

Talking Water

Tuesday 17 January 2012



Murray Irrigation

In response to feedback about our new Talking Water format we are modifying the banner for the facsimile copy so that it transmits more quickly. This will take a few days to rectify. Thank you for your patience.

Micro irrigation field day

Murray Irrigation is hosting a Micro Irrigation Field Day this Thursday 19 January starting at 12.30pm. It will be held at Rorato's property "Jennalou" near Jerilderie. The Field Day will look at the installation and construction of a micro irrigation system through the On-farm Irrigation Efficiency Program. Free barbecue and drinks will be provided. All welcome. For more information contact Felicity Steel on T. 5888 3012.

PIIOP funding

Murray Irrigation is continuing to work with the Commonwealth on the PIIOP funding offer of \$165M. Further information will be provided to both retirement and reconfiguration customers (Customer Driven System Upgrade applicants) when details are known. Should you require further clarification contact Executive Manager Infrastructure Services Nick Ritchie T. 03 5898 3380.

Low water account balances

A significant number of customers have had their outlets finished by Murray Irrigation due to low water account balances. In most cases Water Distribution staff attempt to contact customers prior to action being taken, however in some cases, contact has been made several times, and inadequate volumes of water have been transferred to an account, causing the outlet to be finished. Customers are reminded to ensure they consider their crop requirements carefully and ensure that adequate water is transferred to prevent the action occurring again. In many cases customers may experience a four-day wait to have outlets restarted.

Customer allocation accounts

A reminder to all Murray Irrigation customers that delivery entitlement figures, including annual trade, casual usage fee threshold, and volumes available to transfer, are all now available to access from the Murray Irrigation website in the Customers section under Account Balance.

Channel restrictions

Due to high demand on some channels customers are continuing to experience flow restrictions despite Murray Irrigation's total demand having reduced.

The extent of restrictions is variable with some sections of channel in Wakool restricted to four (4) revs per flow share.

Customers should remain vigilant of their irrigation requirements, and are reminded to place their water orders well in advance, and take advantage of any weather events that allow flow rates to increase by filling storages or increasing water depth in rice crops. Your first contact for information about restrictions is your Channel Attendant.

Annual Transfers

Annual transfers from the Murrumbidgee Valley to the Murray Valley close on Tuesday 31 January, as the rules within the Murrumbidgee Water Sharing Plan state that intervalley annual transfers close at the end of January.

Network Consultation Paper

The NCP outlines Murray Irrigation's infrastructure and expenditure profile for the five-year period and includes alternative investment strategies that impact on both service to customers and fees and prices. Feedback must be received by 5pm Monday 20 February and can be directed to E: npc@murrayirrigation.com.au.

Night patrols

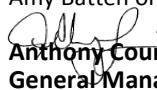
Murray Irrigation Water Distribution staff are currently completing random night patrols and inspections to ensure fair and equitable compliance with company policies, particularly in areas experiencing flow restrictions. Customers can assist by reporting any interference with channels to their local Distribution Supervisor through Reception.

Customer details

Murray Irrigation customers must advise if they have changed their contact details by filling out a Change of Contact Details form. This is also to ensure they are receiving Talking Water and their accounts via their preferred method.

Young Farmers Forum

The NSW Irrigators' Council is hosting a two-day forum in Canberra on Thursday 15 and Friday 16 March. The Young Farmers Forum is open to all young farmers between the ages of 18 to 30 who are involved in farming/irrigation. Expressions of interest are being sought. For more information, contact Amy Batten on T. 5898 3342.


Anthony Couroupis
General Manager

Announced allocation

Class C General Security100%
Class B High Security.....100%
Class A Town Water.....100%
Water Efficiency AllocationUp to 18%

Water availability & usage

(17/01/12)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements74%
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance 704 GL
On-Farm Usage..... 584 GL
Comprising:
On-Allocation Usage 504 GL
Off-Allocation Usage..... 80 GL

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale4,725 ML
Price Range \$24-\$39
Buy Offer \$22
Last 10 Sales1,613 ML
Price Range\$23 - \$24
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Channel flows

Today
Mulwala Canal 7,900 ML/day
Capacity 10,000 ML/day
Wakool Canal 1,970 ML/day
Capacity 2,350 ML/day
Total Escape Flows..... 2,130 ML/day

Rainfall & evaporation

03/01/11 - 17/01/12 Rain Evap
Finley 0.0mm... 129.4mm
Tullakool 6.4mm... 129.3mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth.....2,957 GL.....77 %
Hume.....2,273 GL.....76 %
Lake Victoria.....555 GL.....82 %
Menindee Lakes1,595 GL.....92 %
Active Storage..... 7,468 GL.....80 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Jingellic2,155 ML/d
Mitta Mitta @ Tallandoon 610 ML/d
Murray @ Doctors Point.....17,264 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir8,401 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge.....2,078 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald 490 ML/d
Darling @ Wilcannia27,381 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy13,271 ML/d
Flow to SA.....16,236 ML/d
Murray @ Murray Bridge 0.63 m
Murray to the Sea 25 gates open

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