

# TalkingWater

Tuesday 9 October 2012



Murray Irrigation

## Muddied Waters

Film crews for the Murray-Darling Basin investigative documentary *Muddied Waters – A Clear Solution* recently completed an extensive two-week documentary shoot in NSW and Victoria. Filming extended from the Riverina through to the Snowy Mountains, Bourke and back through the South Australian Riverland irrigation areas.

Muddied Waters Executive Producer Ken Jury said he is extremely pleased with the results of the project so far. The crew re-commences field shoots this week. Ken plans to conduct interviews in the northern lagoon of the Coorong, the Lower Lakes and in Goolwa located at the very end of the Murray system.

The project aims to expose key concerns behind the development of the Basin Plan to the wider public. There was significant local support for the documentary, including a pledge from Murray Irrigation.

## Flow restrictions

An increasing number of Murray Irrigation customers are being affected by restrictions as deliveries in various parts of the system reach channel capacity. 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. For more information, contact reception on T. 03 5898 3300.

## New Basin Plan modelling

Modelling is expected to be released today on returning 3,200GL of water to the environment under the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, with key constraints removed. Murray Irrigation will post a link on its website as soon as the modelling is released.

## Cancelling an order

In order to finish, reduce or cancel an order, customers must call the IVR line on T. 1300 781 431 before 6.30am. No outlet will be shut down without an order placed. A cancellation order only applies to orders for an outlet that has not yet been started. A finish order must be placed to stop an outlet that is already going.

## Senate Committee interim report

The Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Committee released its second interim report on the management of the Murray-Darling

Basin last week. The Murray Group of Concerned Communities (MGCC) has since responded to the report, saying too often politicians want to swap regional productivity for support packages.

To view the interim report and the MGCC's response, visit: [www.mgcc-nsw.org](http://www.mgcc-nsw.org) and click on 'News'.

## Local Land Services

The NSW Government is planning to merge its Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) with Livestock Health and Pest Authorities (LHPAs). The newly merged authorities will be known as Local Land Services. From 2014, Local Land Services will deliver functions currently provided by 13 CMAs and 14 LHPAs, as well as agriculture advisory services of Agriculture NSW (part of the Department of Primary Industries).

Local Land Services will be regionally-based, semi-autonomous, statutory organisations, which are governed by locally elected and skills-based Board members, delivering services for farmers and landowners. The NSW Irrigators' Council says the merger must be approached cautiously and has called on Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson, to ensure stakeholders are engaged in the implementation of the process.

## September rainfall and inflows

The MDBA's Weekly Report says the Bureau of Meteorology reports that September was the 20<sup>th</sup> driest in 113 years of records, with a total of only 15.9 mm of rainfall for the month (53 percent below the mean). Since April 2012, most of the southern Basin has received below average rainfall. September was also characterised by above average maximum temperatures. NSW average daily maximum temperatures were the 9<sup>th</sup> highest on record.

September inflows to the River Murray system totalled about 1,470GL. This is slightly below the long-term average of around 1,600GL but still well above the average over the last 10 years.

## Berriquin Irrigators' Council AGM

Berriquin Irrigators' Council is holding its Annual General Meeting **this Thursday 11 October**. The meeting is being held at the Finley RS Club from 7.30pm. For more information, contact David Alexander on M. 0429 833 382.

**Anthony Couroupis**  
General Manager

## Announced allocation

Class C General Security .....	100 %
Class B High Security .....	100 %
Class A Town Water .....	100 %
Water Efficiency Allocation .....	7 %

## Water availability & usage

(09/10/12)	
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements .....	111%
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)	
On-Farm Balance .....	1,016 GL
On-Farm Usage .....	178 GL
Comprising:	
On-Allocation Usage .....	99 GL
Off-Allocation Usage .....	79 GL

## Water exchange

8.30am today	
Water for Sale .....	7,046 ML
Price Range .....	\$35 - \$60
Buy Offer .....	\$31
Last 10 Sales .....	1,624 ML
Price Range .....	\$31 - \$35
<b>To buy water call 1300 781 431</b>	

## Channel flows

Today	
Mulwala Canal .....	3,050 ML/day
Capacity .....	10,000 ML/day
Wakool Canal .....	1,690 ML/day
Capacity .....	2,350 ML/day
Total Escape Flows .....	91 ML/day

## Rainfall & evaporation

25/09/12 – 09/10/12 .....	Rain .....	Evap .....
Finley .....	30.0mm .....	63.7mm
Tullakool .....	13.2mm .....	69.1mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)		
Dartmouth .....	3,772 GL .....	98 %
Hume .....	2,956 GL .....	98 %
Lake Victoria .....	N/A .....	N/A
Menindee Lakes .....	2,015 GL .....	116 %
Active Storage .....	N/A .....	N/A

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)	
Murray @ Jingellic .....	15,918 ML/d
Mitta Mitta @ Tallandoo .....	2,029 ML/d
Murray @ Doctors Point .....	20,000 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir .....	15,255 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge .....	1,762 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald .....	5,205 ML/d
Darling @ Wilcannia .....	1,849 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy .....	1,068 ML/d
Flow to SA .....	N/A
Murray @ Murray Bridge .....	0.73 m
Murray to the Sea .....	N/A

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