

Chowilla Creek Regulator and Lock 6 Information Bulletin

Here is some information regarding the proposed operation of the Chowilla Creek environmental regulator and Lock 6. The operation is expected to occur between **mid-August and December 2018**.

There will be some access restrictions for Chowilla Game Reserve users and changes in flow and water levels for the community who are accessing the Chowilla Creek system via boat.

Subject to favourable flow conditions in the River Murray, availability of environmental water allocations and final approvals the 2018 event will involve a low level operation of the Chowilla regulator to raise water levels in Chowilla Creek and through the Chowilla anabranch by between approximately 1.6 - 2 metres. This will freshen soils to provide benefits for vegetation along the creeks and provide water level variability for instream benefits. Inundation will remain mostly within creek banks with some water entering low lying flow paths and wetlands.

Lock 6 will also be progressively raised by about 20 centimetres above normal operating level (19.45 m AHD). This is important to enable the management of water quality and help to protect flowing habitat for native fish including the Murray cod.

If conditions improve and there is a significant increase in flows to SA then higher level operation of the Chowilla regulator and Lock 6 will be considered. At this stage this is looking very unlikely but further updates will be provided if a higher level operation becomes possible.

Please find further detail in the attached document. The information can also be found on our webpage: www.environment.sa.gov.au/chowilla-floodplain See 'significant projects'

A small number of campsites will be closed during the operation. **To confirm the availability of campsites and to purchase campsite permits please visit parks.sa.gov.au or call (08) 8580 1800.**

Updates will be provided in the SA River Murray Flow Report
<https://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/River-Murray/SitePages/River%20Murray%20Flow%20Reports.aspx>

A specific email address - chowilla@sa.gov.au has been established for non-urgent enquiries