

# TalkingWater

Tuesday 22 October 2013



Murray Irrigation

## Constraints Management Strategy

Murray Irrigation and other local stakeholders attended meetings with the Murray-Darling Basin Authority last week to discuss the draft Constraints Management Strategy (CMS). Murray Irrigation has significant concerns with proposals in the draft CMS to consider changing some of the operational and management rules of the Murray-Darling system. The rules define our entitlements and any changes risk changing the fundamental characteristics of those entitlements.

NSW Water Commissioner David Harriss attended one of the meetings and said the NSW Government would not support any changes to rules that would undermine other water holders' rights and reliability. This is a position supported by Murray Irrigation.

Submissions on the draft CMS are being accepted by the MDBA until 30 October. Details can be found at [www.mdba.gov.au](http://www.mdba.gov.au).

## Murray Water Exchange

The Murray Water Exchange is now open for business for South Australian irrigators with the aim to attract more water onto our Exchange. The Murray Water Exchange provides a streamlined process that will reduce processing times for the transfer of water allocation from South Australia. If successful, this approach will likely be expanded into other valleys and regions.

The Murray Water Exchange will provide benefits to Murray Irrigation customers through access to increased volumes of water and to South Australian water holders by providing them with a fast, cost efficient and transparent market place to sell surplus water allocation. Murray Water Exchange advertising commenced in South Australia last week. More information can be found at: [www.murraywaterexchange.com.au](http://www.murraywaterexchange.com.au).

## Annual General Meeting

The notice of meeting and proxy form for Murray Irrigation's Annual General Meeting will be posted to shareholders by the end of this week. Murray Irrigation's Annual Report will be available on our website from Friday 25 October and will be posted to shareholders that have elected to receive a copy with the notice of meeting and proxy form.

Murray Irrigation's 2013 Annual General Meeting will be held at the Deniliquin RSL Club at 10.30am on Thursday 21 November. For more information, contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

## Quarterly invoices

First quarter tax invoices are being sent to customers from Wednesday 30 October and are for the quarter ending 30 September 2013. Payment will be due by 5.00pm Friday 29 November. Customers are reminded that to be eligible for the 10 percent discount, all outstanding accounts must be paid. For more details contact Finance via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

## Managing water allocation accounts

Murray Irrigation customers will soon have more choices in how they manage their water allocation accounts. Fact sheets that describe these options are available via the 'Customer information' section of Murray Irrigation's website: [www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au).

Customers wishing to authorise another person to act on their behalf will need to complete 'Form 15'. Customers wishing to merge or consolidate water accounts will need to complete 'Form 34'. Both forms are available from the 'Customers' then 'General forms' section of our website.

Murray Irrigation anticipates establishment of the new authorities and merged or consolidated water accounts will be available from 1 November. Murray Irrigation encourages customers interested in these choices to discuss their options available with our Water Trade staff via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

## River flows summary

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) reports that Hume Reservoir releases averaged 20,300ML/day last week and are expected to remain at around 20,000ML/day this week. At Yarrowonga Weir, the release has been steady at 18,000 ML/day for nearly two weeks. This flow has been reduced gradually to 15,000ML/day. A release of about 15,000 ML/day from Yarrowonga is expected to be maintained until late November. These flows include environmental water for the benefit of the Barmah-Millewa Forest.

Anthony Couroupis, General Manager

## Announced allocation

Class C General Security .....	100 %
Class B High Security.....	100 %
Class A Town Water.....	100 %
Water Efficiency Allocation .....	0 %

## Water availability and usage

(22/10/13)

Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements.....	80 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)	
On-Farm Balance.....	692 GL
On-Farm Usage .....	301 GL
Comprising:	
On-Allocation Usage .....	213 GL
Off-Allocation Usage .....	88 GL

## Water exchange

8.30am today

Water for Sale .....	7,076 ML
Price Range .....	\$69 - \$150
Buy Offer.....	\$62
Last 10 Sales .....	866 ML
Price Range .....	\$65 - \$67

To buy water call 1300 781 431

## Channel flows

Today

Mulwala Canal.....	5,500 ML/day
Capacity .....	10,000 ML/day
Wakool Canal.....	1,640 ML/day
Capacity .....	2,350 ML/day
Total Escape Flows .....	50 ML/day

## Rainfall and evaporation

15/10/13 – 22/10/13 .....	Rain .....	Evap
Finley .....	1.2mm	92.2mm
Tullakool.....	1.2mm	100.2mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Dartmouth.....	3,818 GL.....	99 %
Hume.....	2,785 GL.....	93 %
Lake Victoria.....	646 GL.....	95 %
Menindee Lakes .....	1,090 GL.....	63 %
Active Storage.....	8,339 GL.....	90 %

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Murray @ Jingellic .....	5,368 ML/d
Mitta Mitta @ Tallandoon.....	2,088 ML/d
Murray @ Doctors Point .....	19,394 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir .....	15,098 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge....	1,402 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald.....	1,132 ML/d
Darling @ Wilcannia.....	534 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy .....	161 ML/d
Flow to SA.....	16,155 ML/d
Murray @ Murray Bridge .....	0.98 m
Murray to the Sea .....	90 gates open

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