

VICTORIAN ENVIRONMENTAL WATER HOLDER
SEASONAL WATERING STATEMENT #1 FOR
MALLEE CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY 2025-26
LOWER MURRAY WETLANDS

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 Mallee Catchment Management Authority to use water from the Water Holdings at Brickworks Billabong, Catfish Billabong, J1 Creek, Koorlong Lake and Lake Hawthorn to achieve environmental objectives and expected watering effects specified in section 5.2.6 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2025-26* and for emergency environmental watering in accordance with section 1.2.8 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2025-26*.

2. DURATION OF APPROVAL

This seasonal watering statement is valid from 25 August 2025 to 30 June 2026, unless superseded by another seasonal watering statement or revoked by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.

3. AUTHORISATION TO USE THE WATER HOLDINGS

Mallee Catchment Management Authority is authorised to use up to 3,250 ML of water from the Water Holdings in the 6 wetlands listed in schedules 1 and 2.

This water is made available by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder and can be used under the *Bulk Entitlement (River Murray – Flora and Fauna) Conversion Order 1999* (allocation accounts 043419, 068154, 108632, 043265, 094002, 108634, 108633) held by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.

This authorisation includes water committed:

- By the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) in accordance with a decision communicated through the *Commonwealth Watering Schedule – 2025-26 Victorian Murray Wetlands*, executed on 22/8/2025.
- By the Victorian Environmental Water Holder (VEWH).

Water is to be delivered under the provisions of the entitlement and in accordance with the potential environmental watering actions specified in Table 5.2.15 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2025-26* or the emergency watering procedure in section 1.2.8 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2025-26*.

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 delivery plans (for individual wetlands listed in schedules 1 and 2) by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder 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 2025-26*
- (d) an agreement for watering private land where required, endorsed by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder

- (e) confirmation by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder that the costs of the watering actions to which this statement applies can be supported.
- (f) reporting to the Victorian Environmental Water Holder on implementation of this seasonal watering statement.

EXECUTION

Executed on 25/8/2025

by 

Jarred Cook, Team Leader – Planning and Reporting, Victorian Environmental Water Holder

Upon the decision of the Commission of the Victorian Environmental Water Holder made on 24 June 2025.

SCHEDULE 1: VEWH AUTHORISED VOLUMES

Wetland name	Volume (ML)*
Brickworks Billabong	250
J1 Creek	450
Total	700

* Water use per site may be varied in consultation with the VEWH, but the total volume authorised must not be exceeded.

SCHEDULE 2: CEWH AUTHORISED VOLUMES

Wetland name	Volume (ML)*
Catfish Billabong	900
Koorlong Lake	150
Lake Hawthorn	1,500
Total	2,550

* Water use per site may be varied in consultation with the VEWH, but the total volume authorised must not be exceeded.