

Talking Water

Tuesday 12 June 2012



Murray Irrigation

On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program 3

There was great support for last week's On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program Round 3 workshops. More than 170 landholders attended the workshops that were held in Finley, Deniliquin and Wakool. The strong attendance shows there is significant interest for investing in on-farm irrigation efficiency in our area.

Round 3 Expressions of Interest Forms

Completed Expressions of Interest forms for the Round 3 On-farm Irrigation Efficiency Program are due to Murray Irrigation by **5.00pm, Friday 6 July**. If you need help completing these forms, staff will be available at Murray Irrigation offices on these days between 10am and 4pm:

- Deniliquin – Wednesday 20 June.
- Wakool – Thursday 21 June.
- Finley – Friday 22 June.

For information, contact Aimee Snowden on E. aimee.snowden@murrayirrigation.com.au or T. 03 5898 3317.

Stormwater operations review

Murray Irrigation is conducting a review of its stormwater operations after the significant rainfall event of late February/early March. A survey form has been provided to customers who were impacted. If you have not been contacted about the survey, but wish to participate, please contact reception on T. 03 5898 3300, and ask to speak to your local Distribution Supervisor.

Shareholder director casual vacancy

Nominations to fill a casual shareholder director vacancy on the Murray Irrigation Limited Board of Directors close **5.00pm Friday 22 June**.

The nomination process and postal ballot (if required) will again be conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC). Nominations received after the due date will not be considered. The address for lodgement of nominations is provided on the nomination form, which has been included as part of an Information Package for candidates.

A candidate briefing session will be held in the Murray Irrigation Deniliquin office from 9.00am on Tuesday 19 June, for anyone interested in the possibility of nominating.

To obtain the Information Package, or for any other enquiries, contact Murray Irrigation Executive Assistant, Alison Bult, on E. alison.bult@murrayirrigation.com.au or T. 03 5898 3332.

Price review of Rural Water Charges

As part of a previous election promise, the NSW Government has instructed the NSW Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to conduct a review of rural water charges in NSW. The price review provides an opportunity for NSW irrigators to raise any unease about the current bulk water pricing framework and any concerns about the involvement of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) in future price setting processes.

As part of the review, IPART will be holding a workshop at the Gemini Hotel in Griffith from 11am today, while a public hearing is scheduled for Sydney on Tuesday 3 July.

The final IPART report is due on 15 August 2012. The terms of reference and the timeline for consultation are available on IPART's website: www.ipart.nsw.gov.au.

River Murray inflows

Inflows to the River Murray system are still being affected by the extreme rain event of late February and early March. Despite the relatively dry month across the Murray-Darling Basin, River Murray system inflows (excluding Darling River and Snowy inflows) were around 880GL, which is the 11th highest ever recorded and the highest since 1989.

June invoices

Customers who wish to have their final quarter invoice (covering April to June) dated 30 June, should contact the Murray Irrigation finance team on T. 03 5898 3300, or E. finance@murrayirrigation.com.au. Simply state your landholding number. Customers can still consolidate their landholdings for billing purposes (benefits of combining water usage, Delivery Entitlements and a single administration fee).

Murray CMA Incentives

A reminder that the Murray Catchment Management Authority (CMA) has opened its 2012/13 Incentives Grants Program. Landholders and groups are invited to register their interest by close of business Friday 29 June.

The program provides financial incentives to land managers to help manage their on-farm environment. For more information, call T. 02 6051 2200, or visit the Murray CMA website: www.murray.cma.nsw.gov.au.

Anthony Couroupis
General Manager

Announced allocation

Class C General Security100%
Class B High Security.....100%
Class A Town Water.....100%
Water Efficiency AllocationUp to 19%

Water availability & usage

(12/06/12)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements46%
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance 429 GL
On-Farm Usage..... 902 GL
Comprising:
On-Allocation Usage 813 GL
Off-Allocation Usage..... 89 GL

WATER EXCHANGE has now closed.

Water trading will recommence on 1 July.

Channel flows

Today
Mulwala Canal Closed
Capacity 10,000 ML/day
Wakool Canal..... Closed
Capacity 2,350 ML/day
Total Escape Flows..... 0 ML/day

Rainfall & evaporation

29/05/12 – 12/06/12 Rain Evap
Finley 4.6mm 18mm
Tullakool 0.6mm 14.3mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth.....3,299 GL.....86 %
Hume.....2,816 GL.....94 %
Lake Victoria.....396 GL.....58 %
Menindee Lakes1,874 GL.....108 %
Active Storage.....8,385 GL.....90 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Jingellic 7,447 ML/d
Mitta Mitta @ Tallandoon 752 ML/d
Murray @ Doctors Point 6,499 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 7,094 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge..... 1,511 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald 6,284 ML/d
Darling @ Wilcannia 3,222 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy 6,806 ML/d
Flow to SA..... N/A
Murray @ Murray Bridge 0.52 m
Murray to the Sea N/A

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