

VICTORIAN ENVIRONMENTAL WATER HOLDER
WATERING AUTHORISATION #1
VEWH OFFICE 2024-25
BARMAH FOREST, MURRAY RIVER, LOWER DARLING RIVER AND GREAT
DARLING ANABRANCH

The Victorian Environmental Water Holder authorises use of water from the Water Holdings in accordance with section 33DD of the *Water Act 1989*.

1. PURPOSE

This authorisation enables the Victorian Environmental Water Holder Office to use water from the Water Holdings at Barmah Forest, Murray River, lower Darling River and Great Darling Anabranh to:

- achieve environmental objectives and expected watering effects specified in section 5.2.2 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2024-25*
- and for emergency environmental watering in accordance with section 1.2.8 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2024-25*
- achieve non-Victorian environmental objectives for the Murray River, lower Darling River and Great Darling Anabranh in partnership with New South Wales, South Australia and other delivery agencies.

2. DURATION OF APPROVAL

This authorisation is valid from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, unless superseded by another watering authorisation or revoked by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.

3. AUTHORISATION TO USE THE WATER HOLDINGS

The VEWH Office is authorised to order the release of up to 532,200 ML of water from the VEWH Holdings at Barmah Forest, Murray River, lower Darling River and Great Darling Anabranh.

This water is made available by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder and can be used under the *Bulk Entitlement River Murray – Flora and Fauna Conversion Order 1999* (allocation accounts 086322, 094003, 068157, 108630, 102506) and clause 10 and schedule 6 of the entitlement 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 Watering Schedule– 2024-25 Victorian Murray*, executed on 24 June 2024.
- By the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.

Water is to be delivered under the provisions of the entitlement and in accordance with the potential environmental watering actions specified in Table 5.2.3 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2024-25* or the emergency watering procedure in section 1.2.8 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2024-25*.

This authorisation is subject to:

- (a) endorsement of a delivery plan for Barmah Forest by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder and implementation of the conditions and risk

mitigating strategies of the endorsed delivery plan and in line with section 1.2.7 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2024-25*

- (b) transfer of water from the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder
- (c) VEWH Office agreement that appropriate risk management is being undertaken for delivery to non-Victorian sites.

Execution

Executed on 26 June 2024

by



Kathryn Stanislawski, Team Leader - Planning and Reporting, Victorian Environmental Water Holder

Upon decision of the Commission of the Victorian Environmental Water Holder made on 25 June 2024.