



# RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 02 DECEMBER 2009

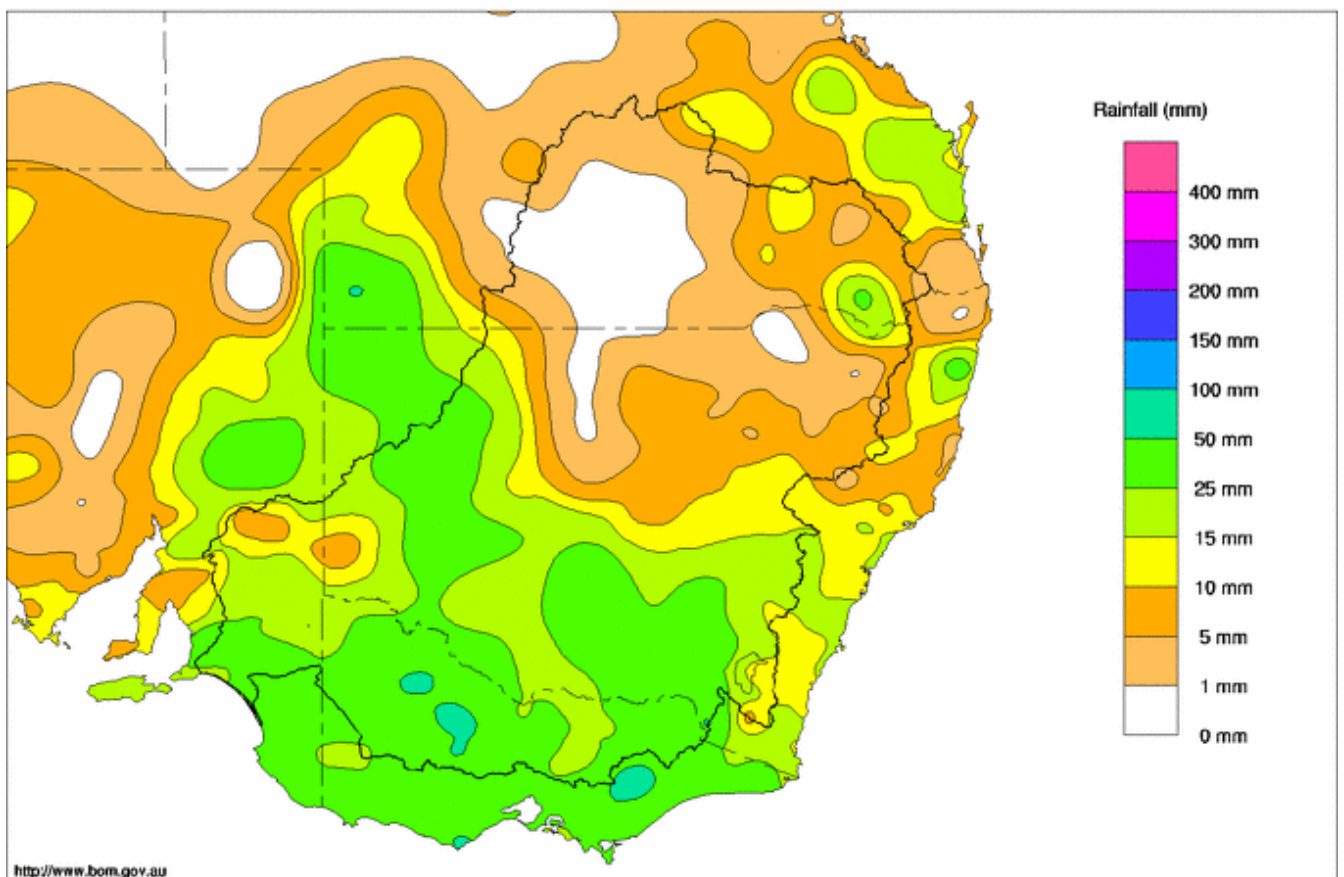
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## Rainfall and Inflows

For the week ending 2 December there was welcome rain across the lower half of the Murray-Darling Basin (see Map 1). The highest rainfall was recorded in the Snowy Mountains at Charlotte Pass with 80 mm and in the Victorian Alps with Mt Buffalo receiving 72mm. Notably, many regions such as the Riverina, the western regions of NSW, the lower Murray Valley in South Australia and the upper north of Victoria all recorded rainfalls of at least 40 mm.

Streamflow response from this rain has been minimal with flow in many of the upper Murray rivers remaining fairly steady over the week. For instance, Hinnomunjie on the Mitta Mitta River is now at 820 ML/day from 750 ML/day last week. Similarly, Rocky Point on the Ovens River started and finished this week with a flow of around 1,180 ML/day.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 2nd December 2009  
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Issued: 02/12/2009



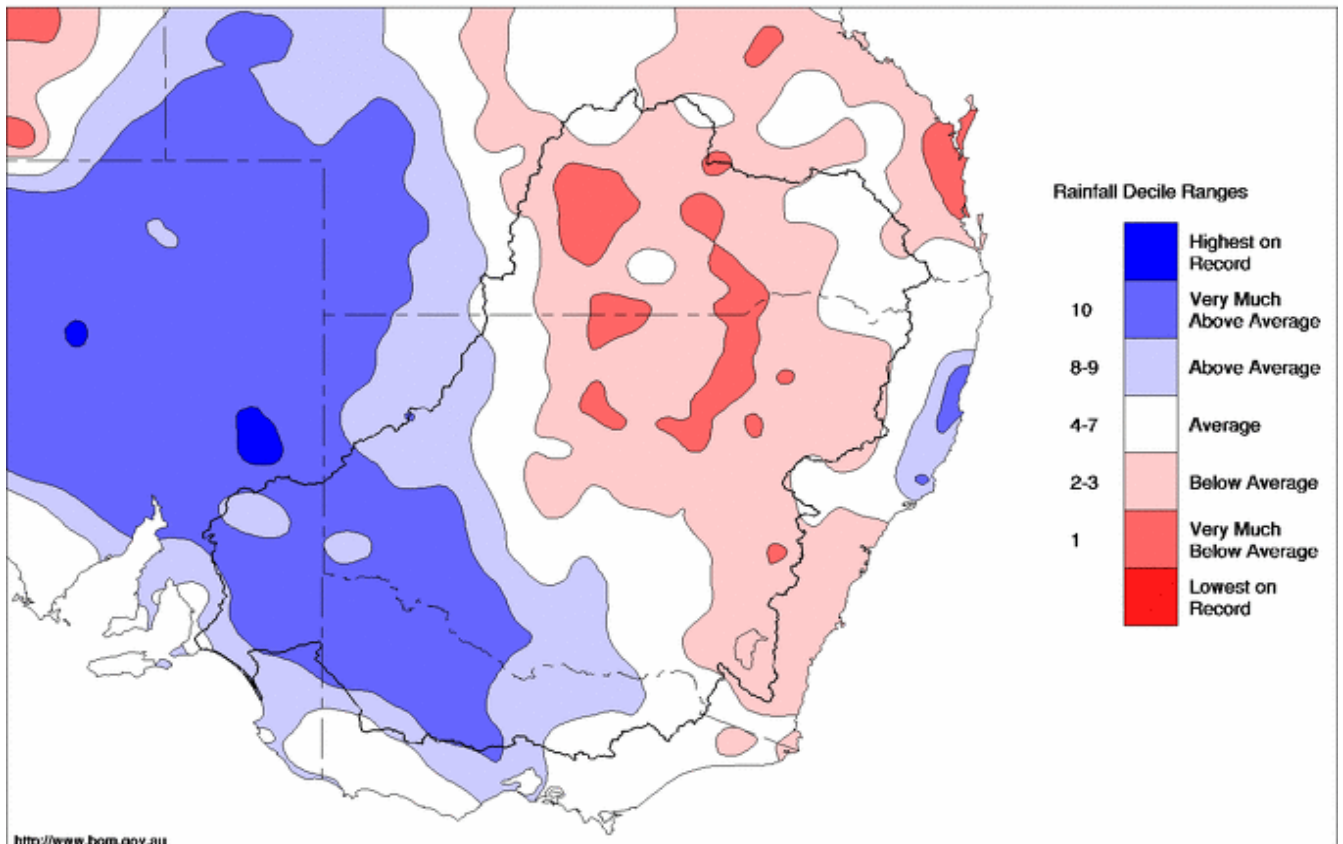
## November 2009 summary

November rainfall was above and very much above average in the south west of the Murray-Darling Basin but below average in the north east (see Map 2). November 2009 was an exceptionally warm month in south-eastern Australia. Records were broken throughout the region for both the highest maximum and highest minimum temperatures. The maximum temperatures averaged over Australia were 2.12°C above normal, ranking second behind the 2006 record of +2.17°C. They were at least 2°C above normal throughout New South Wales, Victoria and much of South Australia.

Due, in part to continued inflows from October rainfall events, Murray system inflows for November were about 250 GL, which is the highest November inflow since 2005 (690 GL), but still well below the long term November average of 765 GL.

Murray Darling Rainfall Deciles November 2009

Distribution Based on Gridded Data  
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Issued: 30/11/2009



## River Operations

MDBA active storage is currently 2,434 GL (29% capacity) down from 2,436 GL last week.

Total storage in Dartmouth Reservoir decreased by 3 GL to 1,208 GL (31% capacity), due to the commencement of pulsed releases from Dartmouth to help maintain sufficient water in Hume Reservoir for the remainder of the irrigation season. The peak of the pulsed release was 3,000 ML/day and the release is currently at 1,600 ML/day and gradually falling. Another pulsed release is planned for the second half of December.

Hume Reservoir storage decreased by 14 GL to 1,098 GL (36% capacity). The target flow below Hume Dam at Doctors Point has increased from 8,500 to 10,500 ML/day as inflows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers recede. The release from Yarrawonga Weir has decreased from 10,500 to 10,000 ML/day and is expected to remain fairly steady in the upcoming weeks. The pool level at Lake Mulwala is 124.78 m AHD (12 cm below FSL).

Downstream, at Stevens Weir on the Edward River, the release has decreased from 2,800 to around 2,400 ML/day and is gradually heading towards a target of 2,200 ML/day.

Due to the combined impacts of reduced diversions and lower river losses following the recent rain, flow rates along the River Murray between Torrumbarry and Lake Victoria have increased. At Torrumbarry Weir, the release increased from around 7,700 to 8,400 ML/day but is expected to decrease gradually over the next week. Further downstream at Euston Weir the release has risen from 10,130 to 10,880 ML/day and increasing upstream flows will boost the release further in the next week. Similarly, at Wentworth Weir the release has risen from 6,450 to 7,530 ML/day.

Storage in Lake Victoria rose by 15 GL to 338 GL (50% capacity) as higher flows arrive to increase the level in Lake Victoria. The water level is expected to continue gradually rising in the coming week. The target flow to South Australia has decreased from 5,000 to 4,700 ML/day after the rain and cooler weather helped the pool levels in Weirs 1-6 return to around full supply level.

The water in Lake Alexandrina is fairly steady at -0.82 m AHD, and in Lake Albert at -0.44 m AHD. The water level in Goolwa Channel (which is separated from Lake Alexandrina by an earth embankment) decreased from 0.63 to 0.60 m AHD.

**For media inquiries contact: Sam Leone on 02 6279 0141**

DAVID DREVERMAN  
Executive Director, River Murray

## Week ending Wednesday 02 Dec 2009

### Water in Storage

MDBA Storages	Full Supply Level (m AHD)	Full Supply Volume (GL)	Current Storage Level (m AHD)	Current Storage		Dead Storage (GL)	MDBA Active Storage (GL)	Change in Total Storage for the week (GL)
				(GL)	%			
Dartmouth Reservoir	486.00	3 906	430.39	1 208	31%	80	1 128	-3
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	179.48	1 098	36%	30	1 068	-14
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.94	338	50%	100	238	+15
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		164	9%	(- -) #	0	-3
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>2 808</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>- -</b>	<b>2 434</b>	<b>-4</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **29%**

# NSW takes control of Menindee Lakes when storage falls below 480 GL, and control reverts to MDBA when storage next reaches 640 GL

\*\* All Data is rounded to nearest GL \*\*

### Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026	445	43%	3	442	-1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	574	35%	24	550	+9
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	1 091	33%	100	991	-1

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 01-Dec-2009

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2009
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 223	-17	Snowy-Murray	+14	372
Snowy-Murray Component	794	-11	Tooma-Tumut	+0	216
Target Storage	1 510		Nett Diversion	14.3	156
			Murray 1 Release	+16	572

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2009	Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2009
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	1.4	86.5	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0.7	52
Wakool Sys Allowance	3.5	21.5	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	1.6	97
Western Murray Irrig.	0.3	7.6	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.1	35
Licensed Pumps	3.1	38.7	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	2
Lower Darling	0.4	3.6	Licensed pumps - LMW	9.0	85
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>158.0</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>271</b>

\* Figures derived from Estimates and Monthly Data. Please note that not all data may have been available at the time of creating this report.

\*\* All Data is rounded to nearest 100 ML for the above\*\*

### Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	217 *	
Flow this week	34.2	(4 900 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	10	
Flow last month	142	

\* Reduced to approx. 145 GL during December drought contingency operations

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2009
Swan Hill	60	60	70
Euston	70	70	80
Red Cliffs	80	80	110
Merbein	80	100	100
Burtundy (Darling)	550	550	520
Lock 9	140	140	150
Lake Victoria	210	180	210
Berri	260	280	410
Waikerie	-	-	560
Morgan	640	660	610
Mannum	620	610	600
Murray Bridge	620	640	700
Milang (Lake Alex)	5 780	5 830	5 320
Poltalloch (Lake Alex)	4 830	4 950	4 890
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	11 290	11 360	9 670
Goolwa Barrages	10 280	10 360	14 430

Week ending Wednesday 02 Dec 2009

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	-	-	-	1 870	F	3 390	5 080
Jingellic	4.0	1.65	208.17	4 410	F	5 080	6 490
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.99	218.88	2 210	F	2 410	690
Heywoods	5.5	2.52	156.15	9 650	S	8 510	10 560
Doctors Point	5.5	2.66	151.13	10 600	S	9 590	11 540
Albury	4.3	1.61	149.05	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.30	128.32	10 350	R	9 250	12 500
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.64	116.68	9 960	F	10 330	10 420
Tocumwal	6.4	2.20	106.04	10 080	F	10 400	10 390
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.72	81.27	8 400	R	8 170	7 090
Swan Hill	4.5	1.63	64.55	8 700	R	8 250	7 260
Wakool Junction	8.8	3.25	52.37	9 280	R	8 720	8 000
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	2.15	43.99	10 880	R	10 600	9 220
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	7 930	F	7 800	5 260
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.16	27.92	7 530	S	7 550	4 630
Rufus Junction	-	3.04	19.97	3 960	S	4 000	4 480
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.49	-	2 370	R	2 260	1 680
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.22	154.45	880	S	1 040	1 150
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.25	145.93	1 520	R	1 580	1 500
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.33	92.75	680	S	710	500
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	2.28	82.05	2 410	F	2 590	2 560
Edward at Liewah	-	2.63	58.01	2 070	R	1 990	1 860
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.24	54.73	150	R	80	10
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	1.76	57.72	1 280	R	1 210	1 040
Barwon at Mungindi	-	2.95	-	0	F	0	0
Darling at Bourke	-	3.45	-	0	F	0	0
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.72	-	110	F	100	90

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	5 360	4 180
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Weirs and Locks

Pool levels above or below Full Supply Level (FSL)

Murray	FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (m AHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.12	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.07	+0.75
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.03	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.06	-0.01
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.04	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.01	+0.15
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.03	+0.25	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.56
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-0.02	+0.52	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.07	+0.20
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.01	-0.00	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.07	+0.22
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.02	+0.88	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.12	-1.24

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-2.93	1.265	70.615	1220
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	1.23	62.53	1533

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.82

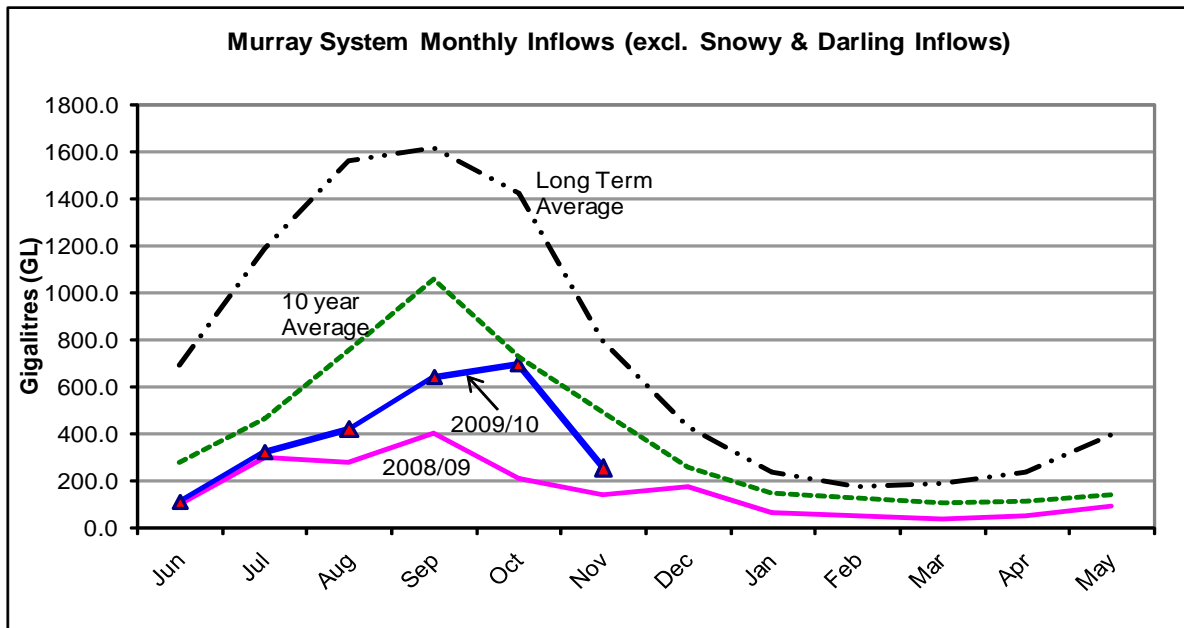
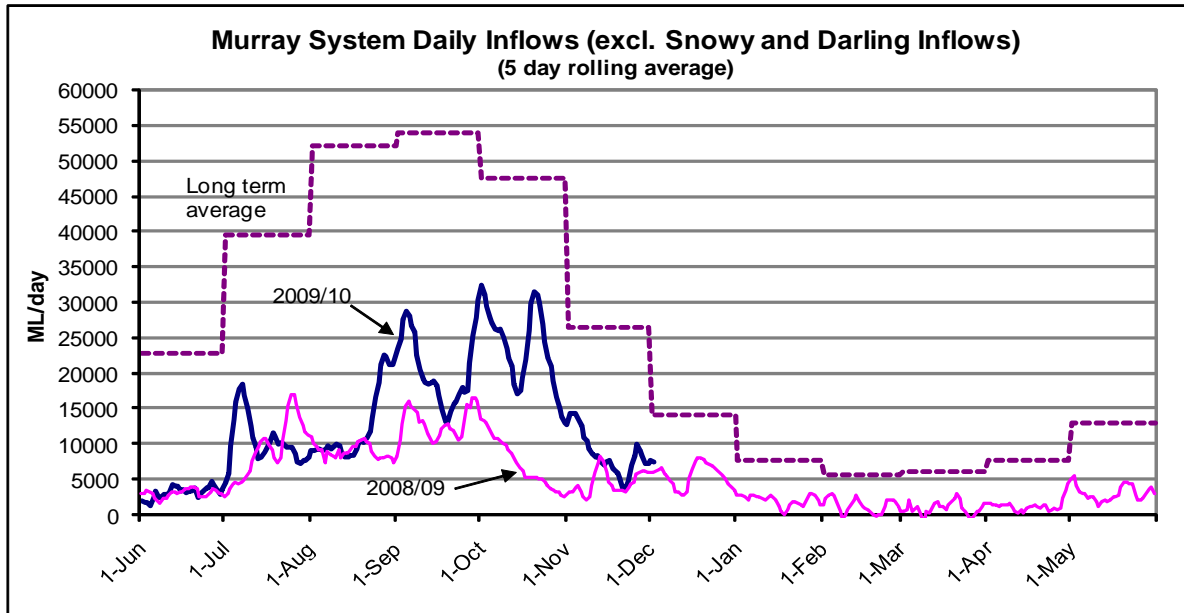
Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.60	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	-	All closed	Closed	Closed



Week ending Wednesday 2nd December 2009



State Allocations (as at 2nd December 2009)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	97%
General security	10%

Victoria - Murray Valley

high reliability	57%
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NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	15%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

high reliability	46%
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NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	25%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	48%
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NSW : <http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/About-us/Media-releases/media/default.aspx>

VIC : <http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp>

SA : <http://www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/media.html>