

# Talking Water

Tuesday 18 March 2014



Murray Irrigation

## Water allocation outlook for 2014/15

The NSW Office of Water (NOW) released its first 2014/15 NSW Murray water allocation outlook 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 2014/15.

Indicative allocations for 1 July 2014 are:

- Opening general security allocation will be zero (0) percent of entitlement if dry conditions continue.
- Only 80GL conveyance allocation under drought inflow conditions to accrue as conditions improve.
- Full carryover deliverable up to 50 percent of entitlements.
- Full allocations for town water and domestic and stock access licences.
- High Security allocation of 97 percent. Under the Water Sharing Plan, the NSW share of the Barmah-Millewa Forest water account may be borrowed to provide for general security allocation where general security plus carryover is less than 30 percent of entitlements.

NOW is basing its calculations on estimates of general security carryover from this year to next at 30 percent of entitlement. The full NOW allocation outlook for 2014/15 is available under 'Water Resources Updates' on Murray Irrigation's homepage:  
[www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au).

## Annual trade

The NSW Office of Water (NOW) announced closing dates for allocation trade. Interstate allocation trade closes on Wednesday 30 April. Intervalley trade in the Murrumbidgee Valley has been extended to the end of May 2014 in line with the Murray Valley. All allocation trade will resume on Tuesday 1 July 2014.

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 'Water Resources Updates' on Murray Irrigation's homepage:  
[www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au).

## Changes to Water Ordering

A small number of changes will be made to online and smartphone *Water Ordering* this week. These changes will be effective from 10.00am on Wednesday 19 March. To implement these changes, Rubicon will need to update the *Water Ordering* system

which may cause a temporary interruption to service at this time.

The changes are:

- Water allocation report - The 'estimated balance today' is now included in the water allocation report available from *Water Ordering*. This volume is the estimated volume remaining in the account today i.e. volume remaining today based on volume ordered for delivery since the last meter reading up to and including the current day.
- For online water ordering and smartphone water ordering, customers have increased options when placing their order. Customers can select either a duration in days or hours or they can select a finish date. In the case of online orders, a 'pick date/time' box has also been inserted to simplify selecting a finish date.
- The home page now includes unsatisfied orders (if any) in the list of orders along with operating and pending orders.

Murray Irrigation continues to identify improvements to be made to the *Water Ordering* system. The two, most frequently identified issues at the recent round of customer meetings were ease to access 'allocation volume available in the water allocation account today' and being able to change crop type for an operating order. Murray Irrigation is seeking advice from Rubicon on the requirements and potential timing of these possible improvements.

## LLS election results announced

The results of the Local Land Services (LLS) elections were announced last week. Murray Irrigation congratulates Graham Allitt, Kenneth Crossley and Terry Gorman on their election to the Murray LLS Board.

## 'In the Pits' field days

The Ricegrowers' Association is presenting two field days on soil analysis this Friday 21 March as part of its Environmental Champions Program in collaboration with the Murray LLS. Details are as follows:

- Mayrunga, 9.00am - 12.30pm at Wattenhall's 'Sunny Pines'.
- Lindifferon Lane, 1.30pm to 5.00pm at Hermiston's 'East Wandook'.

Contact Neil Bull on M. 0428 603 557, or E. [nbull@rga.org.au](mailto:nbull@rga.org.au).

Anthony Couroupis, General Manager

## Announced allocation

Class C General Security ..... 100 %  
Water Efficiency Allocation ..... 9 %  
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

## Water availability and usage

(18/03/14)

Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 29 %  
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)  
On-Farm Balance..... 256 GL  
On-Farm Usage ..... 838 GL  
(Including Off-Allocation Usage of .. 88 GL)

## Water exchange

8.30am today

Water for Sale ..... 9,692 ML  
Price Range ..... \$70 - \$149  
Buy Offer..... \$63  
Last 10 Sales ..... 910 ML  
Price Range ..... \$63 - \$70

To buy water call 1300 781 431

## Water use and trade data

11/03/14 - 17/03/14

### Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 43; 3,381ML  
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 2; 1,687ML  
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 20; 1,982ML  
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 4; 3,086ML

### Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade.... +399ML (week) +13,886ML (YTD)

### Crop weekly water use

ML used on farm..... 30GL (49% on annual pasture)

## Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	4,850	10,000
Wakool Canal	1,000	2,350
Escape flows	470	3,250

## Rainfall and evaporation

11/03/14 - 18/03/14 ..... Rain ..... Evap  
Finley ..... 1.5mm ..... 45.1mm  
Tullakool..... 1.2mm ..... 44.1mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Dartmouth.....3,472 GL.....90 %  
Hume.....1,193 GL.....40 %  
Lake Victoria.....465 GL.....69 %  
Menindee Lakes .....404 GL.....23 %  
Active Storage.....5,534 GL.....60 %

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Murray @ Doctors Point ..... 15,169 ML/d  
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir ..... 7,986 ML/d  
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ..... 973 ML/d  
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 648 ML/d  
Darling @ Burtundy..... 303 ML/d  
Flow to SA..... 6,079 ML/d  
Murray to the Sea ..... N/A

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