



# MEDIA RELEASE

## Beacon 19 Boat Ramp opening Saturday! 29 August 2023

Following a \$1.9 million upgrade by the Alexandrina Council, the Beacon 19 Boat Ramp near the Goolwa Barrage will be open to the public this weekend (Saturday, 2 September 2023).

The Beacon 19 Boat Ramp is one of the main access points to the Coorong National Park and has recently been renovated to provide modern boating facilities and safer access to the Coorong and Lower Lakes for water users.

The upgrade was funded by Alexandrina Council with support from the Government of South Australia through a \$650,000 grant from the Economic Stimulus funding program.

The project involved dredging, the replacement of the 40-year-old, existing wooden jetties and the installation of a new pontoon structure to make it easier and safer for boat users to launch and retrieve their vessels.

Alexandrina Mayor Keith Parkes said the new facilities would enhance the reputation of Goolwa and surrounding areas as a premier boating destination.

“The new, improved ramp will also encourage opportunities to link Beacon 19 with the natural attractions of the Coorong such as bird watching, bushwalking, kayaking and other water sports,” Mr Parkes said.

“The facilities give visitors another reason to explore the Alexandrina region, and it assists our community to capitalise on regional tourism opportunities, such as leveraging educational and tourism tours associated with the Storm Boy feature film, South Australian Wooden Boat Festival, and boating events in the Lower Lakes.”

Alexandrina Council’s Chief Executive, Nigel Morris, said upgrading the infrastructure was critical for community safety.

“One of the main aims of this project was to make it easier for boat users to launch and retrieve their vessels in Goolwa,” Mr Morris said.

“The project involved the replacement of the existing wooden jetties with modern, longer structures to improve safety and navigation.

“The lighting and signage will make the boating experience safer and more enjoyable for locals and visitors alike.”

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