

# REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 19 September 2007

*Our Ref : M2006/01015/MS, PRS  
Trim Ref : 07/12055*

21 September, 2007



## Rainfall and inflows

During the past week light rain (5-10 mm) fell over the south and north of the Murray-Darling Basin (see map 1). The majority of rain was concentrated in northeast Victoria with Mt Buller and Thredbo receiving 20 mm and 17 mm respectively. The rain was sufficient to temporarily slow the decline in inflows, particularly in the Ovens and Kiewa catchments.

River Murray System inflows totalled about 52 GL this week, well below the long term weekly average for September of around 380 GL.

## River Operations

Due to the relatively dry and warm weather, the Kiewa and Ovens inflows are now insufficient to meet all downstream requirements. As a result, Hume release has been increased from 460 to 2 000 ML/day in order to supplement these inflows. The flow at Doctors Point has increased from 1 200 to 3 500 ML/day (21<sup>st</sup> September). Storage at Hume Reservoir continues to rise and is currently 840 GL (28% capacity). Storage volume in Dartmouth is currently 660 GL (17% capacity) and release remains steady at 200 ML/day.

The level of Lake Mulwala has continued to be gradually lowered and is currently 123.75 m AHD, 115 cm below its full supply level (FSL). However, the level of the lake is expected to be steady or slightly rise over the coming weeks due to the increased release from Hume Reservoir and a reduction in diversions at Mulwala Canal.

Over the past few weeks, release from Yarrawonga has been kept at very low levels of around 2400 ML/day. As a result, the flow downstream of Euston Weir has gradually fallen to 2100 ML/day and is expected to reduce to less than 2000 ML/day this weekend. These are the lowest flows experienced at this site since the drought of 1968 when release fell to 1800 ML/day.

Mildura Weir is currently at 34.44 m AHD, 4 cm above FSL and Wentworth is 30.86 m AHD, 6 cm above full supply level. Both weirs are slightly above FSL in preparation to meet any increase in diversion requirements in Sunraysia whilst flow rates are very low. Release from Wentworth Weir is currently 2 300 ML/day and is expected to continue to fall next week.

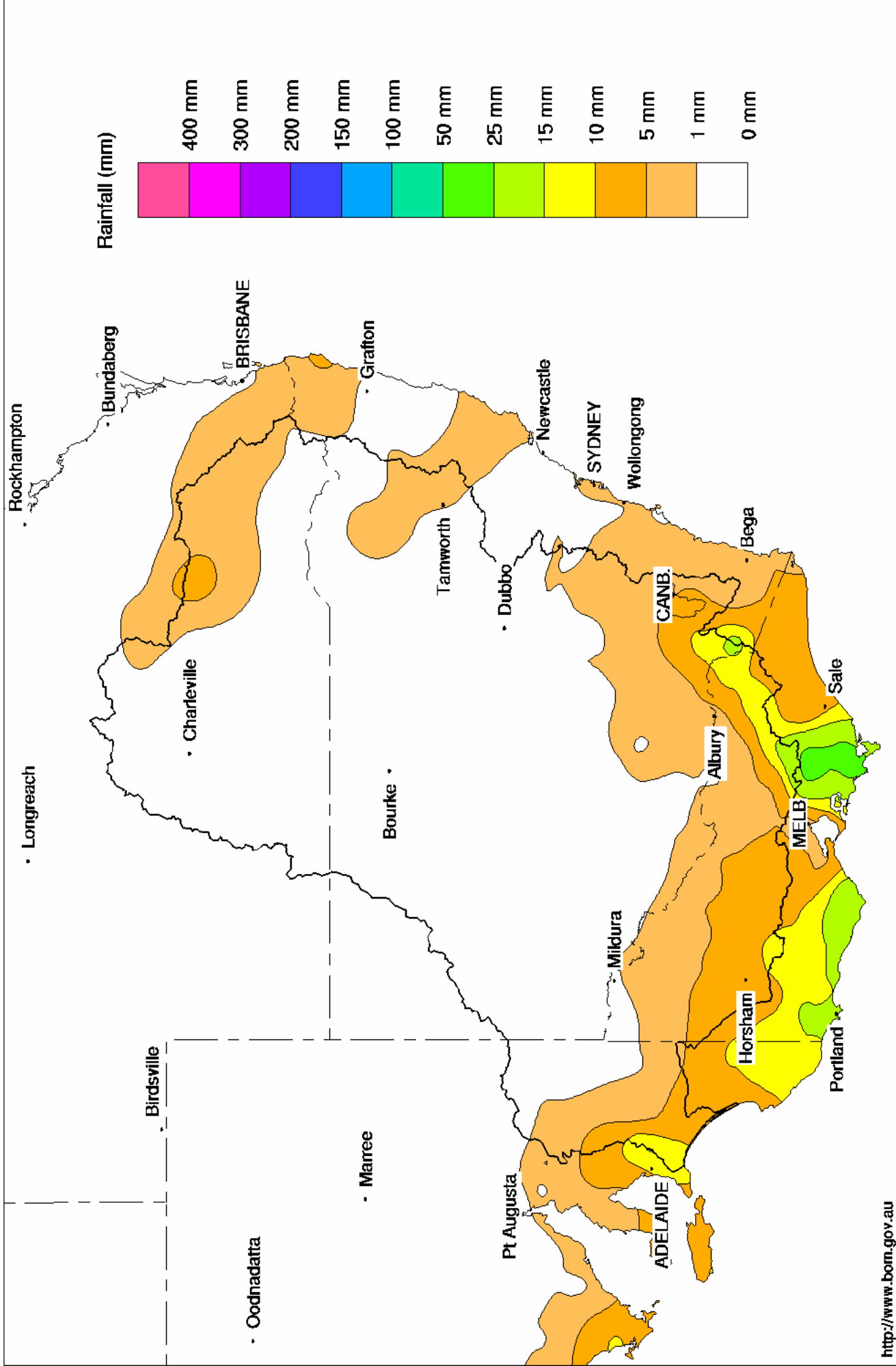
Lake Victoria storage peaked at 556 GL (82% capacity) this week and has since decreased to 550 GL. Inflow to Lake Victoria has remained steady at around 1200 ML/day and release from Lake Victoria has increased to 1400 ML/day. Flow to South Australia has been increased to 2 000 ML/day as part of a program of flow increases over coming months. The pattern of flows to SA over the remainder of the season will be critical in managing river salinity in SA and for meeting increasing diversion requirements and losses. Updates will be provided in coming weeks.

At the Victorian Engineering Excellence Awards held in Melbourne on 20 September, Engineers Australia award the Overall Engineering Excellence Award, as well as the Award for Environment and Sustainability, to the Pyramid Creek Salt Interception Scheme.

DAVID DREVERMAN  
General Manager

# Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 19th September 2007

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	409.89	658	17%	80	578	+8
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	177.09	841	28%	30	811	+28
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.93	550	81%	100	450	-6
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		64	4%	(- -) #	0	-2
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>2 113</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1 839</b>	<b>+28</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **22%**

# 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		419	41%	3	416	-4
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		486	30%	24	462	+4
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		758	22%	100	658	+12

**Snowy Mountains Scheme**

Snowy diversions for week ending 18-Sep-2007

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2007
Lake Eucumbene - Total	356	+20	Snowy-Murray	+2	242
Snowy-Murray Component	235	+14	Tooma-Tumut	+6	89
Target Storage	1 240		Nett Diversion	-4.0	153
			Murray 1 Release	+12	365

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2007
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	5.5	19.0
Wakool System loss	0.0	2.1
Western Murray Irrig.	0.2	1.0
Licensed Pumps	1.5	8.3
Lower Darling	0.2	1.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>31.3</b>

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2007
Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	1.3	11
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	2.1	19
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.9	4 *
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	2
Licensed pumps - LMW	0.5	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>42 *</b>

\* please note that these values do not include Millewa pumping figures.

**Flow to South Australia (GL)**

Entitlement this month	135 *	
Flow this week	14.3	(2 000 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	29	
Flow last month	39	

\* Reduced to approx. 35 GL during August drought contingency operations

**Salinity (EC)**

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2007
Swan Hill	120	170	120
Euston	130	130	110
Red Cliffs	-	-	-
Merbein	150	140	120
Burtundy (Darling)	1 180	1 150	1 090
Lock 9	130	130	130
Lake Victoria	170	160	170
Berri	540	510	490
Waikerie	680	680	650
Morgan	720	720	690
Mannum	440	420	420
Murray Bridge	560	550	540
Milang (Lake Alex.)	2 490	2 500	2 160
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 920	1 910	2 080
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	2 450	2 450	2 510
Goolwa Barrages	14 190	13 700	14 460



**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	-	-	-	2 570	F	2 100	2 880
Jingellic	4.0	1.70	208.22	4 700	R	3 600	3 960
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.31	218.20	450	F	510	500
Heywoods	5.5	1.33	154.96	1 050	R	540	480
Doctors Point	5.5	1.72	150.19	2 280	R	1 500	1 230
Albury	4.3	0.80	148.24	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.48	126.50	1 280	F	1 310	1 340
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.47	115.51	2 400	S	2 400	2 550
Tocumwal	6.4	0.92	104.76	2 430	R	2 440	2 700
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	0.94	79.49	1 980	S	1 950	1 950
Swan Hill	4.5	0.57	63.49	1 870	R	1 940	2 260
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.39	50.51	2 180	F	2 440	3 220
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.55	42.39	2 380	F	2 710	3 430
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 630	F	2 680	3 270
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.84	27.60	2 270	F	2 530	3 020
Rufus Junction	-	2.65	19.58	1 400	S	1 390	710
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.09	-	1 220	R	390	370
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.41	154.64	1 204	R	1 200	1 020
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.18	145.86	1 333	R	1 430	1 220
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.10	92.52	292	R	260	280
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.44	80.21	200	F	200	170
Edward at Liewah	-	0.56	55.94	244	F	340	690
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.12	54.61	46	S	50	60
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.49	56.45	209	S	210	210
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.32	-	255	F	450	1 010
Darling at Bourke	-	4.13	-	496	R	440	70
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.70	-	52	R	50	50

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	6 740	5 610
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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	-1.08	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.01	+0.33
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.02	+0.01
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.26	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.06	+0.06
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.03	+0.05	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.23
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.04	+0.20	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.17
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.04	+0.00	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.05	+0.05
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.04	-0.01	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.02	-0.66

<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	-1.13	0.53	69.88	235
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.91	0.15	61.45	269



**Lower Lakes**

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.19

**Barrages**

**Fishways @ Barrages**

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.06	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.25	All closed	Closed	Closed

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