



MEDIA RELEASE

Date: 29 April 2021

Hattah to spring back to life in May

A significant watering event is planned to commence in May and run through to June, in the Ramsar listed Hattah-Kulkyne National Park, providing a great outcome for the environment and the community.

Planned environmental watering should allow water to be pumped into 11 of the 18 lakes in the system, with 9 of these lakes designated Ramsar wetlands.

Over the last several years, the Hattah Lakes have been the focus of much restoration, to help secure a sustainable future for the iconic Ramsar listed wetland. The planned drying of the lakes since November 2017 has allowed the lakes to dry and lakebed herb land to develop, flower and set seed, creating a positive outcome for this vegetation community.

The lakes support many threatened and rare native species and ensuring they receive water means the area remains a place we can all enjoy. Kayakers, campers, bird watchers, anglers and walkers are all reaping the benefits, along with the lakes and floodplains in the national park.

The Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, the Victorian Environmental Water Holder and The Living Murray Program are jointly contributing the water for Hattah as part of their ongoing commitment to support the restoration of unique environmental assets, such as the Hattah wetland and floodplain.

During the watering, access to the Hattah-Kulkyne National Park may be affected and people should contact the Land Managers, Parks Victoria, for updated information prior to visiting the area. www.parks.vic.gov.au

For more information on the delivery of water for the environment please visit our website www.malleecma.com.au or contact the Mallee CMA via (03) 50514 377, or email engage@malleecma.com.au.



Keep up to date with the latest information about the delivery of water for the environment and other important programs follow our social media.

Quotes attributable to Mallee CMA CEO Jenny Collins:

It's important to ensure a balance so both our community and environment can prosper through the delivery of water for the environment. Our natural landscape in the Mallee provides so many benefits for our region through recreation, eco-tourism, economic and cultural benefits.

The wetlands at Hattah receiving environmental water this spring, are less likely to receive water by natural means as dams and weirs prevent the high river flows needed to reach these areas on the floodplain.

By working with our community and stakeholders to inform Mallee CMA's natural resource management and planning we can ensure water for the environment is delivered with a wide range of benefits, including for our community.

Ends

MEDIA INQUIRIES

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Background information:

The Mallee Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is a statutory authority established to ensure that natural resources in the region are managed in an integrated and ecologically sustainable way. Its work is based on science and delivered through meaningful partnerships with local organisations such as Landcare, community groups, and government agencies in the Victorian Mallee.

For more information visit www.malleecma.com.au