

CLLMM Community Advisory Panel

Communique - 11 August 2025



Government
of South Australia

Department for
Environment and Water

The Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) Community Advisory Panel (CAP) met on Ngarrindjeri Country at the Langhorne Creek Bowls Club on 11 August 2025.

Welcome and introductions

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the following 9 new members to the CAP, marking the first meeting under the revised [Terms of Reference](#).

- Hon. Dr. Dean Brown AO
- Mr. Rob England
- Mr. Colin Grundy
- Mr. Joel Hirsch
- Ms. Julie Jones
- Ms. Deidre Nieuwenhuis
- Mr. Clyde Rigney
- Mr. Ray Rootsey
- Ms. Marina Wagner

Department for Environment and Water (DEW) Executive Director, Water and River Murray Sue Hutchings extended a warm welcome to all members and acknowledged the valuable contributions CAP volunteers make to both the community and the department.

Overview of CAP and agency roles

Members received a briefing on the CAP's role and how various stakeholders contribute to its objective, including an overview and updates from:

- Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH)
- Landscapes SA
- Goyder Institute CLLMM Research Centre
- Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA)

DEW program leaders provided an overview of the role the department fulfills in the CLLMM region, through functions such as infrastructure and operations, water delivery and environmental water, and emphasised the importance of work through scientific and First Nations partnerships.

Algal bloom update

Members were provided an update on the *Karenia mikimotoi* algal bloom affecting South Australian coastal areas and the Coorong. Sue Hutchings outlined the \$28 million response package from the Government of South Australia and the role of the inter-agency Harmful Algal Bloom Taskforce.

Members were briefed on the latest scientific understanding of the bloom, monitoring efforts in the Coorong and where to access publicly available information, including:

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- SA Government Algal Bloom website - www.algalbloom.sa.gov.au
- Water testing results - www.algalbloom.sa.gov.au/home/where-the-algal-bloom-is
- Water Sampling Dashboard - [SA Algal Bloom Water Sampling Dashboard](#)
- Sign up for algal bloom updates - [Subscribe](#)
- Community forums - www.algalbloom.sa.gov.au/home/community-forums

CAP business and future focus

Members discussed ideas for future CAP meetings and areas of interest. Common themes included land management, wetland management and invasive vegetation, threats to water quality, flows from the South East, DEW delivery programs, impacts from climate change and hydrological modelling and its application in the CLLMM.

Farewell to retiring members

The CAP farewelled long-standing members Cris Bagley and Bill Paterson, thanking them for their dedication, insights and advocacy throughout their service.

Next meeting

The CAP will reconvene in October 2025 for a joint meeting with the Scientific Advisory Group, followed by a field trip later in the year.



The August 2025 CLLMM CAP meeting welcomed several new members to the panel.

About the CLLMM CAP

Since 2006, a community advisory panel has been meeting regularly to provide guidance on water resource management and projects in the CLLMM region. The panel's collective experience – alongside First Nations knowledge and scientific expertise – plays a vital role in guiding water management and helping restore the health of the Coorong.

Learn more environment.sa.gov.au/CLLMM-CAP-SAG

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