

## Sunraysia Regional Algal Coordinating Committee

25 January 2019

### Red Alert lifted in the Murray River for sections of the Mildura weir pool, Wentworth weir pool and Lock 9 weir pool.

The Sunraysia Regional Algal Coordinating Committee and Lower Murray Water today lifted the red alert warnings level warning (high alert) for blue-green algae for the Murray River in the Mildura weir pool from the Lock 11 to Karadoc and in the Wentworth weir pool from Apex to Lock 11 and in the Lock 9 weir pool, in the Lower Murray Region.

A red alert warning (high levels) for blue-green algae remains in place at Merbein and Yelta in the Wentworth weir pool.

Warning signs will remain in place along the river from Red Cliffs to Yelta over the coming week to ensure the public remains vigilant for a possible return in high levels of algae. The ongoing extreme heat and very warm river water temperatures are conducive to algal blooms, regular monitoring of algal levels will be ongoing by Lower Murray Water.

Blue-green algae usually appear as green paint-like scums on the water, near the edges, or as greenish clumps throughout the water. It makes the water appear dirty, green or discoloured and generally has a strong musty or earthy odour.

Blue-green algae occur naturally and can reproduce quickly in favourable conditions where there is still or slow-flowing water, abundant sunlight and sufficient levels of nutrients.

People who believe they may have been affected by blue-green algae are advised to seek medical advice.

Updates about blue-green algae blooms and red level warning areas can be obtained by calling **1800 999 457** or visiting – <http://www.waternsw.com.au/water-quality/algae>

Lower Murray Water [www.lmw.vic.gov.au](http://www.lmw.vic.gov.au)

Information for landholders regarding stock and crops can be found here: <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/irrigation/quality/pubs-and-info/blue-green-algae>

Information on health impacts can be found here: <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/water/Pages/water-recreational.aspx>

**ENDS**