

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 15 October 2003

Our Ref: RMW305/01//01/ng

29 April, 2004



Dry conditions boost demands

Little or no rain fell in the Basin this week and, combined with rising temperatures, has resulted in increasing irrigation demands for water. Release from Hume Dam was increased above the minimum requirement for the first time this irrigation season pushing flow at Albury/Wodonga from a low of 3 000 ML/day during the week to 8 000 ML/day by the Wednesday 15 October. Some rain activity on late on Wednesday, which will be recorded on next week's rain map, has since allowed release from Hume to be reduced.

Diversions to the major gravity-fed offtakes of Mulwala Canal, Yarrawonga Main Channel and National Channel increased from a total of 4 700 (~30% of capacity) to 8 300 ML/day (~50% of capacity). Other gravity and pumped diversions have also shown similar increases.

MDBC Storage

The total volume in storage continues to rise, however, at a slowing pace; 90 GL this week compared to 190 GL last week. If conditions remain dry we can expect the volume in storage to steady before beginning to fall late in October. Storage in Hume Reservoir is currently 71% of capacity and there is a small chance (approximately 5-10%) that further rain will be sufficient to fill Hume this spring.

River Flow Update

Tributary inflows continue to recede with the dry conditions and flow in the River Murray is now receding at all locations between Yarrawonga Weir and the South Australian border. Release from Torrumbarry Weir has been reduced by about 3 000 ML/day to 6 000 ML/day. The river height at Swan Hill fell from 1.6 to 1.45 m GH and, under dry conditions, will continue to fall towards the minimum target level of 0.6 m late in October. Further downstream the release from Mildura Weir has been reduced by 3 500 ML/day to 9 000 ML/day.

Water Quality

The temperature of water in the River Murray is now steadily rising and the following table compares current temperatures to the minimums recorded over winter 2003:

	Jingellic	Yarrawonga	Swan Hill	Wentworth
Current Water Temp (°C)	12	16	17	18
Winter min Water Temp (°C)	5	8	9	10.5

River Salinities remain quite low with readings currently of 70 EC at Torrumbarry, 190 EC at Wentworth and 300 EC at Morgan. However as flows recede river salinities are expected to slowly rise at most locations.

Flow to South Australia

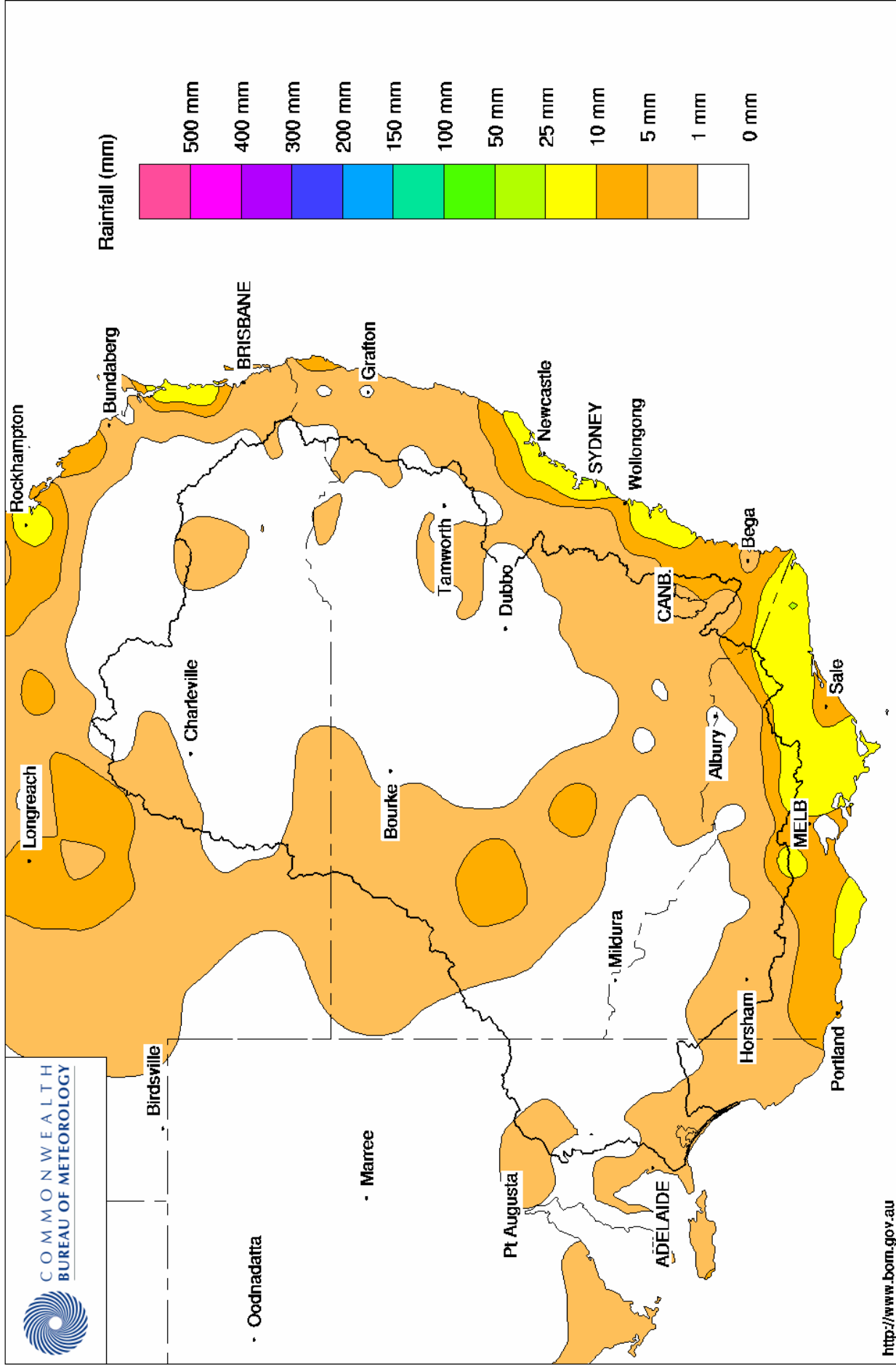
Flow to South Australia reached 11 000 ML/day but has since been reduced to 7 500 ML/day and is expected to approach the regulated requirement of 4 700 ML/day later in October.

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Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 15th October 2003

Product of the National Climate Centre



Week ending Wednesday 15 Oct 2003

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	443.07	1 661	43%	80	1 581	+28
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	187.13	2 148	71%	30	2 118	+65
Lake Victoria	27.00	680	26.96	676	99%	100	576	+0
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		57	4%	640 #	0	-2
Total		9 227		4 542	49%	850	4 274	+90

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **51%**

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	423	41%	3	420	+15
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	909	56%	24	885	+29
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	1 320	39%	100	1 220	+30

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 14-Oct-2003

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2003
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 787	-3	Snowy-Murray	+8	508
Snowy-Murray Component	857	+16	Tooma-Tumut	+5	166
Target Storage	1 400		Nett Diversion	2.8	342
			Murray 1 Release	+19	718

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2003
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	20.6	120.7
Wakool System loss	0.1	1.6
Western Murray Irrig.	0.5	2.3
Licensed Pumps	5.8	36.6
Lower Darling	0.1	1.2
TOTAL	27.1	162.5

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2003
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	13.2	31
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	16.4	103
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.9	12
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.8	2
Licensed pumps - SRW	4.0	46
TOTAL	37.4	194

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	170	(9 600 ML/day)
Flow this week	67.1	
Flow so far this month	119	
Flow last month	299	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2003
Swan Hill	100	100	120
Euston	110	120	130
Red Cliffs	130	120	130
Merbein	110	110	130
Burtundy (Darling)	1 740	1 730	1 680
Lock 9	140	130	170
Lake Victoria	180	210	230
Berri	250	260	300
Waikerie	320	290	450
Morgan	300	280	470
Mannum	370	440	530
Murray Bridge	560	560	570
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 090	990	1 010
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 040	1 030	1 080
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	1 550	1 550	1 450
Goolwa Barrages	1 160	1 080	2 980



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	-	-	-	3 270	R	3 640	5 050
Jingellic	4.0	2.05	208.57	7 910	F	9 410	13 870
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.64	218.53	1 410	S	1 520	1 910
Heywoods	5.5	2.06	155.69	6 500	R	2 920	600
Doctors Point	5.5	2.50	150.97	8 250	R	5 250	4 760
Albury	4.3	1.45	148.89	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.79	127.81	7 250	R	4 880	6 100
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.32	116.36	6 970	S	7 670	12 400
Tocumwal	6.4	1.83	105.67	7 500	F	9 190	13 120
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.15	80.70	6 310	F	8 070	9 440
Swan Hill	4.5	1.46	64.38	7 310	F	7 650	9 130
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.29	52.41	9 380	R	9 600	11 590
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.82	43.66	8 950	S	9 580	11 230
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.05	9 220	F	10 420	11 650
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.06	27.82	8 620	F	9 480	10 890
Rufus Junction	-	3.56	20.49	7 120	F	9 320	5 920
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	7 250	S	7 150	6 980
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.03	155.26	2 500	R	2 850	5 070
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.95	146.63	3 459	F	4 670	6 920
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.33	92.75	639	F	930	1 050
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 190	F	1 370	1 540
Edward at Liewah	-	1.86	57.24	1 200	R	900	1 090
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.66	55.15	870	S	840	960
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.48	56.44	186	F	230	260
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.62	-	1 200	R	550	40
Darling at Bourke	-	3.96	-	80	R	70	100
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.67	-	28	R	0	0

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	16 840	24 800
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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
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.09	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.09	+1.43
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.01	+0.30
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.09	+0.36
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.00	+0.25	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.08	+1.10
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.03	+0.42	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.05	+0.39
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.00	+0.00	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.35
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.02	+0.18	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.15

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-1.34	0.61	69.96	305
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.34	0.17	61.47	287

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.84	10
Mundoo	26 openings	0.76	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.72	All closed

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

