



# RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 03 FEBRUARY 2010

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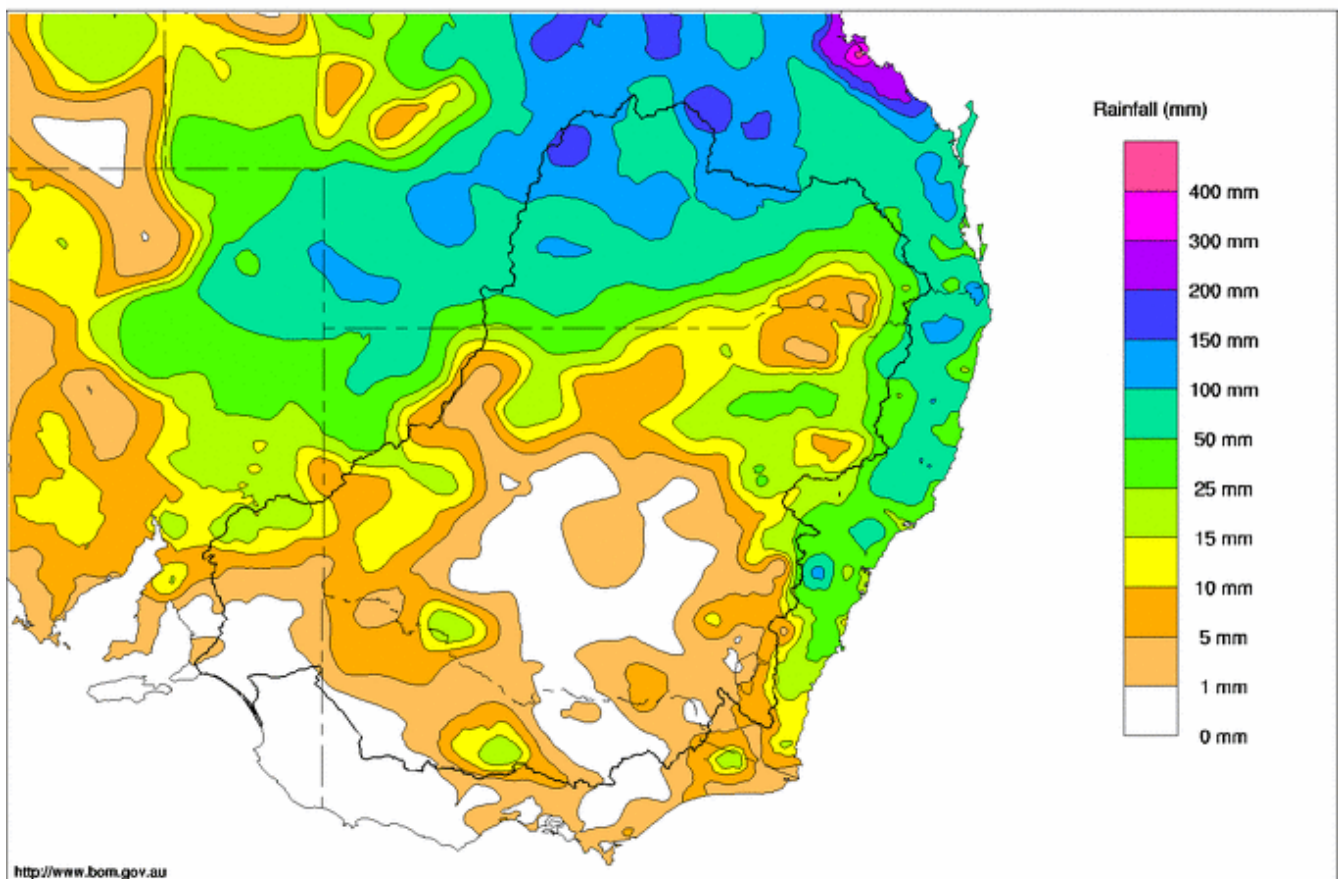
## Rainfall and Inflows

For the week ending 2 February there were heavy falls in the northern Murray–Darling Basin, particularly in the Warrego region where over 100 mm was recorded at Charleville, QLD. Lesser falls were recorded in the northwest plains of NSW where Narrabri received 36 mm.

The Southern Basin remained relatively dry with the upper tributaries receiving little to no rainfall (see Map 1). As a result, streamflows have been continuing to slowly recede. For instance, at Biggara on the upper Murray, the flow receded from 210 to 170 ML/day.

On the Darling River upstream of Menindee Lakes, the flow at Louth peaked on 2 February at about 47,000 ML/day and is expected to peak at Tilpa in the next few days. At Wilcannia the flows are currently about 26,500 ML/day and releases from the Menindee lakes are now about 12,000 ML/day. These higher releases have now started to arrive at the Murray. For a more comprehensive report on the current management of Menindee Lakes go to the NSW website <http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/Water-management/Water-sharing/Menindee-Lakes/menindee-lakes/default.aspx>.

Murray Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 3rd February 2010  
Product of the National Climate Centre



<http://www.bom.gov.au>

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Issued: 03/02/2010

Map 1

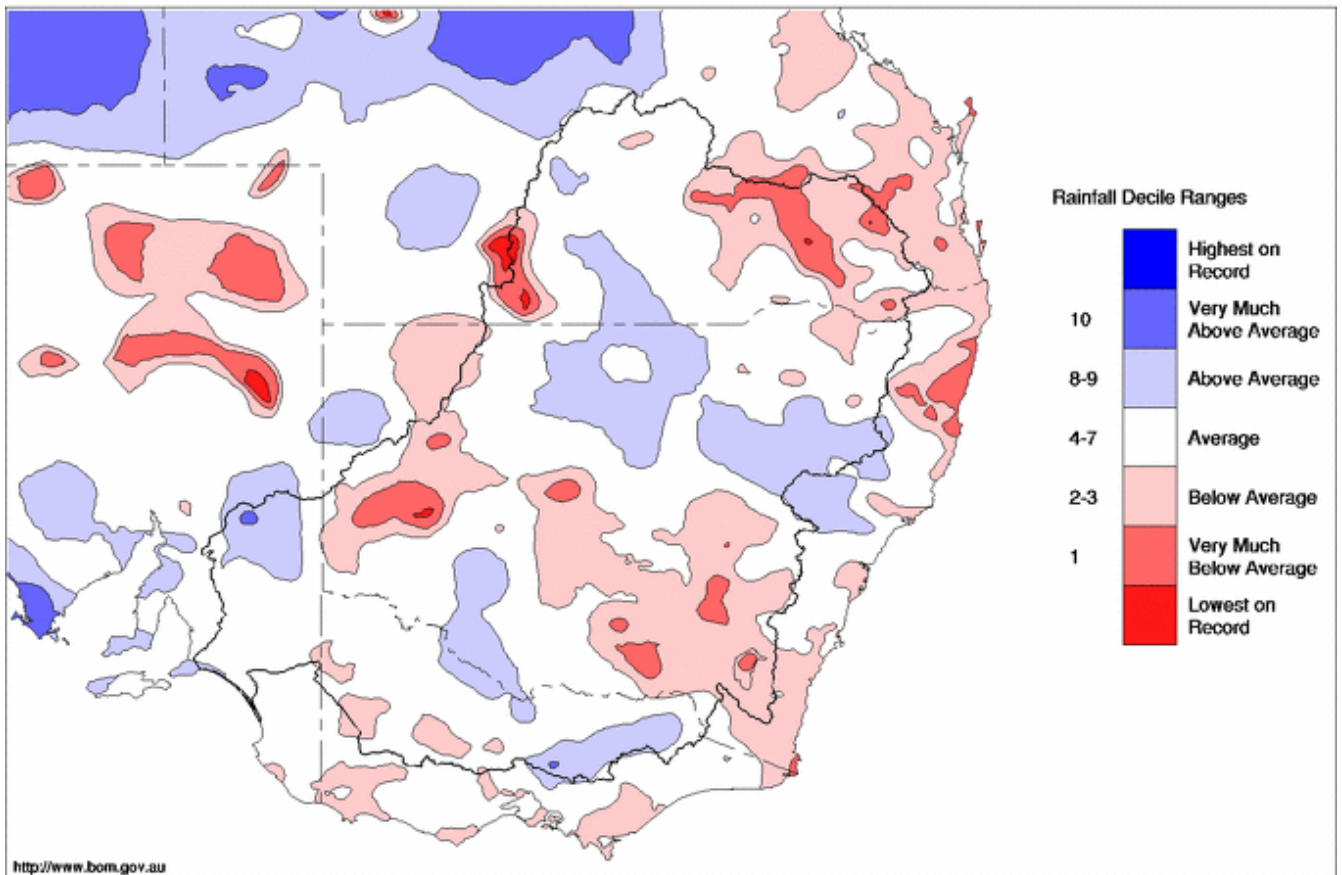


## January 2010 Summary

Overall, January rainfall was about average for the Murray–Darling Basin (see Map 2). The rain which fell in northern NSW over the new year period occurred mainly in Late December, hence this region receiving only ‘above average’ rainfall in January. Murray system inflows for January were helped by rain in the upper Murray catchment in late December 2009 which boosted inflows in early January. As a result, Murray system inflows were about 110 GL (subject to confirmation) which is higher than last year (70 GL) but still well below the long-term average of around 230 GL.

Murray Darling Rainfall Deciles January 2010

Distribution Based on Gridded Data  
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Issued: 31/01/2010

Map 2

## River Operations

MDBA active storage decreased this week from 1,937 to 1,862 GL (22% capacity). This is well below the long term average for February of 4,900 GL.

Total storage in Dartmouth Reservoir decreased by 4 GL to 1,187 GL (30% capacity). The release is steady at 560 ML/day. Further pulsed transfers from Dartmouth Reservoir to Hume Reservoir remain on hold at this stage and updates will be provided closer to any transfer event.

Total storage in Hume Reservoir decreased by 52 GL to 591 GL (19% capacity) and will decline further in the coming weeks. The release from Hume is targeting 11,000 ML/day at Doctors Point (downstream of Hume Reservoir and the Kiewa River) and is expected to remain fairly steady during the week.

The water level in Lake Mulwala is currently 124.71 m AHD (or 0.19m below FSL) and should be reasonably steady during the coming week. The release from Yarrawonga Weir is steady at 8,000 ML/day.

At Torrumbarry Weir, the release over the week remained steady at around 4,700 ML/day and is expected to remain steady in line with the Yarrawonga release. The decrease in flows has now reached Mildura Weir and releases have dropped from 6,500 to 5,000 ML/day and are expected to decrease to around 3,000 ML/day in the coming week.

Total Storage in Menindee Lakes (which remain under NSW control) has increased by 63 GL to 357 GL (21% capacity). At Burtundy, on the lower Darling the release from Menindee Lakes has increased from 270 to around 7,000 ML/day and this will continue to increase during the week. Further downstream at Wentworth Weir on the Murray, the release has increased from 5,500 to around 11,000 ML/day as the increased flows from the lower Darling arrive.

At Lake Victoria, total storage decreased by 21 GL to 294 GL (43% capacity), but is expected to begin to increase in response to the higher flows arriving from the lower Darling River. In South Australia, Locks 1 to 6 are all slightly below Full Supply Level.

The target flow to South Australia is currently around 9,000 ML/day and a peak of around 9,400 ML/day was reached which is the highest flow since December 2005. The higher target will increase the flow over Lock 1 and help deliver water committed by South Australia to the Lower Lakes. The target flow is expected to reduce in the coming week to around 8,500 ML/day.

The water level in Lake Alexandrina is steady at -0.93 m AHD and in Lake Albert the water level has decreased to -0.75 m AHD. Pumping additional water from Lake Alexandrina to Lake Albert began in January which will help address acidification by keeping the high risk clay soils at the centre of Lake Albert submerged. The water level in Goolwa Channel (which is separated from Lake Alexandrina by an earth embankment) decreased from +0.23 to +0.18 m AHD.

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

Tony Morse  
Acting Executive Director, River Murray



## Week ending Wednesday 03 Feb 2010

### 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	429.72	1 187	30%	80	1 107	-4
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	174.38	591	19%	30	561	-52
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.54	294	43%	100	194	-21
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		357	21%	(- -) #	0	+63
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>2 429</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1 862</b>	<b>-14</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

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

# 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	388	38%	3	385	-15
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	468	29%	24	444	-25
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	982	29%	100	882	-21

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 02-Feb-2010

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2009
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 011	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+27	499
Snowy-Murray Component	692	n/a	Tooma-Tumut	+0	236
Target Storage	1 460		Nett Diversion	26.7	263
			Murray 1 Release	+33	719

### 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)	7.2	141	Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	4.9	95
Wakool Sys Allowance	2.2	43	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	10.8	153
Western Murray Irrig.	1.0	17	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	4.2	83
Licensed Pumps	2.5	64	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.3	10
Lower Darling	0.2	6	Licensed pumps - LMW	10.0	173
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>514</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	194	(9 000 ML/day)
Flow this week	63	
Flow so far this month	27	
Flow last month	232	

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2009
Swan Hill	60	60	60
Euston	90	80	90
Red Cliffs	90	90	110
Merbein	100	100	100
Burtundy (Darling)	140	300	530
Lock 9	100	- 30	130
Lake Victoria	130	180	200
Berri	200	190	340
Waikerie	-	-	520
Morgan	270	280	540
Mannum	510	570	630
Murray Bridge	730	760	700
Milang (Lake Alex)	5 930	5 940	5 510
Poltalloch (Lake Alex)	5 870	5 960	5 070
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	14 000	14 850	10 940
Goolwa Barrages	12 950	12 660	13 460

Week ending Wednesday 03 Feb 2010

### 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	-	-	-	5 540	F	4 170	3 080
Jingellic	4.0	1.59	208.11	3 850	F	3 770	3 290
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.48	218.37	630	S	600	610
Heywoods	5.5	2.71	156.34	10 540	S	10 720	9 940
Doctors Point	5.5	2.67	151.14	10 800	S	10 960	10 590
Albury	4.3	1.66	149.10	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	2.35	128.37	10 680	F	11 020	9 880
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.39	116.43	8 010	F	8 030	7 870
Tocumwal	6.4	1.90	105.74	8 020	R	7 990	7 910
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.67	80.22	4 790	R	4 770	5 530
Swan Hill	4.5	0.99	63.91	4 500	S	4 760	6 270
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.42	51.54	5 860	F	6 450	7 930
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.40	43.24	6 230	F	7 040	8 530
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	5 050	F	5 830	5 890
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.47	28.23	11 130	R	8 150	5 670
Rufus Junction	-	3.78	20.71	8 420	F	8 470	7 540
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.07	-	5 480	F	5 070	3 500
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.71	153.94	220	F	280	370
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.63	145.31	190	S	180	290
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.26	92.68	580	F	590	600
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.72	81.49	1 610	S	1 480	1 580
Edward at Liewah	-	2.21	57.59	1 560	F	1 730	2 000
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.15	54.64	80	S	90	130
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.52	56.48	260	F	590	680
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.25	-	100	F	340	980
Darling at Bourke	-	5.80	-	13 040	F	28 370	46 270
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	4.07	-	7 140	R	5 040	90

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	160	820
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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	-0.19	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.01	+1.47
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.04	+0.16
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.01	+0.28
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.02	+0.11	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.07	+1.06
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.01	+0.83	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.03	+0.34
No. 9 Kulline	27.40	+0.08	+0.10	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.09	+0.37
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.02	+1.43	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	-0.08	-0.82

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-3.73	1.077	70.427	899
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.06	0.07	61.37	205

### Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.93

### Barrages

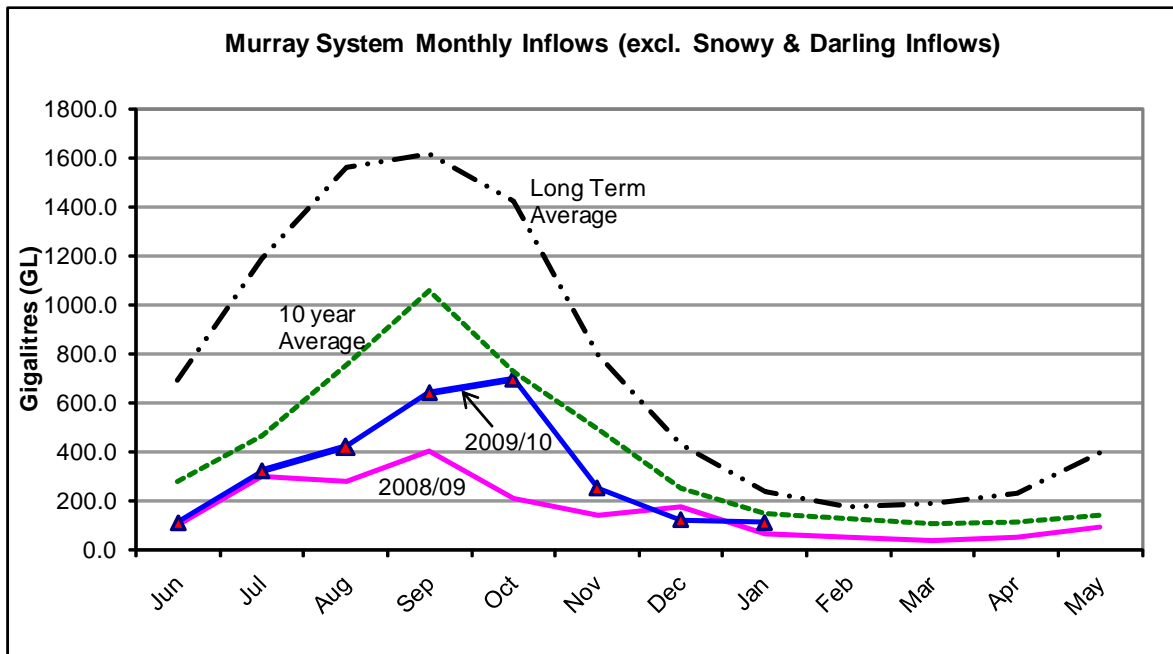
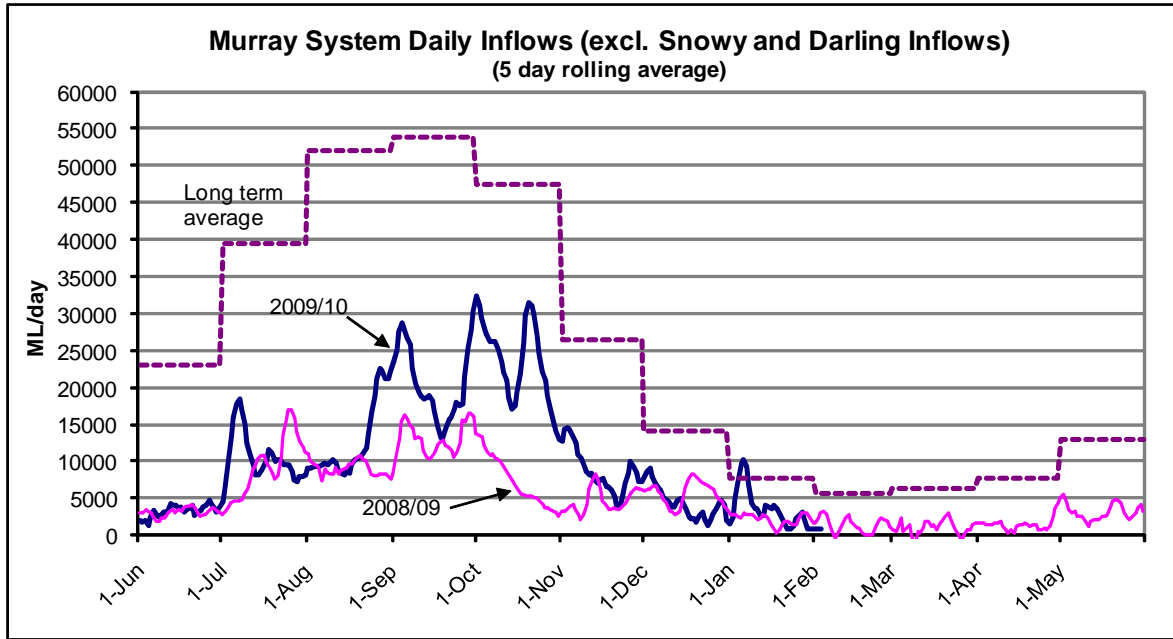
Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.18	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	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



Week ending Wednesday 03 February 2010



State Allocations (as at 03 February 2010)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	97%
General security	13%

Victoria - Murray Valley

high reliability	63%
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NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	18%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

high reliability	56%
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NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	100%

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>