

Talking Water

Tuesday 16 December 2014



Murray Irrigation

Christmas operations

All Murray Irrigation offices will be closed from noon Wednesday 24 December, reopening 8.30am Monday 5 January. Further information will be sent to customers via a special *Talking Water* next week.

External transfers over Christmas

State Water will be closed for the Christmas/New Year period from 5.00pm Tuesday 23 December, re-opening on Wednesday 7 January.

Customers wishing to carry out external annual transfers to or from Murray Irrigation over this period should lodge their application with Murray Irrigation no later than 5.00pm Monday 22 December.

For more information, contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Extending an operating order

Customers are reminded that as our daily irrigation demand increases, providing four days' notice for water orders is increasingly important.

If attempting to extend an operating order, and there is no additional capacity available on your channel, the *Water ordering* system will display an 'error message'. If this message is displayed, select 'Abort' which will return you to the home page. Next, click on the order you are trying to extend and then 'Send Message'. Here you can indicate to Murray Irrigation what you require and Regional Planning staff will be in contact with you.

Alternatively, customers can contact reception on T. 1300 138 265 and ask to speak to a Regional Planner, or leave a message if calling outside of business hours. Please remember to leave your name, landholding reference number and contact telephone number, along with a brief description of the issue.

Allocation announcement

The NSW Office of Water announced yesterday a four percent increase in general security entitlements allocation. As a result, Murray Irrigation's announced allocation is now 49 percent for general security (Class C) customers. For more information, see the 'Water Resources Updates' section of our website www.murrayirrigation.com.au, or contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Resource distribution information

Murray Irrigation, in conjunction with the RGA and Murrumbidgee stakeholders have been working with the NSW Office of Water (NOW) to improve the information made available with allocation announcements. NOW included a summary of the resource distribution with the most recent announcement made on 15 December. This information shows that of the 2,050GL water available to the NSW Murray system, 498GL has been carried over from the previous water season, 243GL is for planned environmental water (Barmah-Millewa), 489GL is committed towards towns, stock and domestic, conveyance and high security, while the remaining 820GL is the General Security announced allocation of 49 percent.

It is important to note that any water held by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder retains its characteristics and the volume is included in the appropriate licence categories.

Low spill risk for Victorian Murray

The Victorian Resource Manager declared a low risk of spill for the Murray system on 10 December, meaning water held in spillable accounts is now available for use or trade. The risk of spill relates to water held in spillable accounts and does not refer to downstream flood risks. The risk of spill in the Murray system has now fallen below 10 percent.

Moulamein rice meeting

Rice Extension is hosting an on-farm discussion day from 2.00pm **today** at Peter Kaylock's property 'Narrawa', Maddys Road, Moulamein. The Wakool RGA branch meeting will follow at 4.30pm and conclude with a free barbecue and refreshments at 6.30pm. Contact Rice Industry Extension Officer, Troy Mauger, on M. 0417 375 168.

Precision farming field walk

Rice Extension invites growers to a precision farming field walk and discussion on Wednesday 17 December, commencing at 2.00pm at Michael and Bernadette Agosta's property, 146 Sherwood Lane, Finley. Guest speakers include Andrew Whitlock (Precision Ag), Nathan Pate, Michael Agosta and Greg Sefton (I.K. Caldwell). Contact Rice Industry Extension Officer Troy Mauger on M. 0417 375 168.

Jennifer McLeod
Jennifer McLeod, Executive Manager

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 49 %
Water Efficiency Allocation 0 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(16/12/14)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 41 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 348 GL
On-Farm Usage 322 GL
(Including Off-Allocation usage of 3 GL)

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale 6,495 ML
Price Range \$126 - \$160
Buy Offer..... \$115
Yesterday's Sales..... 294 ML
Price Range \$120 - \$129
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

09/12/14 – 15/12/14
Murray Water Exchange activity
Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 14;
1,633ML
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 0; 0ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 14; 1,620ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 1; 13ML
Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)
Net trade +491ML (week).....+77,956ML(YTD)
Crop weekly water use
ML used on farm..... 15GL (75% on rice)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

| | Actual | Capacity |
|---------------|--------|----------|
| Mulwala Canal | 4,950 | 10,000 |
| Wakool Canal | 790 | 2,350 |
| Escape flows | 2,215 | 3,250 |

Rainfall and evaporation

09/12/14 – 15/12/14 Rain Evap
Finley 0.0mm 59.7mm
Tullakool..... 0.8mm 65.3mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth.....3,316 GL.....86 %
Hume.....1,877 GL.....62 %
Lake Victoria.....554 GL.....82 %
Menindee Lakes208 GL..... 12 %
Active Storage.....5,955 GL.....64 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Doctors Point 21,370 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 10,147 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge975 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 1,508 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy.....44 ML/d
Flow to SA..... 7,959 ML/d
Murray to the Sea 8 gates open

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