



Western Murray Irrigation Ltd

# Newsletter

October 2020

## From the CEO

The welcome rain in the first quarter of 2020/21 has resulted in an 19% decrease below the 5-year average of the volume of water pumped by WMI.

The climate outlook for October to December is likely to be wetter than average with maximum temperatures also around the average.

The return of wet and warmer weather can lead to water quality problems such as blue-green algae or blackwater events. WMI will update our website with the latest alerts or use SMS if the alerts are heightened or urgent. It is important that customers manage water quality issues by ensuring they have tank storage with at least 2 weeks supply of water or where customers are leasing or renting out their properties to keep the leasee and/or agent up to date.

WMI is registered as a COVID Safe business with the NSW Government. We will continue to maintain a COVID-19 free workplace by continuing practices such as using hand sanitisers; ensuring physical distancing; regular cleaning/disinfection of high touch areas and ask that you do not visit if feeling unwell.

## Meter upgrade & telemetry project update

WMI has completed the installation of Siemens meters and telemetry poles at all eligible outlets in Coomealla, the remaining installations at Curlwaa and Buronga will be completed in October.

While telemetry system checks and tests continue, the new meters are ready for immediate use.

A quick-start user guide (available on the website) plus meter changeover documentation has been sent

to those customers. The new meter has additional benefits including the customer resettable totaliser.

We would like to thank all those customers for their on-going co-operation during this project.

## Winter maintenance program 2020 update

Our scheduled winter maintenance program for the 2020 winter period is almost complete, and includes:

### Buronga

- Pump station walkway (complete)
- High/Low voltage electrical checks (complete)
- Calibrate sensors and fail-safes (in-progress)

### Coomealla

- Balance tower inspection (complete)
- Downsize Davies Shepherd mechanical meters for low water usage (complete)
- Replace pump B with new KSB replacement (pending)
- High/Low voltage electrical checks (complete)
- Genset bunding install (complete)
- Cathodic protection maintenance (complete)
- Calibrate sensors and fail-safes (in-progress)

### Curlwaa

- Balance tower inspection (complete)
- Cathodic protection maintenance (complete)
- Calibrate sensors and fail-safes (in-progress)

WMI endeavours to minimise any interruptions and will alert customers to any planned or unplanned events.

First Quarter Invoice 2020/21  
Due for payment:  
4.30pm on  
Tuesday 24 November 2020

**On-call Officer**  
24 hours/365 days  
Ph: 0428 596 428

Office Hours: 9:00am to 4:30pm  
Monday to Friday, ex. public holidays  
Contact us:  
T: (03) 5027 4953  
F: (03) 5027 4880

www: [westernmurray.com.au](http://westernmurray.com.au)  
E: [enquiries@westernmurray.com.au](mailto:enquiries@westernmurray.com.au)

Upcoming office closures:  
**Christmas Service**  
Closed: Midday 23 December 2020 to  
Friday 1 January 2021 inclusive



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## Improvements to Coomealla water delivery

There have been significant changes to customer demand including an increase of removed or redundant outlets; and increased farm sizes utilising single outlets. This year the order system is being adjusted (utilising hydraulic modelling) to allow for these changes. The aim is to prevent water being 'locked out' in the order system, thereby utilising all available water for customer use whilst maintaining current service levels.

The hydraulic modelling will also assist by identifying areas requiring infrastructure upgrades.

## 2020 AGM

WMI is delighted to invite its shareholders to its 26<sup>th</sup> AGM this year. The **2020 26<sup>th</sup> AGM** will be held as follows:

6:00pm  
Tuesday 24 November 2020  
The Auditorium  
Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club

The WMI Board will present items including:

- A declaration of the appointment of two Member Directors (Matt Cottrell as Buronga Director and Mick Goodrem as General Member Director); and
- The 2020 Audited Financial Statements

The AGM will be followed by a guest speaker from the new Mildura office of the Murray Darling Basin Authority and refreshments.

Shareholders will be receiving detailed AGM information and an invitation in the mail.

## First quarterly invoice due for payment

The first quarter invoice for 2020/21 is now available and due for payment on or before Tuesday 24 November 2020.

Please contact the office before the due date if there are any difficulties in prompt payment of accounts.

## Additional Water Fee reminder

Water usage above allocation is billed quarterly at \$1,200/ML.

Please ensure you **always have a positive water allocation in your account**, in order to meet your needs for the current irrigation season.

Customers should contact the friendly office staff for more information.

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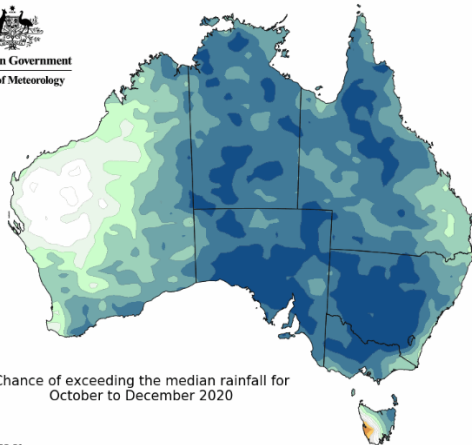


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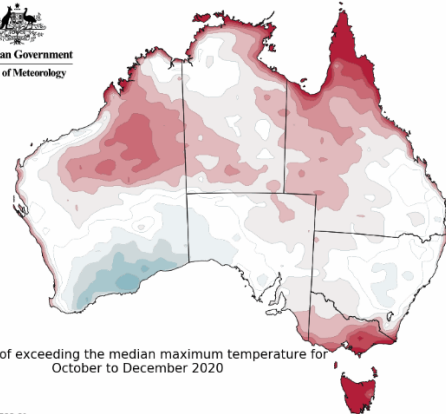
October 2019

## Climate Outlook: October to December 2020

The Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting wetter conditions for many parts of Australia:



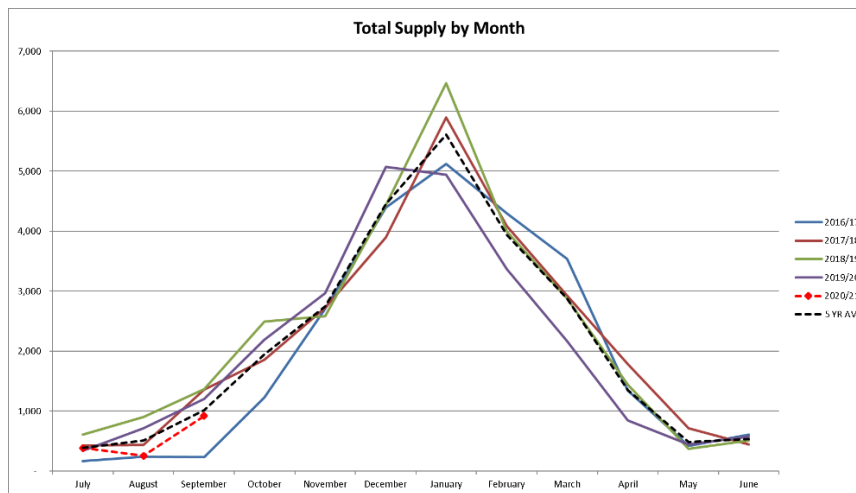
Model: ACCESS-S1  
Base period: 1990-2012



Model run: 28/09/2020  
Issued: 01/10/2020  
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## Total Water Pumped over 5 Years



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