



# Environmental Watering of Gunbower Forest

By early June, the North Central Catchment Authority (CMA) will be delivering environmental water into Gunbower Forest using man-made infrastructure.

## Creating a thriving habitat

Gunbower Forest is an internationally important wetland that includes one of the most significant remaining areas of River Red Gum forest in Australia.



Regulation of the Murray River now means that floods spilling from the river into the forest are less frequent, shorter in duration and smaller in extent.

Environmental watering is vital to sustaining the forest's River Red Gums, wetlands and wildlife – particularly frogs, waterbirds and native fish.

The watering will fill forest wetlands; attracting waterbirds and allowing plants to flourish. The forest will be a beautiful place to visit, especially during spring and early summer when the trees and wetlands are looking their best.

Popular camping and fishing areas along the Gunbower Creek and the Murray River will still be accessible.



## Access to the forest

Plans for watering Gunbower Forest means that forest access may be restricted at times between June 2014 – January 2015.

For safety, it is important that visitors observe track access notices in the forest when watering takes place.

The North Central CMA, Parks Victoria and the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) will work closely together over the coming months to ensure you receive up-to-date information about access to Gunbower State Forest and Gunbower National Park.

For further information about environmental watering contact the North Central CMA on (03) 5448 7124 or visit [www.nccma.vic.gov.au](http://www.nccma.vic.gov.au).

## Further information on forest access, domestic firewood collection and camping:

- DEPI on 136 186 or visit the DEPI public access map at [www.depi.vic.gov.au](http://www.depi.vic.gov.au)
- Parks Victoria on 13 1963

On-site information is also available from the Gateway to Gannawarra Centre at 90 King George St Cohuna or (03) 5456 2047.

The Living Murray is a joint initiative funded by the New South Wales, Victorian, South Australian, Australian Capital Territory and Commonwealth governments, coordinated by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority. Watering Gunbower Forest is identified as a priority in the Victorian Environmental Water Holder's Seasonal Watering Plan 2013-14.

