

# Community update on response to fish deaths in Menindee and Lower Darling-Baaka

## Increased flows commencing today to support fish and river health

Water quality conditions in the Weir 32 weir pool are deteriorating again due to persistent stratification\* which could lead to hypoxic conditions when the water mixes. Maximum air temperatures are expected to be mid-high 20s for the next 3 days and there is rain and potential storm activity. This could cause a destratification\*\* event.

To combat this, we are commencing a pulse of water from Lake Pamamaroo starting at 600M/L a day from this afternoon (Thursday 23 November). This will increase to 1000M/L a day on Friday and Saturday.

In consultation with the MDBA and WaterNSW, we are incorporating the MDBA's call on water (which is due to commence today) into the total amount being released.

From Sunday 26 November, the target of 1100 ML/day at Weir 32 will continue to be delivered to meet MDBA call on water, however, releases from Lake Pamamaroo will decrease and releases from Lake Menindee increase.

The MDBA are targeting a maximum release from the Lakes of 3000 ML/day from approximately 10 December. We will continue to work with MDBA to see how we can accommodate future pulsed releases, within their call on water.

We apologise for the short notice, but water quality conditions are dynamic and we need to act rapidly to prevent the risk of fish deaths. We are monitoring conditions in the river regularly.

\*(Stratification means that the top layer of water tends to be warm and well-oxygenated compared to the deeper water that is colder and has less oxygen. The longer stratification goes on, the more chance there is that the oxygen in the bottom level is depleted. When the top and bottom water mixes (destratification\*\*), the result is water that is low in oxygen).

For more information [visit our website](#).