



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2010

Trim Ref: D10/3184

Rainfall and Inflows

During the past week, up to 100 mm of rainfall was recorded across much of the Basin, with the exception of western Victoria and South Australia which received 5 to 25 mm (see map below).

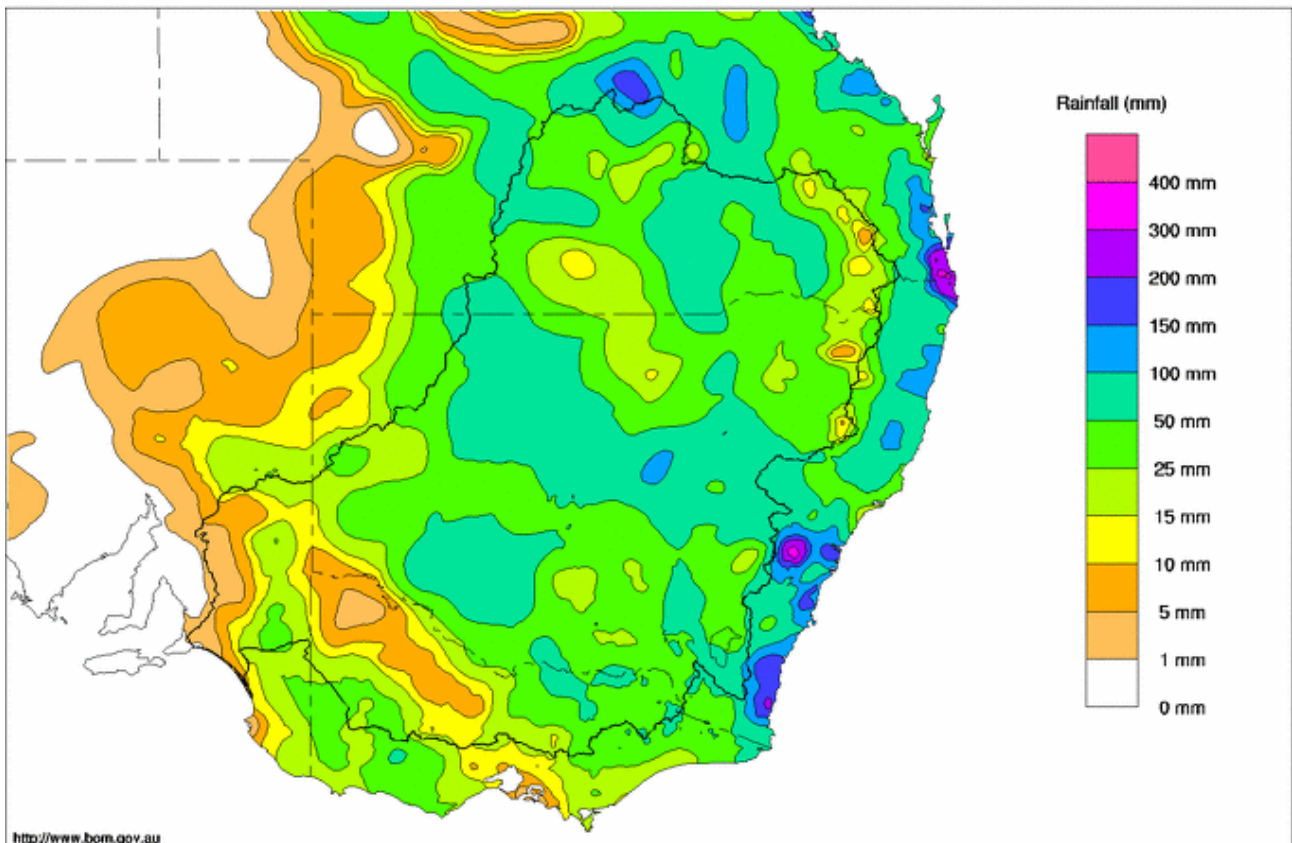
Despite the upper Murray and its tributaries receiving 30 to 60 mm of rainfall, there was very little streamflow response, due to the preceding warm and dry conditions across the southern Basin during the last 4 weeks. At Hinnomunjie on the Mitta Mitta River, for instance, the flow increased from 150 to only 350 ML/day, and at Biggara on the upper Murray the flow increased from 170 to 290 ML/day.

In the northern Basin, the best streamflow response has been at Charleville on the Warrego River, where the flow peaked at 43,000 ML/day on the 5th February. However, much of this water will naturally disperse across the complex system of anabranches on the Warrego River floodplain (particularly the Cuttaburra Channel), and only a very small portion of this water is expected to reach the Darling River in a few weeks.

On the Darling River upstream of Menindee Lakes, floodwaters from the rainfall during the Christmas – New Year period have now passed Bourke and Louth, and are currently peaking at Wilcannia (at about 28,000 ML/day). To date, inflows to Menindee Lakes have been about 600 GL.

Further rainfall is forecast for the coming week across most regions of the Murray-Darling Basin.

Murray Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 10th February 2010
Product of the National Climate Centre



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

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Issued: 10/02/2010

River Operations

MDBA active storage (which currently excludes Menindee Lakes) increased by 4 GL to 1,865 GL (or 22 % capacity). Although storage in Hume Reservoir decreased by 21 GL, this was offset by the increase of 23 GL in Lake Victoria due to the arrival of water from the Darling River.

Total storage in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by only 2 GL to 1,189 GL (or 30 %) and is expected to remain fairly steady over the next few weeks. The Dartmouth release remains steady at 540 ML/day.

Total storage in Hume Reservoir decreased by 21 GL to 569 GL (or 19 % capacity) and is expected to continue decreasing over the coming weeks. As a result of the additional water entering the Murray from the Darling River, the flow at Doctors Point (downstream of Hume Reservoir and the Kiewa River), is currently targeting 9,000 ML/day which is low for this time of year. (In February 2009 the flow averaged 12,000 ML/day, and in high allocation years can be as high as 25,000 ML/day).

The water level in Lake Mulwala is 124.76 m AHD (or 0.14 m below FSL) and the release, which is currently 7,500 ML/day, is likely to remain steady during the coming week. Torrumbarry Weir is being maintained at Full Supply Level (86.05 m AHD) and the release is 5,670 ML/day.

The release from Stevens Weir on the Edward River increased temporarily from 1,600 ML/day to 2,100 ML/day before dropping back to 1,800 ML/day, due to a reduction in irrigation demand which was caused by local rainfall. The replenishment flows along the Wakool River system are continuing, and the flow at Stoney Crossing on the Wakool River is currently 100 ML/day.

Further downstream on the Murray, Euston Weir is at Full Supply Level and the release is fairly steady at 5,750 ML/day.

Storage in the Menindee Lakes (which remain under NSW control) increased by 112 GL to 470 GL (or 27 % capacity) and will continue to increase to about 610 GL (or 35 % capacity) over the coming weeks. This will fill Lakes Wetherell and Pamamaroo. During the past week the releases from Menindee Lakes were reduced from 12,000 ML/day to 9,000 ML/day, but the NSW Government has announced that releases will once again be increased to 12,000 ML/day, to ensure that there is enough airspace to accommodate any possible additional inflows over the coming weeks. On the lower Darling, the flow at Burtundy (upstream of the Wentworth Weir pool) has increased to 9,670 ML/day.

At Wentworth Weir on the Murray, the release has increased to 12,640 ML/day due to the increased flows from the lower Darling River. After a short spike in salinity (to about 500 EC) associated with the first flush of water from the lower Darling, the salinity has quickly dropped back to about 150 EC, and is expected to remain below 200 EC over the next few weeks.

Total storage in Lake Victoria has increased by 23 GL to 317 GL (or 47% capacity) and is forecast to rise to about 400 GL in mid March. During the past week, the flow to South Australia averaged 8,800 ML/day and has been reduced slightly to a target of 8,300 ML/day for the coming week. The flow at Lock 1, which averaged 5,800 ML/day, is providing the Lower Lakes with the highest inflows from the Murray in the past 4 years.

The water level in Lake Alexandrina has risen slightly to -0.90 m AHD, and is likely to continue rising over the next few weeks in response to the increased inflows from the Murray. The water level in Goolwa Channel continues to gradually decline, and is currently +0.13 m AHD. The water level in Lake Albert is steady at -0.73 m AHD.

For media inquiries contact: Sam Leone on 02 6279 0141

Tony Morse
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Week ending Wednesday 10 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	429.79	1 189	30%	80	1 109	+2
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	174.13	569	19%	30	539	-21
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.70	317	47%	100	217	+23
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		470	27%	(- -) #	0	+112
Total		9 352		2 545	27%	--	1 865	+116

* 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		387	38%	3	384	-1
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		485	30%	24	461	+17
Eildon Reservoir	3 334		966	29%	100	866	-16

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 09-Feb-2010

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2009
Lake Eucumbene - Total	947	-55	Snowy-Murray	+31	530
Snowy-Murray Component	659	-28	Tooma-Tumut	+1	236
Target Storage	1 460		Nett Diversion	29.9	293
			Murray 1 Release	+33	752

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales			Victoria		
	This week	From 1 July 2009		This week	From 1 July 2009
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	1.8	143	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	4.0	99
Wakool Sys Allowance	2.0	44	Torrumbary System + Nyah (net)	10.3	163
Western Murray Irrig.	0.6	18	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	4.0	87
Licensed Pumps	2.8	68	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.2	11
Lower Darling	0.2	6	Licensed pumps - LMW	10.0	183
TOTAL	7.4	279	TOTAL	28.5	543

* 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	194.0	(8 900 ML/day)
Flow this week	62.0	
Flow so far this month	89.7	
Flow last month	231.9	

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2009
Swan Hill	60	60	60
Euston	80	80	90
Red Cliffs	90	90	110
Merbein	110	100	100
Burtundy (Darling)	170	150	520
Lock 9	140	160	130
Lake Victoria	180	180	200
Berri	220	220	340
Waikerie	230	230	490
Morgan	230	240	530
Mannum	470	480	620
Murray Bridge	590	650	690
Milang (Lake Alex)	6 100	6 020	5 530
Poltalloch (Lake Alex)	5 530	5 570	5 090
Meningie (Lake Alb)	13 060	14 820	11 080
Goolwa Barrages	13 390	13 190	13 450

Week ending Wednesday 10 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	-	-	-	5 750	F	4 610	4 520
Jingellic	4.0	1.59	208.11	3 930	S	3 910	3 630
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.46	218.35	570	F	590	600
Heywoods	5.5	2.50	156.13	8 120	R	8 410	10 720
Doctors Point	5.5	2.47	150.94	8 680	R	9 060	10 960
Albury	4.3	1.46	148.90	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	1.90	127.92	7 770	F	9 530	11 020
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.34	116.38	7 510	F	8 160	8 030
Tocumwal	6.4	1.93	105.77	8 230	F	8 460	7 990
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.92	80.47	5 670	R	5 170	4 770
Swan Hill	4.5	1.04	63.96	4 810	R	4 690	4 760
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.41	51.53	5 830	F	5 910	6 450
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.30	43.14	5 750	F	5 900	7 040
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	4 910	F	5 260	5 830
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.63	28.39	12 640	R	12 250	8 150
Rufus Junction	-	3.61	20.54	7 430	F	8 030	8 470
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.08	-	5 420	F	5 850	5 070
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	0.72	153.95	230	R	260	280
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.75	145.43	360	F	350	180
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.34	92.76	700	F	670	590
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.87	81.64	1 800	F	1 840	1 480
Edward at Liewah	-	2.15	57.53	1 490	R	1 490	1 730
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.18	54.67	100	F	100	90
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.80	56.76	470	F	380	590
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.26	-	110	F	90	340
Darling at Bourke	-	4.37	-	2 060	F	3 440	28 370
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	4.97	-	9 680	R	8 920	5 030

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	1 110	640
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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	-0.14	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.01	+1.32
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.00	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.05	+0.10
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.03	+0.23
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.03	+0.09	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.07	+0.92
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.02	+0.99	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.02	+0.33
No. 9 Kullnine	27.40	+0.05	+0.05	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.05	+0.36
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.02	+1.41	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	-0.04	-0.83

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-3.62	0.357	69.707	84
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.04	0.385	61.685	510

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.90

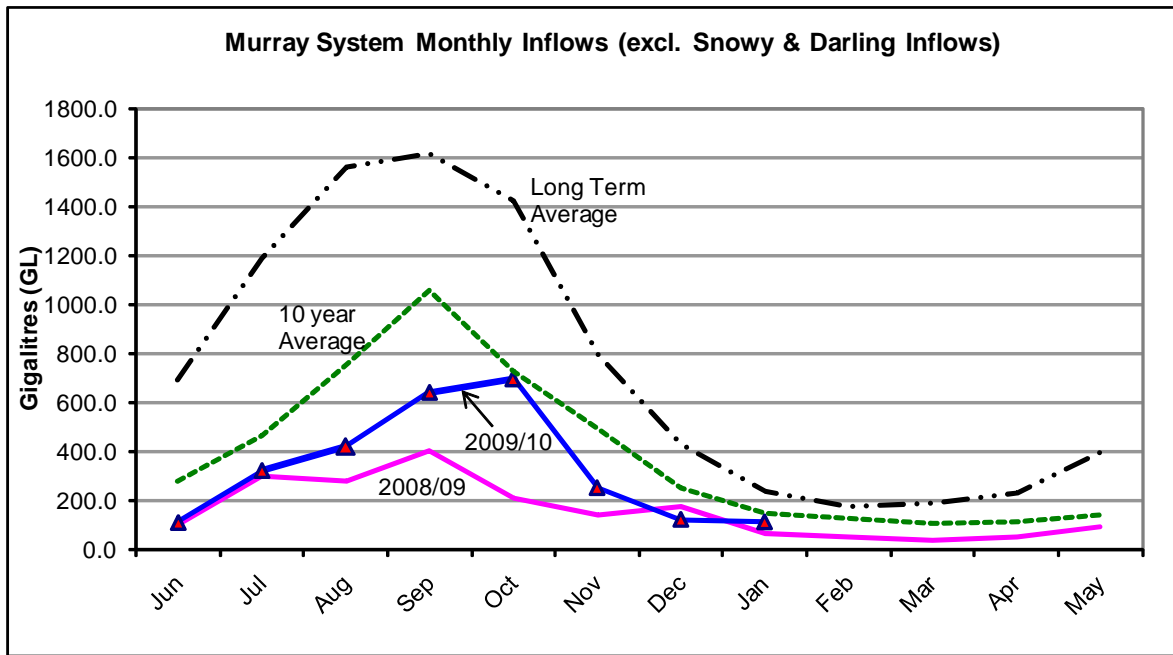
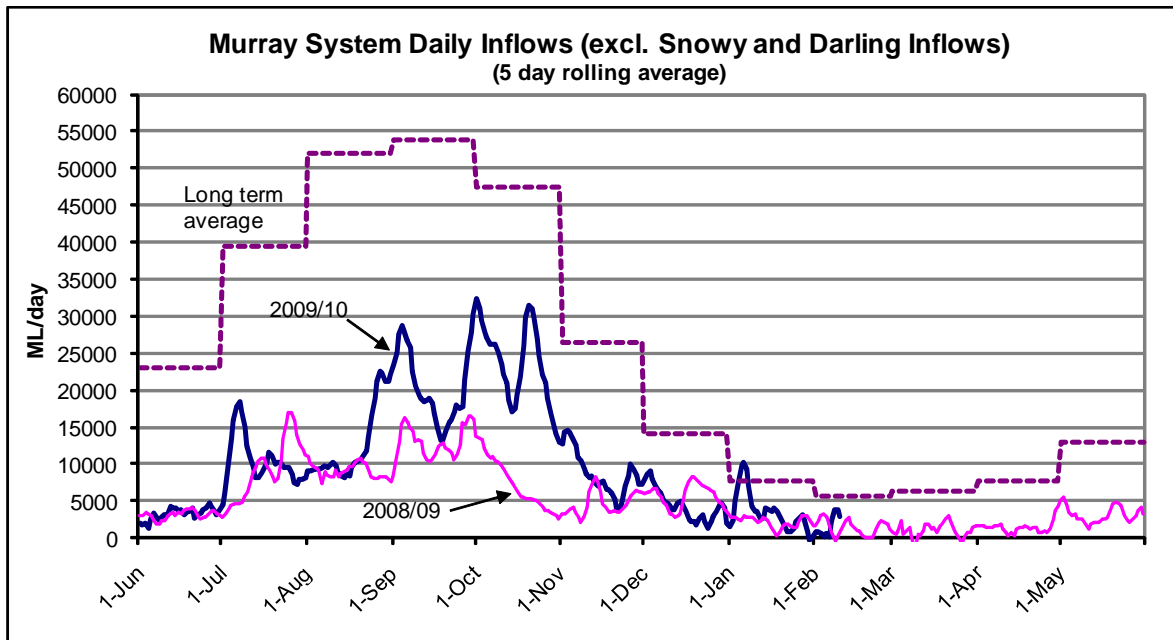
Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.13	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



Week ending Wednesday 10th February 2010



State Allocations (as at 10th 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>