

Media Release

Environment Protection Authority



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Working together to bring back Adelaide's seagrass

The State Government, industry, local government and community groups are working together to improve Adelaide's coastal water quality and bring back Adelaide's seagrass.

This commitment is set out in the draft Adelaide Coastal Water Quality Improvement Plan (ACWQIP), released for public comment today.

Acting Chief Executive Tony Circelli said the water quality improvement plan has been shaped by recommendations of the 2008 Adelaide Coastal Waters Study which investigated seagrass loss, water quality decline and sea floor instability.

"The Plan will also compliment actions developed under the more recent Water for Good and The 30 Year Plan for Adelaide that aim to secure good quality water in the future with climate change and population increase pressures", said Mr Circelli.

The Adelaide and Mount Lofty Natural Resource Management Board, EPA licence holders along the coastline and local councils are also committed to the Adelaide Coastal Water Quality Improvement Plan which recognises their current and future involvement in monitoring and on-ground works for improving water quality management.

The draft ACWQIP was prepared by the South Australian Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and an Adelaide Coastal Waters Steering Group with funding from the Australian Government.

The plan is the next step in a series of management actions designed to protect and restore Adelaide's coastal water quality and bring the seagrass meadows back closer to shore.

The EPA is now seeking comments on the plan from Adelaide's broader community.

The draft Adelaide Coastal Water Quality Improvement Plan (ACWQIP) is available at www.epa.sa.gov.au, along with information on how to make a submission on the plan.

Comments may be submitted by e-mail, in writing, or by completing an online feedback form from the website. Comments are due by 31 October 2011.

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