

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 20 October 2004

Our Ref : RMW305/01/01/prs, dwg
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22 October, 2004



Rainfall and Inflows

Generally cooler conditions were recorded across the region this week with rainfall restricted to the eastern and southern areas of the Basin. In the northeast, weekly rainfall totals of up to 50mm were recorded, while in the south, thunderstorms resulted in rainfall totals of between 5 and 25mm.

The rain in the southern part of the Basin, resulted in a temporary increase in inflow rates into Hume and Dartmouth Reservoirs. These inflows have now receded to approximately 13 000 ML/day into Hume and 2 000 ML/day into Dartmouth. During the week, inflows to the Murray from the Kiewa River varied between 2 600 and 3 600 ML/day, while the Ovens River inflow has continued to recede and is now less than 2 000 ML/day.

The rainfall event that occurred in western NSW several weeks ago has resulted in a small increase in the flow along the Darling River. The Darling River at Bourke is currently flowing at 450 ML/day but is gradually receding. The initial front of this flow will reach Tilpa in the next few days, however, due to potentially warm conditions and high losses, it is expected that there will be very little inflow into Menindee Lakes.

Storage levels and System Operation

The storage level of Dartmouth Reservoir fell by 27 000 ML this week as releases were maintained between 6 000 and 7 000 ML/day. This water is being released from Dartmouth to ensure sufficient water is available in Hume Reservoir to meet irrigation and water supply requirements for the remainder of the 2004/05 season.

Due to the relatively cool conditions, release rates from Hume Reservoir were slightly less than last week and averaged 13 000 ML/day. Consequently, storage in Hume increased this week to its highest level this season (48% capacity). However, without further significant rainfall, it is expected that release rates from Hume will increase this coming week and the water level in the reservoir will begin to fall. It is likely that storage in Hume will be drawn down to a low level by the end of the irrigation season, as in recent years.

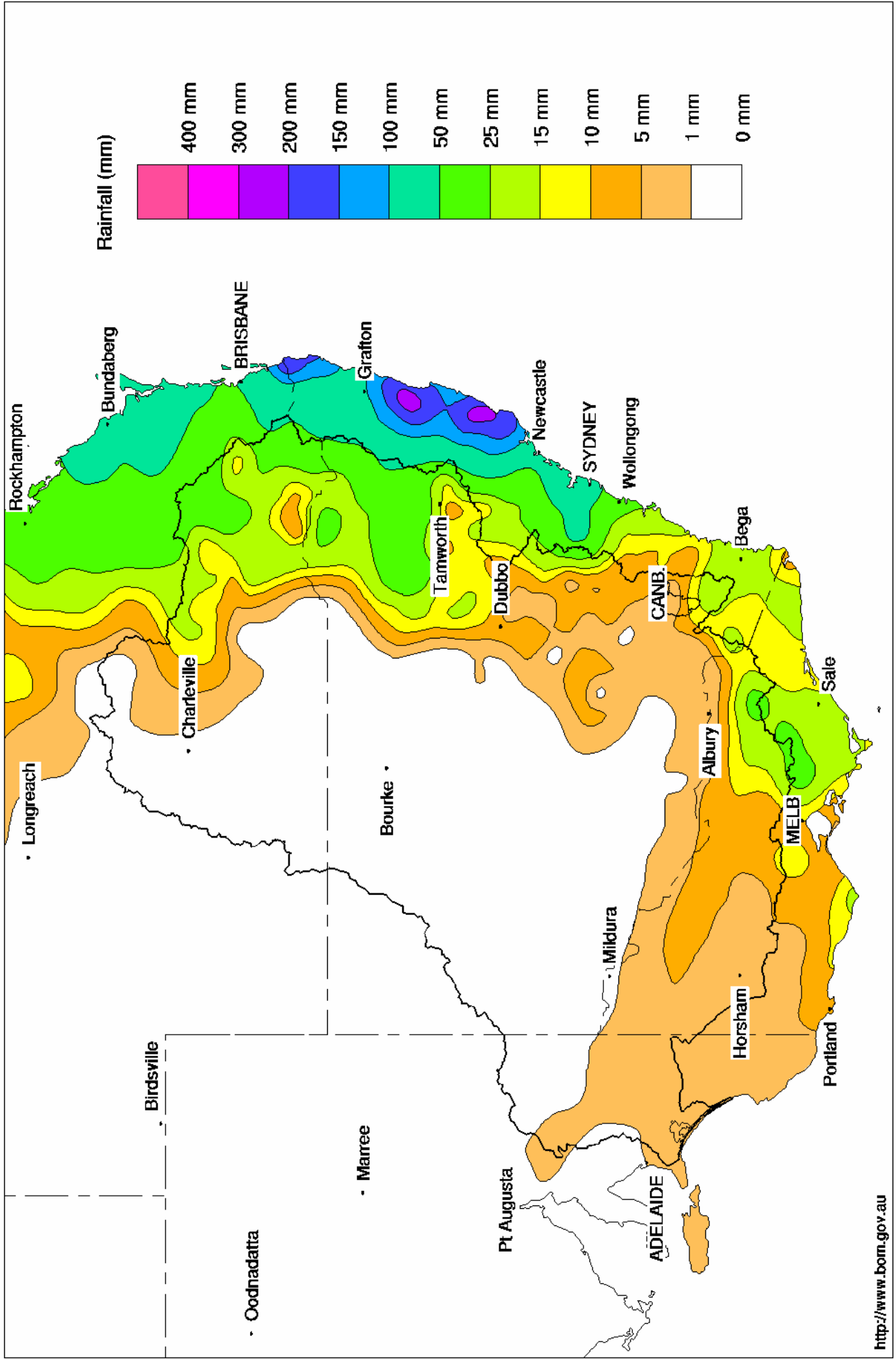
The flow downstream of Yarrawonga Weir has been maintained at about 10 300 ML/day throughout the week. This flow is near channel capacity through the Barmah-Millewa Forest and is required to facilitate the transfer of water to Lake Victoria. Nearly all of the water from the mid-September rainfall event in the southern part of the Basin has now reached Lake Victoria, and has resulted in raising the lake to 95% of capacity. There has been no above entitlement flow to South Australia as a result of this event.

The average water level in Lakes Alexandrina and Albert has fallen this week from 0.85m to 0.83m as a result of evaporation and irrigation diversions. There are currently no barrage gates open.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 20th October 2004

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	448.59	1 886	48%	80	1 806	-27
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	182.49	1 468	48%	30	1 438	+15
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.76	648	96%	100	548	+5
Menindee Lakes		1 603 *		290	18%	640 #	0	-8
Total		9 224		4 292	47%	850	3 791	-15

* Menindee surcharge capacity 1916 GL

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

NSW Menindee Lakes Reserve

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	246	24%	3	243	-50
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	509	31%	24	485	+21
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	1 381	41%	100	1 281	-10

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 19-Oct-2004

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2004
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 352	+4	Snowy-Murray	+11	270
Snowy-Murray Component	1 044	+14	Tooma-Tumut	+7	171
Target Storage	1 400		Nett Diversion	4.2	100
			Murray 1 Release	+26	484

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2004
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	24.5	197.6
Wakool System loss	-0.3	4.6
Western Murray Irrig.	0.7	5.0
Licensed Pumps	9.8	57.1
Lower Darling	1.4	5.3
TOTAL	36.1	269.6

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2004
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	14.3	66
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	20.9	167
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	3.9	25
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.2	4
Licensed pumps - SRW	5.4	49
TOTAL	45.7	311

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	170	
Flow this week	38.1	(5 400 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	110	
Flow last month	135	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2004
Swan Hill	90	80	100
Euston	150	120	120
Red Cliffs	110	110	90
Merbein	130	120	100
Burtundy (Darling)	510	510	420
Lock 9	150	140	130
Lake Victoria	150	170	180
Berri	240	230	270
Waikerie	-	390	430
Morgan	410	430	460
Mannum	560	540	520
Murray Bridge	570	580	540
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 400	1 440	1 210
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	-	-	1 030
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 200	2 150	2 050
Goolwa Barrages	1 580	1 560	1 910

River Levels and Flows

River Murray	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)				
Khancoban	-	-	-	7 690	R	5 480	4 490
Jingellic	4.0	1.95	208.47	6 980	R	7 940	7 890
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	2.91	219.80	8 330	F	8 260	8 430
Heywoods	5.5	2.64	156.27	11 630	F	12 990	14 150
Doctors Point	5.5	2.97	151.44	13 700	S	15 370	16 360
Albury	4.3	1.97	149.41	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.04	129.06	15 500	F	17 070	16 000
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.80	116.84	10 300	F	10 340	10 140
Tocumwal	6.4	2.32	106.16	10 580	F	10 590	10 360
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.83	80.38	5 120	R	4 970	5 930
Swan Hill	4.5	1.05	63.97	4 630	R	4 820	5 700
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.86	51.98	7 460	F	7 890	9 360
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.52	43.36	7 160	S	7 640	9 160
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.95	7 010	F	7 690	8 760
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.92	27.68	6 170	R	6 910	7 840
Rufus Junction	-	3.20	20.13	5 000	R	5 040	5 190
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 760	R	3 670	3 570
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.11	155.34	2 690	S	3 160	2 770
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.45	146.13	1 969	R	2 180	2 670
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.23	92.65	490	F	510	530
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 900	F	2 890	2 660
Edward at Liewah	-	2.87	58.25	2 500	R	2 370	2 130
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.57	55.06	639	F	810	1 280
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.49	56.45	224	F	210	250
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.20	-	60	S	70	170
Darling at Bourke	-	4.10	-	408	F	500	480
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.69	-	61	R	30	20

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	11 420	12 700
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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	+0.00	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.08	+0.91
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.11	+0.03
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.00	+0.12
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.15	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.50
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.01	+0.28	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.02	+0.17
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.01	+0.02	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.12
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.03	+0.14	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.05	+0.06

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.18	0.5	69.85	211
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.33	0.18	61.48	296

Barrages

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	Openings	Level	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.90	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.91	All closed

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

