

WATERWAY RULES – Lake Nillahcootie

Below are the existing waterway rules as they pertain to Schedule 97: Lake Nillahcootie. Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW), as the waterway manager, is proposing amendments to the current rules to better reflect the uses of the waterway and address safety concerns that were identified in the Safe Transport Victoria Audit and the subsequent risk assessment carried out by Goulburn-Murray Water in September 2024.

The proposed amendments are noted below.

- The draft wording for the revised waterway rules is provided in APPENDIX 1: Proposed Wording Schedule 97.
- Appendix 2 has been provided to visually demonstrate the proposed changes to the waterway rules.

SCHEDULE 97: LAKE NILLAHCOOTIE

Waterway Manager: Goulburn-Murray Water

97.1. Excluded speed limits for the purposes of Clause 3(a).

The waters of Lake Nillahcootie that are not otherwise declared to be speed restriction zones or prohibited areas are not subject to the requirement of Clause 3(a) of this Notice.

Proposed Amendment to 97.1: Remove current waterway rule, the State Rule of five (5) knots within 50m of the water's edge is sufficient.

97.2. Five (5) knot speed restriction zones for the purposes of Clause 7.

The waters of Lake Nillahcootie:

- (a) in Sandy Creek Arm west of a line between two beacons located on opposite shores of the lake and 20 metres downstream from the road bridge on the Midland Highway

Retain 97.2(a) with minor changes to wording to remove confusion and confirm GPS coordinates. New signage and buoys to reinforce zone.

- (b) in the southern portion of the lake south of a line between two beacons located on opposite shores of the lake approximately three (3) kilometres south of Sandy Creek Arm

Retain 97.2(b) with minor changes to wording to remove confusion and confirm GPS coordinates. New signage and buoys to reinforce zone.

- (c) within 30 metres of the boat launching ramp are subject to a speed restriction of five (5) knots.

Proposed Amendment to 97.2(c): Remove current waterway rule, the State Rule of five (5) knots within 50m of the water's edge is sufficient.

97.3. Areas prohibited to vessels for the purposes of Clause 9.

The waters of Lake Nillahcootie:

- (a) between the dam wall and a line approximately 200 metres to the south thereof between two beacons inscribed 'Stop' and 'Prohibited Water beyond this Point' located on opposite shores of the lake

Retain 97.3(a) with minor changes to wording to remove confusion and confirm GPS coordinates. New signage and buoys to reinforce zone.

- (b) in a swimming area located in the small bay adjacent to western shore of the lake and approximately 70 metres north of the boat launching ramp, the boundaries of the swimming area marked by red buoys

Proposed amendment 97.3(b) to remove references to swimming.
are prohibited to vessels.

APPENDIX 1: PROPOSED WORDING SCHEDULE 97

Schedule 97: Lake Nillahcootie

Waterway Manager: Goulburn-Murray Water

Zone Definitions for the purpose of Schedule 97

Speed Restriction Zones

All waters of Lake Nillahcootie, unless prohibited to vessels for the purpose of Clause 9 or as a 5 knot zone for the purpose of Clause 7, are subject to a 5 knot speed restriction within 50m of the water's edge, other vessels or within 50 metres of a fixed or floating structure in or on the water (including a wharf, jetty, slipway or boat launching ramp).

Areas prohibited to vessels

In areas where vessels are prohibited for the purpose of Clause 9, all vessels, whether powered or unpowered, including but not limited to personal watercraft, yachts, sailboards, kiteboards, canoes and kayaks, are not permitted in these areas.

97.1 Five (5) knot speed restriction zones for the purposes of Clause 7.

The following waters of Lake Nillahcootie are subject to a speed restriction of five (5) knots:

- (a) in Sandy Creek Arm, west of a line between two signs^(1,2) located on the eastern side of the road bridge on the Midland Highway;
- (b) in the southern portion of the lake, south of a line between two signs^(4,5) located on opposite shores of the lake approximately three (3) kilometres south of Sandy Creek Arm.

Table 97.1 – Location of Navigational Aids

This table shows the actual location (GDA94) in decimal degrees of each asset. Assets may include navigational aids (fixed or non-fixed or on/off water) or points of reference.

Sign Reference	Latitude	Longitude
1	-36.864561	145.996700
2	-36.865300	145.996700
4	-36.892800	146.003900
5	-36.893300	145.998100

97.2 Areas prohibited to vessels for the purposes of Clause 9.

The following waters of Lake Nillahcootie are prohibited to vessels:

- (a) between the dam wall and a line approximately 200 metres to the south thereof between two signs^(9,14) inscribed '**Vessels Prohibited**' located on opposite shores of the lake.
- (b) in an area located in the small bay adjacent to the western shore of the lake and approximately 70 metres north of the boat launching ramp, marked by red buoys.

Table 97.2 – Location of Navigational Aids

This table shows the actual location (GDA94) in decimal degrees of each asset. Assets may include navigational aids (fixed or non-fixed or on/off water) or points of reference.

Sign Reference	Latitude	Longitude
9	-36.856100	146.006700
14	-36.859500	146.012500

APPENDIX 2: WATERWAY RULES ON MAP

The map below visually represents the proposed waterway rules for Schedule 97: Lake Nillahcootie.

