



Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Projects
Department for Environment and Heritage
Reply Paid 1047
Adelaide SA 5000

Submitted by email: cllmm@deh.sa.gov.au

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Re Submission on the Lower Lakes and Coorong Recovery paper

To whom it may concern

Please find attached a copy of **Conservation Council of South Australia's (ConservationSA)** submission to the Lower Lakes and Coorong Recovery paper.

ConservationSA is the peak environment and conservation body in South Australia. It represents over 55 member groups and has had a long standing interest in the health and wellbeing of the State's ecosystems and biodiversity.

ConservationSA welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the Lower Lakes and Coorong Recovery paper and commends the South Australian Government on taking steps to address the environmental problems facing the Lower Lakes and Coorong.

ConservationSA understand that this is the third iteration for the development of this long term plan and as such, community feedback has already contributed to the development of this paper. Given these circumstances we are submitting the following general comments.

It would have been ideal for the technical papers currently underway to inform an Environmental Impact Statement to have been completed prior to this submission. If the technical papers had been completed, ConservationSA would have been in a position to be able to comment on the scientific best practice results – particularly with regard to the debate on allowing seawater into the Lower Lakes to avert soil acidification.

Furthermore, ConservationSA would like to see that all other measures have been exhausted and that it is an absolute last resort before seawater is allowed in to the Lower Lakes.

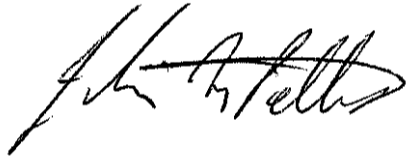
In addition, the definition of a short-term response needs to be clearly defined before seawater is allowed in to the Lower Lakes.

We strongly emphasize that community organisations such as ConservationSA continue to be part of the plan once it is finalised. It is envisaged that this

contribution will be reflected through community organisations being involved and part of the solution in the implementation of this plan.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Pettett', written in a cursive style.

Julie Pettett
CEO
Conservation Council of South Australia