

MEDIA RELEASE

Adrian Pederick MP JP

Member for Hammond

Shadow Minister for

River Murray – Sustainability and Climate Change

Agriculture, Food and Fisheries – Forests

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Report river bank slumping says Pederick

Resident along the River Murray should report any signs of cracking or slumping of the river banks says local MP Adrian Pederick.

Mr Pederick, who is Shadow Minister for the River Murray, said the recent major subsidence at Long Island that took three vehicles into the river is only one symptom of a much bigger problem.

‘Most people know the low flow of the River Murray is causing major problems for the Lower Lakes,’ Mr Pederick said, ‘but many had not realised until now that low flows and levels pose many other threats to life on the river.’

‘Serious cracking and slumping of the bank was evident over twelve months ago but it’s not until last week’s dramatic event that the true ramifications have been realised.

‘Investigations are underway to determine the exact location and extent of the problem to guard against recurrences that potentially could have much more serious consequences.

‘I urge all people familiar with the river banks to report their observations to the department to help them quickly identify risk areas.

‘I also remind the state and federal governments that their failure to adequately address low river flows will ultimately cost far more than the relatively small amounts needed now to preserve our environment.’

Mr Pederick said people wishing to report cracking or slumping of the river banks should contact Richard Brown, DWLBC Manager Lower Murray Infrastructure, on 8204 8575.