



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 09 FEBRUARY 2011

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Rainfall and Inflows

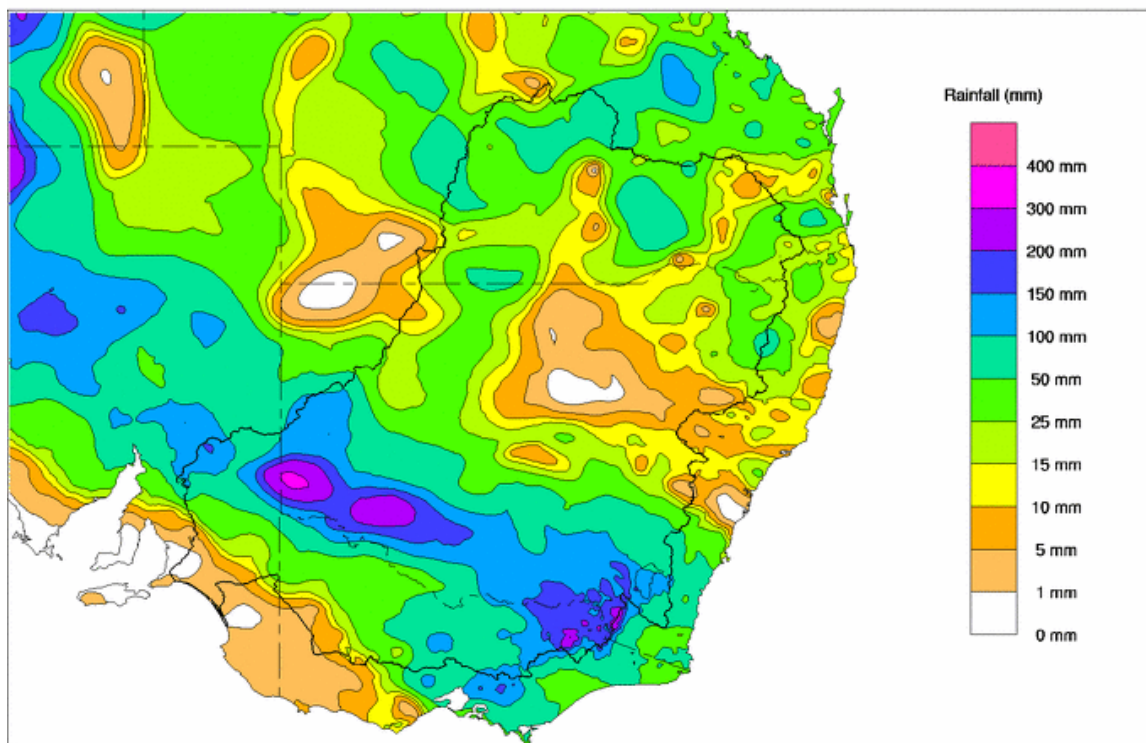
There have been more high rainfalls in the Murray-Darling Basin this week, with falls greater than 50 mm across large areas of southern NSW, northern Victoria and parts of southern Queensland. Red cliffs, near Mildura, recorded 240 mm and Falls Creek in the Victorian Alps recorded 222 mm. At Pooncarie on the lower Darling, there was 153 mm rain while Hay, on the Murrumbidgee, had 169 mm rain. In Queensland, in the Condamine-Balonne catchment, Surat recorded 108 mm and Toowoomba 101 mm.

The high rainfalls along the River Murray have directly boosted flows, particularly downstream of Mildura, as well as increasing tributary inflows. Upstream of Dartmouth Reservoir, the Mitta Mitta River at Hinnomunjie rose to a peak of 4,700 ML/day on 6 February while upstream of Hume Reservoir, the River Murray at Jingellic had a peak flow of 23,500 ML/day. Downstream of Hume, the Kiewa River at Bandiana had a peak flow of 17,300 ML/day on 6 February while the Ovens River at Wangaratta peaked at 26,300 ML/day.

On the Goulburn River, the flow past McCoy's Bridge is currently around 19,000 ML/day and rising with a peak of about 22,000 ML/day expected. The Campaspe River at Rochester had a peak flow of about 17,000 ML/day on 7 February. Inflows continue from the Loddon River into the Murray system contributing to high water levels in the Swan Hill region.

At Bourke, on the Darling River, flow has begun to increase and is currently at 82,000 ML/day as flows arrive from the Culgoa River flood that peaked at St George at 290,000 ML/day on 9 January. Further peaks are in transit.

Murray Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 9th February 2011
Product of the National Climate Centre



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

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Murray system inflows (excluding Snowy releases and Darling inflows) during the last week were around 530 GL, compared with the long-term average for the whole of February of 169 GL.

River Operations

MDBA active storage (including Menindee Lakes) is currently 6,461 GL (75% capacity). Dartmouth Reservoir total storage increased by 32 GL to 2,243 GL (58% capacity). At Hume Reservoir, total storage increased by 134 GL to 2,725 GL (91% capacity). Release from Hume Reservoir has been decreasing during the week as inflows into the Murray from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers rise.

At Yarrowonga Weir, the release has increased to around 39,000 ML/day due to high inflows into Lake Mulwala. The release is now expected to begin receding to below 15,000 ML/day in about a week's time. The pool level at Lake Mulwala during the week averaged 124.76 m AHD.

At Stevens Weir, on the Edward River, the flow has been fairly steady over the past week and is currently around 5,300 ML/day. This is expected to increase in the coming week as the higher releases from upstream enter the Edward system through the Millewa Forest. Downstream at Stoney Crossing, on the Wakool River, the flow is slowly receding from its current level of 26,200 ML/day. A significant portion of this flow is coming from the Murray River downstream of Barmah, as high flows push water north into the Wakool system through the Koondrook-Perricoota Forest and through Waddy and Merran Creeks.

At Torrumbarry Weir on the Murray, flow has increased to 32,000 ML/day as inflows from the Campaspe River, which peaked at Rochester at around 16,700 ML/day, arrive. Further inflows to the Murray upstream of Torrumbarry are in transit in the Goulburn River. Release is expected to decrease before the Goulburn water arrives. At Swan Hill the flow has decreased from 29,300 to 28,000 ML/day (a level of 4.44 m) during the week. The Bureau of Meteorology is predicting the level to remain near 4.5 m over the next two weeks. For more information regarding flood warnings, see the Bureau of Meteorology website at www.bom.gov.au/weather.

Further downstream at Euston, the flow has declined slightly during the week from 69,500 to 68,700 ML/day. This decline is expected to continue over the coming week. At Balranald on the Murrumbidgee River, the flow has been steadily falling since 21 January, to a rate of 10,700 ML/day, but with the recent rain in and around the Lower Murrumbidgee, flow has increased over the past three days to around 11,500 ML/day.

Menindee Lakes are currently storing 1,686 GL (97% capacity), and releasing 33,300 ML/day. Further downstream in the lower Darling, flows of about 17,800 ML/day continue past Burtundy. These flows are likely to continue at moderate rates beyond April as releases from Menindee Lakes continue. Further information about the management of Menindee Lakes can be found at the NSW Office of Water website www.water.nsw.gov.au.

At Wentworth, a jump in flows of around 5,000 ML/day resulted from the rainfall that occurred over the weekend. The release peaked at 91,800 ML/day on 7 February and is now at 90,500 ML/day. It is expected to slowly recede over coming weeks. At Lake Victoria the total storage increased by 10 GL to 481 GL (71% capacity) and is expected to remain fairly steady over the coming week as peak flows in the Murray pass into South Australia. The flow to South Australia averaged 87,200 ML/day during the week and is currently 90,300 ML/day.

The flow over Lock 1 averaged around 59,000 ML/day during the week and the level in the Lower Lakes is now at +0.67 m AHD. Over the coming week the lake levels will be raised to around +0.8 m AHD to encourage the exchange of water between Lake Albert and Lake Alexandrina. This is to help reduce salinity levels in Lake Albert.



Water Quality

'Blackwater' and associated low dissolved oxygen levels are still occurring across wide areas of the Murray system. The Murray-Darling Basin Authority is issuing regular water quality bulletins which are available early each week from the MDBA website (www.mdba.gov.au/water/blackwater). These bulletins provide information on dissolved oxygen levels, blackwater, fish deaths and other water quality issues along the river.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

Tony Morse
Acting Executive Director, River Murray

Week ending Wednesday 09 Feb 2011

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	457.28	2 243	58%	71	2 172	+32
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	190.57	2 725	91%	23	2 702	+134
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.31	481	71%	100	381	+10
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		1 686	97%	(480 #)	1 206	-20
Total		9 269		7 135	77%	--	6 461	+155

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = 75%

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	948	92%	3	945	+36
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 638	100%	24	1 614	+51
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	2 659	80%	100	2 559	+39

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 08-Feb-2011

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2010
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 020	+37	Snowy-Murray	+12	834
Snowy-Murray Component	417	+21	Tooma-Tumut	+15	343
Target Storage	1 460		Net Diversion	-3.8	491
			Murray 1 Release	+22	1 240

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)	10.4	391.0	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	-1.3	54.0
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	3.0	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	126.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	9.0	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.3	38.0
Licensed Pumps	1.2	48.0	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.1	8.0
Lower Darling	12.3	208.0	Licensed pumps - LMW	10.0	191.0
TOTAL	24.0	659.0	TOTAL	9.1	417.0

* 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 *	
Flow this week	610.3	(87 200 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	767.4	
Flow last month	2,041.3	

* Flow to SA will be greater than entitlement for February due to Additional Dilution Flow and Unregulated Flows.

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2010
Swan Hill	340	320	170
Euston	240	230	150
Red Cliffs	230	220	150
Merbein	290	280	150
Burtundy (Darling)	290	270	260
Lock 9	320	300	200
Lake Victoria	220	210	170
Berri	310	310	220
Waikerie	-	-	210
Morgan	400	390	280
Mannum	360	370	310
Murray Bridge	320	320	300
Milang (Lake Alex)	600	580	2 140
Poltalloch (Lake Alex)	8 720	5 090	1 000
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	7 450	7 550	9 290
Goolwa Barrages	480	590	6 230

Week ending Wednesday 09 Feb 2011

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	-	-	-	7 030	R	7 740	4 040
Jingellic	4.0	2.76	209.28	14 540	F	13 510	5 820
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.90	218.79	1 870	F	3 500	1 750
Heywoods	5.5	1.58	155.21	2 160	F	6 840	18 730
Doctors Point	5.5	2.51	150.98	9 180	F	13 980	20 260
Albury	4.3	1.54	148.98	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.90	129.92	23 800	F	24 360	25 660
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	4.48	119.52	39 250	R	25 620	16 550
Tocumwal	6.4	4.47	108.31	30 570	R	22 040	17 700
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	6.74	85.29	32 070	R	22 600	30 430
Swan Hill	4.5	4.44	67.36	28 090	F	28 900	28 230
Wakool Junction	8.8	9.28	58.40	58 310	S	56 980	55 480
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	7.10	48.94	68 690	S	69 130	72 610
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	66 810	F	66 910	-
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	7.48	32.24	90 480	F	89 150	84 060
Rufus Junction	-	7.96	24.89	90 320	F	87 190	76 830
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	3.59	-	60 600	R	58 930	51 730
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	2.81	156.04	5 800	F	7 490	1 530
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	11.46	149.14	18 740	F	14 610	3 650
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	7.14	98.56	16 880	R	5 960	4 650
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	3.69	83.46	5 650	F	5 650	6 510
Edward at Liewah	-	4.69	60.07	6 090	S	6 170	6 910
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	6.68	60.17	26 250	S	26 110	25 230
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	5.81	61.77	11 460	R	11 000	16 590
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.71	-	1 670	F	7 150	22 660
Darling at Bourke	-	12.16	-	82 060	R	79 560	64 360
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	7.01	-	17 760	S	17 300	16 480

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	16 720	7 890
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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	-0.21	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+2.81	-
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.14	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.79	-
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+1.59	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.57	+3.44
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-	+4.20	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+1.33	+4.47
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	-	+4.84	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+0.45	+4.09
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+1.31	+4.05	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+1.46	+4.11
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+2.19	-	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.55	+2.84

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-	-	-	-
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-	-	-	-

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.67

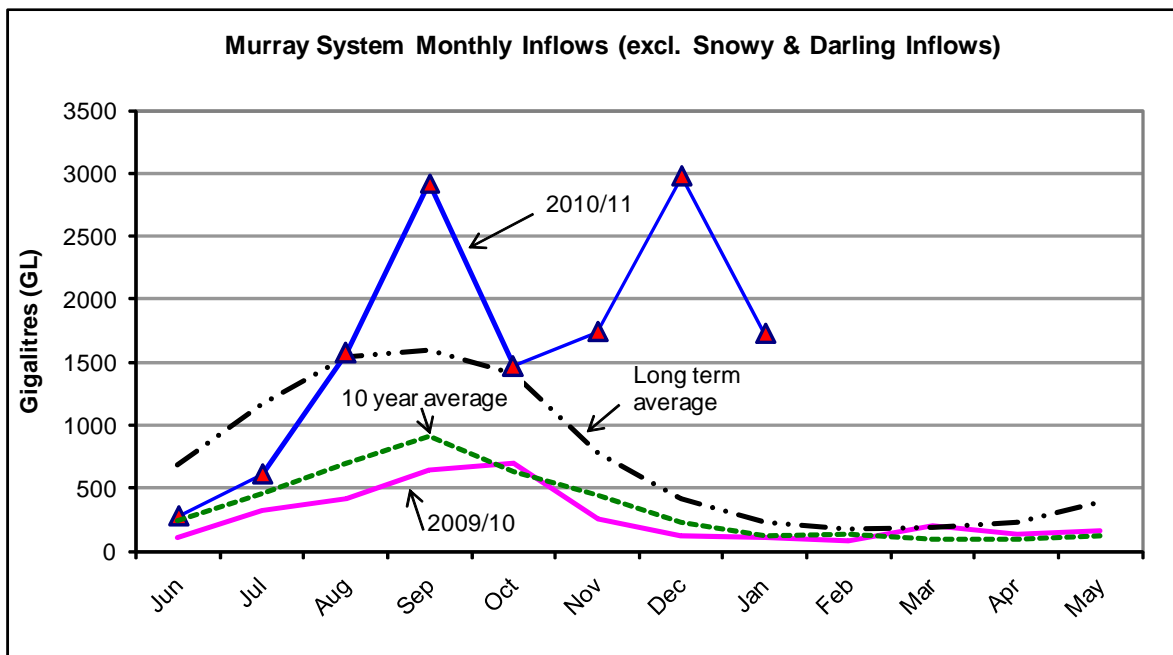
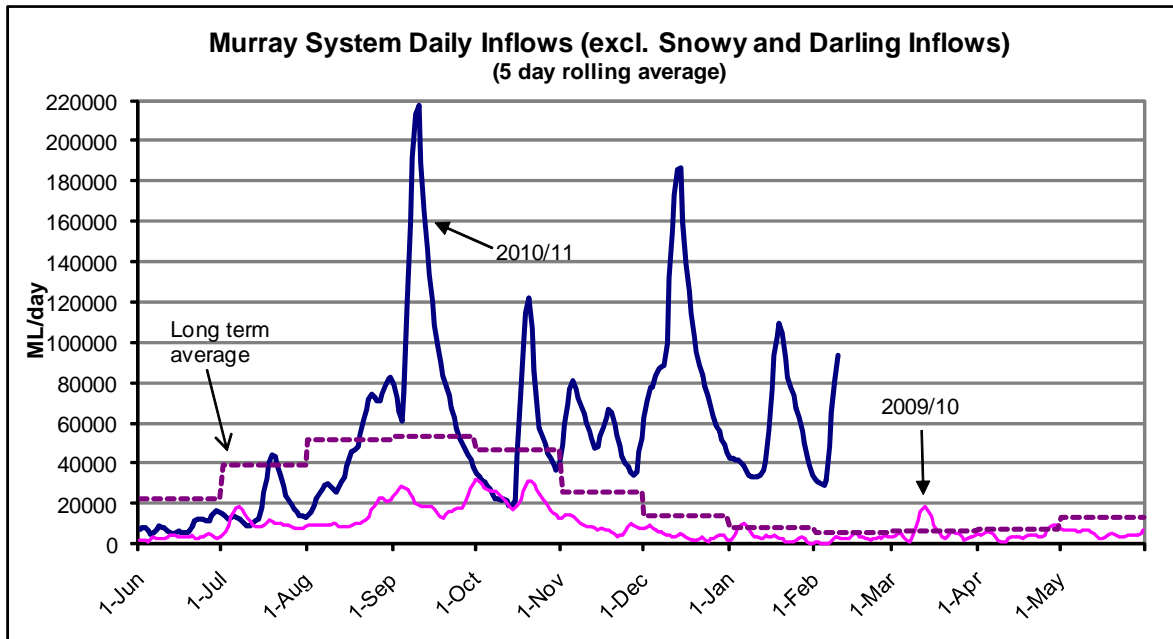
Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.48	62	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.47	26	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	6	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	27	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.62	139	Open	Open



Week ending Wednesday 8 February 2011



State Allocations (as at 8 February 2011)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victoria - Murray Valley

High reliability	100%
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NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	100%
General security	100%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

High reliability	100%
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NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	100%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	67%
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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/>