



Thursday, 15 October 2009

**Small Improvement for General Security Water Users in the Murray and Murrumbidgee Valleys**

Acting NSW Water Commissioner, Tracey Barton , today announced an increase in water allocations for general security water users in the both the Murrumbidgee and Murray Valleys.

“Good rainfall across both catchments particularly in the Snowy Mountains has improved inflows and allowed for today’s allocation increase,” said Ms Barton.

Ms Barton said that the Murrumbidgee general security allocations would increase by 1 percent to 4 per cent of entitlement.

“Likewise, inflows in the Murray Valley have improved enough to allow for general security allocations to increase by 4 per cent to 5 per cent of entitlement,” she said.

“There will be no change to allocations in the Lower Darling with general security allocations remaining on 25 per cent of entitlement

Flows into the Darling River have virtually ceased over the last month with releases from the Menindee lakes reduced to the minimum.

Ms Barton said that while flows were low, town water supply to Broken Hills was secure for at least 21 months.

Ms Barton stressed while this improvement was a very positive sign for all water users in the southern valleys, water to meet critical human needs has not been reserved yet for 2010/11 and all water users should continue to be as conservative as possible with their use in what continues to be the worst drought ever experienced.

**Ends**

**Media contact:** Bunty Driver 0407 40 3234

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