

# TalkingWater

Tuesday 11 September 2018



Murray Irrigation

## Five percent resource distribution

Murray Irrigation has issued a five percent resource distribution to its customers. The distribution was made available to fully financial delivery entitlement holders and applied to customer accounts last week.

CEO Michael Renehan announced last week that the company had received sufficient conveyance water to mitigate the risks in providing this resource distribution. Mr Renehan said the board approved its early release based on the company being able to manage its delivery risks for next season.

For full details, click [here](#).

## Allocation announcement Monday

Dol-Water's next general security allocation announcement will be next Monday 17 September. Subscribe to have the announcement emailed directly to you [here](#).

## Successful customer briefings

A high number of customers took advantage of start of season briefing sessions last week in Finley, Wakool and Deniliquin. A new format, which shortens formalities, focuses on operational performance and provides customers with the opportunity to share their ideas, experiences and observations with key staff, appears to have been a winner. Head of water delivery Scott Barlow said: "The company's close association with the Landholder Associations and SRI will continue to be a platform for farmer representation that embraces broader non-operational issues."

## Board strategic planning

Murray Irrigation's Board of Directors is meeting for a strategic workshop in Albury this week. All five member-directors and three independents will join CEO Michael Renehan for a review of company operations and strategic planning.

## Four-day notice for water orders

Customers should ensure that water orders are placed at least four days in advance to guarantee delivery. 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.

## Escapes agreement

Murray Irrigation and WaterNSW have signed an interim Escapes Agreement. The commercial agreement has been put in place to allow for more strategic discussions about the use of the Mulwala Canal.

## August rainfall and inflows

The Bureau of Meteorology reports that rainfall across the Murray-Darling Basin in August was just 21.6mm. This is 43 percent below the long-term average, making August 2018 one of the driest Augusts in 119 years.

The MDBA reports that River Murray system inflows for August totalled 564GL (long-term median 1,272GL). In comparison with historical records since 1891, only about 16 percent of previous monthly totals for August have been lower than the inflows observed last month.

## West Berriquin Irrigators AGM

West Berriquin Irrigators Inc. is holding its Annual General Meeting at the Sportsmans Arms Hotel in Deniliquin from 7.00pm on Thursday 4 October. For more information, contact Linda Fawns (Secretary/Treasurer) on 0409 044 754.

## Rice scholarship opens

Applications for the 2019 Jan Cathcart Scholarship opened last week. Now in its fifth year, the scholarship supports women with a connection to the rice industry in their tertiary study. It is valued at \$10,000 a year for up to three years of study. Applications close on Saturday 13 October 2018. For full details, click [here](#).

## Perin Davey to lead Nationals' ticket

Former Murray Irrigation employee and current SRI executive officer, Perin Davey, has been nominated to lead The Nationals' Senate ticket in New South Wales at the next election. The announcement follows a preselection of grassroots party members on Friday (7 September). For full details, click [here](#).

## Finding electricity solutions

Food and fibre producers in NSW and Queensland are encouraged to share their experiences in securing affordable electricity. Cotton Australia, NSW Irrigators' Council and Queensland Farmers' Federation are looking into options to provide better access to more affordable energy for those on the land. For full details, click [here](#).

## Announced allocation

Class C General Security ..... 0 %  
Water resource distribution ..... 5 %  
(issued against Delivery Entitlements)

## Water availability and usage

(11/09/18)  
Vol. remaining % of entitlements ..... 17 %  
On-farm (incl. WEX Volume)  
On-farm balance ..... 145 GL  
On-farm usage ..... 70 GL

## Water exchange

8.30am today  
Water for sale ..... 6,660 ML  
Price range ..... \$340 - \$900  
Buy offer ..... \$311  
Yesterday's sales ..... 1,439 ML  
Price range ..... \$319 - \$329  
**To buy water call 1300 781 431**

## Water use and trade data

04/09/18 – 10/09/18

### Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML) ... 31; 3,426ML  
External buyers (No. & ML) ... 0; 0ML  
Internal sellers (No. & ML) ... 28; 2,198ML  
External sellers (No. & ML) ... 2; 1,228ML

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

Net trade 2,349ML (week) 41,333ML (YTD)

### Crop weekly water use

ML used on farm ..... 12GL (55%  
on winter crops)

## Channel flows today (ML/day)

|               | Actual | Capacity |
|---------------|--------|----------|
| Mulwala Canal | 3,775  | 10,000   |
| Wakool Canal  | 511    | 2,350    |
| Escape flows  | 1,400  | 3,250    |

## Rainfall and evaporation

04/09/18 – 10/09/18 ..... Rain ..... Evap  
Finley ..... 3.3mm ..... 24.8mm  
Tullakool ..... 0.0mm ..... 31.3mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Dartmouth ..... 3,408 GL ..... 88 %  
Hume ..... 1,588 GL ..... 53 %  
Lake Victoria ..... 343 GL ..... 51 %  
Menindee Lakes ..... 170 GL ..... 10 %  
Total Storage ..... 5,509 GL ..... 59 %

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Murray @ Doctors Point ..... 12,214 ML/d  
Murray d/s Yarra Weir ..... 13,145 ML/d  
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ..... 1,052 ML/d  
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald ..... 1,408 ML/d  
Darling @ Burtundy ..... 24 ML/d  
Flow to SA ..... 5,319 ML/d  
Murray to the sea ..... 5 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.*