

# RIVER MURRAY WEEKLY FLOW REPORT

## Flow to South Australia

Report #1/2013

Issued 10:00 am 4 January 2013

This supersedes the previous flow report issued by the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) on 21 December 2012. The next flow report will be provided on Friday, 11 January 2013.

### FLOW OUTLOOK

The flow at the South Australian border is approximately 10 500 ML/day and will remain around this rate during the coming week, depending on upstream operations and rainfall events. The flow to South Australia currently comprises the January Entitlement Flow (nominal trade-adjusted flow of 7 000 ML/day), Additional Dilution Flow and environmental water provided by The Living Murray Program and Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder. South Australia is expected to receive Additional Dilution Flow until around 7 January 2013, when the volume in the Menindee Lakes is likely to fall below the specified trigger (volume of 1 300 000 ML). The total delivery of environmental water to South Australia in January 2013 will be approximately 100 000 ML. The flow to South Australia is expected to be maintained at a rate of around 10 500 ML/day due to the delivery of environmental water, which will support ongoing fresh water releases into the Coorong.

Lake Victoria storage is currently at 85 per cent capacity.

The flow over Lock 1 is approximately 6 700 ML/day and could be as low as 4 000 ML/day in the next couple of weeks, depending on upstream operations and diversions.

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 rainfall events or changed 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. They 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 0.70 m AHD and approximately 0.66 m AHD in Lake Albert. During the coming week, barrage operations will be managed to maximise environmental flow to the Coorong and target a water level of 0.75 m AHD in both lakes. This will provide opportunities to continue barrage releases during the summer months. Currently, barrage releases are prioritised through Tauwitchere Barrage to enhance ecological outcomes in the Coorong over summer.

To see live salinity data at various locations on the River Murray and in the Lower Lakes please refer to the following website:

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

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 Office.

### CONSTRUCTION WORKS

Construction of the Chowilla Creek Environmental Regulator is expected to be ongoing until the end of 2013. For public safety reasons, the Chowilla Creek remains closed to navigation at the construction site.



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## RIVER MURRAY WATER LEVELS

SA Water and the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources have developed a River Murray Water Levels 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 2 January 2013**

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	30.83	33.81	33.32
Lock 9 Kulnine	764.8	27.40	27.45	30.03	29.44
Lock 8 Wangumma	725.7	24.60	24.66	27.60	27.19
Lock 7 Rufus River	696.6	22.10	22.12	25.70	25.24
Lock 6 Murtho	619.8	19.25	19.26	21.03	20.50
Renmark	567.4	-	-	18.54	18.04
Lock 5	562.4	16.30	16.29	18.07	17.50
Lyrup	537.8	-	-	16.85	16.26
Berri	525.9	-	13.21	15.81	15.74
Lock 4	516.2	13.20	13.22	15.65	15.08
Loxton	489.9	-	-	15.05	14.12
Cobdogla	446.9	-	-	13.44	12.38
Lock 3	431.4	9.80	9.73	13.16	12.02
Overland Corner	425.9	-	6.43	12.73	11.58
Waikerie	383.6	-	-	11.26	10.24
Lock 2	362.1	6.10	6.10	10.28	9.30
Cadell	332.6	-	-	9.17	8.08
Morgan	321.7	-	3.31	8.85	7.65
Lock 1 Blanchetown	274.2	3.20	3.20	6.81	5.38
Swan Reach	245.0	0.75	0.84	6.06	4.51
Mannum PS	149.8	0.75	0.74	3.15	1.90
Murray Bridge	115.3	0.75	0.71	2.06	1.26

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



## WALKER FLAT RIVER VESSEL WASTE DISPOSAL STATION

This station was reopened last month after a closure period caused by concerns about riverbank collapse. An extensive geotechnical investigation determined that the site is now safe to access and boat operators can make use of the facility.

## 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/RMIM/](http://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMIM/)

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.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMWD/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMWD/Pages/default.aspx)

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

[www.mdba.gov.au/water/live-river-data](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/rivers-reservoirs-aquifers/river-murray/acid-drainage-water/](http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au/rivers-reservoirs-aquifers/river-murray/acid-drainage-water/)

Information provided by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office can be accessed at:

[www.environment.gov.au/ewater/southern/murray/lower-murray.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/ewater/southern/murray/lower-murray.html)

Information on The Living Murray can be accessed at:

[www.mdba.gov.au/programs/tlm/](http://www.mdba.gov.au/programs/tlm/)

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)

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

## Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources

[www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMWD/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMWD/Pages/default.aspx)

**UPDATES-** This advice remains current until the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources notifies otherwise.

