

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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## Swampy, in more ways than one...

Hello!

While last bulletin was full of funding opportunities, this one seems full of events fliers. Just goes to show how busy the Coorong and Lower Lakes community is.

Not to get too bogged down in details, many of the upcoming events are celebrating the Coorong Ramsar site turning 30 years old or World Wetlands Day, which is an annual celebration of signing the Ramsar Convention.

The Lakes Hub have helped organise an Environmental Forum and a Film Festival at Goolwa, while the Goolwa to Wellington LAP is launching a new plant ID Guide at Mount Compass.

Given that I am new to the western side of the lakes, I look forward to meeting many of you there!

Keep safe,

*Faith Coleman*



*Yesterday's Power Rally participant, parked outside the Milang Lakes Hub.*



## Youth Photo Competition

To celebrate World Wetlands Day, the Ramsar Convention Secretariat is running a photographic competition for 15-24 year olds.

The winner will receive a free flight to a famous wetland of their choice anywhere in the world. To enter, take a picture of your favourite wetland with your phone or digital camera between **2 February and 2 March 2015**, and upload it to the Ramsar Convention Secretariat's World Wetlands Day 2015 website ([www.worldwetlandsday.org/](http://www.worldwetlandsday.org/)). There is a button on the bottom of the page.

# WETLANDS FOR OUR FUTURE



FREE  
EVENTS

## COORONG AND LAKES ENVIRONMENT FORUM

Friday January 30th 2015 9:30am - 3.30pm  
Alexandrina Council Chambers — 11 Cadell St GOOLWA  
LUNCH PROVIDED — Please RSVP by 28th January to Lakes Hub

### PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

*A day of sharing knowledge and ideas with presentations and open panel discussions with scientists, researchers and community about the health of the Coorong and Lakes. Come and find out more about this unique part of the world.*

## WORLD WETLANDS DAY FILM FESTIVAL

Sunday February 1st 2015 10am - 6 pm  
CENTENARY HALL— 14 Cadell St GOOLWA  
FILMS FOR ALL THE FAMILY



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For further information & RSVP: [info@lakeshub.com](mailto:info@lakeshub.com) or (08) 8537 0808. Programs available [www.lakeshub.com](http://www.lakeshub.com)

World Wetlands Day  
Monday, 2 February 2015



The Living Murray is a joint initiative funded by the NSW, VIC, SA, ACT & Commonwealth governments, coordinated by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority.



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



World Wetlands Day is made possible by the Danone Fund for Water.



Wetlands for our Future

# WORLD WETLANDS DAY



SUN 1<sup>st</sup> FEB. 2015 10 am  
GOOLWA Centenary Hall

**FREE EVENT: FILMS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**

Come for the day or come for a session

Full Program available at [www.lakeshub.com](http://www.lakeshub.com)

Featuring International, Australian and Local Films  
exploring the World Wetlands Day theme;  
"WETLANDS FOR OUR FUTURE"

FLOW

THE WAY OF  
THE BIRDS

PROJECT  
WILD THING

FULL PROGRAM  
[www.lakeshub.com](http://www.lakeshub.com)  
[info@lakeshub.com](mailto:info@lakeshub.com)  
85370808

STORM  
BOY

10:00

10.15

10:25

12:00

12.30

**LUNCH BREAK 1:15 – 1:45** Take the opportunity to patronise local Cittaslow businesses for delicious luncheon fare.

1:45

3:45

4:15

## Welcome and showing of The Ramsar Video – Keeping our planet alive and well

### **WE ARE NGARRINDJERI – Documentary 2014 Aust 4:36 min**

The Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority's Digital Media Team and Change Media have created a short film showing the link between Ngarrindjeri and their lands and waters. Shot in the Coorong, on the Murray River and at the Encounter coast around Port Elliot, Goolwa and Victor Harbor this is an inspiring film featuring several generations of Ngarrindjeri, Elders past and present, and the breadth of Ngarrindjeri culture. The Ngarrindjeri philosophies including excerpts from the Ngarrindjeri Sea Country Plan frame the narration. The film was funded by the Australian Government Indigenous Cultural Support Program.

### **STORM BOY – Drama/Family 1976 Aust 88 min**

Mike Kingsley (Greg Rowe), a sheltered young boy, lives in a remote coastal region of Australia with his reclusive fisherman father, Tom (Peter Cummins).

When a group of hunters kills a majestic pelican and orphans its young on the beach, Mike convinces his father to let him raise the chicks to adulthood. Soon after, Mike

befriends Fingerbone Bill (David Gulpilil), a wise and mysterious Aborigine who dubs the young bird-lover "Storm Boy" and offers him a few life lessons. By kind permission of

the South Australian Film Corporation.

### **THE WAY OF THE BIRDS – Animation 2000 Aust 23 min**

The story of a little girl who thinks she is a bird. One day she finds a dying Eastern Curlew in the backyard and her spirit is transported to the Siberian plains where these great wading birds breed and hatch. She travels with them on their journey across the

world.

The neighbour's kids decide to help her to create a haven which will provide a vital stopover for the migratory birds. Their labours bear fruit: One day an Eastern Curlew lands in the little swamp that they have created to rest and feed to regain strength for the rest of its journey.

AACTA Award fir Best Short Animation 2000

### **THE LONG LUNCH – Documentary 2014 Aust 40 min**

The Long Lunch was a cultural celebration for volunteers in natural resource management in the Coorong, Lakes and River region coordinated by Country Arts SA Change and Adaptation Project. It incorporated a recovery ephemeral arts trail, epic poem, long lunch with table decorations all of which reflected local attitudes to drought recovery.

### **PROJECT WILD THING – Documentary 2013 UK 120 min**

Project Wild Thing is a film led movement to get more kids (and their folks!) outside and reconnecting with nature. The film is an ambitious, feature-length documentary that takes a funny and revealing look at a complex issue, the increasingly disparate connection between children and nature. And Project Wild Thing is much more than a film, this is a growing movement of organisations and individuals who care deeply about the need for nature connected, free-range, roaming and outdoor playing kids in the 21st century. Supported by Parks and Leisure Australia.

### **FLOW – Documentary**



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World Wetlands Day  
Monday, 2 February 2015



## Clayton Bay Foreshore Master Plan – Public Consultation on Draft

Over the past six months Alexandrina Council has been working with WAX Design (landscape architects) and EBS Ecology (environmental consultants) to prepare a 10-year Master Plan for the Clayton Bay Foreshore. The first stage of consultation took place in October 2014 and the second stage of consultation is about to begin.

Copies of the draft Master Plan will be available to view online as of 9am Tuesday 3 February 2015. Hard copies will also be available for the public to view at Sails at Clayton Bay and the Council offices in Goolwa and Strathalbyn. Council will be accepting submissions on the draft Plan for a 4-week period closing 5pm Friday 6 March 2015.

To view the draft Plan and make a submission you will need to visit: <http://mysay.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/ClaytonBayForeshoreMasterPlan>, after the 3rd of February.

You are also invited to attend a presentation on the draft Master Plan by WAX Design. The presentation will be followed by a community Q&A session.

**When:** Saturday 7 February 2015 from 10.30am – 12pm.

**Where:** Clayton Bay Community Hall,  
Cnr Alexandrina Drive & Grand View Drive

**Shen Mann**  
**Environmental Strategy Officer**  
**Alexandrina Council**

Ph: (08) 8555 7000

Fax: (08) 8555 3603

Email: [Shen.Mann@alexandrina.sa.gov.au](mailto:Shen.Mann@alexandrina.sa.gov.au)

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



### Vote for our favourite wetland!

The third round of the Wetland Globe Awards scheme has opened, which aims to highlight good practice at wetland sites, as well as draw attention to wetlands under threat, see press release [here](#).

Civil society groups (e.g. the LAPs and Lakes Hub) spend a lot of time working with, living in and enjoying wetlands, and are often the groups that know these sites the best. This scheme allows local people to nominate wetlands that they know for a Blue Globe Award (good practice) or Grey Globe Award (wetland under threat).

The awards have previously given groups a great tool to run campaigns, to get wetlands noticed by decision makers and governments, and to seek funding and support to protect wetlands. The results will be announced at the Global Convention meeting of Ramsar in Uruguay in June 2015, and we hope that the winners will be able to attend to receive the award. See the [voting page](#) for more details.

**We have nominated The Coorong, Lake Alexandrina & Lake Albert Ramsar wetland for a Green Globe, due to the huge amount of coordinated effort that has gone into it since 2008. What do you reckon?**

## Progress at the Murray Mouth

(Source: DEWNR Weekly Flows report)

Dredging operations at the Murray Mouth commenced on 9 January 2015 to maintain connectivity (exchange of water) between the river and the Southern Ocean.

Exclusion Zones have been established around the dredging operations to ensure public safety. For more information refer to the [Notice to Mariners](#)

There is also a partial park closure in place for the northern tip of the Coorong National Park. For more information refer to the DEWNR [Park Closures](#) website.

Signage has been installed at appropriate locations and flyers have been distributed advising of Exclusion Zones.

Any boats navigating through the Murray Mouth region should proceed with caution due to sandbars being present at shallow depth. Boats equipped with 'echo sounders' are strongly encouraged to regularly check depths.

## Lower Lakes water levels

The water level in Lake Alexandrina is approximately 0.61 m AHD and Lake Albert is approximately 0.65 AHD.

Localised rainfall over the past week has increased water levels within the Lower Lakes.

## Barrage operations

When conditions are favourable, barrage releases of approximately 1 GL/day will be prioritised through Tauwitchere and Goolwa (approximately 70:30 ratio), adjacent to the fishways. All fishways are operating.

SA Water will continue to operate the barrages to minimise any negative salinity impacts from reverse flow events.

## Salinity levels

To see live salinity data at various locations on the River Murray and in the Lower Lakes, please refer to this [website](#).

## Redback reminder

For those interested in collecting Redback spiders for venom research, they need to be placed into a small jar or vial (around the same size as a urine collection bottle), with a small hole in the lid for air. One spider per bottle.

To get a spider into a container, make sure you wear gloves. Either get the spider to crawl into the container, place the container over the spider then slide a piece of paper under it, or use a stick, cotton wool swap, pop stick or tweezers to lift it into the vessel.

As long as there is an air hole, the spiders will survive in these containers for a week or more. They do not need anything else.

Deliver the captured spiders to the Lakes Hubs at either Meningie or Milang, where they will be picked up.

**Remember that Redback spiders are dangerous if you get bitten. Always wear gloves, use a paddle pop or similar to handle them and don't collect them if you are not confident.**



Red Back spider

# Pelican Path bares Fruit

Meningie



## Native Foods along the award winning Meningie Pelican Path

The Pelican Path, which was a major part of Meningie winning the South Australia's KESAB sustainable community award is now in the Nationals. The locally grown plants seem to be celebrating, baring large amounts of edible fruit.

Varieties in fruit this month include Sweet Apple-berry, Pigface, Muntries and Ruby Saltbush. Many of these plants were eaten by indigenous people prior to settlement. Native foods are becoming more popular with eating houses and now is a good time to view the above varieties. For further information please contact the Lakes Hub.

## Metering compliance

(Source: DEWNR media release)

Almost 98 percent of irrigators and other non-domestic water users have installed water meters as required, supporting sustainable water use in communities and protecting local ecosystems.

The Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) monitored activity of more than 3,200 licence holders in various areas in 2013-14 and found only a 2.2 percent of licence holders were non-compliant with metering requirements.

Monitoring was conducted in the following prescribed regions:

- Angas Bremer
- Barossa
- Clare Valley
- Mallee
- Marne Saunders
- McLaren Vale
- Northern Adelaide Plains
- Peake, Roby & Sherlock
- River Murray

DEWNR Compliance Unit manager Adrian Robb said only 71 compliance breaches were detected across the 4,693 meters targeted in the compliance operation which focused on meter installations.

"In most instances these breaches were minor; such as licensees failing to maintain clear access to meters– although there were also some isolated cases of incorrect meter installation and interference with the operation of a meter," Mr Robb said.

"A small number of infringement notices and formal warnings were issued and follow-up investigations are continuing where required."

[Read more](#) information on the recent operation focusing on meter compliance and other DEWNR compliance activities in 2013-14.



Fishways at Goolwa (National Museum Australia)

## River Murray Flows update

(Source: DEWNR Weekly Flows Report 16/01/2015)

During December 2014, the total River Murray System inflow was approximately 160 GL, compared to the December long-term average of 460 GL.

The flow to South Australia during December 2014 was approximately 255 GL, compared to 375 GL in December 2013 and the December long-term average of 690 GL. The flow comprised:

- 217 GL of December Entitlement Flow;
- 38 GL of environmental water from The Living Murray program and Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder.

The flow at the South Australian border is approximately 8.0 GL/day and will increase to around 8.4 GL/day during the coming week, depending on upstream river and storage operations, extractions, and rainfall events.

The flow comprises the normal January Entitlement Flow of 7 GL/day plus environmental water from the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH). The environmental water is being delivered to provide in-channel, Lower Lakes and Coorong environmental benefits and assist in discharging salt through the Murray Mouth.

## Fleurieu Peninsula Swamps

(Source: GWLAP)

Fleurieu Swamps are a critically endangered vegetation community that only occurs in South Australia.

These special swamps are located in and around waterlogged areas throughout the Fleurieu Peninsula, mainly in the Mount Compass area and to the south and west of Yundi and Finniss. The swamps are home to approximately 170 native plant species, of which almost half are considered either rare or threatened.

In their natural form, the Fleurieu Swamps are densely vegetated and support a range of sedges, reeds and heathy plants. They are important for a variety of birds, mammals, reptiles, fish and frogs, many of which are endangered and rely solely on the habitat and food sources provided by

the swamps.

The Mount Compass School Swamp is a superb example of a Fleurieu Swamp and is open to the public during school hours.

Natural Resources - SA Murray-Darling Basin, Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association and Conservation Council SA have produced a new Fleurieu Swamps Plant Identification Guide (see *details of the launch, below*).

Landholders involved with the Fleurieu Swamps Recovery Project will soon receive a copy in the post, others interested in the swamps can collect a copy from the Strathalbyn Natural Resource Centre.

For more information about the Fleurieu Swamps Plant Identification Guide or Fleurieu Swamps in general, contact John Gitsham at Goolwa to Wellington LAP on 0498 114 047.

## YOU ARE INVITED TO THE LAUNCH OF THE FLEURIEU SWAMPS PLANT ID GUIDE



Government of South Australia  
South Australian Murray-Darling Basin  
Natural Resources Management Board



GOOLWA TO WELLINGTON LOCAL  
ACTION PLANNING ASSOCIATION INC.



Conservation  
Council SA



Australian Government

**2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2015 11.00am at the Mt Compass School Swamp Boardwalk**

For further information contact John Gitsham - Fleurieu Swamps Project Officer m 0498 114 047

# Identifying Shorebirds in the Field:

workshop and field session - Sunday, 15<sup>nd</sup> February 2015



Whether they be arriving from Lake Eyre or Siberia; the wetlands and estuaries south of Adelaide provide refuge for thousands of wetland birds from year to year.

Every summer **migratory shorebirds**, as small as the pocket sized Red-necked Stilts leave their breeding grounds (up to 11,000km away!) and seek out their own patch of mud in greater Adelaide. Here they join our resident shorebirds which use the beaches, wetlands and estuaries of the region to raise their young.

Around 30 (often grey, often shy) species regularly occur in Gulf St Vincent, so how do you tell a Godwit from a Greenshank, or a Pectoral from a Sharpie?

If it never seems as clear-cut as it looks in the bird books, join us for some tips on how to identify these species in the field and practice with telescopes.

**When:** Sunday, February 15th

8:30 – 11:00am

including an indoor workshop and a field session

**Where:** The Port Noarlunga Football Club at the intersection of Britain Dr.

\* RSVP essential, refreshments and shorebird resources provided.

For more information or RSVP:

Chris Purnell: [chris.purnell@birdlife.org.au](mailto:chris.purnell@birdlife.org.au)

OR call BirdLife on 03 9347 0757



birds are in our nature



Australian Government



Government of South Australia  
Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges  
Natural Resources Management Board

  
birdlife  
AUSTRALIA

This project is supported by the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board through funding from the Australian Government

## What is World Wetlands Day?

*(Source: Comm. Dept. of Environment and Heritage)*

World Wetlands Day is celebrated internationally each year on 2 February. It marks the anniversary of the signing of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention) in Ramsar, Iran, on 2 February 1971.

This year is particularly relevant to our area, as 2015 marks the 30th year since the Coorong and Lower Lakes were listed as a Ramsar site.

World Wetlands Day is celebrated by undertaking actions to raise public awareness of wetland values and benefits, to promote conservation and wise use of these special places.

The international theme for World Wetlands Day 2015 is Wetlands for Our Future.

Wetlands offer substantial economic, social and environmental values. If managed sustainably, these benefits will be conserved for future generations.

Raising awareness and understanding of wetland values and services is essential for ensuring their wise use and conservation.

The Ramsar Convention Secretariat has developed a number of downloadable World Wetlands Day materials for 2015, including a teaching guide, handouts, posters and fact sheets. These materials can be found on the Ramsar Convention Secretariat's World Wetlands Day 2015 [website](#).

Groups and individuals are encouraged to adapt these materials for their own World Wetlands Day events and activities.



## Consultation on the River Murray WAP

The SA MDB NRM Board has undertaken a review of the Water Allocation Plan for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse (the plan) and a draft plan is now available for comment.

The draft plan includes policies that have been developed since the plan's adoption in 2002, and also incorporates lessons learnt during the drought. Additional changes have been required for consistency with legislation.

The Basin Plan has been considered in the writing of the draft plan, however, full compliance with the Basin Plan is not required until 2019.

To find out more about the changes in the draft plan, a number of materials are available [here](#). The fact sheets provide an overview of what is included in the draft plan and how the changes may affect you.

**Comments are invited on the draft plan until Friday 27 February 2015 (5pm).**

All comments received throughout the consultation process will be considered for inclusion before the draft plan is finalised and forwarded to the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation for endorsement.

Feedback can be provided online at [Have Your Say](#).

Written submissions can be provided via email to [rmwap.feedback@sa.gov.au](mailto:rmwap.feedback@sa.gov.au)

or by post to:

Natural Resources SA Murray-Darling Basin  
GPO Box 2834  
ADELAIDE SA 5001



## Be part of Australasian Bat night March and April 2015

Australasian Bat Night is a public awareness programme aiming to educate people about bats, to raise the profile of bats and debunk the myths and fears, to achieve better conservation outcomes and assist people to live with bats.

The inaugural Australasian Bat Night was held in 2012. Last year bat specialists again teamed up with community and local government groups to hold over 30 bat events throughout Australia and New Zealand, with up to 200 participants at some events.

### **Do you hold community events? Add a batty element to your event next autumn.**

We are inviting local councils, land-care groups, Field Naturalists, eco and wildlife tourism operators, wildlife carers, zoos, sanctuaries and wildlife parks, museums and other community groups to participate by running bat activities during March and April. Anything from a Bat walk looking for microbat activity or watching a fly-out to building bat boxes or holding a Bat Festival.

We invite community and local government organisations and individuals to register events and activities for 2015 and to promote Bat Night in your networks. We will promote individual events on the ABS website, and our social media pages.

For more information and to register contact Maree Treadwell Kerr at [batnight.ausbats@gmail.com](mailto:batnight.ausbats@gmail.com). And then check the ABS website <http://ausbats.org.au/> to keep in touch and find out more.

### **Looking for ideas to celebrate Bat Night?**

Why not organize a sporting event, like a "Bike for Bats" or a "Midnight Bat Run" right around the time bats fly?

If you live near a landscape where bat colonies are frequently spied in the twilight skies, a local Evening Bat Walk could be just the ticket. Expert bat conservationist advice and the right location may mean you have the makings for an exotic Eco-Bat Tour. You can give a presentation on any bat research or survey you have carried out. Or arrange a visit to a bat clinic or bat exhibit at a zoo or museum. You can also organize a bat shaped cookie baking session or bake sale at your kindergarten or school! Or try a fun hour of finger painting or other craft activity with a bat-tastic theme. What about bat masks or bat mobiles? Family or group activities such as planting trees to benefit both bats and forests, is a good opportunity to spend the day in a stimulating environment of informal learning. Or ask your local hardware store and or bat group, to sponsor a family bat box-building day at a nearby zoo or public park.

Have a look on the ABS website at last year's events for more ideas.

### **Holding a bat event outside of Bat Night months?**

We can still promote it on the Bat Diary page and on ABS facebook and twitter. Just send details to Maree Kerr at [batnight.ausbats@gmail.com](mailto:batnight.ausbats@gmail.com)



# Interested in **Volunteering** but **not** sure what is involved?

Milang & District Community Association is currently looking for enthusiastic volunteers to support the many areas of the organisation. Come along to an information session to find out what opportunities are available for volunteers, and what is involved.

**Wednesday 4th February**

**5pm-6pm**

*Milang Community Centre  
24 Daranda Tce, Milang*

**Interested?** Call **8537 0687** or  
email **reception@moshcc.com.au**  
*to register your attendance.*



# Reminder: NRM Agricultural and Fishing Innovation Grants

Natural Resources SA Murray Darling Basin is pleased to announce to opening of the 2015 NRM Agricultural and Fishing Innovation Grants.

## What is the application criteria?

The NRM Agricultural and Fishing Innovation Grants can be used to undertake the following activities including but not limited to:

- Trials and demonstrations of innovative agricultural or fishing practices and technologies
- Development of innovative agricultural or fishing practices and technologies
- Increase on farm adoption of innovative agricultural or fishing practices and technologies
- Promotion of innovative agricultural or fishing practices and technologies.

In addition, to be successful projects must demonstrate the following:

- Projects must be conducted within and/or for industry within the SAMDB NRM Region
- Innovation that will provide increased profitability **and** a resource sustainability benefit.

## How much can be applied for?

The total amount of funding available through the NRM Agricultural and Fishing Innovation Grants Program is \$200,000.

There are two tiers of grants.

- Tier 1 - Up to \$10,000 (GST Exc.). These are intended for smaller projects and will make up to \$50,000 of the total amount of funding
- Tier 2 - From \$10,000 to \$25,000 (GST Exc.). These will make up the remainder of the total available grant monies

## What is the opening and closing date for applications?

Applications are open from 9am on Monday 5 January 2015 and close at 5pm on Thursday 19 February 2015.

[Click here](#) for more information.



THE FLEURIEU & KANGAROO ISLAND  
WOMEN'S COMMUNITY AWARDS 2015

## Nominations are now open...

2015 Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island Women's Community Awards

Nominations are open until the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2015 in the categories of:  
**Young Female Ambassador, Sport, Health, Agriculture and Tourism.**

Do you know someone who has or is making an outstanding contribution in the local community?

Nominate them for the 2015 Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island Women's Community Awards.

Nomination forms can be found at [www.rdaibc.com.au](http://www.rdaibc.com.au) or Further details can be obtained from:

Finniss Electorate Office  
**Michael Pengilly MP | Member for Finniss**

71 Victoria Street  
VICTOR HARBOR SA 5211  
Phone (08) 8552 2152  
Fax (08) 8552 4710  
Email [finniss@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:finniss@parliament.sa.gov.au)  
[www.michaelpengilly.com.au](http://www.michaelpengilly.com.au)

## New Weed App

A new national smartphone app is the latest weapon in the fight to control weeds and protect South Australia's valuable crops, pastures and native bushland.



The free Weed Control app provides essential information about the control of weeds declared in South Australia under the Natural Resources Management Act 2004.

The weed control app includes:

- control recommendations for over 100 declared plant species
- chemical and non-chemical treatments
- information on the safe use of herbicides
- colour photographs of each species for identification.

In addition app users can:

- record the location of weeds
- keep a personal log of control activities
- phone or email regional Natural Resource officers
- send photos and text of high risk weeds.

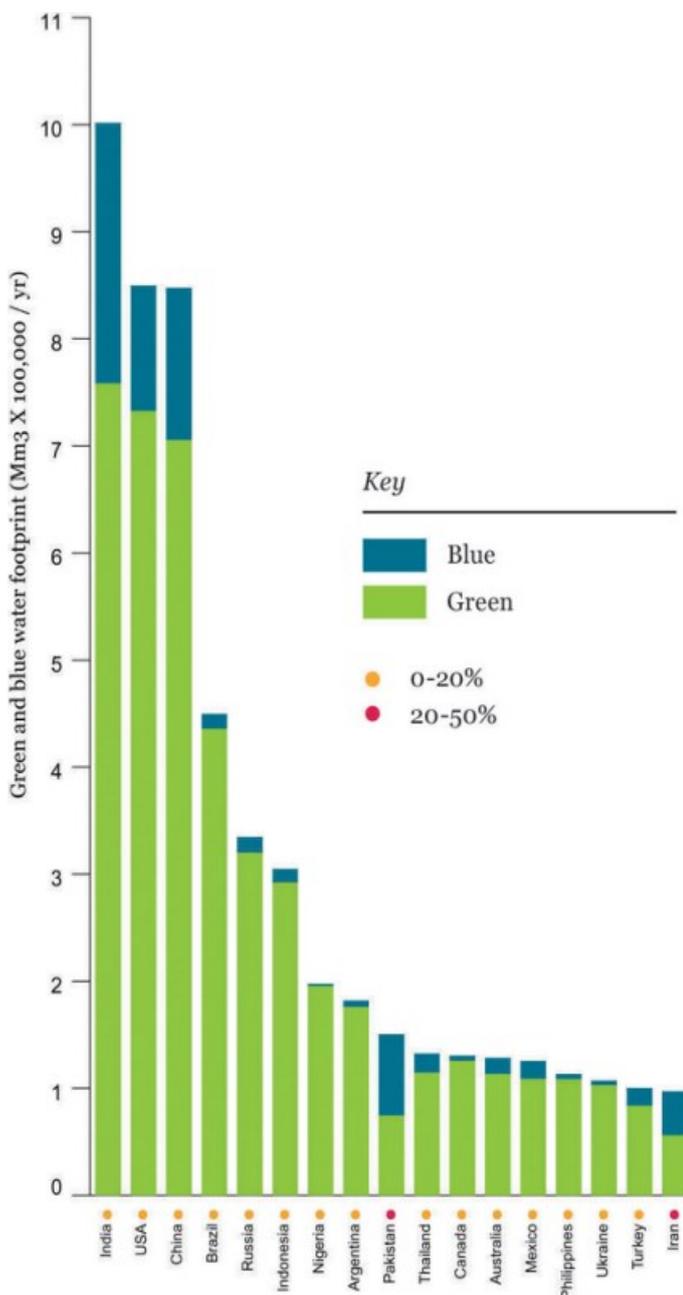
For further information and to download the Weed Control Handbook App, [click here](#).

## Water Footprint—How we use freshwater

(Source: World Wildlife Fund for Nature)

A water footprint is a measure of the freshwater used in producing and delivering the goods and services that a particular individual, business or nation uses.

A water footprint is comprised of two components: direct water use and indirect use. The indirect water use is measured as “virtual” water (the volume of water required to produce a certain product).



It includes the use of:

- blue water (rivers, lakes, aquifers)
- green water (rainfall in crop growth)
- grey water (water polluted after agricultural, industrial and household use).

The water footprint tells us how much water is used, but the impact of changes to a water footprint depends entirely on where water is taken from and when.

Water footprints increasing in an area where water is plentiful is unlikely to have an adverse effect on society or the environment. However, if that growth occurs in an area already experiencing water scarcity, then serious problems could result.

- Such water problems might include:
  - the drying of rivers
  - the destruction of habitats and livelihoods
  - the extinction of species
  - changes to agricultural prices, supplies and local economies.

## Captain Plop

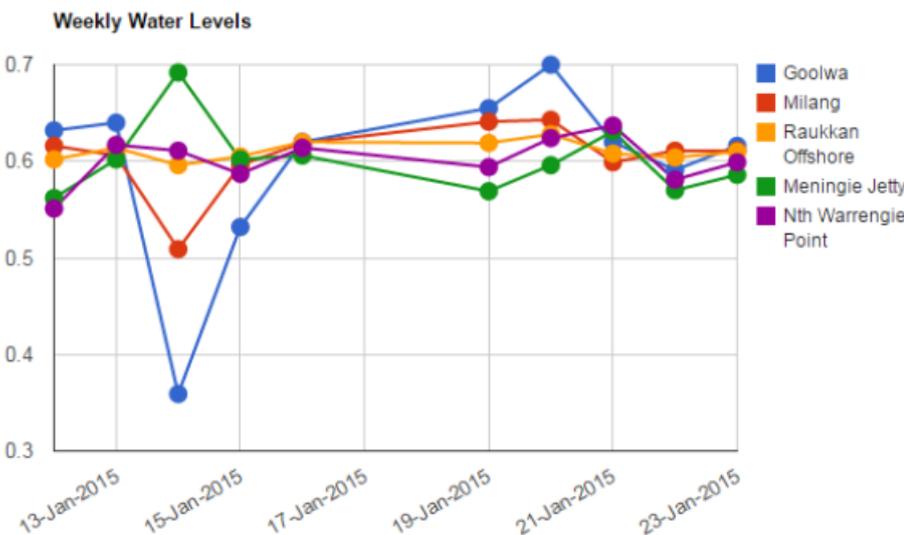
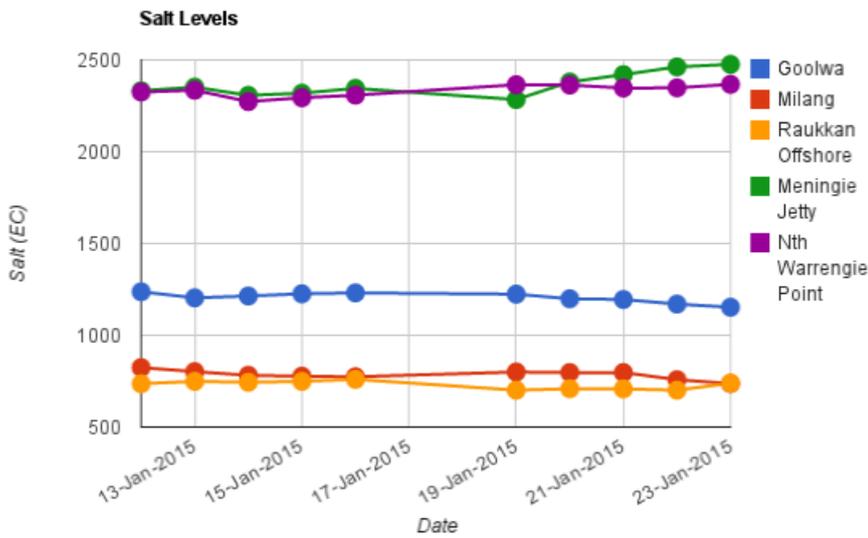
For those interested in educating kids about our water cycle, including reducing water use, check out SA Water's Captain Plop...

There are books, activities and educational resources

available via the SA Water [website](#), or for something more modern, he even has an iPhone App [here](#).



## On the Level



Some electrical conductivity ranges	
Water type	Electrical conductivity (µS/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: Suttar S., *Ribbons of Blue Handbook*. Scitech, Victoria, 1990.

Electronic versions of these charts are available from the Lakes Hub [website](#).

A spreadsheet of data is available on request from the Lakes Hub Coordinator.

### 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>

## Contributions to the Bulletin

The Bulletin comes out on the second and fourth Friday of each month. We are always looking for Coorong and Lower Lakes events and articles of interest. Contributions must reach the Lakes Hub Coordinator ([info@lakeshub.com](mailto:info@lakeshub.com)) by the start of business, the Tuesday prior to release.

## 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.

January	
25	Milang to Goolwa Freshwater Classic
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	Coorong and Lakes Environment Forum, Alexandrina Council Chambers, Goolwa
31	Announcement of Living Memorials first round recipients
February	
1	World Wetlands Film Festival, Centenary Hall, Goolwa Port Elliot Market
2	Launch of Fleurieu Swamps Plant ID Guide (Mt Compass) World Wetland Day (International)
3	Hindmarsh Island Propagation day Milang Community Garden Trading Table—9-10:30AM <i>Deadline for articles into the next Hub Bulletin</i>
4	MDCA Volunteering Information Session. 5-6PM
5	
6	<i>Release of the next Bulletin</i>
7	Love Langhorne Creek (regional Cellar Door event) 7th and 8th. Entry free.
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	Birdlife Australia Identifying Shorebirds Workshop, Port Noarlunga. Port Elliot Market
16	
17	Milang Community Garden Trading Table—9-10:30AM
18	

### Disclaimer

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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.