

# Talking Water

Tuesday 13 January 2015



Murray Irrigation

## Water ordering reminder

Due to recent rainfall, customers are reminded to place their irrigation orders well in advance to avoid a potential delay in water delivery. A minimum of four days' notice (day one is for orders received before 6.30am) is required in advance to guarantee delivery.

Orders are often delivered in less than four days as a result of other customers finishing, freeing up capacity in our system, but four days' notice is still strongly recommended to avoid disappointment. For more information, contact our Regional Planning staff, via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

## Allocation announcement this week

The NSW Office of Water's (NOW) next allocation announcement is due this Thursday 15 January. This information will be passed on to customers as soon as possible that morning. Murray Irrigation also expects the allocation update to be included in the early morning news updates (6.30am and 7.30am) on ABC Riverina radio.

## OFIEP Round 5

In December 2014, the Australian Government announced up to \$125M for Round 5 of the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program (OFIEP). Murray Irrigation is planning to submit a Delivery Partner application and will be holding a series of customer workshops **this week** to explain the criteria involved in this program. Dates and venues as follows:

- Wakool Services Club - Wednesday 14 January;
- Deniliquin Coach House Hotel - Thursday 15 January;
- Finley Bowling Club - Friday 16 January.

Each workshop will start at 9.30am and finish by 12.00pm. For more information, contact Project Officer Lauren Noonan, via reception, on T. 1300 138 265.

## OFIEP Round 4

The Commonwealth has signed the Funding Agreement for Round 4 of the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program. Infrastructure Works Contracts are being issued to project proponents this week. Proponents should read the cover letter and attached contract carefully and note the contact details of their assigned Project Officer to arrange a contract meeting.

## Swimming in channels

Murray Irrigation wishes to remind the wider community that our irrigation channels are designed to efficiently deliver water and are not safe locations to swim or play. Channel levels and regulator gates can change suddenly, without warning. Submerged objects (e.g. rocks and debris) can be hidden below the surface and can also present dangers to swimmers. To ensure your safety, please avoid swimming in irrigation channels.

## Storage evaporation

The MDBA has reported that Menindee Lakes recorded the highest evaporation volume for December 2014 at approximately 30GL. Although Menindee stored, on average, only six percent of the volume of Dartmouth Dam over the month of December, Menindee is estimated to have lost more than seven times the volume of water through evaporation than Dartmouth (4GL). Hume Dam recorded approximately 14GL of evaporation during December, while Lake Victoria recorded 27GL. This illustrates why water is first conserved in the upper most storages of the River Murray system.

## Barmah Choke trade page

The MDBA has revised the Barmah Choke trade web page to provide an 'at-a-glance' balance of volume available to trade from upstream to downstream of the Choke. This volume is equivalent to the net trade from downstream of the Choke. The page also shows recent trade activity so interested stakeholders can monitor trade across the Choke. The web page is available on the MDBA website: [www.mdba.gov.au/river-data/barmah-choke](http://www.mdba.gov.au/river-data/barmah-choke).

## Young producers day

The Rice Industry, Southern Growers and Nuffield Australia are holding a young producers day this Thursday 15 January. The day will be held from 9.30am to 2.00pm at 'Old Coree' (18km west of Jerilderie on the Conargo Road). Topics to be discussed include productivity in the Australian rice industry and technology in the agricultural industry. To RSVP, contact Antony Vagg on M. 0427 093 166, or Anna Jewell on M. 0409 567 429.

Jennifer McLeod, Executive Manager

## Announced allocation

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

## Water availability and usage

(13/01/15)  
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements.....29 %  
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)  
On-Farm Balance.....254 GL  
On-Farm Usage ..... 435 GL  
(Including Off-Allocation usage of .... 3 GL)

## Water exchange

8.30am today  
Water for Sale ..... 7,284 ML  
Price Range ..... \$128 - \$155  
Buy Offer..... \$199  
Yesterday's Sales..... 160 ML  
Price Range ..... \$120 - \$125  
**To buy water call 1300 781 431**

## Water use and trade data

06/01/15 – 12/01/15  
**Murray Water Exchange activity**  
Internal buyers (No. & ML).....22; 2,209ML  
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 0; 0ML  
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 21; 2,089ML  
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 1; 120ML  
**Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)**  
Net trade 740ML (week).....+78,146ML(YTD)  
**Crop weekly water use**  
ML used on farm..... 22GL (84% on rice)

## Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	2,946	10,000
Wakool Canal	601	2,350
Escape flows	1,575	3,250

## Rainfall and evaporation

06/01/15 – 12/01/15 ..... Rain ..... Evap  
Finley ..... 35.0mm ..... 48.7mm  
Tullakool..... 18.2mm ..... 51.0mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Dartmouth.....3,183 GL.....83 %  
Hume.....1,596 GL.....53 %  
Lake Victoria.....471 GL.....70 %  
Menindee Lakes .....186 GL.....11 %  
Active Storage.....5,436 GL.....59 %

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Murray @ Doctors Point ..... 10,050 ML/d  
Murray d/s Yarra Weir ..... 10,474 ML/d  
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ...3,040 ML/d  
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 1,625 ML/d  
Darling @ Burtundy.....70 ML/d  
Flow to SA.....7,353 ML/d  
Murray to the Sea ..... 3 gates open

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