

TalkingWater

Tuesday 24 March 2015



Murray Irrigation

Water efficiency allocation

The Board agreed last week to make a water efficiency allocation of two percent of permanent delivery entitlements, excluding Class A (Town Water Supply) and domestic supply agreement customers. For full details, see Friday's *Chairman's report*, available via the link on the right hand side of Murray Irrigation's website: www.murrayirrigation.com.au.

Casual Usage Fee

The third quarter account for 2014/15 will be based on meter readings taken up to Tuesday 7 April. Customers have until 5.00pm Friday 10 April 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 will be 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, contact Water Trade staff via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Stock and domestic pipe outlets

Customers are reminded that stock and domestic pipe outlets cannot run into an open channel or drain. The pipe outlet must be piped directly to a house, tank or storage facility (e.g. dam). The storage capacity of the house, tank or storage facility must not exceed two megalitres. For more information, contact your Water Distribution Supervisor, via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Positions vacant

Murray Irrigation is currently advertising to fill a number of vacant job opportunities. The company is seeking to fill the following positions:

- Agriculture Economist;
- PIIOP Stores Overseer; and
- Water Trade Officer (Finley).

Applications for the Agriculture Economist close 5.00pm Tuesday 31 March, applications for the PIIOP Stores Overseer close 5.00pm Tuesday 7 April, while the Water Trade Officer position closes 5.00pm Friday 10 April. For more information on the above positions, as well as details on how to apply, visit the 'Corporate' then 'Jobs and tenders' section of our website:

www.murrayirrigation.com.au.

Alternatively, applicants can contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

River flows

The MDBA announced last week that River Murray flows are likely to remain high over the Easter period regardless of irrigation demand. Currently total flow through the Edward River and Gulpa Creek offtakes is steady at around 1,900ML/day. In order to meet downstream demands in the lower Murray, increased water is now being delivered into the Edward-Wakool system via the irrigation channel networks. Additional releases out of the Edward River Escape have increased the flow downstream of Stevens Weir from 2,400ML/day to around 2,650ML/day. In the coming week, around 300ML/day will also begin being released via the Wakool Escape into the Wakool River. For more information, visit: www.mdba.gov.au.

Landholder Association meetings

Local Landholder Associations are holding respective meetings this week. Murray Irrigation and Murray Local Land Services will both be presenting.

Company updates include: understanding water allocation reports; *Water ordering* system; options for merging, consolidation and amalgamation; water allocation update; PIIOP project and our Outlet and Meter Strategy.

Dates, times, venues and contacts are as follows:

- Deniboota Landholder Association - Bunnaloo Hall, 9.00am on Wednesday 25 March. Contact Alastair Starritt M. 0429 965 357.
- Wakool Landholder Association - Wakool Services Club, 12.30pm on Wednesday 25 March. Contact David May M. 0427 539 248.
- Denimein Landholder Association - Pretty Pine Hotel, 7.00pm on Thursday 26 March. Contact Adrian Dunmore M. 0428 816 901.

Jennifer McLeod
Executive Manager

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 61 %
Water Efficiency Allocation 2 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(24/03/15)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 23 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance 199 GL
On-Farm Usage 641 GL
(Including Off-Allocation usage of 3 GL)

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale 4,218 ML
Price Range \$127 - \$160
Buy Offer..... \$96
Yesterday's Sales..... 374 ML
Price Range \$120 - \$127
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

17/03/15 - 23/03/15
Murray Water Exchange activity
Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 32; 3,603ML
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 0; 0ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 40; 3,468ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 2; 135ML
Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)
Net trade.... 73ML (week).... +94,869ML(YTD)
Crop weekly water use
ML used on farm..... 24GL (63% on annual pasture)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	5,438	10,000
Wakool Canal	803	2,350
Escape flows	2,375	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

17/03/15 - 23/03/15 Rain Evap
Finley 0.2mm 50.9mm
Tullakool..... 3.2mm 50.5mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth..... 3,025 GL..... 78 %
Hume..... 798 GL..... 27 %
Lake Victoria..... 196 GL..... 29 %
Menindee Lakes 91 GL..... 5 %
Active Storage..... 4,110 GL..... 44 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Doctors Point 18,214 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 9,953 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ... 3,645 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 787 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy..... N/A
Flow to SA..... 6,255 ML/d
Murray to the Sea 10 gates open

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