

## MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: 15 May 2019

# PADDLERS INVITED TO HELP LAUNCH NEW LOWER MURRAY CANOE TRAIL



*Above: Paddlers exploring the birdlife along the Lower Murray Canoe Trail.*

The Lower Murray Canoe Trail will officially launch in Tailem Bend on Wednesday, 5 June and organisers are urging keen paddlers and fitness enthusiasts to come along and be the first to test the trail and its new features.

The project, which has been delivered by the Coorong District Council thanks to \$20,000 from the State and Federal Governments through the joint Riverine Recovery Program, provides four sections of clearly signed canoe and kayak trails which stretch just over 20 kilometres between Tailem Bend and Wellington East along the Murray River.

Each section of the paddling trail (varying between four to eight kilometres in length) shows off some of the best features of the Murray River's unique environment – including abundant birdlife, wetlands and hidden backwaters.

In announcing the launch date, Coorong District Council Mayor Paul Simmons was pleased to see the new trail ready for public use and urged people to come and 'have a go'.

"We've got some pretty spectacular scenery and wildlife down here along our stretch of the Murray River, and this new trail helps guide people through some of the hidden gems," Mayor Simmons says.

**Postal Address:**

PO Box 399  
TAILEM BEND SA 5260  
Email: [council@coorong.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@coorong.sa.gov.au)  
Web: [www.coorong.sa.gov.au](http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au)

**Coorong Civic Centre**

95 – 101 Railway Terrace  
TAILEM BEND SA 5260  
Phone: 1300 785 277  
Fax: 08 8572 3822

**Meningie Information Hub**

49 Princes Highway  
MENINGIE SA 5264

**Tintinara Customer Service Centre**

37 Becker Terrace  
TINTINARA SA 5266



“We were fortunate to receive funding two years ago to help make this project come to life, and the result is something that will support outcomes for our local community in terms of tourism, wellbeing and environmental conservation.

“We’re hoping the launch and promotional campaign for the trail will help attract people from Adelaide to come out, paddle in our waters and spend some time exploring the rest of our district.

“Importantly, it will also provide a great facility for local families to explore the river together and increase opportunities for physical activity – one of Council’s long-term wellbeing goals.”

The trail is recommended for people 12 years and over, and sections are clearly marked on waterproof maps and by interpretative signage along the routes.

**The public launch event will take place at the Coorong Civic Centre in Tailem Bend at 2pm on 5 June 2019. Attendees will be treated to a premiere of the Lower Murray Canoe Trail’s new promotional short video and hear about the trail details over afternoon tea.**

Following the formal part of the launch, those who are keen will be taken to Tailem Bend’s Dickson Reserve to test out the first section of the trail (weather permitting).

Director Community & Corporate, Nat Traeger urged local people and visitors to come along, collect the waterproof maps and be some of the first to test it out.

“There are so many great spots to paddle in the lower reaches of the Murray and this trail now provides structured signage and facilities to ensure those who want to get in the water can be safe and learn about the environment along their journey,” Ms Traeger says.

“People who love adventure, fitness and the environment will love this trail.

“It’s been designed to be interactive, with information and signage offering details on everything from local Geocaching activities to historic details about the 1956 floods.

The waterproof Lower Murray Canoe Trail maps can be found at the Tailem info Station and Coorong Civic Centre, located on Railway Terrace. The map can also be downloaded from Council’s website: [www.coorong.sa.gov.au](http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au).

Otherwise, for those keen to follow the trail online, check out the Lower Murray Canoe trail on Facebook and Instagram (@lower\_murray\_canoe\_trail).

### **Event RSVP**

For those who would like to attend the launch event, please RSVP for catering purposes by 29 May 2019. Phone 1300 785 277 or email [earbon@coorong.sa.gov.au](mailto:earbon@coorong.sa.gov.au). **The media is also welcome to attend this event.**

- ENDS -

### **Contact:**

Nat Traeger  
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY & CORPORATE | COORONG DISTRICT COUNCIL  
Phone: 1300 785 277 | E: [ntraeger@coorong.sa.gov.au](mailto:ntraeger@coorong.sa.gov.au)

#### **Postal Address:**

PO Box 399  
TAILEM BEND SA 5260  
Email: [council@coorong.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@coorong.sa.gov.au)  
Web: [www.coorong.sa.gov.au](http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au)

#### **Coorong Civic Centre**

95 – 101 Railway Terrace  
TAILEM BEND SA 5260  
Phone: 1300 785 277  
Fax: 08 8572 3822

#### **Meningie Information Hub**

49 Princes Highway  
MENINGIE SA 5264

#### **Tintinara Customer Service Centre**

37 Becker Terrace  
TINTINARA SA 5266