



# Sustaining our Environment

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# Objectives



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# Partnerships & Leadership



**Government of South Australia**

Department of Planning  
and Local Government




**Government of South Australia**

Department of Environment  
and Natural Resources



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# Leadership



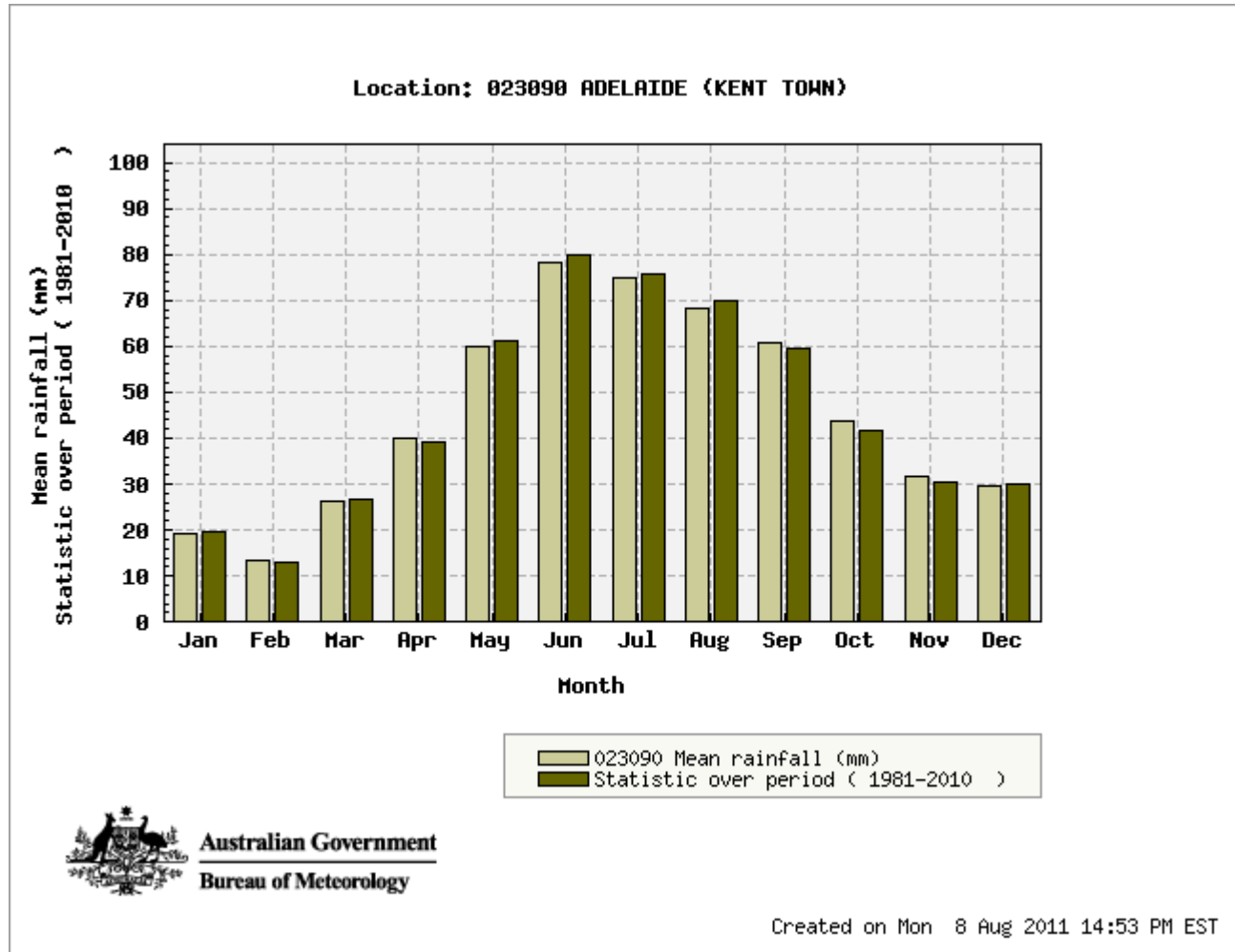
As Stephen Hains the recently retired CEO, who was CEO from 1991 to 2011, said “You will achieve nothing as an engineer without bringing the people with you”. His foresight in working closely together with the elected members provided the catalyst in convincing the community of the importance of creating these wetlands to protect the Barker Inlet. Together they also increased the communities understanding and passion to restore important habitat for fauna and flora in the City. The principles of Economic and Environmental Sustainability have become the foundation to Salisbury’s success.

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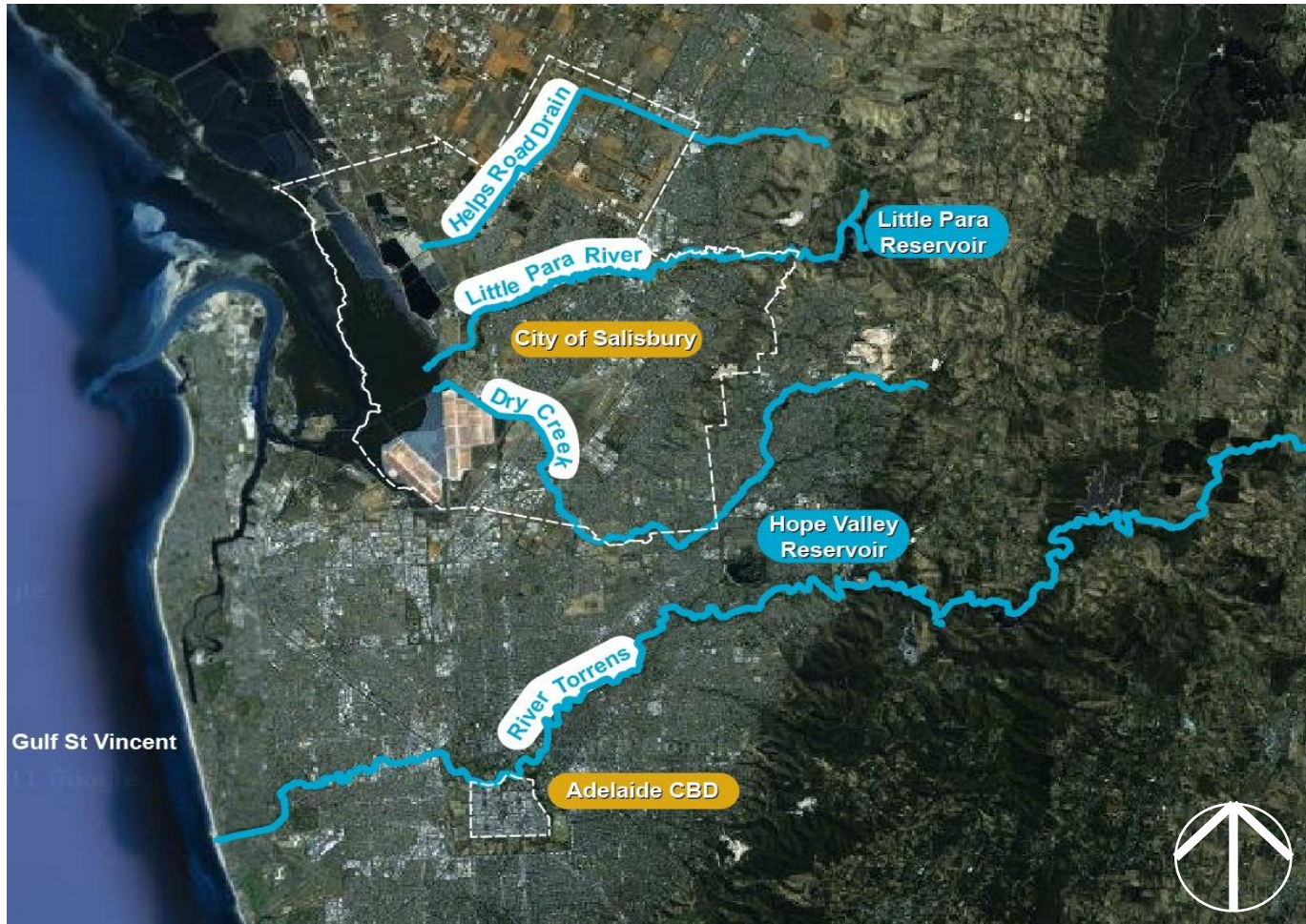


# The Geographical Context



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Looking South





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Dry Creek





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Little Para River



# The Political Context



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St Kilda





Barker Inlet

Barker Inlet as “Our most precious environmental resource in the Adelaide region that must be protected” (Mayor Plumridge, 1993)

Research began in earnest for 6 years with an amazing array of Scientists, Engineers, Biologists, Hydro-geologists, Chemists, Designers, Landscape Architects, Planners. Thus began the construction of a significant number of wetlands. This also began the philosophy of true Integrated Design.

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Greenfields & Swan Alley





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Kaurna Park, Springbank & Burton





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Bennett, Paddocks & ASR



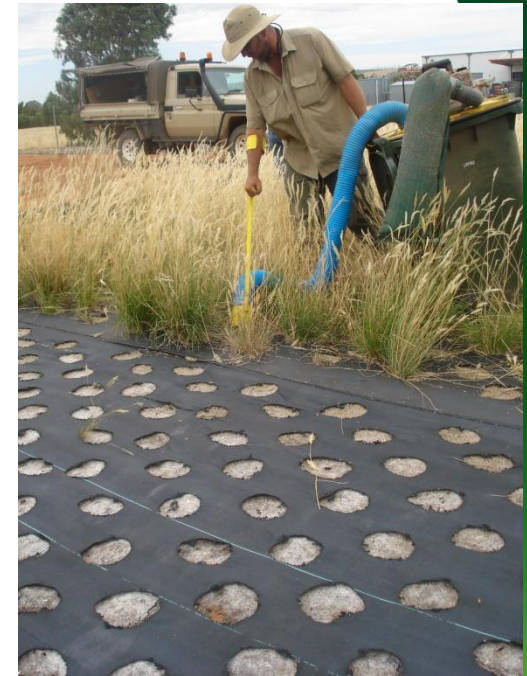
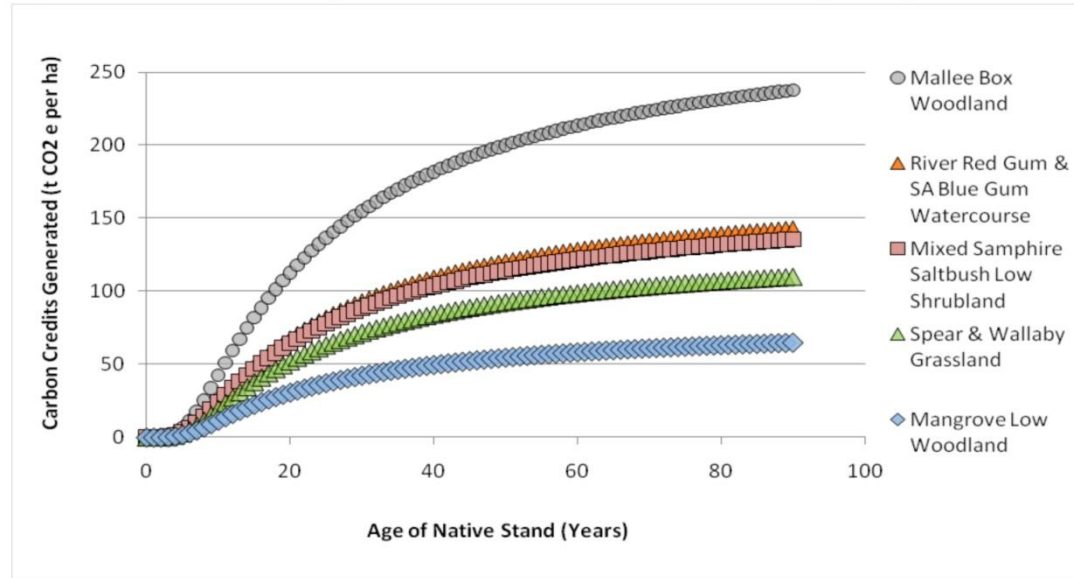


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Sustainable Corridors & Integrated Design



Figure 8. NCAT CO2 e yeilds modeled for trees in each target vegetation association.



### Expected Cost Savings over 10 Years for a 10 Ha Pilot Revegetation Site

Year	Capital Budget	Proposed Maintenance Budget	Do Nothing Maintenance Budget \$	Cost Savings \$
1	55,230.00	0.00	15,600.00	-39,630.00
2	13,100.00	0.00	16,224.00	3,124.00
3	0.00	10,587.20	16,872.96	6,285.76
4	0.00	11,010.69	17,547.88	6,537.19
5	0.00	17,051.12	18,249.79	1,198.68
6	0.00	11,035.85	18,979.79	7,943.93
7	0.00	11,477.29	19,738.98	8,261.69
8	0.00	11,936.38	20,528.54	8,592.16
9	0.00	12,413.84	21,349.68	8,935.84
10	0.00	12,910.39	22,203.66	9,293.28
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 68,330.00</b>	<b>\$ 98,422.75</b>	<b>\$ 187,295.27</b>	<b><u>\$ 20,542.52</u></b>



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**Sustainable Corridors & Seed Orchard**



# Ongoing Innovation



Colin Pitman in one of the vertical wetlands he designed in Pooraka.  
Picture: Brooke Whatnall

**A** SYSTEM of 13 interconnected wetlands, purifying stormwater to sell to industry, just wasn't enough for Salisbury Council. The latest additions to their network at Pooraka and Parafield Airport offers a new approach that processes 10 times the amount of water for one-third of the cost. The \$15.4 million concept starts with the basics of wetland processing – diverting stormwater through filters to remove debris and pollutants, then returning it to underground aquifers for storage and reuse.

Salisbury Council's water guru Colin Pitman just won't give up on his crusade to deliver better water to the community, writes Russell Emmerson

But our future involves greater urbanisation, greater centralisation, meaning cities will have less space to hold vital wetlands. The City of Salisbury's vertical wetlands offer

a system with a footprint 12 times smaller than the traditional wetlands but one that will harvest, treat, store and distribute up to 1300ML every year.

City projects director Colin Pitman has long spruiked the council's water management, a project of 13 sites connected by 120km of pipes that provides industry with non-potable water that is cheaper than that provided by SA Water – and yet still turns a profit for the council. And there is no doubt he

"We are returning the water to the land from whence it came. It is really the science of localism," he says.

"We now know the water we are putting into the wetlands is better on average than the water received into Adelaide's reservoirs. It actually raises the quality."

There is yet work to be done on the vertical system, he says, including research into which plants, filters and

comment



# Community Engagement



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## Cobbling up a trail

### ENVIRONMENT

STUDENTS, workers and volunteers from across the community have come together to help rebuild the Cobbler Creek Trail.

The trail, opposite the Cobbler Creek Recreation Park at Salisbury East, had become overgrown and eroded over time.

The ongoing project to rejuvenate the trail includes three timber bridges, five weir crossings and 800m of natural vegetation.

The Salisbury Council-funded project, started in late 2007, has since involved students from various schools, universities and work-placement programs.

Year 10 students from Craigmere Christian School spent last week putting in 2000 plants under their school work-experience program.

The council's environmental management officer, Brian Pledger (pictured with volunteers Danny Tallboy and Dwayne Bowles), said the trail was a "hidden treasure".

"It has given residents another recreational opportunity," he said.

"Every day that we are there we get people thanking us for doing it.

"It is a little bit of wilderness in the middle of the suburbs."

Mr Pledger said vandalism had hindered the project, with about 600 plants recently ripped out.

"It's a bit disappointing," he said. "It's not the first time it's happened."

Mr Pledger said the replanting would continue until the creek became environmentally stable.



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# Thinking Big!



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