

# Talking Water

Wednesday 3 April 2013



Murray Irrigation

## End of season closure update

Murray Irrigation is currently evaluating options for the date for the end of season closure of our Mulwala and Wakool Canal offtakes. No date for closure of the offtakes has been set. The March Chairman's report did flag the potential for an earlier closure than last year (Monday 14 May 2012) and requested customers consider planning for a relatively early end to the season and advised that further detail would be provided in April.

Murray Irrigation is aware that conditions remain dry and that some customers are looking to continue to have access to irrigation water into May. We will provide more information regarding end of season arrangements in next week's *Talking Water*.

## Water allocation outlook for 2013/14

The NSW Office of Water (NOW) last week released its first NSW Murray and Lower Darling water allocation outlook for 2013/14. The NOW information is based on an assessment of water available to NSW at the end of February plus 'worst case' inflows for the remainder of this water year and 2013/14. Indicative allocations provided by NOW for 1 July 2013 are:

- Commencing NSW Murray general security allocation of approximately 30 percent of entitlement, assuming average carryover of 20 to 25 percent from 2012/13 to 2013/14.
- Full allocations are expected for town water and domestic and stock access licences.
- High security access licences are expected to receive 97 percent of entitlement.
- Sufficient conveyance allocation to deliver carryover and starting general security announced allocation.

The full NOW allocation outlook for 2013/14 is available under 'Latest News', 'Water Resources Updates' on Murray Irrigation's website: [www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au).

## Annual trade

The NSW Office of Water (NOW) also announced that interstate allocation trade from the NSW Murray and Lower Darling Valleys will cease on **Tuesday 30 April 2013**. This is necessary as late trades (May-June) into South Australia reduce water availability to NSW general security users in the following year, under the rules of the MDB Agreement.

Allocation trade within the NSW Murray and Lower Darling will close on **Friday 31 May 2013**. All allocation trade will resume on Monday 1 July 2013.

These dates apply to trades into and from Murray Irrigation's licence. Murray Irrigation will soon announce in *Talking Water* our internal deadline for external allocation trades to be finalised to meet NOW's deadlines.

For more information, see the 'Water Resources Updates' section under 'Latest News' on Murray Irrigation's website: [www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au).

## Third quarter accounts

Murray Irrigation's third quarter account will be based on meter readings taken on Monday 8 April. Customers have until **5.00pm Friday 12 April** to transfer delivery entitlements in order to offset the Casual Usage Fee (which applies where water use is greater than 120 percent of delivery entitlements on a landholding or consolidated account).

Delivery entitlements can be bought and sold from the Murray Irrigation Exchange. There are more than enough surplus delivery entitlements owned by customers to meet our expected deliveries.

Customers with delivery entitlements surplus to their requirements are encouraged to list delivery entitlements for sale. Murray Irrigation has been contacting customers with surplus delivery entitlements encouraging them to do so.

Details of the volume of water used and whether your landholding or consolidated account requires delivery entitlements to be transferred to offset the Casual Usage Fee is available from the 'Customer Login' section of our website: [www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au).

For further information contact reception on T. 03 5898 3300.

## Natural Disaster declaration

The Federal and NSW governments last week announced financial assistance for those affected by severe storms and tornados on Thursday 21 March in the Corowa and Berrigan local government areas. The announcement triggers a number of disaster assistance schemes to help with the cost of storm relief and recovery.

For full details, see the 'Current activities' section of Murray Irrigation's website: [www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au).

**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

(03/04/13)	
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements .....	22%
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)	
On-Farm Balance .....	205 GL
On-Farm Usage .....	1,130 GL
Comprising:	
On-Allocation Usage .....	1,050 GL
Off-Allocation Usage .....	79 GL

## Water exchange

8.30am today	
Water for Sale .....	4,114 ML
Price Range .....	\$60 - \$95
Buy Offer .....	\$37
Last 10 Sales .....	511 ML
Price Range .....	\$56 - \$60
<b>To buy water call 1300 781 431</b>	

## Channel flows

Today	
Mulwala Canal .....	3,400 ML/day
Capacity .....	10,000 ML/day
Wakool Canal .....	671 ML/day
Capacity .....	2,350 ML/day
Total Escape Flows .....	600 ML/day

## Rainfall & evaporation

20/03/13 – 03/04/13 .....	Rain .....	Evap .....
Finley .....	24.6mm .....	66.2mm
Tullakool .....	6.2mm .....	71.5mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)		
Dartmouth .....	3,618 GL .....	94 %
Hume .....	1,471 GL .....	49 %
Lake Victoria .....	200 GL .....	30 %
Menindee Lakes .....	995 GL .....	57 %
Active Storage .....	6,284 GL .....	68 %

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)	
Murray @ Jingellic .....	5,928 ML/d
Mitta Mitta @ Tallandoo .....	3,024 ML/d
Murray @ Doctors Point .....	9,745 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir .....	7,032 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge .....	1,171 ML/d
M'Bigdee d/s Balranald .....	570 ML/d
Darling @ Wilcannia .....	13,447 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy .....	3,810 ML/d
Flow to SA .....	7,728 ML/d
Murray @ Murray Bridge .....	0.72 m
Murray to the Sea .....	1 gate open

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