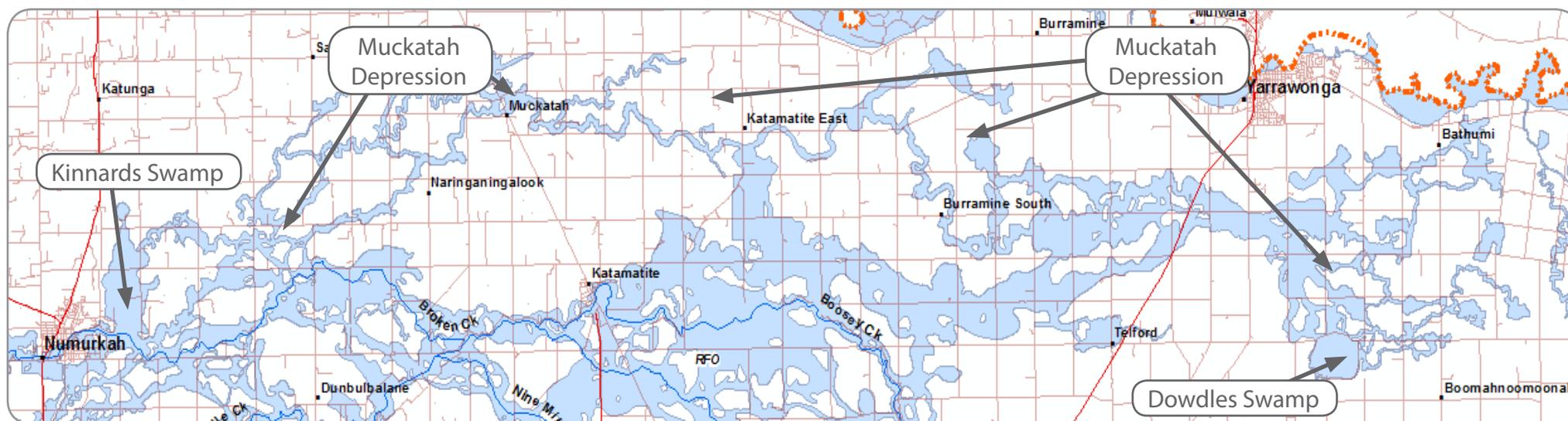


## What is the Muckatah (Muchatah) Depression?

The Muckatah Depression starts upstream of Dowdles Swamp (south of Yarrawonga and west of Bundalong), follows along the Muckatah Creek and then joins the Broken Creek via Kinnaird's Swamp at Numurkah. The Muckatah Depression catchment covers an area of 280 square kilometres and is one of the five major floodplain systems that can influence flooding in the Broken Creek basin. The other four floodplain systems include: the Boosey, Broken, Nine Mile and Major Creeks. The natural shape of the Muckatah Depression and its floodplains are shallow, flat and wide. During big floods like 2012 the movement of floodwater along the Muckatah Depression floodplain is slower than the floodwater in the Broken Creek system.



From the 1990s to mid-2000, a community surface drain scheme was implemented in the Muckatah Depression to help remove excess water from minor storm runoff and to slow and reduce water flows into the Broken Creek. During floods caused by heavy local rainfall however, floodwater spills out of the drains and spreads across the natural flow path of the Muckatah Depression floodplain.

## Did you know?

The Muckatah Depression affects Moira Shire flooding in the following ways:

- During big floods, floodwater from the Muckatah Depression can impact areas south of Yarrawonga, the Muckatah township and farms along the length of the Depression.
- Floodwater travels across the Muckatah Depression more slowly than floodwater travels along the Broken Creek.
- During a large regional flood with significant rain across the Broken Creek basin, floodwater in the Muckatah Depression is held back by the main body of floodwater travelling along the Broken Creek. In Numurkah, this results in flood heights dropping more slowly or staying around for longer.
- Floodwater or runoff from the Muckatah Depression does not usually cause a second rise in flood levels. It also doesn't add to Broken Creek water levels creating a higher flood peak.