



# RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

## FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 11 AUGUST 2010

Trim Ref: D10/23003

### Rainfall and Inflows

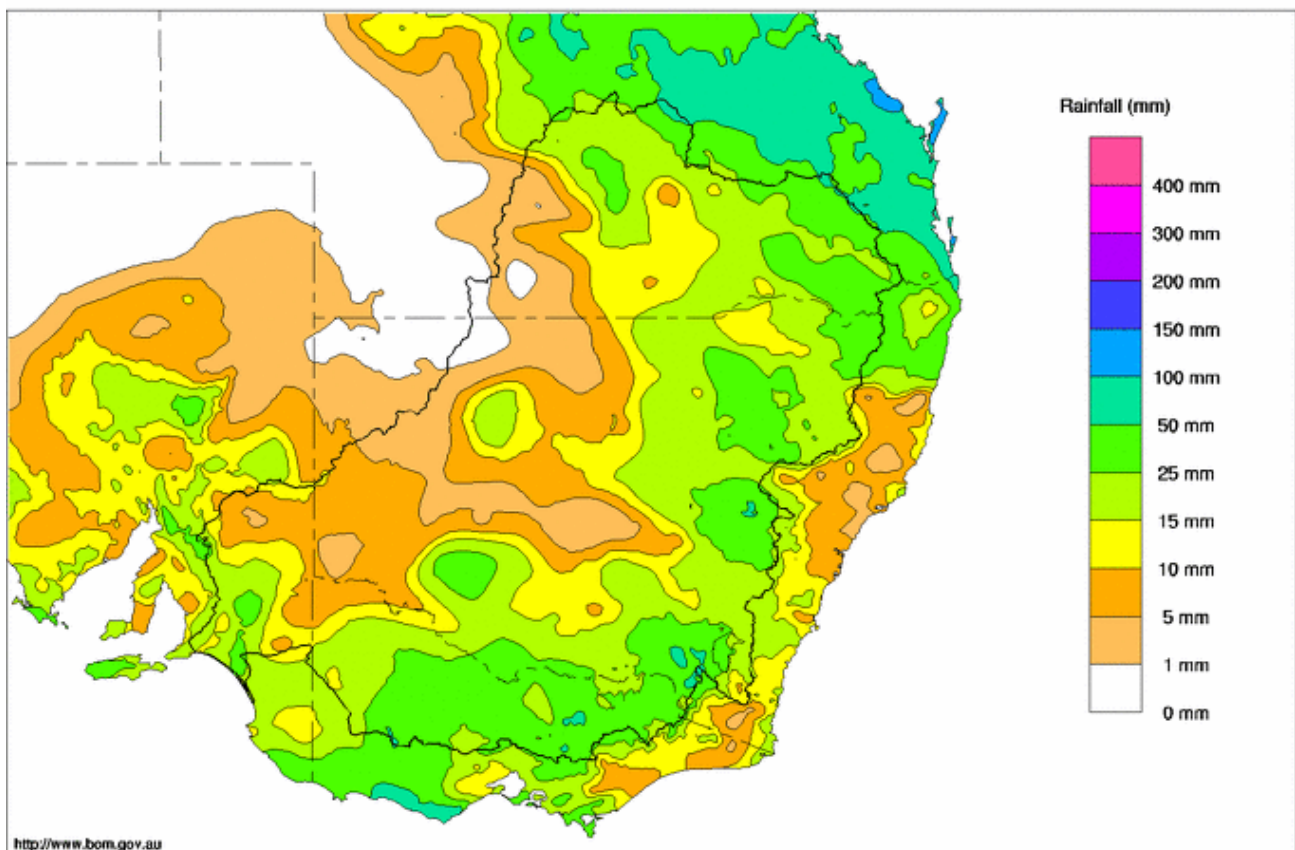
During the past week, and particularly on 9 and 10 August, there was widespread follow-up rain across the Murray-Darling Basin (see map below). Up to 60 mm was recorded in the Goulburn and Ovens valleys in north-east Victoria and 51 mm at Batlow in southern NSW.

The Tooma River, which is on the western side of the Snowy Mountains in NSW and flows into the upper reaches of the Murray, had one of the best streamflow responses, increasing from 660 to 6,750 ML/day. The Mitta Mitta River at Hinnomunjie increased from 1,100 to 2,800 ML/day and the Ovens River at Rocky Point increased from 4,400 to 6,790 ML/day. Murray system inflows during the last week averaged 26 GL/day, compared with an August long term average of 50 GL/day.

Good falls of rain were also recorded in the central tablelands of NSW (55 mm at Mudgee) and northern NSW (57 mm at Wee Waa). This rain will contribute to existing streamflows, particularly in the Namoi and Border Rivers, which in turn will provide a modest boost to flows along the Darling River and, in a few weeks time, inflows to the Menindee Lakes.

The catchments remain wet and will continue to respond to any further rainfall over the coming weeks.

Murray Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 11th August 2010  
Product of the National Climate Centre



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Issued: 11/08/2010



## River Operations

MDBA active storage (including Menindee Lakes) increased by 97 GL to 3,849 GL (44 % capacity). Dartmouth Reservoir is currently storing 1,387 GL of water (36 % capacity), an increase of 21 GL since last week, while storage in Hume Reservoir increased by 71 GL to 1,195 GL (39 % capacity). Releases from these two reservoirs remain at winter minimums.

Releases from Yarrawonga Weir peaked on 8-9 August at 13,090 ML/day and are currently at 10,100 ML/day. During the coming week, the release is likely to remain above 10,000 ML/day in response to rises in the Ovens and Kiewa Rivers over the last couple of days. During the past week, some regulators along the Murray in Barmah and Millewa Forests were opened to help pass flows in excess of channel capacity at the Barmah 'Choke'.

The higher flows along the Murray from the previous rain event in early August, reached Torrumbarry Weir on 11 August with a peak of 12,200 ML/day. During the coming week, the release from Torrumbarry Weir is likely to remain above 10,000 ML/day as inflows from the Goulburn River start to increase again. At Euston Weir the release is currently 6,570 ML/day and is forecast to increase to about 10,000 ML/day over the next 10 days. Further downstream, the flow past Mildura is currently 7,140 ML/day and at Wentworth is 6,960 ML/day. The pool levels at Torrumbarry, Euston and Wentworth Weirs have remained steady at close to Full Supply Level. At Mildura, the weir pool was returned to Full Supply Level on 7 August after lowering to allow a trestle replacement, and the salinity has decreased to 54 EC.

Menindee Lakes are currently at 1,572 GL (91 % capacity), and still rising slowly. 'Harmony Operation' of Lake Victoria and Menindee Lakes is now expected to commence in the next few weeks. This operation aims to reduce evaporative losses by balancing the storage volumes in the two Lake systems. As such, water will be transferred from Menindee Lakes, initially at rates up to 4,000 ML/day, to raise the storage in Lake Victoria. Over the next few months, releases from Menindee Lakes might be further increased, possibly as high as 9,000 ML/day if required, but this will be managed to balance any high flows along the Murray due to any future rainfall events in upper Murray tributaries.

The target flow to South Australia is currently 7,000 ML/day, which consists of 4,000 ML/day of Entitlement Flow and 3,000 ML/day of Additional Dilution Flow.

The water level in Lake Alexandrina is currently +0.09 m AHD and is expected to continue rising during August and September. Lake Albert remains disconnected from Lake Alexandrina, and the water level is currently -0.34 m AHD. The level in the Goolwa Channel, which is also disconnected from Lake Alexandrina, has been gradually rising during the past couple of months in response to rainfall and local inflows, and is now at +0.28 m AHD.

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

DAVID DREVERMAN  
Executive Director, River Murray

## Week ending Wednesday 11 Aug 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	435.71	1 387	36%	80	1 307	+21
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	180.32	1 195	39%	30	1 165	+71
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	24.38	385	57%	100	285	-4
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		1 572	91%	(480 #)	1 092	+9
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 352</b>		<b>4 539</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>3 849</b>	<b>+97</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **44%**

# 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	564	55%	3	561	+18
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	984	60%	24	960	+83
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	1 167	35%	100	1 067	+56

### Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 10-Aug-2010

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2010
Lake Eucumbene - Total	518	+9	Snowy-Murray	+8	299
Snowy-Murray Component	406	+3	Tooma-Tumut	+8	76
Target Storage	1 190		Net Diversion	0.1	223
			Murray 1 Release	+19	371

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

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2010	Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2010
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	2.4	18.0	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0.1	0.0
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.5	1.0	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	6.6	51.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	0.0	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.0	1.0
Licensed Pumps	0.0	2.0	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.2	0.0
Lower Darling	0.0	0.0	Licensed pumps - LMW	1.0	6.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>58.0</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	124.0 *	(7 000 ML/day)
Flow this week	49.1	
Flow so far this month	78.5	
Flow last month	139.7	

\* Flow to SA will be greater than entitlement for August due to Additional Dilution Flow

### Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2010
Swan Hill	60	60	70
Euston	100	110	90
Red Cliffs	70	80	100
Merbein	60	80	100
Burtundy (Darling)	260	250	250
Lock 9	120	130	120
Lake Victoria	160	170	170
Berri	200	220	220
Waikerie	-	-	290
Morgan	330	340	340
Mannum	350	350	340
Murray Bridge	310	310	300
Milang (Lake Alex.)	3 970	4 000	3 970
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	1 760	1 790	1 730
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	12 620	12 930	12 880
Goolwa Barrages	19 240	20 020	20 270

Week ending Wednesday 11 Aug 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	-	-	-	2 230	F	3 780	2 860
Jingellic	4.0	2.12	208.64	8 320	R	8 520	6 520
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	1.74	218.63	1 240	R	1 010	1 090
Heywoods	5.5	1.19	154.82	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.69	150.16	2 240	R	2 310	2 480
Albury	4.3	0.80	148.24	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.73	126.75	2 190	F	2 690	2 140
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.66	116.70	10 100	F	12 050	6 280
Tocumwal	6.4	2.44	106.28	11 780	F	11 300	6 470
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.64	82.19	12 200	R	8 010	6 210
Swan Hill	4.5	1.26	64.18	6 280	R	5 140	7 140
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.47	51.59	6 060	R	6 440	8 890
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.51	43.35	6 570	F	7 160	8 770
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	7 140	F	7 580	8 010
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	3.21	27.97	6 960	F	6 550	6 450
Rufus Junction	-	3.55	20.48	6 410	R	6 320	5 030
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	0.54	-	5 570	R	5 850	3 370
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.92	155.15	2 030	R	2 060	2 180
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.87	147.55	7 150	R	9 220	7 180
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	2.12	93.54	2 000	F	3 330	730
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.47	81.25	1 280	F	1 050	1 310
Edward at Liewah	-	1.98	57.36	1 310	R	1 200	790
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.14	54.63	80	R	70	70
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.61	56.57	330	R	410	420
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.46	-	730	R	570	610
Darling at Bourke	-	4.18	-	690	R	470	230
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.77	-	190	F	190	200

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	11 620	11 490
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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	-0.11	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.08	+1.24
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.05	+0.20
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.09	+0.27
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.03	+0.24	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+0.87
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.57	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+0.39
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.13	+0.05	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.05	+0.29
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.00	+0.63	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.01	-0.21

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.00	0.952	70.302	750
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.07	0.292	61.592	407

### Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.09

### Barrages

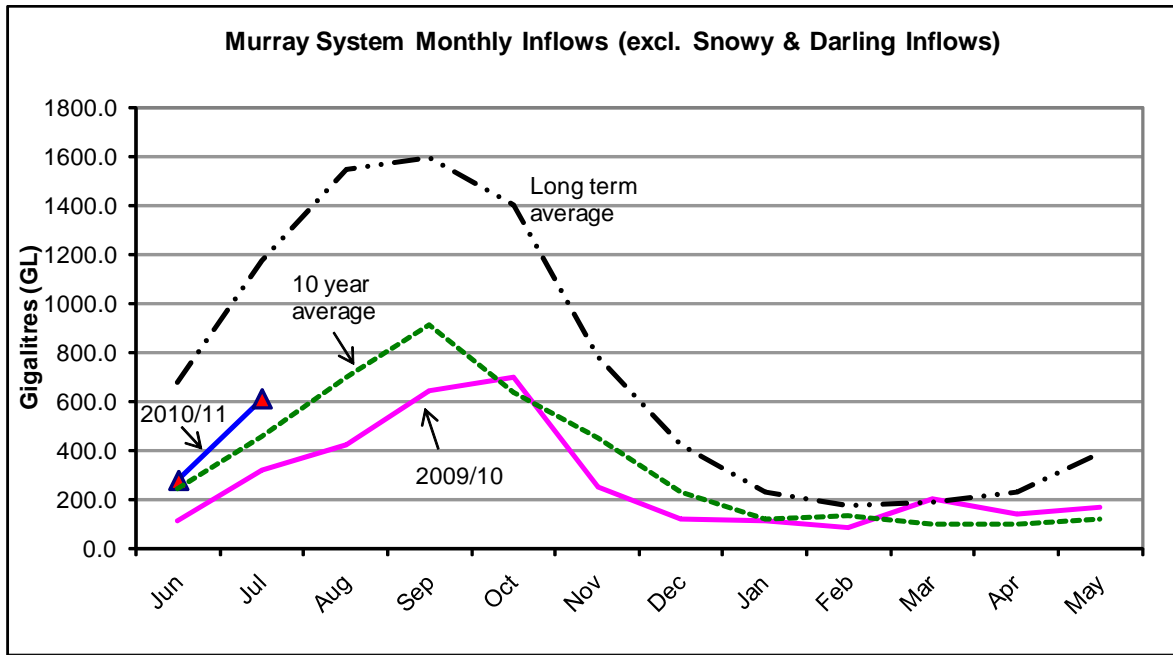
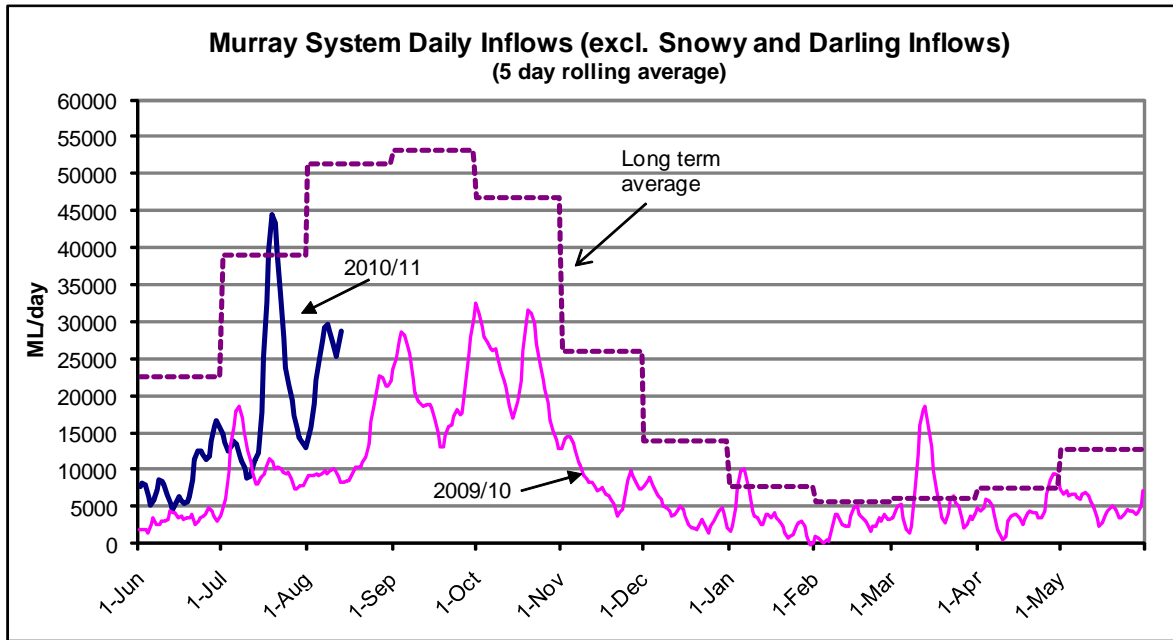
Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.28	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 12 August 2010



**State Allocations (as at 12 August 2010)**

**NSW - Murray Valley**

High security	40%
General security	0%

**Victoria - Murray Valley**

High reliability	2%
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**NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley**

High security	80%
General security	0%

**Victoria - Goulburn Valley**

High reliability	5%
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**NSW - Lower Darling**

High security	100%
General security	100%

**South Australia - Murray Valley**

High security	31%
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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.waterforgood.sa.gov.au/category/news/>