



SAFETY FIRST

Blue-green algae alert

The Murray Regional Algal Coordinating Committee has issued a red alert warning for blue-green algae in the Edward River from Picnic Point to Old Morago, which includes Deniliquin, and Gulpa Creek at Mathoura. A red alert warning has also been issued in the Murray River, from Corowa to Torrumbarry Weir, including the Mulwala Main Canal Offtake.

Waters are unsuitable for primary contact by domestic users and may also pose a threat to livestock. All channels and spur channels supplied directly or indirectly by the Mulwala Canal and Wakool Canal may be affected. For full details, see Friday's special *Talking Water* or contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Allocation update

DPI Water announced this morning **no increase** to general security entitlements allocation. As a result, Murray Irrigation's general security (Class C) allocation remains at 23 percent. The DPI Water announcement can be accessed via 'Water Resources Updates' on the right hand side of the Murray Irrigation website: www.murrayirrigation.com.au. The next allocation update will be on Tuesday 15 March.

Water Availability Hub

DPI Water has created a 'Water Availability Hub' to improve the way information on water allocations and water availability is accessed by water users. Visit: www.water.nsw.gov.au/water-management/water-availability. Here you can also access a new online notification service, which will deliver alerts of new announcements direct to your email inbox.

Snowy Advance information

Customers are reminded that information on Murray Irrigation's proposed Snowy advance is available on our website. Simply click on the 'Snowy advance' icon on our home page: www.murrayirrigation.com.au. Here you will find a 'Frequently asked questions' document and other relevant material.

Murray Irrigation has signed a letter of intent to negotiate an advance of nominally 200GL water in the early 2016/17 season (contingent on achieving government approvals). Further details will be made available to customers once finalised.

Autumn watering arrangements

Channel Attendants are currently speaking with customers to determine their autumn irrigation programs so Murray Irrigation can plan its end of season arrangements. If you haven't been contacted, please speak to your Channel Attendant immediately to discuss watering intentions for the remainder of the season. This information will be used to identify where customers will not be irrigating, so PIIOP construction works can get underway earlier than normal.

Trends and drivers of irrigation study

A new study into the future state of play for irrigated industries in the southern Murray-Darling Basin has found that there is likely to be a substantial increase in water demand and price over the next five years. The study, funded by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC), projects significant increases in water demand and price driven by the rapid expansion of agricultural industries including cotton and nuts. The full report, can be downloaded here: <https://rirdc.infoservices.com.au/items/16007>.

Fox baiting

Murray Local Land Services (LLS) is coordinating a fox baiting program around Wakool, Noorong, Caldwell, Moulamein, Cunninyeuk, Mallan, Bullatale, Mayrunga, Pretty Pine, Caldwell and Bunnaloo. Customers with dogs are advised to be mindful of potential baiting in their area. For more information, contact the Murray LLS on T. 03 5881 1055.

2016 Rice Industry Field Day

The rice industry's premier research showcase, the Rice Field Day, is being held this Thursday 3 March at Rice Research Australia, 'Old Coree', Jerilderie. This joint industry field day will showcase the latest in rice research and technology, including field walks, business and innovation forums and cooking demonstrations. For more information call Leah Morrison at RGA on T. 02 6953 0042.

Michael Renehan, CEO

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 23 %
Water Efficiency Allocation 6 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(01/03/16)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements.....26 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 213 GL
On-Farm Usage 204 GL

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale 8,059 ML
Price Range \$212 - \$300
Buy Offer..... \$202
Yesterday's Sales..... 1,002 ML
Price Range \$205 - \$213
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

23/02/16 – 29/02/16
Murray Water Exchange activity
Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 13; 1,059ML
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 3; 1,957ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 39; 3,016ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 0; 0ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)
Net trade.....2,794ML(week)....36,832ML(YTD)
Crop weekly water use
GL used on farm.....6 GL (29% on summer crops)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	2,096	10,000
Wakool Canal	258	2,350
Escape flows	681	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

23/02/16 – 29/02/16 Rain Evap
Finley 0.0mm 71.0mm
Tullakool..... 0.0mm 73.5mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth.....1,710 GL..... 44 %
Hume.....983 GL..... 33 %
Lake Victoria.....359 GL..... 53 %
Menindee Lakes54 GL..... 3 %
Active Storage.....3,106 GL.....33 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Doctors Point 13,522 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 9,540 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge704 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 536 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy..... N/A
Flow to SA..... 9,775 ML/d
Murray to the Sea 0 gates open