



Thursday, 22 November 2012

## No data due to theft of river gauging equipment

NSW Water Commissioner, David Harriss, today announced that Darling River flows for some sites at Menindee are not available due to the theft of monitoring equipment.

“Recently NSW Office of Water river monitoring sites at Menindee township and Menindee Lakes have been vandalised with equipment stolen or broken, Mr Harriss said.

“These monitoring sites house very important monitoring equipment such as water level loggers, sensor recording instruments, batteries and solar panels.”

“Without this equipment we are not able to provide vital information to water users and the general public regarding Darling River flows,” Mr Harriss said.

“There will be no water data available at two monitoring sites at Lake Menindee where monitoring equipment has been stolen and requires full replacement.”

“Monitoring sites at Menindee township, Lake Wetherell and Lake Pamamaroo have been damaged. The quality of information recorded by these sites has been affected and requires a technician to visit the site and service the instruments.”

“Such senseless acts are a cost to the NSW Government and the community.”

“During the very recent flood events in the Darling River, this equipment was vital to advise landholders and the community of the changing river flows.”

“The NSW Police have been informed of the theft and damage and are currently investigating the matter.”

“Additional security measures have now been taken to protect this very important equipment around the Menindee area.”

“We ask the community to be alert and report any suspicious activities to the Police or the local NSW Office of Water office,” Mr Harriss said.

Contact the NSW Office of Water at freecall 1800 353 104 or email [information@water.nsw.gov.au](mailto:information@water.nsw.gov.au)

**ENDS**

**Media contact:** Anne Brook (02) 6701 9662 or 0419 120 527

Our news releases are on the web: [www.water.nsw.gov.au](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au) Follow us on Twitter @OfficeofWater