

VICTORIAN ENVIRONMENTAL WATER HOLDER
SEASONAL WATERING STATEMENT #1 FOR
NORTH EAST CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY 2023-24
OVENS RIVER, KING RIVER, MULLINMUR WETLAND

The Victorian Environmental Water Holder makes the following seasonal watering statement under section 33DY of the *Water Act 1989*.

1. PURPOSE

This seasonal watering statement authorises North East Catchment Management Authority to use water from the Water Holdings in the Ovens River, King River and Mullinmur Wetland to achieve environmental objectives and expected watering effects specified in section 5.3 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2023-24* and for emergency environmental watering in accordance with section 1.2.8 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2023-24*.

2. DURATION OF APPROVAL

This seasonal watering statement is valid from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, unless superseded by another seasonal watering statement or revoked by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.

3. AUTHORISATION TO USE THE WATER HOLDINGS

North East Catchment Management Authority is authorised to use up to 123 ML of water from the Water Holdings in Ovens River, King River and Mullinmur Wetland.

This water is made available by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder and can be used from allocation accounts 108339 and 108340 held by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.

This authorisation includes water committed by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder in accordance with a decision communicated through the *Commonwealth Environmental Water Office (CEWO) – Victorian Environmental Water Holder (VEWH) – North East Catchment Management Authority (NECMA) Watering Schedule: Ovens system, 2019-20 to 2023-24*, executed on 3 December 2019.

Water is to be delivered in accordance with the potential environmental watering actions specified in Table 5.3.1 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2023-24* or the emergency watering procedure in section 1.2.8 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2023-24*.

This authorisation is subject to:

- (a) consultation with Victorian Environmental Water Holder to ensure the availability of sufficient water in the Water Holdings to which this statement applies and the appropriate allocation account to order water from
- (b) consultation with the Victorian Environmental Water Holder when undertaking emergency environmental watering
- (c) endorsement of a delivery plan for Mullinmur Wetland by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder (if wetland watering proceeds) and implementation of the conditions and risk mitigating strategies of the endorsed delivery plans and in line with section 1.2.7 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2023-24*
- (d) an agreement for watering private land where required, endorsed by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder
- (e) implementation of the risk mitigating strategies identified in North East Catchment Management Authority's *Lower Ovens Seasonal Watering Proposal 2023-24* and in line with section 1.2.7 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2023-24*

- (f) reporting to the Victorian Environmental Water Holder on implementation of this seasonal watering statement.

Execution

Executed on 23/06/2023



by

Kathryn Roosje, Team Leader – Planning and Reporting, Victorian Environmental Water Holder

Upon the decision of the Commission of the Victorian Environmental Water Holder made on 22 June 2023.