

# Wonderful Wet & Wild Wetlands

## 2020, Week 2 – Clues Barmah Forest, Victoria

#### Superb parrot (Polytelis swainsonii)

- 1. I am not a waterbird but I depend on the wetland.
- 8. The male of my species is bright green with a yellow face and a red/orange band across the throat. Females are a dull green with dull markings.
- 10. I nest in tree hollows in old, mature River red gums.
- 18. I feed on grass seed, fruits, berries, nectar, buds, eucalypt flowers and grain.
- 19. I am one of 7 threatened species which live in this wetland.
- 24. Barmah Forest is one of the known breeding sites of these birds.

#### Mueller daisy, Claypan daisy (Brachyscome muelleroides)

- 2. I am a white flower with a yellow centre.
- 3. I am listed as Threatened flora under the Victorian Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988.
- 7. I am a small annual herb found only in the mid-Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers region in NSW and Victoria.
- 9. I grow in seasonally wet shallow depressions around the margins of swamps, lagoons and claypans.
- 12. Threats to my species include weed invasion, grazing by stock and humans have changed the flooding regimes.
- 13. I am a native flora species which depends on the wetlands.

### Silver perch (*Bidyanus bidyanus*)

- 4. I am a native fish species.
- 6. I prefer to live in turbid (muddy) and slow flowing rivers.
- 11. I eat both large aquatic prey and plant material.
- 17. I live in streams and creeks within Barmah Forest.
- 20. My body is oval shaped and I have a white belly with dark green/grey/silver back.
- 23. I am usually 30-40 cm long and weigh 0.5-1.5 kg, but have been recorded up to 8 kg.

#### Common spadefoot toad (Neobatrachus sudelli) or Mallee spadefoot toad (N. pictus)

- 5. As an adult, I can be found in dry habitats, including woodlands and grassland areas, disturbed areas, beneath soil, rocks and fallen timber.
- 14. I am usually 30-60mm and have webbed feet which help with swimming.
- 15. I am a frog, although my name suggests otherwise.
- 16. I burrow into the ground. Part of my common name relates to this.
- 21. I remain buried for much of the time, becoming active after rains.
- 22. I can have up to 1,000 eggs which are laid in the water. The eggs are contained within long strands of jelly.

