

The Lakes Hub is an initiative of the Milang and District Community Association Inc. 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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## From the Air

Good afternoon Everyone,

I was lucky enough to get the chance to tag along with some of the members of the Community Advisory Panel (CAP) this morning on a flight over the Lakes & Coorong and here are some of my photos. It struck me how privileged we are to live and work in such an incredibly beautiful and important region! I was also reminded of the scale of dramatic and permanent change we have made to our environment and what a responsibility we have to look after it!  
Sobering!

Enjoy the sunshine! Best Wishes, Amelia



Above: Milang. Left: Parnka Point, Coorong.



Below: Containment curtain, barge and dredge working on the Currency Creek Regulator removal.

## The weekly links...

The latest edition of DEWNR's electronic **Volunteer Newsletter** '*The Link*' is now online. You can view it at: [www.environment.sa.gov.au/Get\\_Involved/Volunteering\\_with\\_DEWNR/Volunteer\\_news](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/Get_Involved/Volunteering_with_DEWNR/Volunteer_news)

**The Food Forest is** a 15ha property in Gawler that offer courses on permaculture, sustainable house design and fruit & nut growing and their website is full of fact sheets, interesting papers, submissions, videos and more see: [www.foodforest.com.au](http://www.foodforest.com.au)

**Sustainable products shopping guide:** <http://www.ecochick.com/eco-directory.html>

[Breakthrough in solar efficiency by UNSW team ahead of its time \(SMH\) May 6, 2013](#)

Australian scientists have found a way of hugely increasing the **efficiency of solar panels** while substantially reducing their cost. The University of NSW researchers have come up with improvements in photovoltaic panel design that had not been expected for another decade.

## South Australian Volunteer Awards



### NOW OPEN FOR APPLICATION!

The Minister for Volunteers, Hon Tony Piccolo MP, is seeking nominations for the 2013 State Volunteer Awards, which will be presented at a special ceremony held at the Festival Theatre on South Australia's [Volunteers Day](#), 10 June 2013.

The State Volunteer Awards recognise the invaluable work volunteers, community organisations and businesses contribute to the South Australian community.

Nominations can be made in the following categories:

**Joy Noble Medal** — honours individual volunteers and is South Australia's highest distinction for recognising the outstanding efforts of an individual volunteer within the State.

[Download guidelines and nomination form](#) —

<http://www.ofv.sa.gov.au/pdfs/AwardsPremierCorporateform2013.pdf>

**Premier's Award for Corporate Social Responsibility** — acknowledges the invaluable contribution of South Australian businesses to the community through philanthropy, partnership and volunteer programs.

[Download guidelines and nomination form](#) —

<http://www.ofv.sa.gov.au/pdfs/AwardsPremierCorporateform2013.pdf>

**'The Andamooka' Community Project Award** — recognises community projects where the contribution of volunteers has resulted in significant community benefit.

[Download guidelines and nomination form](#)

<http://www.ofv.sa.gov.au/pdfs/AwardsPremierCorporateform2013.pdf>

Any member of the public can nominate eligible recipients for these awards and self nominations are accepted.

**Nominations close on Friday, 10 May 2013**

## EPA Monitoring in CLLMM Region

The EPA will be undertaking zooplankton, water quality, nutrient and microalgae monitoring in the CLLMM region on the following dates. This is subject to the weather.

13th May Southern Coorong

13th May Northern Coorong

14th May Lakes Alexandrina and Albert

14th May Tributaries



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

# Currency Creek Regulator Removal Update

## Activities/Progress to date

- Stage 1 dredging underway; to date dredged 107 lineal metres (swing width 35m) of the first side of mixed material (Eastern side of the Regulator) has been dredge to date.
- Water quality monitoring ongoing, no issues to date reported.
- Construction of the Stage 2 disposal ponds commenced.
- Cultural Monitors have been on site during the construction of the Stage 2 disposal ponds.
- Commenced welding of the Stage 2 disposal pipeline and laying it out along the private properties.

## Outlook for the Coming week:

- Stage 1 dredging ongoing.
- Welding of the Stage 2 disposal pipe ongoing.
- Construction of the Stage 2 disposal ponds ongoing.
- Cultural monitors continue to be on site during construction of the Stage 2 disposal ponds.
- Water quality monitoring ongoing.
- Progress bathymetric survey (Maritime) to be undertaken to monitor progress of stage 1 dredging

(Friday 3 May).



Stage 1: Disposal location showing the silt containment curtain (yellow) and disposal

Stage 2 : Disposal ponds (Treatment pond)



# TALKING HEADS

## Milang Snipe Sanctuary Wetland

Tuesday 28th May 4 - 6 pm

Lakes Hub Milang

Daranda Terrace, Milang



Milang Snipe  
Sanctuary and  
Latham's  
Snipe (inset)

Come along to chat with SA Government Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) and Lakes Hub staff and local residents about the Milang Snipe Sanctuary and the management of this special wetland.

DEWNR Wetlands Project Officer, Kate Mason will be presenting a potential Trial project to deliver Environmental Water to the Milang Snipe Sanctuary. Staff will be present to discuss issues and answer questions from the community, drop in anytime between 4 and 6 pm.

*For more details contact the Lakes Hub (08) 8537 0808*



Department of Environment,  
Water and Natural Resources



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# Aleppo Pines vs Native Pines

Aleppo pine, (*Pinus halopensis*) is a fast-growing tree introduced from the Mediterranean. Aleppo pine is now common throughout South Australia, as it has been widely planted for windbreaks because it is fast growing and drought tolerant. However because it is invasive, it is important to keep Aleppo pine out of native vegetation or to recognise and destroy new infestations before they become established. The most effective course of control is physically removing them. It is important to be able to distinguish the difference between the invasive species and the Native Species - *Callitris*. Several species of *Callitris* grow across the local area, but all have similar identification features to *Callitris gracilis*

## Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halopensis*)

**Needles:** Needles are bright green, often curved or twisted and held together in pairs and are 6-10cm long. Cones are 5-11cm long, 2.5 to 4cm wide and held on long stalks hanging downwards.

**Grow** to around 20m in height and branch above the base.

**Bark:** Scaly, dark grey on outside and red-brown in-side.

**Seeds:** about 6mm long with a wing 25mm long.



Adapted to dry, rocky limestone soils but will grow in other well drained soils. It is drought tolerant and persist in low rainfall areas. Aleppo pine is an aggressive invader of cleared roadsides and native vegetation. It will compete with established vegetation and will eventually dominate the area if left unchecked. The seeds in the cone of the Aleppo pine have a wing which aids in wind dispersal. A mature Aleppo pine is capable of producing as many as 17,000 seeds with a 90% germination rate – these seeds can remain viable for 20-50 years.



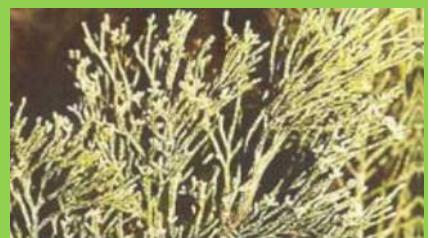
Article by Project Officer Sam Blight

Tatiara LAP - Autumn Newsletter

## Cypress Pine (*Callitris gracilis*)

**Needles:** Small, dark green, in whorls of three.

**Cones:** Globular, woody cone, slightly wrinkled, 2.5-3cm diameter, with slightly scattered warts, solitary or clustered, containing many seeds. Cone remains open on trees for many years. Grow to Bushy stunted tree or straight erect tree, 5 -15m high, **Bark:**



Persistent to the small branches, dark grey in colour and irregularly fissured. **Seeds:** Brown in colour, ovoid with 2 broad wings, about 6-8mm wide.



Southern cypress-pine grows in well drained deep sandy to sandy loam soils associated with woodlands and mallee open scrub on shallow lime-stone soils. It often forms woodlands with other species such as eucalypts.

Cypress timber and products have been widely used by Aborigines and constitute an important part of



Australia's forestry heritage. Its timber has been used historically for fence posts and buildings due to its natural resistance to termites. It is an important habitat plants that provides nesting sites and food for native bird species including Major Mitchell Cockatoos and Galahs.



You are invited to a morning tea to celebrate:

**Meningie Tourism**

Launching a brand new eco-tourism experience in Meningie:

**Canoe the Coorong – Pelican Island Tour**

SA's only bushranger:

**Birdman of the Coorong**

Releasing a brand new Coorong Country tourist map and website:

**Discover Murray**

Nestled in the iconic Murray River, Lakes & Coorong region, Meningie is fast developing into a tourist destination in its own right thanks to the support and dedication of the local community, industry, government and private enterprise working in collaboration. The mission has been to build a visitor experience that plays on the unique environmental assets of this very special place in the world. This event will showcase a unique eco-tourism display and presentations that will highlight Meningie Tourism today and plans for the future.

**Date:** Wednesday 15 May 2013

**Time:** 10:30am – 12:00pm

**Venue:** Meningie Cheese Factory Restaurant.

3 Fiebig Road, Meningie.

**Cost:** Free

**RSVP:** Monday 6 May 2013

**p:** (08) 8535 7170

**e:** [information@rdamurraylands.org.au](mailto:information@rdamurraylands.org.au)



[www.southaustralia.com](http://www.southaustralia.com)





# “Boom or Bust” Change Exchange

## Community observations of environmental change 2006-2013 in the SA Murray-Darling Basin

On the back of the success of the 2012 event, Natural Resources SA Murray-Darling Basin is running another monitoring showcase where monitoring groups, agencies and researchers will have the opportunity to meet, share experiences and showcase their monitoring programs. Boom or Bust is about noticing the peaks and troughs that characterise our natural systems. There will be a few speakers to set the scene for the day but the main focus is on hearing your story of monitoring and detecting change in and around the SA Murray-Darling Basin

**Thursday, 16th May 2013**

**TIME:**

9.30 to 3.30 pm

**Keynote Speaker 1: Dr. Kerri Muller**

(Kerri Muller NRM). Kerri will speak about the use of aquatic life as indicators for predicting change.

**Keynote Speaker 2: Dr. Patrick O'Connor**

(O'Connor NRM). Patrick will talk about the boom & bust in agricultural systems and how they relate to what we see in natural systems.

- Participant presentations on their monitoring activities and findings
- New projects in the SA MDB region
- Citizen Science
- Panel discussion
- Exchange of ideas
- Mapping of observations

**LOCATION:**

Murray Bridge & District Community Club  
Sturt Reserve, Murray Bridge SA

**COST:**

FREE, proudly funded by Caring For Our Country

To register or for further information visit

<http://www.samdbnrm.sa.gov.au/>

or contact Greg Lundstrom

Senior Project Officer - Community Monitoring / Climate & Energy





# NatureMaps Training

Presented by Tony Randall, Goolwa to Wellington LAP

Learn how to use the ever popular GIS software with NatureMaps

Training will cover (but is not limited to):

- Call up a map
- Set your area and style of map
- Overlay online data sets and information
- Download and enter GPS points
- Save your data maps on line
- Any other questions you may have.

**Where:** Computer Room, Strathalbyn High School (old library)

**When:** Wednesday, 22 May 2013, 3:00pm - 7:30pm (light supper provided)

**RSVP:** 29 May 2013

**Spaces are limited - RSVP today!**

This training is available free of charge to NRM Volunteers and LAP Staff. For more information or to RSVP please contact Danielle Packer on phone (08) 8580 1830 or email [danielle.packer@sa.gov.au](mailto:danielle.packer@sa.gov.au)



**Natural Resources**  
SA Murray-Darling Basin



Government  
of South Australia



## NRM Education

Supporting environmental sustainability in schools.

# Free PD Session: How to make the most of your outdoor classroom

Come along and hear about the benefits and principles of outdoor learning, participate in hands-on sessions and network with other teachers making a difference to the sustainability curriculum in their schools.

**Term 2, Week 5**

**Thursday May 30th**

**MONARTO ZOO**

**Indaba Bush Camp**

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Meet at the Monarto front gate at 4 pm to be escorted to the Indaba Bush Camp.

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**TIME:**

4.00 pm for afternoon tea

4.30 - 6.30 pm for PD session

Finger food provided throughout the evening.

**COST:**

FREE. Proudly funded by Caring For Our Country and the NRM levy.

**FREE EDUCATION RESOURCES TO TAKE AWAY.**

**PD CERTIFICATES PROVIDED.**

See over for registration form.

**RSVP by 22 May. Please return registration form by fax to Angela on 8391 7524.**



CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY

**Natural Resources**  
SA Murray-Darling Basin



Government  
of South Australia

# News Release

Monday, April 08 2013

## Minecraft challenge to inspire botanic gardens of the future

Tech-savvy primary school students are invited to use their Minecraft skills to create their ideal botanic garden of the future. The Crafting A Dream Garden competition is part of the 2013 Come Out Festival.

Minecraft is a downloadable computer program which allows players to build constructions out of textured cubes in a 3D generated world. Students are encouraged to think outside the box, be creative and share their impression of what a botanic garden should be.

"The Botanic Gardens of Adelaide are always looking for new ways to engage with younger generations and connect them with the important role of plants" says Michael Shanahan, Manager Communications Technology, Botanic Gardens of Adelaide.

"Earlier this year, we introduced digital tablets for the school education program and we also use the MyParx app to share information and exciting tours that the public can access through their smart phone. The community is already comfortable with using these new technologies and we are excited to see how students respond to this new competition"

Entries will be evaluated on a range of criteria, including originality and creativity, how beautiful and inspiring the garden is, diversity, sustainability and overall technical skill. Entries close Friday May 17.

"This challenge asks the students to think deeply about the importance of a botanic garden and gives them an opportunity to share their vision with us. Who knows what brilliant ideas they may uncover!" says Mr Shanahan. The winning entries will be published on the Botanic Gardens education website and there are excellent prizes up for grabs, including iPad minis and free hosted school excursion to Adelaide Botanic Garden for their class, including entry to one of our 2013 focus events. For more information, including terms and conditions, please visit <http://www.botanic.sa.edu.au>

Education @ Adelaide Botanic Garden uses Adelaide Botanic Garden as a living museum to learn about the fascinating world of plants and their importance to all life on earth. Programs include science, sustainability, history, geography, literacy and language, using a discovery based learning across the curriculum approach.

For more information visit:

[www.environment.sa.gov.au/botanicgardens/home](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/botanicgardens/home)



Government  
of South Australia

Department of Environment,  
Water and Natural Resources

Education at Adelaide Botanic Gardens is made possible by a partnership between Botanic Gardens of Adelaide and the Department for Education and Child Development

Botanic Gardens  
of ADELAIDE



ADELAIDE  
MOUNT LOFTY  
WITTUNGA

## On the Level

### Lake Levels (AHD)

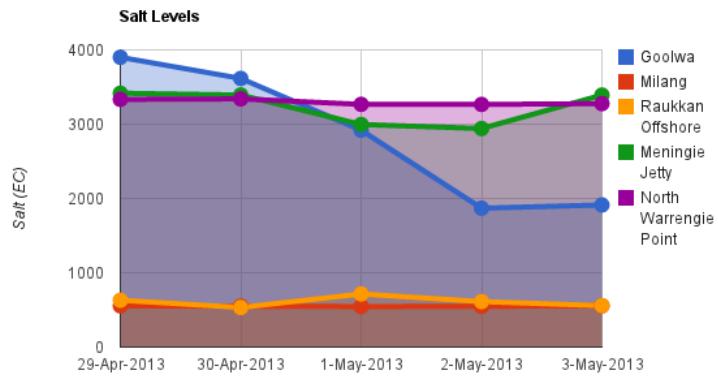
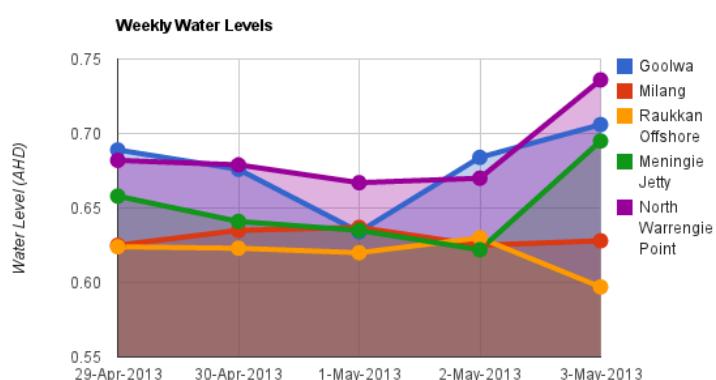
Date	Goolwa (H.I. Bridge)	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
29-Apr	0.689	0.625	0.624	0.658	0.682
30-Apr	0.676	0.635	0.623	0.641	0.679
1-May	0.634	0.637	0.62	0.635	0.667
2-May	0.684	0.625	0.63	0.622	0.67
3-May	0.706	0.628	0.597	0.695	0.736
Average	<b>0.678</b>	<b>0.630</b>	<b>0.619</b>	<b>0.650</b>	<b>0.687</b>

### Salt Levels (EC)

Date	Goolwa (H.I. Bridge)	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
29-Apr	3901	555	630	3417	3334
30-Apr	3616	551	533	3393	3341
1-May	2919	545	715	2996	3267
2-May	1869	548	612	2942	3266
3-May	1913	556	557	3392	3277
Average	<b>2844</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>3228</b>	<b>3297</b>

Data received from: [www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMWD/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMWD/Pages/default.aspx)

Please note: salinity levels in the Goolwa Channel can be influenced by tidal ingress.



## 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: [Water Connect](#), [Daily Flow Report](#), [River Murray Storage 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)

For the latest River Murray Flow Report and Water Resources Update - 16th November 2012 visit: <http://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au>

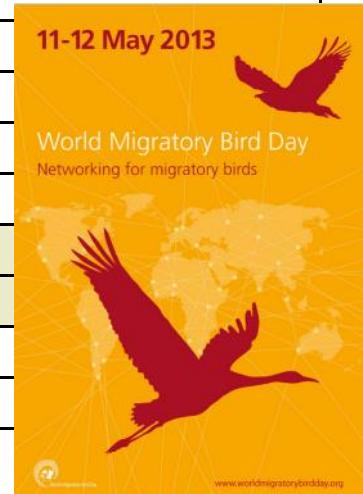
Some electrical conductivity ranges	
Water type	Electrical conductivity ( $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ )
Deionised water	0.5-3
Pure rainwater	<15
Freshwater rivers	0 - 800
Marginal river water	800 - 1600
Brackish water	1600 - 4800
Saline water	> 4800
Seawater	51 500
Industrial waters	100 - 10000

Source: Suttor S.,  
Ribbons of Blue  
Handbook.  
Scitech, Victoria,  
1990.

## 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.

May 2013	
6	6-11 International Composting Awareness Week (Centre for Organic & Resource Enterprises) <a href="http://www.compostweek.com.au">www.compostweek.com.au</a>
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	World Migratory Bird Day <a href="http://www.worldmigratorybirdday.org">www.worldmigratorybirdday.org</a>
12	Doctors Creek Landcare Group Bushland Management Workshop ph 8338 9061
13	13-19th National Volunteer Week - <a href="http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org">www.volunteeringaustralia.org</a>
14	
15	CLLMM Project Officer Meeting 10.30am Wyngate phone Lakes Hub 8537 0808 Meningie Tourism Launch 10.30am—noon ph 8535 7170
16	Boom or Bust Change Exchange Community Observations of Environmental Change 2006-2013 Murray Bridge
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	International Day for Biological Diversity - UN <a href="http://www.cbd.int/idb/">www.cbd.int/idb/</a> Naturemaps Training Strathalbyn 3 -7.30pm ph 8580 1830
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	Talking Heads Milang Snipe Sanctuary Milang Hub 4 - 6pm ph 8537 0808
29	
30	NRM Ed Training 'How to make the most of your outdoor classroom' 4 - 6.30 pm ph 8391 7524



### Disclaimer

All the links and articles in this Bulletin are provided as a courtesy to recipients. While I try and keep these links and articles as up-to-date as possible, I can't guarantee their accuracy, adequacy, timeliness, or completeness.

In addition, the existence of a link to another site or resource does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement of that site or resource. The Lakes Hub does not accept responsibility or liability for any information at any of the sites linked to from this Bulletin.

If you feel a link description, site, piece of advice or anything else mentioned here is inappropriate, do [let me know](#) and I will endeavour to correct it where necessary.