

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 20 April 2005

*Our Ref : M2005/00066/prs/jm*  
*Trim Ref : 05/3794*

21 April, 2005



## ***Rainfall and Inflows***

Dry and warm conditions continued throughout the Basin this week (*see attached rain map*) and look set to continue into the coming week. Accordingly, inflows to the River Murray System have remained at low levels.

## ***River Murray Operation***

As the end of the 2004/2005 irrigation season draws closer, irrigation demands in Victoria have remained steady, whilst those in NSW have increased after a temporary reduction last week. In response, the release from Hume was increased from 9 500 ML/day to 13 000 ML/day.

Release from Yarrawonga Weir has been maintained at about 7 000 ML/day however will be further reduced in coming weeks as irrigation demands begin to ease. The release from Torrumbarry Weir ranged between 3 500 and 4 000 ML/day, and unless there is significant rainfall or a reduction in National Channel diversions, it is expected to reduce towards 3 000 ML/day over the coming week.

At Swan Hill, the flow is currently about 3 200 ML/day (gauge height of about 0.8 m). Over the coming weeks, as irrigation demands and river losses decrease, the flow is expected to approach the minimum of 2 000 ML/day (gauge height of about 0.6 m).

## ***Raising of Lock 5 and Lock 6 weir pools***

The Lock 5 and 6 weir pools currently remain raised to assist in watering of about 50 hectares of the Chowilla floodplain (in the Riverland, in South Australia). The two weir pools were initially raised just prior to Easter. The Lock 6 pool currently remains 13 cm above full supply level (19.38 m), whilst Lock 5 is 7 cm above full supply level (16.37 m). It is planned to hold the weir pools at their current levels until at least the end of April. The pool level will then be slowly reduced to full supply level. Although it is expected to take some time for much of the ecological response to become evident, small pockets of Black Box, River Red Gum and River Coobah are already showing new growth, and some Lignum stands are flowering.

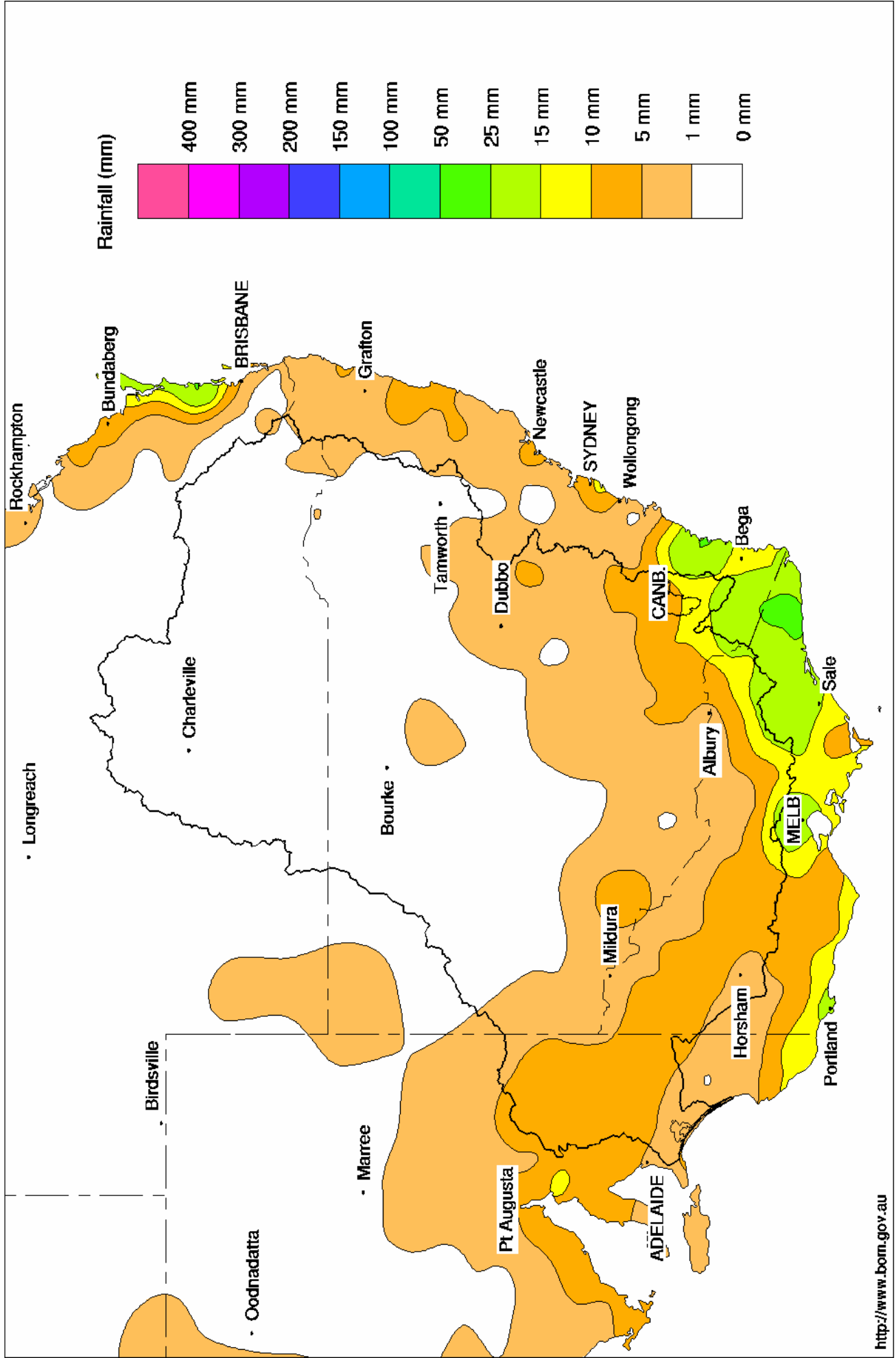
## ***Darling River***

On the Darling River, the flow at Bourke has reduced to about 50 ML/day, and no flow has been recorded at Wilcannia (located just upstream of Menindee Lakes) since late March. The storage in Menindee Lakes is slowly declining and is currently at 360 GL (23% of capacity). Release from the storage, at Weir 32, is about 250 ML/day.

DAVID DREVERMAN  
General Manager

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 20th April 2005

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)	MDBC Active Storage (GL)	Change in Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	444.59	1 721	44%	80	1 641	+2
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	175.35	675	22%	30	645	-27
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	24.98	446	66%	100	346	-17
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		366	21%	(- -) #	0	-6
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>3 208</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>2 632</b>	<b>-49</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **31%**

# NSW takes control of Menindee Lakes when storage falls below 480 GL, and control reverts to MDBC when storage next reaches 640 GL

### Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		245	24%	3	242	-1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		197	12%	24	173	-19
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		979	29%	100	879	-28

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 19-Apr-2005

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2004
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 195	-47	Snowy-Murray	+25	694
Snowy-Murray Component	997	-17	Tooma-Tumut	+1	284
Target Storage	1 340		Nett Diversion	24.2	410
			Murray 1 Release	+24	1 058

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2004
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	23.0	794.3
Wakool System loss	1.4	20.6
Western Murray Irrig.	0.5	30.4
Licensed Pumps	12.2	279.1
Lower Darling	1.4	28.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>1 152.5</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2004
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	9.2	353
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	17.6	587
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.1	150
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.2	38
Licensed pumps - SRW	3.9	237
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>1 365</b>

### Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	135	
Flow this week	30.8	(4 400 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	90	
Flow last month	188	

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2004
Swan Hill	100	100	110
Euston	130	130	120
Red Cliffs	190	180	130
Merbein	160	170	130
Burtundy (Darling)	540	540	540
Lock 9	160	160	140
Lake Victoria	200	200	180
Berri	260	250	240
Waikerie	-	-	360
Morgan	330	330	380
Mannum	400	410	460
Murray Bridge	350	350	490
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 460	1 450	1 330
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 110	1 090	1 090
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 360	2 320	2 140
Goolwa Barrages	2 070	2 080	1 970

**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	-	-	-	2 290	F	3 600	5 950
Jingellic	4.0	1.65	208.17	4 300	S	4 970	7 170
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.40	218.29	670	S	690	650
Heywoods	5.5	2.79	156.42	11 600	R	9 360	11 930
Doctors Point	5.5	2.84	151.31	12 200	R	10 160	12 800
Albury	4.3	1.87	149.31	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.35	128.37	10 300	R	10 430	13 960
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.32	116.36	6 970	S	6 970	7 500
Tocumwal	6.4	1.79	105.63	6 840	S	6 980	7 430
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.34	79.89	3 420	F	3 680	3 420
Swan Hill	4.5	0.80	63.72	3 250	R	3 130	3 060
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.82	50.94	3 360	S	3 420	3 810
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.73	42.57	3 090	R	3 110	3 480
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.83	2 540	F	2 600	2 500
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.78	27.54	2 310	F	2 490	2 190
Rufus Junction	-	3.05	19.98	4 080	R	3 930	4 020
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 540	R	2 730	2 480
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.10	154.33	760	R	890	990
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.99	145.67	767	F	790	730
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.31	92.73	625	F	630	540
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	300	F	300	300
Edward at Liewah	-	0.55	55.93	241	F	380	690
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.44	54.93	357	S	360	340
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.48	56.44	204	F	220	220
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.11	-	0	F	10	20
Darling at Bourke	-	3.97	-	52	S	50	90
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.78	-	250	F	300	410

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	2 450	1 280
---	-------	-------

**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	-0.14	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.05	+0.75
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.14	+0.07
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.08	+0.09
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.06	+0.03	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.01	+0.37
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.01	+0.14	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.00	+0.11
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.00	-0.03	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.00	+0.07
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.02	+0.07	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.01	-0.19

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-1.10	0.6	69.95	296
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Lower Lakes**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.58

**Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.57	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.62	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.58	All closed

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

