

# RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY FLOW REPORT

## Flow to South Australia

Report #26/2012

Issued 10:00 am 6 July 2012

This supersedes the previous flow report issued by the Department for Water on 29 June 2012. On 1 July 2012 the department amalgamated with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to establish the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources. The next flow report will be provided on Friday 13 July 2012.

### FLOW OUTLOOK

The flow at the South Australian border is approximately 21 500 ML/day and is expected to remain at around this rate over the coming week. Later in July 2012 the flow is expected to reach approximately 25 000 ML/day, depending on rainfall and Lake Victoria operations.

South Australia continues to receive unregulated flow, but the flow at the state border is likely to return to normal Entitlement Flow conditions by around late August 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 from Menindee Lakes may shorten this period. This is because there is a storage volume cut-off trigger for Additional Dilution Flow that might be met sooner if environmental water is delivered from the Menindee system.

The flow over Lock 1 is approximately 20 000 ML/day and is likely to remain around this rate 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 0.68m AHD and the level in Lake Albert is approximately 0.71m 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 week. 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 being operated to prevent seawater ingress from reverse head conditions, which is caused by high tides and high swells. If an opportunity arises, a few bays at the Goolwa Barrages will be opened to assist in flushing salt water from the Goolwa Channel. 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.



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## CONSTRUCTION WORKS

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

## RIVER MURRAY WATER LEVELS

SA Water and the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources 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 4 July 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	30.71	33.81	33.32
Lock 9 Kulnine	764.8	27.40	27.47	30.03	29.44
Lock 8 Wangumma	725.7	24.60	24.68	27.6	27.19
Lock 7 Rufus River	696.6	22.10	22.64	25.70	25.24
Lock 6 Murtho	619.8	19.25	19.26	21.03	20.50
Renmark	567.4	-	16.29	18.54	18.04
Lock 5	562.4	16.30	16.28	18.07	17.50
Lyrup	537.8	-	13.45	16.85	16.26
Berri	525.9	-	13.37	15.81	15.74
Lock 4	516.2	13.20	13.26	15.65	15.08
Loxton	489.9	-	10.70	15.05	14.12
Cobdogla	446.9	-	-	13.44	12.38
Lock 3	431.4	9.80	9.75	13.16	12.02
Overland Corner	425.9	-	7.06	12.73	11.58
Waikerie	383.6	-	6.50	11.26	10.24
Lock 2	362.1	6.10	6.20	10.28	9.30
Cadell	332.6	-	-	9.17	8.08
Morgan	321.7	-	3.56	8.85	7.65
Lock 1 Blanchetown	274.2	3.20	3.21	6.81	5.38
Swan Reach	245.0	0.75	0.89	6.06	4.51
Mannum PS	149.8	0.75	0.72	3.15	1.90
Murray Bridge	115.3	0.75	0.67	2.06	1.26

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



## FURTHER INFORMATION

The Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources has published a series of inundation maps for the River Murray. They are available at: [www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au](http://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au)

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

[www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm](http://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](http://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](http://www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm)

### Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources

<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 of Environment, Water and Natural Resources notifies otherwise.

