



Thursday, 22 October 2009

Increase In Water Allocations to Murray and Murrumbidgee General Security Users

NSW Commissioner for Water, David Harriss announced today an increase in water availability to general security water users in the Murrumbidgee and Murray Valleys.

Mr Harriss said that the recent increase in water availability principally in the Snowy Mountains Scheme will be diverted into the Murrumbidgee and Murray Valleys in the coming months. This will allow an immediate increase in general security allocations in the Murray Valley to 9 percent of entitlement and an increase in the Murrumbidgee Valley 11 per cent of entitlement.

Mr Harriss said that while it is normal practice to announce improvements in availability on the 1st and 15th of each month, today's announcement is being made earlier to allow for irrigator need to make immediate decisions in relation to summer cropping programs.

The improvement in water availability in the NSW Murray Valley will ensure a continuous flow can be delivered into the Wakool River system. This will provide significant environmental benefits and maintain native fish habitat. The additional water availability will also enable current restrictions on irrigation in these tributaries to be removed.

Future announcements on water availability will continue to be made as normal on the 1st and 15th of each month.

Media contact: Bunty Driver 0407 40 3234

Our news releases are on the web:
www.water.nsw.gov.au

