

Talking Water

Tuesday 16 January 2018



Murray Irrigation

Talking Water audio format

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SAFETY FIRST

Do not swim in channels

Irrigation channels are not safe places to swim or play. Regulating structures can change suddenly, and cause fluctuations in channel levels without warning. Submerged objects can be hidden below the surface and present dangers to swimmers. To ensure your safety, avoid swimming in irrigation channels.

Allocation increases to 49 percent

NSW Crown Lands and Water has increased the NSW Murray general security entitlements allocation to 49 percent for Class C entitlement holders. See: <https://goo.gl/NeCbYg>. The next allocation update is due Thursday 1, February. Subscribe directly here: <https://goo.gl/XZ8ZAd>.

Resource distribution applied

The five percent resource distribution announced in December has now been applied to delivery entitlement holders who were fully financial as at 5.00pm Monday 8 January. If you have any concerns, contact Customer Support on 1300 138 265.

Climate outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology's seasonal outlook for February to April indicates that average rainfall conditions are likely in the NSW Murray Valley over the next three months, though above average rainfall is likely in February in the western portion of the valley. See BoM's outlook video here: www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/video.

Lower Darling trade

The Menindee Lakes system has fallen below 480GL - the threshold at which the Lower Darling becomes administratively separated from the Murray. Temporary trade with the Murray has therefore ceased. Trade typically remains closed until the Menindee Lakes system recovers to above 640GL.

Modernisation works

Murray Irrigation's major regulator upgrade program continues with significant modernisation works planned for the Lawson Syphon and Edward River Escape this year. There will be concrete remediation works carried out to enhance the structural life of both pieces of infrastructure, plus new automated gates and control equipment. The upgrades will ensure that both structures continue to provide a crucial role within the system for many years to come.

Four-day notice for water orders

Customers should ensure that water orders are placed at least four days in advance to guarantee delivery. Report any issues or concerns by contacting Customer Support on 1300 138 265.

Spray drift workshop Monday

A free spray drift workshop will be held at 'Moyston Park' (off Aratula North Road, Deniliquin) from 4pm Monday 22 January. It will be presented by Mary O'Brien, a specialist in temperature inversions that cause off target spray drift.

A free BBQ and drinks will be supplied. For full details, contact Lachlan Danckert on 0411 825 824, or for more information on surface temperature inversions and spraying, see: <https://goo.gl/GUox3K>.

2017 Murray system inflows

The MDBA reports that inflows to the Murray were well below the historical average in 2017. River Murray system inflows for the calendar year (excluding Snowy, Darling, IVT and environmental inflows) were about 4,540GL, compared with 14,500GL in 2016 and the long-term average of 9,080GL. In comparison with the historical records since 1891, about 82 percent of years have recorded higher inflows than 2017.

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 49 %
Water resource distribution 8 %
(issued against Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(16/01/18)
Vol. remaining % of entitlements 39 %
On-farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-farm balance 328 GL
On-farm usage 426 GL

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for sale 10,236 ML
Price range \$113 - \$350
Buy offer \$106
Yesterday's sales 1,471 ML
Price range \$105 - \$114

To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

09/01/18 – 15/01/18

Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML).....21; 2,711ML
External buyers (No. & ML).....0; 0ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML).....27; 2,390ML
External sellers (No. & ML).....1; 321ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)
Net trade 6,525ML (week) 13,403ML (YTD)

Crop weekly water use

GL used on farm 35 GL (69%
on rice)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	4,822	10,000
Wakool Canal	1,266	2,350
Escape flows	1,000	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

09/01/18 – 15/01/18 Rain Evap
Finley 0.2mm 62.3mm
Tullakool 3.2mm 62.6mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth 3,439 GL 89 %
Hume 1,978 GL 66 %
Lake Victoria 600 GL 89 %
Menindee Lakes 401 GL 23 %
Total Storage 6,418 GL 69 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Doctors Point 13,321 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra Weir 9,754 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge 1,230 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald 1,003 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy 50 ML/d
Flow to SA 7,743 ML/d
Murray to the sea 4 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.