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MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 4th February 2019

MDA – Connecting Catchments and Communities

The MDA will run a series of workshops titled ***Connecting Catchments and Communities***, the first to be held in Renmark on the 22nd February 2019 10.00am to 4.00pm. The workshops will be presented as inter-regional events, aimed at enhancing water literacy and exchanging information between councils and communities across the Basin.

The Renmark event - ***Connecting Catchments and Communities: Menindee to The Mouth*** explore the role and management of both the Menindee Lakes, and the Coorong and Lower Lakes. Experts and the relevant authorities will look at both operational and ecological management strategies – and the interconnectedness of our Basin regions.

Following the success of such initiatives at the National Conference over recent years, the MDA will facilitate further education and information session on the topic of river health and connectivity from Menindee to the Coorong.

The series is targeted to councils and communities Barwon-Darling and South Australian Regions. The events will provide an opportunity for knowledge building and information exchange with government departments and agencies, and with each other.

Topics for the coming year include:

- **Albury to Adelaide** - exploring topics of inflows and urban water use, planning, flood management etc.
- **Balonne to Broken Hill** – exploring topics of irrigation in the Northern Basin, Barwon-Darling water sharing plan etc
- **Moira to Mildura** – exploring issues of constraints, management of the Barmah choke, impact of expanding the irrigation footprint to permanent plantings below The Choke, total capacity and supply obligations etc.

- **Naran Lake to Nyngan** – Managing the Macquarie Marshes – exploring the relationship between the irrigation, the SDLs and ephemeral wetlands of the interior.

For further information, or to register your interest in this event, please contact Cr Jane MacAllister of Wentworth Shire Council Chair of MDA Region 4 on 0427 118 396, or Cr Peter Hunter of Renmark Paringa Council, Chair of Region 5 on 0447 177 341. Or email admin@mda.asn.au.

The Murray Darling Association's regional chairs are:

Region 1	Albury City Council	Cr David Thurley	0419 510 274
Region 2	Moira Shire Council	Cr Peter Mansfield	0428 574 433
Region 3	Vacant		
Region 4	Wentworth Shire Council	Cr Jane MacAllister	0427 118 396
Region 5	Renmark Paringa Council	Cr Peter Hunter	0447 177 341
Region 6	Election Pending		
Region 7	City of Mitcham	Cr Andrew Tilley	0411 158 882
Region 8	Northern Areas Council	Mayor Denis Clark	0408 148 725
Region 9	Leeton Shire Council	Mayor Paul Maytom	0447 293 829
Region 10	Narromine Shire Council	Mayor Craig Davies	0429 887 707
Region 11	Gunnedah Shire Council	Cr John Campbell	0408 421 065
Region 12	Balonne Shire Council	Mayor Richard Marsh	0409 692 299

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For more information, contact Murray Darling Association Chief Executive Officer, Emma Bradbury on 0429 905 017 or Cr David Thurley on 0419 510 274.