

Increase in Class C (General Security) allocation to 19 percent

Murray Irrigation this morning announced an increase in Class C (General Security) allocation of six percent to 19 percent.

This improvement in water availability follows the announcement by the NSW Office of Water (NOW) earlier today.

Copies of the NOW media release and Critical Water Planning Communiqué are available in the *Water Resource Updates* section of the Murray Irrigation website at www.murrayirrigation.com.au.

Given the availability of extra water, it is essential that all customers considering an autumn irrigation program give priority to discussing their intentions with their Planner to enable channel maintenance to take place. Without the opportunity to manage channel maintenance requirements there is a risk of delivery constraints.

Today's increase is the result of flows from the floods in northern NSW between Christmas and New Year.

NSW Water Commissioner David Harriss advised that a further 60GL would be available for trade out of the Murrumbidgee Valley in 2009/10.

He said a third ballot will commence immediately, under the same arrangements that applied in the previous two Murrumbidgee water ballots. Applications will be received by State Water staff in Deniliquin for a three week period, ending close of business 8 March 2010. Full details will be available on the State Water website shortly at www.statewater.com.au or contact the State Water Customer Information centre on T. 1300 662 077.

Mr Harriss also advised carryover rules that applied in 2009/10 would be repeated in 2010/11, and that all trading in the Murray and Murrumbidgee would close on 30 May 2010.

The table below is a summary of the water available to Murray Irrigation water entitlement holders.

Water Entitlement Class	Description	Allocation
Class A	Town Water Supply	97%
Class B	High Security Irrigation	97%
Class C	General Security	19%
Water efficiency distribution		4%
Carryover access		100%



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General Manager