

Media release

15 April 2016

Johnson Swamp set to remain closed to duck hunting

The Victorian Government is intending to continue the closure of Johnson Swamp near Kerang.

The intention to close the swamp to duck hunting for the remainder of the season comes as surveys have detected the continued presence of rare and vulnerable bird species.

Johnson Swamp was closed to duck hunting at the start of the 2016 duck hunting season to provide refuge and avoid disturbance of threatened species.

Authorities will continue to closely monitor the situation at Johnson Swamp and reassess the impact of hunting if conditions change.

Monitoring and closing or opening of wetlands is part of the routine approach to ensure rare, vulnerable or threatened species are not put at risk.

Wetlands will continue to be monitored by government officials throughout the season and may be opened or closed to hunting if circumstances change and threatened birds move to other locations.

It is possible restrictions on other wetlands could change this season and hunters should ensure they are aware of these before hunting by checking the GMA website or calling 136 186.

The 2016 duck hunting season will close on Monday 13 June. The daily bag limit has been reduced to four birds per day for the remainder of the season.

Authorised officers and Victoria Police will continue to be active throughout the state to ensure hunters act in a safe and lawful manner.

Hunters are advised to check the GMA website for updates prior to hunting at www.gma.vic.gov.au

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