South Australia's River Murray Water Allocation Statement

14 June 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, opening 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 Opening Irrigation Allocation

The updated minimum opening irrigation allocation for the 2019-20 water year is 26 percent. Opening allocations for other classes of water are included in Table A.

Table A - Minimum opening allocations

Water Product	Projected Minimum Opening Allocation
All Purpose - Class 1 (stock and domestic)	100%
All Purpose - Class 3 (irrigation)	26%
All Purpose - Class 5 (industrial and dairy)	100%
All Purpose - Class 8 (environmental land management)	26%

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 Class 3 entitlement holders.

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 1020 gigalitres (GL).

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

Water held in storage

There were 3211 GL held in Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) controlled storages (35 percent of capacity) at the end of May 2019.

The MDBA active storage volume is 3211 GL (33 percent of active capacity).

The long-term average volume held in storage at the end of May is 5728 GL (62 percent of total capacity).

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

Table B - Water held in Murray-Darling Basin storages at the end of May 2019

Storage	Full Supply Volume Active Storage	Current Volume Active Storage		South Australian Private Carryover Volume
	GL	GL	%	GL
Dartmouth Dam	3785	2407	64	102.1
Hume Dam	2982	450	15	0
Lake Victoria	577	144	25	0
Menindee Lakes	1731	0	-	-
Total	9075	3001	33	102.1

For more information on Murray-Darling Basin storages visit the MDBA website.

Climate outlook

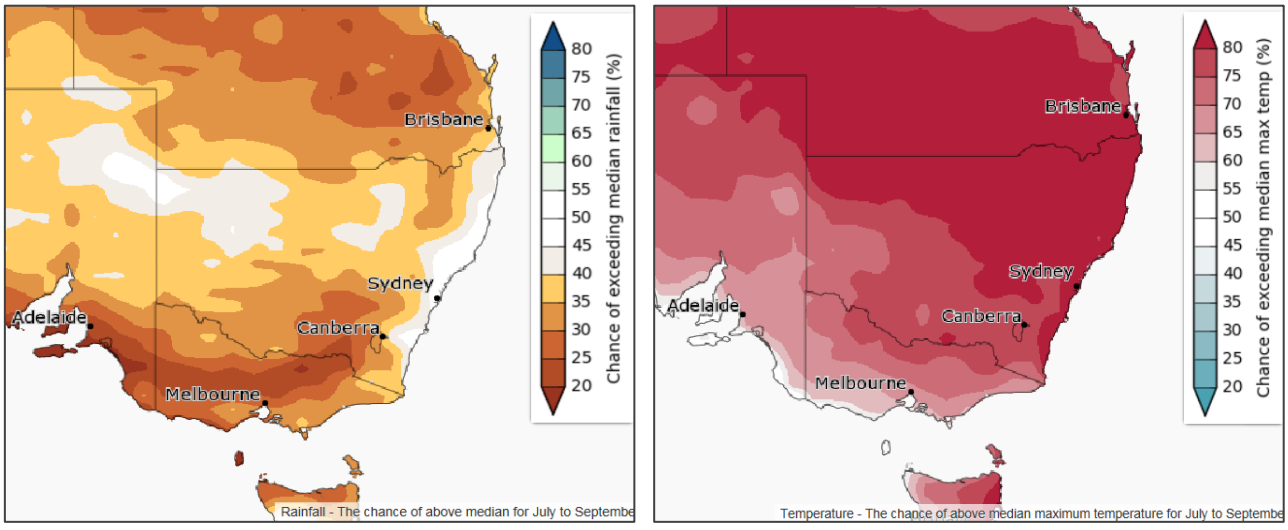
The Bureau of Meteorology's (BoM) has recently updated its seasonal outlook for the three months from July to September. The new outlook indicates that it is now likely to be drier than average across the Murray-Darling Basin. The chances of a drier than average three months exceeds 75 percent for much 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 WATCH. Climate models suggest a gradual shift away from El Niño levels over the coming months. 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 than normal, thereby reducing rainfall and the number of cold fronts affecting the southern states.

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), July-September 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.

Water availability projections indicate:

- there is 90 percent likelihood that allocations will get to at least 87 percent; and
- there is just over a 70 percent likelihood that allocations will get to 100 percent.

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.

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) | 14 June 2019

SA River Murray Irrigation Allocation Scenarios All Purpose - Class 3 | June 2019	1 Jul 2019 Opening Allocation	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	26	32	37	44	50
Extreme dry conditions - 95% likelihood allocation will be at least		36	55	64	69
Very dry conditions - 90% likelihood allocation will be at least		38	60	82	87
Dry conditions - 75% likelihood allocation will be at least		49	73	97	97
Average conditions - 50% likelihood allocation will be at least		58	95	100	100
Wet conditions - 25% likelihood allocation will be at least		76	100	100	100

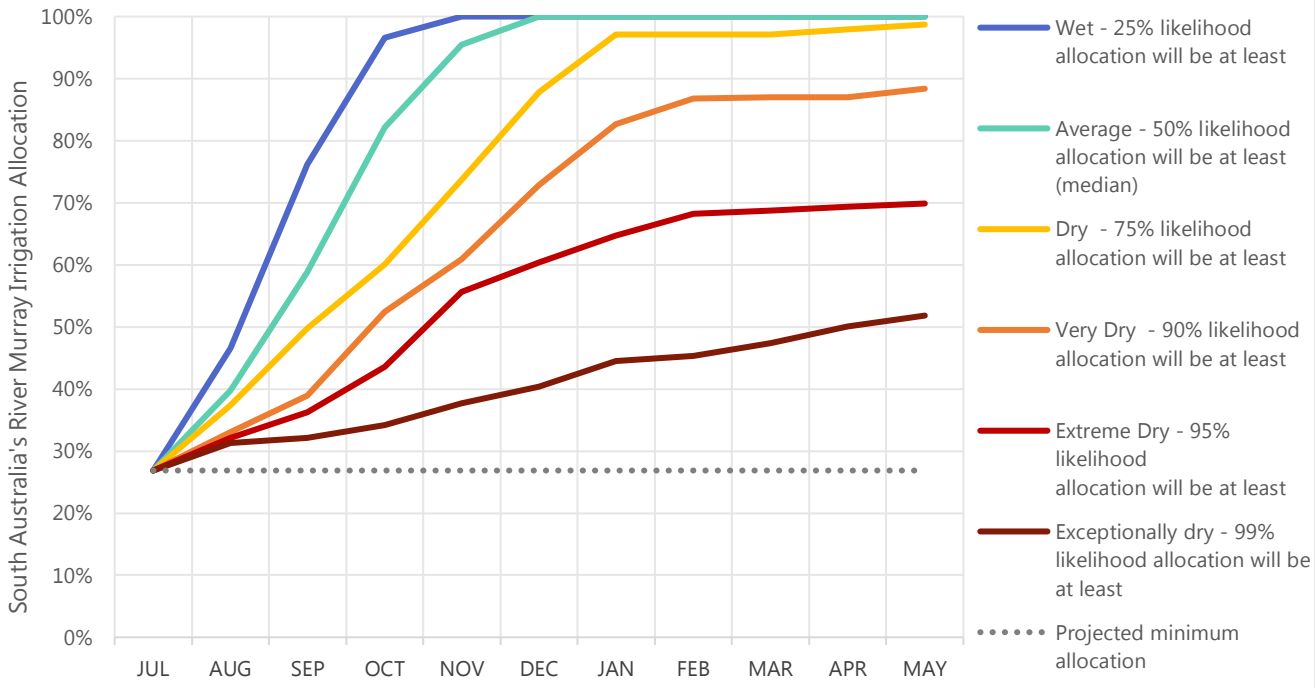
Correct as of 14 June 2019. Based on the volume of water held in Murray-Darling Basin storages at the end of May 2019.

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) | 14 June 2019



* Based on the volume of water held in River Murray Storages at the end of May 2019.

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Next announcement

The next announcement will be provided on 01 July 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:

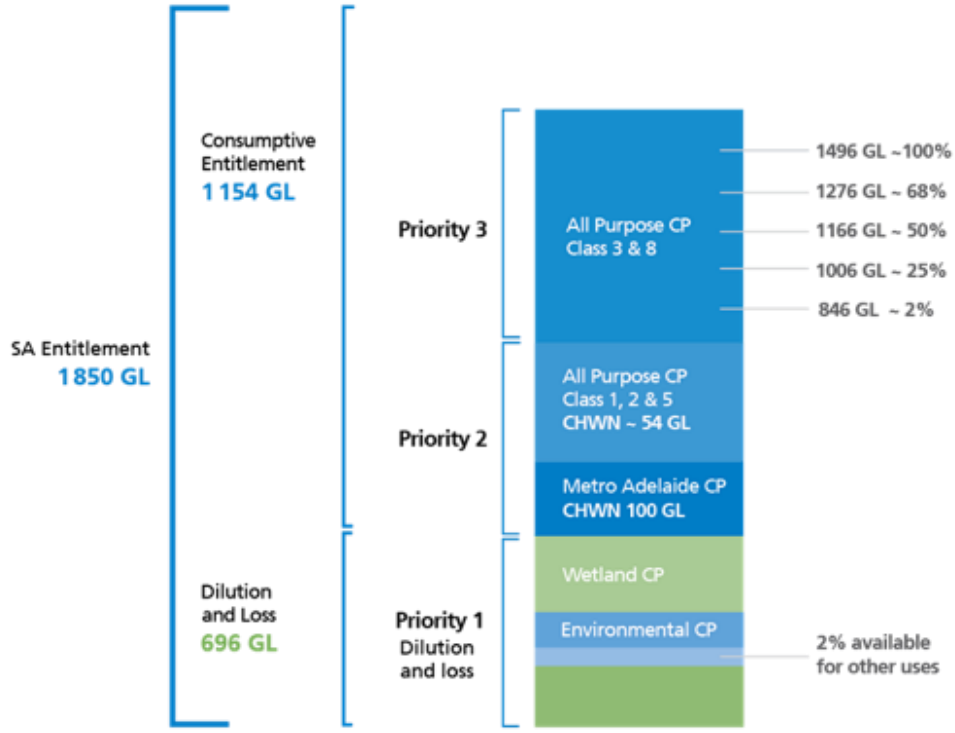
- Dr Ashley Kingsborough, Principal Policy Adviser T: (08) 8463 7991
- Mr Jarrod Eaton, Water Resource Operations Manager T: (08) 8463 7927

For more information on South Australia's water allocations:

- visit the DEW website
- 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.