



South Australia's River Murray Water Allocation Statement

15 July 2019

This statement provides River Murray irrigators with information about water availability for the 2019-20 water year to inform business planning.

It contains information on South Australia's River Murray Entitlement, allocations, private carryover, water held in storage, climate outlook and projections of irrigation water allocations under a range of outlook scenarios for 2019-20.

Minimum Irrigation Allocation

The updated minimum irrigation allocation for the 2019-20 water year is 38 percent. Minimum allocations for other classes of water are included in Table A.

Table A - Minimum allocations 2019-20

Water Product	Minimum Allocation
All Purpose - Class 1 (stock and domestic)	100%
All Purpose - Class 2 (country towns)	68%
All Purpose - Class 3 (irrigation)	38%
All Purpose - Class 5 (industrial and dairy)	100%
Metropolitan Adelaide - Class 6	29%
All Purpose - Class 8 (environmental land management)	38%

The allocation of 31 percent, as announced on 01 July 2019, was gazetted on 04 July 2019.

Allocation decisions are made based on South Australia's water allocation framework detailed in [the Water Allocation Plan for the South Australian River Murray Prescribed Watercourse](#).

Figure 3 at the end of this document illustrates how available water from South Australia's Entitlement is prioritised and the relationship between the Entitlement and allocations.

Private Carryover

Private carryover will be available in 2019-20 for eligible Class 3 entitlement holders, who submit their meter reading by 31 July 2019.

An individual may carryover any water allocated to them and not used in the 2018-19 water year, up to 20 percent of the volume of Class 3 entitlements held on 30 June 2019.

The maximum allocation against entitlements for a water year is 100 percent, including private carryover.

South Australia's River Murray Entitlement

The projected minimum amount of water that will be delivered to South Australia as part of its Entitlement in 2019-20 is 1,090 gigalitres (GL).

This assumes that inflows in 2019-20 will be consistent with the lowest inflows on record.

Water held in storage

There were 3,504 GL held in Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) controlled storages (38 percent of capacity) at 11 July 2019.

The MDBA active storage volume is 3,295 GL (36 percent of active capacity).

The long-term average volume held in storage at the end of July is 6,659 GL (72 percent of total capacity).

102 GL of water is currently held in storage for South Australian private carryover.

Table B - Water held in Murray-Darling Basin storages at 10 July 2019

Storage	Full Supply Volume Active Storage	Current Volume Active Storage		South Australian Private Carryover Volume
	GL	GL	%	GL
Dartmouth Dam	3,785	2,359	62	102
Hume Dam	2,982	734	25	0
Lake Victoria	577	202	35	0
Menindee Lakes	1,731	0	-	-
Total	9,075	3,295	36	102

For more information on Murray-Darling Basin storages visit the [MDBA website](#).

Climate outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has recently updated its seasonal outlook for the three months from August to October. The new outlook indicates that it is still likely to be drier than average across the Murray-Darling Basin. A drier than average three months is likely for much of south-east Australia (Figure 1 left-hand side). Above average maximum temperatures are also likely (Figure 1 right-hand side).

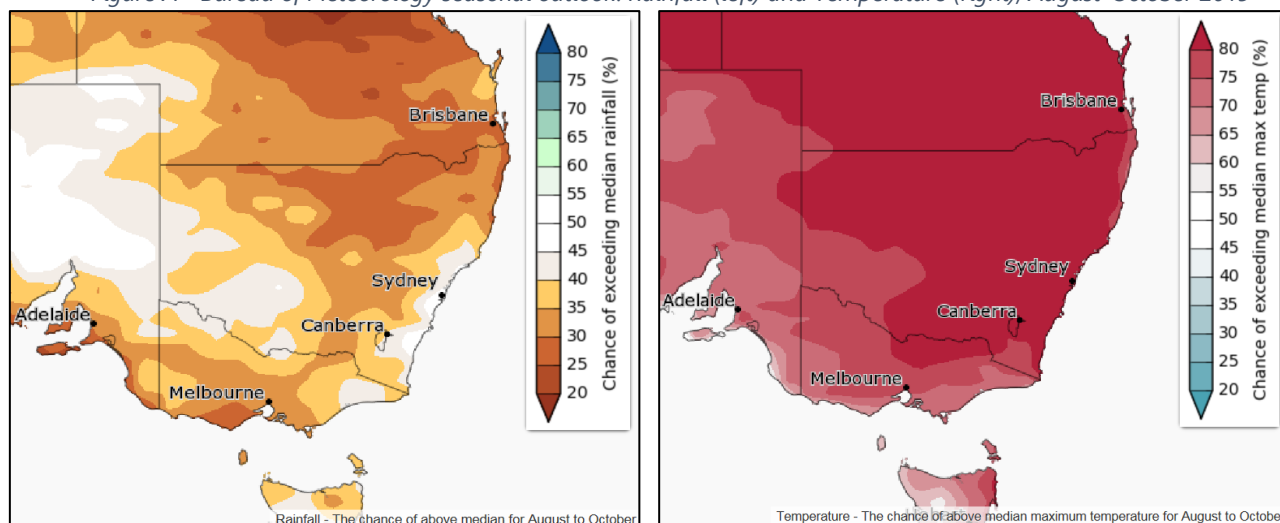
The *ENSO Outlook* is at El Niño INACTIVE. The immediate likelihood of El Niño developing has passed. However, Indian Ocean temperature forecasts show a positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) through the southern winter, which is likely to be the dominant climate driver for Australia.

Typically, a positive IOD brings below average winter-spring rainfall for southern and central Australia. This is currently being reflected in the rainfall outlook for the coming months.

The current state of the drivers means that higher than average pressure is likely over southern and eastern Australia. This can act to keep cold fronts further south and reduce the number of cold fronts affecting the southern states, thereby reducing rainfall.

For more information on seasonal rainfall and temperature outlooks go to the [BoM website](#).

Figure A - Bureau of Meteorology seasonal outlook. Rainfall (left) and Temperature (right), August-October 2019



Water availability projections

Water availability projections are a tool to help water users better understand the likelihood of future water allocations.

The water availability projections provide a guide about future water allocation increases based on River Murray system modelling and South Australia's River Murray Water Allocation Framework.

The modelling sets all storages and flows in the system to current conditions and uses historical inflow and climate conditions over the last 30 years to create unique inflow sequences.

The range of water availability conditions included in the table and graph (see Table C and Figure B) are based on historical variability in rainfall and temperature, in combination with current policy and operational settings.

Water availability projections indicate that in 2019-20:

- under extreme dry conditions allocations are likely to get to at least 79 percent;
- under very dry conditions allocations are likely to get to at least 97 percent; and
- under dry conditions allocations are likely get to 100 percent.

The projections do not incorporate information from the BoM's recently updated seasonal outlook, which indicates that it is likely to be drier than average across the catchment.

Table C - Water allocation scenarios under a range of water availability conditions for SA River Murray entitlements (Classes 3 and 8) | 15 July 2019

SA River Murray Irrigation Allocation Scenarios All Purpose - Class 3 15 July 2019	Minimum Allocation for 2019-20	1 Sep 2019	1 Nov 2019	1 Jan 2020	1 Apr 2020
Projected Allocation as a Percentage					
Exceptionally dry - 99% likelihood allocation will be at least	38	43	48	55	60
Extreme dry conditions - 95% likelihood allocation will be at least	38	47	66	75	79
Very dry conditions - 90% likelihood allocation will be at least	38	50	71	93	97
Dry conditions - 75% likelihood allocation will be at least	38	60	84	100	100
Average conditions - 50% likelihood allocation will be at least	38	69	100	100	100
Wet conditions - 25% likelihood allocation will be at least	38	86	100	100	100

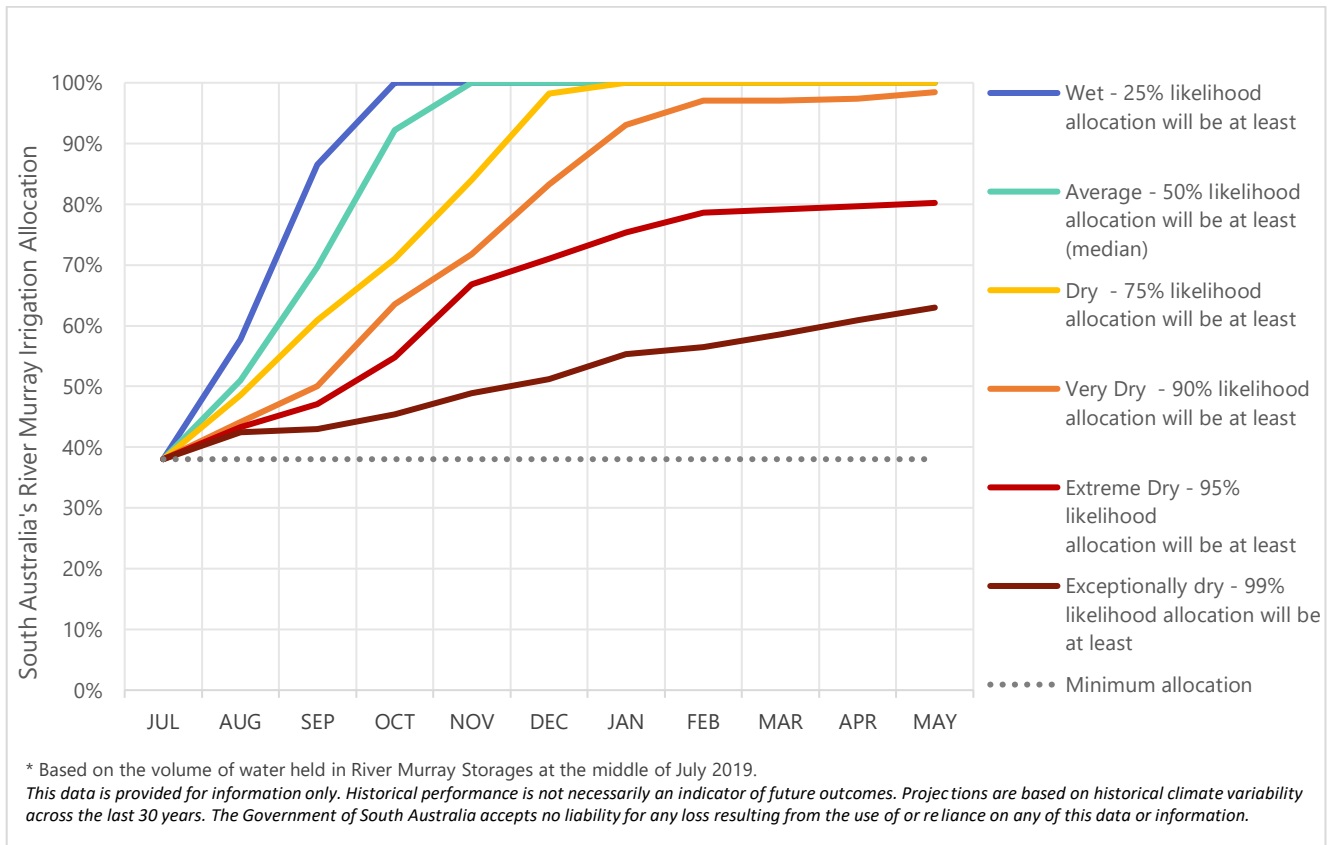
Based on forecast mid-July 2019 water availability.

DISCLAIMER: This data is provided for information only. Historical performance is not necessarily an indicator of future outcomes. Projections are based on historical climate variability across the last 30 years. The Government of South Australia accepts no liability for any loss resulting from the use of or reliance on any of this data or information.

Definitions: Based on modelling of water availability that simulates historical variability in rainfall and temperature, in combination with current policy and operational settings:

Exceptionally dry	There is a 99% likelihood your allocation will exceed the allocation in this scenario.
Extreme dry	There is a 95% likelihood your allocation will exceed the allocation in this scenario.
Very dry	There is a 90% likelihood your allocation will exceed the allocation in this scenario.
Dry	There is a 75% likelihood your allocation will exceed the allocation in this scenario.
Average	There is a 50% likelihood your allocation will exceed the allocation in this scenario.
Wet	There is a 25% likelihood your allocation will exceed the allocation in this scenario.

Figure B - Projected water allocation scenarios under a range of water availability conditions for SA River Murray entitlements (Classes 3 and 8) | 15 July 2019



Next announcement

The next announcement will be provided on 01 August 2019.

The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) will provide water availability updates every two weeks during the 2019-20 water year while water allocations are less than 100 per cent.

Further Information

To speak with someone about your water allocation or account:

- drop into the water licensing office at 2 Wade Street, Berri SA
- call the water licensing office on (08) 8595 2053
- email water licensing on DEW.WaterLicensingBerri@sa.gov.au

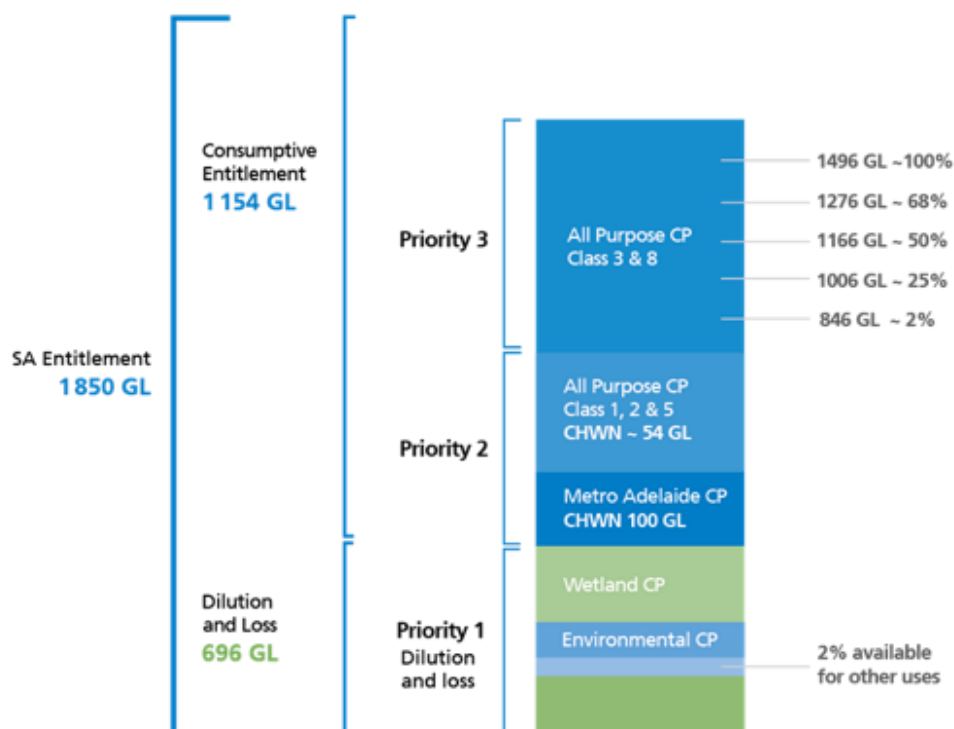
To speak with someone about water allocation projections contact:

- Dr Ashley Kingsborough, Principal Policy Adviser
T: (08) 8463 7991
- Mr Jarrod Eaton, Water Resource Operations Manager
T: (08) 8463 7927

For more information on South Australia's water allocations:

- visit the [DEW website](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/river-murray)
- email sarah.meins@sa.gov.au to receive the weekly River Murray Flow Report.

Figure 3 - 2019 River Murray Water Allocation Plan's allocation framework*



* This figure illustrates how water is prioritised and provides a guide as to how allocations will change with improvements in South Australia's River Murray Entitlement. The Water Allocation Plan for the South Australian River Murray Prescribed Watercourse details how water is allocated. Water is made available to one or more Consumptive Pools (CP) and then shared in accordance with the principles in the water allocation plan.