

# TalkingWater

Tuesday 9 February 2016



Murray Irrigation

## SAFETY FIRST

### SafeWork website

SafeWork NSW is the state's workplace health and safety regulator. It focuses on harm prevention and improving the safety culture in NSW workplaces. SafeWork NSW offers advice on improving work health and safety, provides licencing and registration for potentially dangerous work, provides testing services, investigates workplace incidents and enforces work health and safety laws in NSW. For comprehensive work health and safety information, visit: [www.safework.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/).

### Opportunities for water access

Murray Irrigation is investigating all opportunities to maximise the volume of water available for customers in the 2016/17 water year. The Board and management are working together on a number of initiatives to get more volume, or earlier season volume, into our region to maximise positive results for our farm businesses and communities. For full details, see the Murray Irrigation media release sent to customers on Friday 5 February. It can be accessed via the 'Media releases' section of our website: [www.murrayirrigation.com.au](http://www.murrayirrigation.com.au).

### Advance notice for water orders

Due to the low water allocation and dry seasonal outlook, Murray Irrigation is operating to conserve water without significantly affecting services for our customers. Channels with low demand will operate at around 150mm above sill level and channels not requiring irrigation water will be empty unless meeting stock and domestic requirements. Channels servicing summer cropping, rice and pasture, will be kept at a height to maintain service at an optimum level; however to do so, advance notice (minimum four days) of irrigation intentions is preferred to assist delivery of the ordered flows.

### Allocation update Monday

DPI Water's next water allocation statement is due next Monday 15 February. The update is also expected to include a water availability forecast for the start of the next water year (1 July 2016).

### Second quarter invoices

Second quarter invoices have been sent to customers. If you have not received an invoice, please contact our Finance department on T. 1300 138 265. Payment is 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.

### January 2016 summary

The MDBA reports that January 2016 saw wetter conditions than historically observed for this time of year across the majority of the Basin. However, given the dry underlying nature of the catchments, there was very little flow response from the January rains. Monthly inflows to the Murray system for January (excluding Snowy Scheme, Darling River, Inter Valley Trade and managed environmental inflows) fell to about 90GL which is close to one third of the long-term January average.

### Livestock discussion evening

Southern Growers Inc. is inviting farmers to attend a livestock discussion evening with Geoff Duddy next week. It will be held from 5.30pm on Thursday 18 February at the Finley Apex Recreation Reserve. Dinner will be provided. Please RSVP to Stephanie Chappell on M. 0417 444 750 or E. [southerngrowersinc@gmail.com](mailto:southerngrowersinc@gmail.com).

### Farmers Tour dates confirmed

Southern Growers is co-ordinating a two day 'Farmers Tour' of the Murrumbidgee Valley on 25 and 26 February. This tour will be joining the Irrigation Research & Extension Committee (IREC) tour on the Thursday and then exploring Griffith and Hillston before returning back to Finley. To reserve a seat, please contact Stephanie Chappell on M. 0417 444 750 or E. [southerngrowersinc@gmail.com](mailto:southerngrowersinc@gmail.com).

### Water & climate information session

West Berriquin Irrigators Council is holding a water and climate information session later this month. It will be held from 6.00pm on Friday 26 February at the Deniliquin RSL Club. Guest speaker is Dr Jennifer Marohasy, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Public Affairs. The evening will also include presentations on water sharing rules and environmental works on-farm. Cost is \$10 per person. Please RSVP by 20 February to Linda Fawns on M. 0409 044 754.

Michael Renehan, CEO

### Announced allocation

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

### Water availability and usage

(09/02/16)  
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements.....21 %  
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)  
On-Farm Balance..... 169 GL  
On-Farm Usage ..... 187 GL

### Water exchange

8.30am today  
Water for Sale ..... 6,916 ML  
Price Range ..... \$219 - \$300  
Buy Offer..... \$192  
Yesterday's Sales..... 2,109 ML  
Price Range ..... \$197 - \$210  
**To buy water call 1300 781 431**

### Water use and trade data

02/02/16 – 08/02/16  
**Murray Water Exchange activity**  
Internal buyers (No. & ML).....14; 1,875ML  
External buyers (No. & ML).....2; 1,498ML  
Internal sellers (No. & ML).....14; 1,775ML  
External sellers (No. & ML).....3; 1,598ML

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

Net trade.....255ML(week).....31,380ML(YTD)  
**Crop weekly water use**  
GL used on farm.....2 GL (27% on summer crops)

### Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	2,458	10,000
Wakool Canal	212	2,350
Escape flows	1,351	3,250

### Rainfall and evaporation

02/02/16 – 08/02/16 ..... Rain ..... Evap  
Finley ..... 0.0mm ..... 57.0mm  
Tullakool..... 0.0mm ..... 63.8mm

### Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Dartmouth.....1,758 GL.....46 %  
Hume.....1,103 GL.....37 %  
Lake Victoria.....428 GL.....63 %  
Menindee Lakes .....N/A.....N/A  
Active Storage.....N/A.....N/A

### Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)  
Murray @ Doctors Point ..... 13,967 ML/d  
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir ..... 9,813 ML/d  
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge .....829 ML/d  
M'Bidgiee d/s Balranald..... 2,890 ML/d  
Darling @ Burtundy..... N/A  
Flow to SA..... 7,892 ML/d  
Murray to the Sea ..... 0 gates open