



## Living Laboratories

ICE WaRM presents a workshop on

# Wetland ecosystems on the Fleurieu Peninsula

WHEN: Thursday 21 May 2009

TIME: 9.30 am - 1.30 pm

WHERE: Botanic Gardens of Adelaide  
Noel Lothian Hall  
Hackney Road, Adelaide

**RSVP by COB Thurs 14 May 2009**

To register or for further information:

Email: [dthaw@icewarm.com.au](mailto:dthaw@icewarm.com.au)

Phone: 08 8236 5212

### Context

Over 700 wetlands have been mapped on the Fleurieu Peninsula landscape. Wetlands of the region are ecological assets, supporting over 700 plant species and providing critical habitat for fauna within a largely agricultural matrix. The regional climate supports a diverse range of land uses and as a result the Fleurieu wetlands are subject to a number of threatening processes.

Calls for protection of Fleurieu wetlands led to a subset of critical swamps being listed under the Commonwealth EPBC Act in 2003. Unlike other listed EPBC icons in South Australia, the 'Fleurieu Peninsula Swamp' (FPS) community has to date not attracted major research interest. Prior work has largely focussed on regional scale mapping with little attention to process understanding. Both conservation activities and the need to protect environmental water requirements under natural resource management (NRM) plans present an urgent need for functional understanding of wetlands in the region.

Conservation activity in Fleurieu wetlands has been achieved through investment by federal and state conservation and NRM authorities and the non-government sector. A dedicated Recovery Program (RP) has developed a significant presence in the region and in recent years has undertaken a large amount of on-ground works. The RP lacks the resources for rigorous scientific research, but this investment presents a leveraging opportunity for research funding. A unified research and management program would ensure an approach that was truly adaptive with outcomes achieved in partnership with stakeholders across a hierarchy from landholders to the Australian Government.

### Purpose of the workshop

To explore the possibility of a research collaboration integrated with restoration and management effort within an applied research framework.

Ticketed car parking available on:  
Plane Tree Drive off Hackney Road  
Cost \$2.20 for 4 hours

Supported by:



**Government  
of South Australia**

Department of Water,  
Land and Biodiversity  
Conservation



## Living Laboratories

### **Living Laboratories & Biodiversity Research Hubs**

The philosophy behind “Living Laboratories” is that the current investment in landscape change through Natural Resource Management Programs offers the research community a “laboratory” within which hypotheses can be tested and measurements can be taken at full landscape scale. The Living Laboratories Program is supported by ICEWaRM and DWLBC.

Biodiversity Research Hubs bring together key State scientists within priority areas of biodiversity research to workshop priorities and ways forward. The theme area of “Landscapes and Communities” has specifically identified large-scale restoration programmes such as the RMF and Habitat 141 as a key vehicle to promote work class research. Biodiversity Research Hubs are supported by DEH and this joint workshop with Living Laboratories is an exciting State venture in cross agency collaboration.

### **Other potential research topics:**

- Carbon cycling and sequestration
- Land use or climate change impacts on wetland ecosystem functioning
- Tailoring suitable remote sensing techniques for wetland extent and condition reporting
- Managing/optimizing disturbance regimes for ecological outcomes