Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Community update 14 August 2024



Community update for Menindee and Lower Darling-Baaka

Changed releases from Lake Menindee to Lake Wetherell

Works to remove the remaining sections of the Menindee Old Town Weir are now complete. Whilst work was underway, all water to meet the needs of downstream were being released from Lake Menindee. Releases will now shift from Lake Menindee to Lake Wetherell, to allow fresher water to move through the weir pool and push out any suspended sediment caused by the weir removal.

The current flows at Weir 32 total 410ML/day, comprising 210ML/day MDBA call on water for shared Murray water supply, in addition to 200ML/day of minimum release requirements.

WaterNSW will begin to decrease releases from 410ML/day to 0ML/day from Lake Menindee over a 2-day period which started on Wednesday 13 August. and increase releases from Lake Wetherell from 0ML day to 410ML/day.

We will continue to update the community as the releases progress and with any changes.

For more information email water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au or call 1300 081 047.

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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 <u>Community updates and frequently asked questions</u> 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 Phoneline 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: <u>Fish kills in NSW.</u> 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 DCCEEW Water website at: <u>Hypoxic blackwater | Water (nsw.gov.au)</u>
- 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