

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 5 April 2006

Our Ref : M2006/00012/prs, sc
Trim Ref : 06/7765

6 April, 2006



Rainfall and Temperature

The Southern Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) received very little rain this week (*see attached map*). Isolated showers across parts of the upper Murray, North-East Victoria and South Australia generally totalled less than 10 mm. The North Eastern parts of the MDB received higher falls, with weekly totals of between 15 and 50 mm. Temperatures were notably cooler this week across the Southern MDB, with maximum temperatures ranging from 12 – 27 degrees, and minimum temperatures ranging from 3 – 15 degrees (*see attached map*).

River Murray Operations

The release from Dartmouth Reservoir has been varied between 200 and 400 ML/d on a weekly cycle since February 2006. Environmental monitoring of the Mitta Mitta River is planned for the coming weeks to assess the effect of 'cycling' the release during a low flow period on water quality and environmental health indicators. The current flow pattern will continue for a further two weeks if conditions remain dry. Consideration is being given to conducting a closely monitored trial of an alternate low flow pattern commencing about 21 April. The alternate low flow pattern would have a greater magnitude of flow variation compared to the current flow pattern.

The cooler temperatures this week have been sufficient to bring about a small reduction in irrigation demand and river losses. The release from Hume Reservoir was reduced to an average flow at Doctors Point for the week of about 21 000 ML/d (currently 19 800 ML/d). The volume of water stored in Hume Reservoir continues to steadily fall and is currently 776 GL (26% capacity).

The release from Torrumbarry Weir averaged around 4 100 ML/d this week and may reduce to an average of around 4 000 ML/d over the coming week as inflows to the Murray from the Goulburn River at McCoys Bridge gradually reduce.

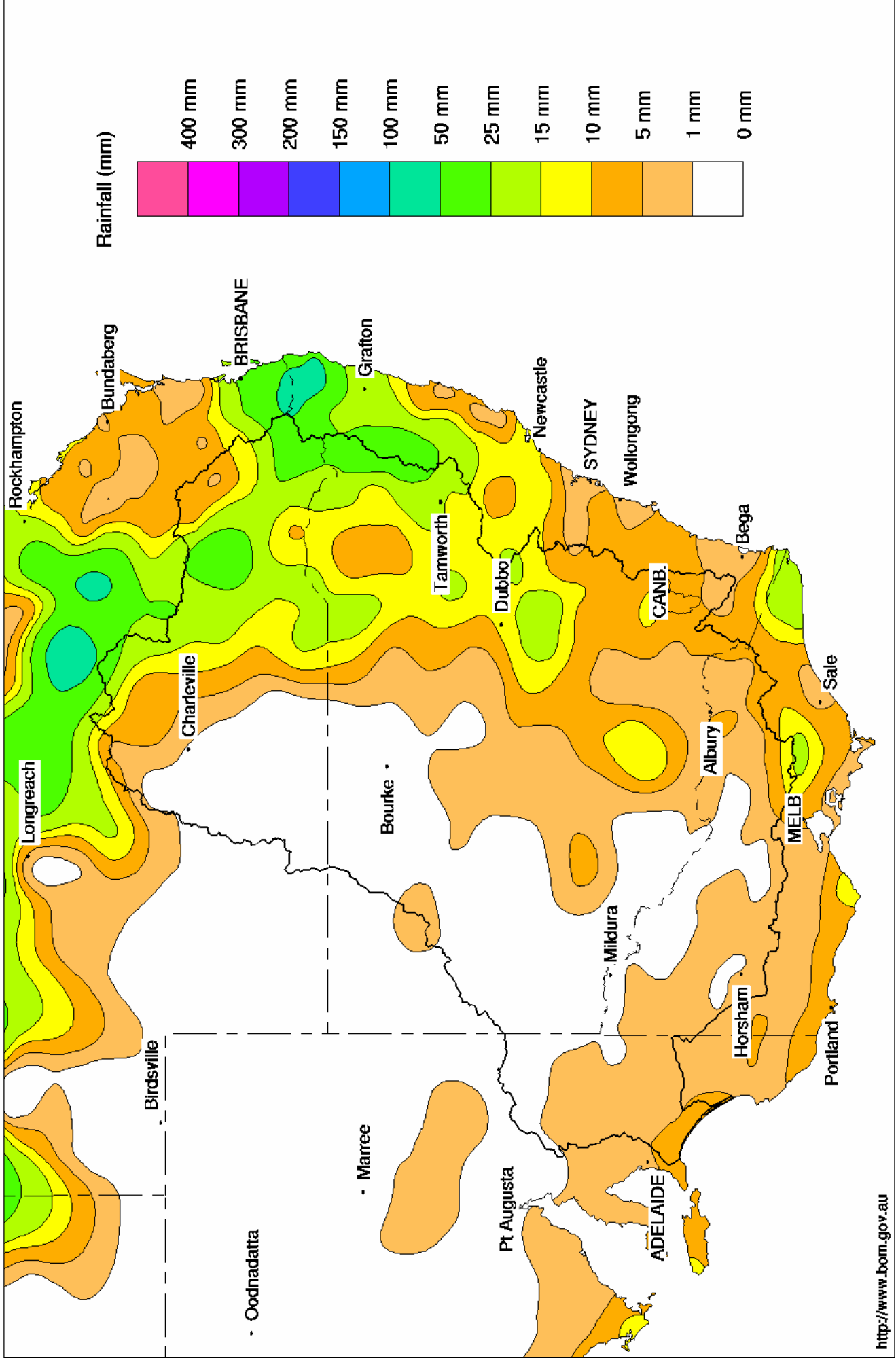
The rate of fall of Lake Victoria has slowed this week, with a decrease in total storage of only 2 GL (compared to 10 GL in the previous week). The Lake is currently at around 38% capacity. Locks 7, 8 and 9 upstream pool levels remain surcharged above Full Supply Level (FSL). It is planned that the weir pools will remain at these levels for the near future, including over the Easter long weekend, unless they are required to be gradually drawn down to meet the flow requirements downstream.

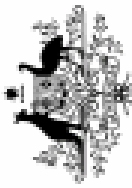
The flow to South Australia this week has averaged 4 900 ML/d. The entitlement flow to South Australia for the remainder of April will be provided as an average daily flow of about 4 400 ML/d in order to provide a total of 135 GL for the month of April. The flow downstream of Lock 1 has remained at about 3 900 ML/d and the three day average Lower Lakes level is just under 0.70 m AHD and the fishways at Tauwichee and Goolwa Barrages remain open.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

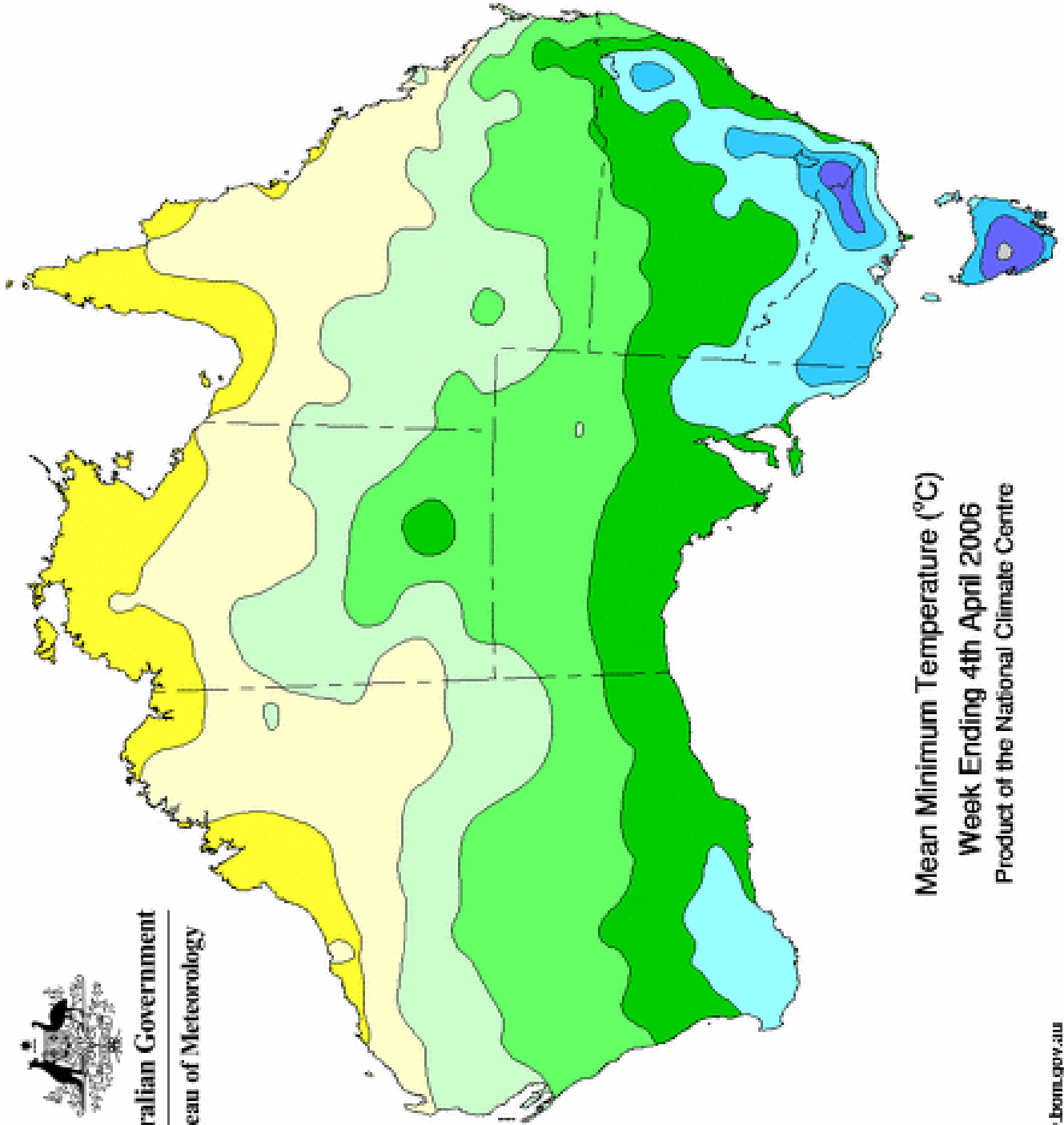
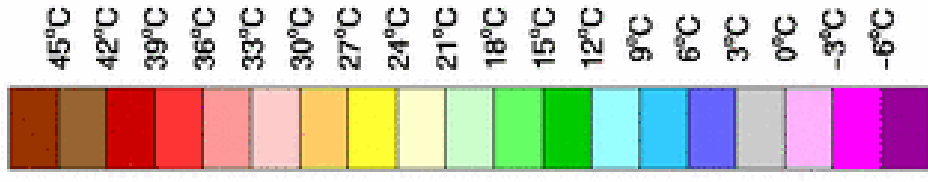
Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 5th April 2006

Product of the National Climate Centre

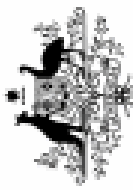




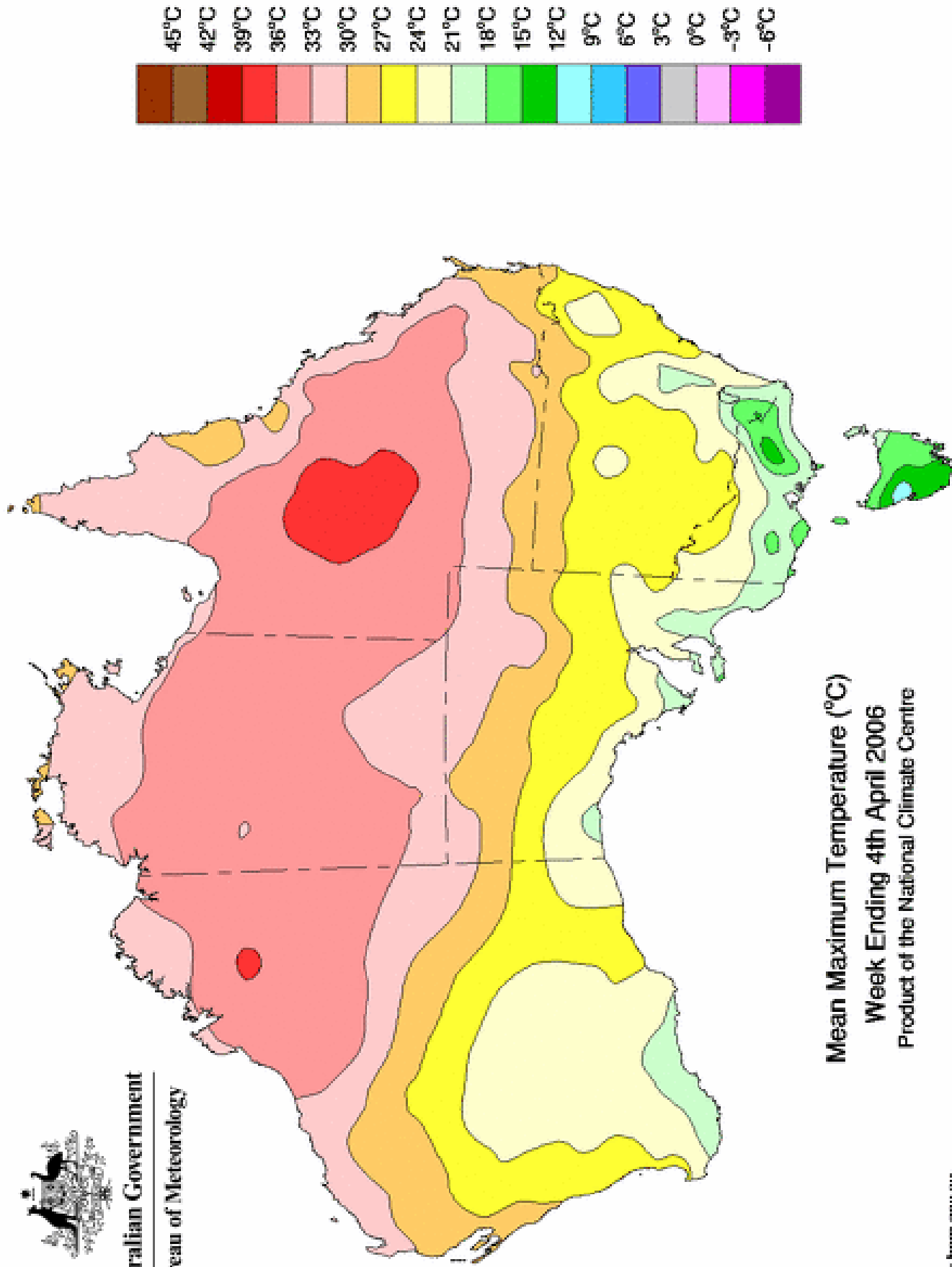
Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology



Mean Minimum Temperature (°C)
Week Ending 4th April 2006
Product of the National Climate Centre



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology



Mean Maximum Temperature (°C)
Week Ending 4th April 2006
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	462.20	2 521	65%	80	2 441	-2
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	176.43	777	26%	30	747	-137
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.10	256	38%	100	156	-2
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		287	17%	(- -) #	0	-3
Total		9 352		3 841	41%	--	3 344	-143

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL % of Total Active MDBC Storage = **39%**

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		345	34%	3	342	-1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		712	44%	24	688	+14
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		812	24%	100	712	-37

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 04-Apr-2006

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2005
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 530	-50	Snowy-Murray	+13	849
Snowy-Murray Component	786	-16	Tooma-Tumut	+3	256
Target Storage	1 340		Nett Diversion	10.2	593
			Murray 1 Release	+14	1 161

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2005
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	39.6	1 107.0
Wakool System loss	3.1	27.2
Western Murray Irrig.	0.3	26.8
Licensed Pumps	16.0	330.0
Lower Darling	0.3	57.7
TOTAL	59.3	1 548.7

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2005
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	14.5	365
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	27.8	632
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.2	134
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	2.2	48
Licensed pumps - LMW	4.6	216
TOTAL	50.3	1 395

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	135	
Flow this week	34.2	(4 900 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	24	
Flow last month	188	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2005
Swan Hill	140	100	100
Euston	90	90	120
Red Cliffs	120	120	140
Merbein	100	100	130
Burtundy (Darling)	690	670	580
Lock 9	130	120	140
Lake Victoria	210	210	190
Berri	230	240	220
Waikerie	-	310	330
Morgan	340	340	320
Mannum	380	380	360
Murray Bridge	370	370	370
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 200	1 180	1 260
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	690	880	970
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 290	2 280	2 140
Goolwa Barrages	1 890	1 930	1 830



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	-	-	-	5 230	R	1 530	1 750
Jingellic	4.0	1.31	207.83	1 910	R	260	2 510
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.34	218.23	540	F	520	520
Heywoods	5.5	3.35	156.98	18 330	S	19 540	21 500
Doctors Point	5.5	3.45	151.92	19 900	S	20 870	23 110
Albury	4.3	2.47	149.91	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.60	129.62	20 800	F	22 510	24 040
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.76	116.80	10 000	S	10 000	9 940
Tocumwal	6.4	2.30	106.14	10 710	S	10 700	10 590
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.51	80.06	4 020	F	4 100	5 190
Swan Hill	4.5	0.84	63.76	3 370	F	3 630	4 770
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.43	51.55	5 580	F	5 960	6 740
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.24	43.08	5 790	F	6 430	6 380
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	30.90	5 470	F	5 760	5 260
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.08	27.84	5 570	F	5 730	5 010
Rufus Junction	-	3.10	20.03	3 990	S	4 090	4 550
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-	-	3 910	R	3 910	4 040
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.69	153.92	220	S	210	280
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.82	145.50	479	R	450	440
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.37	92.79	712	F	900	1 350
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 350	F	2 460	2 510
Edward at Liewah	-	2.86	58.24	2 390	S	2 400	2 340
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.45	54.94	434	R	350	310
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.75	56.71	352	F	500	600
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.33	-	280	R	300	350
Darling at Bourke	-	4.14	-	541	F	700	750
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.71	-	63	R	50	40

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	- 160	580
---	-------	-----

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	-0.05	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.22	+0.81
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.07	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.00	+0.08
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.03	+0.16
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.00	+0.10	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.03	+0.57
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.01	+0.44	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.07	+0.19
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.20	+0.48	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.02	+0.10
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.48	+0.28	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.03	-0.05

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.10	0.76	70.11	469
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.34	0.2	61.5	314

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.69

Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status
Goolwa	128 openings	0.68	All closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.60	All closed
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.65	All closed

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

