



Wet and Wild

Wonderful Wet & Wild Wetlands



2020, Week 2 – Clues Barmah Forest, Victoria

Covering 66,000 hectares of floodplain, the Barmah-Millewa Forest is the largest River red gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) forest in Australia and the largest ecosystem of this type in the world. It is located in northern Victoria and includes a section of the Murray River floodplain. The wetlands are diverse (including lakes, swamps, lagoons and flooded forest), providing important habitat for many flora and fauna species. It is listed as an internationally significant Ramsar site.

Solve 24 clues each week and discover the four Australian organisms they belong to.

1. I am not a waterbird but I depend on the wetland.
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.
4. I am a native fish species.
5. As an adult, I can be found in dry habitats, including woodlands and grassland areas, disturbed areas, beneath soil, rocks and fallen timber.
6. I prefer to live in turbid (muddy) and slow flowing rivers.
7. I am a small annual herb found only in the mid-Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers region in NSW and Victoria.
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.
9. I grow in seasonally wet shallow depressions around the margins of swamps, lagoons and claypans
10. I nest in tree hollows in old, mature River red gums.
11. I eat both large aquatic prey and plant material.
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.
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.
17. I live in streams and creeks within Barmah Forest.
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.
20. My body is oval shaped and I have a white belly with dark green/grey/silver back.
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.
23. I am usually 30-40 cm long and weigh 0.5-1.5 kg, but have been recorded up to 8 kg.
24. Barmah Forest is one of the known breeding sites of these birds.