



# RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 03 NOVEMBER 2010

Trim Ref: D10/31839

## Rainfall and Inflows

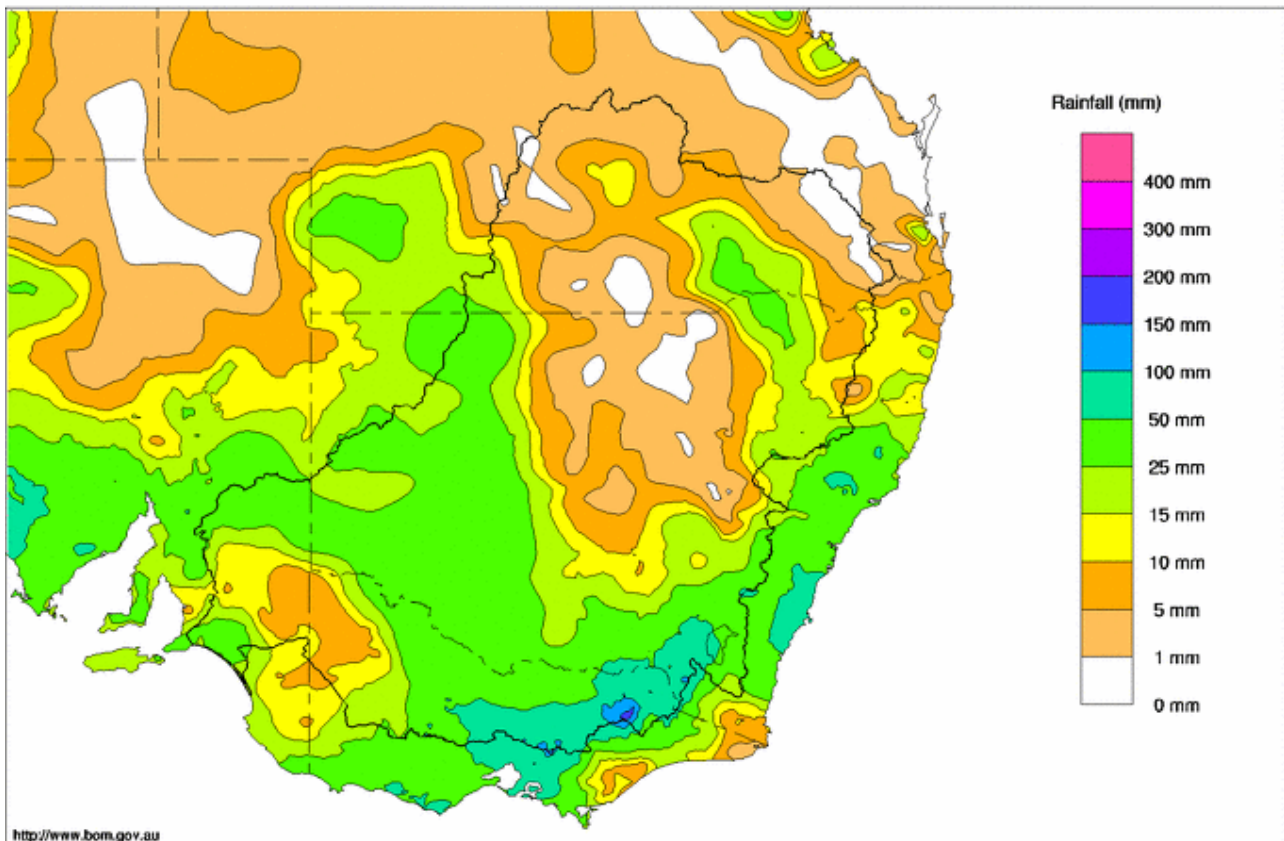
Yet again, there was good rainfall across most of the Murray-Darling catchment, particularly in the southern half of the Basin. Highest falls were recorded in the upper catchments of the Murrumbidgee, Murray, Kiewa, Ovens, Goulburn and Campaspe catchments. For example, Falls Creek and Mount Buller recorded 102 mm while there was 167 mm at Mount Hotham. There were also good falls of rain along the River Murray, with 80 mm recorded at Hume Reservoir, 47 mm at Swan Hill and 32 mm at Mildura.

With the rainfall, river flows in the upper Murray have risen since last week. At Hinnomunjie, the Mitta Mitta River peaked at 8,200 ML/day on 31 October, while the River Murray at Jingellic peaked at 26,650 ML/day on 2 November. At Wangaratta on 3 November, the Ovens River peaked at 24,640 ML/day.

The Goulburn River at Shepparton is currently flowing at 14,040 ML/day with a peak expected on 4 November. Flows in the Murrumbidgee River at Balranald are currently close to their expected peak at about 9,400 ML/day. On the Darling River, Bourke is recording a flow of 24,260 ML/day, which is also close to the expected peak.

Murray system inflows during the last week were 419 GL, up from 340 GL last week.

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



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

© Commonwealth of Australia 2010, Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Issued: 03/11/2010

Map 1 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall for the week ending 3rd November 2010 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology)



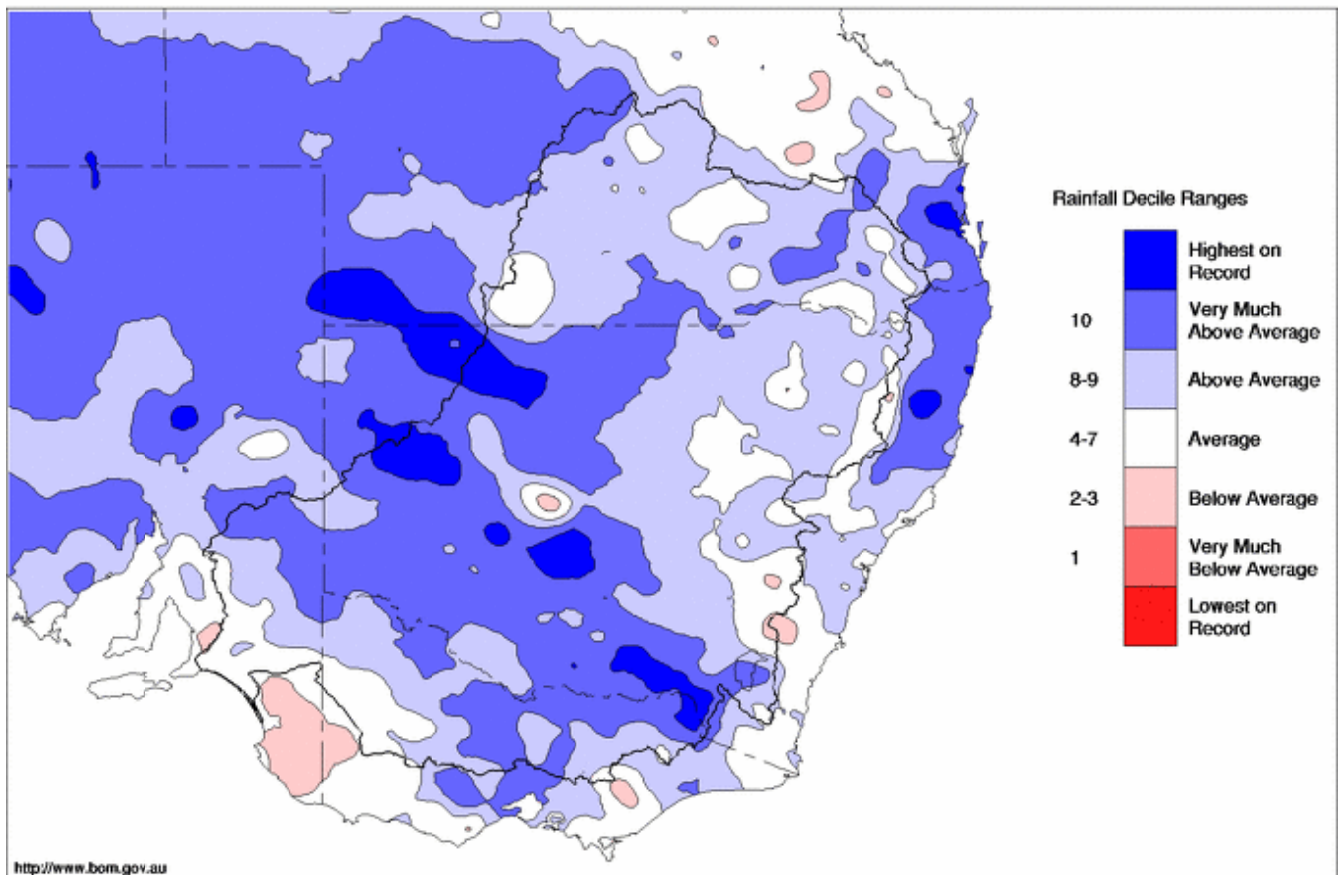
## October 2010 Summary

Rainfalls were average to very much above-average across the Murray-Darling Basin during October (see Map 2). Some sites recorded October rainfalls close to the highest on record, including 99 mm at Wilcannia, 202 mm at Tidbinbilla, and 235 mm at Tumbarumba and Lockhart. In the southern Basin, there were heavy falls in mid-October which caused flooding along the Murrumbidgee River and high flows into Hume Reservoir.

Murray system inflows (excluding Menindee inflows and Snowy releases) were about 1,470 GL in October, which is slightly above the long-term average for the month of 1,403 GL.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Deciles October 2010

Distribution Based on Gridded Data  
Product of the National Climate Centre



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

© Commonwealth of Australia 2010, Australian Bureau of Meteorology ID code: AWAP

Issued: 31/10/2010

Map 2 - Murray-Darling Basin rainfall deciles for October 2010 (Source: Bureau of Meteorology)

## River Operations

MDBA active storage (including Menindee Lakes) decreased by about 22 GL during the week, due to releases from Hume Reservoir, Lake Victoria and Menindee Lakes as part of spill management. Dartmouth Reservoir increased its water stored during the week by 52 GL and is now at 1,922 GL (50% capacity).

Hume Reservoir remains effectively full at 2,979 GL (99% capacity). Releases from Hume Reservoir peaked at 30,000 ML/day on 31 October, due to high inflows from the weekend rainfall. During the next week, releases from Hume Reservoir will target a flow of about 25,000 ML/day at Doctors Point (within channel capacity) as environmental water is used to prolong the watering in the Barmah-



Millewa Forest. It is expected that several hundred GL of environmental water will be released from Hume Reservoir in the coming months.

At Yarrawonga Weir, releases rose to 32,000 ML/day during the week and, on 4–5 November are expected to peak at about 44,000 ML/day. The pool level has varied during the week between 124.68 and 124.74 m AHD. Further variations in the pool level may occur during the next week in response to variations in inflow rates and diversions.

On the Edward River, flows past Toonalook, Stevens Weir, Moulamein and Leiwah are expected to continue rising during the week, with a peak flow of close to 10,000 ML/day at Stevens Weir by 8–9 November.

High inflows from the Goulburn River are expected in the next few days, with a peak at McCoy's Bridge of about 16,000 ML/day. During the week, there was a peak inflow from the Campaspe River of 2,970 ML/day.

At Torrumbarry Weir, the flow is currently 17,150 ML/day but may rise to more than 25,000 ML/day within the next week. Flows are also rising at Swan Hill and in the Wakool River at Kyalite.

At Euston, Mildura and Wentworth Weirs, the flows are expected to decline for the next few days before possibly rising again. At Euston, flows are expected to again rise above 30,000 ML/day by mid-November. At Wentworth, the high inflows from the Darling River are likely to keep the Murray flows above 35,000 ML/day into late November.

Releases from Menindee Lakes remained at about 17,000 ML/day past Weir 32 during the week. The volume stored in Menindee Lakes declined by about 41 GL during the week, although the lakes are still surcharged to 1,830 GL (106% capacity). High releases from the lakes are likely to be maintained for the next few weeks, but updates will be provided before any major changes to the release patterns.

The level in Lake Victoria was lowered during the week to about 26.42 m AHD (607 GL, 90% capacity). In the last few days, there has a small net gain in the lake volume to manage the high flows downstream of Wentworth after the rain on the weekend. As soon as possible, lowering of the lake will recommence to protect vegetation and cultural heritage material.

Unregulated flows into South Australia have persisted since early September and have been beneficial in raising the Lower Lakes to full supply level (0.75 m AHD) and recommencing flows to the sea. The flow into South Australia is currently 32,100 ML/day and the Barrage releases are about 33,000 ML/day.

**For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141**

DAVID DREVERMAN  
Executive Director, River Murray



**Week ending Wednesday 03 Nov 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	3 856	450.17	1 922	50%	71	1 851	+52
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	191.87	2 979	99%	23	2 956	+2
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	26.42	607	90%	100	507	-35
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		1 830	106%	(480 #)	1 350	-41
<b>Total</b>		<b>9 269</b>		<b>7 338</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>6 664</b>	<b>-22</b>

\* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **78%**

# 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		1 026	100%	3	1 023	-3
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		1 632	100%	24	1 608	+38
Eildon Reservoir	3 334		2 155	65%	100	2 055	+46

**Snowy Mountains Scheme**

Snowy diversions for week ending 02-Nov-2010

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2010
Lake Eucumbene - Total	922	n/a	Snowy-Murray	+11	420
Snowy-Murray Component	655	n/a	Tooma-Tumut	+10	235
Target Storage	1 450		Net Diversion	0.9	184
			Murray 1 Release	+26	686

**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)	16.7	139.0	Yarrawonga Main Channel (net)	0.6	13.0
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	4.0	Torrumbary System + Nyah (net)	0.7	94.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.2	2.0	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.7	10.0
Licensed Pumps	1.8	18.0	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	2.0
Lower Darling	5.4	49.0	Licensed pumps - LMW	7.5	58.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>212.0</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>177.0</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	180.0 *	(28 700 ML/day)
Flow this week	200.8	
Flow so far this month	88.9	
Flow last month	881.8	

\* Flow to SA will be greater than entitlement for November due to Additional Dilution Flow and Unregulated Flow s.

**Salinity (EC)**

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2010
Swan Hill	150	140	140
Euston	120	130	130
Red Cliffs	-	-	130
Merbein	120	130	110
Burtundy (Darling)	280	280	270
Lock 9	240	220	160
Lake Victoria	170	170	170
Berri	160	160	180
Waikerie	-	-	200
Morgan	220	230	260
Mannum	230	240	290
Murray Bridge	250	250	300
Milang (Lake Alex)	2 590	2 380	3 190
Poltalloch (Lake Alex)	250	300	1 350
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	8 050	8 150	11 220
Goolwa Barrages	2 000	1 990	11 050



Week ending Wednesday 03 Nov 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	-	-	-	5 460	F	6 040	7 120
Jingellic	4.0	3.33	209.85	22 510	F	18 030	17 600
Tallandoon ( Mitta Mitta River )	4.2	2.13	219.02	2 870	F	2 600	1 610
Heywoods	5.5	3.48	157.11	21 980	F	23 720	14 080
Doctors Point	5.5	4.31	152.78	29 700	R	28 540	16 790
Albury	4.3	3.48	150.92	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	4.67	130.69	32 130	R	24 340	16 590
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	3.93	118.97	32 100	R	24 220	22 170
Tocumwal	6.4	4.00	107.84	25 600	R	22 880	23 900
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	4.66	83.21	17 150	R	17 470	19 480
Swan Hill	4.5	2.92	65.84	17 360	F	18 270	14 370
Wakool Junction	8.8	6.10	55.22	25 600	R	23 880	17 910
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	4.46	46.30	29 370	R	25 900	17 320
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	25 470	F	21 730	20 430
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	5.04	29.80	38 000	S	31 010	25 660
Rufus Junction	-	6.15	23.08	32 110	R	28 440	27 590
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	1.84	-	26 600	S	25 640	29 190
<b>Tributaries</b>							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.84	156.07	6 540	F	5 000	2 910
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	11.86	149.54	24 640	R	11 890	7 020
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	3.89	95.31	6 090	R	4 180	11 100
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	3.95	83.72	6 380	F	5 540	3 440
Edward at Liewah	-	3.85	59.23	4 090	R	3 330	2 270
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	-	-	2 390	F	2 150	2 190
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	5.45	61.41	9 400	R	8 840	3 490
Barwon at Mungindi	-	6.67	-	11 940	F	12 100	8 100
Darling at Bourke	-	7.93	-	24 260	R	22 490	17 440
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	5.31	-	10 810	R	8 690	1 750

<b>Natural Inflow to Hume</b> (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	29 830	23 030
---	--------	--------

Weirs and Locks

Pool levels above or below Full Supply Level (FSL)

Murray	FSL (mAHD)	u/s	d/s		FSL (mAHD)	u/s	d/s
Yarrowonga	124.90	-0.22	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+0.97	+3.82
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.20	+1.91
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.13	+1.55
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.01	+1.68	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.02	+2.42
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.08	+2.40	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.01	+1.82
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.13	+1.36	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	-0.03	+1.73
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.18	+2.38	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.00	+1.09

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	+0.10	6.06	75.41	18377
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	+0.09	5.66	66.96	10287

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

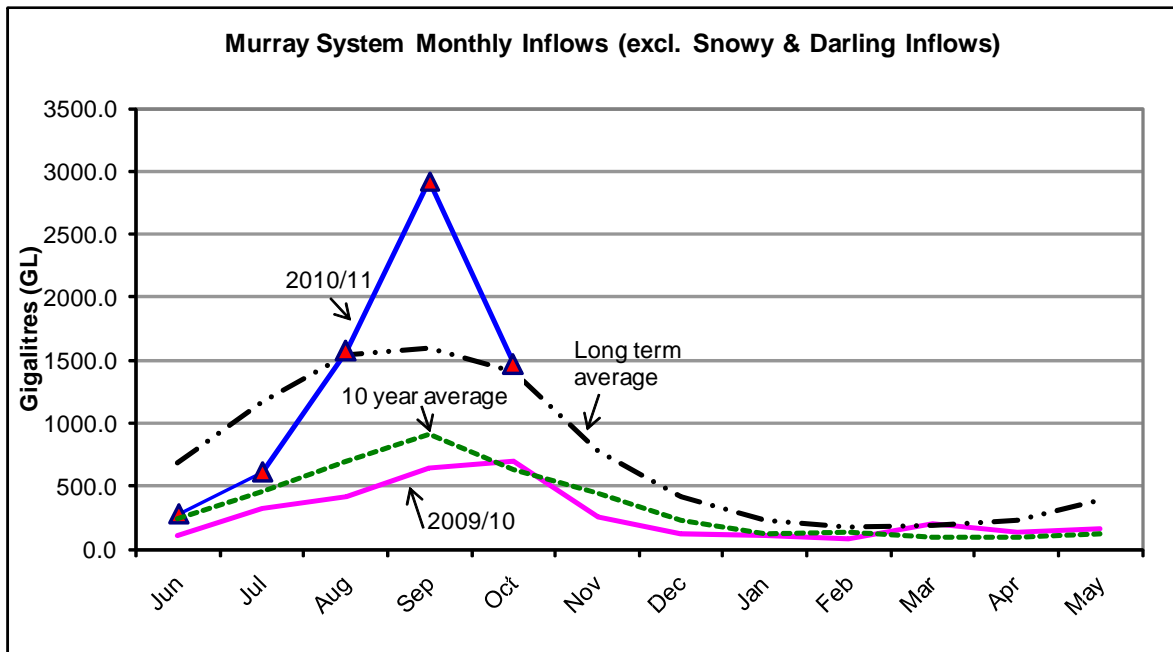
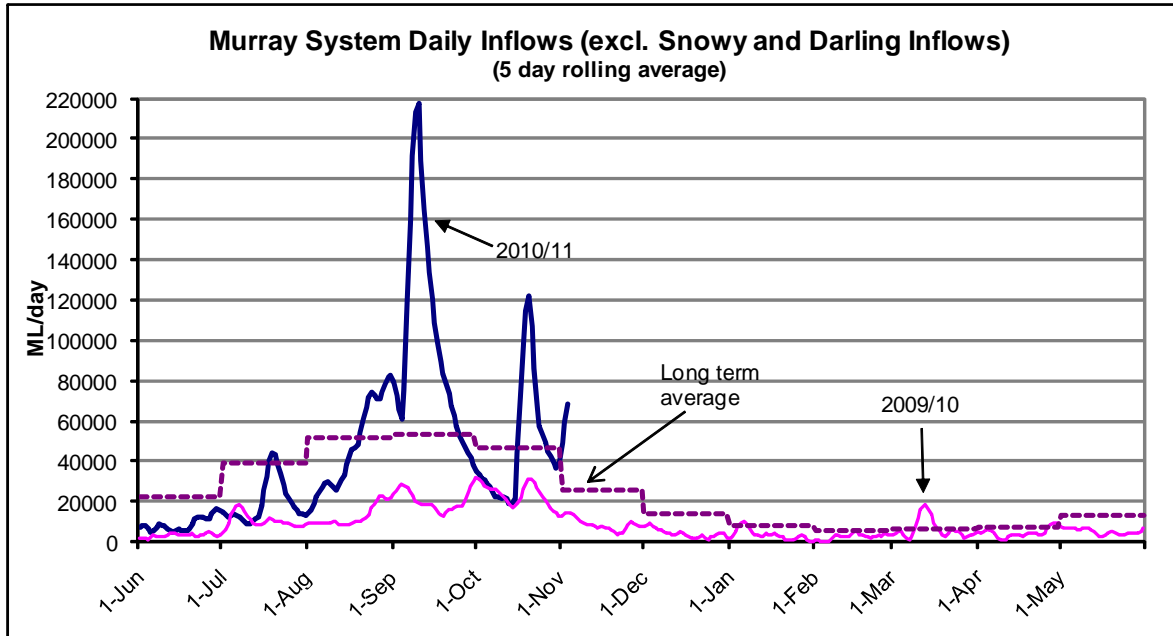
	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.77

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.64	54	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.66	3	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	1	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	16	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	0.69	54	Open	Open

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



**State Allocations (as at 03 November 2010)**

**NSW - Murray Valley**

High security	97%
General security	60%

**Victoria - Murray Valley**

High reliability	100%
------------------	------

**NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley**

High security	95%
General security	56%

**Victoria - Goulburn Valley**

High reliability	85%
------------------	-----

**NSW - Lower Darling**

High security	100%
General security	100%

**South Australia - Murray Valley**

High security	67%
---------------	-----

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/>