VICTORIAN ENVIRONMENTAL WATER HOLDER SEASONAL WATERING STATEMENT #7 FOR NORTH CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY 2025-26 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 at Hird Swamp, Kunat Kunat (Round Lake), Lake Elizabeth, McDonalds Swamp, Reed Bed Swamp and Third Reedy Lake to achieve environmental objectives and expected watering effects specified in section 5.2.4 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This seasonal watering statement is valid from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026, unless superseded by another seasonal watering statement or revoked by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.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

North Catchment Management Authority is authorised to use up to 7,000 ML of water from the Water Holdings in the five 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 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) 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 2025-26
- (c) an agreement for watering private land where required, endorsed by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder
- (d) confirmation by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder that the costs of the watering action/s to which this statement applies can be supported.
- (e) reporting to the Victorian Environmental Water Holder on implementation of this seasonal watering statement.



EXECUTION

Executed on 24 June 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: AUTHORISED VOLUMES

Wetland name	Volume (ML)*
Hird Swamp	2,800
Kunat Kunat (Round Lake)	700
Lake Elizabeth	1,200
McDonalds Swamp	700
Third Reedy Lake	1,600
Total	7,000

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

