



Weekly Bulletin

The Lakes Hub is an initiative of the Milang and District Community Association Inc. funded by the Australian Government and the South Australian Government's Murray Futures program.

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Lakes Hub Welcomes Funding Partners

Our Australian Government partners were given a tour of key CLLMM project sites on Monday 18 August. The Department of the Environment staffers enjoyed sunny weather as they saw the on-ground progress of CLLMM projects based around Lake Albert and the Barrages and the fantastic and complex work that the local community and Government are progressing in the region.

A number of planting and fencing sites were visited, including those planted under the Community Revegetation Program. Sedge plantings at Meningie were also showcased as an example of community and Government working together to achieve mutual outcomes. The sedge planting program has built upon a technique pioneered by Ken Strother to manage shoreline erosion around the Lower Lakes.

The officers visited Meningie, where they spoke to Karyn Bradford and Andrew Dawes about the future of the Lakes Hubs with the newly approved funding. The connection between the Lakes Hub, situated next to Cottage Industries, and the Meningie Lake Front Project was showcased. The site allows visitors to walk along the interpretative path to gain an appreciation of the environmental, social and cultural values of the area, followed by more in depth discussion with Hubs staff about the Ramsar wetland.

"Furthering the promotion of community participation within the Ramsar wetland will be a focus of the Lakes Hubs over the next two years" Karyn said.

A visit to Camp Coorong in the afternoon was a great opportunity for the Australian Government officers to meet with Ngarrindjeri representatives and discuss their involvement in the Meningie Lakefront Habitat Restoration Project. The group watched a [YouTube video](#) promoting the outcomes and people involved . This was followed by a tour over the barrages to discuss the Lake Albert Scoping Study and Construction of Fishways projects. Construction on the Boundary Creek fishway, one of five under the project, is expected to commence later this year. The Lake Albert Scoping Study, which was developed in consultation with a community reference group, is now under consideration. The outcomes of the Study will be made fully available to the public.

The tour provided a fantastic overview of these projects and gave community members involved in these projects an opportunity to meet the officers and promote their great work.

The tour was part of a working group that helps to manage the CLLMM Recovery Project which is funded by the South Australian Government's Murray Futures program and the Australian Government.



Media Release

Watering strategy up for comment



Interested people are invited to give feedback on a draft long-term strategy for environmental watering in the Murray–Darling Basin.

Murray–Darling Basin Authority spokeswoman Jody Swirepik said that once finalised, the strategy would help guide watering activities across the basin so the best environmental outcomes could be achieved.

“It’s through environmental watering that we can restore the health of the basin so it’s running well from top to bottom, and best placed to survive drought and support basin communities and industries.

“The strategy sets out what we want to achieve for the basin in the long term, and how we best achieve that, including how governments, groups and communities can work together to get the best results.

“The basin is a connected river system, which means what happens in one part affects another.

“That’s why it’s important that we have a clear vision that everyone can work towards so watering is not only well coordinated across the basin, but is also getting the most out of the available water.”

Key outcomes identified in the draft strategy are improved flows and connectivity, vegetation, fish and waterbirds.

Ms Swirepik said all of these had suffered declines as a result of how water is captured, extracted and managed in the basin. They are also good indicators of health and will respond well to environmental watering.

The strategy will guide environmental water holders and managers across the basin with their local planning and watering activities, and when setting their environmental watering priorities each year.

Ms Swirepik said there had been intensive work done over the past year to draw on the expertise of scientific and technical experts for the draft strategy.

“Considerable effort has gone into working with experts like ecologists, river operators, hydrological modellers and governments, including water holders and managers, to determine the right strategies to guide environmental watering across the basin,” Ms Swirepik said.

“We’re now at a point where we want to hear the public’s views on what’s been developed so far. In particular, we’d like to hear from people who are familiar with the rivers and or environmental watering activities in the basin.”

The Basin-wide Environmental Watering Strategy is a key component of work under the Basin Plan. It will be up for public comment from today until the end of September.

All feedback will be closely considered before the final strategy is completed and published at the end of the year. People can provide their feedback via the MDBA website at www.mdba.gov.au

A series of community meetings being held in the southern basin in early September will provide an opportunity for people wanting to hear more about environmental watering and the draft strategy. [Click for more details:](#)



2014 National Landcare People's Choice Award



With sixty-nine finalists across nine diverse categories, there are plenty of worthy winners, however it's up to the public to decide who will be this year's National Landcare People's Choice Award winner.

You can show your support by voting on the [Peoples Choice Awards Website](#) and there are some local entrants who have made outstanding contributions to Landcare in the River, Lakes and Coorong region.
CLOSING DATE FOR VOTING : SEPTEMBER 17th at 6pm.

Australian Government Partnerships with Landcare Award

Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association has been contracted to deliver the Community Revegetation Project, part of the South Australian Government project – the Murray Futures program – funded by the Australian Government's Water for the Future initiative. At the end of the planting season in August 2013, volunteers from more than 54 community groups (in excess of 3000 volunteers per annum) were expected to have planted 951,770 seedlings on a total of 97 sites since 2010. The groups involved include Landcare, catchment and friends of parks groups but also include a large number of non-environment focused groups such as sporting clubs, schools and disability support organisations. All groups are from within the local area.

Australian Government Landcare Facilitator or Coordinator Award

BERYL BELFORD There are many aspects to Beryl's passion for the environment and her work with Landcare – from a paddock, regional and state level. Beryl has played a key role in ensuring the community Landcare groups remain foremost amongst the many environmental amalgamations.

Australian Government Innovation in Sustainable Farm Practices Award

Mallee Sustainable Farming was established almost two decades ago to investigate and assist farmers in collaboration with Natural Resources SA Murray-Darling Basin, CSIRO, Rural Solutions and agribusiness – the mallee has approximately 1500 dryland farming families whose farming activities include cropping and livestock. The group delivers research and extension services for low rainfall dryland farmers in the mallee cropping regions of South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria and operates over 7 million hectares.

Junior Landcare Team Award

WAIKERIE PRIMARY SCHOOL Youth Environment Team (YET) is leading schools and communities within the region and continues to grow each year. Through the ethos of the Landcare movement's symbolic hands, YET aims to influence and educate the hands, hearts and minds of their community to help sustain Australia. With their amazing community partners, in particular RWLandcare, their work covers protection of the vulnerable Regent Parrot, revegetation and sustainability practices at Hart Lagoon and Banrock Station Conservation Parks and supporting the Childcare Centre in establishing Gardens and sharing knowledge of Indigenous culture.

Coastcare Award

FRIENDS OF HOODED PLOVERS Fleurieu Peninsula, also known as Hoodie Helpers, play a key role in Hooded Plover Monitoring on South Australia's Fleurieu Peninsula coastline. Since 2009, about 40 volunteers have dedicated a staggering 2,420 hours to monitoring and managing nesting birds and raising awareness in the community as part of a program run by Natural Resources Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges and BirdLife Australia. The volunteers monitor breeding Hooded Plover pairs, nests and eggs, and fledgling chicks and contribute their information to a broader national database managed by BirdLife Australia – this is a key example of citizen science at local scales being built into a landscape scale 'big picture' for bettering conservation outcomes.

History spot

MENINGIE TOWN HALL

The Meningie Town Hall was originally opened in March 1889 as the Council Chambers, and has housed many activities including the town library, visitor information and now Coorong Cottage Industries and the Lakes Hub.

As part of the Hall's 125th birthday Coorong Cottage Industries is holding a series of displays and exhibitions throughout the year. During August they are featuring a marvellous display of clothing through the ages, which is well worth a visit.

For more information visit the [Murray Valley Standard article](#)



Right: Clothing displayed from the 1940's to 1960's



1940, childrens boots with metal nailed to the sole similar to a horse shoe.



Formal Army officers mess jacket 1918!

Metallic Sun-orchid *Thelymitra epipactoides*

Threatened Flora of the South Australian Murray Darling Basin
Endangered

Metallic Sun-orchid *Thelymitra epipactoides*

Description

- This species grows in a strong, upright manner to a height of 20-50 cm.
- The single leaf is long and fleshy, lance-shaped at the end but tube-like at the base.
- Flower spikes comprise between 6 and 18 flowers.
- Flower colour is a peculiar iridescent greyish-green with pinkish tints, sometimes brown with a metallic lustre.

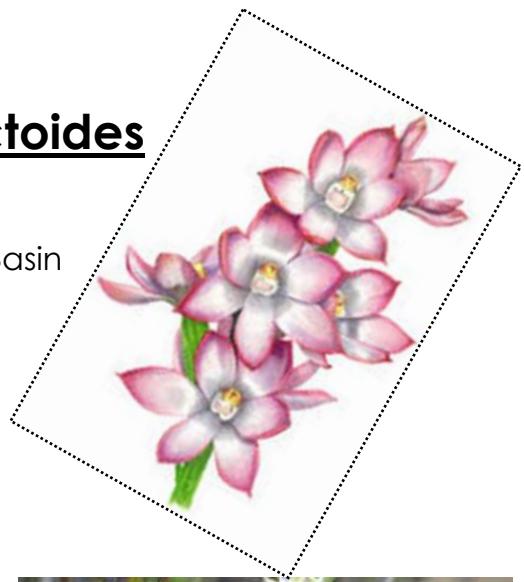
Ecology

- Flowering occurs between September and November
- Seed is released in December.
- Plants become dormant from the end of December to February.

Conservation rating

Metallic Sun-orchid (*T. epipactoides*) is listed as nationally **endangered**. Less than 90 plants remain in the South Australian Murray Darling Basin. **Conservation rating**

Metallic Sun-orchid (*T. epipactoides*) is listed as nationally **endangered**. Less than 90 plants remain in the South Australian Murray Darling Basin.



Major threats include grazing by a variety of animals including rabbits, kangaroos, stock, and possibly caterpillars and snails. Highly invasive weed species including Bridal Creeper and Perennial Veldt Grass are competing with this species at some sites. Many of the populations are small and isolated which reduces their ability to successfully reproduce and survive. Illegal collection of plants and picking of flowers may be threatening some populations.

Continued.....

Metallic Sun-orchid growing in a heathland habitat.

Distribution

Metallic Sun-orchid is found in South Australia and Victoria.

It has a scattered distribution which represents a fraction of its former distribution. Within the South Australian Murray Darling Basin populations can be found near

- Tailem Bend
- Coonalpyn
- Meningie

photos courtesy of C. Obst, M. Rose

Compiled by Environmental and Biodiversity Services



Metallic Sun-orchid occurs naturally in very open woodland or mallee dominated by heath species in the understorey.

The overstorey of the woodland communities are dominated by;

- Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxylon* ssp. *leucoxylon*)
- Southern Cypress Pine (*Callitris preissii*)
- Drooping Sheoak (*Allocasuarina verticillata*)

The overstorey of the mallee communities are dominated by;

- Coastal White Mallee (*Eucalyptus diversifolia*)

Understorey plants are typically dominated by native heaths and sedges including;

- Muntries (*Kunzea pomifera*)
- Black Rapier-sedge (*Lepidosperma carphoides*)

Biodiversity Conservation Programs

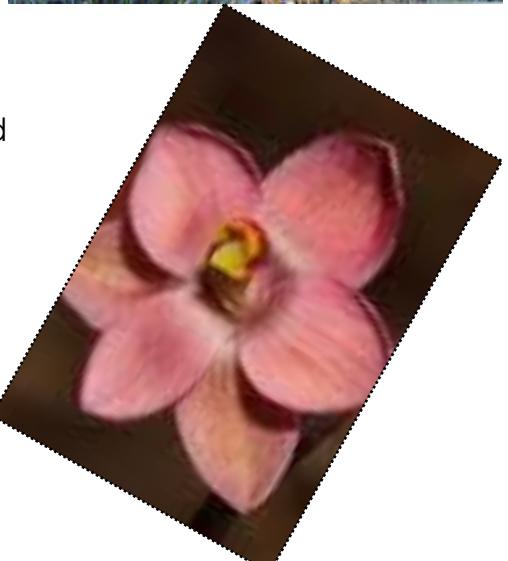
Department for Environment and Heritage

Telephone (08) 8222 9422

www.environment.sa.gov.au

Link to the [Distribution of Metallic Sun-orchid in the SA Murraylands PDF](#)

Further Information [Department of Environment Link](#)





**NATIVE ORCHID WALK
COORONG-TATIARA LAP OFFICER
With SAM BLIGHT
ALONG THE LIONS NATURE TRAIL
MENINGIE**

**11th September 2014
10.30am**

**Preliminary notice
Details in next Bulletin**



Bookings and RSVP by 10th September 2014

**Lakes Hub Milang
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info@lakeshub.com
Meningie 8575830
meningie@lakeshub.com
www.lakeshub.com**



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Government of South Australia
Department of Environment,
Water and Natural Resources

Frog Monitoring Workshop

Lakes Hub Meningie

Wednesday 3rd September 4:30—6:00pm

Come along to this free workshop and learn all about our local frog species which includes the Vulnerable listed Southern Bell Frog and how you can help this frog monitoring season by “Adopting a Frog Monitoring site” to monitor once a month from September through to January.

All it takes is a 5 minute recording of the frog species calling and completing a datasheet once a month at your adopted site!

Topics covered at this workshop will include frog identification, use of equipment in the frog monitoring loan kits and there will be live frog specimens on display.

To register your interest please contact Regina Durbridge
0427 364 551 or email regina.durbridge@gwlap.org.au



Government of South Australia
Department of Environment,
Water and Natural Resources



Where are all the Southern Bell Frogs? Adopt a Frog Monitoring Site!

Natural Resources—SA Murray-Darling Basin and the Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association need your help!

The Vulnerable listed Southern Bell frog was only found at two sites during 2013 Frog Monitoring in the CLLMM region compared with six sites in 2010. We are looking for community members and groups to Adopt a Frog Monitoring site/s for the 2014 Frog Monitoring Season. All it takes is a 5 minute recording of the frog species calling and completing a datasheet once a month from September through to January.

Frog monitoring loan kits will be available and a series of Frog monitoring workshops will be held in the region during September.

To register your interest please contact Regina Durbridge
0427 364 551 or email regina.durbridge@gwlap.org.au



Government of South Australia
Department of Environment,
Water and Natural Resources





*Annual FREE walk in memory of
Professor Sir John Cleland*

The Friends of Belair National Park

invite you to

a FREE Historic Guided Walk

in

Belair National Park

Sunday 14th September 2014

10 am to noon (approx)

followed by a barbecue, (gold coin donation)

**Meet at the Volunteer Centre, Long Gully,
in Belair National Park.**

**Note: FREE entry to the Park for participants,
and free tea and coffee from the volunteers.**

BYO snacks, water.

Wear walking shoes, a hat, sunscreen and jacket

Enquiries: friendsofbelairpark@msn.com or phone 8278 2370.

*While you are in Belair National Park,
Old Government House is also open for tours Sunday 1 to 4 pm.*





Bushcare's Major Day Out 2014

Join us...and be part of a nation-wide day of action for the bush

aimed at encouraging us all to take part in the restoration and conservation of our remaining bushland. Find out more about our bushland and what is being done in your local area.

Sunday 14 September

Goolwa

1:30, 2:30 or 3:30pm

Open day, walk, or try bushcare

Take part in 1 of 3 short guided walks taking off at the above times, and give bushcare a try if you'd like to.

Alexandrina Council's Draft Management Plan for Walter Newell Reserve, will also be on display for consultation.



Directions:

Walter Newell Reserve, Ferguson Road, Goolwa Beach
Parking in Sexton Avenue - Meet at end of Sexton Ave.

UBD REF:

Map 307, Ref K9

Please bring:

Your own water

We'll supply:

All tools and equipment

Afternoon tea will be provided by the local volunteers

Please wear:

Suitable clothes for the weather (hat, warm clothes, rain jacket), long pants and long sleeves for protection from vegetation and insects. Boots or sturdy shoes, with good grip.

Please note:

Bushcare activities are suitable for those in general good health. There is no heavy lifting, but there is some bending and squatting involved, as well as walking over uneven terrain.



REGISTRATIONS ESSENTIAL - 8406 0500 or email info@treesforlife.org.au

www.bushcaresmajordayout.org

<http://www.treesforlife.org.au/>

Up/Coming Events

LIVESTOCK WATER QUALITY WORKSHOP

FREE WATER ANALYSIS AND ON FARM RECOMMENDATIONS OFFERED



awI Australian Wool Innovation Limited

TOPICS: included in individual

- Understanding the impacts of different feeds and pasture on water palatability and consumption
- Understanding a water analysis
- Management options for problem water sources
- The importance of water quality and its impacts of livestock production

Natural Resources South East



Australian Government



Landcare



Regional Landcare Facilitator

Hosted by South East Natural Resources Management Board for the South East region





This workshop is designed around the results of a free individual water test. The results will be shared for all participants to learn from. **An approx 1 litre water sample in clean washed container will need to be submitted to the Coorong District Council Office in Tintinara by no later than 12.00pm on Tuesday 12th of August with the attached Livestock Water Sample Sheet filled out.** Please contact Graham Gates on 0427 572 330 if you intend to submit a water sample, **or if you will have trouble getting the sample to us on time.** All samples submitted by producers prior to the workshop will have an individual report and management recommendations produced at no cost.

Date: Tuesday 2nd September

Time: 12.30pm for a light lunch
1pm - 5pm

Water Quality Workshop

Location:
Tintinara Health & Rec Centre
Wendt Terrace Tintinara

- Water samples due in by Tues 12.08.14

- Workshop registration by Wed 27.08.14

To lodge a water sample or register contact Graham Gates:

Email: gates@coorong.sa.gov.au

Text or call: 0427 572 330





Plan . Prepare . Plant

Learn how to get your garden ready for Spring planting!

When ? Tuesday 2nd September

from 9.30—11.30am

Have you always loved the idea of building your own veggie garden but aren't quite sure how to go about it?

Why not come along to this "down-to-earth" workshop at the Milang Community Garden and learn how to best Plan, Prepare & Plant your favorite veggie, herb or salad.

Remember! Planting is only the third step of the three 'P's!

For bookings please ring MOSHCC on 08/85370687 or simply call in!

Cost: Gold coin donation

MILANG OLD SCHOOL HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE

**For registration meet at MOSHCC @ 9.15am
Workshop will be at the local Community Garden
Only a short walk down the road!**

Plant YOUR OWN GARDEN AND decorate YOUR OWN soul, INSTEAD OF WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO BRING YOU flowers.





Invitaiton

Sunday 21st September 2014

From 10 a.m. to 4 pm.

Worlds End conservation manages 2 native habitat properties (about 1000hectares) for conservation, South of Burra.

Activities

- ♦ **4WD and guided walking tours of both prperties**
- ♦ **Wildflower walks**
- ♦ **Bird watching and identification with experts**

More information click below.

[file:///C:/Users/LakesHub/Downloads/WEC%20open%20day%20invitation%202014%20\(3\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/LakesHub/Downloads/WEC%20open%20day%20invitation%202014%20(3).pdf)





The Essential Services Commission of South Australia (ESCOSA) is seeking your input into mains water pricing in SA.

Are you paying too much for Mains Water?

- **How much are you paying for water?**
- **How is it affecting your business viability?**
- **How much have you spent on water savings initiatives?**
- **Come and have your say.**

On the 16th July 2014, the Essential Services Commission of South Australia released its draft Inquiry report into reform options for SA Water's Drinking Water and Sewerage Prices. The report, and accompanying documents, can be found on their website: <http://www.escosa.sa.gov.au/projects/189/inquiry-into-drinking-water-and-sewerage-retail-services-pricing-reform.aspx>.

The Commission welcomes comment from all interested parties on the draft findings and recommendations, and will consider all submissions in preparing its Final Report by 31 December 2014. Comments on the draft Inquiry report are required by 10 September 2014.

We are holding a public forum to explain the draft findings and recommendations and to seek community input

Thursday 28th August

Tintinara Hall (Becker Tce)

6.00pm to 9.00pm

You can register for this session by calling Graham Gates on 0427 572330 or email to gates@coorong.sa.gov.au



You are invited to

The Black Faced Shag

South Coast Regional Arts Centre
(Old Goolwa Police Station)

EXHIBITION OPENING

5.30pm Thursday 4 August 2014

PERFORMANCES

7:30pm Saturday 6th & 13th September 2014

Tickets \$20 • Adult Themes • 60 mins
Performance Bookings essential
Goolwa Visitor Information Centre
1300 466 592 • goolwavic@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

EXHIBITION DATES

Friday 5 September to
Sunday 19 October

Gallery hours

Wednesday to Friday 11am to 4pm
Saturday and Sunday
10am to 4pm

1 Goolwa Terrace, Goolwa
Ph: (08) 8555 7289



In 1853 a lone woman, wearing a dress made entirely of cormorant feathers, is rescued from an island off the south coast of South Australia.
How did she get there? What becomes of her?

- Performance
Written and performed by Michelle Murray and Jerra Hill
Photography and projections by Richard Hodges
Musical score is by Gerard Lynch
- Exhibition Artists
Nyorie Bungey, Margie Hooper, Cheryl Anne Brown,
Vicki Luke, Bianca Acimovic and Megan O'Hara.



The Black Faced Shag

On the Level

Lake Levels (AHD)

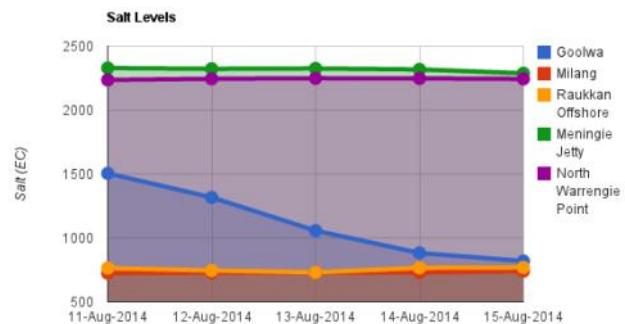
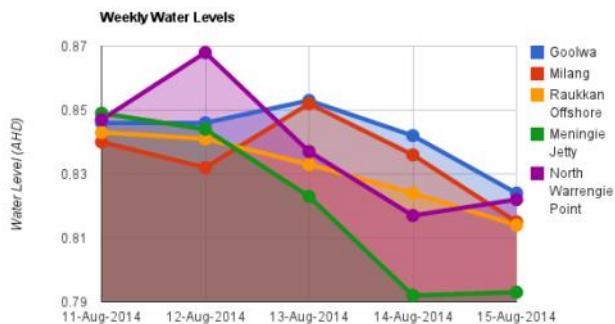
Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
11-Aug	0.846	0.84	0.843	0.849	0.847
12-Aug	0.846	0.832	0.841	0.844	0.868
13-Aug	0.853	0.852	0.833	0.823	0.837
14-Aug	0.842	0.836	0.824	0.792	0.817
15-Aug	0.824	0.815	0.814	0.793	0.822
Average	0.842	0.835	0.831	0.820	0.838

Salt Levels (EC)

Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
11-Aug	1505	724	764	2329	2236
12-Aug	1317	728	745	2323	2245
13-Aug	1057	728	730	2326	2249
14-Aug	882	730	766	2318	2248
15-Aug	819	740	769	2288	2244
Average	1116	730	755	2317	2244

Data received from: 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

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

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.

August 2014	
21	
22	Tolderol Game Reserve Update and General Monitoring
23	
24	Mid Murray LAP Annual General Meeting
25	
26	
27	
28	Essential Services Commission of SA meeting at Tintinara re Mains Water
29	
30	
31	
September	
1	
2	Livestock Water Quality Workshop at Tintinara
3	Friends of Meningie meeting and GWLAP Frog Monitoring Workshop Lakes Hub MENINGIE 4:30-6.00 pm MDBA -Basin Plan Update including draft environmental watering strategy Signal Point GOOLWA 9:00—11:30 am, MURRAY BRIDGE Council Chambers 1.30—4.00 pm
4	MDBA - Basin Plan Update including draft environmental watering strategy RENMARK Club 10.00—12.00pm update, 12.30—2.30 panel session
5	MDBA - Basin Plan Update including draft environmental watering strategy MILDURA—Quality Hotel Mildura Grand 10.00—12.00pm update, 12.30—2.30
6	GWLAP Frog Monitoring Workshop—Ibis Siding Garden Centre 6.30—8.00pm
7	
8	
9	GWLAP Frog Monitoring Workshop — Wellington Courthouse Café 5.30—7.00pm
10	
11	Native Orchid Walk at Meningie at 10.30 PM Frog Monitoring Workshop - ACE SPACE Milang Old School House Community Centre 4:00 to 5:30 pm
12	