in the Weir River in southern Queensland. However, it is anticipated that only a relatively small volume will arrive at Menindee Lakes. Updates on Darling River flows will be provided in coming weeks.

Upper Murray Storages

Inflow to upper Murray storages increased early in the week, but has remained at relatively low rates since then. Release from Dartmouth Reservoir was increased from 200 to about 1 000 ML/day specifically for electricity generation purposes in response to increased energy demand. Release is expected to return to minimum flow of 200 ML/day by late on 12 December. Release from Hume Reservoir was temporarily reduced in response to the rain but has since been increased to about 15 000 ML/day to meet increasing downstream demand.

Mid and Lower Murray

Release from Yarrawonga Weir has been maintained near channel capacity for the Barmah-Millewa Forest to continue to meet demand including transfer of water to Lake Victoria and irrigation demand. Transfer of water to Lake Victoria is also proceeding at near maximum rates via the Edward/Wakool System. Further downstream, flow at Euston Weir has been steady at about 8 500 ML/day, and is expected to remain near this rate next week.

Storage in Lake Victoria has temporarily levelled out at about 82% of capacity over the week, and is currently at a level of 25.9 m (1.1 m below full supply level). With increasing river and evaporation losses, the level of Lake Victoria is expected to begin to fall slowly next week. Flow to South Australia is being maintained at the December entitlement rate of 7 000 ML/day.

This is my final weekly report and I want to express my respect for, and my gratitude to, the many dedicated people who play such a vital role in the management of the River Murray / Lower Darling River System.

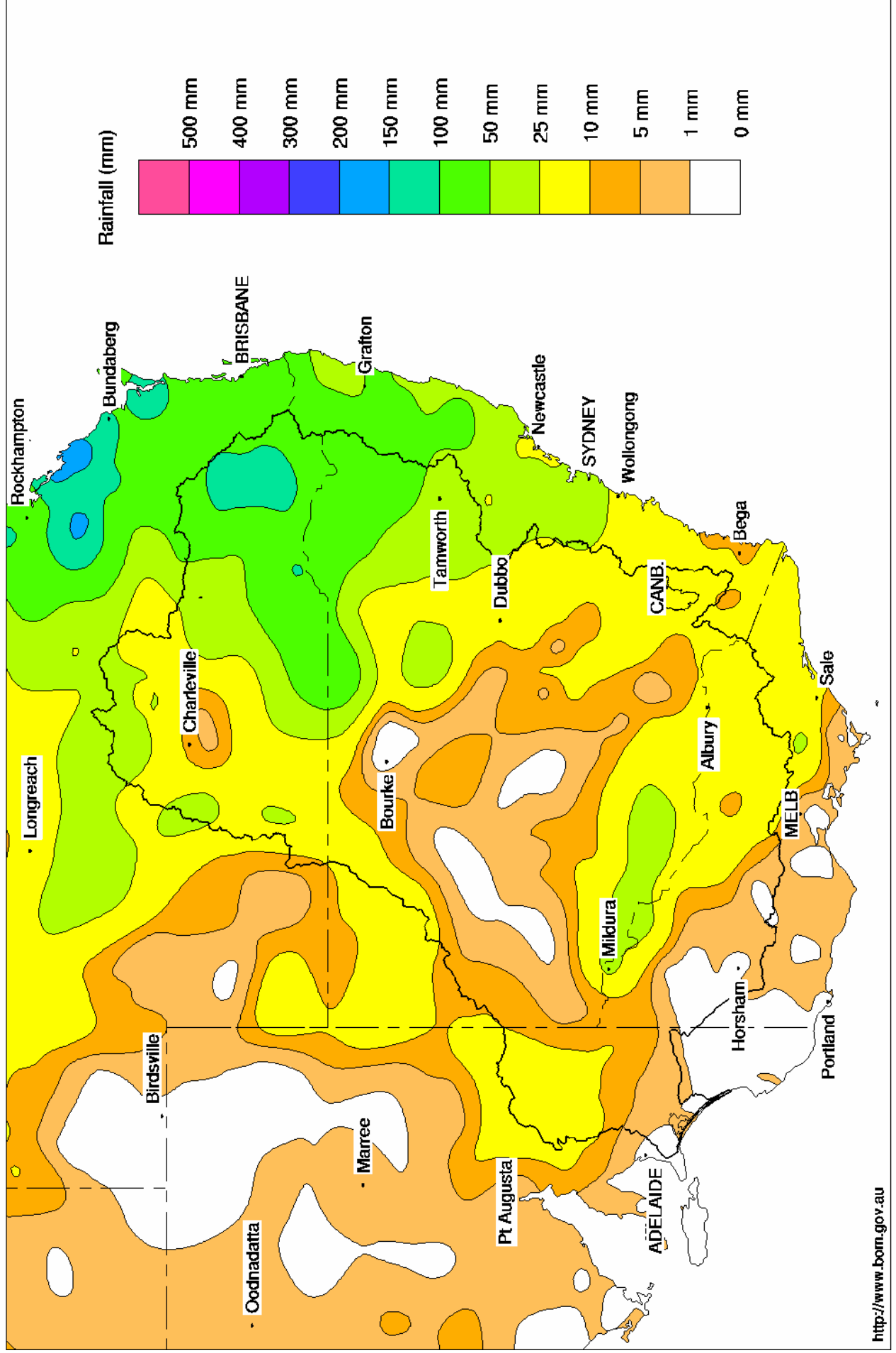
The River Murray is not only the link between us but also reflects how well we are achieving our purpose of contributing to the welfare of Australians in a sustainable way.

My sincere best wishes to you all for the future, and I welcome my successor David Dreverman to the role of General Manager River Murray Water.

DAVID DOLE
General Manager

River Murray Water
Sverdrup House ♦ 15 Moore Street Canberra ACT ♦ GPO Box 409 Canberra ACT 2601
Switchboard (02) 6279 0100 ♦ Weekly Report Enquiries (02) 6279 0126 ♦ Facsimile (02) 6230 6005
Internet : www.mdbc.gov.au

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 10th December 2003
 Product of the National Climate Centre



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	446.84	1 813	46%	80	1 733	+15
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	186.47	2 042	67%	30	2 012	-43
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	25.86	554	82%	100	454	-9
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		48	3%	640 #	0	-0
Total		9 227		4 456	48%	850	4 199	-37

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **50%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		508	50%	3	505	+32
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		962	59%	24	938	+41
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		1 429	42%	100	1 329	-14

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 09-Dec-2003

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2003
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 826	+9	Snowy-Murray	+0	529
Snowy-Murray Component	1 057	-	Tooma-Tumut	+6	221
Target Storage	1 510		Nett Diversion	-5.7	308
			Murray 1 Release	+9	809

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2003
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	11.9	275.8
Wakool System loss	0.0	14.3
Western Murray Irrig.	0.9	8.2
Licensed Pumps	6.8	78.5
Lower Darling	0.3	3.5
TOTAL	19.9	380.4

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2003
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	6.1	101
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	14.5	224
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	3.5	47
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.0	9
Licensed pumps - SRW	8.2	91
TOTAL	33.4	472

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	217	
Flow this week	49.1	(7 000 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	70	
Flow last month	179	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2003
Swan Hill	110	110	110
Euston	100	110	130
Red Cliffs	140	150	140
Merbein	170	170	140
Burtundy (Darling)	2 290	2 210	1 790
Lock 9	200	210	170
Lake Victoria	230	230	230
Berri	280	270	280
Waikerie	-	350	420
Morgan	390	390	430
Mannum	400	390	450
Murray Bridge	380	370	500
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 150	1 150	1 070
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 110	1 120	1 100
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 640	1 650	1 510
Goolwa Barrages	1 640	1 550	2 290



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)				
River Murray							
Khancoban	-	-	-	3 480	F	1 700	1 520
Jingellic	4.0	1.83	208.35	5 900	R	5 160	4 250
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.69	218.58	1 570	R	1 010	880
Heywoods	5.5	2.85	156.48	14 250	S	11 880	11 440
Doctors Point	5.5	3.10	151.57	15 100	R	12 750	12 160
Albury	4.3	2.07	149.51	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.02	129.04	15 500	R	13 760	11 880
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.82	116.86	10 500	S	10 510	10 500
Tocumwal	6.4	2.35	106.19	11 130	F	11 240	11 350
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.14	80.69	6 280	F	6 520	6 950
Swan Hill	4.5	1.30	64.22	6 320	R	6 040	7 200
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.21	52.33	9 000	R	9 020	8 260
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.67	43.51	8 040	S	8 490	6 440
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.02	7 420	F	7 390	4 020
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.99	27.75	6 600	F	6 350	3 060
Rufus Junction	-	3.47	20.40	6 570	R	6 650	5 960
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	4 060	R	3 720	3 880
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.55	154.78	1 490	R	1 450	1 290
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.45	146.13	1 969	S	2 450	2 000
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.34	92.76	654	F	740	790
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 900	F	2 880	2 920
Edward at Liewah	-	3.01	58.39	2 740	R	2 630	1 660
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.60	55.09	700	R	630	440
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.55	56.51	227	F	240	220
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.23	-	100	F	80	80
Darling at Bourke	-	3.99	-	92	S	100	150
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.69	-	61	S	50	20

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	7 820	9 640
---	-------	-------

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	-0.15	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.06	+1.15
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.03	+0.13
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.03	+0.22
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.04	+0.22	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.07	+0.71
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.35	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.07	+0.27
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.03	+0.08	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.08	+0.16
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.03	+0.19	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.09	+0.13

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.14	0.62	69.97	315
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.29	0.13	61.43	252

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.70	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.70	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwicheere	322 gates	0.71	All closed



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