



Thursday, 1 August 2013

Increases to Murray and Murrumbidgee water allocations

NSW Water Commissioner, David Harriss, today announced increased allocations for general security water users in the NSW Murray and Murrumbidgee Valleys.

“Recent good rainfall in the upper parts of both the Murray and Murrumbidgee catchments means that there is now sufficient water available to increase general security allocations in the NSW Murray Valley by 8 percent, which brings it to 46 percent of entitlement,” Mr Harriss said.

“The general security allocation in the Murrumbidgee Valley will increase by 7 percent, which now provides 25 percent of entitlement.”

Mr Harriss said that good rainfall in July has seen increased flows in all the upper Murray tributaries above long-term average daily inflows.

“This has enabled supplementary access to be made available in the NSW Murray for the first time this year, and it is expected to continue for some time.”

Mr Harriss said that Hume and Dartmouth storages are now at 78 percent and 96 percent of capacity respectively. This is an increase of 17 percent and 2 percent respectively since 1 July.

“Volumes in Menindee Lakes storages are also increasing,” said Mr Harriss.

Burrinjuck Dam is at 46 percent of capacity and Blowering Dam is at 81 percent of capacity. This is an increase of approximately 13 percent for each dam since 1 July.

The Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting a high likelihood of at least median rainfall conditions in the period August to October 2013.

Additional information on Available Water Determinations can be found on the NSW Office of Water’s website at - www.water.nsw.gov.au

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