

February 2020 rainfall event

Barwon-Darling

25 March 2020 - Update

- Menindee inflow forecast is now for 295,000ML to 360,000ML.
- No significant changes to forecast inflows from the Border Rivers, Moonie, Gwydir and Namoi.
- Local drainage continues upstream of Beemery and generated around 7 GL gain over last 2 days.
- In the Condamine Balonne over 1,400 GL has been observed at St George and major flows have already arrived in NSW. Based on observed flow at upstream NSW gauges and BoM's water level forecast, around 140-160 GL inflow is now expected from Culgoa River upstream of Warraweena and around 25-30 GL is expected from Bokhara River upstream of Beemery.
- More than 1,000 GL has been observed in the Warrego River at Cunnamulla. An initial 20-40GL inflow is considered at Dicks Dam as inflow from the Warrego River, including flows from local rain that commenced on 6 March.
- Forecasts include estimated extractions from Mungindi to Culgoa junction from 27 Feb 2020 and downstream of Culgoa junction from 6 Mar 2020.

Forecast Flows

The Barwon-Darling system is an unregulated river system, which travels through a very arid environment with significant losses due to high evaporation and long flow-travel times. It is very difficult to accurately forecast downstream flows as local conditions can vary significantly over the number of weeks it takes the water to travel along the river. The below summaries are the current forecast estimates of flows along the system and assume that the Barwon-Darling temporary water restrictions have been lifted. Unless there is a substantial change to the forecast, the next update will be provided on Friday 27 March 2020.

Location	Observed volume (ML)	Total forecast volume – including observed (ML)	Date or expected date of flow arrival	Comments about inflows to each section
Mungindi	66,122	67,000 – 69,000	15 Feb 2020	Inflows are from the Border Rivers
Presbury	58,561	60,000-62,000	5 Feb 2020	
Mogil Mogil	192,171	193,000-195,000	27 Jan 2020	Expected total inflows (observed and forecast) are 14 GL from Gil Gil and 75 GL from Moonie. Gain from localised inflows.
Collarenberi (total flow including Old Pockataroo anabranch)	225,144	227,000 – 230,000	6 Feb 2020	Expected total inflows (observed and forecast) are 25 GL from Mehi. Total observed flows at Garwon (Old Pockataroo) are 10 GL
Tara	240,389	242,000 – 245,000	7 Feb 2020	Gain from localised inflows
Walgett	336,947	338,000 –342,000	9 Feb 2020	Expected total inflows (observed and forecast) are 84-85 GL from Namoi at Goangra
Boorooma	287,556	292,000 – 300,000	13 Feb 2020	Flows likely out of bank
Geera	323,920	325,000 - 335,000	12 Feb 2020	Inflow considered from Mathaguy Ck and Castlereagh River.
Brewarrina	288,463	290,000 – 300,000	16 Feb 2020	
Beemery	354,870	375,000 – 400,000	18 Feb 2020	Based on observed flows at NSW gauges, around 25-30 GL inflow is expected from Bokhara. Gain from localised inflows.
Warraweena	416,877	450,000 – 490,000	19 Feb 2020	Based on observed flows at NSW gauges, around 130-150 GL inflow is expected from Culgoa.
Bourke	380,584	410,000 – 450,000	20 Feb 2020	
Louth	323,569	385,000 – 435,000	24 Feb 2020	Around 20-40 GL inflow considered as initial forecast from Warrego
Tilpa	290,692	360,000 – 410,000	28 Feb 2020	
Wilcannia	229,369	335,000– 385,000	5 Mar 2020	
Lake Wetherell and Lake Tandure	171,184	295,000 - 360,000	10 Mar 2020	Around 10-20 GL expected from Dolo-Bonley Creek system downstream of Wilcannia.