

2026-27 Water for the Environment Annual Plan

For the South Australian River Murray



Government
of South Australia

Department for
Environment and Water

Acknowledgement of the Traditional Owners

Aboriginal people are the First Peoples and Nations of South Australia. The lands, waters and sky of the River Murray, Coorong and South East regions have supported diverse and enduring Aboriginal cultures since time immemorial.

The Department for Environment and Water acknowledges and respects the Traditional Owners of these lands and waters and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise their deep and ongoing cultural, spiritual, social and economic connections to Country, and their responsibilities to care for land and water in accordance with their laws, customs and traditions.

Aboriginal peoples continue to practise their lore, maintain cultural heritage, and share knowledge and language that remain vital to the health of Country today.

The Government of South Australia recognises the rights, interests and obligations of Traditional Owners in the management of land and water, and the importance of their continued involvement in water planning and decision-making.

This plan supports meaningful and equitable engagement with First Nations peoples and seeks to strengthen partnerships based on mutual respect, trust and recognition of the diversity of Nations and their preferred approaches to engagement.

First Nations peoples are advised that this publication may contain images of deceased persons or culturally sensitive material.

Foreword

The 2026-27 *Water for the Environment Annual Plan for the South Australian River Murray* (the Annual Plan) is an important element of South Australia's river management framework. It builds on actions undertaken and outcomes achieved in previous years and is guided by the current ecological conditions in the River Murray, and the ecological objectives and targets in the *Long Term Environmental Watering Plan for the South Australian River Murray* (DEW, 2025).

The Annual Plan is prepared as part of the Basin Plan environmental water management framework and is used to inform how available environmental water should be used in South Australia and throughout the Murray-Darling Basin. A wide range of stakeholders have been engaged in its development, including First Nations, scientists, river operators, water holders and the wider community, supporting a robust and transparent process to determine environmental watering priorities.

Each year, the water resource outlook is different, the available volume of water for the environment changes and environmental watering priorities vary. This presents a challenge to water holders and managers, to determine how to maximise outcomes from the available resources. It is well understood that conditions can change rapidly; therefore, the plan presents the priority needs under a range of water availability scenarios and is able to be adapted based on actual water resource conditions, stakeholder advice and monitoring results.

I would like to thank all those who have been involved in the planning, management and delivery of water for the environment and look forward to another successful watering year in 2026-27.

Lisa Stribley, Director, Water Infrastructure and Operations

Water and River Murray Division

Department for Environment and Water

29 May 2026

Cover image: *Azolla pinnata* commonly known as duckweed. Credit: H Kieskamp.



Acknowledgements

In addition to Department for Environment and Water (DEW) staff, input from representatives and employees of the following organisations has been gratefully received:

- Adelaide University
- Australian Landscape Trust
- Banrock Station, Vinarchy
- South East Aboriginal Focus Group
- Chowilla Community Reference Committee
- Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder
- Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Community Advisory Panel
- Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Scientific Advisory Group
- Flinders University
- Katarapko community members
- Murray-Darling Basin Authority
- Murray-Darling Wetlands Working Group
- Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board
- Nature Foundation
- Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation
- Nature Glenelg Trust
- Pike River community members
- Renmark Irrigation Trust
- River Murray and Mallee Aboriginal Corporation
- SA River Murray Channel and Floodplain Scientific Advisory Group
- SA Water
- South Australian Research and Development Institute - Aquatic Sciences



Glossary

Selected Terms and Acronyms

Term	Acronym	Definition
Aboriginal Waterways Assessment	AWA	A tool used by Traditional Owners to assess the cultural values of wetlands and other important sites to support water for the environment and wetland management planning
Additional Dilution Flow	ADF	An additional 3,000 ML/day delivered to SA when storage triggers are met in the Menindee Lakes and Hume and Dartmouth Reservoirs
Australian Height Datum	AHD	The official national vertical datum used within Australia.
Barrage	-	Structures located between Lake Alexandrina and the Coorong, constructed to manage water levels and improve water quality in the lower Murray and Lower Lakes system
Burrandies Aboriginal Corporation	BAC	A registered Aboriginal Corporation that has cultural authority under the Lartara-Wirkeri Framework to explore and develop business opportunities for the First Nations people of the South East and the South East Aboriginal Focus Group
Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder	CEWH	-
Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth	CLLMM	-
Department for Environment and Water	DEW	-
Diadromous	-	Fish that migrate between salt water and freshwater
Entitlement flow	-	South Australia has an annual Entitlement flow of 1,850 gigalitres under the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement. This volume can be reduced if water availability is limited when conditions are dry.
Environmental Water Requirements	EWRs	The water regime needed to sustain the ecological values of aquatic ecosystems and biological diversity at a low level of risk.
Fishway	-	A generic term describing all structures designed to allow the passage of fish along a waterway.
First Nations of the South East	FNSE	A registered native title group in the South East region, focusing on representing the interests of Traditional Owners from the southern Coorong to the Victorian border
First Peoples of the River Murray and Mallee Region	FPRMMR	Native title holders in the Riverland, South Australia, including areas of the River Murray around Renmark, Berri, Barmera, Waikerie and Morgan.
Flow to South Australia	QSA	The volumetric river flow to South Australia, as calculated at the State border, normally expressed in megalitres or gigalitres per day.
Gigalitres	GL	A measure of volume where a gigalitre equals 1,000 megalitres or 1,000,000,000 litres.
Held environmental water	HEW	Defined within Section 4 of the <i>Water Act 2007</i> (Cth) (essentially water held for environmental purposes).
Integrated Operations Strategy	IOS	-
Lower Lakes	-	Lakes Alexandrina and Albert.

Term	Acronym	Definition
Long Term Environmental Watering Plan	LTWP	Long Term Environmental Watering Plan, a requirement of the Environmental Management Framework in the Basin Plan 2012, Chapter 8. Within this document, it is referring to the LTWP for the SA River Murray Water Resource Plan Area.
Megalitres	ML	A measure of volume which is equal to 1,000,000 litres.
Metres Australian Height Datum	mAHD	A measure of elevation (height) relative to mean sea level, which is set as zero
Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board	MRLB	-
Murray-Darling Basin Authority	MDBA	-
Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation	NAC	The Prescribed Body Corporate for the Ngarrindjeri Nation and regional Indigenous organisation representing the Ngarrindjeri people, descendants of the original indigenous inhabitants of the lands and waters of the Murray River, Lower Lakes and Coorong and adjacent areas.
Priority Environmental Asset	PEA	Defined in section 8.49 of the Basin Plan as an environmental asset that can be managed with environmental water.
Planned Environmental Water	PEW	Defined in Section 6 of the <i>Water Act 2007</i> (essentially water available for environmental purposes not held on licence).
Pool-connected wetland	-	A wetland that can be connected to the main river channel when South Australia is receiving Entitlement flows and normal operating pool levels are being maintained.
Regulator	-	A structure designed to control the flow and retention of water in the area of influence.
Return flow	-	Environmental water used upstream which is returned to or remains in the river and is available for reuse downstream.
River Murray Increased Flow	RMIF	The water recovered under Snowy Hydro Scheme would allow up to an additional 70 GL each year to be released to the River Murray for environmental purposes.
River Murray Unregulated Flow	RMUF	Water that cannot be captured and regulated through Murray-Darling Basin Authority storages. The Murray-Darling Basin Authority declares an unregulated flow event at the South Australian border for a specific period of time.
River Murray and Mallee Aboriginal Corporation	RMMAC	The First Peoples of the River Murray and Mallee Region Native Title prescribed body corporate.
South East Aboriginal Focus Group	SEAFG	A First Nations advisory committee made up of First Nations people of the South East that provides cultural knowledge, advice and support
South Australia	SA	-
SA multi-site proposal	-	A planning output that optimises and coordinates proposed site-specific watering actions for system-scale benefits within South Australia.
Southern-connected Basin Environmental Watering Committee	SCBEWC	A multi-jurisdictional committee that provides advice on the coordinated delivery of environmental water in the southern-connected Murray-Darling Basin.
Temporary wetland	-	A wetland that is not connected to the river when South Australia is receiving Entitlement flow and the weir pool is being held at normal pool level.
The Living Murray program	TLM	A river restoration program funded by New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Australian Capital Territory and the Commonwealth government, coordinated by MDBA.

Term	Acronym	Definition
Water Allocation Plan	WAP	A legal document that sets out the rules for managing the take and use of water resources prescribed under the <i>Landscape South Australia Act 2019</i> to ensure resource sustainability.
Water for the Environment (also referred to as environmental water and e-water)	-	Water used to achieve environmental outcomes, including benefits to ecosystem functions, biodiversity, water quality and water resource health.
Water year	-	The period between 1 July in any given calendar year and 30 June the following calendar year.
Water Resource Plan	WRP	Water Resource Plans cover the groundwater and surface water management across the Murray-Darling Basin. States are required under the <i>Water Act 2007</i> (Cth) to develop these plans in accordance with the Basin Plan.



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Summary

This document presents South Australia's priorities for environmental water delivery throughout the South Australian (SA) River Murray system for the 2026-27 water year. It describes the site-based water delivery requirements to best achieve a range of environmental outcomes along the SA stretch of the river channel, its floodplains and wetlands, through to the Coorong and Murray Mouth, consistent with the requirements under the Basin Plan 2012 (Basin Plan). Through development of the SA River Murray multi-site watering action proposal, it also identifies opportunities to coordinate the delivery of water for the environment to and within SA to achieve outcomes at the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM), while providing benefits to upstream environmental assets and functions en route.

The *2026-27 Water for the Environment Annual Plan for the South Australian River Murray* (the Annual Plan) is presented as follows:

- **Section 1: Introduction** provides background information relevant to environmental watering, including recent hydrological conditions in the region.
- **Section 2: Annual Planning Process** summarises how environmental managers identified objectives for environmental watering in SA and identified and assessed any potential risks.
- **Section 3: Engagement** describes the community and First Nation engagement process and identifies the First Nations' priorities and aspirations for the delivery of water on Country.
- **Section 4: Annual Plan Implementation** outlines the next steps in undertaking delivery of water for the environment.
- **Section 5: Annual Priorities** presents the annual environmental watering priorities for the South Australian River Murray Water Resource Plan (WRP) area, which must be submitted to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) in accordance with Basin Plan requirements. It describes a range of site-based watering actions, as well as the SA River Murray multi-site watering action which describes the preferred pattern of delivery to coordinate watering actions within the SA River Murray region.



1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Plan

The Annual Plan guides the delivery of water for the environment in the SA River Murray and has been developed in consultation with First Nations and key stakeholders. The Annual Plan presents the priorities for delivery and use of water for the environment under a range of water availability scenarios. This information is submitted to the MDBA and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) to inform whole of basin water delivery planning and fulfils SA's Basin Plan requirements to develop annual watering priorities.

The Annual Plan is a part of SA's planning and management arrangements of water for the environment as described in *Water for the Environment Management Framework: South Australian River Murray* (DEW, 2021b), which includes the development of the Annual Plan, the annual SA River Murray Water for the Environment report, the *Long Term Environmental Watering Plan for the South Australian River Murray Water Resource Plan Area (SA River Murray LTWP)* (DEW, 2025), and active management of water for the environment delivered to SA. The Annual Plan incorporates all the proposed environmental watering activities for the water year ahead and has been developed based on the best available data and science. However, it is recognised that water availability and delivery is subject to change depending on actual river and climatic conditions, which will necessitate real-time and adaptive management of water including consideration of management options not detailed in this document.

The Annual Plan presents the water demands for the three priority environmental assets: the CLLMM, the SA River Murray Channel and the SA River Murray Floodplain as described in the *SA River Murray LTWP*. The Annual Plan identifies the preferred volume and timing of flow to SA, as well as the optimal use of infrastructure such as regulators, weirs and pumps to facilitate water delivery.

The 2026-27 environmental watering priorities identified in the Annual Plan are consistent with the *Basin-Wide Environmental Watering Strategy* (MDBA, 2025) and the *SA River Murray LTWP*.

What is Environmental Watering?

Environmental watering is the delivery or use of water to achieve environmental outcomes. It provides ecological benefits that contribute to a healthy, functioning river and ensures that important values of the SA River Murray, its wetlands, floodplains and estuary are supported.

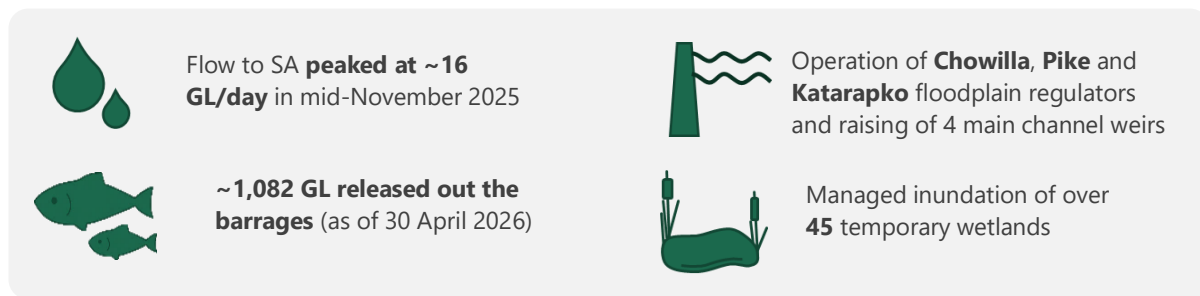
Water for the environment delivered along the River Murray in SA is coordinated by the Department for Environment and Water, with significant input and on-ground action from other government agencies, non-government organisations, scientific bodies, community stakeholders and Traditional Owners.

For further information on the types of environmental water and relevant water holders see *Water for the Environment Management Framework* (DEW, 2021b).



Aquatic vegetation response at Pipeclay Billabong following environmental watering. Credit: DEW.

1.2 The 2025-26 Water Year



A brief summary of the 2025-26 water year to date (as of 30 April 2026) is outlined below, providing context for the conditions leading up to the 2026-27 water year.

The 2025-26 water year (to 30 April 2026) was the second consecutive dry year. SA received its full Entitlement throughout 2025-26, with a small volume of this Entitlement deferred throughout as part of SA's Storage Right. SA did not experience any unregulated flow events. Any water above Entitlement was from trade, the delivery of water for the environment and, from September to mid-November, the delivery of Additional Dilution Flow (ADF)¹.

Between mid-April and early September 2025, flow to SA (QSA) was constrained to a maximum of 8,000 ML/day due to maintenance works at Lock 3. Once works were completed, QSA was able to rise immediately, largely due to the arrival of return flows from the Goulburn winter pulse, some of which had been temporarily stored in Lake Victoria during August to remain under the 8,000 ML/day cap. NSW non-urban metering policy issues impacted the use of NSW-held environmental water and hence return flows arriving to SA, resulting in a delayed start to delivery and spring hydrograph with relatively small peaks. Return flows from upstream watering actions in the Murray River, Goulburn River and other Victorian tributaries, Murrumbidgee River and Yanco Creek, Lower Darling/Baaka River and the Great Darling Anabranch contributed to flow to SA throughout the year. From September 2025 to April 2026, approximately 240 GL of water for the environment was provided through direct trades from CEWH and TLM. These direct trades are released from Lake Victoria and were important during this dry year as they enabled the delivery pattern to be shaped to optimise outcomes in SA, particularly at the CLLMM. Flow to SA peaked at 16,298 ML/day on 19 November 2025. Between July 2025 and April 2026, approximately 1,082 GL had flowed through the barrages.

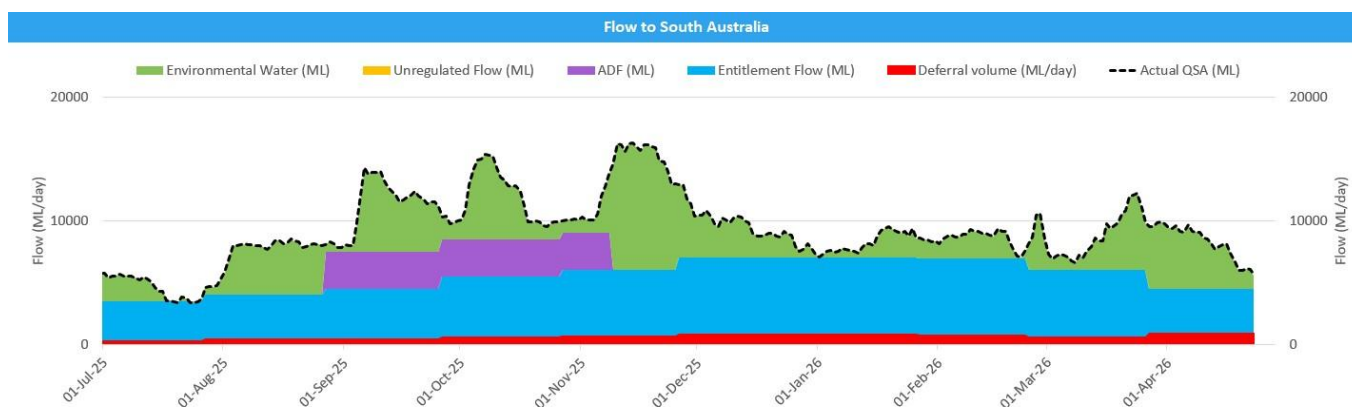


Figure 1. River Murray flows at the South Australian border 1st July to 30th April 2026.

¹ ADF is a type of planned environmental water that is delivered to SA at a rate of 3,000 ML/day when storage triggers are met in the Menindee Lakes and Hume and Dartmouth Reservoirs (Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board, 2023).

Water for the environment delivered to SA was used to support numerous watering actions throughout the year, including:

- operation of Chowilla, Pike and Katarapko floodplain regulators as well as raising of four main channel weirs (6, 5, 4 and 2) during spring and early summer to improve soil moisture conditions and support native vegetation
- year-round management of water levels in Lakes Alexandrina and Albert to support fringing habitat and populations of threatened small-bodied native fish
- barrage and fishway releases to support Coorong ecology and fish movement
- delivery of water for the environment to over 45 ephemeral wetlands via pumping by the Australian Landscape Trust, DEW, Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board (MRLB) and Renmark Irrigation Trust.

Further information on the outcomes of the environmental watering actions in 2025-26 will be presented in the DEW Annual Water for the Environment Report which will be produced once the water year concludes and monitoring and data analysis have been completed.



Grey germander (*Teucrium racemosum*). Credit: H Kieskamp.



A majestic river red gum on Chowilla Floodplain. Credit: H Kieskamp.

2 Annual Planning Process

South Australia commences annual planning each February, using a scenario-based approach. Modelled hydrographs, referred to as planning scenarios, and estimated availability of water for the environment based on outlooks, are provided by the MDBA. The SA planning process includes the development of site-based annual environmental watering proposals using a template provided by the MDBA for a range of sites and types of watering actions (Table 1). In addition to these site-based proposals, a SA multi-site proposal is developed that describes the preferences for coordinated delivery of water for the environment for all watering actions. The watering actions outlined in the site-based and multi-site proposals are developed to align with objectives and targets outlined within the *SA River Murray LTWP*.

Once complete, the watering proposals are provided to the Southern-Connected Basin Environmental Watering Committee (SCBEWC) as part of the annual planning process. SCBEWC is coordinated by the MDBA and brings together government agencies from New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, as well as the CEWH, to coordinate and manage water for the environment across the southern-connected Basin within the Murray-Darling Basin. SCBEWC ensures environmental water management is consistent with the Environmental Watering Plan (Chapter 8 of the Basin Plan), including the *Basin-wide Environmental Watering Strategy* and facilitates collective water for the environment planning for the major water holders. This approach supports effective coordination while allowing different environmental water holders to make independent decisions on watering actions.

The SA watering proposals are consolidated into this overarching Annual Plan document and represent the state's annual environmental watering priorities for the SA River Murray region as required under the Basin Plan. DEW leads the annual planning process with input from site and water managers, environmental water holders, river operators, scientists, Traditional Owners, and stakeholder and community groups. The MRLB and several private organisations, including Renmark Irrigation Trust, Vinarchy, Nature Foundation and the Australian Landscape Trust, play a critical role in planning for watering actions at many wetlands throughout the region including the managed wetting and drying of pool-connected wetlands.

Table 1. Environmental watering proposals submitted to SCBEWC and/or the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder for 2026-27.

Watering Proposal	Site Manager
Lower Lakes, Coorong and Murray Mouth	SA Department for Environment and Water
SA River Murray Channel and Floodplain	SA Department for Environment and Water
Chowilla Floodplain (incl. Lock 6)	SA Department for Environment and Water
Pike Floodplain (incl. Lock 5)	SA Department for Environment and Water
Katarapko Floodplain (incl. Lock 4)	SA Department for Environment and Water
Weir Pool Raising and Lowering (Locks 6 to 1)	SA Department for Environment and Water
SA River Murray Multi-site	SA Department for Environment and Water
Various wetlands along the River Murray and Lower Lakes	Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board
Wetlands in the Renmark area	Renmark Irrigation Trust ²
Calperum Station lakes and wetlands	Australian Landscape Trust ²

² Non-government organisations do not complete a SCBEWC watering proposal

2.1 Planning Inputs

2.1.1 Planning Scenarios 2026-27

Planning for the 2026-27 water year was undertaken using planning hydrographs provided by the MDBA, representing five scenarios ranging from Very Dry to Wet (Table 2 and Figure 2). These planning hydrographs were modified by DEW to remove the 150 GL direct trade which had been included by MDBA as being delivered evenly across the months of December through to March. This amendment allowed a more flexible delivery pattern for the summer direct trade to be factored into the CLLMM watering proposal as part of the annual planning process. Planning for the Very Dry and Dry scenarios was combined as average monthly flows under these two scenarios were the same or very similar throughout the year. No data was provided for a Very Wet scenario therefore it was not included in planning although opportunities to enhance high flows beyond those represented in the wet scenario will be considered if the opportunity arises, including >80,000 ML/day. These hydrographs are provided by the MDBA for the purpose of annual water for the environment planning and are not forecasts - they are referred to as planning scenarios in this Annual Plan.

Table 2: Description of planning scenarios used in 2026-27 water for the environment planning

Planning Scenario	Peak Flow (ML/day)	Timing of Peak
Very Dry and Dry	4,704 / 5,835	January 2027 / February 2027
Moderate	6,587	December 2026 and January 2027
Near Average	21,266	September 2026
Wet	41,696	September 2026

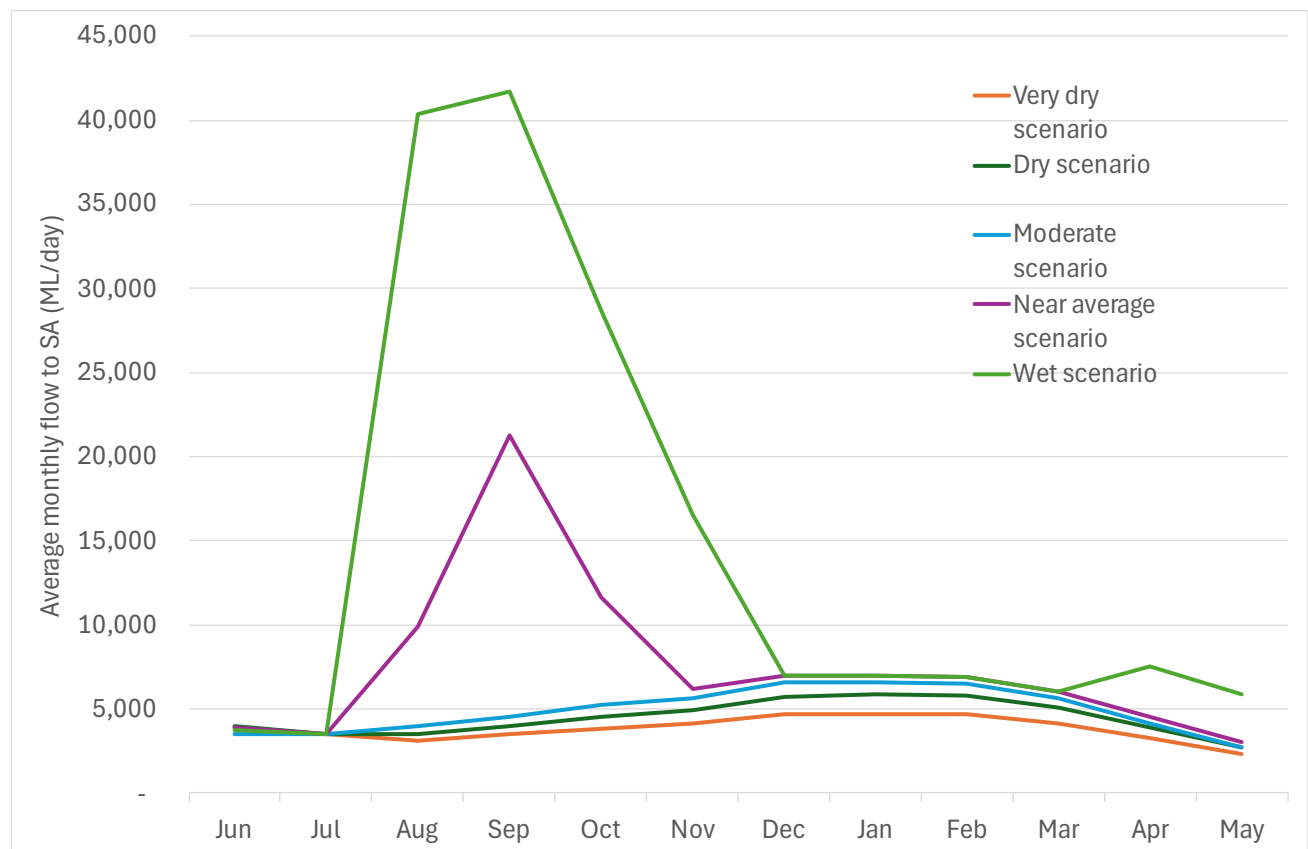


Figure 2. Planning scenarios used for 2026-27 water for the environment planning

2.1.2 Water for the Environment Availability

Held Environmental Water

The potential volume of held environmental water (HEW) available is taken into account during planning so that the proposed actions consider the feasibility of delivery. Planning focuses on the volumes of HEW likely to be available upstream of the SA border, as SA-held HEW forms part of the state's Entitlement and is already built into the planning scenarios provided by the MDBA. More information regarding HEW within SA can be found in the *South Australian River Murray WRP Held Environmental Water Register* which is published on the DEW [website](#).

In March 2026, environmental water holders provided an estimate of the volume of HEW available upstream of the SA border in 2026-27 under each of the water resource availability scenarios, ranging from 1,139 GL (Very Dry scenario) to 1,661 GL (wet scenario) (Table 3). These estimates only include TLM and CEWH water held upstream of SA and do not include SA-held HEW as this volume is already included in the planning hydrographs. Typically, SA will receive a significant proportion but not 100% of the available upstream CEWH and TLM HEW, as well as return flows of other upstream HEW products e.g. VEW water. The water availability estimates are provided by environmental water holders for the purpose of annual water for the environment planning and are not forecasts.

Table 3. Estimate of CEWH and TLM held environmental water (HEW) available upstream of South Australia in 2026-27 under each water resource availability scenario.

Scenario	Estimate of HEW available upstream of the SA border (GL)
Very Dry (95%)	1,139
Dry (90%)	1,312
Moderate (75%)	1,433
Near Average (50%)	1,632
Wet (25%)	1,661

Planned Environmental Water Availability

Planned environmental water (PEW) is defined in the *Water Act 2007* (Cth) as any water that is committed or preserved for achieving environmental purposes or outcomes and cannot be used for any other purpose unless required in emergency. PEW within SA is identified in the *Water Allocation Plan for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse (River Murray WAP)* (Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board, 2023) and includes the residual unallocated portion of SA's Entitlement flow, the dilution and loss component of SA's Entitlement flow, unregulated flows to SA and Additional Dilution Flow (ADF). PEW availability is already factored into the planning scenarios. Should a MDBA-declared unregulated flow event occur during 2026-27, then environmental water managers may seek to use unregulated flows to support their watering actions, in accordance with the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* (SA) and subject to sufficient volume being available.

2.2 SA River Murray Environmental Water Planning

2.2.1 Site-Based Planning

A suite of environmental watering activities occurs at a range of sites within the SA River Murray, including small scale individual wetlands, large scale floodplains, weir reaches and the River Murray channel.

The types of watering events that can occur at these sites include:

- the operation of regulators within floodplain anabranches, e.g. Chowilla, Pike and Katarapko floodplains
- weir pool manipulation, comprising weir pool raising and lowering
- River Murray channel and floodplain watering via augmentation of unregulated flows or creation of in-channel flow events (e.g. spring pulses)
- pumping and water delivery via infrastructure into temporary wetlands
- flushing and freshening of disposal basins
- wetting and drying of managed pool-connected wetlands
- CLLMM management, including seasonal lake level variations, lake cycling, fishway operations and barrage releases.

The development of site-based watering proposals has been undertaken by the respective site water managers. The SCBEWC watering proposal template was used, where required, for each site to outline the preferred watering options (including

management actions and ecological objectives) for each of the planning scenarios. The information used to develop the watering proposals includes past watering history and outcomes, site condition data, site operating or management plans, consideration of risk assessments and capacity to monitor and mitigate risks, modelling outputs, and input from Traditional Owners, scientists and the community. The outcomes and evaluation of previous years' monitoring projects and the lessons learnt from past water delivery and operations are also incorporated into the development of site watering proposals.

The wetting and drying regime for pool-connected wetlands is planned by site managers, including the Australian Landscape Trust, MRLB, Nature Foundation and Vinarchy. Water held within the Wetlands Consumptive Pool (Class 9), as described in the *River Murray WAP* (Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board, 2023), is shared across managed pool-connected wetlands within the SA River Murray WRP area.

2.2.2 SA River Murray Multi-Site Planning

DEW also develops a SA multi-site watering proposal that outlines the optimal delivery of water for the environment within the SA River Murray system. The SA multi-site proposal seeks to align the site-specific watering actions that have been identified to maximise the effectiveness of environmental water delivery and enhance ecological outcomes throughout the system. The SA multi-site approach is supported by SA statutory and policy requirements, which prevent return flows from environmental watering actions, such as the operation of the floodplain regulators and weir raisings, being re-allocated for consumptive use. This ensures that environmental water remains within the River Murray channel for delivery to other downstream environmental watering sites, or the CLLMM, for ecological benefit.

The SA multi-site proposal identifies:

- system scale objectives of multiple watering actions
- assumptions used in developing the SA multi-site
- alignment of environmental watering actions for each scenario and the additional benefits associated with the SA combination of actions
- proposed environmental water volume and optimal delivery pattern for the combined suite of actions under different scenarios.

The development of the SA multi-site is supported by integrated operations modelling and risk assessments. Integrated operations aim to coordinate multiple watering actions along the SA River Murray to manage the potential risks of adverse impacts and, where possible, achieve cumulative benefits across the SA River Murray. During annual planning, modelling may be undertaken for each of the planning scenarios to better understand the response of surface water parameters and identify the potential risks of the combined operations exceeding water quality and flow thresholds. This supports decision making for the watering actions and helps limit any potential impacts. The modelling and integrated operations assessments are used to support the final suite of site-based actions within the multi-site proposal. For this reason, the actions proposed for a given site as part of the multi-site proposal may differ to those originally proposed for the same site using the planning scenarios.

Several tools have been developed to assist with this coordination, including the *Integrated Operations Strategy* (DEW, 2021) and the *South Australian River Murray Environmental Water Source Model* (the *Source Model*) (Department for Environment and Water, 2020).

Consultation with individual site managers, external scientific experts and other key stakeholders is undertaken in the development of the SA multi-site watering proposal. A workshop was held with the CLLMM and River Murray Channel and Floodplain Scientific Advisory Groups in April 2026 to support the development of the SA multi-site proposal including considering modelling outputs, risks and benefits.

3 Engagement

3.1 Stakeholder Engagement

A wide range of stakeholders, including several community groups, were consulted in the development of the 2026-27 environmental watering proposals. Consultation is undertaken by DEW, the MRLB and other and site managers through long-standing and on-going arrangements with groups such as:

- Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Community Advisory Panel (CAP) which is comprised of representatives including commercial fishers, irrigators, local government, Landscape Boards, shack owners' associations and individual landholders.
- Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) which is comprised of members from Flinders University, Adelaide University, South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI), Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Environment Protection Authority, and independent environmental consultants.
- South Australian River Murray Channel and Floodplain Scientific Advisory Group, which consists of representatives from The University of Adelaide, South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI), Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), and independent environmental consultants.
- The Chowilla Community Reference Committee (CRC), and Katarapko and Pike community stakeholders, which include private landholders and representatives from irrigation trusts and local government.
- The Water Advisory Committee, a committee of the MRLB whose purpose includes supporting the sustainable environmental management of the region's rivers, lakes and wetlands.

Proposed watering actions, monitoring data and relevant modelling results were presented and discussed at stakeholder meetings, with site tours undertaken where possible. Engagement was also undertaken between DEW and non-government organisations that are involved in managing water for the environment and to help coordinate delivery of this water to various wetlands throughout the SA River Murray system. These non-government organisations include the Australian Landscape Trust, Murray-Darling Wetlands Working Group, Nature Foundation, Renmark Irrigation Trust and Vinarchy.

Private landholders, industry groups and the general public are kept informed during the planning and implementation of environmental watering actions across the SA River Murray system via traditional and social media, and the [DEW River Murray Flow Report](#).

Consultation will continue throughout the 2026-27 year as the water outlook changes and actions are adjusted accordingly.



3.2 First Nations Engagement

Engagement with First Nations is central to environmental water planning and delivery and is an ongoing process that supports the integration of cultural knowledge, values and priorities in decision-making. Environmental water managers work directly with First Nation organisations through established governance structures, on-Country engagement and dedicated programs. This includes workshops, working groups, monitoring activities and participation in planning processes at both site and system scales across the River Murray, Coorong and South East regions. First Nations input has also been a significant component of the SA River Murray LTWP, which informs environmental water priorities and supports the integration of cultural values and objectives into planning and decision-making frameworks.

Funding through The Living Murray (TLM) program supports dedicated First Nations roles and enables participation in meetings, workshops, monitoring and on-Country activities.

Engagement is undertaken in collaboration with the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) and the Murray–Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) where appropriate, to support alignment between local priorities and Basin-scale planning.

First Nations organisations will continue to be actively involved throughout 2026–27 in planning, delivery and adaptive management of environmental water.

3.2.1 Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation

The Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation (NAC) represents the Native Title rights and interests and is the Prescribed Body Corporate for the Ngarrindjeri Nation and is the primary body for engagement on Ngarrindjeri Ruwe (Country).

DEW works in partnership with NAC through ongoing engagement led by the TLM Program, including Water Yarning Circle meetings held across the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) region. These forums bring together Ngarrindjeri community members, Elders and partner organisations to share knowledge, review environmental outcomes and inform water management.

In recent years, engagement has been supported through regular Water Yarning Circles hosted by NAC at locations across the CLLMM region, enabling participation from a broad range of Ngarrindjeri community members. DEW, the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board (MRLB) and the University of Adelaide contribute planning information, monitoring data and reporting on water for the environment, including barrage operations, lake level management and wetland condition.

These activities have directly informed cultural monitoring programs for priority Ngarrindjeri Ngatjis (totemic species), including Thukabi (turtles), Kultuwarri (yabbies) and Lokeri (freshwater mussels). Monitoring is undertaken collaboratively, with Ngarrindjeri community members working alongside scientists to collect data and interpret outcomes through both cultural and ecological lenses.

Governance and staffing changes within NAC in early 2026 limited engagement specific to the development of 2026–27 watering priorities. However, previous on-Country engagement (April 2024, Raukkan and Narrung) continues to provide relevant guidance and remains consistent with Ngarrindjeri priorities.

Key priorities identified by the Ngarrindjeri nation include:

River Flow and Connectivity

- Maintaining connectivity of flow between the Murrundi (River Murray), Lake Alexandrina, Kurilpang (Lake Albert), the Kurrangk (Coorong) estuary and the Murray Mouth (Meeting of the Waters) site is very important to the Ngarrindjeri Nation. It allows the river system to be flushed of salt and nutrients, helps improve the water quality and ensures all living things (plant and animal) can flourish.
- Murrundi, the lakes and Kurrangk are all spiritual waters. The place where the fresh and saltwater mix is a place of creation for Ngarrindjeri Ngatjis (totemic friend/ancestor). Ngarrindjeri have strong ties to both freshwater and saltwater and view the freshwater flow of Murrundi as the lifeblood of the river, Lower Lakes, and Kurrangk. In bringing life to the icon site these flows bring life to Ngarrindjeri and their Ngatjis. Ngarrindjeri Ruwi/Ruwar (Country/land) requires flows and connectivity to occur between all living things, the lands, the waters, and the spirit world.
- The Ngarrindjeri Nation consists of 18 Laklinyeris (e.g. clan/family groups) that each represent specific Ngatjis, so it is vitally important to protect and care for these as an individual and within family groups. It represents the connection between the Ngatjis and Ruwi – everything is connected.

- Ngarrindjeri understand that the Kurrangk particularly the South Lagoon is suffering with a reduction in flow and a build-up of salinity and nutrients which is affecting Ngatjis and Ruwi. Priority should be given to address this and tailor barrage releases to maximise flow down to the Kurrangk South Lagoon.

Waterbirds

- Prioritising water delivery to the Lower Lakes, Coorong and Murray Mouth (LLCMM) Icon Site in spring and summer is important for waterbirds particularly those frequenting the Kurrangk. Enhanced flow at these times not only freshens the system but increases food productivity enabling waterbirds to successfully feed on *Ruppia* sp., macroinvertebrates or fish. This in turn enhances breeding and allows migratory shorebirds to complete their migration back to the Northern Hemisphere.
- Waterbirds such as the Kungari (black swan) and Nori (pelican) are important totemic Ngatjis, and their abundance is an indicator of a healthy Ruwi. Kungari eggs are a food source for Ngarrindjeri and collection of these is a significant part of cultural practice that continues to be passed down through generations. Ngarrindjeri recognise the importance of protecting all waterbirds through maintaining flow through Murrundi.
- Maintaining water to Teringie and Tolderol wetlands in the Lower Murray is also culturally important to maintain birdlife particularly ducks, Kungari and many wader birds feeding off exposed mudflats.



Fish

- Prioritising water delivery in spring and summer is equally important for a variety of fish species that inhabit the fresh water of Lake Alexandrina and Kurilpang (Lake Albert), the brackish water of the Kurrangk estuary and the marine water of the Southern Ocean. Delivery of water to the Lower Lakes in spring allows water levels to be held higher (surcharged) which increases food productivity and enhances breeding of freshwater fish including Kungguldhi (congolli *Pseudaphritis urvillii*), common galaxias, southern pygmy perch (*Nannoperca australis*) and Murray Hardyhead (*Craterocephalus fluviatilis*).
- Various species of fish sustained the diet of the Ngarrindjeri people for over 60,000 years and today fish remains integral to the Ngarrindjeri community for various cultural practices. All fish species are important Ngatjis to the Ngarrindjeri Nation, but some species have been identified as having declined or are less abundant (e.g. Kungguldhi which is an important freshwater fish for eating). Kungguldhi also moves between fresh and marine water to breed so ensuring continuous flow between the Lower Lakes, Coorong estuary and the Murray Mouth allows this species to complete its

life cycle. Delivery water in spring/early summer enables Kunggulldhi and common galaxias fish to return back to the Lower Lakes from the Southern Ocean.

- Keeping all fishways continuously open and maintaining barrage flows are very important to Ngarrindjeri and ensures all native fish are freely able to move between the waterways and enables spawning and recruitment opportunities for all species.
- Many species of fish including Pomeri (catfish), Kaltuwarrri (crawfish/yabbie), Pila:ki (callop/golden perch), Kanmeri (Coorong mullet), Mamikalt (flounder), Maliwi (mulloway), Tulari (black bream), Thukeri (bony bream), Kuratji (Australian salmon) and Kunggulldhi (congolli) were once abundant in Ngarrindjeri waterways. Unfortunately, due to a reduction in River Murray flow combined with a changing climate and the effects of the Millennium Drought, some fish species have declined in abundance particularly black bream in the Lower Murray. Through timely allocations of water for the environment, the following fish species - Pomeri, Kaltuwarrri, Kanmeri, Mamikalt, Maliwi, Tulari, Thukeri, Kuratji, Kunggulldhi would likely benefit from watering actions highlighted in the watering proposal.
- Ngarrindjeri also acknowledge carp to be a significant threat to native fish species and would like to see further management controls.
- Pondi is key to the Ngarrindjeri creation story of Ngurunderi (creator) who created all fish, the waterways and islands. The Ngarrindjeri community have an aspiration to return Pondi back to the Lower Murray for various cultural reasons. Ngarrindjeri are still able to pass on stories about Pondi to future generations but given that this spiritually important fish is now absent from the Lower Murray, Ngarrindjeri are unable to take future generations onto Ruwe to catch and view this fish for themselves.

Turtles, Frogs

- A healthy population of Thukabi (turtles) and Korbili (frogs) are required for Ngarrindjeri to continue cultural practices. With increased water availability, it would be good to support the re-introduction of the freshwater Murray crayfish so they could return to Ngarrindjeri Ruwe. The importance of these totemic species could then be shared with future generations. However, research into how these species could be returned and sustained is needed given that flow patterns have changed in the Lower Murray (e.g. less volume / velocity)
- The Ngarrindjeri community have noticed a decline in Thukubi and want to ensure that their habitat and food resources within waterways are enhanced and maintained. Predation of foxes on Ruwe is also a problem as eggs are predated on after nesting.
- Similarly to Thukabi, Ngarrindjeri also note a decline in Korbili abundance across some species including the southern bell frog (*Litoria raniformis*). Prioritising spring/summer delivery of water for the environment to the Lower Lakes will also assist breeding and recruitment of both Thukabi and southern bell frogs.

Plants

- Many species of plants are culturally significant to the Ngarrindjeri Nation. One plant that was mentioned at the 2023-24 workshop was Murnong (wild yam) which has declined over recent years. There is a desire to assist this plant while also acknowledging that there are many other plants that could also benefit from increased allocations of water for the environment.
- Maintaining adequate water around the Lower Lakes and surrounding wetlands is important for continuing the abundance of rushes (*Cyperus gymnocaulos*) – important for basket, mat, fish trapping, weaving.



3.2.2 First Peoples of the River Murray and Mallee Region

The RMMAC represents the Native Title rights and interests of the First Peoples of the River Murray and Mallee Region (FPRMMR) and is the primary body for engagement. The RMMAC have produced a *River Murray and Mallee Country Plan* (RMMAC, 2020), which includes a framework for engagement with the FPRMMR on water resource management, their visions and values, and information on culturally important river species. To capture the FPRMMR interests and objectives in relation to environmental water, the *River Murray and Mallee Country Plan* includes the Aboriginal Water Interests Program Logic, which identifies two high-level aspirational goals 'To see our lands and waters healthy to maintain our cultural connections to the lands, water and all living things' and 'to achieve the social and economic outcomes and wellbeing desired by the First People of the River Murray and Mallee Region'.

Specific engagement around the 2026-27 watering proposals commenced in early 2026 with sharing of information and initial discussions at the First Peoples Working Group (FPWG) meetings on 20 January and 17 March. An On-Country workshop with the First Peoples Working Group and RMMAC Rangers was held on 30 March 2026 to discuss watering proposals for SA floodplain and wetland sites and for the River Murray Channel and weir pool management for environmental outcomes. Sixteen RMMAC representatives attended the workshop. Attendees were provided opportunity to give verbal feedback and/or to submit feedback via a written form. Thirteen written feedback forms were received.

Key messages from the feedback were:

- *"All life depends on water"*
- Water is the *"river-blood"* connecting the river to the whole ecosystem
- Delivery of environmental water should *"try to [provide] the natural dry and wet conditions"*
- The environmental water programme was considered important to improve the conditions of wetlands and cultural sites, to *"give life to everything living and recycle again"* and for the *"health of the whole ecosystem and next generation"*
- Multiple written submissions emphasised that it is important to provide waterbirds with places to nest, and a diversity of other animals the cues and habitat to breed (Murray cod were specifically mentioned by several respondents)
- Other plants and animals mentioned as important to be supported were swans, ducks, yabbies, parrots, goannas, possums, emus, kangaroos, shrimp, mussels, leeches, migratory birds, saltbush, pigface and myoporum
- Multiple written submissions indicated that locations that have not been watered for years should be a priority
- One respondent recommended that native bushfoods could have more focus in watering proposals - this could be an opportunity for future knowledge sharing so that the right plants are identified and considered in watering.
- There was interest expressed in on-going engagement to discuss *"past/present ideas, changes to plans, coping strategies when the lowest to highest water allocations [occur]"*.



Further engagement will be undertaken throughout 2026-27 to seek further RMMAC input into the planning and delivery of water for the environment. This engagement includes bi-monthly meetings held with the FPWG, where presentations, sharing of information, discussions and development of project ideas occurs. These meetings are a key ongoing means for gaining input from the FPRMMR on water planning and delivery and the associated monitoring programs.

Aboriginal Waterways Assessments (AWAs) are an important tool used by Traditional Owners to assess the cultural values of wetlands and other important sites and support the use of water for the environment and wetland management planning. RMMAC have amended the tool for their use and have undertaken AWAs at a number of floodplain and wetland sites over the past five years, including revisiting some sites to see the outcomes from delivering water for the environment. AWAs enable the sharing of knowledge between First Peoples and environmental water managers about environmental watering actions and the management of sites to meet cultural and environmental outcomes. AWAs will continue to be undertaken by RMMAC at priority watering sites in 2026-27.

The RMMAC Rangers will continue to work closely with the DEW ecologists on a range of monitoring activities across the floodplains and wetlands of the Riverland including turtle nest surveys, scar tree health assessments, fish and tadpole surveys, understorey vegetation, lignum and tree population demographics surveys, and water quality data collection.

3.2.3 First Nations of the South East

The First Nations of the South East (FNSE) comprise a number of language groups with traditional ties to the wider South East region of South Australia, including the Coorong South Lagoon.

The South East Aboriginal Focus Group (SEAFG) was established in 2004 and continues to play a central role in providing cultural knowledge and advice on environmental planning and policy across the region. The SEAFG meets regularly to apply cultural knowledge to environmental management and to support outcomes for First Nations managed lands.

In 2011, the SEAFG developed the Lartara-Wirkeri Cultural Governance Framework to guide its involvement in environmental planning and on-ground actions. This framework was strengthened in 2015 through a cultural governance agreement with Burrandies Aboriginal Corporation (BAC), which supports delivery of programs and projects through a combined model of cultural leadership and operational implementation.

In October 2025, a Native Title determination (Ngarrindjeri Part B and First Nations of the South East #2) formally recognised Native Title rights and interests over areas including the southern Coorong, Morella Basin and Salt Creek. Following this determination, the Nori Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (NNTAC) was established as the Prescribed Body Corporate for these areas.

The establishment of NNTAC represents an important progression in the formal recognition of Traditional Owner rights and interests within the Southern Coorong region. Engagement arrangements are continuing to evolve to reflect these governance changes.

DEW works with SEAFG, NNTAC and BAC to support inclusive, respectful and effective engagement. This includes recognising the distinct roles of Native Title holders and advisory bodies and ensuring engagement approaches are responsive to evolving governance structures.

A workshop held in May 2026 with SEAFG and Nori representatives provided an opportunity to:

- inform 2026–27 watering priorities
- identify monitoring and research priorities
- discuss future engagement approaches.

Engagement is ongoing and includes meetings, workshops, on-Country activities and participation in monitoring programs, particularly across the Coorong South Lagoon, Salt Creek and Morella Basin.

4 Annual Plan Implementation

The *SA River Murray LTWP* and the *SA Environmental Water Management Framework* (DEW, 2021b) provide additional information regarding the SA River Murray ecological assets and water for the environment planning, policies and management.

Following annual planning, environmental water is provided, principally by the CEWH and TLM, to support priority watering actions. Where water has been agreed to for a particular site, operational event plans that outline the specifics of infrastructure operations and water delivery are typically finalised and implemented.

Water for the environment management (Figure 3) involves:

- Annual planning – development of environmental watering priorities and plans, consultation
- Environmental water provision – approvals, trades
- Water delivery and ‘real time’ management – infrastructure operations, monitoring
- Reporting and evaluation – water accounting and ecological data analysis.

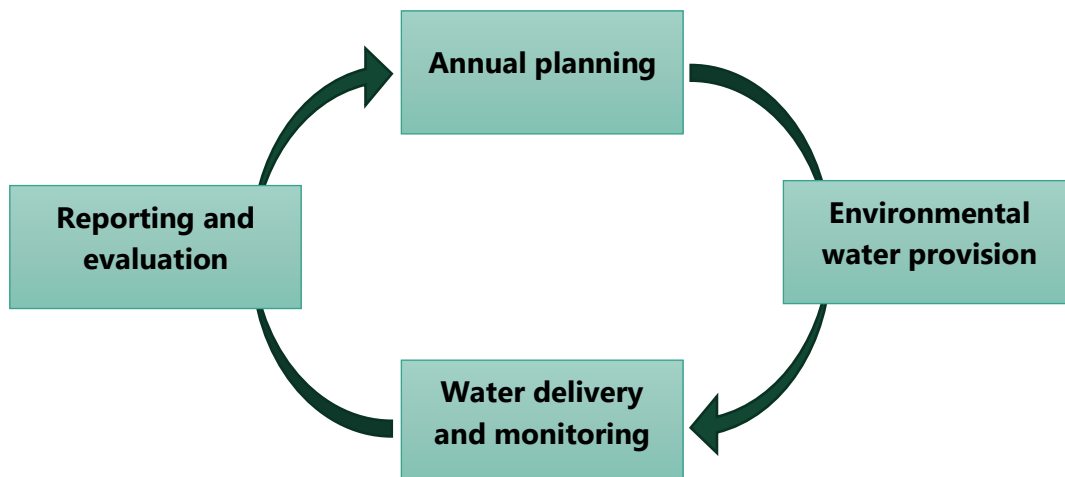


Figure 3. Overview of the annual environmental water management process.

4.1 Environmental Water Provision

Decisions to supply environmental water to meet identified demands in the watering proposals are made by environmental water holders. This includes the CEWH (in relation to Commonwealth environmental watering holdings), SCBEWC (in relation to ‘Joint Water’, that is TLM, River Murray Increased Flow (RMIF) and River Murray Unregulated Flow (RMUF)) and DEW (on behalf of the SA Minister for Climate, Environment and Water who makes decisions on the use of water on the Minister’s water licences).

4.2 Environmental Water Delivery

Delivery and monitoring of water for the environment is undertaken throughout the year. This includes the delivery of water to the SA border and the subsequent management of the water at the sites identified within this annual plan.

Environmental water delivery incorporates the following activities:

- development of water delivery/operational plans
- approvals
- continuous 'real time' planning
- hydrological modelling
- water delivery in conjunction with infrastructure operation
- monitoring
- ongoing consultation and communication
- evaluation, water accounting and reporting.

4.2.1 Real Time Planning and Operations

'Real time' planning is the short-term planning and decision making that occurs on an ongoing basis throughout the year, particularly leading up to and during the delivery of water for the environment. The timeframes for real time planning are shorter than annual planning, and decisions are informed by more specific water resource forecasts than the broader planning scenarios used for annual planning.

Environmental water managers are provided with information on the short-term forecasts of river conditions and the availability of water for the environment. If these vary from the planned scenarios, watering actions may need to be adaptively managed. Where real time planning has led to changes to a proposed watering action, further modelling and risk assessments may need to be undertaken to ensure adverse impacts are avoided.

Operational Advisory Groups (OAGs) hold regular meetings to ensure coordination and communication during watering events and rapid responses to any issues that may arise. Membership of these groups includes environmental water holders, managers of environmental assets and river operators. South Australia has representatives on cross-jurisdictional committees and OAGs and actively participates in the planning and coordination of large-scale environmental watering events.

4.3 Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting is critical for improving knowledge of floodplains, wetlands, CLLMM and the River Murray system. It is vital to understanding the physical and biological components of the river system and how these have responded over time to changing conditions. Ongoing monitoring programs are essential in being able to determine the need for delivery of water, including operation of major infrastructure, and to assess the outcomes of the delivery of water for the environment. In addition to this, the evaluation and interpretation of monitoring results are fed back into the planning process and are used to support planning and watering decision making in an adaptive management cycle. This continuous improvement in knowledge and learning increases the effectiveness of environmental water planning and delivery and helps to achieve management and ecological outcomes.

Site specific monitoring is undertaken at all key watering sites, with the methodology, data management and analysis based on the site monitoring plans developed by the water managers, in conjunction with advice from scientific and community stakeholders and support from Traditional Owners. As well as supporting site specific watering decisions, the data collected assists with the assessment of environmental water delivery outcomes along the river and supports the evaluation of the Basin Plan.

Each year, DEW compiles an *Annual South Australian River Murray Water for the Environment Report*. The report provides a record of all environmental watering activities undertaken throughout the region during the water year, including evaluation against proposed actions and priorities set out in the relevant Annual Plan. The annual report also presents a summary of key environmental outcomes, including case studies, as well as a list of technical reports that provide more detailed information about monitoring and ecological outcomes. All site and water managers across the SA River Murray are encouraged to participate in this reporting process, which also benefits from the input of Traditional Owner groups, scientific experts and community groups. Annual reports are published on the DEW [website](#).



White-necked heron perched high above Pilby Wetland. Credit: H Kieskamp.

5 Annual Priorities for 2026-27

South Australia has developed site-specific watering proposals for a number of locations throughout the SA River Murray system for the 2026-27 water year using a scenario-based approach (see section Planning Scenarios). This section presents the proposed watering actions for each site that were developed based on the planning scenarios provided for 2026-27. It includes the ecological objectives of the actions and indicates the estimated volume of water required, in addition to the water represented in the planning scenario hydrographs, to implement the action.

5.1 Site-based Watering Actions

5.1.1 Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Icon Site

In 2025-26, water for the environment and additional dilution flow supported seasonal lake level variation and all freshwater releases to the Coorong via the barrages (total volume of 1,082 gigalitres as of 30 April 2026). The biggest daily volumes of water released from the barrages occurred in early December 2025 (peaking at just over 16,000 ML/d) and coincided with the end of the coordinated spring environmental water delivery event. Following this, volumes of water for the environment delivered to SA receded in late December 2025 and January 2026, while local climate conditions were hot and dry. These conditions resulted in barrage releases being cut to fishways-only and water levels in the Lower Lakes receded below the planned envelope. In response to the rapidly reducing water levels in the lakes and low end-of-system flows, the monthly volumetric distribution of the 150 GL summer/autumn CEWH direct trade was changed to deliver a greater volume in February and March, and less in April and May. In addition, almost 12 GL of water for the environment was delivered to the CLLMM as an additional TLM direct trade. These actions, along with improved local climate conditions, contributed to a recovery in lakes' water levels and the resumption of barrage flows to the Coorong in mid-February 2026. In late March and April 2026, an additional 70 GL of CEWH return flows from a Goulburn autumn fresh event arrived in SA and the CLLMM, allowing barrage flows to increase to just over 15,000 ML/d in late March. The watering actions and watering objectives proposed for the CLLMM in 2026-27 are provided in Table 4. Due to the similarity in flow conditions under the Very Dry, Dry and Moderate planning scenarios and the Near Average and Wet planning scenarios, the actions and objectives have been grouped together.

Table 4. Proposed scenario-based watering actions for the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth in 2026-27

Planning Scenario	Proposed Watering Actions based on Planning Scenarios	Ecological Objectives
Very Dry Dry Moderate	Small winter flow event in August to support winter barrage flows Raise Lower Lake levels in late spring (up to 0.82m AHD) Moderate barrage flows to the Coorong in spring and early summer Keep lake levels >0.55m AHD in autumn and keep barrage fishways flowing year-round <i>HEW demand = 957.5 GL (Very Dry/Dry) / 966.0 GL (Moderate)</i>	- Fill fringing Lower Lakes wetlands to trigger spring frog, fish, invertebrate breeding in spring and prevent drying in autumn - Freshwater to North Coorong to provide refuge estuarine habitat for fish, aquatic plants and waterbirds - Support annual migration of congolli, galaxias and lamprey
Near Average 976 GL Wet 988 GL	Raise Lower Lake levels in late spring (>0.85m AHD) Majority of barrage flows to Coorong in spring and early summer from all barrages Keep lake levels >0.6m AHD in autumn and keep barrage fishways flowing year-round with attractant flow <i>HEW demand = 976 GL (Near Average) / 988 GL (Wet)</i>	- Extended Lakes wetland inundation, breeding of threatened fish (including pygmy perch), frogs, waterbirds & invertebrates - Freshening of Coorong North and South lagoons, water levels stay high until summer, Ruppia growth and reproduction, extended Coorong waterbird and fish habitat - Diadromous fish migration & recruitment

5.1.2 SA River Murray Channel and Floodplain

5.1.2.1 Flow pulses and flow peak enhancement

Dry conditions in 2025-26 saw flows remain within channel, with the highest flow reaching 16,298 ML/day in November 2025 largely due to releases from Hume Dam and the Murrumbidgee as part of the system scale 'multi-site' action reaching SA. In 2026-27, water for the environment is being sought to support the entire length of the SA River Murray channel and, where possible, the broader floodplain. Proposed actions range from a small in-channel fresh in mid-late spring (Very Dry/Dry scenario) to support habitat and breeding conditions for Murray cod, to enhancing unregulated flow peaks (Near Average and Wet Scenarios) for the inundation of temporary wetlands and overbank flows onto the floodplain (Table 5). Under even wetter conditions, i.e. >80,000 ML/day, opportunities to enhance higher flows and maximise floodplain and wetland watering will also be considered if the opportunity arises. The proposed watering actions aim to enhance flow conditions presented in the planning scenarios but will be adapted in response to actual flow conditions. The actions are informed by the ecological objectives, targets and EWRs identified in the *SA River Murray LTWP* as well as the recent watering history and available monitoring data.

Table 5. Proposed scenario-based watering actions for the SA River Murray Channel and Floodplain in 2026-27

Planning Scenario	Proposed Watering Actions based on Planning Scenarios	Ecological Objectives
Very Dry / Dry	Small fresh (11,000 – 12,000 ML/day) for 60-days in mid to late spring <i>HEW demand = 463.0 GL - 505.5 GL</i>	- Mitigate stratification, dissolved oxygen and algal risks - Provide flow and habitat conditions to support Murray cod breeding (Oct/Nov, nest establishment in Sep)
Moderate	Fresh (15,000 ML/day) for 60-days in late spring/early summer <i>HEW demand = 671.5 GL</i>	- Inundate riparian vegetation in tailwaters - Flow and habitat for Murray cod breeding (Oct/Nov, nest establishment in Sep) - Improved water velocities/increased lotic habitat (>0.2 m/s) - Low level golden perch (mid-Oct/Nov on) and silver perch (Dec – Jan) recruitment
Near Average	Enhance unregulated flows to generate a large (30,000 ML/day for 30 days) + medium fresh (~22,000 ML/day for 30 days) in spring/early summer <i>HEW demand = 952.0 GL</i>	- Inundate higher elevations of the channel asset to increase soil moisture and support improved vegetation condition - Temporary wetland connectivity, providing additional habitat for waterbirds, frogs and other fauna - Improved water velocities/increased lotic habitat (>0.3 m/s) - Large-bodied native fish recruitment
Wet	Enhance unregulated flows to ~50,000 ML/day for 60-days then maintain large fresh >20,000 in Nov <i>HEW demand = 1,022.5 GL</i>	- Inundation/connectivity with low elevation floodplain areas - Support long-lived vegetation conditions - Temporary wetland connectivity, providing additional habitat for waterbirds, frogs and other fauna - Large-bodied native fish recruitment

5.1.2.2 Weir Pool Manipulation

In 2025-26, a raising of Weir 2 was undertaken between September and December 2025, reaching a maximum height of 6.62 mAHD (0.52 m above normal pool level). Raising of Weir 4 (+0.37 m), Weir 5 (+0.36 m) and Weir 6 (+0.40 m) also occurred in conjunction with the operation of the Katarapko, Pike and Chowilla Floodplain regulators, respectively, which took place between August and December 2025. Due to the dry conditions in 2025-26, with flow to SA only reaching a maximum of approximately 16,000 ML/day, providing water to maintain soil moisture and support vegetation growth remains a high priority in 2026-27, although the need for water is greater in areas that were not able to be inundated in the previous water year.

Table 6 presents the weir pool manipulations proposed for 2026-27 based on the planning scenarios presented in Section 2.1.1. However, as the design of any weir pool manipulation is driven by flow conditions, these proposed actions can change significantly based on the timing and magnitude of any flow enhancement proposed for the channel and/or CLLMM watering actions. Furthermore, weir pool manipulations at Weirs 4, 5 and 6 can also be influenced by planned Katarapko, Pike and Chowilla Floodplain watering actions with some regulator operations requiring weir raising. Potential changes to weir pool manipulations as a result of proposed channel / CLLMM watering actions and floodplain regulator operations have been captured in the SA Multi-site watering proposal described in this Annual Plan.

No weir pool lowerings are proposed in this Annual Plan as flow conditions in the planning scenarios were not of appropriate timing or duration, however, weir pool lowerings will be considered in 2026-27 if the opportunity arises. Weir pool manipulations will only be undertaken at Weir 5 once SA Water refurbishment works at Lock 5 (scheduled for April to October 2026) have been completed, and at Weir 3 when flow to South Australia is greater than 20,000 ML/d. The maximum extent of any weir pool manipulation will be determined in consultation with SA Water.

Table 6. Proposed scenario-based watering actions for Weir Pool Manipulation in 2026-27

Planning Scenario	Proposed Watering Actions based on Planning Scenarios	Ecological Objectives
Very Dry / Dry	No proposed actions	n/a
Moderate	Moderate level spring weir pool raise of all weir pools except Weir Pool 3, with a target duration of 80-days: (WP1: +10 cm; WP2: +30 cm; WP3: n/a; WP4: +20 cm; WP5: +30 cm; WP6: +20 cm) <i>Net HEW demand = 6.83 GL</i>	- Support improved vegetation condition through inundation and improved soil moisture - Provide additional habitat for waterbirds, frogs and other fauna in on-going dry conditions
Near Average	<u>Option A:</u> Short-term raising of WP3 (+22cm) to flush out salt when flows are above 20,000ML/d <u>Option B:</u> Moderate to maximum level raisings of all weir pools: (WP1: up to +20 cm; WP2: up to +50 cm; WP3: up to +22 cm, only when flows >20,000 ML/day; WP4: up to +40 cm; WP5: up to +50 cm; WP6: up to +40 cm) <i>Net HEW demand = 7.75 GL</i>	- Support improved vegetation condition through inundation and improved soil moisture - Provide additional habitat for waterbirds, frogs and other fauna in on-going dry conditions
Wet	Moderate to maximum level spring weir pool raise of all weir pools: (WP1: up to +20 cm; WP2: up to +50 cm; WP3: up to +22 cm; WP4: up to +40 cm; WP5: up to +50 cm; WP6: up to +40 cm) <i>Net HEW demand = 11.27 GL</i>	- To provide soil moisture to vegetation at higher elevations on the floodplain including saplings that germinated following the 2022 flood - Provide additional habitat for waterbirds, frogs and other fauna

5.1.2.3 Chowilla Floodplain

In 2026-27, water delivery at Chowilla Floodplain will focus on maintaining and improving the condition of long-lived vegetation as well as supporting the survival and growth of seedlings that germinated during the 2022-23 flood and providing feeding and breeding habitat for waterbirds, frogs and other wildlife. The proposed watering actions for Chowilla Floodplain based on the planning scenarios in Section 2.1.1 are described in Table 7. The type of action that can be implemented is influenced by flow conditions and so potential changes to watering actions at Chowilla Floodplain due to proposed flow enhancement for the channel and/or CLLMM have been captured in the SA Multi-site watering proposal described in this Annual Plan. The level to which the main Chowilla regulator can be operated is also dependent on flow conditions and the ability to raise Weir 6 above 19.65 mAHD being confirmed. An operation of the Chowilla Creek regulator with concurrent raising of Lock 6 will only be undertaken if planned construction works on the Chowilla Floodplain are not impacted, otherwise pumping will be undertaken to deliver water for the environment to priority wetlands as per the other planning scenarios.

Table 7. Proposed scenario-based watering actions for Chowilla Floodplain in 2026-27

Planning Scenario	Proposed Watering Actions based on Planning Scenarios	Ecological Objectives
Very Dry / Dry / Moderate	Optimise flows through Chowilla anabranch via Pipeclay and Slaney Creeks Pump up to 10 priority wetlands (~770 ha) <i>HEW demand = up to 10 GL</i>	• Support localised maintenance in the condition of long-lived vegetation • Provide feeding and breeding habitat for waterbirds, frogs and other wildlife • Improve local soil moisture and support the growth of understory and aquatic vegetation • Provide the stimulus for the food web that will contribute to food supplies for a range of floodplain and terrestrial biota • Maintain the mosaic of in-stream habitats particularly the fast-flowing habitats to support native fish including Murray cod
Near Average	Low to medium level operation of the regulator (~19.30 mAHD or higher) and Lock 6 (19.65-19.85 mAHD) (~4300 ha) <i>Net HEW demand = 22.5 – 27.0 GL</i> <u>And/or</u> Pump up to 10 priority wetlands (~770 ha) <i>HEW demand = up to 10 GL</i>	• Support broadscale maintenance in the condition of trees and provide follow up watering to seedlings/saplings that germinated in 2022/23, particularly black box and cooba • Create a mosaic of connected wetland habitats providing feeding and breeding habitat for waterbirds, frogs and other wildlife • Improve broadscale soil moisture and support the germination and growth of understory and aquatic vegetation
Wet*	Medium to high level operation of the regulator (~19.65 mAHD or higher) and Lock 6 (19.65-19.85 mAHD) (~6500 ha) <i>Net HEW demand = 32.6 – 35.8 GL</i> <u>Or</u> Pump up to 10 priority wetlands (~770 ha) <i>HEW demand = up to 10 GL</i>	• Provide the stimulus for the food web that will contribute to food supplies for a range of floodplain and terrestrial biota • Maintain the mosaic of in-stream habitats particularly the fast-flowing habitats to support native fish including Murray cod

5.1.2.4 Pike Floodplain

The proposed watering actions for Pike Floodplain, based on the planning scenarios in Section 2.1.1, are described in Table 8. Watering will focus on maintaining the condition of floodplain trees and lignum, providing opportunity for amphibious and flood-responding understorey plants to complete their life-cycle, and supporting the native vegetation that regenerated following the 2022 flood. The watering actions aim to fuel food web productivity and inundate temporary wetlands to increase habitat, resources and opportunity for frog, small-bodied fish and local-scale resident waterbird breeding.



The type of action that can be implemented is influenced by flow conditions and so potential changes to watering actions at Pike Floodplain due to proposed flow enhancement for the channel and/or CLLMM have been captured in the SA Multi-site watering proposal described in this Annual Plan. Delivery of water for the environment at Pike floodplain is likely to be constrained by major maintenance works planned to occur at Lock and Weir 5 in 2026. A raise of Weir 5 is required to support exchange of water and protect water quality when the Pike regulator is raised to a mid to high level. Water for the environment is expected to be able to be delivered to Pike floodplain, utilising Weir 5, starting in October 2026 if the maintenance works are complete within the planned timeframe. A level of 15.40 mAHD is the highest level inundation that can be managed within the spring watering season if delivery cannot proceed until mid-October. A higher-level watering option has been included under wet conditions but would only be able to be delivered if elevated flows result in the pausing of Weir 5 maintenance works, and if those works were paused at a stage where it was still possible to raise the weir to support watering in Pike floodplain.

Table 8. Proposed scenario-based watering actions for Pike Floodplain in 2026-27

Planning Scenario	Proposed Watering Actions based on Planning Scenarios	Ecological Objectives
Very Dry	Pumping – Tanyaca Horseshoe Floodplain <i>HEW demand = 0.20 GL</i>	• Support regeneration of lignum and eucalypts in previously cleared area • Promote understory growth • Provide habitat for frogs and waterbirds
Dry / Moderate	Low-level managed inundation (15.0 m AHD, +0.45 m at the Pike regulator) <i>Net HEW demand = 0.99 GL</i>	• Cue small-scale frog breeding • Encourage expansion of littoral edge vegetation • Increase inundated edge habitat for invertebrates and small-bodied native fish • Increase bank storage of water for mature trees • Water tree seedlings that germinated after the 2022 flood • Achieve throughflow connection for the Col Col Wetland, and Snake Wetland would be just connected with low level of water
	Pumping <i>HEW demand = 0.20 GL</i>	Same as Very Dry
Near Average	Low-level managed inundation (15.4 m AHD, +0.85 m at the Pike regulator) <i>Net HEW demand = 5.08 GL</i>	• As above for Dry/Moderate, with: • Inundation of an increased area of lignum that fringes permanent waterbodies and providing an increased area of shallow foraging habitat for waders, frogs and small-bodied native fish • Water additional trees and generate understorey succession across an area slightly larger than was watered in 2025 • Snake Wetland and several unnamed wetlands off of Pike River would be watered, substantial areas of the Snake Creek floodplain watered
	Pumping <i>HEW demand = 0.20 GL</i>	Same as Very Dry
Wet	Mid-level managed inundation (15.9 m AHD, +1.35 m at the Pike regulator) <i>Net HEW demand = 6.93 GL</i>	• Additional connectivity with Snake wetland and lagoon and inundate substantial wetlands and swales off of Pike River to increase temporary wetland habitat for waterbirds, frogs and native small-bodied fish. • Water would reach mid-elevation stands of Black Box that have not been inundated since 2022, as well as lignum and river red gum stands in temporary wetlands
	Pumping <i>HEW demand = 0.20 GL</i>	Same as Very Dry

5.1.2.5 Katarapko Floodplain

In 2026-27, water for the environment is being sought to strengthen the very positive responses for frog, waterbird and woodland bird diversity and abundances observed throughout the 2025-26 Katarapko Floodplain operations. The proposed watering actions for Katarapko Floodplain based on the planning scenarios in Section 2.1.1 are described in Table 9. The type of action that can be implemented is influenced by flow conditions and so potential changes to watering actions at Katarapko Floodplain due to proposed flow enhancement for the channel and/or CLLMM have been captured in the SA Multi-site watering proposal described in this Annual Plan.

Table 9. Proposed scenario-based watering actions for Katarapko Floodplain in 2026-27

Planning Scenario	Proposed Watering Actions based on Planning Hydrographs	Ecological Objectives
Very Dry	Pump to wetland (Boyties Lagoon) <i>HEW demand = 0.23 GL</i>	- Inundate additional temporary wetland area and fringing wetland lignum areas - Increase wetland habitat and breeding opportunities for frogs to consolidate strong, positive responses observed in previous year - Stimulate invertebrate production and increase wetland habitat for waterbirds, which also increased diversity and abundances in 2025-26
Dry / Moderate	Low level inundation (up to 12.0 mAHD, +2.0 m, ~150-200 ha) <u>AND</u> pumping to one wetland (Boyties Lagoon) <u>OR</u> Mid-level inundation (up to 13.0 mAHD, +3.0 m, ~485 ha) + weir raising (Weir 4, 13.5 mAHD, +0.30 m, ~365 ha) <i>Net HEW demand = 0.54 – 1.61 GL</i>	- Mostly within-channel regulator operation to maintain anabranch flows for generalist fish, improve instream creek vegetation (reeds, sedges and aquatic plants), support fringing mature trees and fringing post-flood seedlings - Regulator operation and pumping to increase wetland habitat and breeding opportunities to consolidate strong, positive frog and waterbird responses observed in previous year - Mid-level inundation increases inundation extent to reach greater areas of lignum fringing permanent waterbodies and low-lying floodplain areas to support floodplain trees (especially river cooba and river red gums). It connects anabranch creeks to larger temporary wetlands (no pumping required) to maximise wetland habitat availability and strengthen the positive frog and waterbird responses observed in 2025-26
Near Average	Mid-level inundation (up to 12.5 mAHD, +2.5 m ~300 ha) <u>AND</u> pump to one wetland (Boyties Lagoon) <u>OR</u> High-level inundation (up to 13.2 m AHD, +3.2 m, ~690 ha) + weir raising (W4, 13.6 m AHD, +0.40 m, ~420 ha) <i>Net HEW demand = 0.70 – 2.72 GL</i>	- Same as for low level inundation action under the Dry/Moderate scenario above, plus increase floodplain inundation extent and support expansion of littoral vegetation and fringing lignum and tree populations - Same as for the mid-level inundation under the Dry/Moderate scenario, plus inundate critical areas of higher-elevation floodplain areas that have not been inundated since 2022, targeting populations of higher elevation floodplain trees (especially black box) and populations of rare plant species, such as spiny lignum near Eckerts Flat. Increase floodplain habitat and connectivity for woodland birds, which also increased diversity and abundances in 2025-26
Wet	High-level inundation + weir raising (up to 13.2 m AHD, +3.2 m, ~690 ha) + weir raising (W4, 13.6 m AHD, +0.40 m, ~420 ha) <u>OR</u> All structures open <i>Net HEW demand = 0 – 2.83 GL</i>	- Same as for the high-level Near Average scenario above + maximising inundation extent - Maximise whole of site-scale connectivity

5.1.3 Wetlands

A number of temporary and pool-connected wetlands throughout the SA River Murray system are identified as priorities for receiving water for the environment in 2026-27. Wetland watering (pool-connected and temporary) will be undertaken by the MRLB and DEW, along with a number of non-government organisations (NGO's).

Watering of temporary wetlands, predominantly via pumping, is proposed under all planning scenarios, with the number of wetlands to be watered decreasing as conditions become wetter and increases in flow see more sites become connected to the river. Watering actions involving pumping may be limited by fuel costs and those utilising environmental water held by CEWH will be agreed with the CEWH.

The sites proposed by the MRLB to receive environmental water in 2026-27 have been prioritised to consider the critical ecological needs for threatened species, and to prevent the loss and desiccation of long-lived vegetation (Appendix B). The MRLB also engage with a range of stakeholders including community groups, landholders and Traditional Owners when planning and prioritising watering actions for the year ahead. Up to 58 sites covering over 2,000 ha under the Very Dry, Dry and Moderate scenarios have been proposed, requiring an estimated total volume of up to 14 GL. The main objectives of watering sites are to support threatened species such as the regent parrot (*Polytelis anthopeplus monarchoides*), Murray hardyhead and southern bell frog, each listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act). Watering also aims to benefit EPBC-listed migratory shorebird species, long-lived vegetation (river red gums and black box trees) and aquatic and amphibious vegetation.

A range of other temporary wetlands have been identified as potential priorities for watering in 2026-27 by other non-government organisations including Australian Landscape Trust, Renmark Irrigation Trust, Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group, and Vinarchy (Banrock Station). The work of these groups is vital in delivering benefits across numerous sites along the SA River Murray, providing valuable refuge habitat and complementing the outcomes achieved through larger scale watering actions.

In addition to the delivery of water to temporary wetlands, approximately 52 pool-connected wetlands (Appendix C) will be managed across all water resource availability scenarios, noting that in the wetter scenarios, management of most sites is not possible. Wetland infrastructure will be operated to implement wetting and drying phases to eliminate carp, support the growth of riparian and aquatic vegetation, and provide refuge and breeding opportunities for biota, including threatened species. Opportunities to couple re-wetting cycles with surcharge events (i.e. raising water levels above normal pool level via pumping) are also being explored.

For both temporary and pool-connected wetlands, the timing, duration, and extent of inundation will vary on a site-by-site basis and be tailored to the site needs, supporting threatened and/or culturally significant species, shallow or short watering to support vegetation or seedlings, and where feasible return flows. As the year progresses, site assessments will continue to inform priorities, and other sites may come into consideration for watering.



Blue-rod (*Stemodia florulenta*). Credit: H Kieskamp.

5.2 Co-operative Arrangements

5.2.1 Within the SA River Murray water resource plan area ('SA River Murray Multi-site')

The 2026-27 SA River Murray multi-site watering proposal aims to meet watering objectives at individual sites, as well as provide additional landscape-scale outcomes within South Australia. The multi-site proposal is underpinned by the objectives, targets and EWRs in the *SA River Murray LTWP* and the expected outcomes in the *Basin-wide Environmental Watering Strategy*.

The SA multi-site allows for the:

- coordination of the delivery of environmental water to South Australia to maximise the potential outcomes throughout the South Australian River Murray system
- delivery of environmental water to the CLLMM, while providing benefits to upstream river channel and floodplain assets en route, e.g. return flows from spring events supporting CLLMM outcomes
- improved effectiveness of environmental watering and extent of benefits by aligning the timing, magnitude and duration of discrete watering actions to water delivery to South Australia
- identification of any risks associated with the combined operations and environmental water delivery, trade-off decisions and priorities.

The primary objectives of the 2026-27 multi-site watering are to:

- provide flows to SA and minimise the impact of infrastructure operations on lotic habitats (>0.3 m/s) within the River channel and anabranches (within acceptable limits), in mid to late spring to support successful Murray cod breeding and recruitment (with flows in September for nest establishment, where possible) in all planning scenarios Very Dry to Wet
- where possible, in the Moderate to Wet scenarios, increase the extent of lotic conditions (>0.2 m/s) to promote longitudinal connectivity within the river channel and support golden and silver perch spawning and recruitment and the transport and dispersal of propagules (seeds, eggs and larvae)
- undertake infrastructure operations at the floodplains and weirs, while also enhancing flows, to increase inundation to:
 - improve local soil moisture to support the cohorts of red gums and black box that germinated post 2022 flood and growth of mature trees, lignum and understory vegetation in areas that have showed decline over the past year
 - enhance water level variability and expansion of littoral vegetation
 - inundate some areas that have not been watered since the 2022 flood (Near Average and Wet scenarios only)
- provide feeding and breeding habitat for waterbirds, frogs and other wildlife in potentially on-going dry conditions
- enhance flows to SA to provide longitudinal and lateral connectivity, providing pathways for the dispersal, migration and movement of native water-dependent biota between the floodplain and river, and between upstream and downstream reaches and the ocean
- provide ecosystem benefits through to the estuary, including productivity and food web outcomes, supporting lake levels and habitat maintenance in Coorong
- provide whole of system outcomes, including productivity and hydraulics from the River channel and floodplains, through to the CLLMM
- promote salt mobilisation and transport along the system to the marine environment
- deliver environmental water consistent with the Environmental Water Requirements (EWRs) of the Long-Term Watering Plan (LTWP: DEW 2025) and contribute to the ecological objectives for priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions described in the LTWP.

The SA multi-site objectives are an extension of the environmental watering objectives for site-based actions, and are summarised in Appendix A. The graphs provided in Appendix A indicate the relative timing of the River Murray channel and floodplain water demands, the CLLMM water demands and infrastructure management (where applicable). The combined watering actions within the multi-site summary reflect advice from scientists and other stakeholders, which was provided at the 2026-27 multi-site workshop held on 16 April 2026, to better align environmental benefits within SA and avoid detrimental impacts.

The greatest demands for water for the environment for all scenarios are driven by the river channel and CLLMM requirements, with additional volumes added for the operation of floodplain regulators and weirs and the pumping of wetlands.

5.2.1.1 Very Dry and Dry scenarios

The main aims for the combined multi-site actions under the Very Dry / Dry scenario are:

1. enhance flows in mid to late spring to increase velocities in the main River channel for Murray cod outcomes
2. increasing the extent of inundation as high as possible given the enhanced flows at most of the floodplains and weir pools for localised vegetation and fauna outcomes
3. maintain lake levels within the target envelope and ensure connectivity with the Coorong is maintained by providing barrage and/or fishway flows throughout the year.

The water demand for the River channel and CLLMM are well aligned, with both sites requiring ~ 12,000 ML/day in October and November 2026. The River channel and CLLMM flows will also facilitate higher level inundations (than would be possible without these increased flows) at the Katarapko and Pike floodplains, in conjunction with weir pools 4 and 5 being raised by 30 cm. The increased flows could facilitate higher level operations than would otherwise be possible without these flows at all weirs except weir pool 3. No Chowilla regulator operations are proposed for this scenario, and flows will be optimised through Chowilla anabranch via Pipeclay and Slaney Creeks.

The spring pulse will improve lotic conditions to support Murray cod breeding and while the magnitude of these improvements will be reduced as a result of any weir pool raisings, there will still be a greater extent of lotic habitat available than would occur in the absence of a spring pulse. The potential impact of the weir raisings on Murray cod breeding outcomes is unknown, although due to the relatively minor differences, may be negligible. Conversely, undertaking some level of inundation within the floodplains and weir pools will inundate fringing vegetation and assist in reaching some areas of seedling cohorts that germinated post 2022 flood and a few critical areas of mature river cooba, river red gum and black box that are showing signs of stress.

The height and extent of floodplain operations and whether to raise weir pools is still to be determined and will depend on further consultation, expert opinion, monitoring data analysis, further modelling and other operational factors including construction and infrastructure constraints.

5.2.1.2 Moderate scenario

The main aims for the combined multi-site actions under the Moderate scenario are to provide flows and velocities in the main River channel for large bodied native fish breeding outcomes in spring/early summer and meet the demand of the CLLMM, while increasing the extent of inundation (as much as possible) through infrastructure operations at the floodplains and weir pools.

The peak water demand for the River channel and CLLMM are well aligned, with both sites requiring ~ 12,000 to 15,000 ML/day in October to December 2026.

As with the Dry scenario, the River channel and CLLMM flows could facilitate higher level inundations at the Katarapko and Pike floodplains (than would be possible without these increased flows), in conjunction with weir pools 4 and 5 being raised by 30 cm. No Chowilla regulator operations are proposed for Moderate scenario. The River channel and CLLMM flows could facilitate higher level inundations than would otherwise be possible without these flows at all weirs except weir pool 3. If weir pools 4 and 5 are to be raised as part of the floodplain actions, raising weir pools 1, 2 and 6 will be considered to maximise inundation at these reaches. Weir pool lowering may be considered outside of the spring / summer period to continue to develop public acceptance of these actions.

Enhanced flows in September to December provides significant improvements in 0.2 and 0.3 m/s velocity classes. Integrated operations modelling indicated there was an impact on some velocity classes during some of the weir pool raising actions, but the magnitude was not considered to be a risk to large-bodied fish outcomes in the River channel.

5.2.1.3 Near Average scenario

The main aims for the combined multi-site actions under the Near Average scenario are to increase the extent of inundation through enhanced flows, including in the tailwaters where water levels respond to increases in flow, and to undertake

infrastructure operations in the floodplains and weir pools, while providing velocities for large-bodied native fish breeding outcomes in October to December. In addition to the outcomes that will be achieved in the Dry to Moderate scenarios, the CLLMM water demand will support *Ruppia* sp. growth and reproduction and provide whole of Coorong food web benefits (plants, invertebrates, fish and waterbirds).

Enhancing flows in September to ~ 30,000 ML/day is considered a priority in the Near Average scenario as it will inundate higher levels of the channel asset increasing soil moisture and supporting improved riparian vegetation condition in the tailwaters. Undertaking the highest possible floodplain and weir pool raises during the enhanced flow in September will inundate more critical areas of high elevation floodplains that haven't been inundated since 2022.

Weir pool raising is proposed for the three floodplain regulator actions, and is independently proposed at weir pools 1, 2 and 3. Weir pool 2 will be raised in September to the maximum level of + 50 cm to maximise inundation and will then be brought down to a halfway raise in October to + 26 cm to reduce impacts on velocities.

As with the Moderate scenario, enhanced flows in September to December provides significant improvements in 0.2 and 0.3 m/s velocity classes. Integrated operations modelling indicated there was an impact on some velocity classes during some of the weir pool raising actions, but the magnitude was not considered to be a risk to large-bodied fish outcomes in the River channel.

5.2.1.4 Wet scenario

A main objective for the combined multi-site actions under the Wet scenario is to enhance flows to increase inundation to reach the Floodplain PEA. Similar to the other scenarios, the multi-site objectives include improving velocities in the main River channel for large bodied native fish (Murray cod and perch) outcomes and meet the demand of the CLLMM (as per objectives in the Near Average scenario), while maximising inundation within the floodplains and along the weir pool reaches.

The enhanced flow proposed for the River channel is a priority for the Wet scenario as it builds on the peak in August and September to increase areas of inundation along the length of the River, which will result in water reaching the broader floodplain asset including areas that cannot be influenced by infrastructure operations, in particular in the tail waters of each weir pool. Tail water inundation under these flow conditions extends downstream for most of each reach into areas that have not been inundated since spring 2023. Undertaking floodplain and weir raising actions during the peak of the enhanced flows will inundate additional areas that have not been inundated since 2022, including mid-level black box, seedling and saplings from the 2022 flood and substantial temporary wetlands.

Continuing to enhance flows from October to December will provide greater confidence Murray cod and perch recruitment outcomes can be achieved. The weir pool raising actions proposed in the multi-site will not impact on 0.2 and 0.3 m/s velocity classes during the critical months of October to December when large bodied native fish recruitment is expected.

5.2.1.5 Environmental water volume and delivery pattern

The estimated volume of water for the environment required to deliver the 2026-27 SA multi-site proposal ranges from approximately 979 GL in the Very Dry and Dry scenarios to 1,514 GL in the Wet scenario (Table 10). SA multi-site volumes represent the volume of environmental water required to be delivered to the South Australian border to support all proposed watering actions in the South Australian River Murray for that scenario. These volumes are in addition to water for the environment on South Australian licences (approximately 250 GL), which is delivered as part of South Australia's Entitlement and therefore included in the base flow represented in the planning scenarios. The SA multi-site volumes incorporate the contribution that the river channel water demand and upstream watering actions make to the CLLMM water demands.

Table 10. Indicative volume of environmental water required per month to deliver the South Australia multi-site action. Options under each scenario represent alternative demand profiles and are not cumulative.

Annual operating outlook	Indicative volume (GL) of environmental water required per month												Total est. volume 2026-27 water year only (GL)
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
Very Dry / Dry	38	37	106	252	281	145	47	40	37	32	32	0	979
Moderate	38	68	106	236	281	264	45	40	37	32	11	10	1168
Near Average	37	74	271	260	285	184	62	56	63	30	31	15	1369
Wet	37	243	275	198	234	210	93	70	62	30	31	30	1514

5.2.2 Between Water Resource Plan Areas

There is no active management of water for the environment in the Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges WRP area or the SA Murray Region WRP area. Opportunities to coordinate environmental watering between these areas and the SA River Murray are limited. The catchments of the Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges WRP area flow to the lower River Murray and Lake Alexandrina, with the outflow from these catchments contributing an average annual runoff of 76 GL per year to the Murray-Darling Basin (DEW, 2019). The timing and volume of environmental watering in the Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges WRP area occurs in response to local rainfall and flows, rather than being able to be managed or manipulated to achieve coordinated outcomes with environmental watering in the SA River Murray WRP area. Any flow reaching Lake Alexandrina cannot be allocated and is considered PEW within the SA River Murray WRP area.

The SA Murray Region WRP area includes the Coorong and Murray Mouth, however in recognition of the intrinsic connection between the Coorong and the Lower Lakes, South Australia seeks to manage the site as a whole as described in *the SA River Murray LTWP*.

Water holders and managers of water for the environment in SA, New South Wales, Victoria, the MDBA and CEWH have worked together for several years to trial, plan and coordinate annual southern-connected basin multi-site environmental watering events. This planning aims to maximise the use of unregulated flows, water for the environment and return flows at multiple sites as water moves through the southern-connected basin.

The SCBEWC and Water Liaison Working Group (both coordinated by the MDBA) contribute to the development of the southern-connected basin multi-site events each year. This includes the planning and implementation of a coordinated River Murray channel spring pulse aimed at optimising benefits along the River Murray channel as well as achieving alignment with upstream tributary inflows and watering actions at wetland and floodplain sites and the CLLMM.



DEW staff undertaking tadpole monitoring at Plushes Bend. Credit: DEW.

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Appendices

Appendix A – SA River Murray multi-site actions

Summary of water for the environment multi-site actions proposed for 2026-27 under different planning scenarios

Very Dry and Dry scenarios

Table 11: Very Dry and Dry planning scenarios: Proposed operations for the multi-site

Site	Management action(s)	Timing	Site-based Volume
CLLMM	A: winter flow pulse thru barrages B: raise lake levels, maintain flows at all fishways & provide barrage flows to Coorong C: maintain autumn lake levels ≥ 0.55 mAHD and provide continuous fishway flow	Jul – Aug Sep – Dec Jan – Jun	93.00 GL 672.00 GL 192.50 GL
River Channel & Floodplain	Small fresh (11,000 – 12,000 ML/day) for 60-days in mid to late spring	Sept – Nov	463.00 - 505.50 GL
Chowilla	Optimise flows through Chowilla anabranch via Pipeclay and Slaney Creeks (no additional water use from these actions). Pump to priority wetlands - up to 10 sites.	All year spring to autumn	10.00 GL
Pike (Dry only)	Medium level regulator operation 15.4 mAHD WPR Lock 5: + 30 cm (16.6 mAHD)	Sept – Dec	20.7 GL (fill & losses) 15.5 GL (return flows) 5.2 GL Total
Katarapko	Medium level regulator operation 13.0 mAHD WPR Lock 4: + 30 cm (13.5 mAHD)* Passing flows (68.8 GL) required for Katarapko in Aug to Dec are accounted for by CLLMM and River channel demands	Jul – Dec	12.82 GL (fill & losses) 11.21 GL (return flows) 1.61 GL Total**
Weir pools	Weir pool raise of all weir pools except weir pool 3 to current moderate-maximum operational levels (subject to further modelling). Weir pool 3 will remain at Normal Pool Level (NPL) unless flows exceed QSA 20,000ML/d. WP4 and WP5 are to be raised as part of the Katarapko and Pike site-based actions above. WP6: + 20 to 40 cm (19.45 / 19.65 mAHD)*** WP3: NPL WP2: + 30 to 50 cm (6.4 / 6.6 mAHD) WP1: + 10 to 20 cm (3.3 / 3.4 mAHD)	Sept – Dec	11.70 GL (fill & losses) 9.15 GL (return flows) 2.55 GL Total
Wetlands	Potential pumping to up to 58 wetlands along the River Murray.	All year	Up to 13.50 GL

* Raising of weir pool 4 is pending advice from SA Water if there are restrictions on raising weir pool 4 due to works to be undertaken at Lock 5.

** Volumes may be an underestimate as they are based on 2021 modelling and will be refined with updated modelling.

*** Height that Lock 6 may be raised will depend on advice from SA Water.

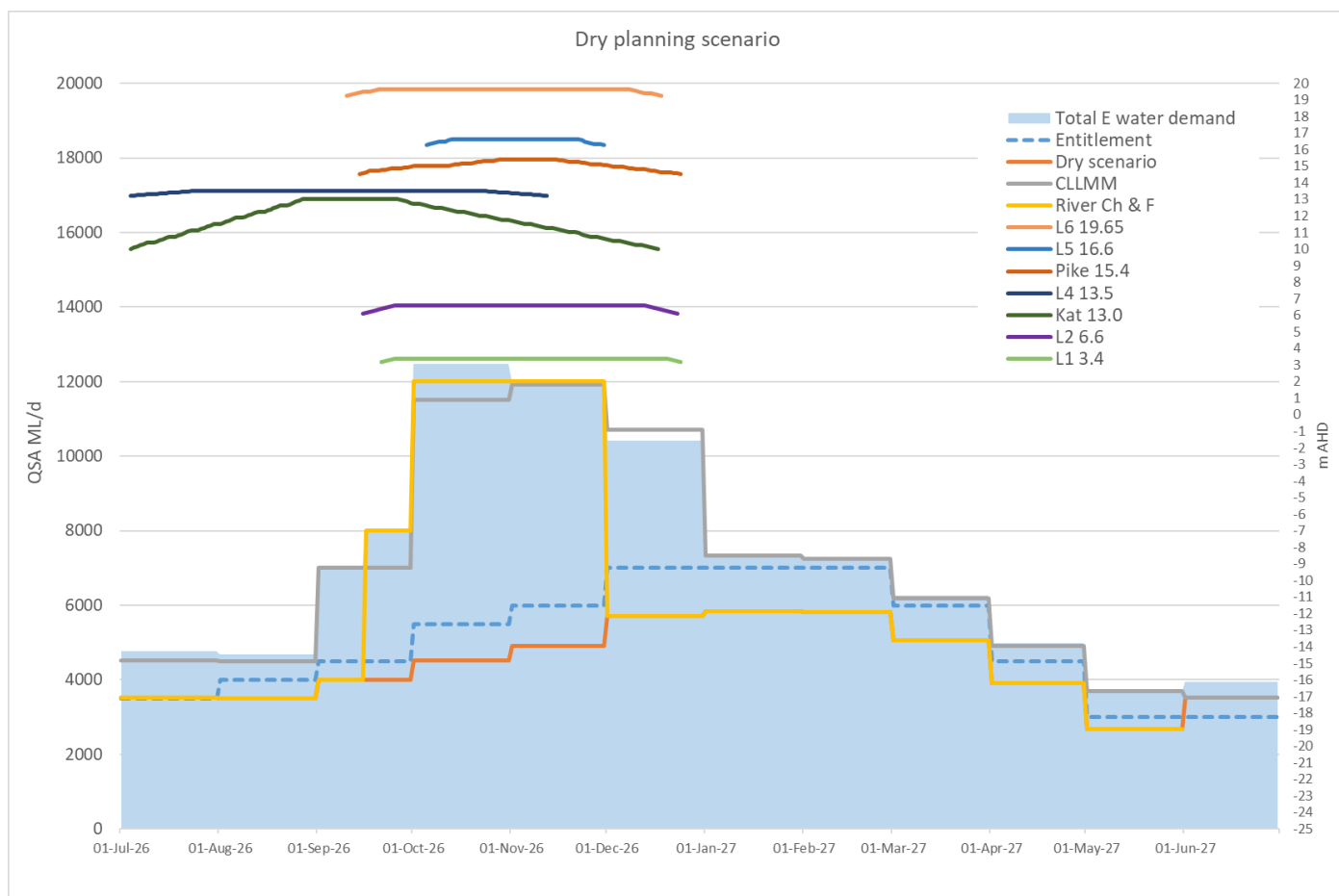


Figure 4. Preferred delivery pattern of SA multi-site environmental water under Very Dry and Dry scenarios.

Moderate scenario

Table 12: Moderate scenario: Proposed operations for the multi-site

Site	Management action(s)	Timing	Volume
CLLMM	A: winter flow pulse thru barrages	Jul – Aug	93.00 GL
	B: raise lake levels, maintain flows at all fishways & provide barrage flows to Coorong	Sep – Dec	703.00 GL
	C: maintain autumn lake levels ≥ 0.55 mAHD and provide continuous fishway flow	Jan – Jun	170.00 GL
River Channel & Floodplain	Fresh (15,000 ML/day) for 60-days in late spring/early summer	Oct – Dec	671.5 GL
Chowilla	Optimise flows through Chowilla anabranch via Pipeclay and Slaney Creeks Pump to priority wetlands - up to 10 sites	All year spring to autumn	10.00 GL
Pike	Medium level regulator operation 15.4 mAHD WPR Lock 5: + 30 cm (16.6 mAHD)	Sept – Dec	20.70 GL (fill & losses) 15.50 GL (return flows) 5.20 GL Total
Katarapko	Medium level regulator operation 13.0 mAHD WPR Lock 4: + 30 cm (13.5 mAHD)*	Jul – Dec	12.82 GL (fill & losses)

Site	Management action(s)	Timing	Volume
	Passing flows (68.8 GL) required for Katarapko in Aug to Dec are accounted for by CLLMM and River channel demands		11.21 GL (return flows) 1.61 GL Total**
Weir pools	Weir pool raise of all weir pools except weir pool 3 up to current maximum operational levels. Weir pool 3 will remain at Normal Pool Level (NPL) unless flows exceed QSA 20,000ML/d. WP4 and WP5 to be raised as part of the Katarapko and Pike site-based actions above. WP6: + 40 cm (19.65 mAHD)*** WP3: NPL WP2: + 50 cm (6.6 mAHD) WP1: + 20 cm (3.4 mAHD)	Sept – Dec	11.74 GL (fill & losses) 9.15 GL (return flows) 2.59 GL Total
Wetlands	Potential pumping to up to 58 wetlands along the River Murray.	All year	Up to 13.50 GL

* Raising of weir pool 4 is pending advice from SA Water if there are restrictions on raising weir pool 4 due to works to be undertaken at Lock 5.

** Volumes may be an underestimate as they are based on 2021 modelling and will be refined with updated modelling.

*** Height that Lock 6 may be raised will depend on advice from SA Water.

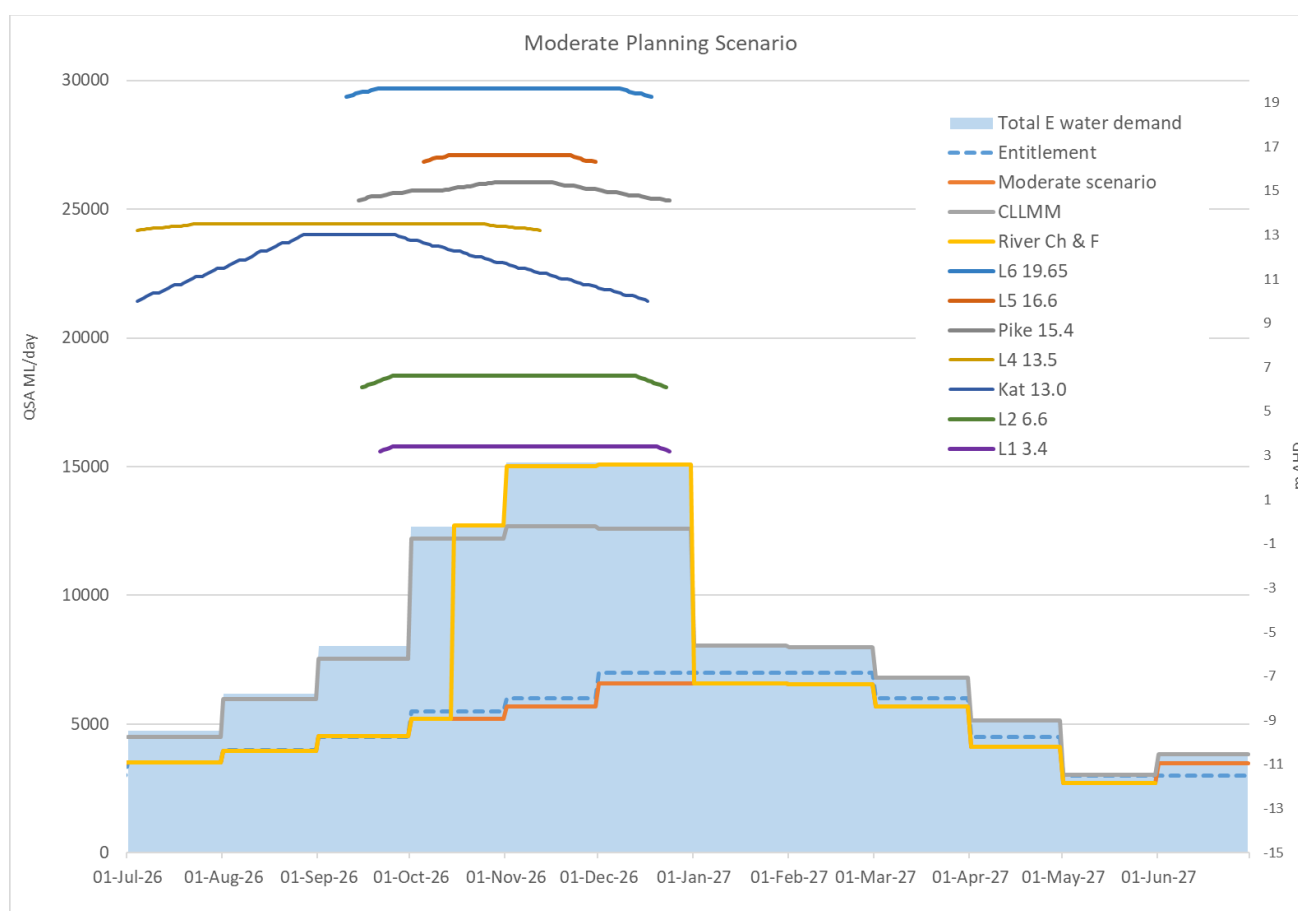


Figure 5. Preferred delivery pattern of SA multi-site environmental water under a Moderate scenario.

Near Average scenario

Table 13: Near Average scenario: Proposed operations for the multi-site

Site	Management action(s)	Timing	Volume
CLLMM	A: winter flow pulse thru barrages	Jul	31 GL
	B: raise lake levels, maintain flows at all fishways & provide barrage flows to Coorong	Sep – Dec	643 GL
	C: maintain autumn lake levels ≥ 0.60 mAHD and provide continuous fishway flow	Jan-Jun	256 GL
River Channel & Floodplain	Enhance unregulated flows to generate a large fresh (~ 30,000 ML/day for 30 days) + then maintain a small-moderate fresh (20,000 ML/day for 30 days + 15,000 ML/day for 30-days) in spring/early summer	Sep – Dec	864.1 GL
Chowilla*	Low to medium level operation of the regulator (~19.3 – 19.75 mAHD) Lock 6: + 40 / 60 cm (19.65 - 19.85 mAHD)** Note raising of L6 above 19.65 mAHD is TBC	Jul - Nov	82.2 GL (fill & losses) 46.4 GL (return flows) 35.8 GL Total***
Pike	Medium level regulator operation 15.4 mAHD WPR Lock 5: + 30 cm (16.6 mAHD)	Sept – Dec	20.7 GL (fill & losses) 15.5 GL (return flows) 5.2 GL Total
Katarapko	High level regulator operation 13.2 mAHD WPR Lock 4: + 30 / + 40 cm (13.5 to 13.6 mAHD)****	Late Jul – Dec	12.46 GL (fill & losses) 9.78 GL (return flows) 2.68 GL Total
Weir pools	Weir pool raising to maximum level in Sept at Locks 1, 2 & 3 then down to half level in Oct at Lock 2. Weir pool raising at weir pools 6, 5 and 4 will occur as part of the site management actions above. Weir pool 3: + 20 cm (10.0 mAHD) Weir pool 2: + 50 cm (6.6 mAHD) / + 26 cm Weir pool 1: + 10 cm (3.3 mAHD)	Aug – Dec	18.66 GL (fill & losses) 13.81 GL (return flows) 4.85 GL Total
Wetlands	Potential pumping to up to 49 wetlands along the River Murray.	All year	Up to 10 GL

* Chowilla operations will only occur if they do not impact on construction works planned for May to December 2026. If operations do not proceed, pumping to individual sites as per the Dry and Moderate scenarios will be pursued.

** Height that Lock 6 may be raised will depend on advice from SA Water.

*** Volumes are an up to value based on higher potential heights, i.e. Chowilla regulator raised to 19.75 mAHD and Lock 6 raised to 19.85 mAHD.

**** Raising of weir pool 4 is pending advice from SA Water if there are restrictions on raising weir pool 4 due to works to be undertaken at Lock 5.

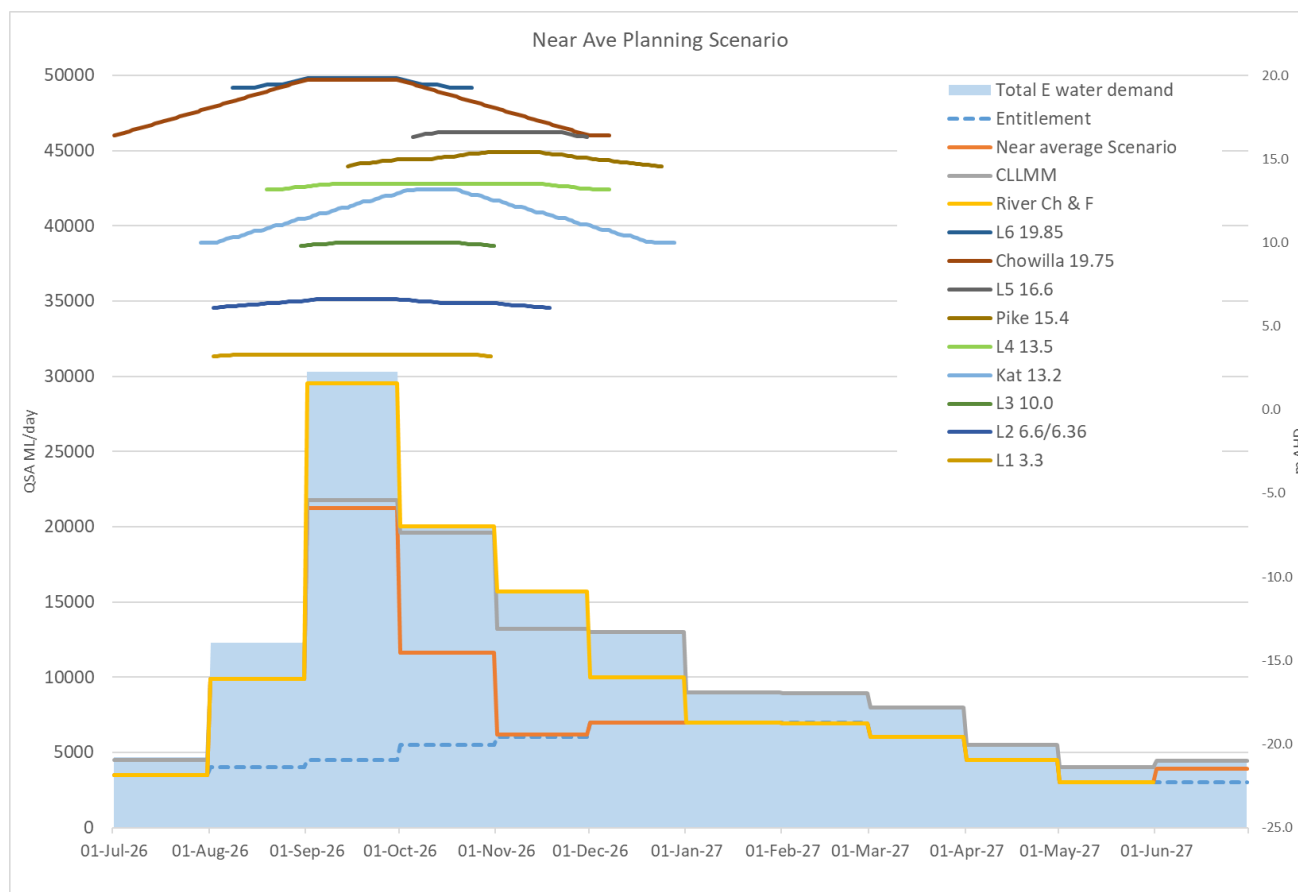


Figure 6. Preferred delivery pattern of SA multi-site environmental water under a Near Average scenario.

Wet scenario

Table 14: Wet scenario: Proposed operations for the multi-site

Site	Management action(s)	Timing	Volume
CLLMM	A: winter flow pulse thru barrages B: surcharge lakes & extend high barrage flows to Coorong C: maintain autumn lake levels ≥ 0.6 mAHD and provide continuous attractant and fishway flow	Jul	31 GL
		Oct – Jan	673 GL
		Feb-Jun	223 GL
River Channel & Floodplain	Enhance unregulated flows to ~45,000 for 30-days and ~50,000 ML/day for 30-days then maintain large fresh ~35,000 ML/day in Oct and 20,000 in Nov	Aug – Dec	853.1 GL
Chowilla*	Medium to high level operation of the regulator (~19.65 – 19.85 mAHD) Lock 6: + 40 / 60 cm (19.65 - 19.85 mAHD)** Note raising of L6 above 19.65 mAHD is TBC	Jul - Nov	82.2 GL (fill & losses) 46.4 GL (return flows) 35.8 GL Total***
Pike****	Medium level regulator operation 15.9 mAHD WPR Lock 5: + 50 cm (16.8 mAHD)	Aug – Dec	26.04 GL (fill & losses) 19.11 GL (return flows) 6.93 GL Total
Katarapko	High level regulator operation >13.2 mAHD WPR Lock 4: + 30 / 40 cm (13.5 to 13.6 mAHD)	Aug – Dec	12.18 GL (fill & losses) 9.35 GL (return flows) 2.83 GL Total
Weir pools	Weir pool raising to maximum level in Aug - Oct at weir pools 1, 2 & 3. Weir pool raising at 6, 5 and 4 to occur as above in the site-based actions.	Aug – Oct	27.31 GL (fill & losses) 21.73 GL (return flows) 5.58 GL Total

Site	Management action(s)	Timing	Volume
	Weir pool 3: + 25 cm (10.05 mAHD) Weir pool 2: + 50 cm (6.6 mAHD) Weir pool 1: + 20 cm (3.4 mAHD)		
Wetlands	Potential pumping to up to 24 wetlands along the River Murray	All year	Up to 5 GL

* Chowilla operations will only occur if they do not impact on construction works planned for May to December 2026. If operations do not proceed, pumping to individual sites as per the Dry and Moderate scenarios will be pursued.

** Height that Lock 6 may be raised will depend on advice from SA Water.

*** volumes are an up to value based on higher potential heights, i.e. Chowilla regulator raised to 19.75 mAHD and Lock 6 raised to 19.85 mAHD.

**** Note that the larger scale watering proposed for Pike floodplain under the Wet scenario could only proceed if maintenance works at Lock and Weir 5 were paused due to higher flows at a stage that could allow raising of the weir to support environmental watering in the floodplain.

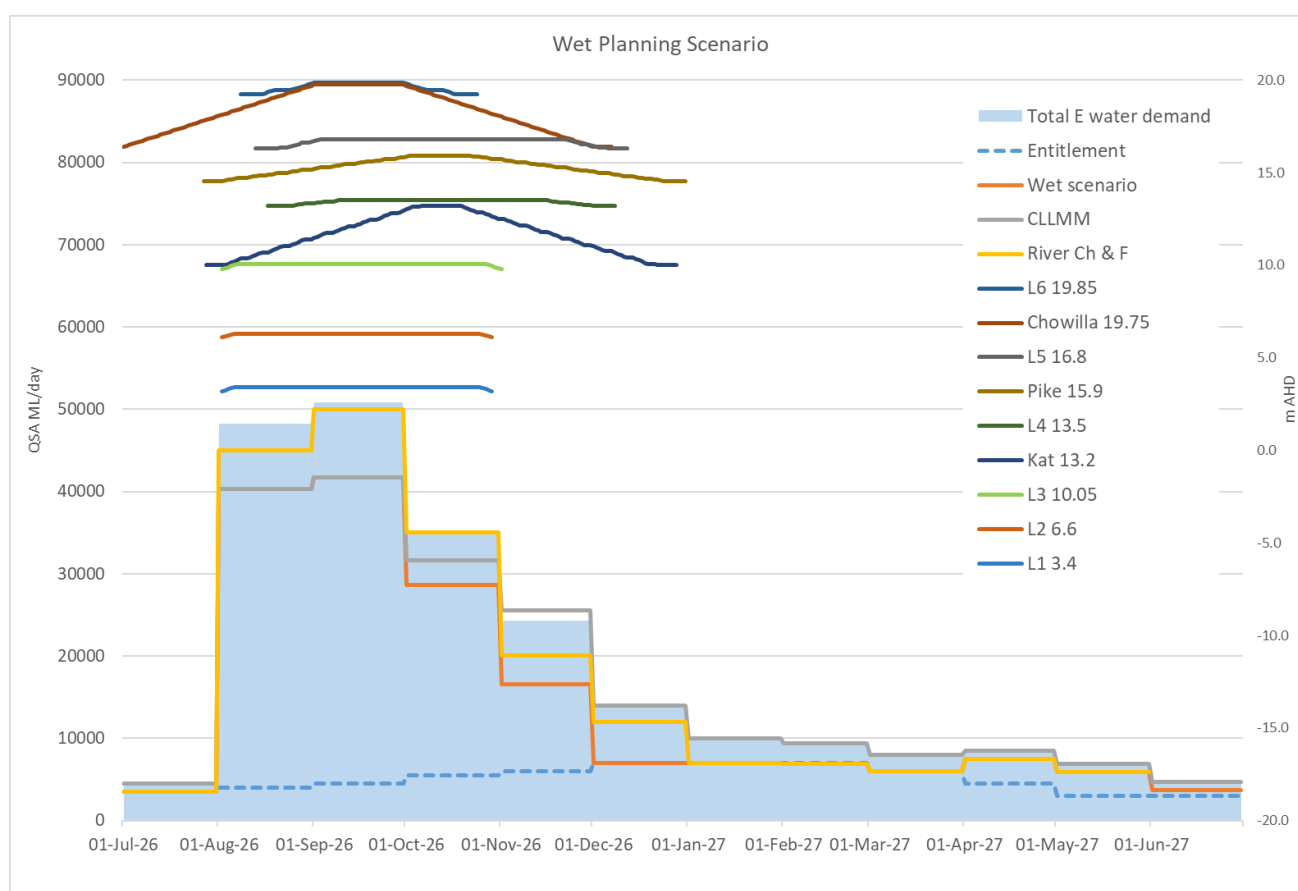


Figure 7. Preferred delivery pattern of SA multi-site environmental water under a Wet scenario.

Appendix B - Potential temporary wetland watering sites in 2026-27

The following list is indicative only and based on sites identified by the MRLB, noting a range of other sites are under consideration for watering in 2026-27 by other NGOs. Sites may be added to or removed from consideration as conditions change and or new information becomes available. The temporary wetlands that are identified as priorities to receive water in 2026-27 may change to accommodate emerging priorities and feasibility of delivery.

Wetland Complex	Potential MRLB wetland watering sites 2026-27	Planning Scenario where pumping required		
		Very Dry /Dry / Moderate	Near Average	Wet
Akuna	Akuna	✓	✓	-
Banrock	Banrock Floodrunner	✓	✓	-
Banrock	Banrock Bend Swales	✓	✓	-
Berri Evaporation Basin	Berri Evaporation Basin	✓	-	-
Bookmark Creek	Bookmark Creek	✓	-	-
Cadell	CAD1 Cadell Temporary Wetland	✓	✓	-
Clarks	Clarks MHH Lagoon	✓	✓	
Currency Creek	Investigator College	✓	✓	✓
Disher	Disher Creek	✓	-	-
Gurra Gurra	GUR2 Lyrup Lagoon	✓	-	-
Gurra Gurra	Old Loxton Road	✓	✓	-
Herons Bend	Herons Bend Swale 1	✓	✓	-
Herons Bend	Herons Bend Swale 2	✓	✓	✓
Hogwash Bend	Hogwash Bend - North Basin	✓	✓	✓
Hogwash Bend	Hogwash Bend - South Basin	✓	✓	-
Katarapko	Katarapko Island – Wetland 1	✓	✓	-
Katarapko	Katarapko Island – Wetland 3	✓	✓	-
Katarapko	Yabby Creek & Horseshoe Lagoons	✓	✓	-
Kumarangk / Hindmarsh Island	Outer Wetlands	✓	✓	✓
Kumarangk / Hindmarsh Island	Flat Valve Lagoon	✓	✓	✓
Kumarangk / Hindmarsh Island	Grey Creek	✓	✓	✓
Lower Lakes Fringing Wetland	Ibis Road Wetland	✓	✓	✓
Lower Lakes Fringing Wetland	Tauwitchere Ephemeral Wetland	✓	✓	✓
Raukkan Shores	Yaiwaiparrung	✓	✓	✓
Maize Island	Maize Island	✓	✓	✓
Markaranka	Markaranka – Regent Parrot Strip	✓	✓	✓
Markaranka	Markaranka Floodrunner 2	✓	✓	✓
Markaranka	Markaranka Floodrunner 5 + overspill	✓	✓	✓
Markaranka	Markaranka Main Basin	✓	✓	-
Martins Bend	Martin Bend Temporary 1 & 2 (via Lagoon)	✓	✓	-
Martins Bend	Martin Bend Temporary 3	✓	✓	✓

Wetland Complex	Potential MRLB wetland watering sites 2026-27	Planning Scenario where pumping required		
		Very Dry /Dry / Moderate	Near Average	Wet
Milang Shores	Milang Snipe Sanctuary South	✓	✓	✓
Molo Flat	Molo Flat Eastern Channel	✓	✓	-
Molo Flat	Molo Flat Western Basin	✓	✓	✓
Moorundie	Sweeneys Lagoon	✓	-	-
Morgan Conservation Park	Morgan CP North (Bird and Meeting Lagoons)	✓	✓	✓
Morgan Conservation Park	Morgan CP South	✓	✓	-
Morgan East	Morgan East	✓	✓	-
Murbpook	Murbpook Northern Floodrunners	✓	✓	-
Old Parcoola	Old Parcoola	✓	✓	-
Old Parcoola	Old Parcoola Floodrunners	✓	✓	✓
Overland Corner	Overland Corner - Lignum Basins	✓	✓	-
Paringa Paddock	Paringa Paddock Swales	✓	-	-
Qualco	Qualco Finger Lagoon 1 (QLC4)	✓	✓	-
Qualco	Qualco Finger Lagoon 2 (QLC4)	✓	✓	-
Qualco	Qualco QLC1	✓	✓	✓
Swan Reach Complex	Sugar Shack - Wetland 3	✓	✓	✓
Swan Reach Complex	Sugar Shack - Wetland 6	✓	✓	-
Templeton	Templeton	✓	-	-
Teringie	Teringie East	✓	✓	✓
Tolderol	Tolderol Game Reserve	✓	✓	✓
Weila/Murtho	Murtho Park Flats	✓	✓	-
Weila/Murtho	Weila	✓	✓	-
Weila/Murtho	Weila Regulator (Weila Shedding Basin)	✓	-	-
Wigley Reach	Wigley Central Channel	✓	✓	-
Wigley Reach	Wigley Dunes	✓	✓	✓
Yarra Complex	Yarra Reach MHH Lagoon (YAR2)	✓	✓	✓

Appendix C - Pool-connected wetlands undergoing management in 2026-27

The pool-connected (Class 9) wetlands likely to be managed for wetting and drying in 2026-27 are listed in the table below. Additional sites may be considered subject to observations and conditions throughout the year.

Wetland Complex	Wetland
Banrock	Banrock
Big Bend	Big Bend
Brenda Park/Scotts Creek	Brenda Park
Causeway Wetland Complex	Causeway - Little Duck Lagoon
	Causeway - Winding Creek
Devon Downs South	Devon Downs South
Hart Lagoon	Hart Lagoon
Irwin Flat	Irwin Flat
Kroehn's Landing	Kroehn's Landing
Lake Merreti	Lake Merreti
Lake Woolpoolool	Lake Woolpoolool
Loveday Basins	Loveday Basin North
	Loveday Basin South
Loveday Lagoons (Mussels)	Loveday Lagoons – Pipeline and Sheeppark lagoons
	Loveday Lagoons – Mussels Lagoons
Martin Bend	Martin Bend
Morgan Lagoon (CP)	Morgan Lagoon CP
Morgans Lagoon - Lower Murray (LM)	Morgans Lagoon LM
Murbko South	Murbko South
Murbpook Lagoon	Murbpook Lagoon
Narrung	Narrung
Nelwart	Nelwart
Ngak Indau	Ngak Indau
Nigra Creek & Schillers Lagoon	Nigra - Schillers Lagoon
	Nigra - downstream outlet
North Caurnamont	North Caurnamont
North Purnong	North Purnong
Paiwalla	Paiwalla
Pilby Complex	Pilby - Depression
	Pilby Lagoon
	Pilby Creek
Pipeclay Billabong	Pipeclay Billabong
Pyap Horseshoe	Pyap Horseshoe
Ramco Lagoon	Ramco Lagoon
Reedy Creek	Reedy Creek
Riverglades	Riverglades

Wetland Complex	Wetland
Silverlea	Silverlea
Slaney Billabong	Slaney Billabong
Spectacle Lakes/ Beldora	Spectacle Lakes / Beldora
	Beldora Lagoon
Sugar Shack	Wetland 10
	Wetland 2
	Wetland 5
	Wetland 13
Sweeney's Lagoon	Sweeney's Lagoon
Teal Flat Complex	Teal Flat
	Teal Flat Hut
Teringie	Teringie
Waltowa	Waltowa
Wongulla Lagoon	Wongulla Lagoon
Yatco	Yatco North
	Yatco South

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