

VICTORIAN ENVIRONMENTAL WATER HOLDER
WATERING AUTHORISATION 1
FOR THE VEWH OFFICE 2022-23
BARMAH FOREST AND MURRAY RIVER

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 the Victorian Environmental Water Holder Office to use water from the Water Holdings at Barimah Forest and the Murray River to achieve environmental objectives and expected watering effects specified in section 5.2.2 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2022-23* and for emergency environmental watering in accordance with section 1.3.7 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2022-23*. This seasonal watering statement also authorises use of return flows from the Murray River upstream of the Barimah (choke) narrows at downstream sites along the Murray River.

2. DURATION OF APPROVAL

This watering authorisation is valid from 8 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, unless superseded by another seasonal watering statement or revoked by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.

3. AUTHORISATION TO USE THE WATER HOLDINGS

The Victorian Environmental Water Holder Office is authorised to use up to 696,400 ML of water from the Water Holdings in Barimah Forest and the Murray River.

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, 108631, 102506, 062295, 091243, 043398, 107185) 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 the *Commonwealth Watering Schedule – 2022-23 Victorian Murray* executed on 29 June 2022
- in accordance with a decision of the Southern Connected Basin Environmental Watering Committee communicated to the Victorian Environmental Water Holder via an email sent on 29 June 2022
- 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 2022-23* or the emergency watering procedure in section 1.3.7 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2022-23*.

This authorisation is subject to:

- (a) endorsement of a delivery plans 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 1.3.6 of the *Seasonal Watering Plan 2022-23*
- (b) implementation of the risk mitigating strategies identified in Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority's *Barimah-Millewa Forest Seasonal Watering*

- Proposal 2022-2023 (for VEWH with SCBEWC addendum) and in line with section 1.3.6 of the Seasonal Watering Plan 2022-23*
- (c) VEWH Office agreement that appropriate risk management is being undertaken for delivery to non-Victorian sites.

Execution

Executed on 8 July 2022



by

Andrew Sharpe, Executive Manager Planning and Delivery, Victorian Environmental Water Holder

Upon the decision of the Commission of the Victorian Environmental Water Holder made on 22 June 2022