



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

February 13<sup>th</sup> 2012. No 84

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*The Lakes Hub is the initiative of the Milang and District Community Association and is part of the South Australian Government's Murray Futures program, funded by the Australian Government's Water for the Future initiative.*

## DENR : SMALL TERN CENSUS

From the DENR Volunteer New [http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/Work\\_With\\_Us/Volunteering\\_with\\_DENR/Volunteer\\_news](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/Work_With_Us/Volunteering_with_DENR/Volunteer_news)

### 6 - 17 FEBRUARY

The Fairy Tern is a threatened coastal bird. To gain a better understanding of where the birds are and how many are left, DENR is conducting a systematic survey of known and potential breeding sites.

**We need your help to cover our large and beautiful coastline!** If you have some bird watching experience and can visit any of the beaches in the Yorke Peninsula from the **6 to the 17 of February** please contact us. You can go any day, any time and you just need to log in and out with us (by text message). Travel expenses will be reimbursed.

**Inexperienced** bird watchers are also needed. A road trip will visit the Yorke Peninsula during the weekend of the **18 and 19 of February** to survey every beach remaining. Let us know if you are interested.

For more information, or to register your interest, contact Clare Manning on 8555 0948 or email [clare.manning@sa.gov.au](mailto:clare.manning@sa.gov.au)

*Photo courtesy of Paul Wainwright ( DENR)*



## Community Stream Sampling Program 2012

Would you like to be actively involved in this year's Community Stream Sampling Program ? Upgrading chemicals, technical support and data analysis will be available to participants.

For more information contact **Greg Lundstrom**, Senior Project Officer - Community Monitoring / Climate & Energy South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board  
Mob: 0429 697 319 Tel: 08 8536 5622  
Email: [greg.lundstrom@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au](mailto:greg.lundstrom@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au)

## How time flies

We were reminded by the Times Newspaper on Feb 9<sup>th</sup> 2012 that it was five (5) years ago on February 8<sup>th</sup> 2007 that the former Prime Minister, John Howard, made a visit to the Coorong and announced a \$14 million plan to try to solve the River Murray crisis.

## Calling for local ideas for local wetlands

The Australian and State Government have enlisted the assistance of the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management (SA MDB NRM) Board to collect and collate community ideas for activities to restore and protect their local wetland or floodplain.

The call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) is now open and will **close on 24th February**.

The SA MDB NRM Board wetland staff will be available to answer questions and help the community to complete and submit EOI forms at these local venues :

Murray Bridge	Town Hall	Wednesday 15th February 2012	4–8pm
Strathalbyn	NRM Centre	Thursday 16th February 2012	4–8pm

For the Expression of Interest Forms and further background material visit :

<http://www.samdbnrm.sa.gov.au/GetInvolved/Localideasforlocalwetlands.aspx>

## River Murray Youth Council – calling for new Mentors and members

*By Jodie Sommerville NRM Education Coordinator, SA MDB NRM*

The NRM Education team at the SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resource Management Board would like to invite you to join us this year as a mentor of the River Murray Youth Council. The RMYC provides students in years 8-12 with opportunities to learn about the environment in a hands-on way, to attend field trips and conferences, to have their voices heard on environmental issues and is a great way for students to meet some fantastic like-minded people and to have fun whilst making a real difference. There is an Upper Murray branch based out of Berri, and the Lower Murray Group is based at Murray Bridge.



Some of the activities planned for the year include a Headwaters Trip through the Murray-Darling Basin to learn the issues facing the basin and what's being done about them, to meet students along the way and share views on the River and the proposed Basin plan and to gain an appreciation of the Basin's scale and unique beauty, as well as participating in local revegetation programs, attending and presenting at the International River Health Conference in Melbourne in October, undertaking on-ground action at school, learning how to be environmental leaders through the SA Youth Environment Council and much more.

Meetings are held every 4-6 weeks from 4.30pm – 6.30pm. There will be an **information session next Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> of February, from 4.30 – 6.30 at Swanport Wetland, Murray Bridge** for the Lower Murray and one on **Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February from 4.30-6.30pm at the SAMDBNRM Board office in Berri** for the Upper Murray group. It's a great opportunity to find out more about the program and meet some of the fantastic people involved in the council.

**I'd also like to take this opportunity to draw on people's knowledge of the region and ask if anyone knows of any sites, people or experiences that would provide for good learning opportunities for the students on their Headwaters trip? Any suggestions would be most appreciated!**

We have found over the years that mentor support- including sharing knowledge, assisting with transport, keeping an eye out for good learning opportunities etc.- has provided wonderful opportunities for students that may not have otherwise been able to participate in such activities, and has enriched their experience immensely. We would eagerly welcome any new mentors to the role, and appreciate any level of involvement you are willing to offer to this passionate group of students.

The RMYC is proudly sponsored through the SAMDBNRM Board through Caring for our Country and is FREE to students.

For any more information please call Jodie Sommerville on 85321432 or 0422624721 or email [jodie.sommerville@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au](mailto:jodie.sommerville@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au) for the Lower Murray Council and Pia Siska on 85801800 or email [pia.siska@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au](mailto:pia.siska@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au)

## Pestsmart Roadshow



**Invasive animals cost Australia more than a billion dollars annually.**

The Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre will be conducting several seminars nationally via a PestSmart Roadshow in 2012.

Unfortunately the closest venue for this roadshow was Naracoorte on the 7<sup>th</sup> February which we have missed but for an update on research and management developments to control invasive animals such as wild dogs, rabbits, foxes, feral pigs and carp you can access their web site on <http://www.feral.org.au/pestsmart/roadshow/>

## DRAFT MURRAY DARLING BASIN PLAN RELEASE - PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority recently released the draft Basin Plan. This marks the beginning of the formal public consultation period which will go for 20 weeks and will give people the opportunity to read the draft plan, discuss it with their community, discuss it with us and provide feedback via our formal submission process. **The closing date for submissions is 16 April 2012.** For further information visit <http://www.mdba.gov.au/> or call the Info Line 1800 230 067

## Community vegetation plantings – improving the resilience

The Australian Government's Department for Environment - Water for the Future program, has put together a video on the community vegetation project on the lower lakes and Coorong.

To view this footage Control + click on this link -:



## RIVER MURRAY – weekly FLOW ADVICE

For weekly 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://e-nrims.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/Telemetry/Default.aspx?App=RMW>

FEB 6 -10 2012

	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
6	GOOLWA	0.319	800
7		0.557	1510
8		0.626	1833
9		0.647	1526
10		0.649	1535
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.560</b>	<b>1440.8</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL ( AHD)	SALT (EC)
6	MILANG JETTY	0.487	584
7		0.586	590
8		0.625	600
9		0.627	620
10		0.636	632
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.592</b>	<b>605.2</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
6	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.580	687
7		0.597	668
8		0.608	677
9		0.614	663
10		0.604	617
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.601</b>	<b>662.4</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
6	MENINGIE JETTY	0.629	5149
7		0.605	5192
8		0.576	5202
9		0.576	5176
10		0.548	5196
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.587</b>	<b>5183</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
6	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.552	4852
7		0.601	4863
8		0.595	4892
9		0.599	4932
10		0.561	4997
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.582</b>	<b>4907.2</b>

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS for more info contact the Lakes Hub

February 2012	
1	
2	WORLD WETLAND DAY
3	Point Sturt and District Landcare Group general meeting. Anne Hartnet's shed 3.00pm Contact : Bruce Allnutt 0419800574
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13	River Murray Youth Council info session - more information please call Jodie Sommerville on 85321432 or 0422624721 or email <a href="mailto:jodie.sommerville@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au">jodie.sommerville@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au</a>
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15	Local ideas for local wetlands info session – Murray Bridge Town Hall 4.00- 8.00pm more info <a href="http://www.samdbnrm.sa.gov.au/GetInvolved/Localideasforlocalwetlands.aspx">http://www.samdbnrm.sa.gov.au/GetInvolved/Localideasforlocalwetlands.aspx</a>
16	Local ideas for local wetlands info session – Strathalbyn NRC office 4.00- 8.00pm more info <a href="http://www.samdbnrm.sa.gov.au/GetInvolved/Localideasforlocalwetlands.aspx">http://www.samdbnrm.sa.gov.au/GetInvolved/Localideasforlocalwetlands.aspx</a>
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29	Water Security Forum, Tintinara. To register contact Graham Gates 0427 572 330. More info <a href="http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?u=221&amp;c=3599">http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?u=221&amp;c=3599</a>
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If you have any relevant community event or courses that you would like added to the Calendar of Events please contact the Lakes Hub.

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