

Monday, 21 April 2008

### RIVER MURRAY DROUGHT PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR THE RIVERLAND

Riverland communities can hear the latest information about the River Murray drought at a series of public meetings this week.

Minister for the River Murray Karlene Maywald says two River Murray drought public information sessions will be held in the region tomorrow.

“This drought is affecting all communities along the River Murray and it is important that people are kept up-to-date with the latest information about conditions and outlook,” she said.

“These meetings will provide Riverlanders with the latest assessment from the Murray-Darling Basin Commission and the outlook for opening allocations for the start of the 2008-09 water year.

“Importantly, they will also provide an opportunity to outline the water security measures already in place and the decisions that need to be made for when the drought begins to break.

“This includes how we are planning to approach the recovery of the River Murray system and priorities for where water will be allocated.”

As well as an update from Minister Maywald, a range of experts will be on hand to provide detailed information and answer questions.

Minister Maywald encouraged all members of the Riverland community to attend one of the information sessions.

“We want people to be able to have access to the very latest information available so they can make informed business decisions in the lead-up to the 2008-09 water year,” she said.

**The River Murray drought information sessions on Tuesday, 22 April, will be held at:**

- **Berri Bowling Club, 12.30pm-2.30pm**
- **Waikerie Sport and Recreation Centre, 4pm-6pm.**

Further information about the sessions is available from the SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board on 8532 1432.

