

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING

Wednesday, 23 April 2008



*Our Ref : M2008/00001/prs, ms
Trim Ref : 08/3881*

24 April, 2008

Rainfall and Inflows

Light falls of rain, of between 1 and 20 mm, spilled over the Great Divide in Queensland and New South Wales however there was little or no rain in the west and south of the Basin. Temperatures along the Murray Valley have started to cool with the average maximum temperature at Mildura dropping from 32°C to 24°C. The cooler autumn temperatures have resulted in reduced evaporation losses and irrigation demand along the length of the Murray.

The low rainfall experienced thus far in April has resulted in inflows to the river system continuing to recede. Flow in the Mitta Mitta River at Hinnomunje has receded from 230 to 180 ML/day and the Ovens River at Wangaratta is now only 270 ML/day.

River Operations

Lower evaporative losses and a significant reduction in irrigation demand over the past week have enabled a significant reduction in release from Hume Reservoir. Along some sections of the river system flows have already been reduced to the minimum rates that are normally experienced during winter.

Release from Dartmouth Reservoir has been reduced from 300 to the minimum of 200 ML/day and release from Hume Reservoir has been reduced from 7 000 to around 2 200 ML/day. Rain is forecast for the coming weekend and, if sufficient, release from Hume Dam may be reduced further to target the minimum flow of 1 200 ML/day at Doctors Point. The lower release from Hume Reservoir has resulted in the storage volume increasing for the first time since October 2007, rising from 223 to 233 GL (7.7% capacity).

The level of Lake Mulwala has been relatively steady at about 124.4 m AHD, however is expected to fall slightly to about 124.2 m AHD over the coming week unless there is significant rainfall. Release from Yarrowonga Weir has been reduced from 5 000 to 3 500 ML/day and flow into the Edward River Offtake and Gulpa Creek Offtake have been reduced to their normal respective minimums of 100 and 80 ML/day.

Release from Torrumbarry Weir temporarily increased from 2 000 to 2 500 ML/day due to lower than expected irrigation demand however, without significant rainfall, is expected to return to 2 000 ML/day this weekend. Release from Euston Weir is still very low at about 1 700 ML/day but is expected to increase to about 2 000 ML/day over the coming week with the arrival of the additional water currently passing Torrumbarry Weir.

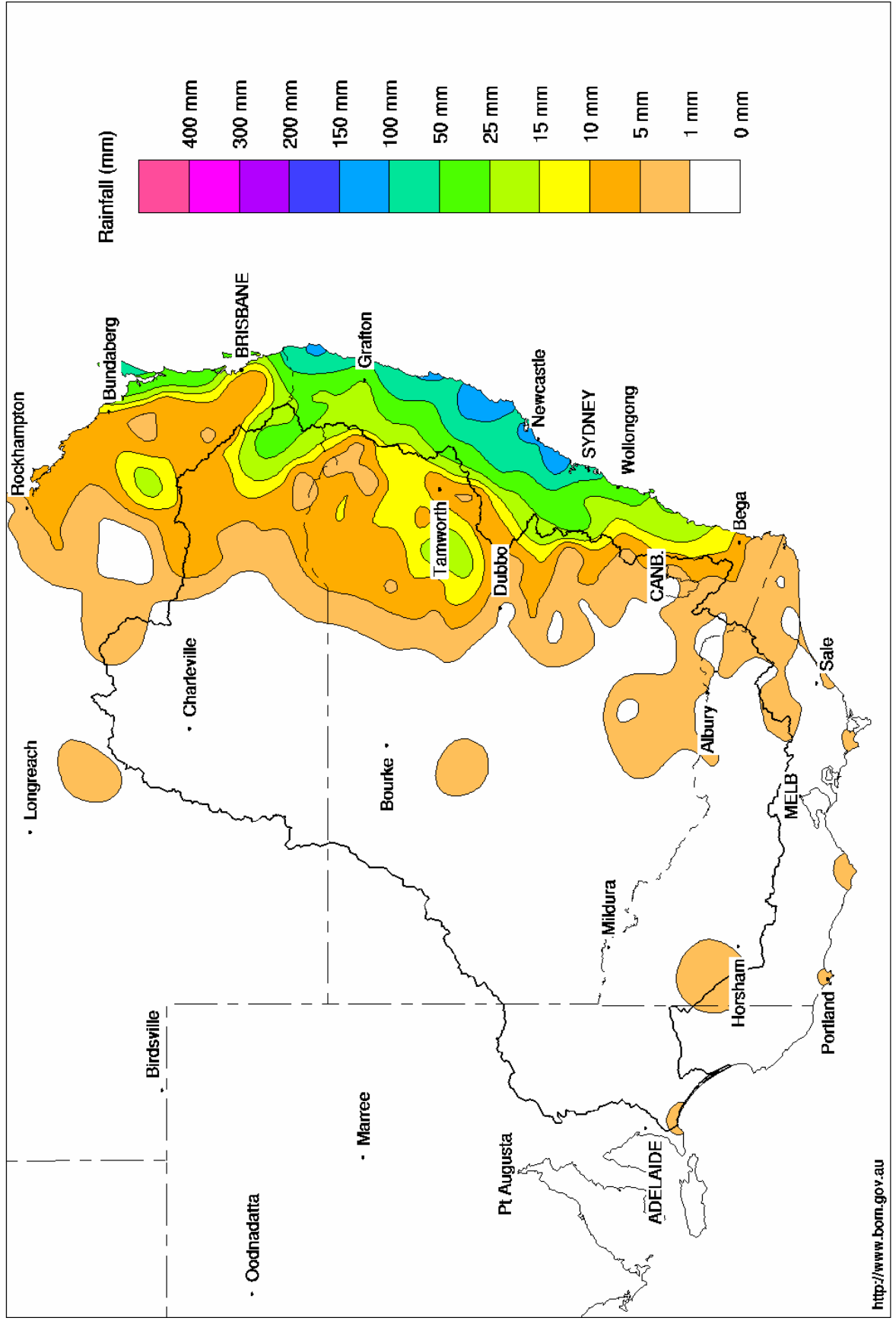
The flow in the Darling River at Burtundy has fallen from 500 to 100 ML/day and flow in the Murray at Wentworth Weir has reduced from 1 900 to 1500 ML/day. The low flows being observed at Wentworth Weir may persist for another week depending on weather conditions.

Flow to South Australia has been reduced from 2 300 ML/day to 2 100 ML/day. As the weather becomes cooler, further reductions in the flow to South Australia can be expected. Locks 1 to 6 remain at about full supply level and levels in the Lower Lakes have steadied at about 0.5 m below sea level.

DAVID DREVERMAN
General Manager

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

Product of the National Climate Centre



Week ending Wednesday 23 Apr 2008

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	410.87	679	17%	80	599	+1
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	169.22	233	8%	30	203	+2
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.34	279	41%	100	179	-5
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		579	33%	(- -) #	0	-5
Total		9 352		1 770	19%	--	981	-6

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBC Storage = **12%**

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	424	41%	3	421	-1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	393	24%	24	369	-8
Eildon Reservoir	3 390	460	14%	100	360	-12

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 22-Apr-2008

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2007
Lake Eucumbene - Total	399	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+26	461
Snowy-Murray Component	327	-	Tooma-Tumut	+1	158
Target Storage	1 340		Nett Diversion	24.6	303
			Murray 1 Release	+28	695

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL)

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2007
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	1.1	100.3
Wakool System loss	0.1	20.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.4	21.4
Licensed Pumps	2.1	79.7
Lower Darling	0.2	10.2
TOTAL	3.8	231.5

Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2007
Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	7.7	125
Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	10.5	219
Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.8	90 *
Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.3	12
Licensed pumps - LMW	3.0	166
TOTAL	23.4	612 *

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

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	135 *	
Flow this week	15.6	(2 200 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	59	
Flow last month	109	

* Reduced to approx. 90 GL during April drought contingency operations

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2007
Swan Hill	80	80	90
Euston	130	130	120
Red Cliffs	-	-	130
Merbein	230	240	150
Burtundy (Darling)	300	290	910
Lock 9	190	180	150
Lake Victoria	330	240	190
Berri	300	320	350
Waikerie	350	340	530
Morgan	400	400	580
Mannum	690	690	660
Murray Bridge	870	840	680
Milang (Lake Alex.)	4 110	3 680	2 890
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	2 700	2 880	2 510
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	-	-	3 150
Goolwa Barrages	23 170	23 440	19 410



Week ending Wednesday 23 Apr 2008

River Levels and Flows

River Murray	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)				
Khancoban	-	-	-	3 780	F	4 750	2 690
Jingellic	4.0	1.65	208.17	4 330	F	4 970	2 250
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.25	218.14	360	F	430	480
Heywoods	5.5	1.70	155.33	2 610	F	4 420	7 240
Doctors Point	5.5	1.83	150.30	2 920	F	4 750	7 590
Albury	4.3	0.94	148.38	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.22	127.24	3 720	F	5 150	7 060
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.71	115.75	3 500	R	4 050	4 590
Tocumwal	6.4	1.20	105.04	3 730	F	4 310	4 310
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.08	79.63	2 480	F	2 370	2 120
Swan Hill	4.5	0.62	63.54	2 230	R	2 120	2 020
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.43	50.55	2 270	R	2 260	2 090
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.41	42.25	1 740	R	1 840	1 600
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	1 650	F	1 500	2 010
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.76	27.52	1 450	R	1 390	2 180
Rufus Junction	-	2.57	19.50	1 550	F	1 660	1 810
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.45	-	1 240	F	1 390	1 440
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.65	153.88	176	F	270	280
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.69	145.37	270	F	290	330
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.13	92.55	389	S	380	400
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.94	80.72	680	F	530	480
Edward at Liewah	-	0.94	56.32	445	S	440	420
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.93	54.42	0	S	0	0
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.43	56.39	190	S	200	220
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.18	-	15	F	20	40
Darling at Bourke	-	4.00	-	67	S	80	140
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.74	-	125	F	250	800

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	390	550
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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	-0.46	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.04	+0.26
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.00	-0.08
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.01	+0.05
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	-0.01	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.18
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.12	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+0.11
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.02	-0.08	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.04	+0.08
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.06	+0.14	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.04	-1.20

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-1.41	0.465	69.815	146
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-14.60	0.137	61.437	252



Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

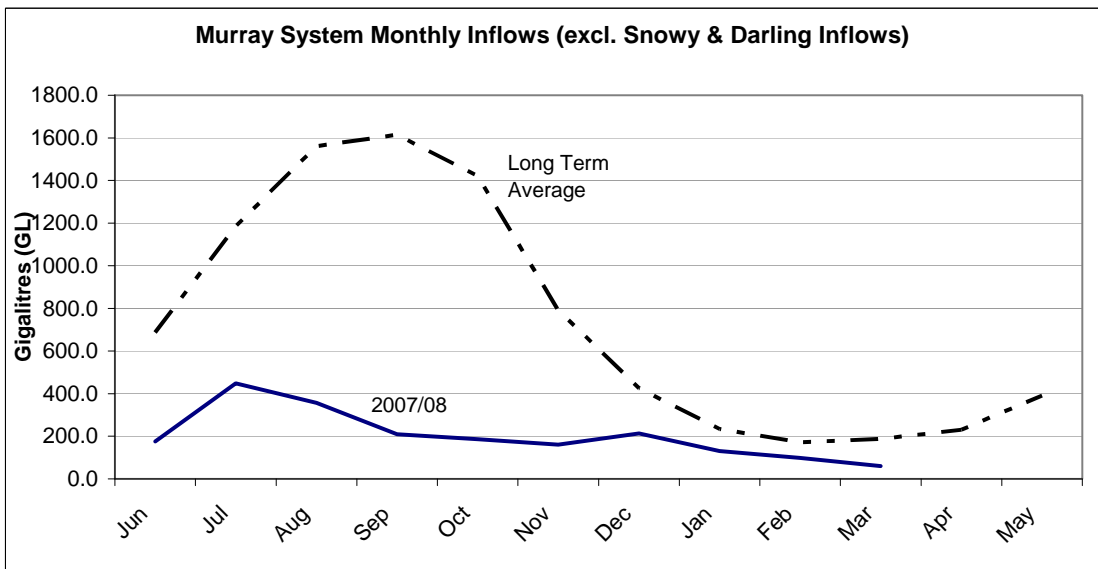
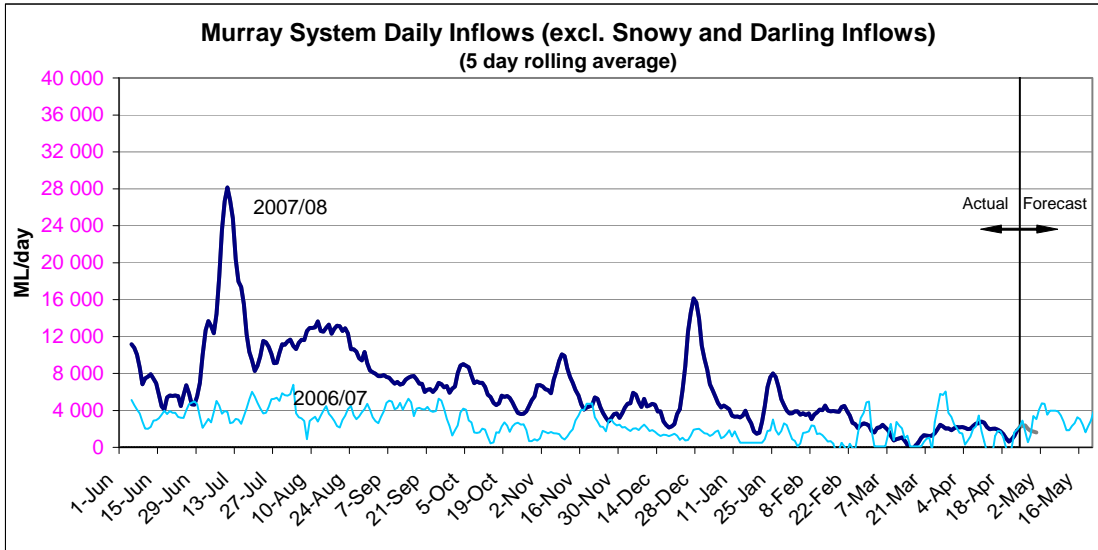
	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.50

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	-0.45	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-0.44	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	-	All closed	Closed	Closed

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



State Allocations (as at 23rd April 2008)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	25%
General security	0%

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	90%
General security	13%

NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	50%

Victoria - Murray Valley

high reliability	43%
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Victoria - Goulburn Valley

high reliability	57%
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South Australia - Murray Valley

irrigation allocation	32%
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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.dwbc.sa.gov.au/media.html>