

VICTORIAN ENVIRONMENTAL WATER HOLDER
SEASONAL WATERING STATEMENT #5 FOR
NORTH CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY 2026-27
CENTRAL 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 North Catchment Management Authority to use water from the Water Holdings in seven wetlands: Johnson Swamp, Kunat Kunat, Lake Cullen, Lake Elizabeth, McDonalds Swamp, Reed Bed Swamp complex and Richardson's Lagoon to achieve environmental objectives and expected watering effects specified in section 5.2.4 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2026-27* and for emergency environmental watering in accordance with section 1.2.8 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2026-27*.

2. DURATION OF APPROVAL

This seasonal watering statement is valid from 1 July 2026 to 31 Dec 2026, unless superseded by another seasonal watering statement or revoked by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.

3. AUTHORISATION TO USE THE WATER HOLDINGS

North Catchment Management Authority is authorised to use up to 16,250 ML of water from the Water Holdings in the seven wetlands listed in Schedule 1.

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 043265, 068158, 094002, 108632, 108633 and 108634) and *River Murray – Mitigation Water Environmental Entitlement 2023* (allocation accounts 120158 and 120159) held 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 5.2.9 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2026-27* or the emergency watering procedure in section 1.2.8 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2026-27*.

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 Schedule 1 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 2026-27*
- (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 action/s 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 30 June 2026



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 22 June 2026.

SCHEDULE 1: AUTHORISED VOLUMES

Name of the Wetlands	Tier 1 Volume (ML)*
Johnson Swamp	2,000
Kunat Kunat	700
Lake Cullen	9,000
Lake Elizabeth	1,300
McDonalds Swamp	850
Reed Bed Swamp complex	800
Richardson's Lagoon	1,600
Total	16,250

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