

# Talking Water

Tuesday 5 February 2013



Murray Irrigation

## Customer meetings next week

Murray Irrigation will be holding several customer meetings **next week**. Topics to be discussed include: Water operations and water availability update, Murray-Darling Basin Plan, PIOP and Pilot rollout, Fees and Prices Policy review, levels of irrigation service and environment policies review. The Chairman and General Manager will attend each meeting and customers are encouraged to attend. These meetings are an important opportunity for discussion between Murray Irrigation and its customers.

Dates, times and venues are as follows:

- Monday 11 February at the **Noorong Hall** from 9.00am to 11.00am.
- Tuesday 12 February at the **Bunnaloo Community Hall** from 9.00am to 11.00am.
- Wednesday 13 February at the **Pretty Pine Recreation Reserve** from 9.00am to 11.00am.
- Thursday 14 February at the **Blighty Recreation Reserve** from 9.00am to 11.00am.
- Friday 15 February at the **Finley RS Club** from 11.00am to 1.00pm (lunch provided).

For more information, call reception on T. 03 5898 3300.

## External trade

Customers who are relying on external allocation (ML) trades, or intending to purchase water (ML) externally, are reminded to allow up to five days for trades to be processed. This is particularly the case where water is needed to continue irrigating. State Water is presently experiencing high demand for external trades and this may cause delays.

To avoid being shut off and facing a four-day wait for water, customers should make arrangements to have water in their accounts. For more information, call reception on T. 03 5898 3300.

## Progressive target rice water use figures

The target rice water use figure for the season is calculated based on the crop irrigation requirement (from October to February inclusive) plus an additional allowance of 4ML/ha for soil profile wetting and drainage.

The progressive target rice water use figures from 1 October 2012 to 31 January 2013 (including the 4ML/ha allowance) are:

- 14.6ML/ha for E, Q and M landholdings east of the Edward River; and

- 15.9ML/ha for D, W and T landholdings west of the Edward River.

The rice water usage for each landholding is available via the 'Customer Login' section of Murray Irrigation's website:

[www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au). For further details, contact reception on T. 03 5898 3300.

## Climatic adjustment for TFWB limit

In a year of high plant evapotranspiration, the Total Farm Water Balance (TFWB) Policy allows for a climatic adjustment of the total farm water use limit on each landholding. The total farm water use limit on each landholding will be increased by a minimum of seven percent for 2012/13 based on the climatic data from 1 August 2012 to 31 January 2013. The total farm water balance limit information is available via the 'Customer Login' section of Murray Irrigation's website. Please note the limits on the website have not been increased by seven percent. For further information, contact reception on T. 03 5898 3300.

## Review of Environment Policies

Murray Irrigation is seeking customer feedback regarding the integration of the Total Farm Water Balance Policy, Rice Growing Policy and Stormwater Disposal Policy into a single Environment Policy. These three policies aim to manage the impact of our customers' water use on local and downstream environments.

Murray Irrigation's Environment Policy is intended to deliver our commitment to achieve a balance between agricultural production and environmental sustainability. The proposed policy will provide customers with clearer direction; whilst maintaining the principles underlying the current policies. More information on the proposed Environment Policy and details on how to provide feedback are available via the 'Latest news' section of our website: [www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au). More information will also be available at next week's customer meetings.

## RGA branch meetings

The Ricegrowers' Association of Australia (RGA) half-yearly branch meetings are being held this week. The Deniliquin/Victorian Branch Meeting is being held at the Pretty Pine Hall from 10.00am today, while the Berrigun Branch Meeting is to be held at the Finley RS Club from 7.00pm tonight. For full details, call the RGA Office on T. 02 6953 0433.

**Anthony Couroupis**  
General Manager

## Announced allocation

Class C General Security .....	100 %
Class B High Security .....	100 %
Class A Town Water .....	100 %
Water Efficiency Allocation .....	7 %

## Water availability & usage

(05/02/13)	
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements .....	41%
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)	
On-Farm Balance .....	371 GL
On-Farm Usage .....	915 GL
Comprising:	
On-Allocation Usage .....	836 GL
Off-Allocation Usage .....	79 GL

## Water exchange

8.30am today	
Water for Sale .....	3,019 ML
Price Range .....	\$70 - \$95
Buy Offer .....	\$48
Last 10 Sales .....	751 ML
Price Range .....	\$70

**To buy water call 1300 781 431**

## Channel flows

Today	
Mulwala Canal .....	7,350 ML/day
Capacity .....	10,000 ML/day
Wakool Canal .....	1,500 ML/day
Capacity .....	2,350 ML/day
Total Escape Flows .....	1,500 ML/day

## Rainfall & evaporation

22/01/13 – 05/02/13 .....	Rain .....	Evap .....
Finley .....	0.0mm	133.0mm
Tullakool .....	0.0mm	138.5mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)		
Dartmouth .....	3,765 GL .....	98 %
Hume .....	1,798 GL .....	60 %
Lake Victoria .....	380 GL .....	56 %
Menindee Lakes .....	1,051 GL .....	61 %
Active Storage .....	6,994 GL .....	75 %

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)	
Murray @ Jingellic .....	1,870 ML/d
Mitta Mitta @ Tallandoon .....	6,692 ML/d
Murray @ Doctors Point .....	17,202 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir .....	9,611 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge .....	865 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald .....	381 ML/d
Darling @ Wilcannia .....	156 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy .....	3,513 ML/d
Flow to SA .....	9,582 ML/d
Murray @ Murray Bridge .....	0.69 m
Murray to the Sea .....	2 gates open

**Tune into 'On The Land' every  
Tuesday from 6.45am on 1521  
2QN.**