



WEEKLY BULLETIN

June 6th 2011

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Andrew Dawes : Lakes Hub – Info. & Admin. Officer Meningie

Jo McPhee : Community Nursery Coordinator Milang

Carole Richardson : Project Officer Coordinator GWLAP Milang

Regina Durbridge : Monitoring & Evaluation Project Officer GWLAP Milang

Leah Sullivan : Revegetation Project Officer GWLAP Milang

Terry Sim : Fencing grants Project Officer GWLAP Milang

Ken Strother : Revegetation Project Officer GWLAP Meningie

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Lakes Hub contacts

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The Lakes Hub is part of the Lower Lakes Bioremediation and Revegetation Project funded by the Australian Government and supported by the South Australian Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

SHED MEETING FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

EASTERN MOUNT LOFTY RANGES WATER ALLOCATION PLAN

Point Sturt and Districts Landcare Group is hosting a shed - meeting for anyone interested in gaining more information about what the EMLR water allocation plan means for them, and this district.

It will be held on **Thursday 16th June, 1.30pm – 3.30pm** in Anne Hartnett's shed. (Wear warm clothing).

Directions: From Milang take the Clayton/Point Sturt Road following the lake for about 9kms. Turn left at the cross roads into Point Sturt Road. Travel for about 1.5kms, and look for a meeting sign. This will take you over a cattle ramp, past a house to a large shed.



For an **information pack** on the Eastern Mt Lofty Ranges water allocation plan contact the Lakes Hub.

For more information on the Point Sturt shed meeting contact Anne Hartnett on 85370187 or email annelhartnett@gmail.com

Bird / Bat boxes – free

One of the projects that the year 9 wood working students of Mount Barker school had to accomplish was to build bird boxes. These wooden boxes have some minor design faults but can be adapted to suit requirement with minimal input. They could be used for birds, bats or other native species.

The Mount Barker school are donating these boxes to people that can use them to assist the native bird and bat populations.

There is a prototype in the Hub Office at Milang and can be ordered through the Lakes Hub or by direct contact to the Mount Barker High School if large numbers are required.

Meningie residents/ landholders can pick up from the Meningie Hub (please order first)



Acid Sulfate Soils Research Program Talking Heads

Come along to a free seminar to hear what the scientists have to say about the acid sulphate soil history and current reports around both Lake Alexandrina and Lake Albert. This informal forum allows for interaction with the audience so questions / comments from the floor will be accepted and appreciated. The seminar will take around 1.5 hours.

<p>Milang Lakes Hub Tuesday 21 June 11.00am Venue : Milang Institute</p>	<p>Meningie Lakes Hub Wednesday 22 June 1.30pm Venue : Lakes Hub Meningie</p>
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With:

Dr Liz Barnett

Principal Scientific Advisor
Manager, Acid Sulfate Soils

Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Program (CLLMM), Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Luke Mosley

Principal Scientific Officer (Water Quality)
Environment Protection Authority

Anne Marie Jolley

Project Officer, Acid Sulfate Soils

Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Program (CLLMM), Department of Environment and Natural Resources

2011 Fencing project

By Terry Sim – On Grounds Works Project Officer, Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Assoc (GWLAP)

The first round of the Lake Alexandrina and Albert Bioremediation Fencing Program has been completed. Through this program funding has been approved for the erection of almost 130 kilometres of fencing and over 100 water points. Delivery of this project was undertaken by the Goolwa to Wellington LAP and the Coorong & Districts LAP and is part of the Lower Lakes Bioremediation and Revegetation Project.

The Fencing program was supported by both the State and Commonwealth governments because of the obvious and important benefits that include the protection of the lake edge. This will allow reeds, rushes and other plants to grow which will assist in the control of lakeshore erosion. The regeneration and revegetation of native plants in and around the lake edges provides valuable habitat for a wide range of wetland birds, fish and animals that are necessary for the Lakes ecosystem to function in a healthy and sustainable manner

As well, the fencing means that landowners will comply with the *Environment Protection Act 1993* and the *Water Quality Environment Protection Policy 2000* in not allowing pollutants to be deposited in water bodies.

The second round of the programme is underway. This round, which is fully allocated, includes properties on the Finnis, Currency Creek and Hindmarsh Island as well as the Lakes.

If you wish to obtain further information on the Fencing Programme please contact : Terry Sim (telephone 0419 099 468) or at the Lakes Hub, Milang 85370808.



The Coorong National Park

The Coorong National Park is -: answers at the end .

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| A 467 hectares | A 14.5 kms long |
| B 4675 hectares | B 147 kms long |
| C 46,745 hectares | C 1450 kms long |

The Coorong is a set of complex and ancient sand dunes. There are still remains of an 80,000 year old sand dune on the Younghusband Peninsula but the oldest was probably formed about 120,000 years ago.

The modern day Coorong was formed between 6,000 and 20,000 years ago when the sea rose to form an island on the top of the 80,000 year old dune. This produced a lagoon behind the present line of seaward dunes.

Historically there were five Ngarrindjeri tribes living on the Coorong numbering around 3200 in 1842 but only 32 years later the numbers had dropped to a mere 511 due to European's arrival. (massacres and disease – Smallpox) Discovery of the Coorong occurred by accident in 1837 by Strangways and Hutchinson who were ship wrecked near the Murray Mouth a rowed a dingy up the Coorong.

By 1839 the first sheep were run on the Coorong and by 1840 the Murray Mouth had been surveyed. In 1940 a ferry service was established at Wellington giving access to the Coorong which enabled a stock route and mail run to begin in the mid 1840's.

In 1892 a salt mine was established on the Coorong without success as was the result of an oil well drilled at Salt Creek. Sheep farming was also fraught with difficulty due to dry years coupled with rabbit plagues.

In 1966 the Coorong National Park was established and in 1986 a further 6840 hectares was added as a game reserve.

Answers : The Coorong National Park is 46,745 hectares and is 147 kms long.

Reference : *The Age*

Expressions of Interest – free workshops in your area.

The Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association (GWLAP) are preparing to run professional advice and 'hands on training and demonstrations' in your area and are seeking your interest.

The workshop planned is '**weeds in your patch**' and will cover proven, up to date, effective weed control techniques. This training is suitable for individual landholders, volunteer groups etc and will run for approximately 2 hours.

For more information contact Will Miles 0427917515 or 85365621 or email (preferred) will.miles@gwlap.org.au

Pasture management workshop

The Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association (GWLAP) are running a free Pasture Management Workshop with consultant Simon Ellis **on Saturday 9th July.**

The workshop will be on a property at Finniss and will run for approximately 2 hours.

Topics covered will be -:

Grazing management, ideal pasture species, native grasses, fencing, fertilizers, herbicides, weed and pasture i.d. etc.

To RSVP or for more information contact Will Miles at the GWLAP will.miles@gwlap.org.au ph 0427917515

There are posters up in the Lakes Hub window (Milang) with the details.

Funding for this project has been provided by the Government of SA through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)

Talk Turtle

By Kerri Bartley – DENR Project Officer

Picture: Courtesy of Kerri Bartley – A hatchling



Turtle conservation groups from around the world designated 2011 to be Year of the Turtle!

Turtles are disappearing from the planet faster than any other group of animal. Today, nearly 50% of turtle species are identified as threatened with extinction.

A seminar to celebrate World Turtle Day was held at the Goolwa Bowling Club on Monday 23rd May to help raise conservation awareness and recognise the valuable work local communities have contributed in saving over 2,000 freshwater turtles in the Lower

Murray region. Around 30 people attended the event and it was wonderful to see some new faces in the audience. Craig and Gabrielle Latta, turtle conservation experts from Queensland, flew in to present at the seminar. Craig is one of Australia's leading turtle experts from the Mary River in Queensland and, together with his wife Gabrielle, are passionate about Australia's Freshwater Turtles. This led them in 2005 to form the world's first non-profit organisation dedicated to freshwater turtle conservation.

"They have over 60 years of combined experience in keeping and breeding turtles, resulting in a unique and extensive understanding of freshwater turtle biology and ecology,"

"This has led to a 15-year career in field research and conservation work including the rescue of turtles in Asia that were destined for the live food market.

"Craig owns and administers the Australian Freshwater Turtle Forum that now has over 5000 members and Craig and Gabrielle are Australia's first private reptile keepers to have been authorised to release captive-bred, endangered freshwater turtles into the wild."

Community volunteers from Eastern Fleurieu School, Milang Campus; Investigator College, Goolwa Campus; Maureen Agars from Wildlife Welfare Org; Alexandrina Wildlife Support Group Inc and Wendy Conaghty were all awarded certificates from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) applauding their ongoing dedication and commitment to rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing native freshwater turtles affected by tubeworm encrustation in the Lower Murray region.

Australian Freshwater Turtle Day will be celebrated on Monday, October 3rd, 2011

One planted – 9,499 to go !

Point Sturt and District Landcare Group has contracted to plant 9,500 trees, shrubs and grasses on Alexandrina Council's water reserve on the northern side of Point Sturt which is part of the Lower Lakes Bioremediation and Revegetation Project.

The project aims to restore pre-settlement vegetation, to remind us how rich and diverse our lake environment was in its natural state. It will encourage sustainable management in the future and should inspire other groups and individuals to undertake similar plantings. Lake Alexandrina may recover much of its original beauty.

Plantings are scheduled for both Saturday and Sunday on two weekends: **25th and 26th June** & **9th and 10th July**
10 am to 3.30 pm Lunch provided Mood informal and geared to individual capacities.

Can you help? Better still, can you organise a work team of friends?

Children are particularly welcome: they are the lake's future custodians.

Please call:

Anne Hartnett (President) 8537 0187 Bruce Allnut (Secretary) 8536 0114 Chris Bagley (Committee) 8537 0533

RIVER MURRAY FLOW ADVICE

For current flow / level reports on the River Murray and Lakes go to the following website
www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au

DAILY RECORDINGS – RIVER MURRAY DATA

Data received from <http://e-nrims.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/Telemetry/Default.aspx?App=RMW>

Date : 30 May-3rd June 2011

	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	PH	SALT (EC)
30	Clayton Bay	0.513	8.09	2970
31		0.432	8.17	2899
1		0.428	8.07	2844
2		0.487	7.97	2811
3		0.496	8.05	2734
	Average	0.471	8.05	2852
30	Milang 7km SE	0.515	7.34	412
31		0.472	7.61	412
1		0.472	7.69	420
2		0.469	7.67	429
3		0.463	7.73	535
	Average	0.478	7.61	442
30	Hindmarsh Is. Beacon 23	0.464		2437
31		0.407		1872
1		0.351		1938
2		0.450		1830
3		0.468		1724
	Average	0.428		1960
30	Warrenge Point Lake Albert	0.600	9.03	6581
31		0.561	9.14	6629
1		0.563	9.18	6607
2		0.556	9.16	6572
3		0.559	9.17	6570
	Average	0.568	9.14	6592

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for more info contact the Lakes Hub

If you have any community event or courses that you would like added to the Calendar of Events please contact the Lakes Hub.

June 2011	
1	
2	Orana Melaleuca celebrations Contact Jane Phone: 8575 1259 or 0407 181 096 Email: jswan@orana.asn.au
3	
4	
5	WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY Community planting – volunteers Contact Deb Melville 0448959699 or Lakes Hub, MOSHCC email mecnursery@lakeshub.com
6	MOSHCC – Using Chemicals Responsibly & Chem Cert Accreditation Contact : Contact 85 370 687 Email moshcc@bigpond.com
7	MOSHCC – Using Chemicals Responsibly & Chem Cert Accreditation Contact : Contact 85 370 687 Email moshcc@bigpond.com
8	
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11	
12	100 th anniversary of the Narrung Hall – lunch time. Contact Marianne 0437320779 or cunneen@internode.on.net
13	PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Queens birthday
14	
15	Community planting - Brown's Beach, Meningie with the Meningie Progress Association in conjunction with Meningie Area School. For more info contact the Lakes Hub Meningie 8575 1830 or email meningie@lakeshub.com
16	Point Sturt Shed Meeting (Eastern Mt Lofty Ranges Water Allocation Plan) Contact Anne Hartnett on 85370187 or email annelhartnett@gmail.com Information kits available at the Lakes Hub Milang.
17	Community planting - Brown's Beach, Meningie with the Meningie Progress Association in conjunction with Meningie Area School. For more info contact the Lakes Hub Meningie 8575 1830 or email meningie@lakeshub.com
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19	Community planting – volunteers Contact Deb Melville 0448959699 or Lakes Hub, MOSHCC email mecnursery@lakeshub.com
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21	Talking Heads – Milang. Acid Sulfate Soils research & reports – DENR scientists. 11.00am Milang Institute. Contact the Lakes Hub
22	Talking Heads – Meningie. Acid Sulfate Soils research & reports – DENR scientists. 1.30pm Meningie Hub. Contact the Lakes Hub
23	
24	
25	Point Sturt Landcare planting – looking for volunteers. Contact Anne Hartnett (President) 8537 0187 Bruce Allnut (Secretary)8536 0114 Chris Bagley (Committee) 8537 0533
26	Point Sturt Landcare planting – looking for volunteers. Contact Anne Hartnett (President) 8537 0187 Bruce Allnut (Secretary)8536 0114 Chris Bagley (Committee) 8537 0533
27	
28	
29	Eastern Mount Lofty Water Allocation Plan Shed Meeting at “Campbell House” Meningie west on the 29th of June at 1.30pm. For more info contact the Lakes Hub Meningie 8575 1830 or email meningie@lakeshub.com
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July 3rd Community planting – volunteers Contact Deb Melville 0448959699 or Lakes Hub, MOSHCC email mecnursery@lakeshub.com

July 9th – GWLAP – Pasture management workshop Contact Will Miles 0427917515 or 85365621 or email (preferred) will.miles@gwlap.org.au

9th & 10th July - Point Sturt Landcare planting – looking for volunteers.

Contact Anne Hartnett (President) 8537 0187 Bruce Allnut (Secretary)8536 0114 Chris Bagley (Committee) 8537 0533

July 17th Community planting – volunteers Contact Deb Melville 0448959699 or Lakes Hub, MOSHCC email mecnursery@lakeshub.com

July 31st National Tree Day

July 31st Community planting – volunteers Contact Deb Melville 0448959699 or Lakes Hub, MOSHCC email mecnursery@lakeshub.com