
**NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS PAPER – 8 OCTOBER 2025
NOTICES OF MOTION SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT**

1. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CARP ERADICATION PLAN

The Letter to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins MP, referred to as **Attachment No. 1** to the Notices of Motion Report, was inadvertently omitted.

This attachment should be considered with the Notice of Motion from Cr Davies.

DATE, 2025

The Hon Julie Collins MP
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
03 6244 1222
Minister.collins@aff.gov.au

In principle support for the implementation of the National Carp Control Plan and its recommendations.

Dear Minister Collins,

On behalf of [Insert Council], I would like to advise you of our in principle support for the funding and implementation of the National Carp Control Plan and its recommendations.

It is well known that the Australian Government began investigating the use of the *Cyprinid Herpesvirus 3* (the Carp Virus) in 2016, culminating after 6 years research by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) in the National Carp Control Plan, which provides an extensive body of research and analysis to inform decision making about the potential use of the Carp Virus for biological control of European Carp in Australia.

Since the 1960s, European Carp have affected native fish species, biodiversity and aquatic vegetation. They reduce water quality, damage riverbanks and contribute to [algae blooms](#). European Carp are adaptable and populations can increase quickly, and account for up to 90% of fish biomass in some areas of the Basin.

An invasive, widespread pest in the Murray–Darling Basin, they contribute to environmental degradation in the Basin and impact native fish species. Carp cause their main environmental impacts through their feeding habits., and as adults, they usually feed on the bottom of rivers and ponds.

Feeding by sucking soft sediment into their mouths, this habit (known as roiling) leads to a suspension of sediment in the water.

When carp are present in high densities, the resultant suspended sediment can result in a number of problems, including:

- direct deterioration of water quality due to sediment and increased nutrient levels
- reduced light penetration, resulting in reduced plant growth
- smothering of plants, invertebrates and fish eggs
- clogging of gills of other fish species
- inhibited visual feeding by other fish species.

The process of feeding can also result in fewer aquatic plants: carp will graze on plants directly and uproot plants during feeding. Carp are also effective grazers of surface films on plants and rocks.

Their direct impact on plants can also have a number of related impacts, including:

- reduced populations of invertebrates that are dependent on the plants
- reduced stability of bottom sediments through loss of aquatic vegetation.



Juvenile carp in particular also feed directly on zooplankton in the water. If zooplankton numbers are reduced, algal growth might increase, as the zooplankton normally feed on algae.

There are also records of carp feeding on fish eggs and on small fish.

The end result of one or a combination of these impacts will be **reduced water quality and/or reduced abundance and diversity of native species.**

Water quality is of particular concern to the communities, and industries of the Murray-Darling Basin, particularly in a future where the Basin must adapt to a changing climate, and, by the CSIRO's estimates, an up to 30% reduction in water available across the Murray-Darling Basin.

In addressing water quality there is no one solution, however the management of the invasive, and incredibly damaging European Carp in the waterways of the Murray-Darling Basin would provide invaluable benefits to the environment as a whole, particularly the basin's native water flora and fauna, as well as work towards the greater challenge of improving Australia's water quality.

As such, **[Insert Council]**, on behalf of its communities hereby provides it's in principle support for the funding and implementation of the National Carp Control Plan and its recommendations.

For further information, or to discuss the management of European Carp in the Basin, the National Carp Control Plan, please don't hesitate to contact the Murray Darling Association Chief Executive Officer, Mark Lamb via m.lamb@mda.asn.au and [0490 143 214](tel:0490143214), or the Murray Darling Association National President, Cr Shari Blumer, via sblumer@griffith.com.au and [0415 081 362](tel:0415081362).

Sincerely,

[NAME]
[POSITION]
[COUNCIL]



Mark D. Lamb
Chief Executive Officer
Murray Darling Association Inc.
[0490 143 214](tel:0490143214), [\(03\) 5480 3805](tel:0354803805)
m.lamb@mda.asn.au

