



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

September 12th 2011. No 63

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*The Lakes Hub is part of the Lower Lakes Bioremediation and Revegetation Project funded by the Australian Government and supported by the South Australian Department of Environment and Natural Resources ( DENR).*

## World Water Monitoring Day – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2011 Community Stream Sampling Program

*By Greg Lunstrom, Senior Project Officer - Community Monitoring / Climate & Energy  
South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board based at Strathalbyn NRM office*

Since the early 1990s the Community Stream Sampling Program has developed into a respected model of community monitoring and citizen science. Supported by the S.A. Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board (SA MDB NRM Board), the program grew out of the national Waterwatch model. Community monitors report water quality results usually on a seasonal basis, and the number of monitoring sites registered in the SA MDB NRM Board region is over 150. While not all of these are monitored on every occasion, this winter in the lower lakes in feed streams catchments for instance, over 40 sites have been monitored for salinity, with the majority measuring nutrient, turbidity, pH, temperature and recording site observations. Some even record biological life through macro-invertebrate sampling.

All samplers undertake annual training and are provided with standardised equipment where a known standard of quality assurance applies. Since the introduction of nationally accredited training into the skills mix, over 150 volunteers have demonstrated their competency at level 3 of the Conservation and Land Management package by successfully completing the module “Undertake sampling and testing of water”. Since 2007 the training has been delivered at fourteen locations from Renmark to Narrung, with workshops at Monarto and Milang run this year.

When sufficient data if available it is possible to show an overall integrated measure of group monitoring and make a judgement about the “health” of the site, indicative as to whether it is improving, declining or stable. The integration approach can build in other data sets from other water quality monitoring or even include biological health indicators such as vegetation health or number of frog species present. The Community Stream Sampling Project is currently analysing which catchments have sufficient data to apply this type of analysis to. So far the Currency Creek catchment and the Marne River catchment have undergone an examination.

Data is reported through the community stream sampling on-line database. It is made publicly available and you can visit the site by clicking the link off the homepage of the SA MDB NRM Board website:  
<http://www.samdbnm.sa.gov.au/>.

Feedback is provided to groups via seasonal summaries, which include trend analysis and also appears on the website under NRM Plan/Reporting on the Plan MERI/Community Additional Monitoring Activities.

Of increasing importance to the program are community observations over our diverse landscape and watercourse types. The program is only too aware of the observation skills possessed by our volunteers. These observations can lead to the establishment of new sites or monitoring activities.

Volunteers are always welcome and can find out more by contacting:

Greg Lundstrom

*Senior Project Officer - Community Monitoring*

Phone (08) 8536 5622

Mobile: 0429 697 319

*Community Stream Sampling sites in the lower reaches of the SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board Region*



## Community Volunteers Wanted for Monitoring

The Region's Community Stream Sampling Program and Wetlands Monitoring Program are looking for people to assist with quarterly monitoring of local streams and wetlands.

You will be:

- Recording information on resource condition
- Capturing changes over time
- Recording observations
- Photo Point monitoring

If you are:

- Interested in learning more about this unique environment
- Keen to assist in management
- Receive training and gain skills

... then you would be welcome to participate.

All equipment and initial supervision will be provided. Please contact Greg Lundstrom on 0429 697 319 Kate Mason on 0407793634

*Pictured : Sarah Hersche, Narnu Farm monitoring surface water on Hindmarsh Island*



## DRAFT Eastern Mt Lofty Ranges Water Allocation Plan – comments on line

There has been a high level of interest from the community regarding the draft Eastern Mt Lofty Ranges Water Allocation Plan. In fact, around 370 comments and replies to the plan have been registered and replied to on the SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board web site.

To view these comments, questions and replies visit the following web site : [www.samdbnrm.sa.gov.au](http://www.samdbnrm.sa.gov.au)

## Conservation and Land Management /Amenity Horticulture - Information Session

**WHEN** :Wednesday 14th Sept. 9:30am to 2:00pm

**WHERE** : Milang Old School House Community Centre (MOSHCC)

**INFORMATION** : Milang Old School House Community Centre (MOSHCC) will once again be offering workshops in Conservation and Land Management. This course has been offered over the past 12 months with many candidates gaining employment in their chosen area of work.

Training experiences are focused on employment opportunities emerging from changes in community and population, variations in land use and water policy. The course will be an opportunity for cross regional cooperation, partnerships and capacity building and receive funding support from the Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology through the Transitions Adult Community Education Program.

**Bookings essential.**

For further information contact Karyn Bradford 85370687 Email [karyn@moshcc.com.au](mailto:karyn@moshcc.com.au)

## ANGAS RIVER Catchment Group 2011 AGM

**Guest Speaker: Kate Mason**

Kate Mason from the South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board will talk on Monitoring Frog populations in the Angas River Catchment and what we can do to preserve them into the future.

**When: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2011** 7.00 – 9pm followed by supper

**Where: Strathalbyn Natural Resource Centre** 6 Catherine Street Strathalbyn

For more information please contact Liz Schofield on 0427 802 138



## Its frog season again!

**What** : Volunteer frog monitoring sessions

**When** : Starts Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm

**Where** : Clayton Bay Community Boardwalk

**What to bring** : You will need to bring mozzie protection, rubber boots, weather protection and a torch.



This season's frog monitoring will commence at the Clayton Bay community boardwalk at 6.30pm next Wednesday 14th Sept.

Kate Mason will be leading the monitoring sessions and will be grateful to anyone wishing to assist her. Frog CD's and books will be on hand along with free training and expertise. Frog monitoring will continue at Clayton Bay and Dunn's Lagoon each September as part of consistent monitoring within the NRM Board's wetland program. A 2010 Southern Bell Frog monitoring report can be accessed at the Lake Hub at the Milang.

## Free workshop – Biodynamic agriculture

The Goolwa-Wellington LAP is facilitating a workshop with Biodynamic Agriculture Australia at Finniss on the 8th of October 2011. This introductory workshop will be suited to landholders, land managers and anybody interested in non-chemical and more natural approaches to weed management in both agriculture and areas of native vegetation.

The workshop will be from 9am to 4:30pm and will be hands on and interactive. It is FREE, but numbers are limited. Lunch will be provided. For more information please see the attached flyer.

Funding for this workshop has been provided by the Government of South Australia through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

**Please contact Will Miles if you require more information or would like to secure your seat.**

Fleurieu Swamps Project Officer

Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association Inc. Strathalbyn Office

Ph: 08 8536 5621 (direct) Mob: 0427 917 515

Email: [will.miles@gwlap.org.au](mailto:will.miles@gwlap.org.au)

Web: [www.gwlap.org.au](http://www.gwlap.org.au)

## PREMIER'S COMMUNITY INITIATIVES FUND – Applications now open

The Premier's Community Initiatives Fund provides grants of up to \$10,000 to assist not-for-profit South Australian based community organisations to undertake a one-off project that benefits disadvantaged, disabled or socially isolated members of the South Australian community.

To be considered for funding, organisations must meet the eligibility criteria and complete an application form outlining the particular service they provide to the community as well as a detailed explanation of the project they wish to undertake.

***Round 10 applications opened on Monday 29 August 2011 and close on Friday 7 October 2011 at 5:00pm***

For further information Application Forms and Application Guidelines visit the website:

[www.premcab.sa.gov.au/dpc/community\\_initiatives.html](http://www.premcab.sa.gov.au/dpc/community_initiatives.html)

or contact the Grants Programs Unit on (08) 8226 7671 or email [pcif@dpc.sa.gov.au](mailto:pcif@dpc.sa.gov.au)

## RIVER MURRAY – weekly FLOW ADVICE

For weekly flow / level reports on the River Murray and Lakes go to the following website [www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au](http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au)

Up-to-date River Murray flow and water level information can be accessed at the Department for Water, SA Water and Murray-Darling Basin Authority websites:

<http://data.rivermurray.sa.gov.au>

[www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm](http://www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm)

<http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/live-river-data>

Details of river height and rainfall information in the River Murray within Victoria and New South Wales are available at the Bureau of Meteorology website:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood>

Information on the discharge of acid drainage water into the Lower River Murray can be accessed online at [www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au](http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au)

## DAILY RECORDINGS – RIVER MURRAY DATA

### Note : Warrengie site reinstated.

Data received from <http://e-nrims.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/Telemetry/Default.aspx?App=RMW>

**DATE** SEPT 5 - 9 2011

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
5	GOOLWA	0.461	582
6		0.372	26,412
7		0.485	18,746
8		0.625	4053
9		0.460	4500
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.480</b>	<b>10859</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
5	MILANG JETTY	0.533	557
6		0.473	559
7		0.509	557
8		0.601	557
9		0.606	564
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.544</b>	<b>559</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
5	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.520	433
6		0.517	486
7		0.547	525
8		0.584	491
9		0.602	469
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.554</b>	<b>481</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
5	MENINGIE JETTY	0.561	5857
6		0.658	5708
7		0.639	5662
8		0.610	5639
9		0.610	5639
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.616</b>	<b>5701</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
5	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.577	5810
6		0.507	5820
7		0.598	5843
8		0.635	5848
9		0.530	5855
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.569</b>	<b>5835</b>

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

### September 2011

1	NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY MONTH
2	
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7	NATIONAL THREATENED SPECIES DAY
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14	Meningie History Trail meeting 4.30pm Lakes Hub Meningie – All welcome. Andrew Dawes 0427751488 or 8575 1830 Conservation & Land Management course info session – MOSHCC Milang Contact Karyn Bradford 85370687 Email <a href="mailto:karyn@moshcc.com.au">karyn@moshcc.com.au</a>
15	
16	
17	
18	WORLD WATER MONITORING DAY
19	
20	Clayton Temp. Flow Regulator removal info session. 7.30pm Clayton Bay Hall. Contact Gemma 0427 018 783 or email <a href="mailto:gemma.cunningham@sa.gov.au">gemma.cunningham@sa.gov.au</a> for catering purposes
21	
22	Angus River Catchment Gp AGM. Speaker : Kate Mason – frog monitoring. Contact Liz Schofield 0427802138 All welcome
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If you have any relevant community event or courses that you would like added to the Calendar of Events please contact the Lakes Hub.

#### Disclaimer

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