



Monday 16, August 2010

Recent rainfall enables increases for high security water users in the southern basin

Continued rainfall over the past two weeks throughout the Murrumbidgee and Murray River Valleys has enabled the NSW Office of Water to increase high security allocations for the second time this month.

“In the Murrumbidgee Valley, the high security allocation, including for town water supply and licensed domestic and stock has been increased from 80 per cent to 95 per cent of entitlement.”

“In the NSW Murray Valley, the high security allocation including town water supply and domestic and stock has been increased from 40 to 70 per cent of entitlement.”

NSW Water Commissioner, David Harriss, said that creeks and streams in both the Murrumbidgee and Murray Valleys are now running as a result of the continued rainfall throughout August.

The recent wide spread rain onto an already wet catchment has seen moderate run off generated in the Murrumbidgee Valley where volumes in the major water storages are now at their highest level since 2005.

Mr Harriss said that while the water in the major dams in both valleys is much higher now than at the same time in recent years, a significant proportion of this is unused water from last season, and is allocated to private accounts.

More detailed information on rainfall, inflows and storage management for both the Murrumbidgee and NSW Murray is available in today’s critical water planning communiqués.

The communiqués and daily river flow information can be found on the Office of Water’s website at www.water.nsw.gov.au

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The NSW Office of Water is a separate office within the
Department of Environment Climate Change and Water

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www.water.nsw.gov.au