

Community update for Menindee and Lower Darling-Baaka

Current flows

Water for the environment is currently being used to maintain a flow target of 400ML/day at Weir 32. This is double the required minimum for this time of year. The higher baseflow aims to maximise native fish recruitment particularly for Murray Cod and maintain basic ecosystem functions. Environmental water holders are planning to continue these flows until the end of winter.

The Menindee Lakes are at 64% capacity (1110 GL). 509 GL of inflows have already been received into the Lakes since the start of 2024. 30 – 50 GL is expected in the next 2 months. You can find the complete WaterNSW operations update [here](#).

Old Town Weir Removal

Work has begun on the removal of the Menindee Old Town Weir today with land clearing complete as shown in Figure 1. Removing the remaining sections of the weir will improve boat safety and the recreational amenities at this location by eliminating unseen and potentially dangerous barriers below the surface. The works are expected to take approximately two to three weeks to complete if water flows remain suitable and weather permits. Earthmoving equipment (e.g. excavators and dump trucks) will be used to deconstruct and remove the remaining sections of the old weir to the target level. A community update with more detail was issued on 12 July.



Figure 1

Additional information

- To notify the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water of potential blackwater events email: waterqualitydata@dpie.nsw.gov.au
- To view community updates issued, visit [Community updates and frequently asked questions | Water \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)
- To report dead fish, fish struggling or gasping at the water surface, or crayfish leaving the water please call the **NSW DPI Fisheries Phonenumber 1800 043 536** or fill in a fish kill protocol and report form at: <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/habitat/threats/fish-kills-2019-2020/info-sheet>
- Information on recent fish deaths is available at: [Fish kills in NSW](#). When reporting, please include the name of the river/waterbody, location and date of your observation and provide photographs. If possible, please also record what species are affected and an estimate of number of each species observed.
- Further information on blackwater events can be found at the DCCEE Water website at: [Hypoxic blackwater | Water \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)
- Additional information is also available on the Murray-Darling Basin Authority website at: <https://www.mdba.gov.au/climate-and-river-health/water-quality/fish-deaths>
<https://www.mdba.gov.au/water-management/infrastructure/menindee-lakes>
- Operational updates are available at: [WaterInsights - WaterNSW](#)
- Water quality data collected after the fish deaths at Menindee is available on the Environment Protection Authority web page at: <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/working-together/community-engagement/updates-on-issues/menindee-fish-kill>