



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 09 SEPTEMBER 2009

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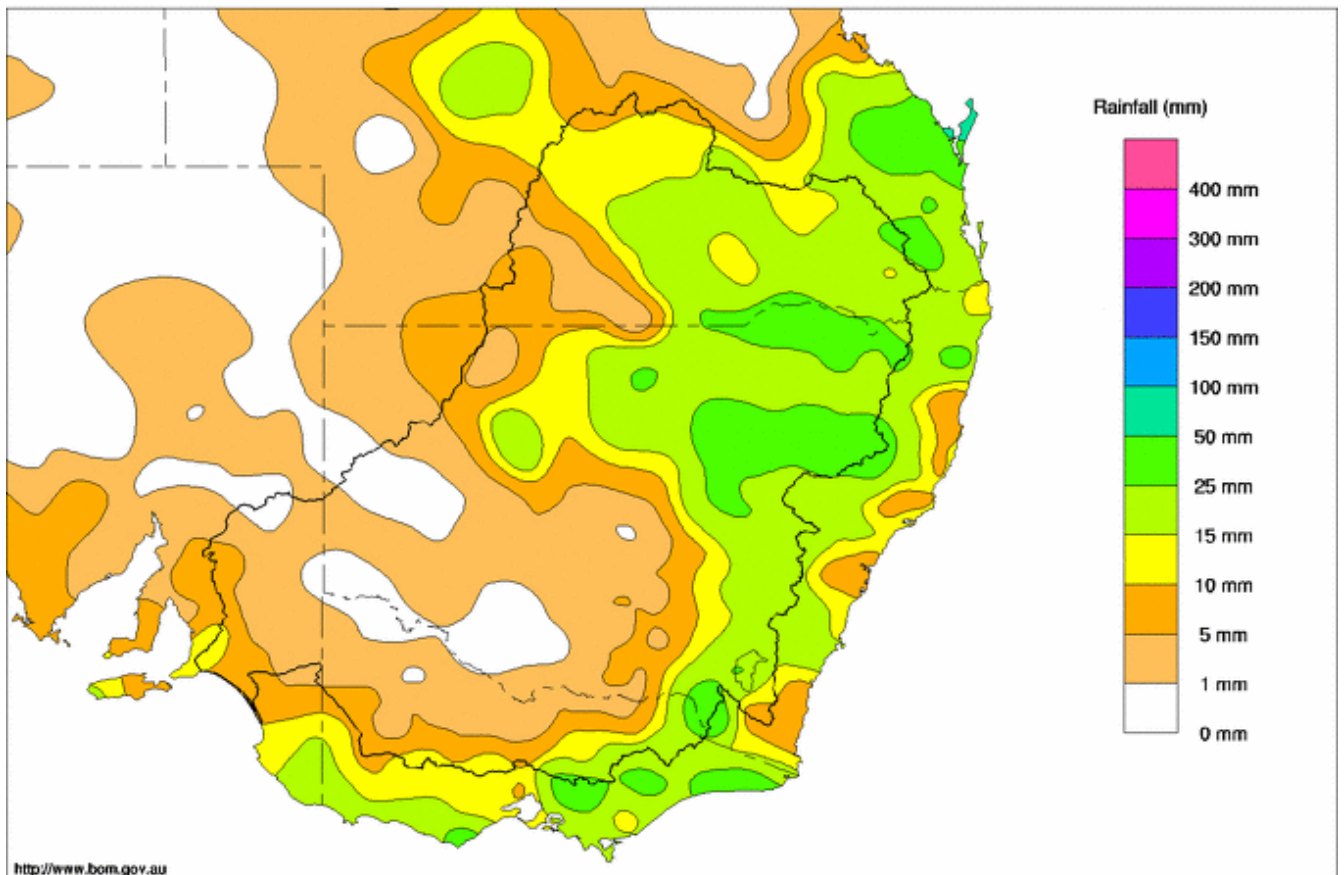
Rainfall and Inflows

During the past week, the best falls of rain in the southern Murray-Darling Basin were recorded in the Snowy Mountains, with Thredbo receiving 69 mm and in the Victorian Alps with Biggara receiving 68 mm. However, the rain was patchy and many stations received significantly less than the figures above (see Map 1). As a result, streamflows in the upper Murray and its tributaries showed little response and continue to recede after last week's rain event. For instance, at Rocky Point on the Ovens River, the flow fell from 5,800 to 3,800 ML/day. Similarly at Hinnomunjie on the Mitta Mitta River flows have fallen from 2,500 to 1,700 ML/day. Jingellic on the upper Murray has also fallen from 11,000 to 9,000 ML/day.

Widespread rainfall of up to 50 mm was recorded in the Northern Basin. This is the first significant rain event for the northern Basin for over two months.

The rain has continued to keep the upper Murray catchments wet and streamflows should respond to future events although only very light falls of rain are forecast by the Bureau over the coming week.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 9th September 2009
Product of the National Climate Centre



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River Operations

MDBA active storage is currently 1,843 GL (or 22% capacity) with a welcome increase of 92 GL over the week. Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir has increased by 23 GL to 983 GL (or 25% capacity) and Hume has increased by 76 GL to 792 GL (or 26% capacity). Releases from Dartmouth and Hume remain at their normal minimum of 200 and 600 ML/day respectively, however releases from Hume Dam can be expected to be increased in the coming weeks to meet rising demands downstream.

The pool level at Lake Mulwala is now at 124.75 m AHD (0.15 m below FSL). The higher flows from the Kiewa and Ovens Rivers are now receding and the release from Yarrowonga Weir has been reduced from 9,000 to 6,000 ML/day. Further downstream the flow at Torrumbarry Weir has increased from 4,200 to 6,000 ML/day but should decline over the coming week as irrigation diversions to National Channel increase to around 1,600 ML/day and river flows from upstream decline. Torrumbarry Weir pool level is now at 85.98 m AHD (0.07 m below FSL) and will reach its full operating level in the coming week.

Downstream at Euston the release has increased from 2,850 to 3,300 ML/day and the release at Mildura has increased from 2,200 to 2,800 ML/day. Flows in Sunraysia will slowly rise over the coming week as higher flows arrive from upstream. Euston, Mildura and Wentworth Pool levels are all close to Full Supply Level.

Storage in Menindee Lakes (which remain under NSW control) decreased by 5 GL to 234 GL (or 13% capacity) and should continue to decrease with upstream flows at Wilcannia declining from 70 to 50 ML/day. Sustained rain in the northern Basin will be needed to increase volumes in Menindee Lakes.

Storage in Lake Victoria decreased slightly from 280 to 278 GL (or 41% capacity), however higher flows will begin to arrive in about a week's time to help maintain the volume held in Lake Victoria. The target flow to South Australia was increased during the week from 1,800 to 2,000 ML/day and will increase again to 2,200 ML/day on Friday 11th September due to higher demands, losses and the delivery of environmental water. The flow past Lock 1 has been averaging 970 ML/day and Lake Alexandrina's water level is around -0.76 m AHD (or 1.5 m below FSL).

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DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Murray

Week ending Wednesday 09 Sep 2009

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	422.90	983	25%	80	903	+23
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	176.59	792	26%	30	762	+76
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	23.34	278	41%	100	178	-2
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		234	13%	(- -) #	0	-5
Total		9 352		2 286	24%	--	1 843	+92

* 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		397	39%	3	394	+5
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		660	40%	24	636	-4
Eildon Reservoir	3 334		761	23%	100	661	+44

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 08-Sep-2009

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversions (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2009
Lake Eucumbene - Total	793	+75	Snowy-Murray	+0	256
Snowy-Murray Component	381	+33	Tooma-Tumut	+9	129
Target Storage	1 240		Nett Diversion	-9.2	127
			Murray 1 Release	+11	350

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2009	Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2009
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	2.9	34.5	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	3.3	9
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	- .4	Torrumbury System + Nyah (net)	2.7	6
Western Murray Irrig.	0.3	1.3	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	1.3	5
Licensed Pumps	1.5	9.4	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	
Lower Darling	0.1	.4	Licensed pumps - LMW	3.8	13
TOTAL	4.8	45.2	TOTAL	11.0	33

* 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	135 *	
Flow this week	12.8	(1 800 ML/day)
Flow so far this month	16	
Flow last month	56	

* Reduced to approx. 56 GL during September drought contingency operation:

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2009
Swan Hill	60	60	90
Euston	90	80	100
Red Cliffs	160	160	140
Merbein	130	120	110
Burtundy (Darling)	480	450	400
Lock 9	160	160	160
Lake Victoria	220	220	220
Berri	460	460	440
Waikerie	-	470	460
Morgan	560	550	520
Mannum	570	600	600
Murray Bridge	690	690	690
Milang (Lake Alex)	5 090	5 070	5 090
Poltalloch (Lake Alex)	5 020	4 740	4 620
Meningie (Lake Alb.)	9 830	9 150	9 150
Goolwa Barrages	18 280	18 000	19 820

Week ending Wednesday 09 Sep 2009

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	-	-	-	4 310	S	3 350	3 750
Jingellic	4.0	2.22	208.74	9 090	R	8 850	9 430
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.62	218.51	930	F	1 090	1 140
Heywoods	5.5	1.19	154.82	600	S	600	600
Doctors Point	5.5	1.71	150.18	2 350	F	2 830	3 320
Albury	4.3	0.83	148.27	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.85	126.87	2 650	F	3 050	3 440
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	1.26	116.30	6 990	F	8 300	6 000
Tocumwal	6.4	1.88	105.72	7 710	F	7 880	5 190
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.04	80.59	6 080	R	5 390	3 370
Swan Hill	4.5	1.01	63.93	4 620	R	3 780	2 580
Wakool Junction	8.8	1.96	51.08	4 170	R	3 420	2 610
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	0.76	42.60	3 280	R	2 890	2 310
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	2 820	F	2 510	2 000
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.80	27.56	2 080	R	1 770	1 470
Rufus Junction	-	2.48	19.41	1 290	F	1 180	1 210
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.69	-	980	R	970	970
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.89	155.12	2 070	F	2 550	3 270
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	9.36	147.04	4 960	F	6 700	5 720
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.07	92.49	320	S	300	320
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	1.65	81.43	1 510	F	940	210
Edward at Liewah	-	0.35	55.73	130	F	160	160
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	0.94	54.43	0	F	0	0
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.39	56.35	160	F	160	130
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.19	-	30	S	30	30
Darling at Bourke	-	4.02	-	110	S	110	140
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.76	-	170	F	140	50

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	16 270	19 010
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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	-0.15	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.09	+0.16
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	-0.07	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.08	-0.03
No. 15 Euston	47.60	-0.01	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	+0.03	+0.05
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.06	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	+0.05	+0.16
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.05	+0.16	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.01	+0.09
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	-0.01	-0.05	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.03	+0.10
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	-0.02	-0.02	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.08	-1.44

Murrumbidgee	FSL (mAHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-2.18	0.722	70.072	359
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-1.01	0.025	61.325	172

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

	(m AHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.76

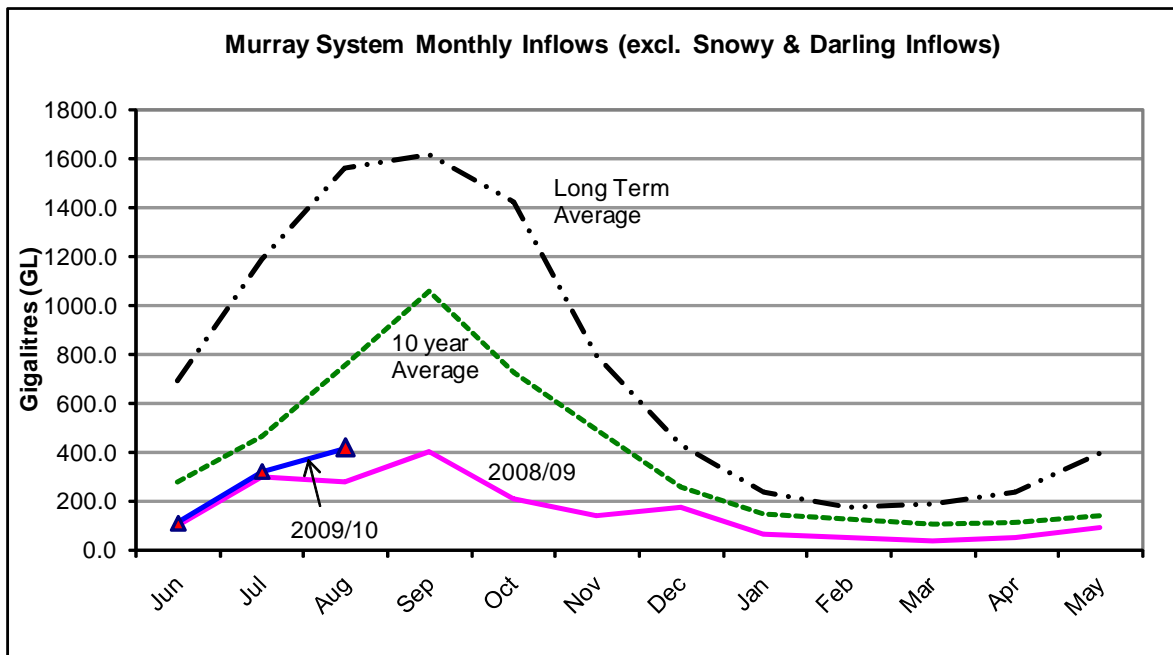
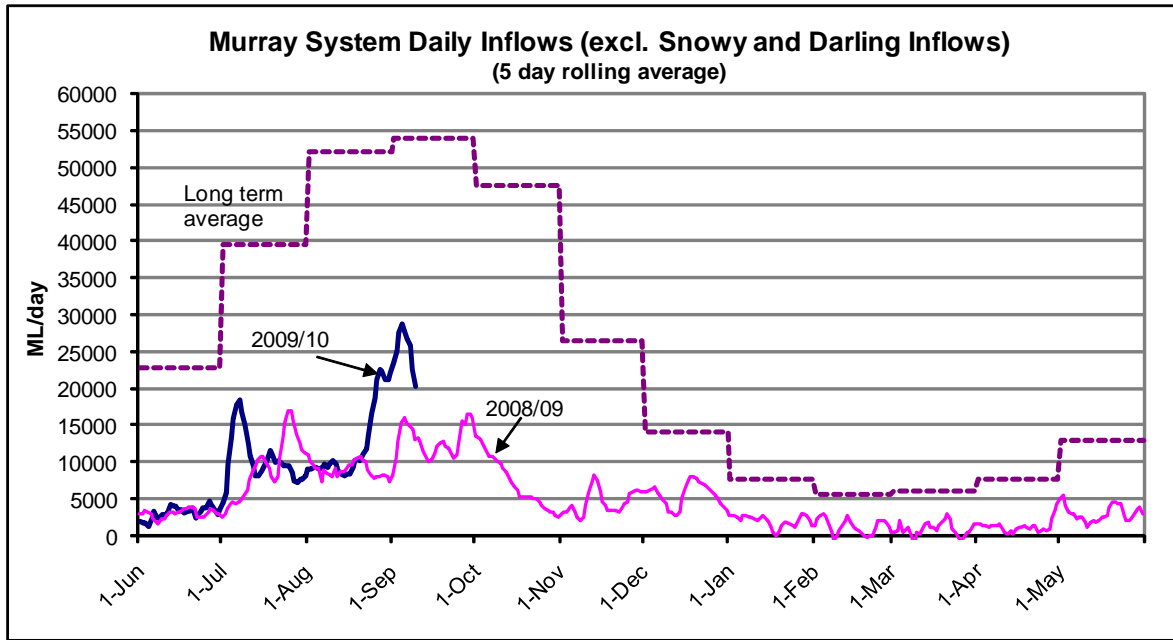
Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (m AHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	-	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 9th September 2009



State Allocations (as at 9th September 2009)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	20%
General security	0%

Victoria - Murray Valley

high reliability	2%
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NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	45%
General security	0%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

high reliability	0%
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NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	0%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	10%
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NSW : http://www.naturalresources.nsw.gov.au/mediarelnr/mr_toc_currnr.html
 VIC : <http://www.g-mwater.com.au/water-resources/allocations/current.asp>
 SA : <http://www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/media.html>