

RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY FLOW REPORT

Flow to South Australia

Report #25/2012

Issued 10:00 am 29 June 2012

This supersedes the previous flow report issued by the Department for Water on 22 June 2012. A further flow report will be provided on Friday 6 July 2012.

FLOW OUTLOOK

The flow to South Australia has increased due to recent rainfall events across the catchment areas of north-eastern Victoria. The flow at the South Australian border is approximately 18 000 ML/day and is expected to increase to around 19 000 ML/day over the coming week. In mid-July 2012 the flow is expected to reach approximately 25 000 ML/day, depending on rainfall and upstream operations.

South Australia is continuing to receive unregulated flow, which is likely to return to normal Entitlement Flow conditions by September 2012. It is expected that South Australia will continue to receive Additional Dilution Flow of 3000 ML/day until October 2012; however, delivery of environmental water may shorten this period.

The flow over Lock 1 is approximately 19 000 ML/day and is likely to increase to around 20 000 ML/day over the coming week, depending on upstream operations.

It is important to note that flow forecasts in this advice are based on the information available at the time of preparation. They may change as new gauging information becomes available, or due to further rainfall events or changing operations upstream. Flow forecasts are dependent on predictions made by the Bureau of Meteorology, Murray-Darling Basin Authority and water management agencies in upstream jurisdictions. Forecasts will be revised as new information becomes available.

BARRAGE OPERATIONS AND WATER LEVELS IN THE LOWER LAKES

The water level in Lake Alexandrina is approximately 0.59m AHD and the level in Lake Albert is approximately 0.64m AHD.

During the past week, barrage operations were undertaken to reduce outflow and increase the water level in the Lower Lakes. Lake levels will be raised slowly to approximately 0.75 m AHD in the coming weeks. The cycle of lowering and raising water levels is part of a longer-term trial aimed at flushing salt from Lake Albert.

Goolwa and Mundoo Barrages are currently closed to prevent seawater ingress from reverse head conditions.

Occasionally, residents and landholders located near the barrages may observe increased salinity in the area's waterways due to reverse head conditions. With large volumes of fresh River Murray water still flowing into Lake Alexandrina, any salinity spikes will be short-lived.

Water levels and barrage operations are monitored closely by various agencies of the South Australian Government, Murray-Darling Basin Authority and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder.



Government of South Australia
Department for Water

WATER IS GOOD

CONSTRUCTION WORKS

Construction of the Chowilla Creek Environmental Regulator will be ongoing until spring 2013. The Chowilla Creek is closed at the construction site.

RIVER MURRAY WATER LEVELS

SA Water and the Department for Water have developed a River Murray Water Level chart (below) to provide water levels at a number of locations from Lock 10 (near Wentworth) to Murray Bridge.

River Murray Water Levels as at 27 June 2012

Location	River Km	Normal Pool Level	Current Level (m AHD)	1974 Flood Level (m AHD)	1993 Flood Level (m AHD)
Lock 10	825.0	30.80	30.89	33.81	33.32
Lock 9 Kulnine	764.8	27.40	27.48	30.03	29.44
Lock 8 Wangumma	725.7	24.60	24.69	27.6	27.19
Lock 7 Rufus River	696.6	22.10	22.56	25.70	25.24
Lock 6 Murtho	619.8	19.25	19.31	21.03	20.50
Renmark	567.4	-	16.33	18.54	18.04
Lock 5	562.4	16.30	16.32	18.07	17.50
Lyrup	537.8	-	13.41	16.85	16.26
Berri	525.9	-	13.36	15.81	15.74
Lock 4	516.2	13.20	13.27	15.65	15.08
Loxton	489.9	-	10.50	15.05	14.12
Cobdogla	446.9	-	9.83	13.44	12.38
Lock 3	431.4	9.80	9.78	13.16	12.02
Overland Corner	425.9	-	6.83	12.73	11.58
Waikerie	383.6	-	6.49	11.26	10.24
Lock 2	362.1	6.10	6.25	10.28	9.30
Cadell	332.6	-	-	9.17	8.08
Morgan	321.7	-	3.44	8.85	7.65
Lock 1 Blanchetown	274.2	3.20	3.23	6.81	5.38
Swan Reach	245.0	0.75	0.73	6.06	4.51
Mannum PS	149.8	0.75	0.61	3.15	1.90
Murray Bridge	115.3	0.75	0.56	2.06	1.26

Note that the above water levels may be affected by local wind conditions.



FURTHER INFORMATION

The Department for Water has published a series of inundation maps for the River Murray. They are available at: www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au

Up-to-date River Murray flow and water level information can be accessed at the Department for Water, SA Water and Murray-Darling Basin Authority websites:

<http://data.rivermurray.sa.gov.au>

www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm

<http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/live-river-data>

Details of river height and rainfall information in the River Murray within Victoria and New South Wales are available at the Bureau of Meteorology website: <http://www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood>

Information on the discharge of acid drainage water into the Lower River Murray can be accessed online at www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au

Information provided by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder can be accessed at <http://www.environment.gov.au/ewater/southern/murray/lower-murray.html>

Regularly updated daily water level information can be found at the following websites:

SA Water

www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm

Department for Water

<http://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMWD/Pages/default.aspx>

Information is also available from the SA Water Hotline on **08 8595 2299**

UPDATES- This advice remains current until the Department for Water notifies otherwise.

