

**HELP
SAVE THE
MURRAY
FROM SAND**

Help keep our waterways healthy.

The River Murray and Lower Lakes supports local communities, tourism, recreational fishing and boating, it provides habitats for fish, plant and animal life along with being a water supply for many South Australians.

We are in danger of adding more challenges to its health and survival, particularly due to its temporary low levels.

Don't dump sand. Why?

Putting beach and other sand into these waterways for boat ramps, landscaping, small beaches or for water edge grasses is polluting this vital system. This dumped sand isn't natural to the ecosystem and damages the natural state of the River Murray and Lower Lakes.

Wind, waves and water traffic quickly moves the dumped sand from where it is placed and redistributes the sand through the river system. It then creates uncharted sand bars and alters berthing depths causing navigation and boating hazards. Sand can block irrigation channels and the main water supply intakes. Sand dumping may also increase the risk of cracking and slumping due to the creation of added weight on banks already under stress. It also affects the breeding sites for fish, worms and other river species that rely on natural, healthy riverbeds for their survival.

There is an alternative.

To continue to enjoy what the wonderful River Murray and Lower Lakes can provide we must work together. If you, or someone you know wants to create easier water access, we recommend the use of temporary structures and approved beach building materials.

For ideas, specific information and Development Approvals contact your local council.

Did you know it is illegal?

Putting sand into the River Murray and Lower Lakes is illegal and strong penalties apply.

- Dumping sand into the river or on its riverbank, may incur fines up to \$30,000.
- Contractors and sand suppliers may also be fined.
- Removal and site remediation may also be ordered.

**Call us on 8204 2004/1800 623 445
or www.epa.sa.gov.au/home/sand_dumping**

