



Victorian Murray Floodplain Restoration Project

Nyah-Vinifera Park Project update - June 2026

The Victorian Murray Floodplain Restoration Project (VMFRP) is one of the largest coordinated environmental improvement programs currently being delivered along the Murray River.

Nyah-Vinifera Park has been identified for priority restoration as part of this project. Without action, the floodplains may decline beyond the point of recovery.

Why is this project important?

Nyah-Vinifera Park forests and wetlands are missing the regular flooding that keeps them alive and healthy.

Reduced water flow is placing stress on native trees, plants and animals, with some species already under threat.

While the lower sections of the park at Nyah and Vinifera still flood naturally when the Murray River rises, water often drains back into the river down the natural slope of the land before it can properly water large areas of the floodplains.

VMFRP environmental works will introduce a system of containment banks and regulators to enable water to move across the floodplains in a controlled and carefully timed way. When the river rises and water enters the floodplains, the regulators - which act as gates - can be closed to hold water for longer and allow the landscape to drink in the benefits. Temporary pumps may be used to provide an additional top up.

These works have been independently identified as the only viable option to bring these struggling floodplains back to life.

VMFRP will help bring struggling Nyah-Vinifera Park forests and wetlands back to life.



What is happening?

Work has begun on a system of containment banks and regulators, or gated structures, that will help these floodplains function more like they once did.

Works are taking place in Nyah-Vinifera Park throughout 2026 in two locations - Nyah and Vinifera.

Nyah

Infrastructure will include one large and four small regulators, containment banks along existing tracks, and a rocky river drop structure to prevent erosion.

River Track will be closed to vehicles and pedestrians to ensure public safety while works take place. This will prevent access to some parts of the river in the middle of the park.

Popular camping and recreation areas in the north will remain open and can be accessed from the Wood Wood entrance.

Access to some parts of the river will be possible from the southern Nyah entrance, and as sections of works are complete, more areas of the river will be re-opened for access from the south.

Vinifera

Infrastructure will include one large and two small regulators, a pipe culvert regulator, containment banks along existing tracks, and a rocky river drop structure to prevent erosion.

River Track will be closed during construction, meaning there will be no vehicle access to Nyah-Vinifera Park at Vinifera.

What to expect

Throughout 2026, nearby residents may notice:

- Increased traffic and heavy vehicle movements on local roads
- Construction activity during work hours
- Temporary signage and fencing

All works will be managed to minimise disruption and temporary access changes will be clearly signed.

The project at its heart is an environmental restoration project to improve the health of the floodplains. While the overall environmental benefits of the Nyah and Vinifera projects are significant and designed to protect and restore more than 5,000 trees and 810 hectares of important native habitat, a number of large trees and native vegetation will need to be removed.

The project has approval to remove 292 large trees as part of the environmental works.

However, through an 'avoid and minimise' approach, the number of large trees identified for removal will now be **fewer than 80 across both sites.**

In the construction footprint, the project also has approval to remove 26 hectares of vegetation.

Again, through an 'avoid and minimise' approach, that number has been **reduced to 15 hectares across both sites.**

As works progress, we will continue to look for ways to further reduce these impacts.

Removed trees will be reused within Nyah-Vinifera Park for conservation and rehabilitation purposes, including creating shelter and habitat for native animals. Other vegetation approved for removal will be repurposed for park and community use. This process will be managed by Parks Victoria.

Thank you

We appreciate these environmental works may cause inconvenience. The project team would like to thank the local community and park users for their patience and understanding as we work to restore health of this important landscape.

Access will remain open to pedestrians and park users outside exclusion areas.

Nyah-Vinifera Park - Nyah

Infrastructure



Temporary access changes



Nyah-Vinifera Park - Vinifera

Infrastructure



Temporary access changes



Cultural Heritage

Traditional Owners have cared for and sustainably managed the cultural landscapes of the Murray River floodplains for tens of thousands of years.

Nyah-Vinifera Park holds deep cultural and historical importance for Traditional Owners, and protecting cultural heritage is a priority for the VMFRP. Traditional Owners have been involved with the VMFRP since 2014, and extensive work has been undertaken on Country to understand Traditional Owner land and water aspirations to guide watering of the floodplains.

The protection and management of registered cultural heritage sites in the Nyah and Vinifera project areas is set out in the approved Cultural Heritage Management Plans.

The Nyah and Vinifera projects have progressed through a comprehensive planning and approvals pathway under relevant local, state and federal legislation. This process has included extensive community and stakeholder engagement, detailed technical investigations, environmental and cultural heritage assessments, and assessment of potential construction and operational impacts.

What we're protecting



River red gums, black box trees and vegetation for wildlife habitat



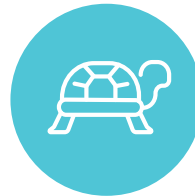
Habitat for more than 140 rare and threatened species



810 hectares of floodplain



Stable landscapes that are less vulnerable to erosion



Drought refuge for waterbirds, native fish, reptiles and amphibians



Resilience to climate change and drought



The VMFRP team will provide regular updates as the project progresses. For more information including answers to frequently asked questions, visit www.vmfrp.com.au or scan the QR code. To contact the team directly, email info@vmfrp.vic.gov.au or phone **0447 693 323**

