

Talking Water

Wednesday 23 April 2014



Murray Irrigation

End of irrigation season planning

Murray Irrigation currently intends closing its Mulwala and Wakool Canal offtakes at 8.00am on Monday 12 May. Customers intending to irrigate before, on or after Monday 12 May should place orders by **5.00pm next Wednesday 30 April**. All Murray Irrigation customers are asked to consider their winter stock and domestic requirements and to make arrangements to fill dams where required before the offtakes are closed.

Please note that all water deliveries on or after Monday 12 May will be opportunistic only. Our assessment of demand for irrigation in early May will be based on orders placed and will be used to determine the exact offtake closure date(s).

OFIEP Round Four workshops

Murray Irrigation is hosting a series of Round Four On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program (OFIEP) workshops next week. The workshops will explain the requirements for customers' Stage Two Applications.

Dates and venues are as follows, with each workshop starting at 10.00am and finishing by 1.00pm:

- Wednesday 30 April, Wakool Services Club;
- Thursday 1 May, Deniliquin Coach House Hotel;
- Friday 2 May, Finley Bowling Club.

Information will be presented at the workshops outlining the requirements of the next stage and the deadlines to meet. Information packs will be provided to applicants. It is important that applicants attend these workshops. For more information contact OFIEP Administration Officer, Aimee Snowden, via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

PIIOP 2014 winter works

Murray Irrigation is currently preparing for the PIIOP 2014 winter construction works which will include regulator and outlet installations throughout Divisions 3, 8 and 9, as well as completion of works in Division 16. PIIOP staff will soon host site inspections in each of these divisions for prospective tenderers, with the intention of hosting a small bus group to minimise multiple site visits and potential access track damage. These inspections are scheduled for next week, commencing Tuesday 29 April.

Our PIIOP team is currently making contact with customers who are included in the scope of works, particularly regarding site access and identifying those landholdings that may have more difficult access to co-ordinate and agree the best access points. Murray Irrigation will write to all customers where work is planned for this year's PIIOP winter works.

If you have any questions regarding PIIOP construction works, please contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Interstate annual trade closure

Interstate allocation trade to or from South Australia or Victoria will cease at the end of April. Forms must be submitted to Murray Irrigation by **5.00pm next Tuesday 29 April**.

Water efficiency allocation

The Board last week agreed to make a water efficiency allocation of two percent of permanent delivery entitlements, excluding Class A (Town Water Supply) and domestic supply agreement customers. This announcement takes the water efficiency allocation to 11 percent or over 115,000ML. This efficiency allocation is possible because of conveyance savings from operational efficiencies and forecast lower autumn deliveries as a result of the recent rainfall event.

Local Engagement Officer

The Commonwealth Environmental Water Office is seeking a local engagement officer for Deniliquin. The officer will work closely with all levels of government as well as the local community and businesses. The officer will also help identify opportunities to use Commonwealth environmental water to its best effect, locally and Basin-wide. Applications close on Monday 5 May and further information is available at: www.environment.gov.au/topics/water/commonwealth-environmental-water-office/local-engagement.

ANZAC Day office closures

All Murray Irrigation offices will be closed this Friday 25 April for the ANZAC Day public holiday. Murray Irrigation's Water Exchange telephone and internet services will remain open. Water deliveries are not affected, with Channel Attendants and Regional Planners working as normal.

Anthony Couroupis, General Manager

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 100%
Water Efficiency Allocation 11 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(23/04/14)

Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 25 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 224 GL
On-Farm Usage 911 GL
(Including Off-Allocation Usage of ..88 GL)

Water exchange

8.30am today

Water for Sale 9,020 ML
Price Range \$50 - \$149
Buy Offer..... \$40
Yesterday's Sales..... 458 ML
Price Range \$50 - \$58

To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

15/04/14 – 22/04/14

Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 16; 3,318ML
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 4; 1,248ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 29; 4,566ML
External sellers (No. & ML).... N/A; N/A

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade -3,158ML (week) +8,405ML (YTD)

Crop weekly water use

ML used on farm..... 3GL (43% on winter crops)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	950	10,000
Wakool Canal	250	2,350
Escape flows	100	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

16/04/14 – 22/04/14 Rain Evap
Finley 0.0mm 18.9mm
Tullakool..... 0.4mm 12.2mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Dartmouth.....3,424 GL.....89 %
Hume.....1,136 GL.....38 %
Lake Victoria.....405 GL.....60 %
Menindee Lakes386 GL.....22 %
Active Storage.....5,351 GL.....58 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Murray @ Doctors Point 1,132 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 1,835 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ... 1,057 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 201 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy.....244 ML/d
Flow to SA..... 6,518 ML/d
Murray to the Sea 8 gates open

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