



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 12 AUGUST 2009

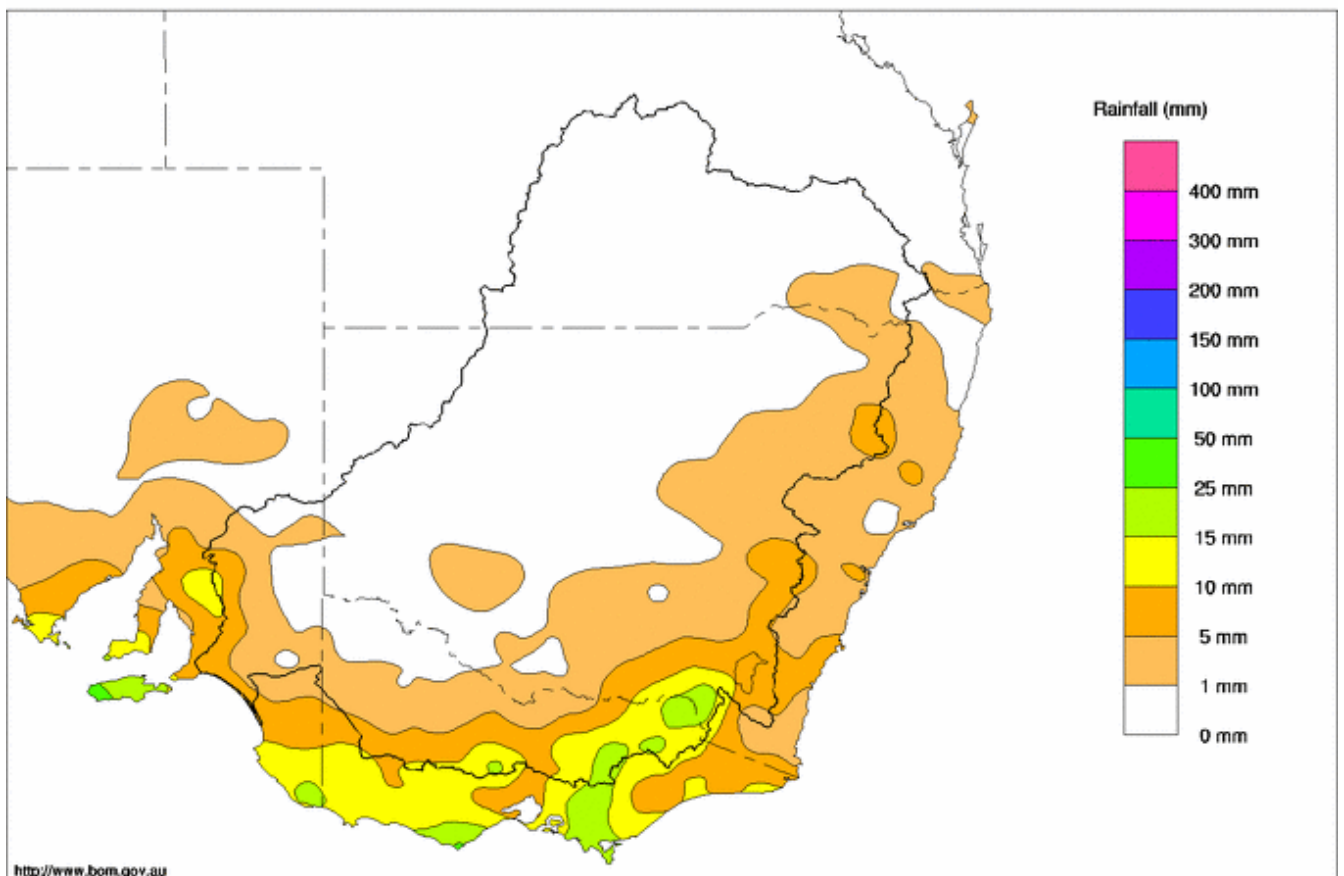
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Rainfall and Inflows

Small amounts of rain continued to fall over the southern Murray-Darling Basin for the week ending 12th August, with the largest falls of around 40 mm recorded in the Snowy Mountains (see map 1). The Victorian Alps received less with up to 30mm recorded at Mt Buller. As a result, streamflows in the upper Murray tributaries remained fairly steady. For instance at Rocky Point on the Ovens river, the flow decreased slightly from 2,300 ML/day to 2,100 ML/day, while at Hinnomunjie on the Mitta Mitta river streamflow increased slightly from 640 ML/day to 770 ML/day.

Murray System inflows for the first 12 days of August are currently around 110GL and continue to track well below the long term average.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 12th August 2009
Product of the National Climate Centre



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River Operations

Storage in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by 6 GL to 894 GL (or 23% capacity), which is slightly higher than this time last year (745 GL). The Storage in Hume Reservoir increased by 28 GL to 558 GL (or 18% capacity), which is lower than this time last year (709 GL). Releases from Dartmouth and Hume Dams remain at their normal minimums of 200 and 600 ML/day respectively. The flow at Doctors Point (near Albury) remains steady at about 2,000 ML/day due to continuing inflows from the Kiewa River.

Lake Mulwala is continuing to refill and over the past week the water level rose from 123.65 to 124.09 m AHD (or 0.81 m below Full Supply Level), this rise equates to an increase in volume of about 14 GL over the week. The release from Yarrawonga Weir has increased from 1,800 to 2,000 ML/day and further small increases are expected over the coming weeks as warmer weather approaches and evaporative losses and diversions further downstream increase.

The pool level at Torrumbarry is steady at 85.86 m AHD (or 0.19 m below FSL) and the release is steady at around 1,950 ML/day. The release further downstream at Euston has decreased over the week from 2,700 to 1,900 ML/day.

Storage in Menindee Lakes (which remains under NSW control) is steady at 246 GL (or 14% capacity) and is considerably lower than this time last year (521 GL). The release from Menindee Lakes at Weir 32 has been increased to around 200 ML/day to ensure a flow along the length of the lower Darling. The flow at Burtundy is around 80 ML/day.

Storage in Lake Victoria is steady with 289 GL (43% capacity). The target flow to South Australia is steady at 1,800 ML/day and flow past Lock 1 averaged around 1,000 ML/day. The water level in Lake Alexandrina has been steadily increasing since April when it was around -1.04 m AHD and is now about -0.77 M AHD. Likewise, Lake Albert's water level has increased from around -0.54 m AHD at the beginning of April and is now about -0.17m AHD.

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Executive Director, River Murray

Week ending Wednesday 12 Aug 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 | 419.66 | 894 | 23% | 80 | 814 | +6 |
| Hume Reservoir | 192.00 | 3 038 | 173.99 | 558 | 18% | 30 | 528 | +28 |
| Lake Victoria | 27.00 | 677 | 23.45 | 289 | 43% | 100 | 189 | -2 |
| Menindee Lakes | | 1 731 * | | 246 | 14% | (- -) # | 0 | -1 |
| Total | | 9 352 | | 1 987 | 21% | -- | 1 531 | +31 |

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = **18%**

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 | 396 | 39% | 3 | 393 | -4 |
| Blowering Reservoir | 1 631 | 669 | 41% | 24 | 645 | +8 |
| Eildon Reservoir | 3 334 | 601 | 18% | 100 | 501 | +24 |

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 11-Aug-2009

| Storage | Active storage (GL) | Weekly change (GL) | Diversion (GL) | This week | From 1 May 2009 |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Lake Eucumbene - Total | 519 | +28 | Snowy-Murray | +2 | 224 |
| Snowy-Murray Component | 256 | +3 | Tooma-Tumut | +9 | 87 |
| Target Storage | 1 190 | | Nett Diversion | -6.9 | 137 |
| | | | Murray 1 Release | +10 | 297 |

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) | 4.0 | 14.1 | Yarrawonga Main Channel (net) | 1.1 | 1 |
| Wakool Sys Allowance | 0.0 | - .4 | Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net) | 0.0 | |
| Western Murray Irrig. | 0.1 | .5 | Sunraysia Pumped Districts | 0.0 | 1 |
| Licensed Pumps | 0.6 | 4.1 | Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s) | 0.0 | |
| Lower Darling | 0.0 | .2 | Licensed pumps - LMW | 1.5 | 5 |
| TOTAL | 4.7 | 18.5 | TOTAL | 2.6 | 7 |

* 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 * | |
| Flow this week | 12.5 | (1 800 ML/day) |
| Flow so far this month | 22 | |
| Flow last month | 56 | |

* Reduced to approx. 56 GL during August drought contingency operations

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

| | Current | Average over the last week | Average since 1 August 2009 |
|-------------------------|---------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Swan Hill | 130 | 70 | 70 |
| Euston | 110 | 100 | 100 |
| Red Cliffs | 130 | 130 | 130 |
| Merbein | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Burtundy (Darling) | 380 | 390 | 380 |
| Lock 9 | 150 | 150 | 150 |
| Lake Victoria | 200 | 220 | 210 |
| Berri | 470 | 440 | 430 |
| Waikerie | - | 450 | 450 |
| Morgan | 520 | 510 | 500 |
| Mannum | 600 | 610 | 600 |
| Murray Bridge | 680 | 690 | 690 |
| Milang (Lake Alex.) | 4 980 | 4 980 | 4 970 |
| Poltalloch (Lake Alex.) | 4 970 | 4 750 | 5 010 |
| Meningie (Lake Alb.) | 9 320 | 9 340 | 9 350 |
| Goolwa Barrages | 20 510 | 20 810 | 21 170 |

Week ending Wednesday 12 Aug 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 | - | - | - | 3 010 | R | 2 020 | 2 050 |
| Jingellic | 4.0 | 1.57 | 208.09 | 3 690 | R | 3 380 | 4 170 |
| Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River) | 4.2 | 1.41 | 218.30 | 500 | R | 500 | 500 |
| Heywoods | 5.5 | 1.20 | 154.83 | 660 | R | 610 | 600 |
| Doctors Point | 5.5 | 1.64 | 150.11 | 2 000 | F | 2 190 | 2 080 |
| Albury | 4.3 | 0.78 | 148.22 | - | - | - | - |
| Corowa | 7.0 | 0.74 | 126.76 | 2 230 | F | 2 200 | 1 940 |
| Yarrawonga Weir (d/s) | 6.4 | 0.36 | 115.40 | 1 990 | R | 1 840 | 1 820 |
| Tocumwal | 6.4 | 0.76 | 104.60 | 1 970 | S | 1 980 | 1 990 |
| Torrumbarry Weir (d/s) | 7.3 | 0.85 | 79.40 | 1 900 | F | 1 920 | 1 950 |
| Swan Hill | 4.5 | 0.54 | 63.46 | 1 750 | S | 1 780 | 1 980 |
| Wakool Junction | 8.8 | 1.27 | 50.39 | 1 850 | F | 2 020 | 2 380 |
| Euston Weir (d/s) | 8.8 | 0.50 | 42.34 | 1 990 | F | 2 280 | 2 640 |
| Mildura Weir (d/s) | - | - | - | 2 530 | F | 2 450 | 2 810 |
| Wentworth Weir (d/s) | 7.3 | 2.80 | 27.56 | 1 960 | S | 1 910 | 2 410 |
| Rufus Junction | - | 2.45 | 19.38 | 1 150 | S | 1 120 | 1 230 |
| Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s) | - | -0.72 | - | 980 | S | 990 | 1 020 |
| Tributaries | | | | | | | |
| Kiewa at Bandiana | 2.7 | 1.66 | 154.89 | 1 630 | F | 1 820 | 1 670 |
| Ovens at Wangaratta | 11.9 | 8.67 | 146.35 | 2 710 | F | 2 950 | 2 590 |
| Goulburn at McCoys Bridge | 9.0 | 1.02 | 92.44 | 240 | S | 230 | 180 |
| Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s) | - | 0.43 | 80.20 | 180 | S | 190 | 190 |
| Edward at Liewah | - | 0.47 | 55.85 | 190 | R | 180 | 270 |
| Wakool at Stoney Crossing | - | 0.99 | 54.48 | 10 | S | 10 | 10 |
| Murrumbidgee at Balranald | 5.0 | 0.36 | 56.32 | 150 | S | 150 | 210 |
| Barwon at Mungindi | - | 3.26 | - | 130 | F | 190 | 220 |
| Darling at Bourke | - | 4.09 | - | 290 | S | 340 | 460 |
| Darling at Burtundy Rocks | - | 0.70 | - | 70 | F | 90 | 60 |

| | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme) | 5 800 | 6 850 |
|---|-------|-------|

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 |
|-------------------|------------|-------|-------|----------------------|------------|-------|-------|
| Yarrawonga | 124.90 | -0.81 | - | No. 7 Rufus River | 22.10 | -0.02 | +0.14 |
| No 26 Torrumbarry | 86.05 | -0.19 | - | No. 6 Murtho | 19.25 | -0.09 | -0.02 |
| No. 15 Euston | 47.60 | -0.01 | - | No. 5 Renmark | 16.30 | +0.05 | +0.10 |
| No. 11 Mildura | 34.40 | +0.04 | +0.04 | No. 4 Bookpurnong | 13.20 | +0.07 | +0.18 |
| No. 10 Wentworth | 30.80 | +0.03 | +0.16 | No.3 Overland Corner | 9.80 | +0.02 | +0.17 |
| No. 9 Kulnine | 27.40 | +0.02 | -0.02 | No. 2 Waikerie | 6.10 | +0.10 | +0.11 |
| No. 8 Wangumma | 24.60 | +0.01 | +0.08 | No 1. Blanchetown | 3.20 | +0.09 | -1.47 |

| Murrumbidgee | FSL (m AHD) | relation to FSL | d/s gauge ht. | | Flow (ML/day) |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|---------|---------------|
| | | | local (m) | (m AHD) | |
| No. 7 Maude | 75.40 | -0.95 | 0.515 | 69.865 | 178 |
| No. 5 Redbank | 66.90 | -0.44 | 0.007 | 61.307 | 160 |

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

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

Barrages

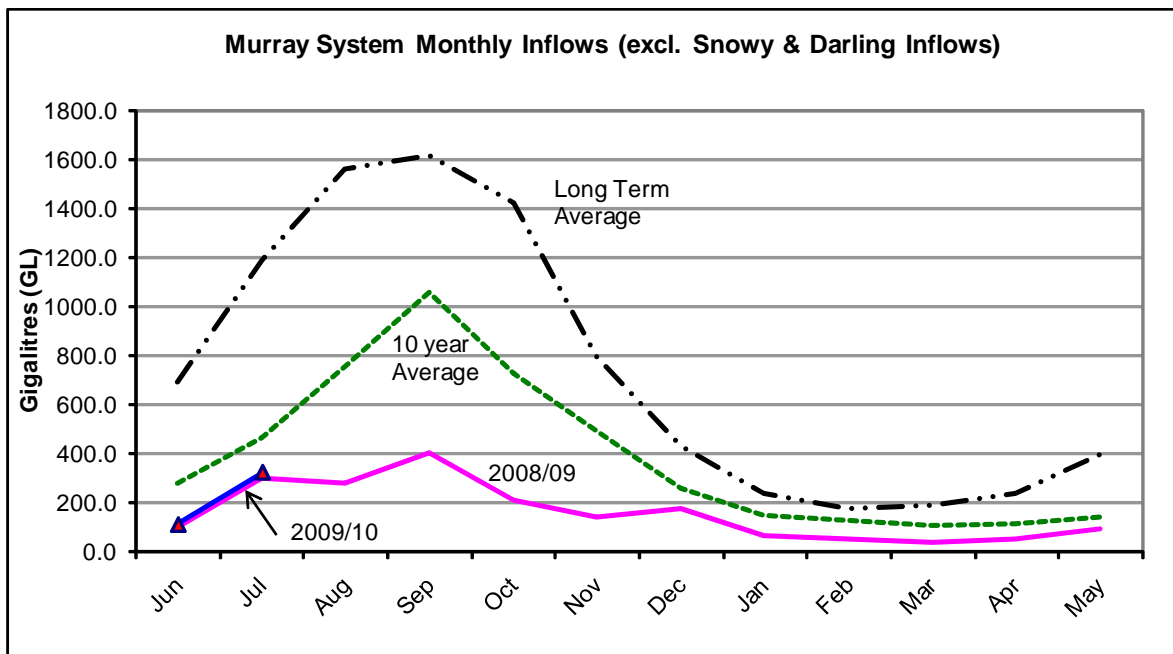
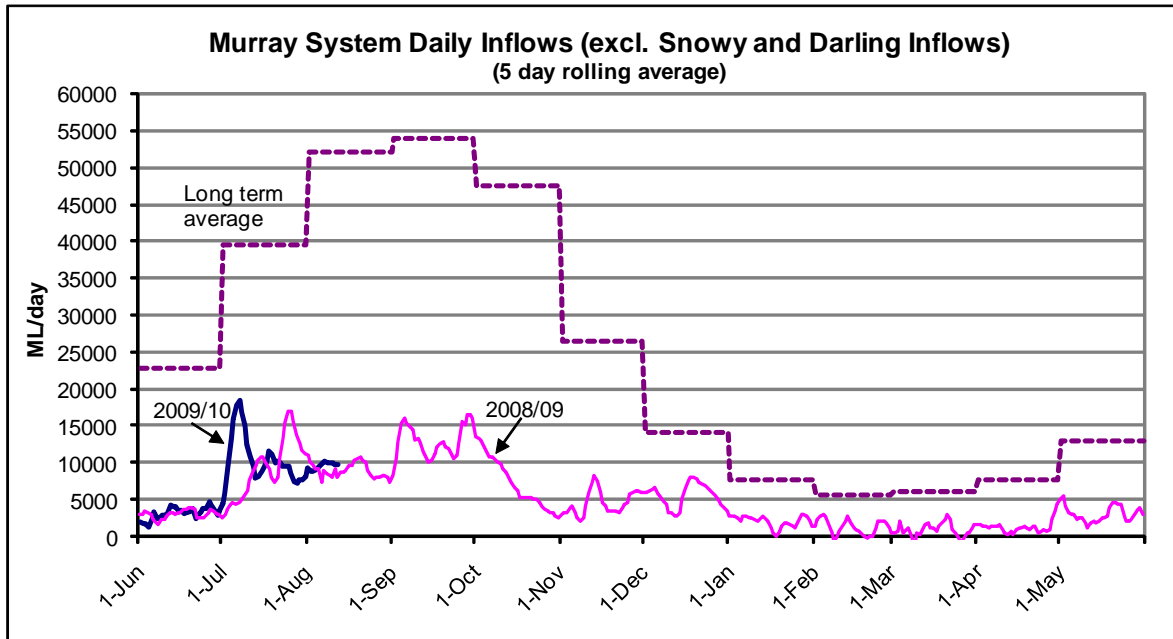
Fishways @ Barrages

| | Openings | Level (m AHD) | Status | Rock Ramp | Vertical Slot |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Goolwa | 128 openings | -0.69 | 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 |

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



Week ending Wednesday 12th August 2009



State Allocations (as at 12th August 2009)

NSW - Murray Valley

| | |
|------------------|----|
| High security | 8% |
| General security | 0% |

Victoria - Murray Valley

| | |
|------------------|----|
| high reliability | 0% |
|------------------|----|

NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

| | |
|------------------|----|
| High security | 5% |
| General security | 0% |

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

| | |
|------------------|----|
| high reliability | 0% |
|------------------|----|

NSW - Lower Darling

| | |
|------------------|------|
| High security | 100% |
| General security | 0% |

South Australia - Murray Valley

| | |
|---------------|----|
| High security | 5% |
|---------------|----|

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>