

Adrian Pederick MP

Member for Hammond

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More to be done – Lower Lakes

News that an extra 300 billion litres of water will flow into the River Murray over the next seven months is welcome, but there is still a long way to go, according to Liberal Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick.

“The promised 300 billion litres of water flow will provide a much needed boost and will assist all river users,” Mr Pederick said.

“This extra water is not only of great assistance to the environmental outcomes needed but will also have a positive economic and social impact.”

However, Mr Pederick believes there is a lot that still needs to be done.

“The 300 billion litres will assist with much needed flows right through to the Murray Mouth and the Lower Lakes are slowly returning to health following the devastating drought,” said Mr Pederick.

“But it is imperative that flows are maintained so we do not have a repeat of past events – the lower reaches of the River are still dealing with legacies of decisions made during the drought, such as the construction of the bunds.”

Salinity levels also continue to be a concern. A measurement taken on 1 August at Lake Albert registered a 2,700 EC recording.

“It has been three years since the end of the drought and the Lower Lakes still face high salinity levels,” said Mr Pederick.

“Whilst I welcome this news, far more work and research needs to be conducted for the long-term protection of the River Murray and in particular, the Murray Mouth, Lower Lakes and the Coorong.”