

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 19 October 2005

*Our Ref : M2005/00066/prs.jm*  
*Trim Ref : 05/19077*

21 October, 2005



## ***Rainfall and Inflow***

Little or no rain fell over the southern Murray-Darling Basin during the past week and inflows to Dartmouth and Hume Reservoirs declined to about 3 000 ML/day and 14 000 ML/day respectively. There were widespread falls of up to 50 mm over the north-east of the Basin, including the catchments of the Border, Namoi, Gwydir and Macquarie Rivers, however this was insufficient to significantly increase stream flows in the area.

## ***Irrigation Allocations***

The relevant State agencies recently announced further improvements to irrigation water allocations for the 2005/06 irrigation season. The NSW Murray allocation has now increased to 33% General Security, the allocation to Victorian Murray gravity system irrigators has increased to 100% Water Right plus 14% Sales, and the allocation to SA Murray irrigators has increased to 100% of individual licensed entitlement.

## ***River Murray Operation***

During the past week, the release from Hume Reservoir was gradually increased to 21 600 ML/day on Wednesday 19 October, to supply increasing irrigation demands and environmental flows for the Barmah-Millewa Forest. This is the highest release from Hume Reservoir since December 2002. During the week, the release from Hume began to exceed the inflow, and the storage volume is now decreasing. The storage volume peaked at 2 766 GL (or 91% capacity) on Thursday 13 October, and had reduced slightly to 2 732 GL (or 90% capacity) by Wednesday 19 October.

The release from the Yarrowonga Weir was gradually increased from 9 000 ML/day last Tuesday to 17 000 ML/day on Sunday, as part of the release of environmental flows for the Barmah-Millewa Forest. Further downstream, the release from Torrumbarry Weir was gradually reduced from about 7 000 ML/day to about 5 000 ML/day, but is expected to increase slightly over the coming week.

Lake Victoria storage is effectively full, and has been for the last couple of weeks. Inflows to the Lake have been reduced to balance evaporation losses and minimum release requirements. The flow to South Australia currently remains above entitlement at 9 500 ML/day, but is expected to gradually reduce back to the entitlement flow of 5 500 ML/day by the end of the month.

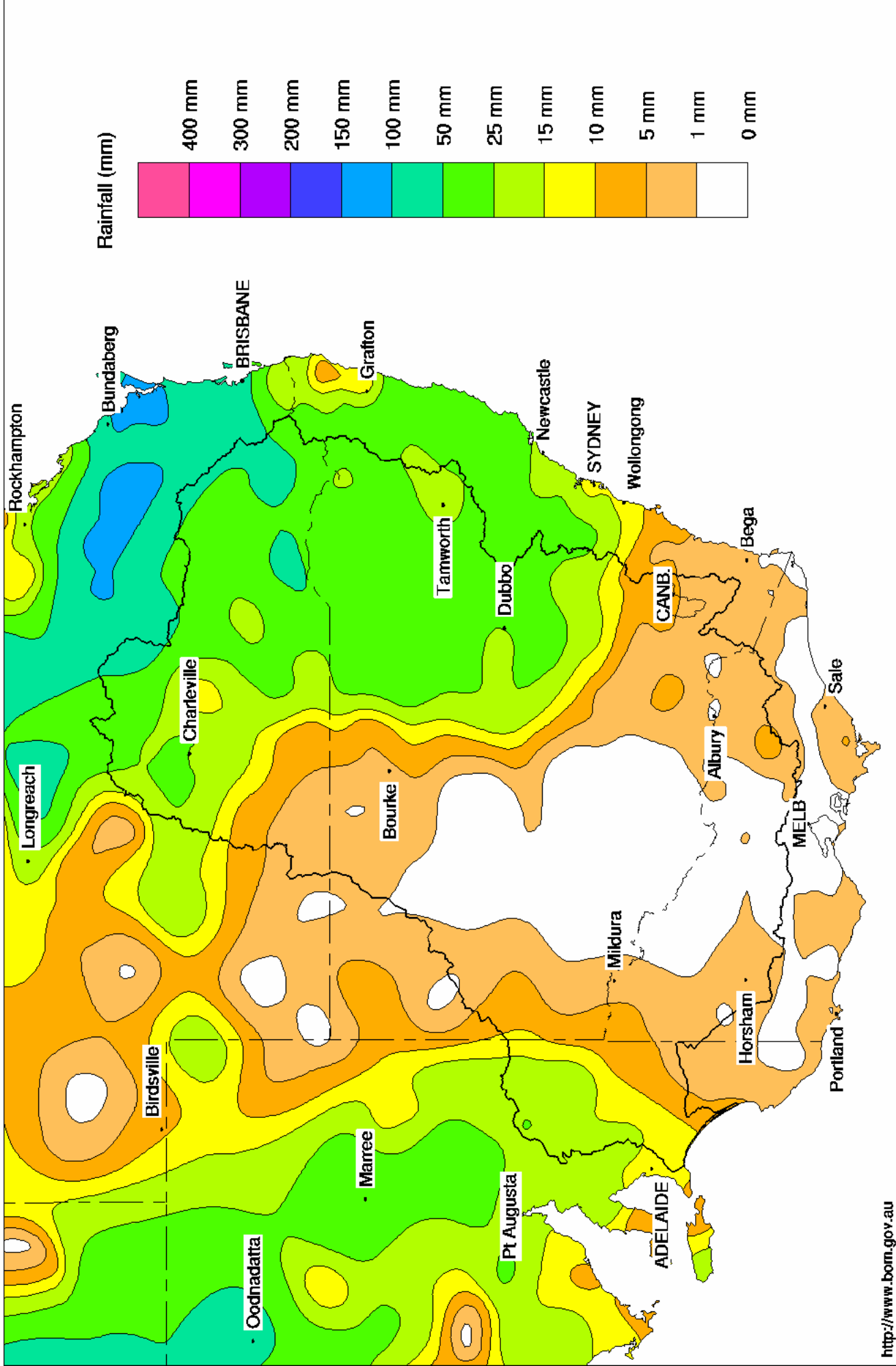
Additional barrage gates were opened this week, as the already high inflows to the Lower Lakes in South Australia were boosted by the recent rainfall in the ranges east of Adelaide. A total flow of about 9 000 ML/day is currently being released from openings in the Goolwa and Tauwichee barrages. The two 'fish ladders' in Tauwichee Barrage also remain open. Lake levels will be closely monitored and the release will be extended for as long as possible while ensuring that water is conserved for irrigators and urban water use at the start of summer.

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# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 19th October 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	459.59	2 391	61%	80	2 311	+19
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	190.44	2 732	90%	30	2 702	-30
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.94	669	99%	100	569	-6
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		468	27%	(- -) #	0	-4
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>6 260</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>5 582</b>	<b>-21</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL      % of Total Active MDBC Storage = **66%**

# 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	659	64%	3	656	+1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 017	62%	24	993	+6
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	1 581	47%	100	1 481	+7

**Snowy Mountains Scheme**

Snowy diversions for week ending 18-Oct-2005

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2005
Lake Eucumbene - Total	2 263	+8	Snowy-Murray	+15	353
Snowy-Murray Component	1 093	+10	Tooma-Tumut	+8	189
Target Storage	1 400		Nett Diversion	6.6	164
			Murray 1 Release	+23	592

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2005
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	42.6	211.1
Wakool System loss	-0.3	9.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.4	2.3
Licensed Pumps	8.7	59.2
Lower Darling	0.3	15.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>296.6</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2005
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	16.7	41
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	17.1	152
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	2.0	10
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.0	4
Licensed pumps - SRW	6.1	52
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>260</b>

**Flow to South Australia (GL)**

Entitlement this month	170	
Flow this week	73.4	(10 500 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	198	
Flow last month	239	

**Salinity (EC)**

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2005
Swan Hill	90	90	110
Euston	120	110	130
Red Cliffs	110	110	140
Merbein	100	100	110
Burtundy (Darling)	530	520	530
Lock 9	120	130	150
Lake Victoria	180	180	190
Berri	190	190	260
Waikerie	-	-	400
Morgan	280	280	400
Mannum	350	380	460
Murray Bridge	410	430	450
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 350	1 310	1 370
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	910	860	980
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 170	2 150	2 080
Goolwa Barrages	1 460	1 500	1 950



**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	-	-	-	5 280	S	5 270	5 540
Jingellic	4.0	2.29	208.81	9 840	F	10 880	15 110
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.77	218.66	1 780	F	1 990	2 860
Heywoods	5.5	3.35	156.98	21 630	R	18 510	6 550
Doctors Point	5.5	3.63	152.10	22 200	F	20 790	9 710
Albury	4.3	2.71	150.15	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.78	129.80	22 700	R	18 490	7 770
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.61	117.65	17 000	S	15 160	10 400
Tocumwal	6.4	3.15	106.99	17 660	R	14 050	12 620
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.78	80.33	4 980	F	6 100	7 390
Swan Hill	4.5	1.18	64.10	5 690	F	6 650	7 570
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.18	52.30	8 830	F	10 070	12 070
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.76	43.60	8 930	F	10 260	12 050
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	31.14	8 710	F	9 360	10 980
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.16	27.92	8 520	S	9 030	10 540
Rufus Junction	-	3.88	20.81	8 940	F	9 870	10 130
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	10 800	S	10 890	9 570
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.89	155.12	2 180	R	2 390	3 980
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.04	146.72	3 734	F	4 400	6 050
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.22	92.64	463	F	560	870
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 160	F	1 740	1 640
Edward at Liewah	-	2.60	57.98	2 050	R	2 190	2 800
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.56	55.05	680	F	880	1 460
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.57	56.53	249	S	250	240
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.21	-	60	S	40	60
Darling at Bourke	-	4.08	-	294	S	270	380
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.64	-	14	S	20	40

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	16 910	26 350
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**Weirs and Locks**

**Pool levels above or below design level**

<b>Murray</b>	FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.22	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.15	+1.58
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.14	+0.64
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.06	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.46	+0.51
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.00	+0.34	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.21	+1.21
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.01	+0.52	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.53
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.04	+0.71	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.09	+0.52
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.62	+0.50	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.11	+0.25

<b>Murrumbidgee</b>	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.52	0.75	70.1	457
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.08	0.2	61.5	314

**Lower Lakes**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.88

**Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	1.00	5
Mundoo	26 openings	0.96	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	1.03	18

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

