



**NORTH CENTRAL**  
Catchment Management Authority  
*Connecting Rivers, Landscapes, People*



**Flooding for Life**  
GUNBOWER FOREST

## Environmental Watering of Gunbower Forest

From mid-June to early November, North Central Catchment Management Authority (CMA) will be delivering water for the environment to Gunbower Forest.

River regulation in the Murray-Darling Basin now means that floods which used to spill out of the river into Gunbower Forest are less frequent, and often do not last as long as they once did.

Regular flooding is vital for the health of the forest's trees, wetlands and wildlife. Delivering water for the environment enables the forest to receive a drink when it needs it, instead of waiting for a large-scale natural flood.

The watering will allow native plants to flourish over spring and summer, attracting and supporting native animals and drawing visitors.



### Water for the environment delivery

The delivery of up to 82 GL of water for the environment will begin in mid-June. At the peak of watering, up to approximately 3,000 ha of the middle and lower sections of Gunbower Forest will be inundated (see map overpage), or about 15 per cent of the forest

Watering is expected to finish in early November, before the Christmas holiday season, unless there is an important waterbird breeding event that requires small volumes to top-up wetlands.



### Forest access during watering

Plans for watering Gunbower Forest means at times access to some parts of the forest may be restricted between June and November 2018, however most of the forest will be open for business

For safety, it is important visitors obey track access notices in the forest.

The North Central CMA, Parks Victoria and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) 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).

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

### Information on forest access, domestic firewood collection and camping:

- DELWP on 136 186 or visit [www.facebook.com/DELWPLoddonMallee](https://www.facebook.com/DELWPLoddonMallee)
- Parks Victoria on 131 963 or visit [www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au)



The Flooding for Life project is delivered by the North Central Catchment Management Authority (CMA) in partnership with Goulburn–Murray Water, Murray–Darling Basin Authority, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and Parks Victoria. It is part of The Living Murray program, a joint initiative of the New South Wales, Victorian, South Australian, Australian Capital Territory and the Commonwealth governments, coordinated by the Murray–Darling Basin Authority (MDBA). Environmental water releases at Gunbower Forest are made in line with the Victorian Environmental Water Holder's *Seasonal Watering Plan* for both 2017-18 and 2018-19, which aims to improve river and wetland health across the State.