

# Media Release

## Environment Protection Authority



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### **EPA supporting Aboriginal engagement at Marion**

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has endorsed the appointment of an Aboriginal Engagement Officer at the Living Kurna Cultural Centre (LKCC) at Marion.

Merle Simpson has been appointed to the part-time role to assist the EPA Water Quality Branch to engage with the Kurna people of the Adelaide region.

EPA Water Quality Manager Andrew Solomon said this new role will make a significant contribution to the *Catchment to Coast* project which forms part of the Adelaide Coastal Watch Quality Improvement Plan (ACWQIP).

“This project is supported by the EPA through funding from the Australian Government’s National Landcare programme,” Mr Solomon said.

“The initial consultation process for the ACWQIP involved Kurna Nation representatives who provided input towards the development of this plan,” he said.

“Members of the Kurna community also contributed to a focus group that identified environmental values for Adelaide’s coastal waters.”

Mr Solomon said there is a clear and inseparable cultural and spiritual bond held by Aboriginal people for the landscape and the coast.

The Aboriginal Engagement Officer will assist the EPA to effectively engage with the Kurna people to identify linkages between their cultural and spiritual values and the Catchment to Coast project.

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**For further information please contact Chris Metevelis: 0439 137 641**



**Photo caption:** From left, EPA Water Quality Manager Andrew Solomon, Kaurna Elder Lynette Crocker and EPA Aboriginal Engagement Officer, Merle Simpson.

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