

TalkingWater

Tuesday 8 December 2015



Murray Irrigation

SAFETY FIRST

WH&S resources

Every employer and business is responsible for the health and safety of its workers. This includes employees, contractors, volunteers, visitors and anyone else who might be put at risk by working on your property or premises. To assist customers with accessing resources relevant to Work Health and Safety, Murray Irrigation has created a new 'Safety' section on its website:

www.murrayirrigation.com.au.

Click on the 'Customers' tab, then 'Safety'. Here you will find a series of links to external WH&S resources.

Water availability update

WaterNSW has released an update of water availability across the state with summaries of conditions in the 12 main regions. In the Murray Valley, critical water requirements for 2015/16 are secure. There is no anticipated supply constraint in the valley, though accessing low flows due to the small amounts of available water may cause issues during the season. In the event of drought continuing into 2016/17, supplies for towns and domestic water needs will take priority. To access the full water availability update, see the 'Water Resources Updates' section on the right hand side of Murray Irrigation's home page.

Next allocation announcement

DPI Water's next allocation announcement is due next Tuesday 15 December. Murray Irrigation will pass the announcement on to customers as early as possible that day.

Exchange purchases over Christmas

Payment for Water Exchange purchases made between Thursday 24 December and Thursday 31 December inclusive are due by 5.00pm Monday 4 January 2016. Sellers with parcels fulfilled in that time will be paid by Friday 8 January 2016. Normal staffing of the Exchange and standard payment terms will resume on Monday 4 January 2016. Full details on Christmas closure arrangements will be included in a special *Talking Water* later this month.

River infrastructure assessment

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) would like to develop an

inventory and condition assessment of existing river-crossing infrastructure within the Yarrowonga to Wakool Junction reach of the Murray-Edward River system, including distributary floodplain streams such as the Native Dog, Taylors and Bookit Creeks. The purpose of this inventory is to match the opportunity for upgrade of stream-crossings with funding potentially available to achieve higher local flow levels and improved fish passage.

The project will be a collaboration between OEH, DPI Water, other agencies and landowners to develop a complete register of private property stream-crossing sites (the inventory) in the region to review condition and estimate of costs for removing, replacing or upgrading infrastructure. For further information or to have your existing structure included in the assessment, contact Paul Childs, OEH – Senior Environmental Water Management Officer on T. 02 6022 0622 or email paul.childs@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Rice Industry Graduate program

Rice Extension is currently calling for applicants for its 2016 Rice Industry Graduate program. The agricultural graduate will be employed full time for 12 months in a structured development pathway into the rice industry. The program gives graduates the opportunity to earn while they learn about the rice industry and form valuable industry networks. For more information and details about how to apply, please contact the Rice Extension Coordinator at Ricegrowers' Association of Australia Inc. on T. 02 6953 0032 or E. gplunkett@rga.org.au. Applications close 5.30pm Monday 21 December 2015.

Rice production meetings

Rice growers, whether growing rice this season or not, are invited to attend one of the rice group meetings planned for December. The first is this Thursday 10 December at John Hand's property 'Eddington' on Mayrung Rd, commencing at 9.00am. The second meeting is on Wednesday 16 December at Michael Hughes' property 'Oro', on Moulamein Rd, Morago. Topics will include managing the current crops, as well as viewing rice trials on each property. Managing crops grown with bore water will also be covered. For more details, contact Extension Agronomist, John Fowler on M. 0427 079 138.

Michael Renehan, CEO

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 15 %
Water Efficiency Allocation 3 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(08/12/15)

Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements.....22 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 181 GL
On-Farm Usage 140 GL

Water exchange

8.30am today

Water for Sale 6,619 ML
Price Range \$260 - \$1,000
Buy Offer..... \$253
Yesterday's Sales..... 57 ML
Price Range \$260 - \$269

To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

01/12/15 – 07/12/15

Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML).....11; 1,208ML
External buyers (No. & ML).....1; 204ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 19; 1,204ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 4; 208ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade.....-36ML(week)...37,548ML(YTD)

Crop weekly water use

GL used on farm.....5 GL (10% on summer crops)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	2,633	10,000
Wakool Canal	169	2,350
Escape flows	1,510	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

01/12/15 – 07/12/15 Rain Evap
Finley 0.0mm 66.1mm
Tullakool..... 0.0mm 72.7mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Dartmouth.....2,138 GL.....55 %
Hume.....1,311 GL.....44 %
Lake Victoria.....583 GL.....86 %
Menindee LakesN/A.....N/A
Active Storage.....N/A.....N/A

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Murray @ Doctors Point 13,871 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 9,984 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge512 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 1,302 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy..... N/A
Flow to SA..... 6,287 ML/d
Murray to the Sea N/A