

Community vision and environmental values for Adelaide's coastal waters

Updated July 2013

EPA 893/13: This information sheet is part of a series to support water quality improvement for Adelaide coastal waters.

Introduction

The Adelaide Coastal Water Quality Improvement Plan (ACWQIP) aims to improve water quality consistent with the environmental values (EVs) which have been developed through community and stakeholder input. More information on the ACWQIP is available at <www.epa.sa.gov.au>.

Community vision for Adelaide's coastal waters

During development of the ACWQIP, a clear community based vision emerged for Adelaide's coastal waters which can be summarised as:

Healthy aquatic ecosystems where environmental, social and economic values are considered in equal and high regard a balanced management approach that aims to see the return of the blue line of seagrass closer to shore by 2050.

This vision was developed through input from people involved in local community groups, working in local government, natural resource management (NRM) and government agencies, in business and industry as well individuals from metropolitan Adelaide.

Environmental values and water quality objectives

Environmental values (EVs) describe the qualities and uses of waters that need to be protected from the effects of pollution. This is to ensure healthy aquatic ecosystems and waters that are safe and suitable for community use. EVs reflect the ecological (eg marine habitat), social (eg swimming) and economic (eg aquaculture) values and uses of water. EVs are used to support both planning and management by providing a guide of where best to undertake management actions.

Water quality objectives (WQOs) are the water quality targets required to protect water for its various environmental values. They are defined for physical (eg turbidity, suspended sediment and temperature), chemical (eg phosphorus, nitrogen and toxicant levels) and biological measures (eg micro-organisms). For example, the WQOs for secondary











Seacliff Park. Photo courtesy EPA













Community vision and environmental values for Adelaide’s coastal waters

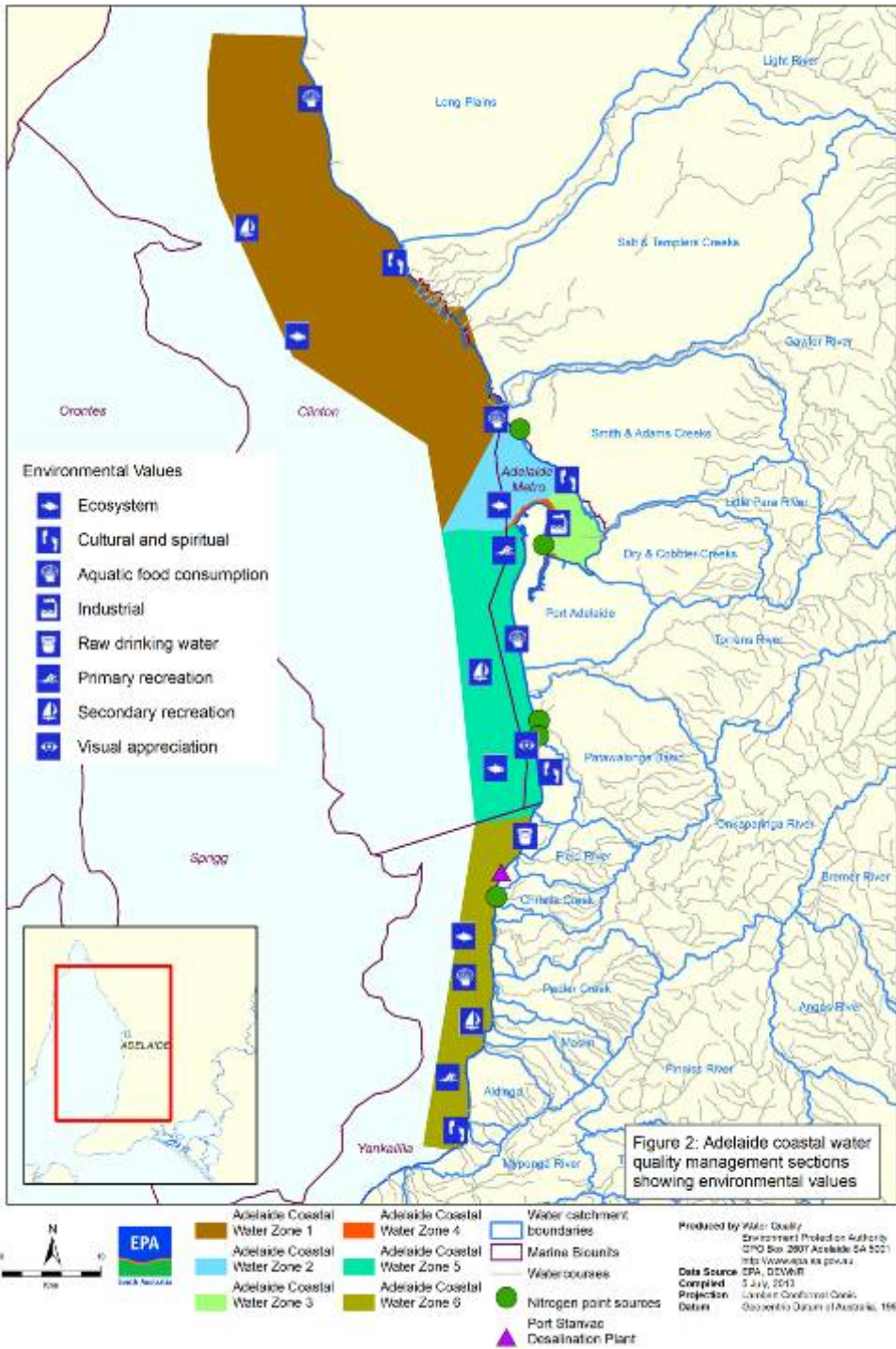
recreation activities on a boat would not be set as high as those for primary recreation where people swim and make contact with the water. WQOs for Adelaide’s coastal waters have been set in the ACWQIP.

Through workshops held for the development of the ACWQIP and input provided by the Adelaide Coastal Waters Steering Group, EVs for Adelaide’s coastal waters have been identified as:

	<p>Aquatic ecosystems, eg fish, crustaceans, seagrass meadows</p>		<p>Primary recreation, eg swimming, surfing, snorkelling</p>		<p>Industrial use, eg making products, cooling processes</p>
	<p>Cultural and spiritual, eg water dependant places, ecosystems or species with special significance for Aboriginal and non indigenous communities</p>		<p>Secondary recreation, eg sailing, kayaking, canoeing</p>		<p>Raw drinking water, eg source for desalination plant</p>
	<p>Visual appreciation, eg picnics, sightseeing, photography, relaxation</p>		<p>Human consumption, eg fishing, crabbing</p>		

Community agreed environmental values for Adelaide’s coastal waters

  <p>Aquatic ecosystems – <i>Posidonia sinuosa</i> seagrass with fruits. <i>Photo courtesy DENR</i></p>	  <p>Primary recreation – beach scene Glenelg. <i>Photo courtesy SATC</i></p>	  <p>Industrial use – aerial view of Port Adelaide. <i>Photo courtesy Penrice Soda Holdings</i></p>
  <p>Cultural and spiritual – dolphins</p>	  <p>Secondary recreation – Adelaide Sailing Club. <i>Photo courtesy Jason Bekin</i></p>	  <p>Raw drinking water – Adelaide desalination plant. <i>Photo courtesy SA Water</i></p>



Source: Adelaide Coastal Water Quality Improvement Plan

References

EPA 2013, [Adelaide Coastal Water Quality Improvement Plan](#), Environment Protection Authority, Adelaide.

Useful websites

Environment Protection Authority, Water Quality pages <www.epa.sa.gov.au/water_quality>

WaterConnect <www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au>

Adelaide & Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board <www.amlrnm.sa.gov.au>

Department of Environment and Natural Resources <www.environment.sa.gov.au>

SA Water <www.sawater.com.au>

Disclaimer

This publication is a guide only and does not necessarily provide adequate information in relation to every situation. This publication seeks to explain your possible obligations in a helpful and accessible way. In doing so, however, some detail may not be captured. It is important, therefore, that you seek information from the EPA itself regarding your possible obligations and, where appropriate, that you seek your own legal advice.

Further information

Legislation

Legislation may be viewed on the Internet at: <www.legislation.sa.gov.au>

Copies of legislation are available for purchase from:

Service SA Government Legislation Outlet	Telephone:	13 23 24
Adelaide Service SA Centre	Facsimile:	(08) 8204 1909
108 North Terrace	Website:	< shop.service.sa.gov.au >
Adelaide SA 5000		

For general information please contact:

Environment Protection Authority	Telephone:	(08) 8204 2004
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