

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 1 November 2006

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2 November, 2006



Rainfall

Dry conditions continued throughout the south of the Basin this week (*see attached map*), however at the time of writing this report rain was falling in southern NSW and central Victoria. Up to 20 mm of rain had fallen near Bendigo. Earlier in the week, a severe band of thunderstorms provided up to 30 mm of rain in parts of north-eastern NSW and southern Queensland. More widespread rain is predicted by the Bureau of Meteorology for north-eastern NSW on Friday 3 November.

River Operations

Release from Hume Reservoir has varied slightly providing an average flow at Albury of about 16 000 ML/day to meet downstream demands. Storage in Hume Reservoir reduced by 38 GL this week to 328 GL (11 % capacity). This is a slower rate of fall than in early October and reflects a gradual reduction in irrigation demand. RMW expects a further slowing of demand so that the rate of fall in storage in Hume Reservoir should ease over the coming months.

Under extreme conditions, however, storage in Hume Reservoir could fall towards the minimum operating level (1% capacity) before the end of the season. RMW will continue to work closely with State agencies with the aim of balancing water stores in Hume and Lake Victoria in order to minimise the risk of shortfalls in supply in 2006/07. Operational plans for the River Murray system will continue to be reviewed and updated to meet this aim.

RMW is also working closely with the partner governments to plan for the potential continuation of drought conditions into next season and beyond. Updates on the state of the River Murray system and outlooks to the future will continue to be provided.

There has been a change in the relationship between river flow rate and river level and at the gauging station immediately downstream of Yarrowonga Weir. Such changes commonly occur along the river system due to changes to the river channel. Although the actual release from Yarrowonga Weir and the river level at this site have not changed, the new estimated flow rate has been increased to 10 300 ML/day from the 9 800 ML/day that had previously been recorded.

The flow to South Australia has been increased by 500 ML/day to a target a flow of 5 400 ML/day during November. This is 600 ML/day below the normal November entitlement flow to South Australia of 6 000 ML/day.

October Summary

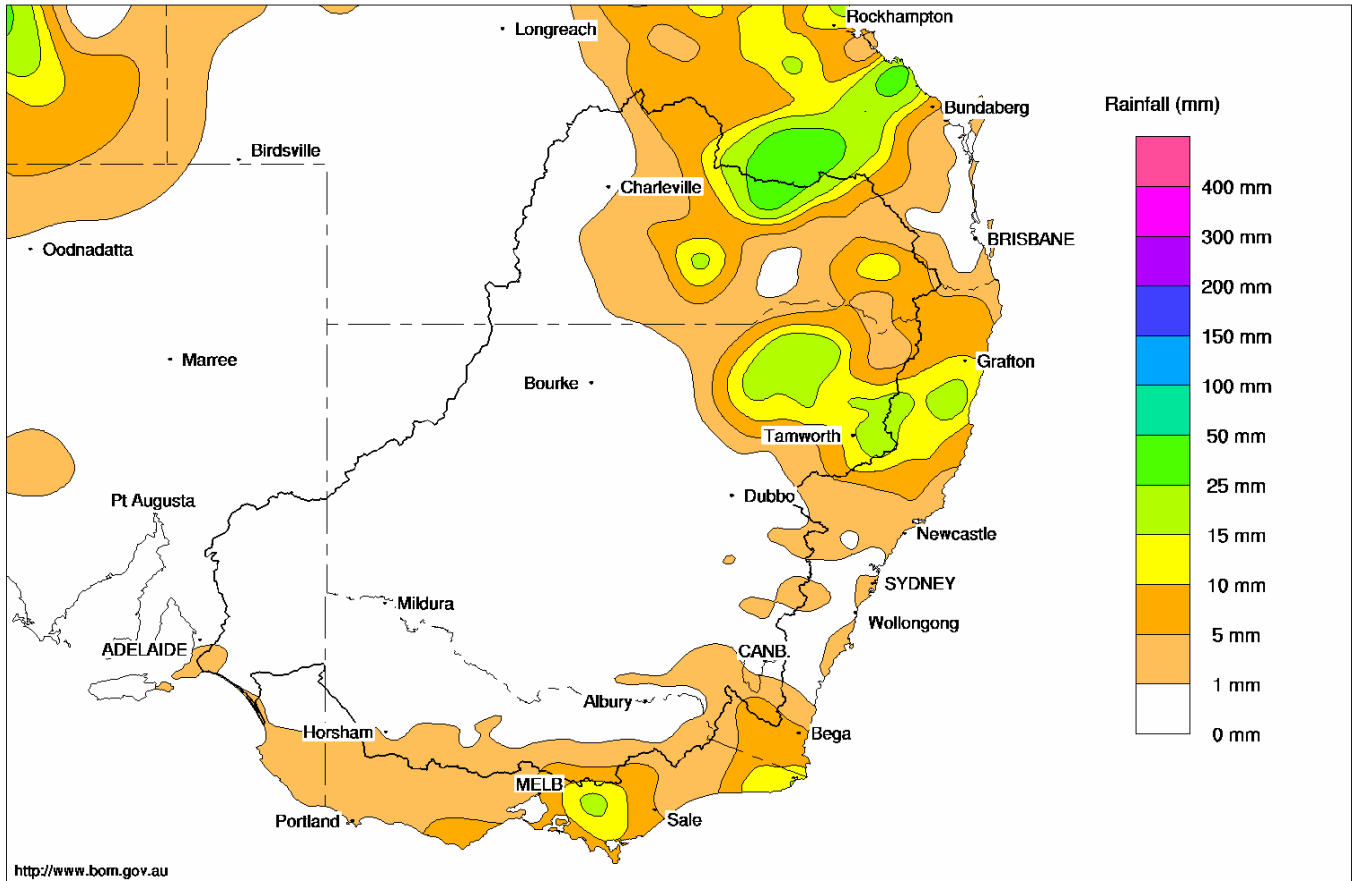
October rainfall was below average over the entire Basin and a large area received the lowest on record (*see attached map*). Inflow to the River Murray System for October was 70 GL. This significantly lower than the previous lowest October inflow in 1914 that has been modelled at about 135 GL. This is the fifth consecutive month that inflow to the River Murray System has been at a record low.

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Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 1st November 2006

Product of the National Climate Centre

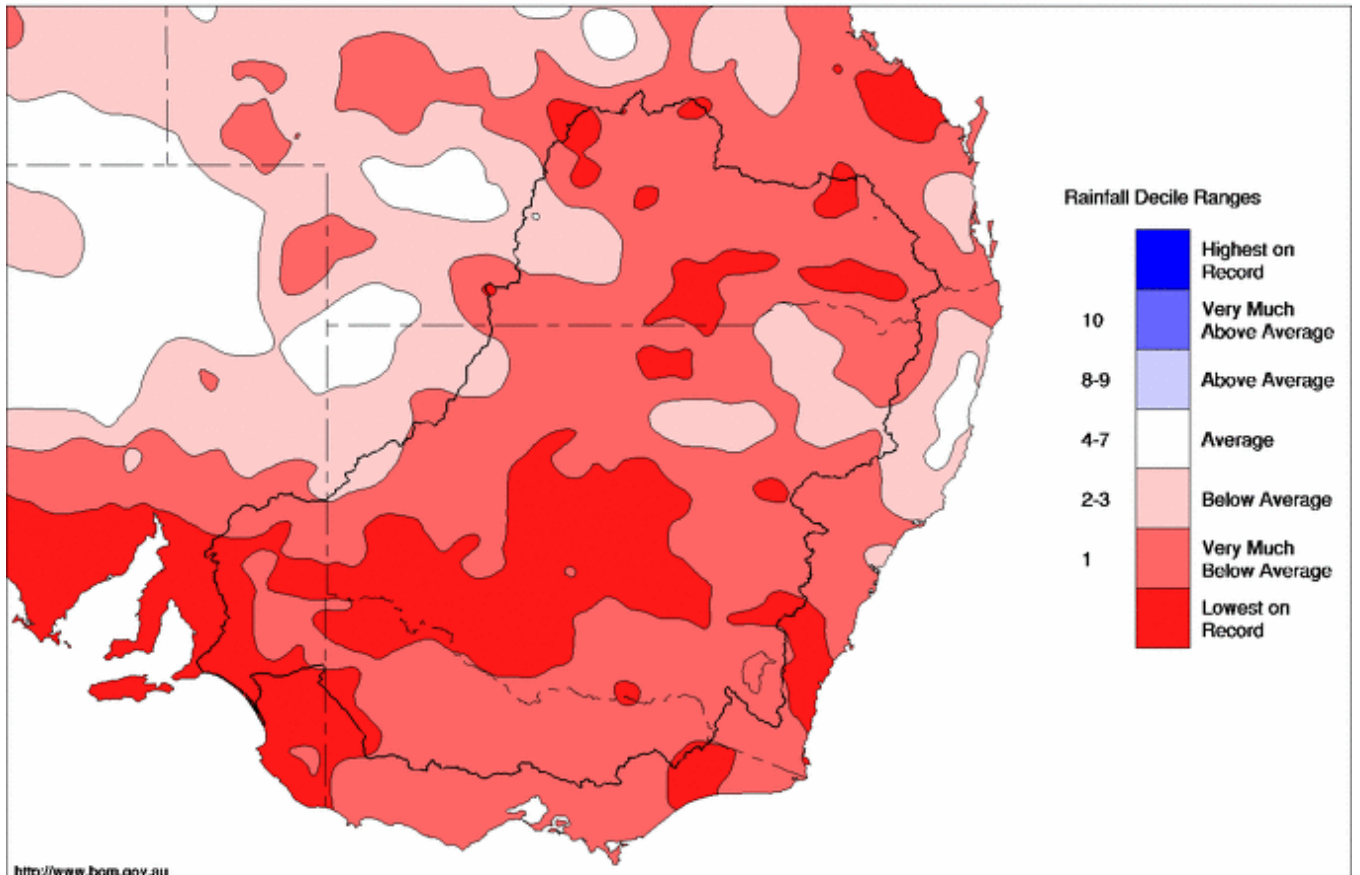


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Murray Darling Rainfall Deciles October 2006

Distribution Based on Gridded Data
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Week ending Wednesday 01 Nov 2006

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	446.11	1 783	46%	80	1 703	-61
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	170.90	328	11%	30	298	-38
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.45	497	73%	100	397	-14
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		213	12%	(- -) #	0	-6
Total		9 352		2 820	30%	--	2 398	-119

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **28%**

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		309	30%	3	306	-1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		540	33%	24	516	-50
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		586	17%	100	486	-22

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 31-Oct-2006

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2006
Lake Eucumbene - Total	-	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+3	644
Snowy-Murray Component	-	-	Tooma-Tumut	+0	35
Target Storage	1 450		Nett Diversion	3.5	609
			Murray 1 Release	+17	724

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2006
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	8.9	225.2
Wakool System loss	2.4	19.6
Western Murray Irrig.	0.7	6.1
Licensed Pumps	6.2	79.2
Lower Darling	0.5	11.0
TOTAL	18.6	341.1

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2006
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	11.8	138
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	19.3	279
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	4.5	36
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	6.9	34
Licensed pumps - LMW	6.6	23
TOTAL	49.2	510

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	163*	(5 000 ML/day)
Flow this week	35.0	
Flow so far this month	5	
Flow last month	153	

* reduced from 180GL

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2006
Swan Hill	50	60	80
Euston	110	100	100
Red Cliffs	110	110	120
Merbein	100	120	110
Burtundy (Darling)	750	730	650
Lock 9	140	130	130
Lake Victoria	160	160	150
Berri	210	210	230
Waikerie	350	360	380
Morgan	390	400	400
Mannum	470	460	450
Murray Bridge	450	420	400
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 210	1 210	1 150
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 090	1 060	870
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 150	2 220	2 190
Goolwa Barrages	1 750	1 750	1 610



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	-	-	-	2 630	F	2 540	2 560
Jingellic	4.0	1.45	207.97	2 830	F	2 500	3 190
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	3.28	220.17	9 940	S	9 930	9 940
Heywoods	5.5	3.05	156.68	15 900	S	16 050	16 230
Doctors Point	5.5	3.15	151.62	15 800	F	16 030	16 000
Albury	4.3	2.14	149.58	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.23	129.25	17 200	F	16 790	17 300
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.73	116.77	10 300	R	9 860	9 790
Tocumwal	6.4	2.26	106.10	10 120	F	10 100	10 050
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.95	80.50	5 600	R	5 390	4 870
Swan Hill	4.5	1.10	64.02	5 000	R	4 650	4 230
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.94	52.06	7 750	R	7 410	6 750
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.43	43.27	6 940	R	6 480	5 980
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	4 890	F	4 510	4 030
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.91	27.67	4 440	R	4 190	3 780
Rufus Junction	-	3.16	20.09	4 740	R	4 470	4 380
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.74	-	2 690	R	2 860	3 140
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.60	153.83	140	F	140	190
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.50	145.18	72	F	90	130
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.19	92.61	445	S	410	380
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	2.44	-	2 710	F	2 710	2 720
Edward at Liewah	-	2.98	58.36	2 550	R	2 520	2 510
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.71	55.20	1 090	R	960	760
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.50	56.46	214	S	210	200
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.20	-	44	S	40	90
Darling at Bourke	-	3.51	-	-	F	-	-
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.28	-	0	F	0	-

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	730	1 350
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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	-0.13	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.15	+0.85
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.09	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.01	+0.06
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.02	+0.14
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.15	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.51
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.06	+0.27	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.18
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.06	+0.04	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.08
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.04	+0.22	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.01	-0.01

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-3.38	1.42	70.77	1650
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-2.42	0.18	61.48	296



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	(m AHD)
	0.72

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.72	All closed	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.72	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.72	All closed	Open	Open

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