

Hattah Lakes

Water for the Environment



What: For the first time in over 30 years, areas of black box trees at the Hattah Lakes will receive floodwater through a Mallee CMA water for the environment project.

When: Watering will commence in July 2017 and is expected to finish in early November 2017.

Why: Due to a lack of water, black box communities located further away from the Murray River are in extremely poor health and left unchecked, this will have a significant impact on the ecosystem because many birds, bats and reptiles depend on black box for their survival. The Mallee CMA watering project will see 5,760 hectares of black box within the Hattah-Kulkyne National Park receive water.

How: Water will be delivered over a three month period, pumped from the Murray River into the lakes, via Chalka Creek. The watering event will fill and inundate all of the Hattah Lakes, except for Lake Kramen. Some of the water will be released back to the Murray River in early November, allowing fish and aquatic insects to move from the Hattah Lakes to the Murray River.

Community benefit: The full lakes will provide a fantastic opportunity for locals and visitors to indulge in photography, fishing, canoeing, bushwalking and birdwatching.

The Mallee CMA would love to share your Hattah lakes photos – if you email them to reception@malleecma.com.au we will publish them on the Mallee CMA's Facebook and Instagram page.

Stay up to date: There may be some changes to access in the Hattah-Kulkyne National Park during the watering event and information will be regularly updated on the Parks Victoria website.

Updates on the watering event and images will be posted regularly on the Mallee CMA Facebook page, Twitter via @MalleeCMA and Instagram @malleeCMA

Acknowledgements: The watering of Hattah Lakes is being coordinated by the Mallee Catchment Management Authority (CMA), in partnership with *Parks Victoria*, the *Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning*, *Goulburn-Murray Water*, the *Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA)*, the *Victorian Environmental Water Holder* and the *Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder*.



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