



## WEEKLY BULLETIN

July 11th 2011. No 56

**Lou Mawson** : Lakes Hub Coordinator

**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

**Joy Mayberry** : Hub Office Admin assistant ( part time ) Milang

### Lakes Hub contacts

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Web [www.lakeshub.com](http://www.lakeshub.com)

*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.*

### Friends of Meningie ( FOM) planting

On Friday July 8<sup>th</sup> the Friends of Meningie group planted a section of the newly created Meningie lakefront habitat restoration project. Around 40 volunteers including 20 Meningie High school students planted and guarded around 540 native plants in the section between the Meningie bowling green and the concrete drain alongside the old CFS building. This planting is a magnificent transformation of the waterfront and is part of the SA Government's Murray Futures program funded by the Australian Government's Water for the Future initiative.

There are still around 1000 plants to go in for this project. For more information and/or the opportunity to volunteer to assist the Friends of Meningie please contact Andrew Dawes at the Lakes Hub, Meningie on 8575 1830



*Before and after*



## Planting appreciated

*I wish to thank Deb Melville from the Milang & District Community Association and the planting team who planted 2607 plants on my property on 23-24th June.*

*I had about 300 metres of lakeside cliff top fenced off recently to prevent my cattle drinking from the lake. This area has now been planted out to native vegetation by Deb's team.*

*I am particularly pleased with this planting because for many years naturalists have been suggesting to me it would be an appropriate place to plant, as a buffer for the remnant vegetation which exists on the cliff side. It also makes a southern link between two other replanted areas. I am really looking forward to seeing how it develops.*

*Many thanks to all who made the project possible, the Australian Government's Bioremediation and Revegetation Program, supported by the Department for Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and managed by the Goolwa to Wellington Local Planning Association.*

*Thanks again, Deb and the planting team,  
Anne Hartnett.*

## POINT STURT AND DISTRICTS LANDCARE GROUP

Submitted by the Point Sturt & Districts Landcare Group

Can we do it, or is it beyond us? These were questions the Landcare Committee asked themselves in response to Chris Bagley's suggestion to plant a section of Point Sturt with vegetation which closely resembled the vegetation which existed prior to European settlement.

It seems we can do it, and enjoy the experience immensely. It seems we can do it, and earn the Landcare Group enough money to publish a well-researched and attractive book, written by Terry Sim recounting the celebration of 21 years of tree planting in the Point Sturt and districts area, and extending to information about the early history of Point Sturt, and depiction of its spiritual beauty.

*Pictured is Amelia Graham, Site manager for the Goolwa to Wellington Local Action planning Assoc ( GWLAP)*



The area chosen for the planting is a waterfront Council triangle on the northern shore of Lake Alexandrina, with difficult public access at the moment, but which has the potential to be developed into a beautiful area with a walking trail, and an educational area of named trees suitable for planting in the surrounding areas.

This whole project has been made possible through the Lower Lakes Bioremediation and Revegetation Project funded by the Australian Government and supported by the SA Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

## VOICES OF THE MURRAY DARLING

There is an opportunity to speak up for the rivers by signing the petition to Craig Knowles, Chair of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority.

Legislation regarding the water-sharing arrangements between the states of the Murray-Darling Basin will be presented to Federal Parliament early in 2012 ( only 6 months away).

The local Clayton based group Rivers, Lakes and Coorong (RLCAG) are one of the many groups nationally that are working tirelessly to protect our Murray Darling Basin and are urging everyone in the region to join the voice.

To access the online petition just control/click on the link below – it's really easy and it **WILL** make a difference.

<http://lifeblood.org.au>

**Total signatures as of 11th July 2011 = 503**

## Remember the Weatherloach report in the Bulletin March 28<sup>th</sup> 2011 ?

There is now an online reporting tool for the Oriental Weatherloach. This tool can be used by members of the community to report sightings; these reports will be automatically emailed to the Aquatic Pests Response - Biosecurity SA for cataloguing.

The link to this tool is on the Biosecurity SA website: <http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecuritysa> and the dedicated Oriental Weatherloach page:

[http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecuritysa/aquatic/current\\_and\\_potential\\_pests/oriental\\_weatherloach](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecuritysa/aquatic/current_and_potential_pests/oriental_weatherloach)

The Oriental Weatherloach was recently recorded in South Australia for the first time. This pest fish has been established in New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria for some time, but it is a significant and Noxious Listed species in SA.

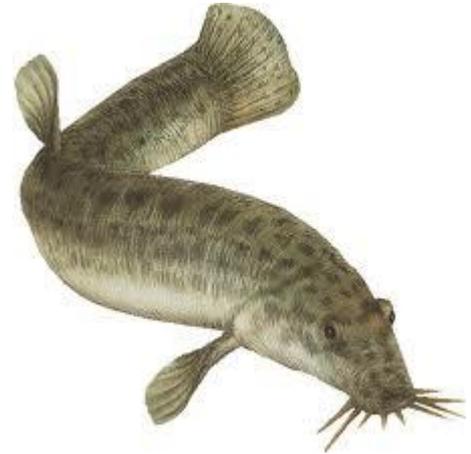
The Oriental Weatherloach is known to impact native fish by eating juveniles or eggs. It also breeds rapidly, and in high numbers, and is extremely tolerant to a wide range of environmental conditions. These include long dry periods, during which the weatherloach will bury themselves into mud to survive. Due to the rapid growth of populations, their tolerance to a range of conditions and potential to negatively impact native fish, the occurrence of this species is cause for concern.

The Oriental Weatherloach is a Noxious Listed species through the Fisheries Management Act 2007 and it is therefore illegal for people to have this species. If you find this fish, do not return it to the water or leave it on the bank; - bag it, freeze it, bin it!

Biosecurity SA is monitoring the spread of this species and is asking that all individuals found be reported. You can report your sighting too: FISHWATCH on 1800 065 522 (free call) or [www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecuritysa](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecuritysa)

The information that will be requested is: where exactly was it found, when was it found (including time of day), how many were found, what size were they and did you catch, or observe, other fish species near where the weatherloach was caught. If you're able to take a photo of the weatherloach on your mobile or camera, we'd encourage an image being sent in with your report.

There are fact sheets available at the Lakes Hub for your interest.



## CSIRO @ Waite Campus - Seminar

**TOPIC :** Irrigation flows, droughts and flooding rains: effects on metabolism in the channel of the Murray River and implications for managing environmental flows.

**DELIVERED BY :** Dr Rod Oliver - Principle Research Scientist and Program Leader, Catchment Biogeochemistry and Aquatic Ecology.

**WHEN :** Wednesday 13 July \_\_ 3.45pm Afternoon Tea 4.00pm seminar

**VENUE:** Seminar Room Building 1, Waite Campus

**CONTACT :** Enquiries - Jan Mahoney 8303 8417 Email : [Jan.Mahoney@csiro.au](mailto:Jan.Mahoney@csiro.au)

## REMINDER

Responses to the State Government's Draft Water Allocation Plan for the Eastern Mt Lofty Ranges need to be submitted by **5th August 2011**. The Finniss Catchment Group welcomes all to join in sessions to figure out responses to the Draft Plan. There will be one session a week for 5 weeks - all sessions to be held at the Brooks' place on the Strath/Goolwa Road at Finniss.

Sessions begin on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June and go through to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July.

For directions and more information phone Finniss Catchment Group Secretary Bruce Brooks on 0417 891 909 or Silver on 0427 226 282

The Lakes Hub in Milang has information packs available on the Draft Plan.

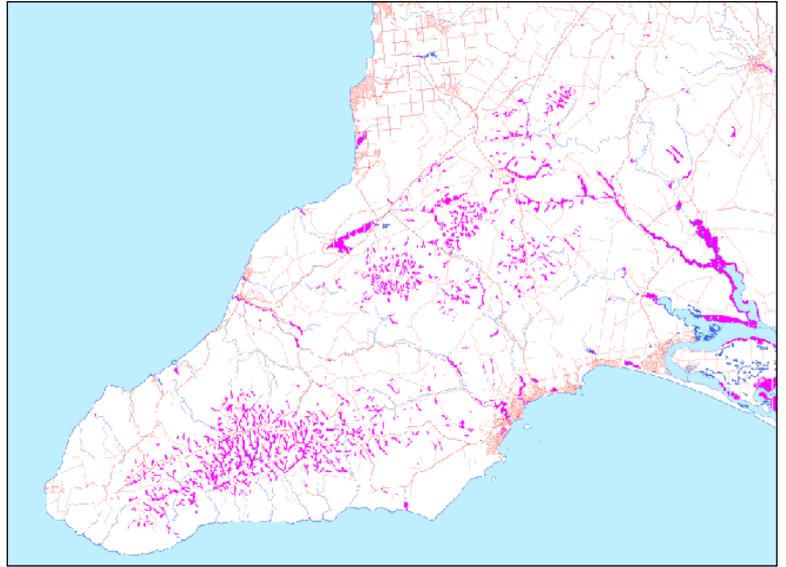
## DRAFT RECOVERY PLAN FOR THE FLEURIEU PENINSULA SWAMPS

The public comment period closes on **24 August 2011**.

Swamps of the Fleurieu Peninsula are listed as a critically endangered ecological community under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Critically Endangered is the highest rating of conservation significance under this Act. This listing recognises the small size, restrictive distribution and susceptibility of the FPS to ongoing threats such as vegetation clearance, water development, grazing, introduced species, fire and habitat fragmentation.

The Conservation Council of South Australia currently manages the Recovery Program with financial support from state and Australian government, smaller grants from non-government organisations and public donations.

*Current Fleurieu Peninsula Swamp distribution*



If you wish to comment on a draft recovery plan, please send your comments, quoting the title of the plan, to:

**Email:** [recoveryplans@environment.gov.au](mailto:recoveryplans@environment.gov.au)

**Mail:** Director - Recovery, Planning and Implementation Section

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities GPO Box 787 Canberra ACT 2601

Draft recovery plans are available in hard copy from the Department's Community Information Unit

Email: [ciu@environment.gov.au](mailto:ciu@environment.gov.au) Freecall: 1800 803 772

To access the Draft Recovery Draft plan see the following link -:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/publications/recovery/draft-for-comment-fleurieu-peninsula-swamps-recovery-plan.html>

## RIVER MURRAY FLOW ADVICE

*By the Ministerial Correspondence Coordinator Water Resources Operation Team | Murray-Darling Basin Division July 1<sup>st</sup> 2011*

### *BARRAGE OPERATIONS AND WATER LEVELS IN THE LOWER LAKES*

The water level in Lake Alexandrina is currently around 0.74m AHD. Water levels in Lake Alexandrina, Lake

Albert and the Goolwa Channel have increased due to the closure of barrage gates. Over the coming months, barrage operations will continue to lower and raise water levels to further freshen Lake Albert and remove accumulated salt from the Lower Lakes. It is anticipated that water levels will remain within a range of 0.55m to 0.8m AHD.

In order to decrease and increase water levels in both lakes, it is necessary for some of the barrage gates/bays to be opened and closed to maintain the desired water level target. Water levels and barrage operations are continually monitored by the Department for Water, SA Water and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

## 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](http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au)

Up-to-date River Murray flow and water level information can be accessed at the Department for Water, SA Water and Murray-Darling Basin Authority websites:

<http://data.rivermurray.sa.gov.au>

[www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm](http://www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm)

<http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/live-river-data>

Details of river height and rainfall information in the River Murray within Victoria and New South Wales are available at the Bureau of Meteorology website:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood>

Information on the discharge of acid drainage water into the Lower River Murray can be accessed online at

[www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au](http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au)

## DAILY RECORDINGS – RIVER MURRAY DATA

Data received from <http://data.rivermurray.sa.gov.au/Telemetry/Default.aspx?App=RMW>

## LAKE LEVELS DATA CHANGES



Due to changes in recording data there have been some site alterations in the data that the Lakes Hub collects for inclusion in the weekly Lakes Hub Bulletin.

**There are no recordings for this week – the new site data details will begin in next week's issue.**

For other site data readings click on the River Murray data link above.

### **Changes will be as follows –:**

Site : Milang off shore 6kms to Milang Jetty changed to Milang Jetty.

Site : Clayton Bay – no readings.

Site : Hindmarsh Bridge – now called Goolwa – no change

Site : Warrengie ( Lake Albert) – no readings

Site : Meningie (sailing club jetty) – **new**

Site : Raukkan (off shore) - **new**

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS for more info contact the Lakes Hub

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

## JULY 2011

1	
2	
3	<b>Milang &amp; District Community Assoc. ( MDCA) Community planting</b> – volunteers Contact Deb Melville 0448959699 Email <a href="mailto:mecnursery@lakeshub.com">mecnursery@lakeshub.com</a> or Lakes Hub Milang 85 370 808 or MDCA 85 370687
4	
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7	Friends of Meningie meeting – Lakes Hub Meningie 5.00pm Contact Andrew Dawes 85751830 or 0427751488
8	<b>Friends of Meningie Community planting</b> – Meningie lakefront habitat restoration project - <b>VOLUNTEERS WANTED</b> Contact Andrew Dawes 0427751488
9	<b>Friends of Meningie Community planting</b> – Meningie lakefront habitat restoration project - <b>VOLUNTEERS WANTED</b> Contact Andrew Dawes 0427751488 <b>GWLAP – Pasture management workshop</b> Contact Will Miles 0427917515 or 85365621 or email ( preferred) <a href="mailto:will.miles@gwlap.org.au">will.miles@gwlap.org.au</a> <b>Point Sturt Landcare planting</b> on the Pt Sturt Water Reserve <b>VOLUNTEERS WANTED</b> Contact Anne Hartnett (President) 8537 0187 Bruce Allnutt (Secretary )8536 0114 Chris Bagley (Committee) 8537 0533
10	<b>Point Sturt Landcare planting</b> on the Pt Sturt Water Reserve <b>VOLUNTEERS WANTED</b> Contact Anne Hartnett (President) 8537 0187 Bruce Allnutt (Secretary )8536 0114 Chris Bagley (Committee) 8537 0533
11	
12	<b>Review of the Coorong District LAP</b> - A workshop on the future of the Coorong /Tatiara LAP - 7:30PM at the Lakes Hub Meningie. Contact Graham Gates on 0427 572 330, or the Lakes Hub Meningie 85751830
13	
14	<b>Meningie Progress Assoc. Community Planting</b> VOLUNTEERS WANTED Contact Andrew Dawes 0427751488
15	
16	<b>Meningie Progress Assoc. Community Planting</b> VOLUNTEERS WANTED Contact Andrew Dawes 0427751488
17	<b>Milang &amp; District Community Assoc. ( MDCA) Community planting</b> – volunteers Contact Deb Melville 0448959699 Email <a href="mailto:mecnursery@lakeshub.com">mecnursery@lakeshub.com</a> or Lakes Hub Milang 85 370 808 or MDCA 85 370687
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27	<b>NatureMaps – free workshop.</b> Strathalbyn library 6.30pm – 8.30pm Contact Derek Fenton <a href="mailto:derekf@activ8.net.au">derekf@activ8.net.au</a>
28	
29	
30	
31	<b>NATIONAL TREE DAY</b> <b>Milang &amp; District Community Assoc. ( MDCA) Community planting</b> – volunteers Contact Deb Melville 0448959699 Email <a href="mailto:mecnursery@lakeshub.com">mecnursery@lakeshub.com</a> or Lakes Hub Milang 85 370 808 or MDCA 85 370687

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