



MEDIA RELEASE

23 February 2010

NEW SCHEDULE OF LOCKAGES TO BEGIN AT GOOLWA BARRAGE

The Goolwa Channel Water Level Management Project has been a success in preventing widespread acidification in Goolwa Channel, Finniss River and Currency Creek.

As expected, water levels in the Goolwa Channel have dropped as a result of evaporation and other losses over summer 2009-10.

Because of these falling water levels, and following a request from Alexandrina Council, a restricted schedule of lockages will commence at Goolwa Barrage from this Friday, 26 February 2010.

The lockage schedule will allow continued boat access from Goolwa Channel to the Coorong until after Easter 2010. It includes three lockages on Saturdays and two lockages on every other day.

The schedule for lockages is:

Sunday	10.15am	3.30pm	
Monday	12.15pm	4pm	
Tuesday	12.15pm	4pm	
Wednesday	10.15am	3.30pm	
Thursday	12.15pm	4pm	
Friday	12.15pm	4pm	
Saturday	8.30am	1.15pm	4pm

(This schedule will commence on 26 February 2010 and continue until 6 April 2010 inclusive unless otherwise advertised.)

All boats present at the lock prior to these specific times will be allowed through the lock (this may require more than one lockage). Outside of these times, lockages will only be provided in emergency situations.

The lockages will run until 6 April 2010. After this date it is likely that the lock will remain closed until the water level in the Goolwa Channel is raised by inflows down the Finniss River and Currency Creek.

Although water levels in Goolwa Channel are currently low due to summer evaporation, the restricted schedule of lockages will have minimal impact on salinity levels in the Goolwa Channel pool.