

TalkingWater

Tuesday 21 February 2012



Murray Irrigation

Basin Plan Community Submissions Office

The Murray Group of Concerned Communities (MGCC) officially opened its "Community Submission Centre" yesterday. The Centre is situated in the old Yarkuwa building at the junction of Cressy and End Streets, Deniliquin. It will be staffed between 10.00am and 2.00pm every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for the remainder of the Draft Murray-Darling Basin Plan consultation period, which ends on Monday 16 April. Individuals will be able to access information about the Draft Basin Plan and how to make a submission.

Local angle on 7.30 Report

Influential ABC program *7.30 Report* televised a report on the Draft Basin Plan last Wednesday night. The report focused on Finley High School Principal Bernie Roebuck. The report also featured a brief interview with Murray Irrigation Chairman Stewart Ellis and Finley farmer Phil Snowden. For those of you who may have missed the segment, a link to the interview has been posted on the Murray Irrigation website.

ABC's *Landline* will also feature a story on the Basin Plan on Sunday 26 February and is expected to feature interviews with MGCC Chairman Bruce Simpson, Deniliquin businessman Russell Tait and Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) Chairman Craig Knowles.

NSWIC calls on MDBA to update data

NSW Irrigators' Council is calling on the MDBA to recalculate the average annual inflow into the Basin in light of the past two years of high water availability to ensure the Draft Basin Plan includes the most up-to-date data for assessing sustainable diversion limit. NSWIC contends that average annual inflows are critical in calculating how much productive water the Basin Plan will remove from communities and if the average is higher, then the reduction in the sustainable diversion limit will be comparatively lower. A link to the NSWIC media release on this issue is on Murray Irrigation's website.

Discussion Paper feedback

Murray Irrigation is currently reviewing both its Distribution Rules Policy and Water Ordering System. The company is holding a Customer Consultation Group meeting with representatives from various customer groups on Wednesday to discuss the two topics. Another avenue for feedback is directly from customers. Murray Irrigation invites feedback on both discussion papers by 5pm Friday 24 February. Customers can access the discussion papers on the Murray Irrigation website.

Water ordering reminder

Customers are reminded that water orders must be placed four days in advance to guarantee delivery. Water can, however, be delivered in less than four days as water becomes available. To place an order, simply call 1300 781 431. Orders can be placed 24 hours a day during the irrigation season (August to May), but Murray Irrigation cannot guarantee delivery within four days if orders are received after 6.30am.

Works policy

Murray Irrigation reminds landholders that when they are carrying out land forming works, they must remember the Works Policy. Landholders need to be at least 5m from the bank of a Murray Irrigation asset. Contact your local Works Supervisor via reception for further information.

Surface Irrigation Field Days

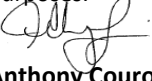
Murray Irrigation is holding a series of Surface Irrigation Field Days next week to look at construction, pros and cons of surface irrigation and involvement with the on-farm irrigation efficiency program. Properties included in the program include "Boelgi", Deniliquin on Tuesday 28 February, "Oakbank", Tocumwal on Wednesday 29 February and "Gailmond", Wakool on Friday 2 March. All days start at 12.30pm with a free barbecue lunch and drinks provided. For more information, contact Danielle Ewington on T. 03 5888 3011.

Farm Innovation Technology Expo

The Farm Innovation Technology Expo will be held in Deniliquin over two days, starting Friday 30 March. Some of the themes include solar & new energy technologies, geo thermals, bio diesel, new farm technologies/prosperity farming, financial opportunities/carbon pricing and trading, and education/career opportunities. The event is open to the public. More information will be provided closer to the date.

Men's Health Night at Pretty Pine

Internationally acclaimed psychotherapist Dr Stephen Carroll will headline a Men's Health Night at the Pretty Pine Hall from 7pm tonight. All men and women are invited to attend the event which includes a free barbecue. Those who wish to attend should contact Conargo Shire on T. 03 5880 1200 for catering purposes.


Anthony Couroupis
General Manager

Announced allocation

Class C General Security	100%
Class B High Security	100%
Class A Town Water	100%
Water Efficiency Allocation	Up to 18%

Water availability & usage

(21/02/12)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements60%
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance 572 GL
On-Farm Usage 745 GL
Comprising:
On-Allocation Usage 665 GL
Off-Allocation Usage 80 GL

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale9,506 ML
Price Range \$17-\$39
Buy Offer \$10
Last 10 Sales1425 ML
Price Range\$16 - \$17
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Channel flows

Today
Mulwala Canal 4,700 ML/day
Capacity 10,000 ML/day
Wakool Canal 1,040 ML/day
Capacity 2,350 ML/day
Total Escape Flows 1,200 ML/day

Rainfall & evaporation

07/02/12 - 21/02/12 Rain Evap
Finley 0mm N/A
Tullakool 0.8mm N/A

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth2,967 GL.....77 %
Hume1,930 GL.....64 %
Lake Victoria505 GL.....75 %
Menindee Lakes1,622 GL.....94 %
Active Storage 7,024 GL.....76 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Jingellic2,033 ML/d
Mitta Mitta @ Tallandoon 873 ML/d
Murray @ Doctors Point12,925 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir6,574 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge1,820 ML/d
M' Bidgee d/s Balranald1,792 ML/d
Darling @ Wilcannia30,459 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy14,576 ML/d
Flow to SA22,337 ML/d
Murray @ Murray Bridge 0.71 m
Murray to the Sea 25 gates open

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