

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 11 July 2007

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Trim Ref : 07/9153*

13 July, 2007



Rainfall and Inflows

Inflow to the River Murray System in the first two weeks of July at 260 GL is nearly double that recorded for the entire month of July last year which totalled 133 GL. The improved inflows have also raised the levels of the major reservoirs at Dartmouth and Hume. However, while this is welcome news and shows that some catchments are now sufficiently wet to produce moderate runoff, we still need a series of rainfall events in quick succession over the coming months to significantly boost storage levels and water availability. MDBC Total Storage is still 2 400 GL below that at the same time last year (*see Figure 1*). Unless there is further rainfall, the July inflow is expected to be less than the median July inflow of 850 GL and below the long-term average of 1 190 GL.

Over the past week, inflow to Dartmouth Reservoir has been about 23 GL, and the storage volume has increased by 0.5% to 14.1 % capacity. Inflow to Hume Reservoir was 72 GL, of which 47 GL was from the unregulated streams and the balance from the Snowy Mountains Scheme. During the week there was 72 GL inflow from the Ovens River, which peaked at 13 500 ML/day at Wangaratta last Sunday, and 21 GL from the Kiewa River.

River Operations

Although inflow rates to Lake Mulwala temporarily increased to 14 000 ML/day, the maximum release was kept at 10 300 ML/day, which is just below the channel capacity of the River Murray as it passes through the Barmah-Millewa Forest. This operation was implemented to minimise losses and thereby maximise water availability. It has involved temporarily storing water in Lake Mulwala, which has increased in level by about 25 cm to 125.0 m AHD (10 cm above FSL). This water will be gradually released over the coming week at flow rates below channel capacity. It will then be diverted into Lake Victoria when it arrives there in early August.

Within the Barmah-Millewa Forest, the flow into Gulpa Creek has been increased from 100 to 350 ML/day and the flow into the Edward River has been increased from 100 to 1 600 ML/day. These higher flow rates are within channel capacity and are expected to increase the flow in the Edward River downstream of Stevens Weir to about 2 000 ML/day by the middle of next week. The flow rate downstream of Torrumbarry Weir is expected to reach about 8 000 ML/day this weekend and a similar flow peak is expected at Euston Weir in late July.

River Salinity

Since March 2007, the river salinity at Swan Hill has been relatively stable at about 80 EC, however salinity levels along the River Murray in Sunraysia and South Australia have shown a steady increase. The salinity at Wentworth has increased from 120 to 170 EC compared to the 20 year average of 280 EC. At Morgan in South Australia the salinity has increased from 300 to 530 EC, which is slightly above the 20 year average of 520 EC. The higher river salinities over the past few months are primarily the result of the recent lower flow and river levels. Further increases in salinity along the Lower Murray over the coming months should be expected if flow rates remain relatively low.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

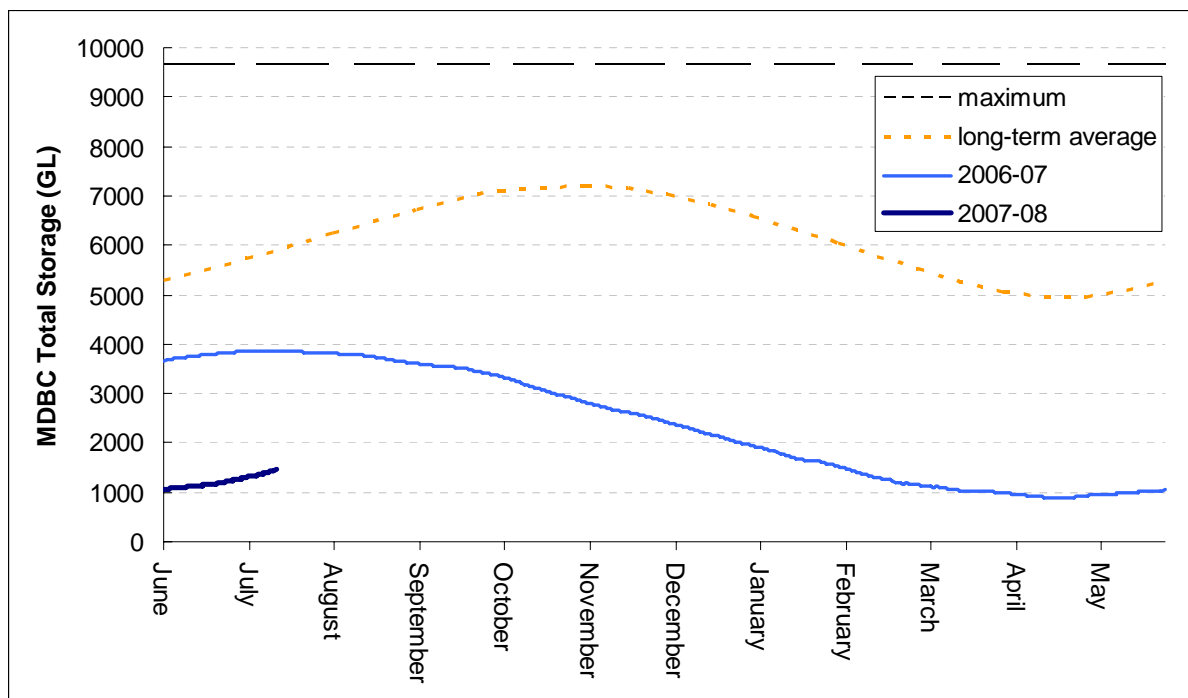
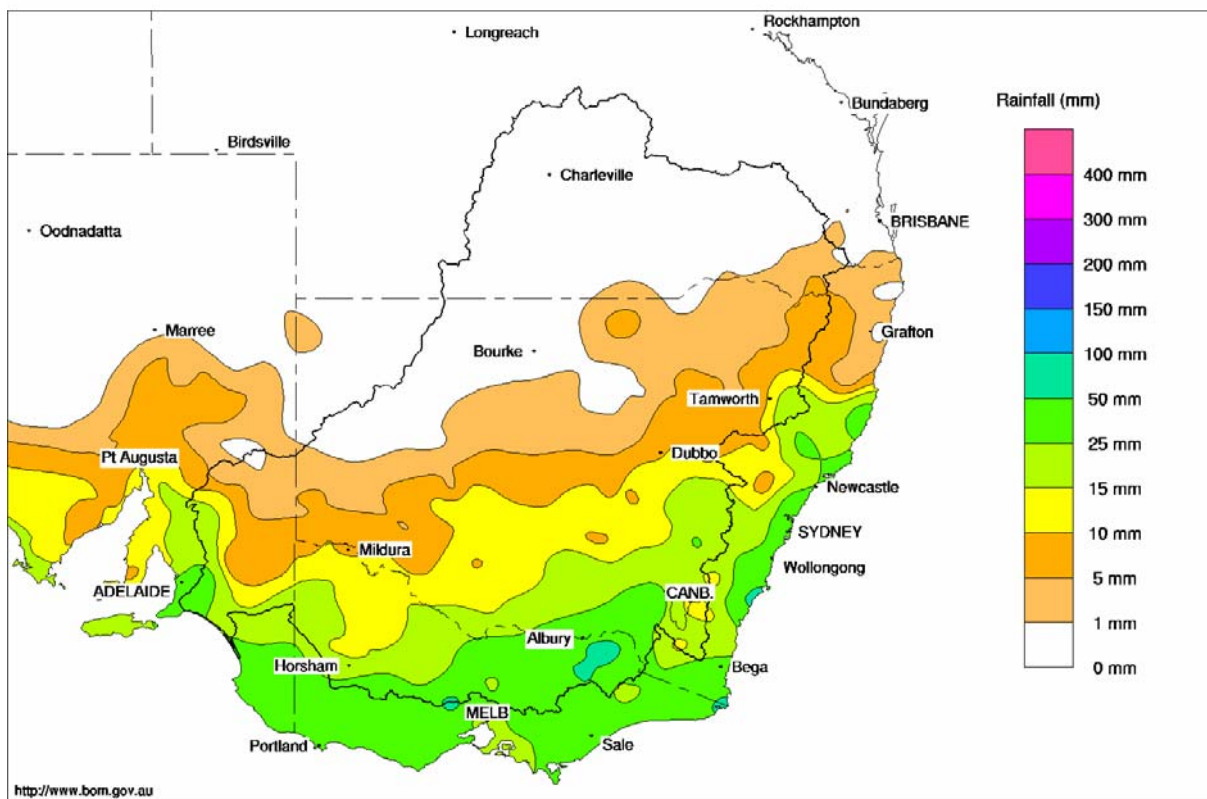


Figure 1. Total MDBC Storage over the past 13 months in comparison to the long-term average.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 11th July 2007
Product of the National Climate Centre



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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	404.48	546	14%	80	466	+22
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	173.23	496	16%	30	466	+72
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.57	301	45%	100	201	+8
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		92	5%	(- -) #	0	-2
Total		9 352		1 435	15%	--	1 133	+101

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL % of Total Active MDBC Storage = 13%

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		394	38%	3	391	+27
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		405	25%	24	381	+10
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		498	15%	100	398	+102

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 10-Jul-2007

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2007
Lake Eucumbene - Total	76	+21	Snowy-Murray	+11	192
Snowy-Murray Component	133	+6	Tooma-Tumut	+10	26
Target Storage	1 170		Nett Diversion	1.0	166
			Murray 1 Release	+24	238

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2007
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	.0	.0
Wakool System loss	0.1	.3
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	.0
Licensed Pumps	0.4	.7
Lower Darling	0.0	.0
TOTAL	0.5	1.1

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2007
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	.0	
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.2	
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	2
Licensed pumps - LMW	0.5	1
TOTAL	0.7	3

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	109 *	
Flow this week	8.4	(1 200 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	13	
Flow last month	29	

* Reduced to approx. 36 GL during June drought contingency operations

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2006
Swan Hill	80	100	80
Euston	90	100	100
Red Cliffs	-	-	120
Merbein	170	180	120
Burtundy (Darling)	1 080	1 100	920
Lock 9	180	170	130
Lake Victoria	180	190	170
Berri	440	440	280
Waikerie	590	570	360
Morgan	540	530	380
Mannum	460	450	440
Murray Bridge	530	530	450
Milang (Lake Alex.)	1 660	1 690	1 380
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	2 090	1 950	1 260
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 540	2 560	2 370
Goolwa Barrages	7 800	17 030	5 820



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	-	-	-	4 450	F	4 320	3 690
Jingellic	4.0	2.19	208.71	8 900	R	8 580	5 870
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.46	218.35	730	F	1 060	520
Heywoods	5.5	1.05	154.68	430	S	410	410
Doctors Point	5.5	1.79	150.26	2 680	R	2 930	1 580
Albury	4.3	0.87	148.31	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.94	126.96	2 630	F	2 940	1 460
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.73	116.77	10 300	R	8 870	3 740
Tocumwal	6.4	2.18	106.02	9 560	R	7 580	3 020
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.08	80.63	6 040	R	4 560	2 450
Swan Hill	4.5	0.96	63.88	4 120	R	2 860	2 400
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.84	50.96	3 630	R	3 060	3 100
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.71	42.55	3 170	S	3 160	3 430
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 510	F	2 800	3 610
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.90	27.66	2 960	F	2 790	3 580
Rufus Junction	-	2.40	19.33	640	S	660	650
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.17	-	1 030	R	590	250
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.20	155.43	2 853	R	3 040	1 400
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.88	147.56	7 220	F	10 220	3 260
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	2.02	93.44	1 828	R	670	340
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.25	81.02	1 050	F	670	630
Edward at Liewah	-	1.00	56.38	488	R	330	240
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.21	54.70	110	F	150	150
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.54	56.50	234	R	200	180
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.44	-	561	R	310	20
Darling at Bourke	-	4.08	-	294	S	150	10
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.63	-	1	S	0	0

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	12 560	7 530
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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	+0.07	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.06	+0.07
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.07	-0.04
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.00	+0.03
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.01	+0.06	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.03	+0.15
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.26	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.04	+0.13
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.10	+0.21	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.06	+0.08
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.24	-0.06	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.08	-0.58

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-4.56	0.63	69.98	325
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-4.10	0.19	61.49	305



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.18

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.20	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	0.20	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.22	All closed	Closed	Closed

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