

TalkingWater

Tuesday 2 December 2014



Murray Irrigation

No allocation increase

The NSW Office of Water (NOW) made no increase in the NSW Murray general security announced allocation yesterday. As a result, Murray Irrigation's announced allocation remains at 45 percent for general security (Class C) entitlement customers. The next NOW allocation announcement will be on Monday 15 December. A copy of the announcement is available in the 'Water Resources Updates' section of the Murray Irrigation website: www.murrayirrigation.com.au.

PIOP contractor site visits

As part of our PIOP project, Murray Irrigation is currently tendering for the construction of outlets in Divisions 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9. Prospective contractors may undertake site visits over the next fortnight, only where direct road access is available.

There will also be a bus tour for a select sample of sites where access is via landholder property. Murray Irrigation will contact relevant landholders by telephone prior to the visit.

Customers receiving an outlet upgrade in these divisions will soon be sent a notification of works letter. For more information, contact the PIOP team on T. 1300 138 265.

Minimising order wait time

In order to help minimise the wait time for water orders, customers should ensure they place their orders at least four days in advance. 'Pending' water orders can always be cancelled (prior to their scheduled start time). If you lodge an 'unsatisfied' order, there is a chance the date requested will still be approved. Murray Irrigation regional planning staff will contact you to discuss your options.

Customers are encouraged to register for order start/finish alerts via the 'Communications settings' section of their *Water ordering* online login. For more information, contact regional planning staff via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Water Act Review

The Expert Panel reviewing the Water Act 2007 has presented its final report to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment, Senator Simon Birmingham. Under the Act, Senator Birmingham is required to table the report in both Houses of Parliament within 15 sitting days. According to the

Parliamentary sitting calendar, Senator Birmingham must table the report by 4 March 2015, although he may release it before then.

Cockran Creek watering

The NSW Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) environmental watering project in the Cockran Creek has seen a revival of the endangered Southern Bell Frog, and other frog species, in the area. Approximately 200ML of environmental water has been delivered to the site, via Murray Irrigation and private infrastructure. The latest event is part of a long term environmental watering project for the Jimaringle, Cockran and Gwynnes creeks system.

For more information, contact OEH officer Emma Wilson on M. 0418 962 697, or visit: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/media/OEHMedia14112101.htm.

SunRice Chairman resigns

SunRice Chairman Gerry Lawson announced he will resign next month after 29 years on the Board of Directors, serving the last 13 years as Chairman. Mr Lawson's chairmanship spanned the millennium drought and saw two consecutive years of zero water allocations and rice production falling below 20,000 tonnes; yet the company survived and expanded into new international markets. Mr Lawson leaves SunRice in a good position for incoming Chairman, Laurie Arthur, his deputy Noel Graham and their fellow Board members and Murray Irrigation is confident they will ensure its continued success.

Farm discussion day

Rice Extension is holding a farm discussion day at Mark Martin's property 'Cropwell' on Rangemore Road, Deniliquin from 8.30am next Tuesday 9 December. John Fowler from Murray Local Land Services will lead the discussion on mid-season draining. Other rice issues such as water budgeting and delayed permanent water on drill sown crops will also be discussed. Morning tea will be provided. For more information, contact Rice Industry Extension Officer, Troy Mauger on M. 0417 375 168.

Jennifer McLeod
Executive Manager

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 45 %
Water Efficiency Allocation 0 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(02/12/14)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 42 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 355 GL
On-Farm Usage 291 GL
(Including Off-Allocation usage of 3 GL)

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale 4,888 ML
Price Range \$130 - \$172
Buy Offer..... \$115
Yesterday's Sales..... 741 ML
Price Range \$120 - \$130
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

25/11/14 - 01/12/14
Murray Water Exchange activity
Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 17; 1,326ML
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 1; 40ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 23; 1,366ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 0; 0ML
Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)
Net trade +6,068ML (week)..+74,278ML(YTD)
Crop weekly water use
ML used on farm..... 10GL (80% on rice)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	4,161	10,000
Wakool Canal	867	2,350
Escape flows	2,375	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

25/11/14 - 01/12/14 Rain Evap
Finley 0.0mm 60.3mm
Tullakool..... 0.0mm 67.7mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth.....3,382 GL.....88 %
Hume.....1,944 GL.....65 %
Lake Victoria.....546 GL.....81 %
Menindee Lakes236 GL.....14 %
Active Storage.....6,108 GL.....66 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Doctors Point 15,883 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 9,912 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ... 1,088 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 1,413 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy.....87 ML/d
Flow to SA..... 9,485 ML/d
Murray to the Sea 8 gates open

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