



Houseboat Licence

Terms and Conditions

In accordance with Regulation 5(5) of the *Water (Lake Eildon Recreational Area) (Houseboats) Regulations 2013*

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These terms and conditions are subject to change without notice from time to time at Goulburn-Murray Water's (GMW) sole discretion.

The terms and conditions set out below must be adhered to at all times. Failure to comply with these terms and conditions may result in revocation or non-issue of your Houseboat Licence or other penalties under the *Water (Lake Eildon Recreational Area) (Houseboats) Regulations 2013*.

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1. Definitions

The following words have the following meanings:

Blackwater has the same meaning as contained in the Regulations;

Corporation means Goulburn-Murray Rural Water Corporation, a statutory corporation established under the *Water Act* 1989 and where the context requires the Corporations employees and agents;

Expiry Date means a Houseboat Licence expires on 30 June next following the date of issue;

Houseboat Licence means a licence issued under the Regulations;

Licence Fee means an annual or pro-rata amount, to be paid in advance by consecutive annual payments;

Licensed plumber has the same meaning as in section 221B(1) of the *Building Act* 1993;

Licensee means the person, Company or Incorporated Association who holds a current licence issued under the Regulations;

Recreational Area means an area defined or identified by the Corporation as a recreational area from time to time;

Regulation means the *Water (Lake Eildon Recreational Area) (Houseboats) Regulations* 2013;

Structural Upgrade/s means any changes that will alter the length, width or enclosed levels of the houseboat, any new or additional pontoons or any installation or upgrade or alteration to a blackwater system;

Term means the period of time from the issue of the Houseboat Licence to the Expiry Date;

Waterway means Lake Eildon.

2. Transfer of Houseboat and Houseboat Licence

The Licensee must:

- 2.1 Upon the sale of a houseboat, notify the Corporation that the sale has occurred and do all things necessary and required by the Corporation in order to effect transfer of the Houseboat Licence to the new owner.
- 2.2 Failure to transfer the Houseboat Licence to the new houseboat may result in revocation of the Houseboat Licence in accordance with regulation 9, or non-issue of the Houseboat Licence at the next Expiry Date.

3. Ownership and Production of Vic Roads Registration

- 3.1 The Licensee must at all times, ensure that the Houseboat Licence is held in the same name as shown on the Vic Roads registration and upon request and when required by the Corporation, produce and provide to the Corporation a copy of the Licensee's current Vic Roads registration.
- 3.2 Failure of the Licensee to produce a current Vic Roads registration in accordance with clause 3.1 may result in revocation of the Houseboat Licence in accordance with regulation 9, or non-issue of the Houseboat Licence at the next Expiry Date.

- 3.3 If the Houseboat Licence is revoked or not renewed in accordance with clause 3.2, the Licensee must remove the houseboat from the Recreational Area within 30 days of notice from the Corporation, at the Licensee's expense. The notice is deemed served if served personally, posted, or emailed to the last known address held by the Corporation.

4. Inspections

- 4.1 For the purpose of ensuring compliance with regulation 5(3)(b), an inspection of installations may be undertaken upon request by an officer of the Corporation.

5. Slipping

For the purpose of ensuring the blackwater system is in good working order the Licensee must:

- 5.1 Ensure that the houseboat is slipped at least every 5-7 years.
- 5.2 Failure to slip the houseboat in accordance with clause 5.1 may result in revocation of the Houseboat Licence in accordance with regulation 9, or non-issue of the Houseboat Licence at the next Expiry Date.

6. Houseboat size limits

- 6.1 A houseboat must not exceed 18.3 metres in length and 7.25 metres in width and 12 metres in height.
- 6.2 The houseboat dimensions set out in accordance with clause 6.1 are inclusive of all structural components of the houseboat, including but not limited to walkways, duckboards, ski platforms, handrails bumpers, eaves and motors.

7. Commercial Hire Prohibited

- 7.1 The Licensee, or any other person/s, must not:
- a. trade or offer for hire any houseboat or houseboat service;
 - b. Display or advertise any houseboat for trade, profit or hire; or
 - c. Undertake any commercial activity on a houseboat.

Unless the Licensee does so under and in accordance with a permit issued by the Corporation.

- 7.2 A contravention of 7.1 may result in the revocation of the Houseboat Licence in accordance with regulation 9, or non-issue of the Houseboat Licence at the next Expiry Date.

8. Upgrade or alteration of an existing houseboat

- 8.1 Licensees intending to undertake any upgrades or alterations to the licensed houseboat that will result in a structural upgrade/s or the houseboat being classified in a higher category, must first obtain approval from the Corporation by completing and forwarding to the Corporation at 19 High Street, Eildon VIC 3713 an '*Application to upgrade or alter existing houseboat*' along with the plans of the proposed works in accordance with clause 9.
- 8.2 Following approval of the '*Application to upgrade or alter existing houseboat*' and receipt of the plans by the Corporation, a final inspection of the houseboat by the Corporation is required before the houseboat may re-enter the Waterway.
- 8.3 All houseboat maintenance must be carried out in a manner which prevents waste material entering the Waterway.

9. Houseboat renovations/alterations (Blackwater)

Licensees intending to undertake any alterations to blackwater installations must:

- 9.1 first obtain approval from the Corporation by completing and forwarding to the Corporation at 19 High Street, Eildon VIC 3713 an '*Application to upgrade or alter existing houseboat*' along with the plans of the proposed works; and
- 9.2 comply with the specifications set out in Schedule 1 of the Regulations.

10. New houseboat plan requirements

- 10.1 When constructing a new houseboat or undertaking structural alterations or upgrades, houseboat plans submitted to the Corporation must include:
 - a. the scale of the plan;
 - b. the length and width of the houseboat deck and structure, including all appendages and motors;
 - c. information concerning the method of intended appendage retraction or folding;
 - d. a bow, stern and port elevation of the houseboat structure;
 - e. the number of enclosed levels;
 - f. a floor plan including the internal dimensions;

- g. the location of all blackwater and fuel tanks, including their capacity and dimensions;
- h. the location and type of toilet/s, details of capacity, make and model; and
- i. motor size and model.

11. Replacement of a licensed houseboat

11.1 Prior to commencing construction of a new houseboat, the Licensee must obtain approval from the Corporation by completing and forwarding to the Corporation at 19 High Street, Eildon VIC 3713 an '*Application for a licence to operate or leave a houseboat within the Lake Eildon Recreational Area*' form with the following;

- a. a copy of the proposed houseboat plans;
- b. payment of the current fee for the application/examination of plans.

11.2 An existing Houseboat Licence will not be transferred to the newly constructed houseboat where the annual Houseboat Licence has lapsed due to non-payment of the Licence Fee.

11.3 The houseboat to be replaced must be removed from the Waterway prior to the newly constructed houseboat being approved to launch and the removal of the houseboat must be confirmed by forwarding a statutory declaration confirming the houseboat has been removed from the Waterway to the Corporation at 19 High Street, Eildon VIC 3713.

11.4 Prior to the new houseboat being approved to launch:

- a. A final inspection of the new houseboat must be arranged with the Corporation of the houseboat, to ensure that the boat has been constructed in accordance with the approved plans;
- b. The relevant inspection fee has been forwarded to the Corporation and a minimum of one week notice has been given to the Corporation to arrange the inspection;
- c. Written verification from a marina operator that an approved mooring is available for the houseboat;
- d. Confirmation from a licensed plumber that the houseboat has been inspected for general plumbing and complies with Schedule 1 of the Regulations;
- e. A copy of the new houseboats Vic Roads registration must be submitted to an officer of the Corporation.

12. Guarding requirements for effluent and fuel

The following guarding requirements for effluent and fuel apply to all houseboats:

12.1 All underslung tanks must be guarded;

- 12.2 Fuel lines not clipped to floor bearers must be guarded;
- 12.3 Any exposed pipework/hoses containing effluent must be guarded;
- 12.4 All guarding must allow visual inspection of pipework and tanks and be constructed of a minimum 1.6mm mild steel or 3mm aluminium and be structurally sound.

13. Debt Collection

If a Licensee fails to pay their Houseboat Licence fees by the required date(s) stated in an invoice, the Corporation may take the following action:

- 13.1 Send a reminder notice to the Licensee advising that their account is overdue and that payment must be made immediately, unless an acceptable payment arrangement is entered into with the Corporation;
- 13.2 Send a withdrawal of offer notice advising that the Corporations offer to renew the annual Houseboat Licence to operate a houseboat is withdrawn, or a Notice of Contravention, directing the Licensee to remove the houseboat from the Waterway by the time stipulated in the notice.

Appendix 1 – Categories

Category	Maximum Size	Description
1	10m x 3.5m	A trailable houseboat able to be transported without the need for a Vic Roads permit (upgradeable)
2	10.6m x 4.5m	One enclosed level, non trailable (not upgradeable)
3	10.6m x 4.5m 13.7m x 5.5m	Two or more enclosed levels (upgradeable) Houseboat with one enclosed level (upgradeable)
4	13.7m x 5.5m 15.2m x 6.25m	Two or more enclosed levels (upgradeable) One enclosed level (upgradeable)
5	15.2m x 6.25m 18.3m x 7.25m	Two or more enclosed levels (upgradeable) One enclosed level (upgradeable)
6	18.3m x 7.25m	Two enclosed levels (not upgradeable)
7	20m x 8m	Special – commercial houseboat

Note: The Corporation currently defines categories by the houseboat dimensions and the number of enclosed levels. An area is considered an enclosed level when three or four sides are constructed of a solid material i.e. Aluminium, glass, Perspex or any other cladding or material.