



Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan Newsletter 23rd May 2019

A round up of news, funding opportunities, and events for Coorong and Tatiara land managers

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Farmers in necessitous circumstances

A Helping Hand for South Australian Rural Communities

The SACWA Emergency Aid Fund is here to assist, SACWA is currently distributing funds for rural families in South Australia who are severely affected by the current seasonal conditions, and find themselves unable to meet their day to day living expenses.

Australian Red Cross has partnered with the SACWA to distribute funds raised through the Help Aussie Farmers appeal, and grants are now available to rural families via the SACWA Emergency Aid Fund. With so many farmers in SA experiencing similar conditions to those in NSW and QLD, this generous partnership is timely and welcomed by SACWA.

SACWA is working with Rural Business Support to facilitate and coordinate grant applications. To access a drought relief grant, people should contact Rural Business Support and a Rural Financial Counselor will complete and endorse your application.

It is a simple and easy process. Applications for up to \$3, 000 for expenses such as rates, school fees and groceries are available to all drought affected farmers. Additionally, for those families who have applied for the Farm Household Allowance, Rural Business Support can arrange for SACWA to schedule payments of \$750 per week, over a 4 week period to support the household whilst waiting to receive this allowance.

Visit the [Rural Business Support website](http://www.ruralbusinesssupport.org.au/) <http://www.ruralbusinesssupport.org.au/>, or contact them on 1800 836 211

Visit the link below for more background to the SACWA assistance

<https://www.sacwa.org.au/assistance/emergency-aid-fund/>



REMINDER - ON-FARM EMERGENCY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE REBATE SCHEME

Have you applied ???

Please consider applying, please don't assume you are not eligible.

Please take a look at this excellent funding opportunity which has opened!! The Australian and SA Governments are offering a rebate to drought affected farmers who invest in urgently-needed on-farm water infrastructure. Eligible farmers can access a 25% rebate – up to \$25,000 – on new purchases and installation costs for on-farm water infrastructure to help them in the current drought and be better prepared for future dry conditions. The On-Farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate scheme can be applied to:

- new purchases and installation of:
- pipes -water storage's
- water pumps
- de-silting dams
- drilling of new stock water bores and associated infrastructure including: desalination plants
- power supply such as generators.

Farmers will be eligible to apply through PIRSA for the rebates, which will also cover eligible work undertaken since 1 July 2018.

Further information can be found on PIRSA'S website <http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/onfarm-water-rebate>

Alternatively, you can contact Drought Response Program Department of Primary Industries and Regions
Telephone: 1800 255 556 - Email: PIRSA.recovery@sa.gov.au



NRM Agricultural Knowledge Small Grants 2019 -2020 now open

The SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management (SAMDB NRM) Board NRM Agricultural Knowledge Small grants are now open and can provide support to regional groups.

The grants are available to eligible formal and informal groups within the SAMDB region including:

- agriculture bureaus and farmer groups
- farming system groups
- field day committees
- Landcare and LAP groups
- consultant facilitated farmer groups
- non-government and not-for-profit organisations working to improve agriculture and native vegetation management.

Applications are open from 9:00 am Saturday 1 June to 5pm ACST Monday 15 July 2019.

For assistance or more information, please contact Natural Resources SAMDB Regional Agriculture Landcare facilitator on mobile: 0408 416 684.

Australian Government mobile service centre

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self employed people.

Information about the Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families will also be available.

Pinnaroo Monday 27 May, 10.00-4.00 pm

Adjacent to the Golden Grain Hotel, Railway Terrace South

Karoonda Tuesday 28 May, 9.30-3.00pm

Opposite the Karoonda Hotel, Railway Terrace

For more information [click here](#).



Volunteers at the ready to help Ngarkat

The annual two-day volunteer working bee conducted recently at Ngarkat Conservation Park was again a huge success.

Each year, members of the Four Wheel Drive South Australia volunteer over 500 hours of their time ensuring the Border Track is in peak condition before being reopened to the public in early April, and this year was exceptional with volunteers providing more than 860 hours.

For information about Ngarkat Conservation Park and the Border Track, please contact the Natural Resources SAMDB on phone: 08 8576 3400.

Read more of the article [click here](#).



Reminder : Connecting with People Workshops

Do you work with, support or provide services to South Australia's farmers, farming families or farming businesses, currently struggling with the impacts of drought?

Are you interested in receiving targeted, informed support and guidance on how you can best assist others, who may be struggling to cope, and support your own resilience and well being?

The Mid Murray Caring Connected Communities Suicide Prevention Network in conjunction with The Office of the Chief Psychiatrist (SA Health) and Primary Industries and Regions SA(PIRSA) are hosting a series of Connecting with People workshops.

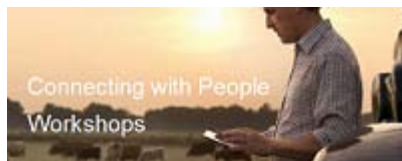
Date: Thursday 23 May 2019 Time: 9.30 am - 3.30pm

Location: Karoonda Football Clubrooms

Date: Friday 24th May 2019 Time: 9.30 am – 3.30 pm

Location: Salvation Army Hall, 1 Fourth Street Murray Bridge

RSVP: 21 May to Barb Cowey at Barbara-ann.Cowey@sa.gov.au or on 0488 951 790



The State of Sheep - Survey

We are a collection of farmers, truck drivers, vets and industry representatives. We care about the Australia's sheep sector, from our farmers through to you in our community.

The Sheep Collective would like to hear your views and opinions on the sheep export industry. Now is a great time to share your voice. All of the results and feedback will be collated together and your individual responses are confidential. Click this [LINK](#) to begin the survey – it will take approx 10 minutes.



Drones in ag: what farmers need to know

Farmers, agricultural consultants and researchers have taken a great interest in drones over the past few years. Agriculture continues to be one of the major growth sectors for the drone industry, fueling the development and release of drone systems tailored specifically to agricultural applications. To read the full article please click [here](#).



Reminder:

"Very Fast Break" seasonal climate update video clips

Watch these YouTube videos on seasonal climate drivers and outlooks for SA and Vic (4 minutes long)

click here [:South Australia](#)

Victoria



Littleproud announces Aqua-Till funded through government initiative

An innovative liquid tillage system developed by South Australian farmers is set to be trialed nationally with the announcement of \$768,500 in project funding from the government.

Using water under high-pressure, the AquaTill water jet acts as a liquid coulter, slicing through the stubble, allowing seeding through the highest of retained stubble loads.

To read the full article that was in the Stock Journal [click here](#).

2019 Natural Resources SE Photo Competition, 'Back to Basics'

Follow the theme (Back to Basics) and get back to the natural treasures that make the South East an amazing place to work and live. NRSE are looking for images that capture any aspect of South East wildlife, geology, farm life, coast or industry. This year there are two categories: South East Ag Life or Open

Entries close 30 June 2019 so get snapping! See [FLYER](#) and for more info and entry form go [click here](#).

Landcare Unearthed - 2019 SA Community Landcare Conference

The 2019 State Community Landcare Conference will be held from 28 - 30 October, at the Tatiara Civic Centre, Bordertown SA. With the theme of "Landcare Unearthed – Celebrating Diversity, Managing Landscapes", the Conference will showcase landcare and natural resources programmes from across South Australia. It will give Landcarers from all sectors of the community the opportunity to explore the following streams:

- Biodiversity – Management and Conservation
- Indigenous Land Management
- People and Volunteers
- Sustainable Farming and Fishing

For more information [click here](#)



Amongst It' Nature Connection Grants

Grant Round Now Open – apply for amounts between \$500-\$5000 by 31st May

In 2019 the grants are structured the grant round as an opportunity to learn. They are looking for applicants who are keen to try out something new in their context that connects people to everyday nature or inspires action for it, and are happy to work with to evaluate in what way their project may or may not have touched its participants. click here for more info. <http://www.amongtsa.org.au/apply>

What's your tree story?

An icon of the South East, our giant ancient paddock trees anchor the landscape, provide shelter and food for livestock and wildlife, serve as landmarks and cultural meaning to indigenous people, and mark the passing of generations through family farms.

Natural Resources South East are currently running a paddock tree project where selected stories will be immortalized on film and as part of a special exhibition launched at the Landcare Conference in Bordertown this October.

To be involved, share a photo of your tree on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter using the hashtags [#mytreenrse](#) and [#myviewnrse](#). You can also email your photos and story to alison.boomsma@sa.gov.au

Winning entries will then receive a visit to record the story of what makes your tree special! Call Alison on 87351177 for more information.



CTLAP engages with Wilderness School

Sustainability Officer Samantha Blight continues to engage with Wilderness School, South East NRM and Friends of Coorong National Park with environmentally focused activities; this month the school girls got their hands dirty marking out a walking trail they scoped out from Mike Lake to the Coorong lagoon (with permission from DEWNR). Trail marker posts were placed in strategic locations along with collection and placement of rocks and branches to identify trail direction. They also worked on developing a walking trail fact sheet with information pertinent to prospective walkers which will be available via Friends of Coorong NP website.

Samantha Blight engages with Wilderness School at their Salt Creek based facilities in environmentally focused activities six times a year, and has done so for the past five years.



River Lakes and Coorong Action Group Inc

PO Box 194 | Milang SA 5256 | m 0438 858 219 | ABN 23 590 559 324
Winner 2009 Jill Hudson Environmental Award

You are warmly invited to attend the

Annual General Meeting & Panel discussion *Everything is connected, from the source to the sea*

Chair Faith Coleman with guest speakers

Kate McBride	Tolamo Station, ACF River Fellow
Howard Jones	MDBA Basin Community Committee, Murray-Darling Wetlands Working Group
Peter Owen	Wilderness Society SA
Peter Mirtschin	Southern Bell Frog, Wetlands research

Clayton Bay Community Hall
Sunday 2 June 2019 at 10.00 am

10.00 am AGM

- Committee's report
- Treasurer's report
- Election of committee for 2019-2020

10.30 Panel of guest speakers: *Everything is connected*

12.30 Lunch

1 pm Meeting of new committee

To assist with catering we would love to know if you are able to join us.

For further information please contact:
Gloria Jones yabby@hotkey.net.au 0427370047
Liz Tregenza riverlakescoorong@gmail.com 0438 858 219

On the Level

Local Water quality & level observations - Current at 22/5/2019

- Salt Creek outlet - 10986 EC, Level 1.213
- Lake Albert at Meningie Sailing club - 1706 EC Level .573
- Lake Alexandrina at Poltalloch Plains 532EC Level .592
- River Murray downstream Wellington ferry 275EC Level .569
- River Murray at Woods Point - 286EC

For the latest River Murray Flow Report and Water Resources update visit www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au

By Comparison

STOCK PRODUCTION CAN BEGIN TO DECLINE

Beef Cattle 6, 250 EC

Sheep dry feed 9, 300 EC

IRRIGATED PASTURE PRODUCTION CAN BEGIN TO DECLINE

Balansa clover, 800-1500 EC

persian clover,

strawberry clover

& lucerne

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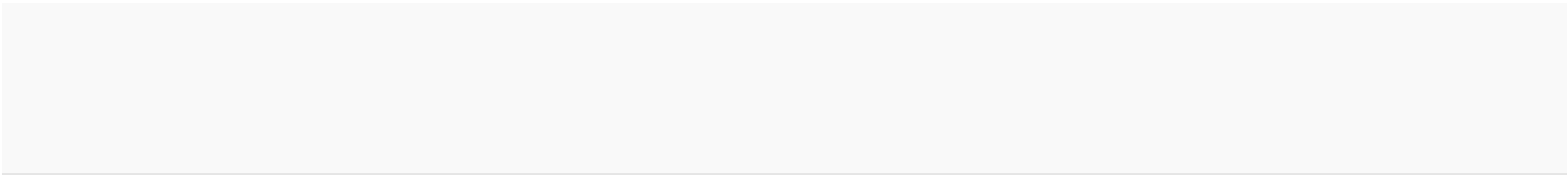
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Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan <http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au/gotolap>

To visit past editions of the CTLAP e Newsletters please visit www.coorong.sa.gov.au/lapnews

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