

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 23 July 2008

Our Ref : M2008/00001/prs, MS
Trim Ref : 08/6679

25 July, 2008



Rainfall and inflows

Victoria and southern NSW experienced widespread rain with falls of 25 to 50 mm recorded over eastern Victoria and the south west slopes of NSW. Granite Flat, in lower north-east Victoria, received the highest rainfall total of 83 mm. Light, widespread rain also fell across the north of the Basin with southern Queensland receiving between 5 and 15 mm.

The rain has provided a welcome boost to Murray inflows, increasing these by approximately 100 GL. Flow increased in the Ovens River at Wangaratta from 3 000 to 9 000 ML/day and in the Murray River at Biggara from 500 to 5 000 ML/day - the highest observed since September 2005. Flows at these sites have since started to recede.

Whilst inflows are now above the record low levels observed in June, they remain very much below the long term July average of around 1 200 GL. Many such rain events would be needed over coming months to significantly boost water availability.

River Operations

Increased inflows saw storage rise in Dartmouth Reservoir (from 710 to 723 GL or 18.5% of capacity) and Hume Reservoir (from 554 to 600 GL or 20% of capacity). Higher flows in the Kiewa River resulted in the flow at Doctors Point (near Albury) to rise from 1 300 to 2 300 ML/day.

The higher tributary inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers are being captured in Lake Mulwala where the level has risen to 123.7 m AHD (1.2 m below FSL). The lake is now high enough to supply initial stock and domestic demands down Mulwala Canal and it is expected that the level of Lake Mulwala will continue to rise over coming weeks.

NSW State Water will commence partially refilling Stevens Weir within the week with water which will be delivered from Mulwala Canal via the Edward River Escape (*see media release attached*). Release from Stevens Weir remains at around 100 ML/day, resulting in a flow at Moulamein of around 130 ML/day - the lowest it has been since January 1973.

Torrumbarry Weir pool remains at 85.85 m AHD (20 cm below FSL) and Euston Weir pool is now back up at around FSL (47.6 m AHD). Mildura and Wentworth Weirs are also currently being held at FSL (34.4 and 30.8 m AHD respectively).

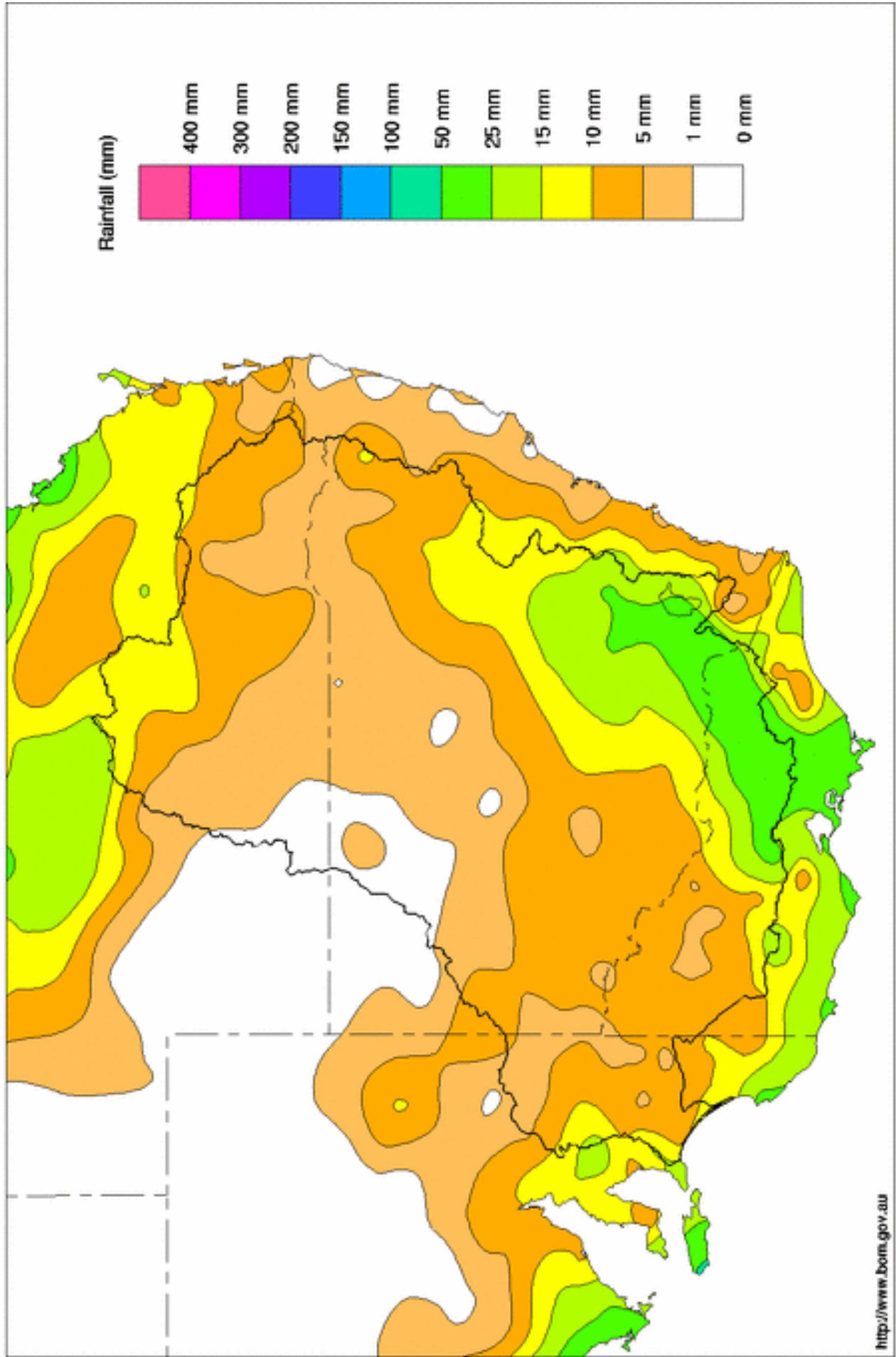
The higher salinity water that originated from the recent Mildura weir pool drawdown, continues to be diverted into Lake Victoria for dilution. Consequently, flow past Lock 9 remains low at around 150 ML/day. Lock 8 weir pool level was reduced by 11 cm over the past week, and is currently 24.87 m AHD (27 cm above FSL). The pool level of Lock 8 will continue to be gradually lowered over the next few weeks to supply Mullaroo Creek.

Locks 1 to 6 are close to, or above, full supply level. The salinity at Milang on Lake Alexandrina remains high at around 3 500 EC. The water level in Lake Alexandrina is steady at about -0.40 m AHD (40cm below Australian Height Datum) and in Lake Albert is about -0.35 m AHD.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 23rd July 2008

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	412.73	722	18%	80	642	+11
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	174.39	591	19%	30	561	+37
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.63	307	45%	100	207	+1
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		532	31%	(- -) #	0	-7
Total		9 352		2 152	23%	--	1 410	+42

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **17%**

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	440	43%	3	437	+7
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	677	41%	24	653	+37
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	562	17%	100	462	+36

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 22-Jul-2008

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2008
Lake Eucumbene - Total	170	+16	Snowy-Murray	+14	204
Snowy-Murray Component	184	-13	Tooma-Tumut	+13	52
Target Storage	1 170		Nett Diversion	1.1	153
			Murray 1 Release	+18	243

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2008
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	.9	.9
Wakool System loss	0.0	.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	.1
Licensed Pumps	0.3	1.3
Lower Darling	0.0	.1
TOTAL	1.3	2.4

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2008
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	.0	
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.1	1 *
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	1
Licensed pumps - LMW	0.3	1
TOTAL	0.4	2 *

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

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	109 *	(1 200 ML/day)
Flow this week	8.7	
Flow so far this month	31	
Flow last month	57	

* Reduced to approx. 45 GL during June drought contingency operations

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2007
Swan Hill	60	60	80
Euston	80	80	110
Red Cliffs	-	-	130
Merbein	130	130	160
Burtundy (Darling)	320	320	820
Lock 9	180	160	160
Lake Victoria	240	230	200
Berri	450	420	350
Waikerie	-	420	510
Morgan	460	460	540
Mannum	570	570	650
Murray Bridge	560	600	680
Milang (Lake Alex.)	3 500	3 450	3 060
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	3 420	3 130	2 650
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	4 730	4 800	3 510
Goolwa Barrages	21 120	21 750	21 040



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	-	-	-	4 710	F	3 790	1 960
Jingellic	4.0	2.24	208.76	9 280	R	5 410	3 720
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.65	218.54	1 210	F	1 050	750
Heywoods	5.5	1.11	154.74	430	S	430	420
Doctors Point	5.5	1.68	150.15	2 070	F	1 700	1 450
Albury	4.3	0.82	148.26	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.66	126.68	1 730	R	1 350	1 400
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.31	115.35	1 820	S	1 810	1 820
Tocumwal	6.4	0.73	104.57	1 870	F	1 890	1 910
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	0.91	79.46	2 060	R	2 110	2 060
Swan Hill	4.5	0.60	63.52	2 050	S	2 010	1 990
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.37	50.49	2 120	F	2 180	2 360
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.54	42.38	2 480	S	2 420	2 550
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 140	F	2 080	2 030
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.93	27.69	1 790	S	1 870	2 000
Rufus Junction	-	2.50	19.43	1 010	R	1 030	980
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.35	-	1 680	R	1 600	1 490
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.81	155.04	1 910	F	1 550	1 330
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	10.26	147.94	9 033	R	4 560	3 640
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.12	92.54	364	S	400	380
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.30	80.07	100	S	100	100
Edward at Liewah	-	0.37	55.75	141	F	160	270
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.90	54.39	0	S	0	-
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.27	56.23	90	F	190	130
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.15	-	2	S	10	30
Darling at Bourke	-	4.00	-	49	F	60	70
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.73	-	100	F	100	70

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	6 480	6 230
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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	-1.36	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.16	+0.16
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.20	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.05	-0.03
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.04	+0.10
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.01	+0.01	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.06	+0.20
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.29	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.03	+0.21
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.15	+0.22	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.12	+0.27
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.27	-0.16	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.20	-1.10

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-3.85	0.425	69.775	124
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-5.24	-0.04	61.26	129.76



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

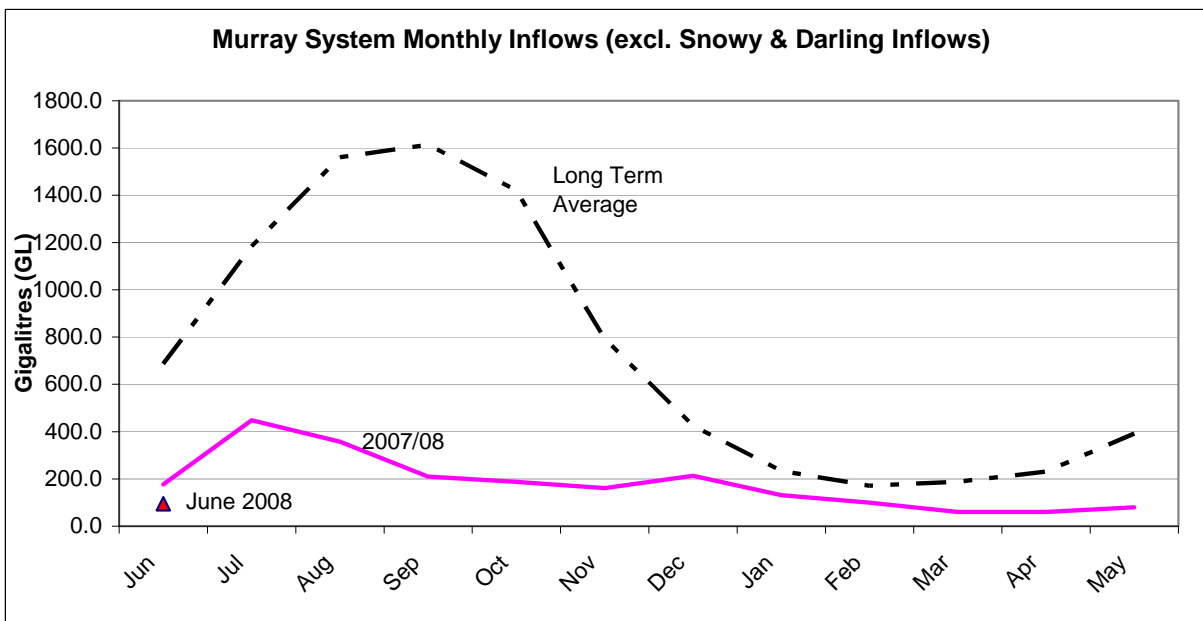
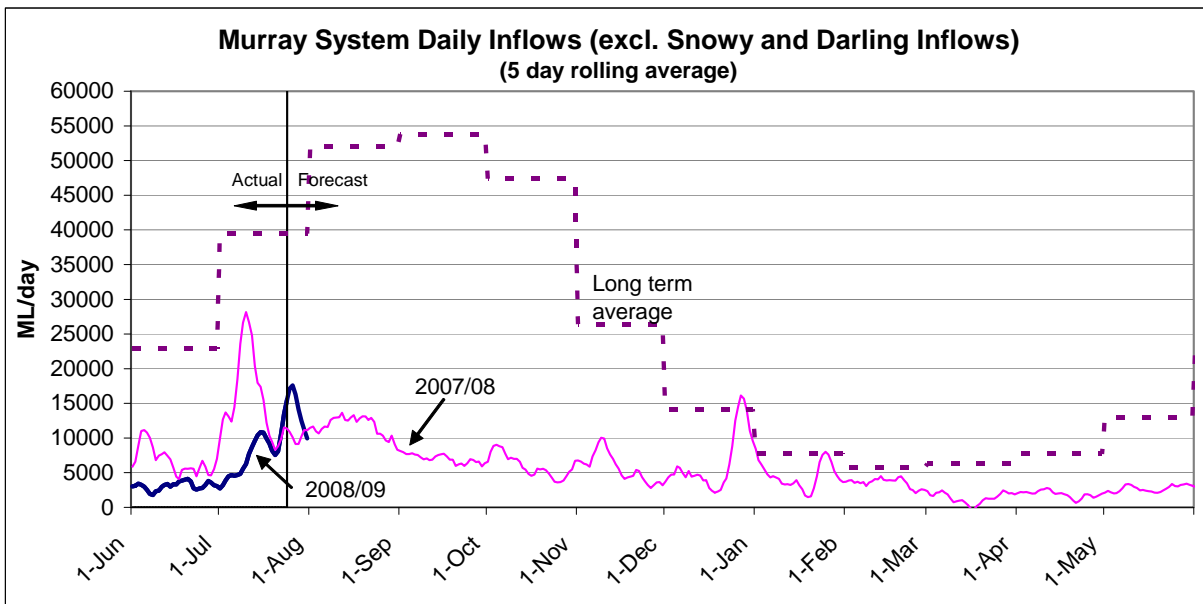
	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.39

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	-0.26	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-0.42	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	-	All closed	Closed	Closed

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



State Allocations (as at 23rd July 2008)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	0%
General security	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	0%
General security	0%

NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	0%

Victoria - Murray Valley

high reliability	0%
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Victoria - Goulburn Valley

high reliability	0%
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South Australia - Murray Valley

irrigation allocation	2%
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NSW : http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/water/state_mm_murr_water_quality.shtml#alloc
 VIC : <http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp>
 SA : <http://www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/media.html>

21 July 2008

State Water Corporation announced today that the partial refilling of Stevens Weir pool on the Edward River will begin during the week commencing Monday 21 July in preparation to deliver domestic and stock water into Murray Irrigation's Wakool Irrigation District.

State Water General Manager Water Delivery, Dan Berry said water levels within the weir pool would be managed to deliver small volumes of water into the Wakool Main Canal, while minimising evaporation and transmission losses within the weir pool.

"Water used to partially refill Stevens Weir pool will be delivered into the system utilising the Edward River Escape from the Mulwala Canal located upstream of the Deniliquin Township."

"State Water Corporation advises river users within the influence of the Stevens Weir pool to watch for changing river levels during the coming weeks and plan their activities accordingly."

"As this water season progresses, State Water will revise delivery strategies to deliver water to our customers, dependant on water availability and river flows within the Murray System, while minimising system losses," Mr Berry said.

The Edward River height at Deniliquin is currently 0.32 metres, and is expected to be approximately 0.7 metres when the partial filling of the weir pool is complete.

Currently there is still insufficient water available to supply replenishment flows to the Wakool River System which includes the Colligen/Niemur and Merran systems.

For further information in regard to water delivery please contact the State Water Duty Operations Officer on 03 5898 3925.

Media enquiries and interviews:

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