



RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY REPORT

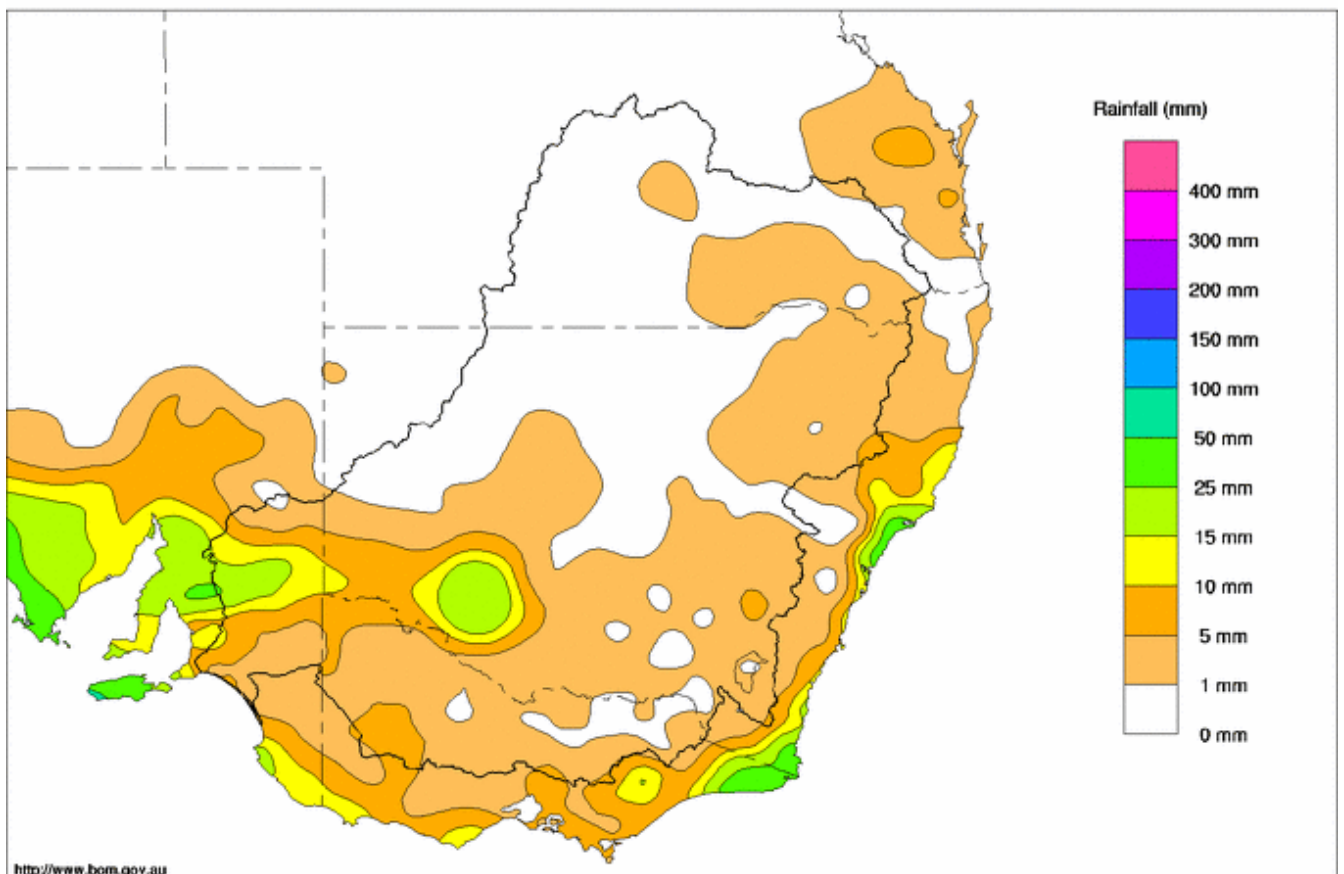
FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE 2009

Trim Ref: D09/9399

Rainfall and Inflows

During the past week, it was relatively dry across most of the Murray-Darling Basin (see Map below). The highest falls (up to 25 mm) were recorded in South Australia and south-western NSW. Streamflows in the upper tributaries of the Murray remain very low for this time of year, and Murray System inflows continue to track towards record lows.

Murray Darling Rainfall Analysis (mm) Week Ending 17th June 2009
Product of the National Climate Centre



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River Operations

MDBA active (useable water) storage increased by 66 GL to 1 092 GL (or 13 % of capacity), which is lower than this time last year (1 360 GL), and well below the June long term average (5 120 GL). Total storage in Dartmouth Reservoir increased by only 1 GL to 832 GL (or 21 % capacity) and in Hume Reservoir by 40 GL to 269 GL (or 9 % capacity). The flow at Doctors Point has been averaging about 1 300 ML/day which is slightly above the normal minimum of 1 200 ML/day.

Lake Mulwala is now fully lowered to the original river channel, with a water level of 119.6 m AHD (or 5.3 m below Full Supply Level). The lowering will help control the excessive growth of the aquatic plant *Egeria densa*, which is declared a noxious weed in NSW. It is planned to hold the water level down until mid-July when refilling will commence. The lowering of the water level is the only method that provides viable weed control over the whole of the lake, and a winter drawdown minimises the impacts on both delivery of irrigation water and also on recreational and tourism activities which tend to peak in the summer months. Two gates at Yarrawonga Weir are now fully open, and any inflows to Lake Mulwala, from the Murray, Kiewa and Ovens Rivers, are being passed downstream. The release is currently about 2 300 ML/day, and if the weather remains dry, is likely to recede to about 2 000 ML/day during the coming week.

The gates at the Edward offtake, Gulpa offtake and also at Stevens Weir have all been fully opened, allowing free movement of fish along the full length of the Edward River.

Further downstream, the release from Torrumbarry Weir, has been decreased from 5 100 to 2 900 ML/day in response to the decreasing flows from Yarrawonga Weir. The release from Euston Weir has been steady at about 5 900 ML/day, but should start falling during the coming week as the lower flows from Torrumbarry Weir arrive.

Two small volumes of water originating from the Moonie and Macintyre Rivers in the northern Basin have been slowly flowing towards Menindee Lakes since late May. The first pulse of water reached Bourke on the Darling River on about the 7th June and the flow is currently about 1 600 ML/day. This water should start to arrive at Menindee Lakes in the next 1 or 2 weeks. Storage in Menindee Lakes is currently 221 GL (or 13% capacity) and is expected to increase by only a few percent when the water from upstream arrives.

Storage in Lake Victoria increased by 25 GL to 200 GL (or 30 % capacity) and is expected to continue rising over the next few weeks as a result of the additional water arriving from Lake Mulwala.

The target flow to South Australia is currently 1 700 ML/day and the flow past Lock 1 is averaging 1 100 ML/day. The water level in Lake Alexandrina is about -0.90 m AHD (or 1.65 m below FSL) and continues to rise very gradually.

For media inquiries contact: Sam Leone on 02 6279 0141

DAVID DREVERMAN
Executive Director, River Murray

Week ending Wednesday 17 Jun 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	417.28	832	21%	80	752	+1
Hume Reservoir	192.00	3 038	169.91	269	9%	30	239	+40
Lake Victoria	27.00	677	22.50	200	30%	100	100	+25
Menindee Lakes		1 731 *		221	13%	(- -) #	0	-0
Total		9 352		1 522	16%	--	1 092	+66

* Menindee surcharge capacity 2050 GL

% of Total Active MDBA Storage = 13%

NSW takes control of Menindee Lakes when storage falls below 480 GL, and control reverts to MDBA when storage next reaches 640 GL

Major State Storages

Burrinjuck Reservoir	1 026		380	37%	3	377	-6
Blowering Reservoir	1 631		529	32%	24	505	+16
Eildon Reservoir	3 390		420	12%	100	320	+7

Snowy Mountains Scheme

Snowy diversions for week ending 16-Jun-2009

Storage	Active storage (GL)	Weekly change (GL)	Diversion (GL)	This week	From 1 May 2009
Lake Eucumbene - Total	404	-21	Snowy-Murray	+29	132
Snowy-Murray Component	301	-28	Tooma-Tumut	+3	22
Target Storage	1 240		Nett Diversion	25.4	109
			Murray 1 Release	+34	155

Major Diversions from Murray and Lower Darling (GL) *

New South Wales	This week	From 1 July 2008	Victoria	This week	From 1 July 2008
Murray Irrig. Ltd (Net)	0.0	158.9	Yarrowonga Main Channel (net)	0.0	136
Wakool Sys Allowance	0.0	55.2	Torrumbarry System + Nyah (net)	0.0	268
Western Murray Irrig.	0.0	25.0	Sunraysia Pumped Districts	0.0	101
Licensed Pumps	0.3	118.2	Licensed pumps - GMW (Nyah+u/s)	0.0	31
Lower Darling	0.0	10.9	Licensed pumps - LMW	1.8	160
TOTAL	0.4	368.2	TOTAL	1.7	696

* Figures derived from Estimates and Monthly Data. Please note that not all data may have been available at the time of creating this report.

Flow to South Australia (GL)

Entitlement this month	90 *	(1 700 ML/day)
Flow this week	11.8	
Flow so far this month	29	
Flow last month	58	

* Reduced to approx. 51 GL during June drought contingency operations

Salinity (EC)

(microsiemens/cm @ 25° C)

	Current	Average over the last week	Average since 1 August 2008
Swan Hill	20	20	60
Euston	150	140	90
Red Cliffs	110	100	120
Merbein	80	110	120
Burtundy (Darling)	340	340	460
Lock 9	120	120	190
Lake Victoria	180	230	260
Berri	320	340	350
Waikerie	-	-	470
Morgan	440	440	500
Mannum	600	590	620
Murray Bridge	710	700	650
Milang (Lake Alex)	5 720	5 740	4 490
Poltalloch (Lake Alex)	3 820	3 950	4 240
Meningie (Lake Alb)	9 620	9 530	7 840
Goolwa Barrages	26 070	26 230	23 750

Week ending Wednesday 17 Jun 2009

River Levels and Flows

	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)				
River Murray							
Khancoban	-	-	-	6 050	F	5 510	3 180
Jingellic	4.0	1.97	208.49	7 020	R	6 160	3 400
Tallandoon (Mitta Mitta River)	4.2	1.28	218.17	320	R	350	360
Heywoods	5.5	1.33	154.96	850	R	700	840
Doctors Point	5.5	1.49	149.96	1 230	F	1 310	1 270
Albury	4.3	0.68	148.12	-	-	-	-
Corowa	7.0	0.46	126.48	1 220	F	1 350	1 250
Yarrowonga Weir (d/s)	6.4	0.45	115.49	2 320	F	2 450	5 010
Tocumwal	6.4	0.96	104.80	2 740	F	3 090	5 460
Torrumbarry Weir (d/s)	7.3	1.15	79.70	2 870	F	4 070	5 250
Swan Hill	4.5	0.94	63.86	4 230	F	4 660	4 850
Wakool Junction	8.8	2.38	51.50	5 750	F	5 930	5 980
Euston Weir (d/s)	8.8	1.35	43.19	5 990	F	5 920	5 740
Mildura Weir (d/s)	-	-	-	4 630	F	4 940	-
Wentworth Weir (d/s)	7.3	2.98	27.74	5 320	F	5 430	4 860
Rufus Junction	-	2.49	19.42	1 130	R	1 130	1 090
Blanchetown (Lock 1 d/s)	-	-0.78	-	950	F	1 110	1 230
Tributaries							
Kiewa at Bandiana	2.7	1.11	154.34	710	R	840	640
Ovens at Wangaratta	11.9	7.83	145.51	490	F	610	410
Goulburn at McCoys Bridge	9.0	1.11	92.53	360	S	370	340
Edward at Stevens Weir (d/s)	-	0.90	80.67	630	F	830	990
Edward at Liewah	-	1.72	57.10	1 020	F	1 060	1 100
Wakool at Stoney Crossing	-	1.16	54.66	70	S	80	110
Murrumbidgee at Balranald	5.0	0.31	56.27	110	F	110	130
Barwon at Mungindi	-	3.52	-	830	F	1 000	1 090
Darling at Bourke	-	4.31	-	1 630	F	2 000	560
Darling at Burtundy Rocks	-	0.68	-	50	F	50	50

Natural Inflow to Hume (ie pre Dartmouth & Snowy Mountains scheme)	2 620	2 550
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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	-5.32	-	No. 7 Rufus River	22.10	-0.04	+0.18
No. 26 Torrumbarry	86.05	+0.01	-	No. 6 Murtho	19.25	-0.07	-0.11
No. 15 Euston	47.60	+0.00	-	No. 5 Renmark	16.30	-0.05	-0.00
No. 11 Mildura	34.40	+0.04	+0.13	No. 4 Bookpurnong	13.20	-0.04	+0.12
No. 10 Wentworth	30.80	+0.00	+0.34	No.3 Overland Corner	9.80	-0.03	+0.12
No. 9 Kulnine	27.40	+0.02	-0.00	No. 2 Waikerie	6.10	+0.06	+0.11
No. 8 Wangumma	24.60	+0.03	+0.10	No 1. Blanchetown	3.20	+0.09	-1.53

Murrumbidgee	FSL (mAHD)	relation to FSL	d/s gauge ht.		Flow (ML/day)
			local (m)	(m AHD)	
No. 7 Maude	75.40	-0.46	1.1228	70.4728	982
No. 5 Redbank	66.90	-0.05	-0.045	61.255	127

Lower Lakes

FSL = 0.75 m AHD

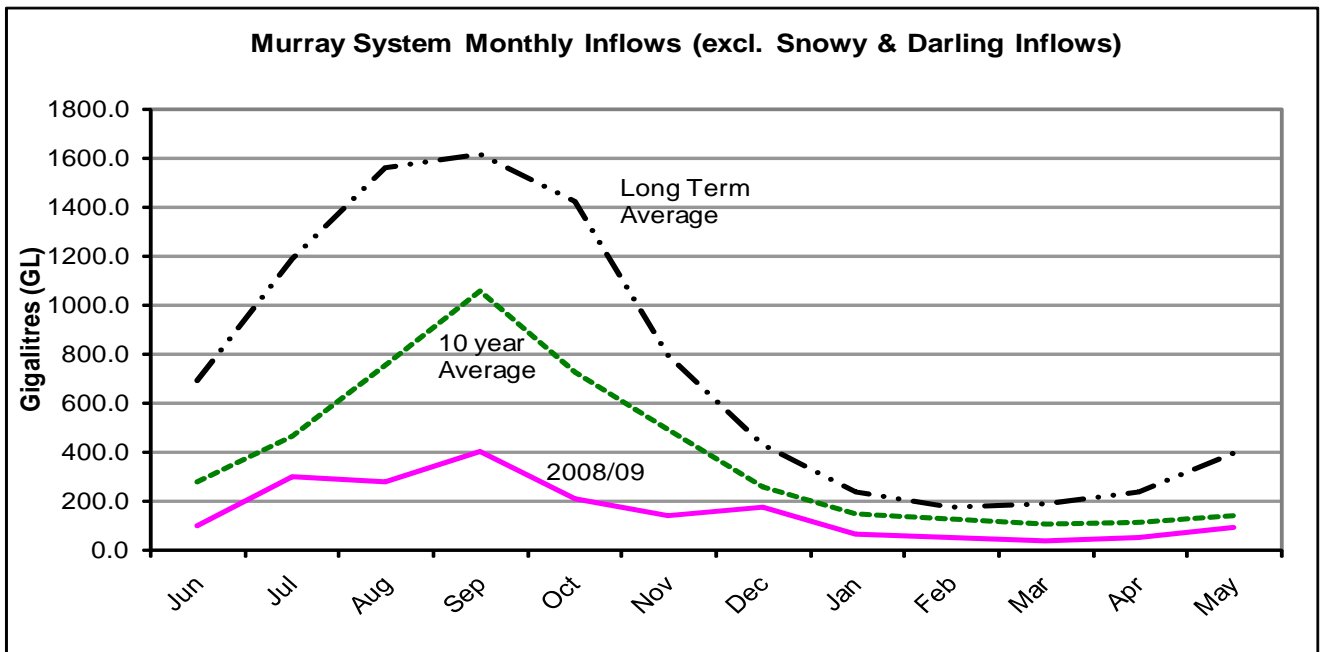
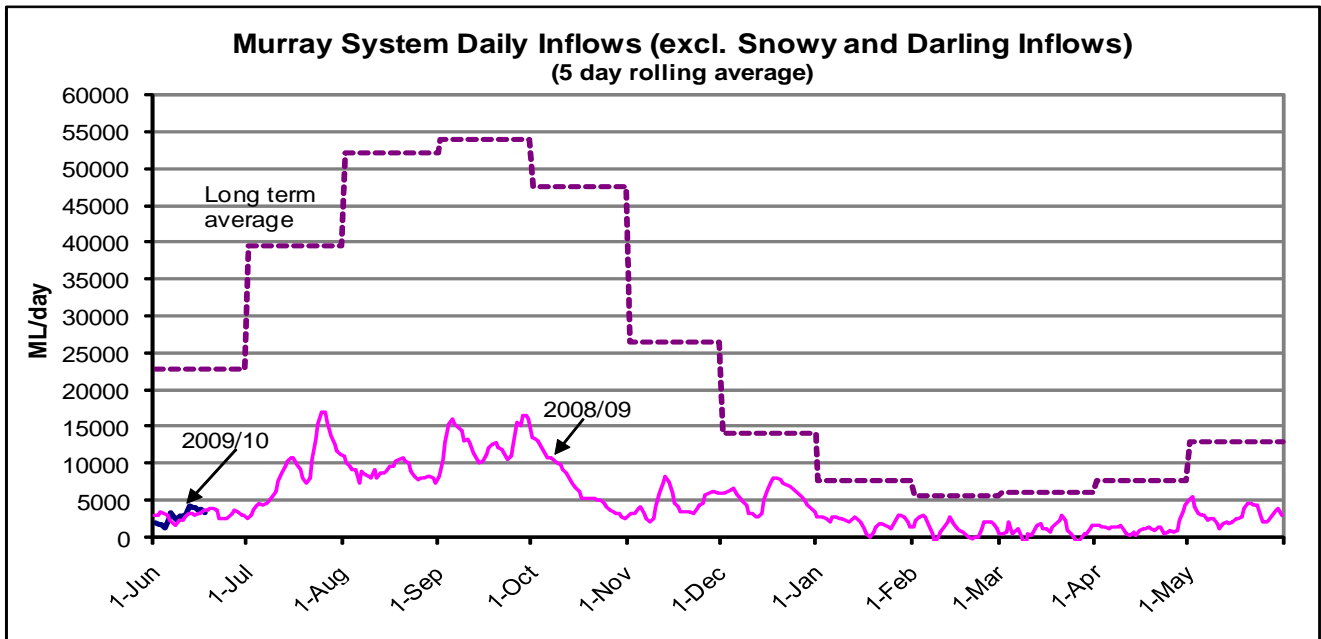
	(mAHD)
Lake Alexandrina average level for the past 5 days	-0.90

Barrages

Fishways @ Barrages

	Openings	Level (mAHD)	Status	Rock Ramp	Vertical Slot
Goolwa	128 openings	-0.87	All closed	-	Closed
Mundoo	26 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Boundary Creek	6 openings	-	All closed	-	-
Ewe Island	111 gates	-	All closed	-	-
Tauwitchere	322 gates	-	All closed	Closed	Closed

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



State Allocations (as at 17th June 2009)

NSW - Murray Valley

High security	95%
General security	9%

Victoria - Murray Valley

high reliability	35%
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NSW - Murrumbidgee Valley

High security	95%
General security	21%

Victoria - Goulburn Valley

high reliability	33%
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NSW - Lower Darling

High security	100%
General security	50%

South Australia - Murray Valley

High security	18%
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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>