

Headline: Meeting of the Waters, Meeting of the Minds in Goolwa

Standfirst: Scientists, community, and the Ngarrindjeri Nation come together to exchange knowledge and ideas on managing and preserving the internationally recognised and culturally significant Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth region.

05 March 2025: Last week, scientists, First Nations and community gathered at the CLLMM (Coorong Lower Lakes Murray Mouth) Research Centre in Goolwa for a Research Networking Day. The event provided an opportunity for teams delivering Research Centre projects to share their knowledge, discuss ongoing projects, and identify future needs for the Coorong region.

Rebekha Sharkie MP officially opened the Research Networking Day, highlighting the crucial role of CLLMM Research Centre and the voices of the community in advancing knowledge of the region.

"We need more science, we need more scientists in Parliament House," she said.

The CLLMM Research Centre is delivering the largest research collaboration to ever focus on the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth region. With 25 research projects currently underway, from examining freshwater soaks in the Coorong, barrage technology as it nears its centenary of operation, local and migratory birdlife, changing water levels and how local communities can adapt to worsening drought and floods in this region. To deliver these projects, the CLLMM Research Centre is bringing together more than 130 project team members consisting of scientists from South Australia's three universities, Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation, Burrendies Aboriginal Corporation, local community organisations, and private and NGO sectors.

Dr Nick Whiterod, Science Program Manager of the CLLMM Research Centre, highlighted the contributions of independent scientific advice, First Nations knowledge and community activity to the Centre's understanding of climate change impacts.

"The Research Centre has created a platform for scientists, community and First Nations to work together to better understand how to respond to, and prepare for, the challenges facing the region now, in 10, or 100 years," he said.

He added "Getting project teams in the same room for the Research Networking Day was an important step to get them all on the same page. The day helped foster connections that will help to deliver the projects of the Research Centre

If you would find out more about the projects and opportunities to be involved, visit the www.cllmmresearchcentre.org

About CLLMM: The Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) Research Centre, based in Goolwa, SA, was established in 2023 through funding by the Australian Government. The Research Centre is delivered by the Goyder Institute for Water Research which is a collaborative partnership of the South Australian Government through the Department for Environment and Water, CSIRO, Flinders University, the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia. The Centre is working with First Nations and community, government agencies and local organisations to design, deliver, and disseminate knowledge to inform decision-making relating to the impact of climate change throughout the CLLMM region.

END

For media inquiries, please contact:

Sue Ellison

Communications and Engagement Coordinator
CLLMM Research Centre

Phone: 0435 003 535

Email: sue.ellison@goyderinstitute.org

Website: www.cllmmresearchcentre.org