



## SAFETY FIRST

### Trusted fire safety resource

The NSW Rural Fire Service website is a trusted resource for all fire safety-related information. The website includes information about fire safety, service information, bushfire alerts and management, hazard reduction, news and a resource library. For full details, visit: [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/).

### Open feedback forums this week

Customers are reminded that Murray Irrigation is hosting a series of open feedback forums **this week**. All open feedback forums will start at 9.00am and finish at 12.00pm with dates and venues as follows:

- Tuesday 14 March: Mayrung Hall;
- Wednesday 15 March: Bunnaloo Hall and Moulamein Bowling Club;
- Thursday 16 March: Wakool Services Club and Finley Bowling Club;
- Friday 17 March: Berrigan Sportsground and Pretty Pine Recreation Reserve.

Please note, customers who have or will attend one of the smaller industry sessions are not required to attend these open meetings, as the same information will be covered. For further details on the open sessions, please contact Customer Support on T. 1300 138 265.

### AgQ trivia night this Friday

The inaugural AgQ trivia night will be held at The Crossing Café in Deniliquin from 6.30pm this Friday 17 March. Tickets include dinner and drinks on arrival and can be purchased via:

[www.eventbrite.com.au/e/agq-trivia-night-tickets-32176326258](http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/agq-trivia-night-tickets-32176326258). The event is being organised by several community organisations – including Murray Irrigation – and will focus on engaging the next generation of farmers and industry professionals. Well-known comedian Elliott Goblet will host the night.

### New IVT process

WaterNSW has modified the Murray-Murrumbidgee Intervalley Trade (IVT) account processes. The notification of opening of the IVT will now be one hour prior to receipt of trade applications. Customers can register to receive email updates by calling T. 1300 662 077.

### Environment Policy implementation

Murray Irrigation's Environment Policy outlines the calculation of the maximum rice water usage figure and any climatic adjustment of the total farm water use limit.

The final maximum **rice water usage** figures for 2016/17 are:

- 13.4ML/ha for E, Q and M landholdings;
- 15.6 ML/ha for D, T and W landholdings.

The maximum rice water use is lower than the average as the evapotranspiration over the 2016/17 rice growing season was 27 percent lower than average in the east, and 17 percent lower than the average in the west. The calculations of the individual rice water use for each landholding will be completed by early April.

There will be no increase in the **total farm water use limit** for 2016/17 as the evapotranspiration levels were significantly lower than average for the 2016/17 irrigation season. For further information, please contact Customer Support on T. 1300 138 265.

### OFIEP Round Five

Water Minister Barnaby Joyce and local Member Sussan Ley last week confirmed that irrigators in the Farrer electorate will receive close to \$151 million in funding under the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program (OFIEP) Round Five (originally announced 2015). As one delivery partner in the region, Murray Irrigation is currently finalising contracts with proponents, worth over \$8 million. Infrastructure spending has consistently been the preferred method for water recovery as farms with improved water use efficiency maintain or improve their productive capacity.

Water recovery in Murray Irrigation's area of operations equals 28 percent of the original general security licence volume. Of that, four percent was recovered pre-Basin Plan. Of the remaining recovery, 71 percent has been through open tender buyback, 17 percent through on-farm irrigation efficiency projects, and 13 percent through the Private Irrigation Infrastructure Operators Program (PIIOP), which has also seen less than four percent of the conveyance licence recovered. A number of customers who have conducted on-farm efficiency projects are reporting increased efficiencies and production.

**Michael Renehan, CEO**

### Announced allocation

Class C General Security ..... 100 %  
Water resource distribution ..... 3 %  
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

### Water availability and usage

(14/03/17)

Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 48 %  
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)  
On-Farm Balance..... 373 GL  
On-Farm Usage ..... 661 GL

### Water exchange

8.30am today

Water for Sale ..... 13,697 ML  
Price Range ..... \$42 - \$250  
Buy Offer ..... \$35  
Yesterday's Sales..... 2,278 ML  
Price Range ..... \$40 - \$43

**To buy water call 1300 781 431**

### Water use and trade data

07/03/17 – 13/03/17

#### Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML)... 39; 5,889ML  
External buyers (No. & ML)... 0; 0ML  
Internal sellers (No. & ML)... 13; 3,297ML  
External sellers (No. & ML)... 1; 2,592ML

#### Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade.... 5,555ML(week).... 704ML(YTD)

#### Crop weekly water use

ML used on farm..... 43GL (63% on rice)

### Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	5,749	10,000
Wakool Canal	1,283	2,350
Escape flows	661	3,250

### Rainfall and evaporation

07/03/17 – 13/03/17 ..... Rain ..... Evap  
Finley ..... 2.0mm ..... 34.0mm  
Tullakool..... 3.6mm ..... 47.0mm

### Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Dartmouth..... 2,993 GL..... 78 %  
Hume..... 2,145 GL..... 71 %  
Lake Victoria..... 420 GL..... 62 %  
Menindee Lakes ..... 1,018 GL..... 59 %  
Total Storage..... 6,576 GL..... 71 %

### Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Murray @ Doctors Point ..... 16,689 ML/d  
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir ..... 7,978 ML/d  
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ... 4,175 ML/d  
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 599 ML/d  
Darling @ Burtundy..... 2,236 ML/d  
Flow to SA..... 8,657 ML/d  
Murray to the Sea ..... 21 gates open

*This information is provided for general reference purposes only. Murray Irrigation takes best endeavours to ensure accuracy. It is collated at 8.00am Tuesdays and is subject to change.*