

# TalkingWater

Tuesday 16 October 2012



Murray Irrigation

## Murray-Darling Basin Plan modelling

Federal Water Minister Tony Burke last week released the Murray-Darling Basin Authority's (MDBA) modelling for 3,200GL and 2,800GL scenarios with key constraints relaxed, including increasing regulated flows downstream of Hume Dam from 25,000ML/day to 40,000ML/day.

The Murray Group of Concerned Communities (MGCC) publicly called on the Minister to explain how he will deal with third party and flood liability issues before he considers acquiring more water.

The MGCC had previously had the Murray CMA conduct an independent preliminary audit of potential impacts in the NSW Murray region of 2,750GL recovery under current constraints. To view the report and the MGCC's media release visit [www.mgcc-nsw.org](http://www.mgcc-nsw.org) and click on 'News'.

The Murray CMA report shows many examples of the negative impacts of higher flows, including to public and private land and infrastructure, such as cut access to public beaches around Tocumwal and private landholders unable to access farmland. The report was provided to the MDBA and relevant Ministers.

## Water Act Amendment Bill

Last month, Water Minister Tony Burke introduced an amendment to the Water Act designed to allow the MDBA to impose changes to Sustainable Diversion Limits (SDLs) in the Basin Plan without Parliamentary oversight or consultation. The Bill was referred to the Windsor Committee who, after a 27 minute hearing, recommended Members pass the amendment. The Coalition members of the Windsor Committee provided a dissenting report saying the Bill does not allow for adequate consideration or consultation on potential changes to SDLs. The Bill has now been referred to the Senate Environment Committee due to report on 19 November.

## Use of Stormwater Escape System

Customers are reminded to contact Murray Irrigation in all circumstances before draining water into the stormwater escape system.

This is for two key reasons; management of flows in the stormwater escape system to avoid impacts downstream; and also for water quality reasons.

Customers need to ensure drainage inlets are closed and drainage only occurs with permission from Murray Irrigation.

If your drainage inlet slide is missing, please contact Murray Irrigation via reception to arrange a replacement. Customers looking to drain water from their landholding should contact their Water Distribution Supervisor via reception on T. 03 5898 3300.

## Check the outlet number

It is imperative that customers input the correct outlet number when ordering water. If you are not sure if you placed your order correctly, please check via the Water Ordering Line or from the *Customer Login* section of Murray Irrigation's website.

If the outlet number is incorrect when started, customers are responsible for taking the water ordered for 24 hours.

## Quarterly invoices

First quarter tax invoices are being sent to customers this week. The accounts are for the period 1 July to 30 September 2012. Payment is due by 5.00pm Friday 16 November.

Customers are reminded that to be eligible for the 10 percent discount, all outstanding accounts must be paid. For more information, contact our Finance department, via reception, on T. 03 5898 3300.

## Soybean pre-season meeting

NSW DPI is holding a soybean meeting/discussion group from 10.00am on Thursday 25 October. The event will be held at the property of Nick Stuart, 'Garden Vale', about 2km west of Bunnaloo. NSW DPI Soybean Research Agronomist Luke Gaynor will update growers on the management requirements for growing soybeans this season. For further information, contact Deniliquin District Agronomist John Fowler on M. 0427 079 138.

## Registrations open for Deni Expo

Site registrations are now open for next year's Deni Innovation Expo. The event – formerly known as the Farm Innovation Technology Expo – will be held over two days, starting Friday 3 May 2013, at Murray Valley Industry Park, Todd's Lane, Deniliquin. For more information, contact Andrew Richardson on T. 03 5881 3010.

**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

(16/10/12)	
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements .....	108%
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)	
On-Farm Balance .....	985 GL
On-Farm Usage .....	209 GL
Comprising:	
On-Allocation Usage .....	130 GL
Off-Allocation Usage .....	79 GL

## Water exchange

8.30am today	
Water for Sale .....	6,972 ML
Price Range .....	\$35 - \$60
Buy Offer .....	\$32
Last 10 Sales .....	1,935 ML
Price Range .....	\$30 - \$35

**To buy water call 1300 781 431**

## Channel flows

Today	
Mulwala Canal .....	4,800 ML/day
Capacity .....	10,000 ML/day
Wakool Canal .....	1,623 ML/day
Capacity .....	2,350 ML/day
Total Escape Flows .....	38 ML/day

## Rainfall & evaporation

02/10/12 – 16/10/12 .....	Rain .....	Evap .....
Finley .....	39.9mm .....	56.0mm
Tullakool .....	14.8mm .....	64.0mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)		
Dartmouth .....	3,787 GL .....	98 %
Hume .....	2,979 GL .....	99 %
Lake Victoria .....	657 GL .....	97 %
Menindee Lakes .....	2,010 GL .....	116 %
Active Storage .....	9,433 GL .....	101 %

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)	
Murray @ Jingellic .....	7,240 ML/d
Mitta Mitta @ Tallandoon .....	1,892 ML/d
Murray @ Doctors Point .....	9,298 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir .....	11,270 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge .....	1,533 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald .....	3,359 ML/d
Darling @ Wilcannia .....	1,537 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy .....	1,157 ML/d
Flow to SA .....	N/A
Murray @ Murray Bridge .....	0.81 m
Murray to the Sea .....	N/A

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