



MEDIA RELEASE

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Easter water 'gift' will boost Narran Lakes environment

The Murray-Darling Basin Commission bought 11,000 megalitres of water over the Easter weekend to boost the natural watering occurring at the Narran Lakes system in north central New South Wales.

Chief Executive Dr Wendy Craik AM said the one-off purchase would boost environmental benefits for the flora and fauna in the internationally important Ramsar wetland site.

“We moved quickly to take advantage of nature’s window of opportunity to supplement recent natural flows into the area,” Dr Craik said.

“We are pleased to have reached a commercial arrangement with a seller to secure the water which began to flow on Easter Saturday and will continue to be delivered over the next six weeks.”

“The water will bring strong environmental benefits and we hope it will ensure the success of a colonial water bird breeding event that is happening there now - the first major breeding event in Narran Lakes in nine years,” Dr Craik said.

Dr Craik said the water was being drawn from off-river storages on the Narran system and was water which was being returned to the river. It is passing through an automated gauging station which could accurately and continuously monitor the transfer.

Media contact: Sam Leone, Phone: 0407 006 332

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