

Variation to the Seasonal Watering Plan 2025-26

This variation was made to Section 5.4.2 Goulburn Wetlands of the Seasonal Watering Plan 2025-26 by the VEWH Commission on 22 July 2025.

Variation to tables 5.4.4 and 5.4.5 of the Seasonal Watering Plan 2025-26

Amendments are shown in red text

Table 5.4.4 Goulburn wetlands potential environmental watering actions, expected watering effects and environmental objectives
















Potential environmental watering action	Expected watering effects	Environmental objectives
Doctors Swamp (fill in late winter/spring 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote frog breeding opportunities (notably for the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act-listed Sloane's froglet) Promote waterbird breeding opportunities (target species include Australasian bittern, musk duck and blue-billed duck) Maintain the Red Gum Swamp Ecological Vegetation Class 	 A1  B1, B2  V1, V2
Gaynor Swamp (in natural conditions, inundate swamp, top-up[s] if required) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase foraging and roosting habitat for breeding waterbirds, especially brolga Maintain water levels for waterbird chicks to successfully grow and become independent 	 B1, B2
Horseshoe Lagoon (top-up to deeper pools only in late winter/spring 2025 [if required]) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide habitat for turtle populations Control exotic weeds 	 T1  V2
Kanyapella Basin (partial fill in late winter/spring 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote waterbird breeding opportunities; target species include royal spoonbill and ibis Maintain floristic diversity 	 B1, B2  V1, V2
Loch Garry (fill in spring 2025 and autumn 2026)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect targeted vegetation while minimising overflow to continue promoting the drawdown of deeper channels Provide refuge and habitat for freshwater catfish 	 F1  V1
Molesworth billabongs (fill in winter/spring 2025 [Billabong A only]) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide refuge and habitat for flathead galaxias Maintain and improve native vegetation Control exotic weeds 	 F1  V1, V2

Table 5.4.5 Goulburn wetlands environmental watering planning scenarios

Planning scenario	Drought	Dry	Average	Wet
Expected conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catchment run-off and natural flow into the wetlands are highly unlikely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catchment run-off and natural flow into the wetlands are highly unlikely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some catchment run-off and natural flow into some of the wetlands are likely, particularly in winter/spring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catchment run-off and natural flow into the wetlands are likely to fill or partially fill the wetlands, particularly in winter/spring
Potential environmental watering – tier 1 (high priorities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doctors Swamp Horseshoe Lagoon Kanyapella Basin Loch Garry Molesworth billabongs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doctors Swamp Horseshoe Lagoon Kanyapella Basin Loch Garry Molesworth billabongs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doctors Swamp Horseshoe Lagoon Kanyapella Basin Loch Garry Molesworth billabongs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doctors Swamp Horseshoe Lagoon Kanyapella Basin Loch Garry Molesworth billabongs
Potential environmental watering – tier 2 (additional priorities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horseshoe Lagoon Loch Garry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horseshoe Lagoon Loch Garry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaynor Swamp Horseshoe Lagoon Loch Garry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaynor Swamp Horseshoe Lagoon Loch Garry
Possible volume of water for the environment required to achieve objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4,270 ML (tier 1) 3,170 ML (tier 1) 600 ML (tier 2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4,260 ML (tier 1) 3,160 ML (tier 1) 600 ML (tier 2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4,260 ML (tier 1) 1,000 ML (tier 2) 3,160 ML (tier 1) 1,600 ML (tier 2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3,660 ML (tier 1) 2,560 ML (tier 1) 500 ML (tier 2)
Priority carryover requirements for 2026-27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 			