

# TalkingWater

Tuesday 4 September 2018



Murray Irrigation

## Environmental water sale

The Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder is selling 20GL of temporary water held in the Victorian Greater Goulburn catchment. The competitive tender process opened yesterday (Monday 3 September). Murray Irrigation customers are eligible to take part. Bids will be accepted until 2pm tomorrow (Wednesday 5 September) via [this link](#).

## No general security allocation

General security entitlements for the NSW Murray remain at zero percent. The Department of Industry – Water (Dol-Water) said in its statement yesterday that August rainfall and tributary inflows in the upper Murray catchment have been low. Click [here](#) to view the department's full announcement and a department media release [here](#).

The next water allocation statement is due Monday 17 September. Subscribe directly to Dol-Water announcements [here](#).

## Joint response to allocation

Southern Riverina Irrigators, Ricegrowers' Association of Australia, Murray Valley Private Diverters and Murray Irrigation have issued a joint media release in response to yesterday's allocation announcement. The document outlines the activities of each organisation in their united attempt to source water for general security users in the NSW Murray Valley. View the release [here](#).

## Customer meetings start tonight

Murray Irrigation will provide start of season operational briefings in the footprint this week. A Dol-Water delegate will also provide Wakool and Deniliquin customers with an insight into the complexities of water allocation and explain how the current allocation remains at zero.

The briefings will concentrate on engineering, channel fill and maintenance plans and Southern Riverina Irrigators will make a short presentation on the political and industry landscape. The formal part of the meetings is expected to last no longer than 30 minutes, after which customers can talk to staff about issues relating to their farm.

**Briefing details:** Tuesday 4 September, Finley Football Club (no Dol-Water), 6.30pm (BBQ dinner); Wednesday 5 September, Wakool Services Club, 8.30am (breakfast supplied); Deniliquin Rams Football Club, 12.30pm (BBQ lunch).

## Land Sustainability Guidelines

In response to customer feedback, Murray Irrigation has developed [Land Sustainability Guidelines](#). The majority of customers who took part in last year's feedback sessions supported the continuation of some form of *Total Farm Water Rules* and *Rice Growing Rules* (previously included in the *Environment Policy*). The guidelines cover both of these areas and also include information on access to the drainage system. The document replaces the *Environment Policy*.

## Advance notice for water orders

The online water ordering system rejects orders made less than four days (96 hours) in advance because low-level channels have to be brought up to operating height. The lower levels are being employed to minimise losses and maximise efficiency, but customers will be contacted if water can be delivered earlier than the four days.

Meanwhile, it's important to note that all online orders are reviewed daily and that the company is committed to deliver orders early, where possible. For assistance with ordering water, call Customer Support on 1300 138 265.

## Dry outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology outlook for spring (September to November) indicates that dry conditions and above average temperatures are likely to continue for the region.

## Ministerial appointments

Federal Member for Farrer Sussan Ley has a new role following the recent leadership change in Canberra. Ms Ley is now Assistant Minister for Regional Development, while former Agriculture Minister Barnaby Joyce has been appointed Special Envoy for Drought Assistance and Recovery. David Littleproud remains Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources.

## Safe Ag System workshops

Two Safe Ag System workshops will be held in Finley and Deniliquin today (Tuesday 4 September). The workshops will provide farmers with information relating to on-farm workplace health and safety responsibilities. The workshops will be held at the Finley RS Club from 1.00pm and the Deniliquin RSL Club from 6.00pm. RSVP by calling 03 5890 500.

## Announced allocation

Class C General Security ..... 0 %  
Water resource distribution ..... 0 %  
(issued against Delivery Entitlements)

## Water availability and usage

(04/09/18)  
Vol. remaining % of entitlements ..... 13 %  
On-farm (incl. WEX Volume)  
On-farm balance ..... 107 GL  
On-farm usage ..... 58 GL

## Water exchange

8.30am today  
Water for sale ..... 6,736 ML  
Price range ..... \$358 - \$900  
Buy offer ..... \$326  
Yesterday's sales ..... 1,784 ML  
Price range ..... \$355 - \$360

**To buy water call 1300 781 431**

## Water use and trade data

28/08/18 – 03/09/18

### Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML).....53; 4,000ML  
External buyers (No. & ML).....1; 13ML  
Internal sellers (No. & ML).....22; 3,420ML  
External sellers (No. & ML).....1; 593ML

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

Net trade 4,735ML (week) 38,985ML (YTD)

### Crop weekly water use

ML used on farm ..... 10.5GL (59%  
on winter crops)

## Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	1,895	10,000
Wakool Canal	240	2,350
Escape flows	240	3,250

## Rainfall and evaporation

28/08/18 – 03/09/18 ..... Rain ..... Evap  
Finley ..... 0.2mm ..... 20.6mm  
Tullakool ..... 2.2mm ..... 24.3mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Dartmouth ..... 3,429 GL ..... 89 %  
Hume ..... 1,560 GL ..... 52 %  
Lake Victoria ..... 334 GL ..... 49 %  
Menindee Lakes ..... 174 GL ..... 10 %  
Total Storage ..... 5,497 GL ..... 59 %

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Murray @ Doctors Point ..... 10,815 ML/d  
Murray d/s Yarra Weir ..... 11,602 ML/d  
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ..... 2,237 ML/d  
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald ..... 1,415 ML/d  
Darling @ Burtundy ..... 85 ML/d  
Flow to SA ..... 4,966 ML/d  
Murray to the sea ..... 3 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.