

CCSA is the peak environment organisation in SA, leading much of the State's conservation work and advocating for the protection of our precious natural environment. For more info, visit www.ccsa.asn.au.

CCSA Briefs



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In this issue:

- Walk Against Warming
- Jill Hudson Award Winner
- CCSA Fish Forum

Production Notes

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Wake-up calls at Waste & Biodiversity Summits

CCSA's review of state environment policy is now two-thirds completed, with two more Summits held since the last issue of *Briefs*. On 11th September we looked at issues around **Waste**, and on 6th November, our state's **Biodiversity** was in the spotlight. While waste might not seem the sexiest of topics, it is one we cannot afford to ignore in our response to climate change. Degradable waste in landfill sites emits methane for over 50 years. This creates a lag effect: so the longer we take to reduce landfill waste, the bigger the greenhouse problem becomes. **by 2050 waste could be accounting for 80% of Australia's greenhouse gas emissions!**



Waste: A problem or resource?

Keynote speaker **Dave West, Director of the Boomerang Alliance**, gave participants a firsthand account how the Federal Government's **Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme**

will actually benefit polluters over energy-efficient recyclers, unless corrective action is taken. This stark fact highlighted to all present that we must take immediate action to reduce waste.

As CCSA's draft waste report noted, properly managed waste has the capacity not only to eliminate its own greenhouse footprint: by harnessing the embodied energy in products and materials, **recycling could become Australia's first carbon-negative industry!**

All states and territories must do their bit to achieve these outcomes, but as West acknowledged, our state is already among the top five in the world with its container deposit legislation.

Continued on page 2.

Walk Against Warming to Canberra

The first of two Adelaide **Walk Against Warming (WAW)** events for 2008 was held in Rundle Mall on Nov 14-15th, in conjunction with other events around the country. Organised jointly by **CCSA, Make Poverty History** and **The Wilderness Society**, the event gave people the opportunity to join in a virtual walk to Canberra to tell our Federal politicians that we need immediate and major action on climate change. This was a critical message to get across as the Government prepares for the **December climate talks at Poznan, Poland**.

The virtual walk involved members of the public in Rundle Mall covering the 1209 km to Canberra with exercise bikes and treadmills, set up around an information stall. The event successfully engaged numerous people and made it to Canberra by the Saturday afternoon.



Polities on the march against climate change. Pic P. Grillo

Some enthusiastic punters covered over 30 kms, others managed just one, but everyone learned more about Australia's part in the international climate change response. SA politicians attending included the **Shadow Climate**

Change Minister Adrian Pedrick, Labor MP for Ashford, **Stephanie Key** and **Greens MLC Mark Parnell** who all joined in to do their bit and help deliver our message. Walkers and riders were given a certificate of participation with many proudly photographed showing their achievement. See the website www.walkagainstawarming.org The reverse of the certificate highlighted the message we wanted to convey to the Government to take to the climate talks: **strong leadership, genuine targets, an end to deforestation, a just and fair international agreement and support for renewable technology.** CCSA thanks everyone who volunteered over the two days and those who clocked up the kilometres to Canberra.

Jimmy Brideson
 WAW Co-ordinator

CCSA's Coast & Marine in a Changing Climate Summit

Thursday 4th
 December

Keynote Speaker

Elvira Poloczanska
CSIRO Marine & Atmospheric Research

A panel of representatives from local government, business, fishing & the environment sectors will also be present.

Enterprise House,
136 Greenhill Rd,
Unley

10am – 4pm.

Register now in person,
by phone or online

www.ccsa.asn.au



After a presentation of CCSA's draft policy recommendations, feedback was given from each panellists representing various stakeholder interests: **Toby Terlet** from **Business SA** and **SITA**, **John Phillips** from **KESAB** and **Adam Gray** of the **Local Government Association (LGA)**. Dave West's keynote presentation is available as a PowerPoint presentation on our [website](#). You can also see a graph showing Summit attendees' levels of support for CCSA's draft policy recommendations.

The **Biodiversity in a Changing Climate Summit** held more recently was just as lively. CCSA's presentation was followed by challenging presentations from panellists **Sharon Starick** of the **SA Farmers Federation**, **Martin Andrew** representing **Business SA & URS Corp** and **Anita Crisp** from the **LGA**.

The keynote address by Adelaide expat **Professor Hugh Possingham** (**Director of University of Queensland's Ecology Centre** and **Member of the Wentworth Group**) had some startling statements. On the one hand, Prof Possingham gave a snapshot of some very gloomy climate

change predictions by his climate scientist colleague in the **Wentworth Group**, **Prof David Karoly**. Karoly believes that the **IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)** is too conservative in its projections. Apparently, pollution in the atmosphere has a cooling effect and so paradoxically, if we reduce our greenhouse emissions, we can expect the warming trend to accelerate. (Of course not reducing them quickly is no solution to this quandary!) Sea level rises of two metres are seen as inevitable in the next century.

Prof Possingham believes much of the world's biodiversity will adapt to this climate change better than humans will be able to – although he notes that it is the species with generations of four years or less that will be able to evolve fast enough, which does not tend to characterise many of our favourite species!

The key point Hugh Possingham was making is that **climate change is not the biggest threat to biodiversity** – anything that climate change prompts us to do is likely to be something we should have been doing anyway.

The biggest problem for biodiversity is the amount of land that has been cleared. We are continuing to lose species as a result of this, and in some cases, we do not even know what we are losing because the data is so patchy. As a starting point, we need to be collecting data to build up an accurate picture of how species behave, and to find out how they will react to a changed climate.

Possingham also put out a challenge to governments, NGOs and anyone else working in conservation: it is not enough to create a list of things that could or should be done, we need to prioritise according to what actions will get the best 'bang for the buck'.

CCSA will be taking this advice on-board, as well as Possingham's cautionary note that coastal ecosystems require special attention because of the sea level rise to come. This is a timely reminder of issues that CCSA will address in our next policy Summit, **Coast and Marine in a Changing Climate on 4 December**. As always, you can register via www.ccsa.asn.au. We hope to see you there!

Julia Winefield

CCSA Policy & Communications Manager

Young Achiever Rocks Against Warming

The **Jill Hudson Award for Environmental Protection** is awarded by CCSA to the person who has made an outstanding contribution to environmental protection over the previous 12 months, and faced significant challenges in doing so.

Alice Mussared is the latest recipient and is the youngest-ever winner of the annual Jill Hudson Award for Environmental Protection. Also recognised on the night was **Sally Metzger**, **Chair of the Woodcutters Road Environmental Protection Association** who was awarded CCSA's **Unsung Hero Award**. The **Hon Mark Parnell, MLC**, himself a previous recipient of the Jill Hudson Award, presented the awards at a function at the Conservation Centre.

Other nominees included **Ray Hill** from the **Cheltenham Residents Association** for his ceaseless work to preserve the open space around the Cheltenham race course for wetlands, stormwater harvesting and open space; **Janine Baker** for her tireless efforts to protect the states' marine heritage and eco-architect **Emilis Prelgauskas** from the **Monarto Residents Association** for his intervention to protect the **Ferries-McDonald Conservation Park**, (South Australia's second oldest – dedicated in 1956). Ultimately, it was Alice, 16, of Aldgate who was recognised for her leadership and efforts in the **Rock Against Warming** project she initiated. Supported

Jill Hudson Award winner Alice Mussared and other nominees.

L-R: Emilis Prelgauskas, Ray Hill, Steve Vines, Alice, Presenter (& previous JHA winner) Mark Parnell MLC, Sally Metzger and Janine Baker.

Picture: Lesley Parton



Rock Against Warming raised over \$4,000 for the Conservation Council of SA and sponsored the **2007 Walk Against Warming and SA Youth Environment Conference**.

Julie Pettett, CCSA CEO, said "Alice's work is a shining example to all young people that their passion for the environment can translate to positive outcomes and their commitment really can make a difference. Alice has been an inspiration to many people and we know she will continue to be a champion for the environment into the future".

Sally Metzger, of Coromandel East, was awarded the **2008 CCSA Unsung Hero Award** for forming the **Woodcutters Road Environmental**

by her friends and colleagues **Ali Chester**, **Georgia Hagias** and **Jackson Shaw**, the RAW project involved co-ordinating 15 young local Adelaide bands who each wrote, performed and recorded a song about climate change and global warming for a CD. Alice spent her school holidays and weekends successfully applying for grants, researching information, designing promotional and educational materials, organising a launch event and much more! She received a congratulatory letter from former **US Vice-President Al Gore**, and was the youngest person in Australia to attend his **Climate Messenger** training course in Melbourne.

Protection Association Inc (WREPA). The group is campaigning to preserve a section of nationally significant remnant bushland. Rich in biodiversity and containing rare orchid species, the Southern Brown Bandicoot, wetlands and bordering several Heritage Agreement areas, it is at risk of being turned into a multi-purpose recreational facility particularly for horse riders. The battle is not over yet, but the dedicated work of Sally and her group will ensure that awareness of issues associated with remnant bushland will continue to be raised.

James Danenberg
CCSA Campaigner



Conservation Council Fish Forum

The CCSA marine team have developed a new regular event – the **CCSA Fish Forum** – in conjunction with **PIRSA Fisheries and Wildcatch Fisheries SA**, the commercial fishing industry

After short presentations from scientists and government, the floor was open for a facilitated discussion. This format worked extremely well, with scientists able to answer many questions and some major data gaps identified. Informal networking and discussion continued over drinks and nibbles, with significant positive feedback.

Future Fish Forum topics potentially include 'green' seafood labelling schemes, ecological sustainability assessment, gear types, and even the possibility of an early morning visit to the fish market at Mile End.

The next CCSA Fish Forum will be held on 4th February, 2009, with a focus on the **Australian Sea Lion (ASL)**. This endangered species is often caught as by-catch in a Commonwealth-managed fishery, which is of great concern.

Western Blue Groper: Pic Vicki Billings



representative body. The marine team have been involved in a project with the Spencer Gulf prawn fishery and through this process jointly identified the need for a community forum on fisheries issues. Both organisations were very keen to engage in such a forum where they could communicate with concerned members of the public and bring issues to the community through this interface. CCSA's Fish Forum does just that and enables the environment sector to discuss, debate and share information on a wide range of fisheries issues, with input from NGOs, government, industry and scientists.

The first of these forums was held in mid-November, with a focus on the **Western Blue Groper**, a large and charismatic fish that is partially protected. The forum discussed the conservation status of this species and whether it needs more protection. The event attracted more than thirty people, including representatives from **PIRSA Fisheries, DEH, Wildcatch Fisheries SA, the Charter Boat Owners Association**, recreational fishers, divers and other interested parties.



Aust. Sea Lion pic: Ben Brayford

ASL expert **Dr Simon Goldsworthy** from **SARDI Aquatic Sciences** will be a special guest along with a representative from the **Australian Fisheries Management Authority**, who manage this fishery. The forum is free and open to all. Further details will be confirmed in future editions of Briefs and CCSA's e-bulletins or contact Alex Gaut at CCSA for more information.

[AlexGaut](#)

CCSA Marine Program Co-ordinator

CCSA
CCSA WILL BE
CLOSED FROM
NOON ON
FRI DEC 19TH
AND
WILL REOPEN
9AM MONDAY
JAN 5TH.

BEST WISHES
FOR THE
FESTIVE
SEASON FROM
ALL CCSA
STAFF



CCSA is upstairs at No. 157 (opposite the new bike racks)

Walk Against Warming 11am Dec 6th - Glenelg Jetty

The **second Walk Against Warming** event will be held on **Saturday December 6th** at the **Glenelg foreshore**, to coincide with the **International Day of Action on Climate Change**. Here in Adelaide and other cities, we will be forming a massive human map of Australia, as part of the symbolic message to our leaders. Meet at **11am at the Glenelg jetty** to join in. **Longtime WAW supporters Federal Labor MP Steve Georganas and Greens stalwart Mark Parnell MLC** are just two of the confirmed attendees. It is important we get a good turnout to send a strong message to the politicians and community, that **we care about climate change and we demand action!** Please help circulate this event to your networks and bring your family and friends - help us make this the biggest WAW yet! For more information contact Walk Against Warming Co-ordinator **Jimmy Brideson** walk@ccsa.asn.au or 0400 273 203.

WAW Pictures: Paul Grillo TWS



CCSA Workshop

Submission Writing for NRM Plans & the EPBC Review

10th December

5.30 pm—7.30 pm

All CCSA members
welcome

RSVP to campaigns@ccsa.asn.au
or call 8223 5155
for further information



Take the next step...
join us to demand
leadership and action to
tackle climate change
Tram, bike, rollerblade,
hop, skip, or walk to
Glenelg.

Bring an umbrella
and help us create a
giant human message.

For more information
contact:

walk@ccsa.asn.au
or call **Jimmy** on
0400 273 203



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Walk Against Warming 2007

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