

Talking Water

Tuesday 30 September 2014



Murray Irrigation

Casual Usage Fee

The first quarter account for 2014/15 will be based on meter readings taken up to yesterday, Monday 29 September. Customers have until **5.00pm Tuesday 7 October** to transfer delivery entitlements in order to offset the Casual Usage Fee (which applies where water use is greater than 120 percent of delivery entitlements on a landholding or consolidated account). SMS alerts have been sent to those customers at risk of incurring the Casual Usage Fee. If in doubt about whether you need additional delivery entitlements to avoid paying the Casual Usage Fee, please contact Water Trade staff via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program

Murray Irrigation is close to finalising arrangements for Round Four of the Commonwealth On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program. Our Project Officers have commenced contacting Round Four participants to discuss the project completion dates and their need for progress or milestone payments. This information is required to assist the company develop details of its Funding Agreement with the Commonwealth. For more information, contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Allocation announcement

The NSW Office of Water's (NOW) next allocation announcement is due tomorrow, Wednesday 1 October. This information will be passed on to customers as soon as possible.

Register for Annual Report

Murray Irrigation's 2014 Annual Report will be mailed to customers (who have registered to receive a copy) on Monday 20 October. If you have not requested a copy of the Annual Report you can do so by contacting reception or completing 'Form 2 – Change of Contact Details' which is available via the 'Customers', then 'Forms' and 'General forms' section of our website: www.murrayirrigation.com.au. The Annual Report will also be available to download via our website. For assistance, contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Murray Irrigation's Annual General Meeting will be held from 10.30am on Thursday 20 November at the Deniliquin Rams Clubrooms, Hardinge St Oval in Deniliquin.

Tracking 'bunyip birds'

The Ricegrowers' Association of Australia (RGA), in conjunction with Birdlife Australia and Riverina Local Land Services, are raising funds to extend the Bitterns in Rice Project. The aim is to conduct satellite tracking of this endangered species to discover where they go after rice is harvested. The aim is to raise \$50,000 through crowd funding by 27 October 2014. Pledges are made, but if the target is not met, the money is not collected. To find out more, or to make a donation, visit www.pozible.com/bunyipbirds.

Private property wetlands watering

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) is conducting a voluntary environmental watering program in the Murray Irrigation area. The project provides adaptive environmental water to help improve and maintain biodiversity values of wetlands located on private properties. For further information, contact OEH officer Emma Wilson on M. 0418 962 697.

Waterfowl Identification Test

The NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) is conducting a Waterfowl Identification Test (WIT) from 4.00pm at the Wakool Services Club this Thursday 2 October. Anyone who wants to harvest ducks on rice this year will need to have passed the WIT. To register, visit: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/hunting or call the Game Licensing Unit Tocumwal Office on T. 03 5874 2983. The Wakool Services Club bistro will be open for meals following Thursday's session.

Public holiday arrangements

All Murray Irrigation offices will be closed on Monday 6 October for the NSW Labour Day public holiday. Murray Irrigation offices will reopen at 8.30am on Tuesday 7 October. The Water Exchange telephone and internet services will remain open and water deliveries are not affected, with Channel Attendants and Regional Planning staff working as normal. The 'On the Land' radio program will be on Wednesday next week. *Talking Water* will also be distributed on Wednesday. For more information, contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Jennifer McLeod
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 28 %
Water Efficiency Allocation 0 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(30/09/14)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 43 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 365 GL
On-Farm Usage 114 GL
(Including Off-Allocation usage of 3 GL)

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale 4,770 ML
Price Range \$110 - \$150
Buy Offer..... \$104
Yesterday's Sales..... 476 ML
Price Range \$105 - \$108
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

23/09/14 – 29/09/14
Murray Water Exchange activity
Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 19; 3,181ML
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 1; 100ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 20; 2,899ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 1; 382ML
Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)
Net trade +2,998ML (week).+18,629ML (YTD)
Crop weekly water use
ML used on farm..... 7.6GL (44% on winter crops)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	750	10,000
Wakool Canal	300	2,350
Escape flows	0	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

23/09/14 – 29/09/14 Rain Evap
Finley 26.1mm 31.0mm
Tullakool..... 17.4mm 34.5mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth.....3,650 GL.....95 %
Hume.....2,343 GL.....78 %
Lake Victoria.....N/A.....N/A
Menindee Lakes319 GL.....18 %
Active Storage.....N/A.....N/A

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Doctors Point 11,229 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 10,029 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ...3,492 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 1,317 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy.....67 ML/d
Flow to SA.....N/A
Murray to the SeaN/A

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