



Victoria Government Gazette

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Wildlife Act 1975

WILDLIFE (PROHIBITION OF GAME HUNTING) (WETLANDS CLOSURE) NOTICE NO. 1/2026

I, Steve Dimopoulos, Minister for Outdoor Recreation and Minister for Environment, make the following Notice:

Dated 12 March 2026
STEVE DIMOPOULOS MP
Minister for Outdoor Recreation

Dated 12 March 2026
STEVE DIMOPOULOS MP
Minister for Environment

1. Objective

The objective of this Notice is to prohibit absolutely the taking, destroying, or hunting in Victoria of indigenous game birds (waterfowl) in the areas specified in this Notice, which would otherwise be permitted during the 2026 open season.

2. Authorising provision

This Notice is made under section 86(1) of the **Wildlife Act 1975**.

3. Notice prevails

Under section 86(3) of the **Wildlife Act 1975**, this Notice prevails over any inconsistent regulation made under the **Wildlife Act 1975** or any licence, permit or other authority to take, destroy or hunt any particular kind or taxon of wildlife issued under that Act.

4. Definitions

In this Notice:

2026 open season means the open season in 2026 for indigenous game birds (waterfowl) specified in Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2024, being from 8.00 am on 18 March 2026 to 30 minutes after sunset on 8 June 2026;

indigenous game bird (waterfowl) means individuals of any of the following, being the kinds or taxa of game set out in Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2024:

- (a) Pacific Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa*);
- (b) Chestnut Teal (*Anas castanea*);
- (c) Grey Teal (*Anas gracilis*);
- (d) Hardhead (White-eyed Duck) (*Aythya australis*);
- (e) Australian Shelduck (Mountain Duck) (*Tadorna tadornoides*);
- (f) Pink-eared Duck (*Malacorhynchus membranaceus*);
- (g) Australian Wood Duck (Maned Duck) (*Chenonetta jubata*).

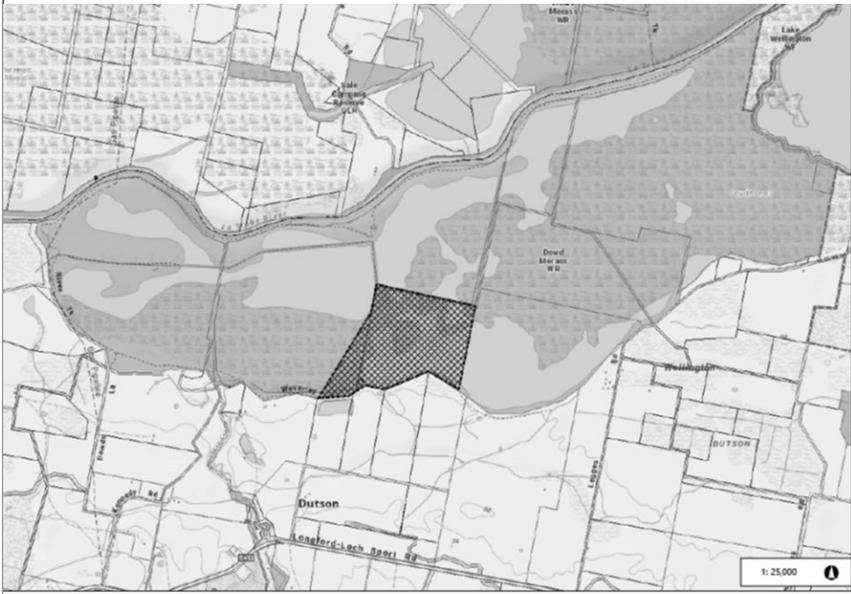
5. Commencement and period Notice has effect

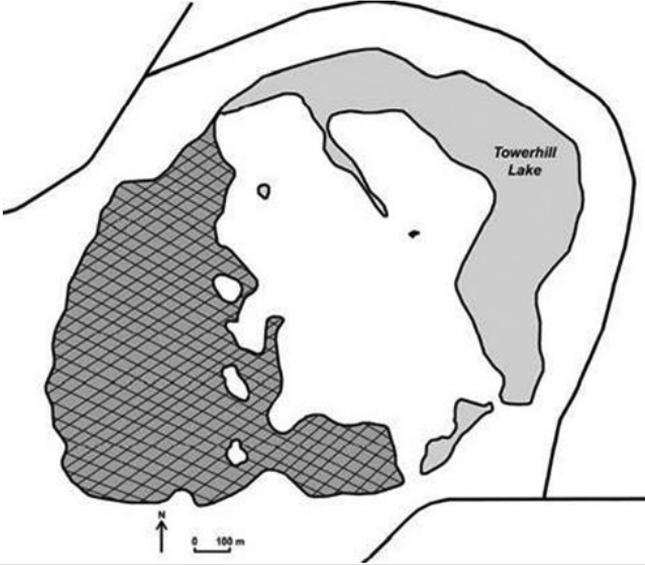
This Notice takes effect from 12.00 am on Wednesday 18 March 2026 and continues to have effect until the end of the 2026 open season.

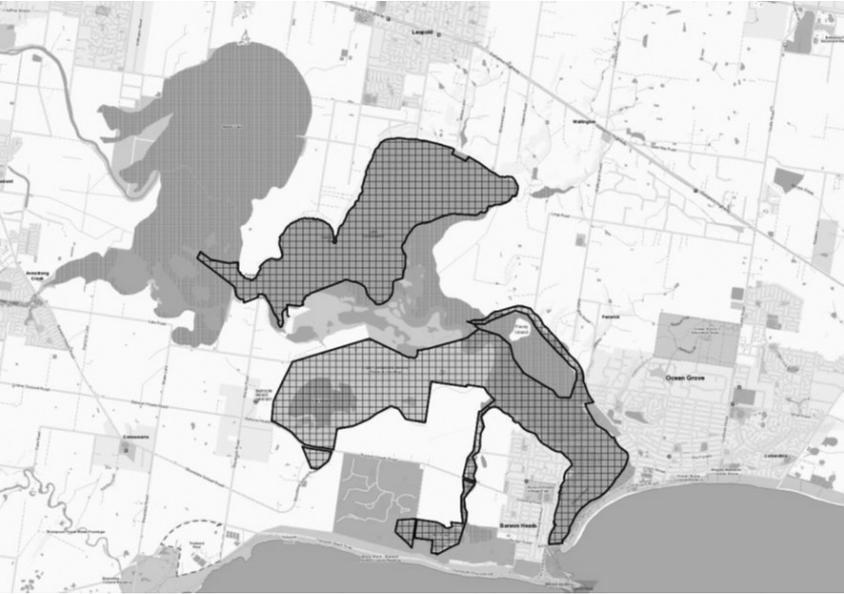
6. Prohibition on hunting of indigenous game birds (waterfowl)

The taking, destroying or hunting of any indigenous game bird (waterfowl) is prohibited during the period that this Notice has effect in the areas described in the table below:

SPECIAL

Area Name	Location
Kow Swamp	Located in the Campaspe Shire, near Gunbower. The area includes all of Kow Swamp up to the Taylors Creek outflow regulator (144°19'01" E, 35°57'05" S), the Box Bridge regulator (144°15'50" E, 35°55'52" S), and south to the bridge on the Picanniny Creek (144°16'44" E, 35°59'34" S).
Reedy Lakes	Located in the Gannawarra Shire, near Kerang. The area includes all of First, Second (Middle) and Third Reedy Lakes. The western boundary is defined by Flood Lane (starting from 143°51'41" E, 35°37'59" S) south to the Murray Valley Highway (143°51'20" E, 35°39'32" S) and the Murray Valley Highway to the intersection of Apex Park Road (143°52'39" E, 35°41'22" S). The southern boundary is Apex Road.
Richardson River	Located in the Buloke Shire. The boundary being the mouth of the Richardson River at Lake Buloke (142°57'44"E 36°19'25"S) up to and including the Sunraysia Highway Bridge (142°58'40"E 36°22'1"S).
Lake Lonsdale	The whole of Lake Lonsdale, located in the Northern Grampians Shire, northwest of Stawell.
Dowd Morass State Game Reserve – South Central Portion	<p>A south-central portion of the Dowd Morass State Game Reserve to be closed to hunting, as shown by the hatching on the map below, the Western boundary of which being a straight line between 38.159316° S, 147.176385° E and 38.151584° S, 147.182049° E and a straight line between 38.151584° S, 147.182049° E and 38.148996° S, 147.182744° E, the Northern boundary being a straight line between 38.148996° S, 147.182744° E and 38.150699° S, 147.194024° E, the Eastern boundary being a straight line between 38.150699° S, 147.194024° E and 38.158288° S, 147.192298° E and the Southern boundary being the southern boundary of Dowd Morass State Game Reserve between 38.158288° S, 147.192298° E and 38.159316° S, 147.176385° E.</p>
 <p data-bbox="326 1656 604 1704"> <small> 0 625 1250 Metres GDA 1984 VICGRID94 © The State of Victoria, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning 2022 </small> </p> <p data-bbox="833 1656 1155 1704"> <small> Disclaimer: This map is a snapshot from Victorian Government data. This material may be of assistance to you, but the State of Victoria does not guarantee a without flow of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purpose and therefore disclaims all liability for errors, loss or damage which may arise from reliance upon it. If you require, accessing the information should make the appropriate enquiries to access the currency of data. </small> </p>	

Bradys Swamp State Game Reserve	The whole of Bradys Swamp State Game Reserve, located in the Ararat Rural City, northeast of Dunkeld.
Lake Wongan State Game Reserve	The whole of Lake Wongan State Game Reserve, located in the Pyrenees Shire, northeast of Streatham.
Lake Elingamite	The whole of Lake Elingamite Lake Reserve, located in the Corangamite Shire, southwest of Camperdown.
Great Spectacle Lake	The whole of Great Spectacle Lake, part of the Great Spectacle Lake Complex State Game Reserve, located in the Gannawarra Shire, southwest of Kerang.
Lake Cooper	The whole of Lake Cooper, located in the Campaspe Shire, near Corop,
Green Lake	The whole of Green Lake, located in the Campaspe Shire, near Corop.
Tower Hill State Game Reserve – Western Lake	<p>The western lake of Tower Hill State Game Reserve, as shown by the hatching on the map below, located in the Warrnambool City, north-west of Warrnambool. The northern point of closure is the line between 38°18'29.17"S, 142°21'14.38"E and 38°18'38.92"S, 142°21'14.38"E.</p>  <p>The map shows the outline of the Tower Hill State Game Reserve. The Western Lake is indicated by a cross-hatched pattern, and Towerhill Lake is shaded in light grey. A north arrow is located at the bottom left, and a scale bar for 100 meters is at the bottom center.</p>
Nooramunga Marine & Coastal Park	The whole of Nooramunga Marine & Coastal Park, located in the Wellington Shire, east of Port Welshpool.

<p>Lake Connewarre State Game Reserve (excluding Hospital Swamp and Reedy Lake)</p>	<p>The whole of Lake Connewarre State Game Reserve, with the exception of Reedy Lake and Hospital Swamp, located in the City of Greater Geelong, north of Barwon Heads.</p> <p>The eastern portion of the Lake Connewarre Wildlife Reserve, as shown by the hatching on the map below, located to the east of the line consisting of a straight line between 38° 12' 12" S, 144° 27' 8" E and 38° 13' 53" S, 144° 25' 26" E and a straight line between 38° 13' 53" S, 144° 25' 26" E and 38° 13' 54" S, 144° 25' 19" E, and a straight line between 38° 13' 54" S, 144° 25' 19" E and 38° 13' 52" S, 144° 25' 4" E, and a straight line between 38° 13' 52" S, 144° 25' 4" E and 38° 13' 46" S, 144° 24' 56" E, and a straight line between 38° 13' 46" S, 144° 24' 56" E and 38° 13' 51" S, 144° 24' 53" E, and a straight line between 38° 13' 51" S, 144° 24' 53" E and 38° 14' 9" S, 144° 25' 23" E, and a straight line between 38° 14' 9" S, 144° 25' 23" E and 38° 14' 17" S, 144° 25' 22" E, and a straight line between 38° 14' 17" S, 144° 25' 22" E and 38° 14' 26" S, 144° 25' 41" E, and a straight line between 38° 14' 26" S, 144° 25' 41" E and 38° 16' 43" S, 144° 25' 15" E.</p> 
<p>Anderson Inlet</p>	<p>The whole of Anderson Inlet, located in the South Gippsland Shire in Venus Bay, southeast of Inverloch.</p>

7. Contravention of Notice

A person must not contravene any part of this Notice.

Penalty: 25 penalty units.

Wildlife Act 1975**WILDLIFE (PROHIBITION OF GAME HUNTING)
(BOAT PROHIBITION) NOTICE NO. 1 /2026**

I, Steve Dimopoulos, Minister for Outdoor Recreation and Minister for Environment, make the following Notice:

Dated 12 March 2026

STEVE DIMOPOULOS MP

Minister for Outdoor Recreation

Dated 12 March 2026

STEVE DIMOPOULOS MP

Minister for Environment

1. Objective

The objective of this Notice is to prohibit the taking, destroying, or hunting in Victoria of indigenous game birds (waterfowl) by boat in the area specified in this Notice.

2. Authorising provision

This Notice is made under section 86(1) of the **Wildlife Act 1975**.

3. Notice prevails

Under section 86(3) of the **Wildlife Act 1975**, this Notice prevails over any inconsistent regulation made under the **Wildlife Act 1975** or any licence, permit or other authority to take, destroy or hunt any particular kind or taxon of wildlife issued under that Act.

4. Definitions

In this Notice:

2026 open season means the open season in 2026 for indigenous game birds (waterfowl) specified in Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2024, being from 8.00 am on 18 March 2026 to 30 minutes after sunset on 8 June 2026;

boat has the same meaning as in section 3 of the **Wildlife Act 1975**;

downed has the same meaning as in section 3 of the **Wildlife Act 1975**;

indigenous game bird (waterfowl) means individuals of any of the following, being the kinds or taxa of game set out in Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2024:

- (a) Pacific Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa*);
- (b) Chestnut Teal (*Anas castanea*);
- (c) Grey Teal (*Anas gracilis*);
- (d) Hardhead (White-eyed Duck) (*Aythya australis*);
- (e) Australian Shelduck (Mountain Duck) (*Tadorna tadornoides*);
- (f) Pink-eared Duck (*Malacorhynchus membranaceus*);
- (g) Australian Wood Duck (Maned Duck) (*Chenonetta jubata*).

5. Commencement and period Notice has effect

This Notice takes effect from 12.00 am on 18 March 2026 and continues to have effect until the end of the 2026 open season.

6. Prohibition on hunting of indigenous game birds (waterfowl) by boat

The taking, destroying or hunting of any indigenous game bird (waterfowl) from a boat is prohibited during the 2026 open season, in any area described in the table below:

Area Name	Location
Lake Gnarpurt	The whole of Lake Gnarpurt, located in the Corangamite Shire, south of Lismore.

7. Taking, hunting or destroying downed indigenous game birds (waterfowl) from a boat

The prohibition in clause 6 does not apply to:

- (a) recovering by boat a downed indigenous game bird (waterfowl) in accordance with regulation 57 of the Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2024; or
- (b) taking, hunting, destroying from a boat a downed indigenous game bird (waterfowl) that remains alive immediately after being downed.

8. Contravention of Notice

A person must not contravene any part of this Notice.

Penalty: 25 penalty units.

Wildlife Act 1975**WILDLIFE (PROHIBITION OF GAME HUNTING) (GAME DUCKS) NOTICE NO. 1/2026**

I, Steve Dimopoulos, Minister for Outdoor Recreation and Minister for Environment, make the following Notice:

Dated 12 March 2026
STEVE DIMOPOULOS MP
Minister for Outdoor Recreation

Dated 12 March 2026
STEVE DIMOPOULOS MP
Minister for Environment

1. Objective

The objective of this Notice is to regulate and control the taking, destroying or hunting of indigenous game birds (waterfowl) which would otherwise be permitted during the 2026 open season.

2. Authorising provision

This Notice is made under section 86(1) of the **Wildlife Act 1975**.

3. Notice prevails

Under section 86(3) of the **Wildlife Act 1975**, this Notice prevails over any inconsistent regulation made under the **Wildlife Act 1975** or any licence, permit or other authority to take, destroy or hunt any particular kind or taxon of wildlife issued under that Act.

4. Definitions

In this Notice:

2026 open season means the open season in 2026 for indigenous game birds (waterfowl) specified in Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2024, being from 8.00 am on 18 March 2026 to 30 minutes after sunset on 8 June 2026;

default bag limit for indigenous game birds (waterfowl) means the maximum number of indigenous game birds (waterfowl) that a person may take or destroy on any day during an open season as prescribed by regulation 34(1) and items 8 to 14 of Schedule 3 to the Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2024;

indigenous game birds (waterfowl) means individuals of any of the following, being the kinds or taxa of game set out in Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2024:

- (a) Pacific Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa*);
- (b) Chestnut Teal (*Anas castanea*);
- (c) Grey Teal (*Anas gracilis*);
- (d) Hardhead (White-eyed Duck) (*Aythya australis*);
- (e) Australian Shelduck (Mountain Duck) (*Tadorna tadornoides*);
- (f) Pink-eared Duck (*Malacorhynchus membranaceus*); and
- (g) Australian Wood Duck (Maned Duck) (*Chenonetta jubata*).

5. Commencement and period Notice has effect

This Notice takes effect from the start of the 2026 open season and continues to have effect until the end of the 2026 open season.

6. Modification of default bag limit for indigenous game birds (waterfowl)

The default bag limit for indigenous game birds (waterfowl) is modified to a maximum of nine indigenous game birds (waterfowl), on any day during the 2026 open season.

7. Contravention of Notice

A person must not contravene any part of this Notice.

Penalty: 25 penalty units.

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