



## **Irrigators Call Out Big Environment on Salinity**

The New South Wales Irrigators Council has released a Briefing Paper on salinity in the Murray-Darling Basin in response to further scare-mongering by the Australian Conservation Foundation.

Council Chief Executive Officer Andrew Gregson says the ACF and other environmental organisations appear to be uninterested in facts about salinity.

“During a drought, they claimed that a Basin Plan destroying regional communities was needed as there was no water available for the environment. Clearly, there was no water available to *anyone*.”

“When the drought broke – and we’ve now moved to flooding – the convenience of their argument disappeared. They needed to find a new furphy and they’ve latched onto salinity.”

“They’re now claiming that water must be stripped from productive use, that thousands of jobs must go and that family farms must be closed so that ‘SA is not Australia’s salt dump’.”

“We’ve taken the time to look at the facts and today we’ve made them publicly available.”

Mr Gregson noted that the NSWIC Briefing Paper on Murray-Darling Basin Salinity is available on the organisation’s website ([click here](#)).

The report notes that:

- Volatility and levels of salinity have declined since 2002 as a result of the salinity management measures; and
- Actual recorded salinity at Morgan has been decreasing.

“Let’s get this straight – good management in past decades has seen salinity decrease. It is outright untrue to claim that a devastating Basin Plan is needed to fix salinity. The ACF should be ashamed of such scaremongering.”

**ENDS**

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