



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 23 MARCH 2011

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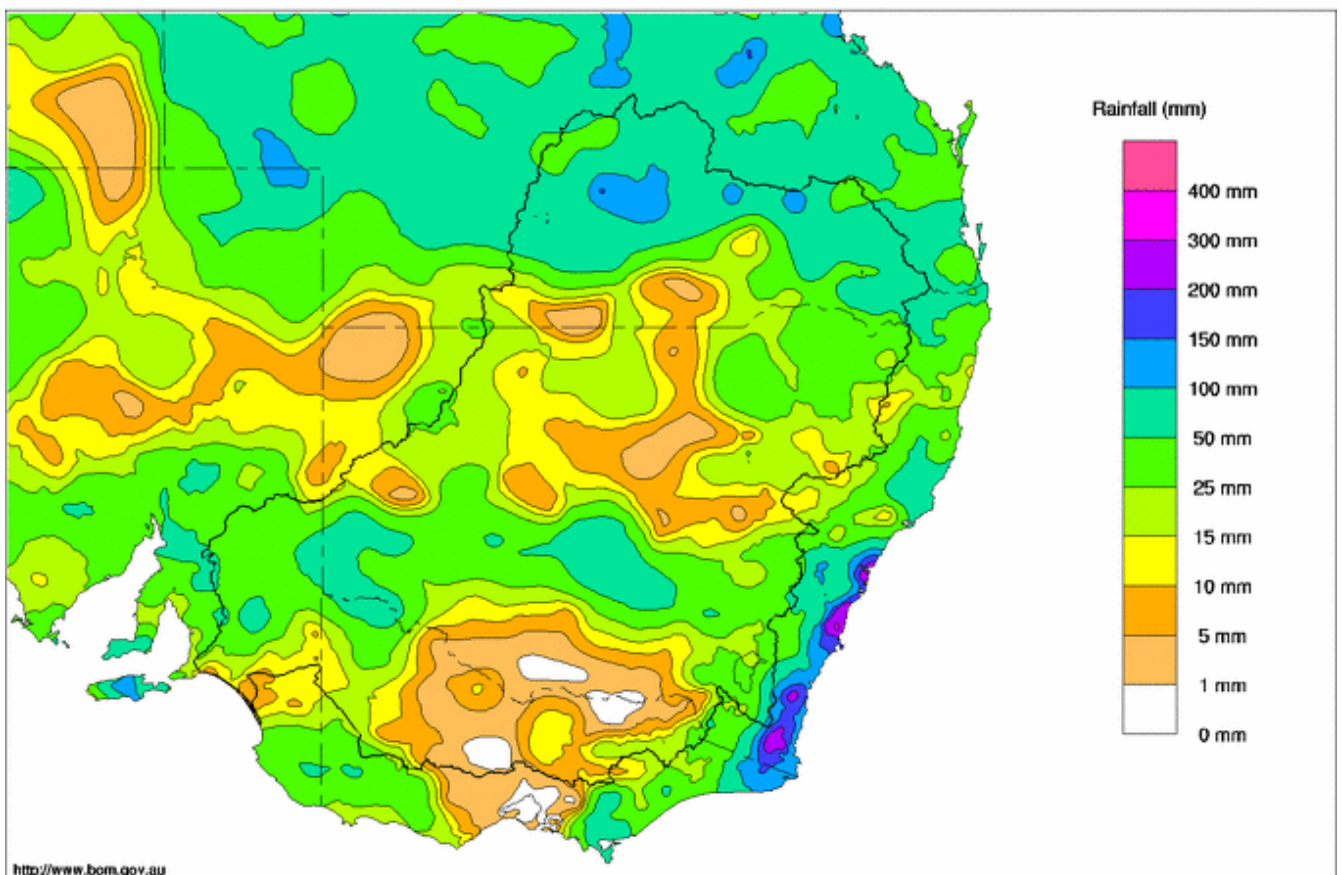
Rainfall and Inflows

Rainfall was wide spread and varied across the Murray-Darling Basin over the last week. The heaviest falls occurred in the northern most part of the Basin, with the majority of southern Queensland receiving between 100 and 150 mm. Southern New South Wales and the lower Murray also received high falls of between 25 to 100 mm whilst northern Victoria and the Upper Western district of NSW received only between 1 and 15 mm.

In the Warrego and Ballone catchments, there were widespread totals over 100 mm for the week. In the Warrego catchment, Charleville recorded 147 mm, while 156 mm fell at Roma in the Ballone catchment. Further south, Wentworth recorded 89 mm and West Wyalong in the Riverina recorded 95 mm. In South Australia, the best weekly totals were recorded along the Mt Lofty Ranges and around the lower Murray, including 86 mm at Palmer and 74 mm at Truro.

Murray Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 23rd March 2011

Product of the National Climate Centre



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Over the past week, stream flows in the upper Murray River catchments gradually fell before rising slightly due to light rain experienced late in the week. For instance, Hinnomunjie on the Mitta Mitta River ended the week with a flow of 730 ML/day after having decreased to a minimum of 650 ML/day earlier in the week. The flow at Jingellic on the upper Murray River increased from its weekly minimum



of 4,700 ML/day to end the week with a flow of 7,200 ML/day. On the Ovens River, the flow at Wangaratta has receded from 4,720 to around 3,660 ML/day.

On the Darling River, the flow at Bourke continues to recede and decreased from 5,090 to 3,000 ML/day over the past week. At Wilcannia, on the Darling River just upstream of Menindee Lakes, the flow peaked at 38,500 ML/day and is now expected to recede as the peak flood waters continue downstream toward Menindee Lakes.

River Operation

MDBA active storage (including Menindee Lakes) increased during the week from 6,749 to 6,809 GL (79% capacity). The volume stored in Dartmouth Reservoir rose by 9 GL, to 2,394 GL (62% capacity) and the storage volume at Hume Reservoir fell by 64 GL, to 2,830 GL (94% capacity).

The release from Hume was reduced from 18,000 to 16,700 ML/day over the week as the risk of high inflows into the reservoir from forecast rainfall decreased. The release from Yarrowonga Weir averaged around 21,000 ML/day before being decreased to 19,000 ML/day late in the week as the reduced flows from Hume Reservoir arrived. Given dry conditions, the release from Yarrowonga will continue to decline.

Downstream at Torrumbarry Weir, the release decreased from 22,300 to 19,800 ML/day. The release is expected to continue its recession as flows upstream are further reduced.

On the Edward River, Stevens Weir release decreased from 8,300 to 5,800 ML/day and is expected to continue to be reduced. Boosted by increased inflows from Billabong creek, the flow at Moulamein, downstream of Stevens Weir, remained steady at around 12,000 ML/day and is expected to start to recede as both the reduced release from Steven's weir and decreasing inflows from Billabong creek arrive. On the Wakool River at Stoney Crossing, the flow decreased from 23,600 to 23,000 ML/day.

The reduced release from Torrumbarry, coupled with declining flows in the Wakool and Edward rivers, has resulted in the flow at Wakool Junction falling from 48,000 to 44,400 ML/day over the past week. The flow in the Murrumbidgee River at Balranald decreased from 7,800 to 6,200 ML. Further downstream, the flow at Euston decreased from 60,000 to 56,200 ML/day and the flow past Mildura decreased from 58,200 to 56,200 ML/day. Given no further rain, the flows though Sunraysia will continue to decline as the flows further upstream continue to recede.

Release from Weir32 was reduced from 30,000 to 27,900 ML/day over the past week resulting in Menindee storage being surcharge to 1,800 GL (104% capacity). The flow at Burtundy increased slightly from 18,500 to 18,900 ML/day due to local rain but is expected to gradually reduce over coming weeks as the reduced release from Menindee arrives.

The flow to South Australia remained steady, both starting and ending the week at around 75,700 ML/day. The flow past Lock 1 remained steady at around 78,200 ML/day and the level of the lower Lakes decreased from 0.75 to 0.73 m AHD.

For media inquiries contact the Media Officer on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Murray

Week ending Wednesday 23 Mar 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	460.42	2 394	62%	71	2 323	+9
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 005	191.11	2 830	94%	23	2 807	-64
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	25.11	459	68%	100	359	+1
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		1 800	104%	(480 #)	1 320	+114
Total		9 269		7 483	81%	--	6 809	+60

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **79%**

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	996	97%	3	993	+6
Blowering Reservoir	1 631	1 588	97%	24	1 564	-20
Eildon Reservoir	3 334	2 757	83%	100	2 657	+6

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 22-Mar-2011

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2010
Lake Eucumbene - Total	1 224	+21	Snowy-Murray	+9	921
Snowy-Murray Component	441	+7	Tooma-Tumut	+5	383
Target Storage	1 410		Net Diversion	4.0	537
			Murray 1 Release	+12	1 376

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)	1.7	437.0	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	4.3	71.0
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	3.0	Torrumbary System + Nyah (net)	4.0	132.0
Western Murray Irrig.	0.1	11.0	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.4	45.0
Licensed Pumps	1.3	60.0	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	1.9	12.0
Lower Darling	4.2	262.0	Licensed pumps - LMW	5.0	231.0
TOTAL	7.3	773.0	TOTAL	15.6	491.0

* 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	186.0 *	
Flow this week	527.4	(75 300 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	1,767.7	
Flow last month	2,410.7	

* Flow to SA will be greater than entitlement for March 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	230	260	200
Euston	180	200	170
Red Cliffs	130	140	160
Merbein	220	230	170
Burtundy (Darling)	380	380	280
Lock 9	300	300	220
Lake Victoria	210	220	180
Berri	260	270	230
Waikerie	-	-	210
Morgan	320	330	330
Mannum	340	370	330
Murray Bridge	360	370	320
Milang (Lake Alex.)	500	500	2 560
Poltalloch (Lake Alex.)	360	390	1 160
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	6 770	6 890	8 540
Goolwa Barrages	540	530	5 210

Week ending Wednesday 23 Mar 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	-	-	-	3 930	S	3 020	4 330
Jingellic	4.0	2.02	208.54	7 180	R	6 200	8 250
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.66	218.55	1 110	F	1 170	1 450
Heywoods	5.5	2.94	156.57	15 370	F	16 930	14 940
Doctors Point	5.5	3.21	151.68	16 750	F	18 690	17 400
Albury	4.3	2.22	149.66	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	3.83	129.85	23 030	F	23 290	19 310
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	2.73	117.77	18 990	F	20 790	18 470
Tocumwal	6.4	3.63	107.47	22 170	F	22 070	20 700
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	5.18	83.73	19 830	S	20 410	22 800
Swan Hill	4.5	3.46	66.38	21 190	F	22 380	24 870
Wakool Junction	8.8	8.44	57.56	44 360	F	45 970	48 880
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	6.39	48.23	56 200	S	57 550	59 960
Mildura Weir (d/s)	8.3	-	-	56 300	F	55 240	53 830
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	7.04	31.80	77 000	F	76 160	74 900
Rufus Junction	-	7.67	24.60	75 670	F	75 340	76 010
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	4.22	-	78 200	S	78 030	78 490
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.77	155.00	1 770	R	1 870	2 240
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	8.97	146.65	3 660	R	3 960	5 200
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	2.47	93.89	2 760	F	3 230	3 060
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	3.73	83.51	5 760	F	6 380	10 490
Edward at Liewah	-	5.49	60.87	8 580	S	8 470	8 210
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	6.37	59.86	22 990	S	23 370	23 900
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	6.7	4.44	60.40	6 210	R	6 540	9 600
Barwon at Mungindi	6.1	3.42	-	590	F	540	230
Darling at Bourke	9.0	4.48	-	3 000	R	3 190	14 840
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	6.1	7.21	-	18 850	S	18 610	18 310

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	9 730	9 520
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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	-0.22	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	+2.63	-
No 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.08	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	+0.67	+3.47
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+1.02	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.56	+3.42
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	-	+3.48	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+1.37	+4.51
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+1.08	+4.40	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	+1.02	+4.50
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+1.09	+3.75	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+2.05	+4.78
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+1.93	-	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+1.17	+3.47

Murrumbidgee	FSL (m AHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-	3.52	72.87	7163
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-	4.01	65.31	6430

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	0.73

Barrages

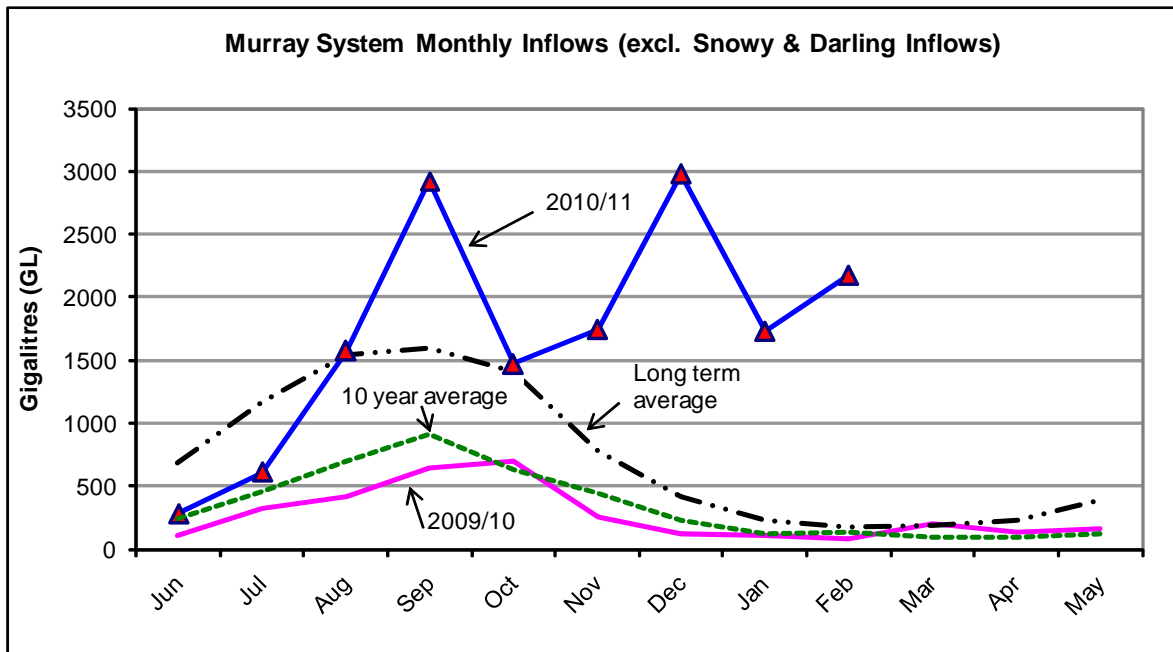
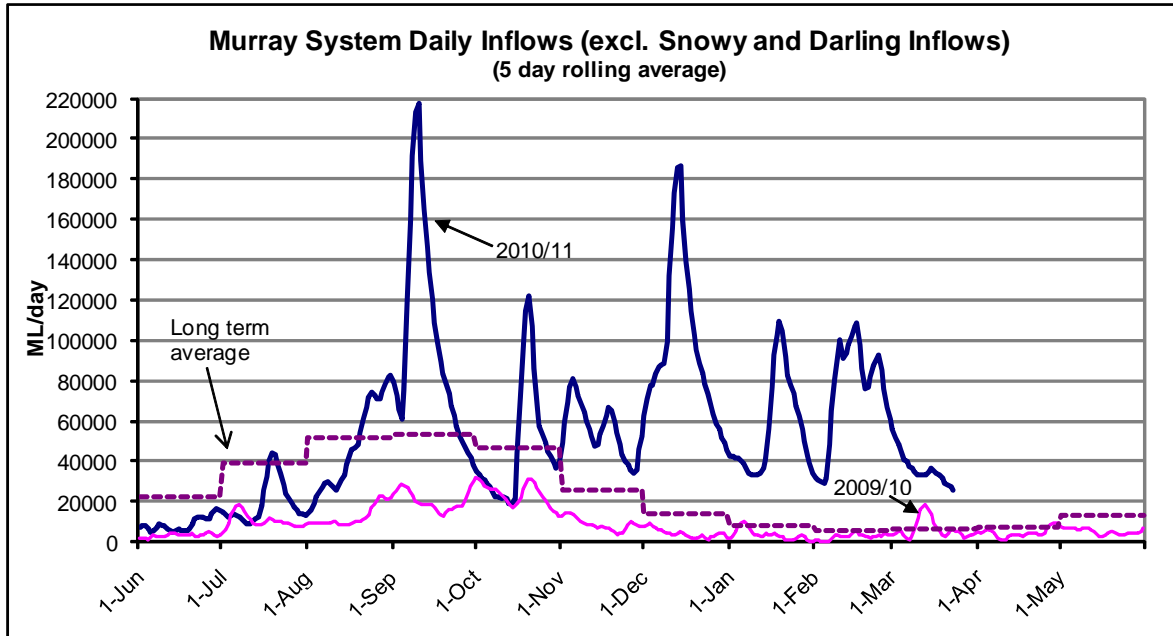
Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	0.45	120	-	Open
Mundoo	26 openings	0.47	26	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	6	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	80	-	-
Tauwichee	322 gates	0.65	170	Open	Open

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



Week ending Wednesday 23 March 2011



State Allocations (as at 23 March 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/>