

# TalkingWater

Tuesday 4 December 2018



Murray Irrigation

## NSW Government rebates

Murray Irrigation has contacted WaterNSW and the office of Minister Niall Blair to pursue the process by which customers will receive the fees and charges rebate announced by the NSW Government in August. WaterNSW is yet to provide a date on which the rebate will be made available.

## Zero GS allocation

The company continues to press government to make an allocation after yesterday's announcement that entitlements for the NSW Murray remain at zero. Department of Industry – Water (DoI-Water) reports that there has been a small improvement in NSW Murray regulated river resources and that the deficit in allocation to conveyance entitlements has now been met. The department says that when River Murray Increased Flow targets are met, improvements will then accrue to general security entitlements (provided high priority commitments for 1 July 2019 can be met).

To view yesterday's DoI-Water announcement, click [here](#). The next water allocation statement will be issued on Monday 17 December. Contact the department [here](#) to have the announcement emailed directly.

## Murray bulk water transfers

Yesterday's DoI-Water update also included information about high bulk water transfers in the Murray system. Due to a combination of hot, dry and windy conditions, and the lack of system inflows from tributaries, bulk water transfers from upstream (Hume) to downstream storages (particularly Lake Victoria) were necessary. For full details, see pages two and three [here](#).

## Bypassing Barmah Choke

Diversions to the Mulwala Canal averaged 1,450ML/day last week. Of this water, approximately 1,000ML/day was ordered by the Government as part of the recently signed *Escapes Agreement*. This water is being diverted around the Barmah Choke through Murray Irrigation infrastructure under the temporary agreement and released into the Murray through the Perricoota, Wakool, Edward River and Billabong Creek escapes. The MDBA also reports that, last week in Victoria, about 120ML/day was diverted through Yarrowonga Main Channel and into the Broken Creek to bypass the Barmah Choke and transfer water to Lake Victoria.

## Climatic outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology seasonal outlook for December to February shows no clear indication of drier or wetter conditions for the catchment. Daytime and overnight temperatures are 'very likely' to be above average. The latest outlook is available [here](#).

## How important is agricultural land?

The NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) wants to map important agricultural land in the Riverina Murray region and it needs the support of local farmers. The mapping program will assist state and local government, other organisations and industries to recognise and value important agricultural land.

Farmers can have their say [here](#). Feedback is open until Sunday 23 December 2018.

## Memorial travel grant

Applications are now open for the 2019 Albert Heslop Memorial Travel Grant. The \$4,000 grant is being offered to eligible horticulturalists and primary producers in the Murray Valley who want to advance themselves, their enterprise and their industry. Applicants must be aged between 18 and 40 years and be living and working in the NSW shires of Wakool, Balranald, Central Darling or Wentworth; or Swan Hill, Mildura or the Shire of Gannawarra in Victoria. Application forms are available [here](#), or can be requested by calling 03 5022 3666.

## Finley 'morale' BBQ

Finley Bowling Club is hosting a 'family morale BBQ' for local farmers next week. The free event will be held from 6pm on Wednesday 12 December with dinner and bowls provided. Drought assistance information will also be available on the night. All welcome. RSVP (for catering purposes) by calling 03 5883 1324 or Jeff Barrie on 0438 831 497.

## Shop for MILCast products online

MILCast recently updated its full product range. You can now view product features including shop drawings, product specifications, prices and product images [here](#).

Need assistance to find the best solution for you? Call the MILCast team on 03 5888 3051.

## Announced allocation

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

## Water availability and deliveries

(04/12/18)  
YTD deliveries..... 210 GL  
Weekly deliveries ..... 10,118 ML  
Weekly crop usage.. summer crops (47%)  
On-farm balance ..... 114 GL  
WE in customer accounts..... 831,228 WE  
Vol. % remaining ..... 14%

## Channel flows today

Wakool Offtake..... 76 ML  
Mulwala Offtake ..... 1,665 ML  
Billabong Escape..... 250 ML  
Edward River Escape..... 200 ML  
Perricoota Escape ..... 90 ML  
Wakool River Escape ..... 80 ML

## Water trade data

Net trade week ..... 1,819 ML  
Net trade YTD ..... 68,282 ML

## Water exchange data

(27/11/18 – 03/12/18)  
Internal listings (No. & ML)... 15; 1,921ML  
External listings (No. & ML)..... 2; 59ML  
Int. purchases (No. & ML)... 30; 1,216ML  
External purchases (No. & ML)..... 0; 0ML

Water for sale (04/12/18)..... 2,861ML  
Weighted average sale price..... \$421.46  
Price range ..... \$428 - \$500  
Buy offer range..... \$382 - \$300

## Rainfall and evaporation

27/11/18 – 03/12/18 ..... Rain ..... Evap  
Finley ..... 0.0mm ..... 65.5mm  
Tullakool..... 2.4mm ..... 65.7mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Dartmouth..... 2,863 GL..... 74 %  
Hume..... 1,258 GL..... 42 %  
Lake Victoria..... 553 GL..... 82 %  
Menindee Lakes ..... 95 GL..... 6 %  
Total Storage..... 4,769 GL..... 52 %

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Murray @ Doctors Point ..... 18,033 ML/d  
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir ..... 15,156 ML/d  
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge..... 954 ML/d  
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 463 ML/d  
Darling @ Burtundy..... 17 ML/d  
Flow to SA..... 7,848 ML/d  
Murray to the sea ..... 2 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.*