

Talking Water

Tuesday 11 February 2014



Murray Irrigation

Customer meetings

Murray Irrigation will host a series of customer meetings at the end of this month. Topics to be discussed include: Water availability update; PIOP delivery; On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program; new Strategic Plan; Board and Management priorities for 2014; Water Exchange and Southern Riverina Irrigators (SRI) reform. A Director and the 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. A customer feedback session will be held following the presentations. Dates, times and venues are as follows:

- **Tuesday 25 February:** 10.30am to 12.30pm at Moulamein Bowling Club; 5.30pm to 7.30pm at Wakool District Services Memorial Club.
- **Wednesday 26 February:** 10.30am to 12.30pm at the Bunnaloo Recreation Reserve; 5.30pm to 7.30pm at Deniliquin Golf Club.
- **Thursday 27 February:** 10.30am to 12.30pm Finley RS Club; 2.00pm to 4.00pm at Barooga Sports Club.
- **Friday 28 February:** 10.30am to 12.30pm at the Mayrung Hall.

For more information, please call reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Extending operating orders

Customers are reminded to monitor finish dates on all operating orders and extend their finish date if required. Orders will be finished on the date provided in *Water Ordering* and a potential four-day wait can occur for new orders.

Quarterly accounts

Murray Irrigation second quarter accounts for 2013/14 are due by 5.00pm Friday 28 February. To be eligible for the 10 percent discount, all accounts must be paid by this date. For more information, call our Finance team via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council meeting

The Ministerial Council held an extraordinary meeting last Friday 7 February to consider progress on a review of cost sharing arrangements and a review

of the cost and efficiency of River Murray operations.

The primary items of business were discussion on arrangements for river management, asset maintenance and programs that are jointly funded by the States and the Commonwealth. The cost sharing review is expected to be completed by April.

The outcomes from these reviews are important to Murray Irrigation and its customers from both service and cost of supply reasons. A copy of the communicate is available at <http://www.mdba.gov.au/media-pubs/lgf-communicues/mdb-water-ministers-meet-in-sydney>.

Local Land Services elections

The inaugural Local Land Services (LLS) Board member elections have been announced with voting to close at 5.00pm on Wednesday 12 March. Only persons on the LLS electoral roll for the region will be eligible to vote. Ratepayers must enrol by **5.00pm Monday 17 February** to be eligible to vote.

Persons who have been on the electoral rolls of Livestock Health and Pest Authorities **will not** have their names automatically transferred to the electoral roll of LLS. For more information on how to enrol, visit: www.murray.lls.nsw.gov.au.

January climate summary

2014 had a hot and dry start, with two significant heatwaves during the first part of January and further hot record conditions reported by the Bureau of Meteorology towards the end of the month.

Overall rainfall was 60 percent below the long-term mean and the 21st driest out of 115 years of records.

Inflows to the River Murray System receded during January with the monthly total (excluding Snowy and Darling and environmental inflows) decreasing to an estimate of around 100GL. The total was slightly higher than January last year when inflows were around 75GL.

Anthony Couroupis,
General Manager

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 100 %
Water Efficiency Allocation 8 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(11/02/14)

Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 37 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 331 GL
On-Farm Usage 720 GL
(Including Off-Allocation Usage of .. 88 GL)

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale 13,199 ML
Price Range \$79 - \$200
Buy Offer..... \$77
Last 10 Sales 557 ML
Price Range \$75 - \$80
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

04/02/14 – 10/02/14

Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 45; 5,280ML
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 2; 661ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 22; 3,045ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 3; 2,896ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade.. -6,255ML (week) +16,422ML (YTD)

Crop weekly water use

ML used on farm..... 35GL (74% on rice)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	6,300	10,000
Wakool Canal	1,430	2,350
Escape flows	1,633	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

04/02/14 – 11/02/14 Rain Evap
Finley 0.0mm 94.4mm
Tullakool..... 0.0mm 99.0mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth.....3,538 GL.....92 %
Hume.....1,613 GL.....54 %
Lake Victoria..... 463 GL.....68 %
Menindee Lakes514 GL.....30 %
Active Storage.....6,128 GL.....66 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Doctors Point 17,461 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 10,029 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge...2,886 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 499 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy.....1,118 ML/d
Flow to SA..... 8,157 ML/d
Murray to the Sea 1 gate open

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