

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.

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## 100th Lakes Hub Bulletin

The first Lakes Hub Bulletin was produced on June 7<sup>th</sup> 2010  
Two years later the Lakes Hub has produced the 100<sup>th</sup> edition .  
Many thanks to all that continue to support and contribute to the  
Lakes Hub weekly E-Bulletin.  
To celebrate this milestone the Bulletin is getting a facelift !



## World Environment Day – June 5th



Milang and Meningie celebrated World Environment Day by organizing a planting day at each location.

Pobbybonk point was the site at Milang where volunteers from the community, Treasury Wine Estates, Imperial Trades Company and local school children gathered together to plant around 2000 plants. The above photos show the enthusiasm of all involved !



Meningie's celebration had the added presence of the Minister of Environment the Hon. Paul Caica who called in on his way to another engagement in the area. He is seen in this photo addressing members of the local community on the Meningie foreshore. The Melaleuca / Orana group of Meningie managed to plant 1900 plants on the day which was a great effort for a small but very efficient group.

## Changes to the draft Basin Plan released

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority has sent the revised Basin Plan to ministers as part of the next step in the process of developing a plan for the Murray-Darling Basin.

The MDBA also released a report detailing the changes that have been made to the draft based on submissions received during the consultation period.

This version of the plan, titled the 'Proposed Basin Plan – A Revised Draft', now enters its ministerial and parliamentary process. It goes to all Basin water ministers for consideration for a maximum of six weeks, as stipulated by the Water Act. Following this, the Basin Plan will be given to the Federal Water Minister.

Documents released recently and available from the MDBA website:

- The transmission letter to Basin State Ministers
- Proposed Basin Plan – a revised draft
- Guideline for the method to determine priorities for applying environmental water
- The proposed Basin Plan consultation report
- The socio-economic implications of the proposed Basin Plan.

**For more information contact the MDBA Media office at [media@mdba.gov.au](mailto:media@mdba.gov.au) or 02 6279 0141.**

Follow the MDBA [http://twitter.com/MD\\_Basin\\_Auth](http://twitter.com/MD_Basin_Auth)

Join the discussion on the MDBA blog: <http://freeflow.mdba.gov.au/>

## The River needs your voice

The SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resource Management Board (SAMDBNRM) invites you to attend a community workshop to review project ideas for local solutions to achieve the environmental objectives of the proposed Murray Darling Basin Plan and potentially save or use water more efficiently. Participants will choose the project ideas to be developed into proposals for consideration by the Department for Water.

The Board received a number of really good ideas for potential projects. The next phase is to review these community ideas, identify the ideas to be developed into detailed project proposals and then develop these up together.

### **Project Development Workshops**

**Location:** Alexandrina Council Chambers Cadell Street, Goolwa

**Time:** 4pm – 7pm

**Date:** Tuesday 19 June

You are encouraged to take this opportunity to review the community's ideas and have input into the development of projects that will be of benefit to the River Murray and the communities who depend upon it.

RSVP To help us plan for the workshops, please RSVP to [samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au](mailto:samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au) or ph: (08) 8532 9100.

If you cannot attend a workshop, you may provide your feedback on the themes and ideas by Monday 18 June by email to [samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au](mailto:samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au)

Further information

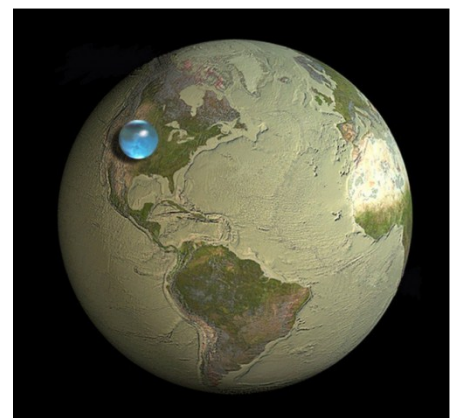
For questions about the next steps in the community component of the environmental works and measures project, please contact Katrina Nitschke, Acting Manager Community Engagement SA MDB NRM Board on telephone 08 8532 9109 or email [katrina.nitschke@sa.gov.au](mailto:katrina.nitschke@sa.gov.au)

## How much water is on earth?

This picture shows the size of a sphere that would contain all of Earth's water in comparison to the size of the Earth. The blue sphere sitting on the United States has a diameter of about 1,385 kilometres, with a volume of about 1,386,000,000 cubic kilometres.

The sphere includes all the water in the oceans, seas, ice caps, lakes and rivers as well as groundwater, atmospheric water, and even the water in you and all flora and fauna.

Reference : [www.thefoxisblack.com](http://www.thefoxisblack.com)



## Find the frog

There is a frog hiding in this picture taken by Wendy Conaghty of Goolwa recently. Can you find it ?  
Answer in next weeks Bulletin.



## Change Exchange conference

The Change Exchange Conference held on the 16<sup>th</sup> May provided insights into exciting new developments and approaches to natural heritage and biodiversity conservation.

The inaugural Change Exchange Community Monitoring Forum was a resounding success, people from across the South Australia Murray Darling Basin Region came together to share their stories on environmental condition and be inspired by the stories of others. Throughout the day environmental change was reported from approximately forty monitoring projects from across the region and across different natural resource management themes from water quality and quantity to wombat population trends, as well as many others. The stories ranged from people with sheets of notes on the bird species that they had seen around their properties to people who had been monitoring and reporting on their data for more than 30 years!

Regina Durbridge, the Goolwa to Wellington LAP officer shared the results of the LAP and Signal Point Riverine Environment Groups acid sulfate soil and frog monitoring work around the lakes. The long lasting effects of the drought on soils in the lakes were an eye opener to many in the room, and many questions were asked about the effects of various government policies on the area. Throughout the day participants were encouraged to reflect on their monitoring and determine whether improvements could be made to the quality of the data and whether their energy was being well spent. One participant commented that the day showed the “importance of harnessing the tremendous community energy for doing some real science”, the energy and passion of the people at the forum was definitely something to behold. The monitoring and evaluation team at SAMDB are now reflecting on how they can better work with these passionate people to help track environmental outcomes and condition in our region. If you have any suggestions about how that could happen or more stories to share please contact Peta Page on [peta.page@sa.gov.au](mailto:peta.page@sa.gov.au). A short report on the day and some recordings and some of the photos will be on the SAMDB NRM website in the coming weeks so please do head over and have a look!

## Lake Albert Oxidised Nitrogen Levels

The latest Lake Albert water quality monitoring undertaken by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA ) shows that oxidised nitrogen (nitrate and nitrite) levels are between 0.005 and 0.008 mg/L . These levels are well within the Australia New Zealand Environment Conservation Council (ANZECC) guidelines for the protection of aquatic ecosystems (0.1 mg/L red dashed line on graph below) and livestock health.

In addition, on the 28 March 2012 the EPA undertook some localised lake edge testing on the western side of Lake Albert of oxidised nitrogen (nitrate and nitrite) levels, which confirmed that localised oxidised nitrogen levels around the edges of the lake do not differ greatly from those found in the main lake water body. This is likely due to the regular wind mixing and seiching of water within Lake Albert.

All of the oxidised nitrogen levels were measured by the Australian Water Quality Centre’s NATA accredited independent laboratory.

For more information contact the Lakes Hub.



## 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:

<https://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMWD/Pages/default.aspx>

[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

DATE 2012 MAY 28 - JUN 1

Data received from [http://e-nrims.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/](http://e-nrims.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/Telemetry/Default.aspx?App=RMW)

[Telemetry/Default.aspx?App=RMW](http://e-nrims.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/Telemetry/Default.aspx?App=RMW)

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
28	GOOLWA	0.797	421
29		0.707	402
30		0.696	384
31		0.639	357
1		0.616	368
	AVERAGE	0.691	386
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
28	MILANG JETTY	0.840	523
29		0.815	526
30		0.800	524
31		0.746	560
1		0.705	568
	AVERAGE	0.781	540
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
28	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.855	284
29		0.815	285
30		0.793	285
31		0.734	322
1		0.695	358
	AVERAGE	0.778	307
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
28	MENINGIE JETTY	0.864	3905
29		0.848	3882
30		0.823	3871
31		0.770	3853
1		0.736	3824
	AVERAGE	0.808	3867
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
28	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.904	4330
29		0.888	4187
30		0.830	4297
31		0.820	4188
1		0.784	4349
	AVERAGE	0.845	4270

### May averages 2012

Water level salt (EC)

Goolwa	0.685	451
Milang jetty	0.739	565
Raukkan	0.746	389
Meningie	0.779	3880
Warrengie	0.814	4591

### May averages 2011

	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
Clayton	0.608	655
Milang	0.643	411
H.Island	0.543	6518
Albert	0.691	6841

## 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.

JUNE 2012	
1	<b>Turkindi – Reconciliation week celebration Mt Barker – For more information</b> <a href="http://www.dcmtbarker.sa.gov.au">www.dcmtbarker.sa.gov.au</a>
2	<b>Rodwell Creek/Wistow Landcare Group Inc</b> Field Day - Native Food Plants. More info Jill Taylor, 8537 5265, Ian Blight 8391 2536, Beryl Belford 8536 4052 or <a href="mailto:bbelford@activ8.net.au">bbelford@activ8.net.au</a>
3	
4	
5	<b>World Environment Day</b> <b>Milang</b> : Community Planting season opening -planting day. Pobbybonk Point Milang – all welcome Contact Deb Melville 0448959699 <b>Meningie</b> : Community planting season opening – planting day. Meningie foreshore – all welcome Contact Andrew Dawes 8575 1830 or 0427751488 <b>Trees For Life</b> – Intro bush regeneration workshop, Strathalbyn. More info ; phone 8406 0500 <b>MDBNRM workshop</b> – Murray Darling Basin Plan – Community prioritisation workshop –Goolwa Info : RSVP to <a href="mailto:samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au">samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au</a> or ph: (08) 8532 9100.
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11	<b>Public holiday—Queens birthday</b>
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17	<b>Community planting—Milang.</b> Volunteers needed Contact : Deb Melville <a href="mailto:mecnursery@lakeshub.com">mecnursery@lakeshub.com</a> or 85370808
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19	<b>MDBNRM workshop</b> – Murray Darling Basin Plan – Project development workshops –Goolwa Info : RSVP to <a href="mailto:samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au">samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au</a> or ph:
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27	<b>Community planting—Milang.</b> Volunteers needed Contact : Deb Melville <a href="mailto:mecnursery@lakeshub.com">mecnursery@lakeshub.com</a> or 85370808
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