

TalkingWater

Tuesday 12 March 2019



Murray Irrigation

End of season system closure

Mulwala Canal and Wakool Canal offtakes will close at 8.00am on Wednesday 8 May to commence major off-season works. The comprehensive response to the *Autumn Irrigation Intentions Survey* has been a key planning resource for the winter works program. The major off-season works will be the last in the PIOP program which has seen the largest major infrastructure upgrade ever for Murray Irrigation.

To manage the system closure effectively, the Water Delivery department is focusing on:

- **Retaining water in the system** – where channels do not need to be drained, water will be kept in the channels to reduce filling time next season
- **Progressing with in-season works where possible** – where no intention or demand is registered, channels will be drained early to facilitate early works schedules
- **Delivering customer orders** – all orders made by the cut-off will be delivered.

What you need to know

- Orders **must** be placed as early as possible, but not later than **6.30am Wednesday 1 May** to guarantee supply until system closure
- **All deliveries after Wednesday 8 May** will be assessed individually; Murray Irrigation cannot guarantee supply after Wednesday 8 May
- With the cut-off date in mind, all on-farm dams should be filled to accommodate stock and domestic requirements.

Key dates

Monday 11 March 2019

Levels will be lowered where there is no irrigation or stock and domestic demand.

Wednesday 1 May 2019 – 6.30am

Deadline for orders if they are to be guaranteed.

Wednesday 8 May 2019

Mulwala Canal and Wakool Canal offtakes will close. Major lateral offtakes closed. Accredited escapes opened at maximum rates allowed by WaterNSW.

Wednesday 24 July 2019

Mulwala Canal and Wakool Canal offtakes opened to commence filling system.

Thursday 15 August 2019

Water deliveries return to normal for all customers.

For more details on system closure, contact Customer Support on 1300 138 265.

Management planning underway

The head of the River Management Division for the MDBA, Andrew Reynolds, said in a recent release that with the promise of drier than usual conditions and lower availability of water, they are focusing on conserving use, especially in Lake Dartmouth which holds one third of the Basin's water. Read more [here](#).

Dol-Water releases and updates

Click these links to find [advice from new Snowy Advisory Committee on water flows](#) and a positive report on the [review into the NSW Water Reform Action plan](#).

Drought Relief Family Fun Day

The Deniliquin Show Society is holding a *Family Fun Day* in support of the local farming community. The event will feature guest speakers, stalls, live music and more. It will be at Deniliquin's Memorial Park on Saturday 16 March. Read more [here](#).

Ag Technology Tour

Southern Growers is advertising an opportunity to tour Moree and Goondiwindi, looking at how technology is used in various agricultural businesses. The tour leaves from Griffith at 6.00am Tuesday 19 March and continues until 7.30pm Thursday 21 March. To access more details, [click here](#).

River Reach newsletter

The MDBA has released a new monthly newsletter. The publication covers current conditions of the Murray-Darling Basin and any emergent issues, actions or releases by the MDBA. This month, the MDBA looks into climate change and its impact on the Basin, a calendar summary of important dates in March and a section on the Authority's efforts to protect native fish. You can read it [here](#) and subscribe directly [here](#).

Shop for MILCast products online

MILCast staff are passionate about providing tailored customer support. For assistance or advice on the best options, call the MILCast team on 03 5888 3051 or use the [MILCast website](#) to research products.

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 0%
Water resource distribution 10%
(issued against Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and deliveries

(12/03/19)

YTD deliveries..... 422 GL
Weekly deliveries 4,977 ML
Weekly crop usage.. summer crops (22%)
On-farm balance 97,088 ML
WE in customer accounts..... 830,799 WE
Vol. % remaining 12%

Channel flows today

Wakool Offtake..... 133 ML
Mulwala Offtake 1,197 ML
Billabong Escape..... 100 ML
Edward River Escape..... 0 ML
Perricoota Escape 90 ML
Wakool River Escape 0 ML

Water trade data

Net trade week 347 ML
Net trade YTD 73,210 ML

Water exchange data

(05/01/19 – 11/03/19)

Internal listings (No. & ML).....14; 884 ML
External listings (No. & ML).....1; 166ML
Int. purchases (No. & ML).....29; 1,280ML
Ext. purchases (No.& ML).....0; 0ML

Water for sale (12/03/19).....4,098ML
Weighted average sale price.....\$472.36
Price range\$479 - \$800
Buy offer range.....\$430 - \$315

Rainfall and evaporation

04/02/19 – 11/03/19 Rain Evap
Finley 0mm 61.9mm
Tullakool..... 0mm 60.8mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Dartmouth.....2,446 GL.....63 %
Hume.....755 GL.....25 %
Lake Victoria.....296 GL.....44 %
Menindee Lakes25 GL.....1 %
Total Storage.....3,522 GL.....38 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Murray @ Doctors Point 13,159 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 8,814 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy Bridge..... 1,228 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 595 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy.....3 ML/d
Flow to SA..... 8,881 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.