

Community update for Barwon–Darling, Menindee Lakes and Lower Darling–Baaka river

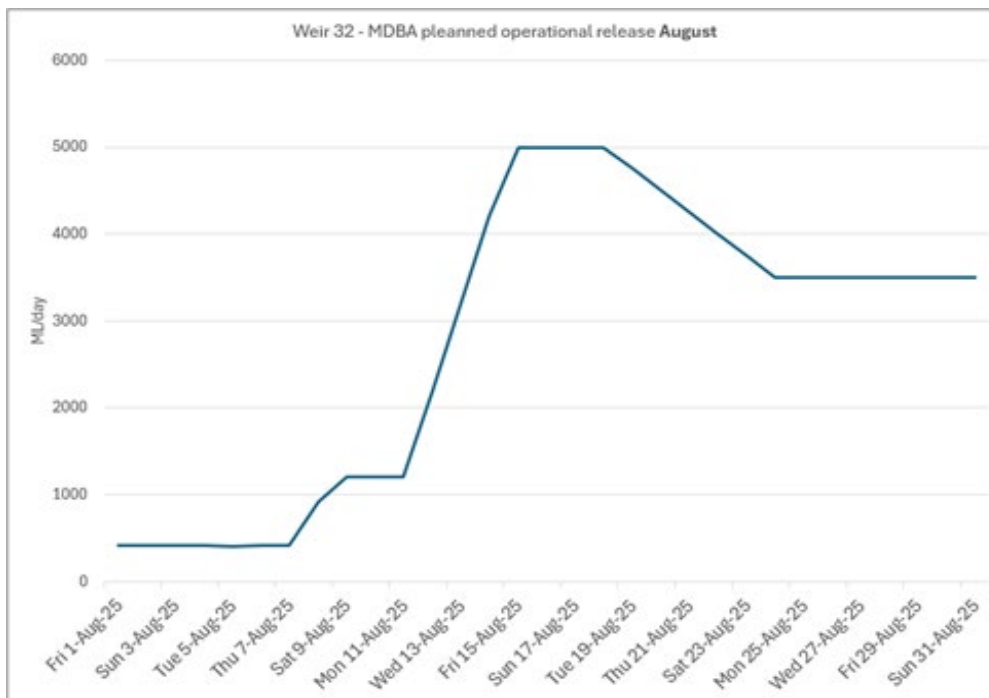
Current conditions

Flows in the Darling River around Menindee are rising as part of MDBA’s call on shared resource to meet water resource demands in the River Murray. The planned releases will result in a pulse of 5,000 ML/day being released from the upper lakes to provide a flush through the Weir 32 weir pool. Water is being released mainly from the Wetherell outlet, with some from Lake Pamamaroo to meet the target. Figure 1 shows the daily volumes of water being released which commenced last week on Thursday 7 August 2025.

Wilcannia flows are steady at around 2,000 ML/day and are expected to hold until renewed inflows arrive, with 400–500 GL forecast to enter the lakes by late October. Additional Dilution Flows (ADF) to South Australia are expected to be triggered from 1 September for around 10 days, adding 3,000 ML/day to the required cross-border flows while Menindee storage remains above the 1,300 GL trigger. However, depending on weather conditions in the Murray catchment, and as more information becomes available, releases will change. We’ll keep you informed via these updates.

The Weir 32 fishway barrier has now been removed, improving fish movement, and water quality will continue to be monitored as these operations progress.

Figure 1: Planned operational releases in August



Upcoming agency trips to the area

Below is a table outlining the dates and times our agencies will be visiting Menindee and the surrounding areas. Each agency will provide notice to the community if needed.

Agency	When	Reason for visit / Activity	Location
The Basin Officials Committee (BOC)	August 2025	Senior officials from each Basin Government will meet in August 2025 and will visit Menindee.	Menindee
DCCEEW Science Division	13–14 August 18–22 August	Water sampling and buoy maintenance	Menindee weir pool, Wilcannia, Menindee, Pooncarie, and Wentworth
DPIRD Fisheries	20 September	Temporary Tube Fishway Trial – Year 2 Launch	Lake Wetherell Outlet Regulator (Main Weir Road)

Additional information

- To notify the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water of potential blackwater events email: water.enquiries@dpie.nsw.gov.au
- To view community updates issued, visit water.nsw.gov.au/menindee-updates
- If you've got any questions regarding this update contact your local implementation officer, Kate McBride on 0458 945 149 or kate.mcbride@dpie.nsw.gov.au
- To report dead fish, fish struggling or gasping at the water surface, or crayfish leaving the water please call the **NSW Department of Primary Industry Fisheries Phonenumber 1800 043 536** or fill in a fish kill protocol and report form at: 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 department's website at: water.nsw.gov.au/hypoxic-blackwater
- Additional information is also available on the Murray–Darling Basin Authority website at: www.mdba.gov.au/climate-and-river-health/water-quality/fish-deaths
www.mdba.gov.au/water-management/infrastructure/menindee-lakes
- WaterNSW operational updates are available in [WaterInsights](#)
- Water quality data collected after the fish deaths at Menindee is available on the Environment Protection Authority web page at: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/working-together/community-engagement/updates-on-issues/menindee-fish-kill
- Real-time water quality data from DCCEEW-CPHR monitoring buoys can be accessed from the [Darling–Baaka River Health Project dashboard](#)
- Data from the WaterNSW gauging network can be found in WaterInsights at: <https://waterinsights.waternsw.com.au/12104-lower-darling-regulated-river/river-data>