









Variation to the Seasonal Watering Plan 2024-25













This variation was made to Section 5.2.6 Lower Murray Wetlands of the Seasonal Watering Plan 2024-25 by the VEWH CEO on 22 January 2025.


















Variation to table 5.2.14 of the Seasonal Watering Plan 2024-25












Amended changes are shown in red text

Table 5.2.14 Lower Murray wetlands system potential environmental watering actions, expected effects and environmental objectives

Potential environmental watering action	Expected watering effects	Environmental objectives
Bidgee Lagoons (top up in spring)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inundate adjacent river red gum and black box communities to stimulate growth and flowering to improve their condition and extent Provide conditions and water levels (to target 52.4 m AHD) to support the growth of aquatic and emergent vegetation and promote the diversity of emergent vegetation communities Provide feeding and breeding opportunities for frogs and habitat for fish species Mobilise leaf litter to promote carbon and nutrient cycling 	 A1  CN1 F2 V1 V2
Bottle Bend Wetlands (fill in spring)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide soil moisture to maintain and improve the health of the adjacent black box (to a target water level of 36.5 m AHD) Provide conditions to support the growth of aquatic and emergent vegetation Provide feeding and breeding opportunities for frogs Maintain feeding and nesting opportunities for non-colonial waterbirds 	 A1  B1  V1 V2
Brickworks Billabong (fill in spring/summer, then as required)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreate wetland habitat to support Murray hardyhead populations (to a target water level of 31.6 m AHD) Re-establish and improve the extent and coverage of ruppia to provide nursery habitat for Murray hardyhead and provide high levels of aquatic productivity Manage salinity within an acceptable range for Murray hardyhead and ruppia 	 B1  F1  V1

Potential environmental watering action	Expected watering effects	Environmental objectives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide shallow-water habitat and exposed mudflats to support foraging and resting waterbirds, including migratory waterbirds 	
Bridge Creek (includes Bridge Creek Wetland) (fill in spring)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide soil moisture to maintain and improve the condition of streamside and floodplain vegetation (to a target water level of 56.5 m AHD), specifically river red gum, black box and lignum Increase dissolved organic matter, particulate matter and macroinvertebrate productivity Provide shallow-water habitat to provide feeding habitat for wetland-dependent species, including frogs and birds Stimulate the growth of aquatic vegetation Provide conditions for semi-aquatic lake-bed herbland to establish during draw down 	 A1  B1  CN1  V1 V2
Brown Swamp (Pound Bend) (fill in autumn)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inundate and wet outer fringing lignum and vegetation communities (to a target water level of 47.0 m AHD) to improve their condition Inundate adjacent river red gum communities to stimulate their growth and flowering, to improve their condition and extent 	 V2
Bullock Swamp North (partial fill in spring) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide soil moisture to maintain and improve the condition of streamside and floodplain vegetation (to a target water level of 38.5 m AHD), specifically black box and lignum Provide feeding opportunities for waterbirds Provide a lateral spread of freshwater (to a target level of 38.5 m AHD) to refresh local groundwater, which will support the condition of surrounding black box trees not directly inundated and improve the condition of the swamp 	 B1  V2
Burra Creek North (fill in autumn)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide soil moisture to maintain and improve the condition of streamside and floodplain vegetation, specifically river red gum, black box and lignum Provide habitat through improved vegetation communities and water resources for birds and frogs Mobilise leaf litter to promote carbon and nutrient cycling 	 A1
Burra Creek South (fill in autumn)		 B1  CN1
Burra Creek South Proper (fill in autumn)		 V2

Potential environmental watering action		Expected watering effects	Environmental objectives
Koorlong Lake (top-ups in spring, then as required)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase and maintain the water level (to a target level between 36.7 m AHD and 38.0 m AHD) to support the growth of saline aquatic vegetation, including ruppia, to provide nursery habitat for Murray hardyhead and provide high levels of aquatic productivity Maintain the water level within a 1.3 m range to provide feeding resources for waterbirds and maintain the Murray hardyhead population 	 B1  F1  V1
Lake Carpul (fill in winter/spring 2024)¹ 	Part B: July-November 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a range of open-water, shallow-water and emergent vegetation habitats for water-dependent species, including frogs and birds, to support breeding and feeding opportunities Stimulate the growth of aquatic vegetation during inundation Inundate and wet outer fringing river red gum, black box, lignum and vegetation communities (to a target water level of 55.05 m AHD at Lake Powell and 52.23 m AHD at Lake Carpul) to maintain and improve their condition Provide conditions for semi-aquatic lake-bed herbland to establish during drawdown Mobilise carbon and aid nutrient cycling within the wetland to support wetland processes 	 A1  B1  CN1  V1 V2
Lake Powell (fill in winter/spring 2024)¹ 	Part B: July-November 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide conditions for semi-aquatic lake-bed herbland to establish during drawdown Mobilise carbon and aid nutrient cycling within the wetland to support wetland processes 	
Lake Hawthorn (top-ups in spring, then as required)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the water level between 33 m AHD and 33.3 m AHD to encourage the germination and growth of saline aquatic vegetation, including ruppia, and provide mudflat and shallow-water feeding habitat for shorebirds 	 B1  V1
Neds Corner Floodplain² (fill in autumn) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a range of open-water, shallow-water and emergent vegetation habitats for wetland-dependant species, including frogs and birds, and support breeding and feeding opportunities Stimulate the growth of aquatic vegetation during inundation Provide soil moisture to maintain and improve the condition of streamside and floodplain vegetation, specifically black box Provide conditions for semi-aquatic lake-bed herbland to establish during draw down 	 A1  B1  V1 V2
Neds Corner Lagoon² (fill in autumn) 			
Old Tip Wetland² (fill in autumn) 			

Potential environmental watering action	Expected watering effects	Environmental objectives
Nyah Floodplain (fill in autumn)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inundate the base and littoral zone of Parnee Malloo Creek (to a target water level of 63.2 m AHD) to support aquatic and semi-aquatic plant communities Improve the condition of vegetation communities to provide a range of habitats and resources for birds and frogs Inundate floodplain adjacent to Parnee Malloo Creek to promote the growth of herb and shrub layers Inundate river red gums to maintain and improve their condition Mobilise carbon and nutrients to promote chemical and biological processes 	 A1  B1  CN1  V1 V2
Outlet Creek (Karadoc Swamp) (fill in spring, and top-up in autumn)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide soil moisture to maintain and improve the condition of streamside and floodplain vegetation, specifically river red gum, black box and lignum Provide suitable habitat for native frog species Provide open-water habitat as feeding and breeding habitat for waterbirds 	 A1  B1  V2
Vinifera Floodplain (fill in autumn)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inundate the soils (to a target water level of 63.2 m AHD) to support aquatic and semi-aquatic plant communities Improve the condition of vegetation communities to provide a range of habitats and resources for birds and frogs Inundate the floodplain to promote the growth of herb and shrub layers Inundate river red gums to maintain and improve their condition Mobilise carbon and nutrients to promote chemical and biological processes 	 A1  B1  CN1  V1 V2

1 This potential watering action is Part B of a watering action commenced in 2023-24.

2 In past seasonal watering plans, this wetland has been watered as part of Neds Corner Central. It is one of three wetlands at this site: Old Tip Wetland, Neds Corner Floodplain and Neds Corner Lagoon.