

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 19 July 2006



Our Ref : M2006/00012/jw, prs  
Trim Ref : 06/16148

21 July, 2006

## ***Rainfall and Inflows***

Widespread rainfall was observed across south-eastern Australia this week, with most of the Basin receiving greater than 25 mm (*see attached map*). These showers were a welcome break from the very dry conditions experienced across the Basin in recent months, and produced localised runoff in South Australia and the upper Darling. Unfortunately this rainfall failed to produce significant inflows to the River Murray from either the Ovens or Kiewa Rivers, or into the upper storages. The combined storage in Hume and Dartmouth remains at 46% of capacity (3 195 GL).

## ***River Murray Operations***

In order to meet water demands and to transfer additional water to Lake Victoria, release from Hume Reservoir has been increased over the past week to 9 500 ML/day, increasing flow at Doctors Point to 10 000 ML/day, up from 8 000 ML/day last week. Further increases in Hume release are expected over the coming week. Releases from Dartmouth Reservoir will be increased over the coming week to an average of about 1 100 ML/day, and will increase further through August (*see attached Media Release*).

Releases from Yarrawonga Weir have been increased from 7 000 ML/day to 9 000 ML/day. Diversions into the Mulwala Canal commenced this week in preparation for the 2006-07 irrigation season. Increased flow in the Edward River has also enabled the Stevens Weir pool to commence refilling, and this will allow diversions into the Wakool Main Canal from late July. The release from Torrumbarry Weir has been increased to 6 000 ML/day and the upstream pool level is currently 85.66 m AHD, which is 39cm below the full supply level of 86.05 m AHD. The pool will be maintained at this level for several days and then gradually increased over the coming week to facilitate National Channel diversions from early August. Flow downstream from Euston Weir has increased to 5 000 ML/day, with the upper pool increased close to full supply level.

The lowering of the upstream pool for Weir and Lock 8 Wangumma has continued over the past week. On 20<sup>th</sup> July the level was 24.44m AHD, which is 16 cm below full supply level. The pool level will continue to fall gradually over the coming weeks to a target level of 24.20m AHD. Storage in Lake Victoria dropped slightly over the past week to 391 GL. The transfer of water from Hume Reservoir is expected to raise the storage level to about 400 GL by the end of July, which is slightly lower than the level at this time last year.

Flow downstream from Weir and Lock 1 Blanchetown has temporarily increased from 3 500 ML/day to 5 000 ML/day. This additional flow has seen the level of the Lower Lakes increase to 0.83m AHD, with a small number of gates in the Goolwa, Tauwitchere and Boundary Creek barrages remaining open.

DAVID DREVERMAN  
General Manager

# MEDIA RELEASE

---

20 July 2006

## Water Transfers from Dartmouth to Hume Reservoir about to Commence



**TRIM Ref: 06/16322**

The transfer of water from Dartmouth Reservoir to Hume Reservoir is scheduled to commence on Monday 31 July, River Murray Water General Manager David Dreverman announced today.

“This increase in release is required to supplement storage in Hume Reservoir in preparation for the coming 2006-07 irrigation and water supply season”, he added.

“January to June 2006 was an exceptionally dry period across the River Murray system. Consequently, by the end of the 2005-06 season River Murray system storage was drawn down to low levels (40%). The majority of the Commission’s current active storage is held in Dartmouth Reservoir (75 %) and Menindee Lakes remain under NSW control”, Mr Dreverman said.

“If dry conditions persist, substantial volumes of water will need to be transferred from Dartmouth Reservoir to Hume Reservoir and from Hume Reservoir to Lake Victoria to meet requirements across the River Murray system for NSW, Victoria and South Australia this season”, he added.

Beginning on 31 July the release from Dartmouth Reservoir will be progressively increased to target an average flow of about 5 000 ML/d in August. It is expected that the release will be varied on a fortnightly basis. “The variable release is aimed at providing environmentally beneficial variation in river levels in the Mitta Mitta River and to minimise the impact of sustained high flows on riverbank stability”, Mr Dreverman said. RMW will issue a Flow Advice to Mitta Mitta valley landholders by 28 July to provide further details.

“Unless there is significant rain over the coming months, further increases in release from Dartmouth and an extended period of transfers at higher flow rates may be required this season”, Mr Dreverman added.

River Murray Water will provide regular updates throughout the season on the program of release from Dartmouth Reservoir, particularly when significant changes are required.

For further information contact:

**Allison Hicks**

*Acting Communications Manager*

*Phone: 02 6279 0129*

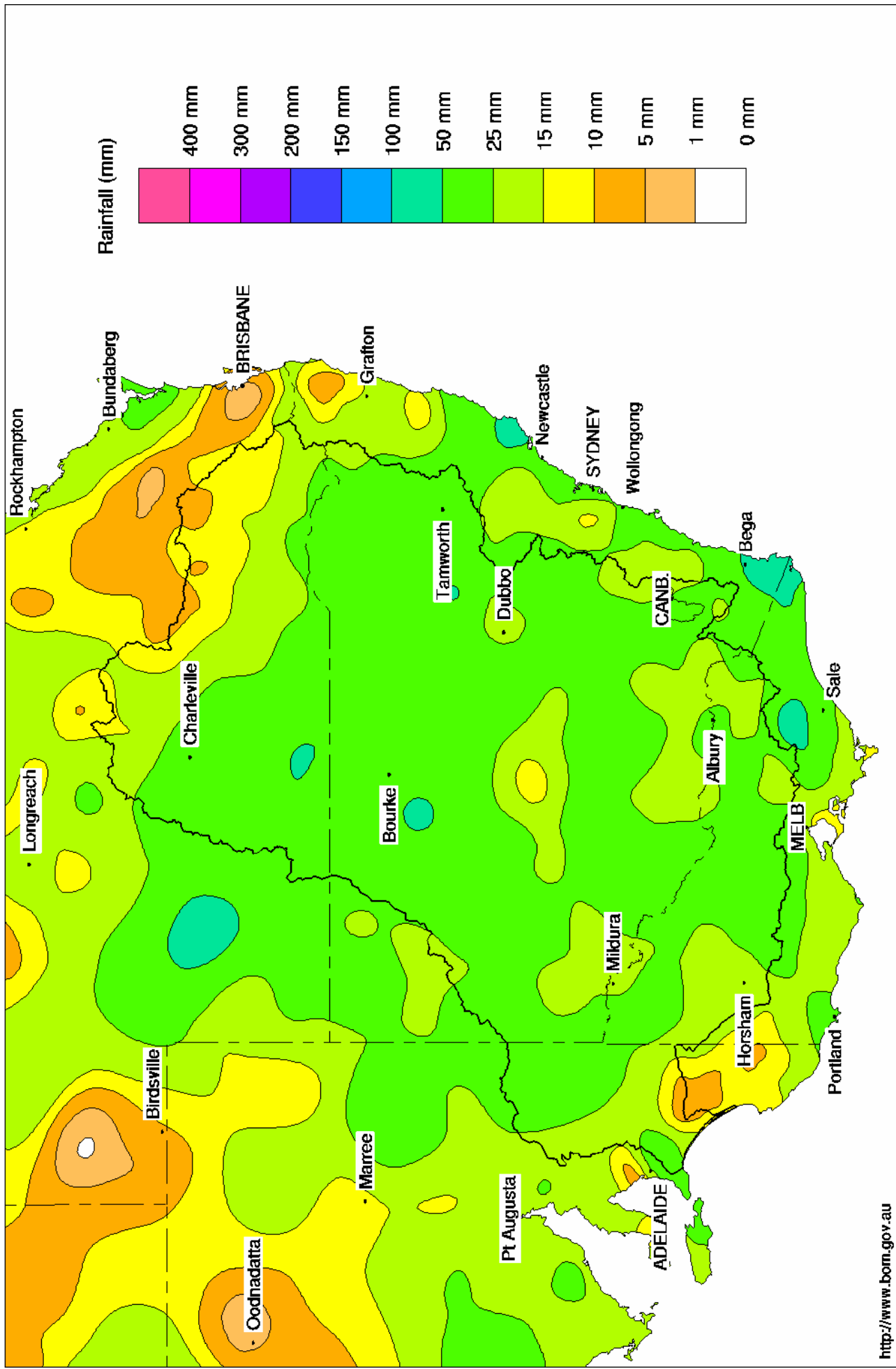
**E-mail:**

[allison.hicks@mdbc.gov.au](mailto:allison.hicks@mdbc.gov.au)

*(Allison Hicks is not to be quoted as a spokesperson)*

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 19th July 2006

Product of the National Climate Centre





**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	-	-	-	4 940	R	5 520	5 250
Jingellic	4.0	1.80	208.32	5 470	F	6 660	6 110
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.64	218.53	1 190	R	830	710
Heywoods	5.5	2.38	156.01	8 440	R	7 780	5 770
Doctors Point	5.5	2.56	151.03	9 110	R	8 700	6 710
Albury	4.3	1.52	148.96	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.15	128.17	9 030	F	8 470	6 060
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.62	116.66	8 990	S	8 000	6 340
Tocumwal	6.4	2.12	105.96	9 350	R	7 870	5 670
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.05	80.60	5 970	R	5 980	3 430
Swan Hill	4.5	1.24	64.16	5 910	R	4 860	2 560
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.53	51.65	6 000	R	4 400	2 800
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.02	42.86	4 600	R	3 390	3 150
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 840	F	2 720	2 560
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.80	27.56	3 760	F	3 280	2 500
Rufus Junction	-	2.89	19.82	3 190	S	3 130	3 090
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.84	-	5 490	R	4 040	3 110
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.15	154.38	800	R	700	540
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.01	145.69	887	F	680	570
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.25	92.67	504	R	520	580
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.25	-	1 010	F	650	180
Edward at Liewah	-	1.01	56.39	495	F	470	420
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.20	54.69	96	S	70	40
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.53	56.49	229	F	230	210
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.07	-	0	F	0	0
Darling at Bourke	-	4.01	-	85	S	90	100
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.67	-	41	R	30	10

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	2 980	1 590
---	-------	-------

**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	-0.27	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.06	+0.59
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.39	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.01	+0.03
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.05	+0.13
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-0.01	+0.03	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.04	+0.48
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.16	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.05	+0.14
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.02	-0.18	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.01	+0.17
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.16	+0.07	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	+0.09

<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	-0.10	1.29	70.64	1380
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-1.22	0.1	61.4	228



**Lower Lakes**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.81

**Barrages**

**Fishways @ Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.84	1	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.86	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.83	4	Open	Open

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