

# TalkingWater

Wednesday 27 January 2016



Murray Irrigation

## SAFETY FIRST

### Electrical safety

Farmers and rural workers are being reminded of the dangers of working with electrical installations on their properties. Farmers need to be particularly careful with how they manage electrical installations and equipment - especially in and around water.

Electrical equipment and installations should be properly maintained and checked regularly by licensed professionals. If you need to clear or check a pump or float switch, remember to turn off the pump before entering the water or touching the equipment.

### Next allocation announcement

DPI Water's next allocation announcement is due next Monday 1 February. Murray Irrigation will pass the announcement on to customers as early as possible that day. Customers can also access this information, as well as details on Murrumbidgee allocations, via the 'media releases' section of the DPI website [www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au). Water availability forecasts for the start of the next water year (1 July 2016) will be provided on 15 February and updated on 16 May 2016.

### PIOP – accessing private property

Murray Irrigation will soon be carrying out the next phase of its PIOP upgrade for outlets and regulators. These onsite works will commence in February and continue for the rest of the year. Works will be carried out in all areas of Murray Irrigation's operations. Typically, the works will require inspections by Murray Irrigation construction personnel before, during and following the upgrade.

Please note that staff conducting the inspections may not necessarily be travelling in Murray Irrigation vehicles. For more information contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

### Second quarter invoices

Second quarter invoices will be sent to customers this week with payment due by 5.00pm Friday 26 February. Customers are reminded that to be eligible for the five percent discount, all outstanding accounts must be paid by this date. For more

information, or if you are having difficulty paying your account, contact our Finance department on T. 1300 138 265.

### River flows

The MDBA reported last week that diversions to Mulwala Canal have averaged 2,900ML/day, with approximately 1,400ML/day of this water being used to bypass the Barmah Choke via the Edward and Perricoota escapes.

On the Edward River system, the flow through the Edward and Gulpa offtakes has averaged 1,550ML/day and 480ML/day respectively. Environmental water is being used to maintain suitable flows through Gulpa Creek for a bird breeding event in the Reed Beds Swamp area of Millewa Forest. Environmental water continues to be delivered to the Wakool system to aid Murray Cod larval development and support growth and health of aquatic plants. The contribution of environmental water will continue to slowly decrease as flows are reduced to normal regulated rates.

### Western Murray Valley summer forum

The Western Murray Valley Summer Forum extends an open invitation for anyone wanting to learn about internet and mobile phone connectivity, local wheat trials and the EVORIL project. The pros and cons of different moisture monitoring equipment and a report from the Rice Industry Tour to California mid-2015 will also be discussed.

Guest speaker Ian Ware from APA Communications will present a local case study on the options and costs to improve internet and mobile phone coverage. The forum commences with a free lunch at noon on Tuesday 2 February at the Wakool Services Club. Please RSVP by this Friday 29 January to Troy Mauger, Rice Extension Murray Valley, on M. 0417 375 168.

### Southern Growers Farmers Tour

Southern Growers is co-ordinating a two day 'farmers tour' of the Murrumbidgee Valley. The tour will be in the second or third week of February (to be confirmed once numbers are received). Numbers are limited. For further information, or to reserve a seat, please contact Stephanie Chappell on M. 0417444750 or E. [southerngrowersinc@gmail.com](mailto:southerngrowersinc@gmail.com).

**Michael Renehan, CEO**

### Announced allocation

Class C General Security ..... 19 %  
Water Efficiency Allocation ..... 3 %  
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

### Water availability and usage

(27/01/16)  
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements.....21 %  
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)  
On-Farm Balance..... 175 GL  
On-Farm Usage ..... 183 GL

### Water exchange

8.30am today  
Water for Sale ..... 7,850 ML  
Price Range ..... \$230 - \$500  
Buy Offer..... \$212  
Yesterday's Sales..... 169 ML  
Price Range ..... \$230  
**To buy water call 1300 781 431**

### Water use and trade data

20/01/16 – 26/01/16  
**Murray Water Exchange activity**  
Internal buyers (No. & ML).....11; 1,026ML  
External buyers (No. & ML).....1; 571ML  
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 13; 1,078ML  
External sellers (No. & ML).....2; 519ML

### Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade.....-1,565ML(week)...32,681ML(YTD)

### Crop weekly water use

GL used on farm......5 GL (15% on summer crops)

### Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	2,417	10,000
Wakool Canal	152	2,350
Escape flows	1,868	3,250

### Rainfall and evaporation

20/01/16 – 26/01/16 ..... Rain ..... Evap  
Finley ..... 19.6mm ..... 59.0mm  
Tullakool..... 29.0mm ..... 58.6mm

### Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Dartmouth.....N/A.....N/A  
Hume.....1,126 GL......37 %  
Lake Victoria.....452 GL......67 %  
Menindee Lakes ..... N/A.....N/A  
Active Storage.....N/A.....N/A

### Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Murray @ Doctors Point ..... 11,342 ML/d  
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir ..... 10,065 ML/d  
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge .....633 ML/d  
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 1,215 ML/d  
Darling @ Burtundy..... N/A  
Flow to SA..... 6,864 ML/d  
Murray to the Sea ..... 0 gates open