



DREDGING / EXCAVATION OF LAND IN FLOOD PLAIN

Dredging in the River Murray – Issues Explained

Water Levels

Water levels in the pool formed between Blanchetown (Lock 1) and Lakes Albert and Alexandrina (barrages) are predicted to fall to about 0.3m AHD by the end of the 2002/03 irrigation season from a normal pool level of 0.7m AHD. Longer term predictions suggest a pool level of 0.1 m AHD if there are not heavier than usual rains in the upper River Murray catchments.

Wind effects are also causing significant problems with water levels. Continuous winds either North or South will either fill or empty the lake or river channel. This effect has been observed to be greater than 300 mm (at normal pool level).

Dredging

Irrigation pump channels and sumps, marinas and moorings are expected to be affected by the changes in pool level and at many sites dredging may be required to continue normal operations.

Dredging is the removal of any solid matter (silt, sand, clay, rocks) from the bed of any inland waters by any digging or suction apparatus.

It is not considered dredging if excavation takes place under dry conditions within a coffer dam.

Legal Requirements

All dredging is considered “development” under the Development Act 1993 and requires development approval from the Local Council or the Development Assessment Commission.

All dredging contractors will require a site specific licence under the Environment Protection Act 1993 (EP Act). Most excavator contractors have been advised that dredging without the necessary approvals will leave them and the landholder in breach of the EP Act or other acts and liable to prosecution.

Dredging may also require a licence from Crown Lands SA pursuant to the Crown Lands Act as the bed of the river and lakes is Crown land.

Supportive Approach

Recognising the potential damage to commercial and recreational activities and the urgency of some situations, state agencies and local government have developed this information package.

The information package explains and guides the applicants through the process of gaining all the necessary approvals. This information consists of documents in 2 packages:

- “DREDGING ISSUES EXPLAINED” describing the issues, approvals required, legal obligations and processes undertaken by various state agencies, costs involved, a flow chart and some explanatory notes about the conditions of EPA licences
- “STEP BY STEP GUIDE” to gaining approval for dredging is a how-to document that steers you through the process and includes the required application forms for planning approval and the EPA licence.

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Assessment may be complex due to consultation with a wide range of interests but, this need not be slow. All agencies and local governments involved have agreed to an expedient process where these applications are prioritized and streamlined by the applicant applying for all necessary approvals at the same time.

As described in the step by step guide, multiple copies of information should be provided to all agencies involved at the same time. The information required is set out clearly so that the assessment process is not delayed by the approving bodies having to stop while requesting further information be provided by the applicant.

To minimize future requirements for approvals, the EPA and Councils have agreed to issuing approvals for a ten year term. This will allow initial dredging to gain planning approval to commence within a specified time period and maintenance dredging to clean out accumulated silt for a 10 year period.

Therefore you should carefully define the terms of both planning and licence applications by using the same words eg **“Excavation of ? cubic metres with associated maintenance dredging, to be completed within a 10 year period”**

This wording has already been placed on the 2 application forms attached to the step by step guide - you just need to estimate the cubic capacity to be excavated.

Maintenance dredging of silt and plant matter past the 10 year period will not require further approvals other than a continuation of the EPA licence ie, Aboriginal heritage, native title and provided native vegetation is maintained within the clearance guidelines, further approvals will not be required.

There is a flow chart of the process on the next page and a written description of the issues and process follows.

Environmental Concerns

In addition to the loss of habitat that native vegetation removal will cause in the internationally recognised Ramsar wetland, there are several other concerns.

The movement of excavators and the dredging operations will cause considerable re-suspension of silt in the water. This has the potential to:

- block light transmission through the water, affecting photosynthesis of plants
- smother plants and aquatic organisms
- strip dissolved oxygen from the water as the anoxic silt is brought to the surface causing harm to aquatic organisms
- release nutrients held in the silt, increasing the risk of toxic blue-green and other algal blooms
- become malodorous as the anoxic silts and plant material decompose under oxygenated conditions

To prevent slumping of earth from upright walls at boat moorings and marinas, stabilization of the bank may also be required. The use of geofabric is encouraged with rock or wooden board retaining walls to prevent wave action from washing out the soil behind.

Council building & engineering standards may also apply to stabilized banks and retaining walls.

The excavation of deeper channels also has the potential to increase saline inflows to the lakes and river from the more saline groundwater beneath the surrounding land.

Salinity levels in the lakes and river will inevitably increase due to evaporation. The fall in pool level will also cause more rapid groundwater movement to the lakes and river.

Excavation of bed material may have a significant effect if removal of confining layers of silt and clays expose seams of more permeable sands and gravels through which the groundwater can travel more rapidly.

Salinity levels up to 4 times seawater has been found around the lakes.

Excavation within a channel in land

Where the excavation consists of the removal of accumulated silt within an existing channel surrounded by land, construction of a coffer dam wall will alter the approval requirements.

The coffer dam wall should be constructed of steel or other impervious material. The trapped water should be pumped out and spoil removed from within the channel should be de-watered using hay bales or similar to trap sediment and prevent the sediment from returning to the water.

You will still need Development Approval and other approvals of the landowners but there is no requirement for EPA licensing.

Other Issues

Crown Lands consent for use of Crown Land and Native Vegetation Council consent may be required. The Aboriginal heritage and native title implications need to be considered. Input from Transport SA Marine Safety section may also be required for some sites.

Land Tenure

The land comprising the bed of the lakes and river, other than that identified as freehold or perpetual lease is Crown Land. Often a strip of land at the water's edge (at normal pool level) is also Crown Land, Similarly Council approval will be required for excavation or access across Road Reserve.

Native Vegetation

The removal of some types of native vegetation may be allowed within guidelines developed for similar circumstances however formal inspection and approval are required.

Clearance of native vegetation can only proceed with the consent of the landowner. In many cases the landowner will be the Crown and/or local Council and the required authorisation must be obtained.

If native vegetation is present then consultation is required:

- if following consultation, the level of vegetation to be removed is consistent with the Native Vegetation Council's guidelines, clearance can proceed without further approval and no fee is applicable
- if the area is larger than specified in the guidelines or rare species of plants are present then a consent from the Native Vegetation Council is required – an application fee of \$400 applies with landowners also required to provide additional detail on the proposal eg. Plans of areas of native vegetation to be cleared, aerial photograph and land tenure information (Hundred, Section, Allotment, Title details etc). Much of this information is consistent with that required for a dredging licence.

Inappropriate stockpiling and disposal of dredged spoil so that it smothers native vegetation is also considered native vegetation clearance and must not occur. Native vegetation includes all the smaller shrub species and aquatic plants, not just tree species.

Aboriginal Heritage

Aboriginal heritage concerns are raised when the dredging involves an excavation into the natural soil surface eg. deepening, widening or lengthening a previously approved excavation.

As new excavation has the potential to disturb or discover items of cultural significance to Aboriginal people, proponents must apply to the Aboriginal Heritage Language and the Arts Group of the Department of State Aboriginal Affairs seeking information on any Aboriginal heritage sites in the area.

DOSAA will advise on whether there are any Aboriginal sites, objects and remains listed on the Register of Aboriginal Sites and Objects in the area of the proposal. The Register does not purport to be an exhaustive record of Aboriginal sites and objects in SA. The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* (the Act) protects all Aboriginal sites, objects and remains in SA whether these are entered on the Register or not.

The proponents may be advised to apply under Section 12 of the Act to ask the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation to determine if there are any Aboriginal sites or objects in the area and may be advised to undertake an Aboriginal cultural heritage survey in the area. This survey should involve the local Aboriginal people with interests in Aboriginal heritage. The contact details for these people will be supplied by DOSAA on advice from the Chair of the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee.

It is important that this process is initiated early to avoid delay to any dredging works.

The removal of silt, sand and plants (within the guidelines) that have accumulated since the original excavation was approved is unlikely to trigger Aboriginal heritage issues.

Native Title

Native title issues are dependent on the land tenure where all of the dredging is to take place.

A Crown Land Reserve fringes the water's edge at pool level in many parts of the River Murray and lakes. At many sites, Crown Land exists below normal pool level ie normally underwater. It is likely that native title rights and interests still exist in these areas.

If the proposed excavation is on Crown Land:

- a licence is required from Crown Lands for the proposal (application fees of \$289, an annual licence fee also applies)
- before Crown Lands SA can issue a licence, a tenure history search may be required to ascertain the land's native title status. The *Native Title Act 1993* may require that Crown Lands SA give notice of the intention to issue a licence to the relevant native title claimant group and other organisations. This process can take time. It is therefore advisable that if you know that you will be applying to dredge then you need to apply *as soon as possible*.

If all the proposed dredging occurs on freehold land or road reserve land then there are no native title issues and a title history search is not required.

Native title has also been extinguished on Crown Land by most types of perpetual and miscellaneous leases. It will be necessary to examine the lease documents to determine this.

The Government is currently investigating native title issues in relation to other land tenures not mentioned above in areas that are in lower pool levels and may be the subject of an application for dredging. It is hoped that this will ensure a quick turnaround should applications to dredge be made for these areas.

Marine Safety

Spoil removed during new excavations and deposited in the water adjacent to channels and head works at the ends of new pipes will need to be managed to cause the least impact on boat navigation.

Similarly long channels from mooring sites may require channel marker posts. The implications on navigation under normal pool conditions will need to be considered further on a site by site basis.

Options

As described above, dredging channels can have significant impacts and there are significant costs and time involved in gaining the necessary legal approvals.

Other options to gain access to water need to be explored fully, either on a temporary basis while approvals are sought or on a permanent basis.

Temporary leases of groundwater may be available in some areas, notably the Angas Bremer Prescribed Area.

Lengthening suction pipes, alternate pump sites or even temporary pumps to deliver water to the normal pumping sump should be considered.

Where channels have been cut from the lake shore to pump sheds, coffer dams can be constructed to allow excavations under dry conditions and no EPA licence is required. Dredged spoil must not smother adjacent native vegetation and hay bale barriers may be required to prevent silt return to the water.

Similarly boats may be dry docked or mounted on their trailer or they may be moored at different locations.

Objectives of EPA dredging licence conditions

Below are brief explanations of the objectives of conditions specific to dredging in the lakes and river.

To minimise silt:

- all pipes, machinery etc necessary to undertake the task must be available at the site for immediate installation to minimise the period of excavation
- silt must be deposited on land where possible, and allowed to dewater through silt traps (geofabric fences or hay bale barriers)
- where applicable irrigation pumps should be operated, drawing in the most silt affected water

To minimise disturbance of native vegetation, land spreading of silt:

- would ideally be over non-native pasture species
- must not smother Phragmites or other native species
- must be spread thinly to minimise smothering of introduced pasture
- must be removed to another specified location

To minimise excavator movement disturbing silts where long narrow channels are being excavated and pipes buried:

- use portable supporting mats to hold the excavator on the surface of the silt
- dredge the smallest channel possible to lay the pipe
- dredged spoil may be stockpiled immediately adjacent the trench for backfilling after pipe installation
- the finished installation should be back bladed back to the shore to minimise mounding over the pipe

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To minimise excavator movement disturbing silts where long open channels are being excavated:

- the channel should be excavated to the width of the excavator tracks unless using portable supporting mats
- dredged silt may be deposited a full excavator arm extension away from the channel and backbladed smooth to minimise the mounded height
- all excavated rock or other hazards to boating must be returned to land for disposal

To minimise pollution of the water by the excavators:

- fuel, all oil sumps and vents and hydraulic oil reservoirs must be vented above normal operating depth or fitted with water stop valves
- oil spill pollution materials must be on hand for each excavator (eg wheelie bin oil spill cleanup kit)
- a contingency plan must have been prepared to allow for immediate assistance in the case of excavator submersion

To monitor that resuspended silt is minimised and saline intrusion is identified:

- a minimum of 10 photographs taken, before, during and after the dredging and capturing the full extent of the silt plume must be forwarded to the EPA within 2 weeks of completion
- a written description of the extent of the silt plume must accompany the photos (photos may be drawn on to explain description (eg site A, photo 1 is 200 metres from the channel and is the northern extreme of the plume, site B photo 2 is where silt was deposited, 50 metres inland)

To identify saline intrusion caused by excavation of long channels cutting into new substrate, a sample of water must be taken from:

- 10 metres offshore from the head of the proposed channel
 1. Prior to dredging works
 2. On completion of dredging
 3. 1 week after completion (provided that irrigation pumping is continuing)
- a control site, 10 metres offshore, approximately 100 metres along the shore, away from the head of the channel
- Samples must be analysed for electrical conductivity (this can be done all at the same time using hand held meters – the results are for comparative purposes only and may initiate further sampling/analysis to identify any saline intrusion problem)
- Results must be forwarded to the EPA within 2 weeks of completion.

GUIDELINES RELATING TO THE CLEARANCE OF WATER MILFOIL (*Myriophyllum salsgineum*) AND ASSOCIATED WATER PLANTS

Introduction

Water Milfoil (*Myriophyllum salsgineum*) form important components of freshwater wetlands in South Australia. As such, they provide important habitat for birds, frogs and other native fauna. Water Milfoil assists in erosion control and provides a buffer for waterbodies from surrounding catchment land uses. Milfoil is a plant of conservation significance and has a rating of **Rare** for the Southern Mount Lofty Ranges.

However, in many areas (such as Lake Alexandrina) the distribution of Water Milfoil has increased over the years possibly due to sedimentation in watercourses and hydrological changes associated with weirs and barrages. There is now an increasing incidence of Water Milfoil colonising areas such as boat launching areas and designated pumping sites. Encroachment of this species into artificial drainage channels can also create problems.

Milfoil can spread vegetatively from small segments broken off larger plants by boats or storm damage.

The need to be able to manage areas of Water Milfoil to maintain existing uses still maintaining the existing ecological values of these water plants is recognised by the Native Vegetation Council with the development of these guidelines. The guidelines have been developed to allow for the regulated clearance of Water Milfoil and associated water plants under Regulation 3(1)(s) of the *Native Vegetation Act 1991*.



GUIDELINES

1. **Subject to any other Act or regulation, and in consultation with authorised agents, Water Milfoil (*Myriophyllum salsgineum*) and associated water plants may be cleared where the clearance is of regrowth or colonising growth located at:**

- **existing** boat ramps, boat access channels, pumping sites or other existing lawfully established sites where access to open water is essential for the functioning of those sites;
- artificial channels lawfully established for water diversion or flood mitigation purposes, where the clearance is necessary to maintain the design function of the channel;

and the approval of the 'landowner' has been obtained.

2. In all cases the clearance of regrowth or colonising growth must not:

- (a) extend beyond that needed for the designated safe operation of the site, and if subject to previous clearance works must not extend beyond the boundaries of the area initially cleared at the site; **or**
- (b) exceed 25 square metres (eg 5m x 5m) at irrigation / water pumping sites, **or**
- (c) exceed 8m wide for boat channels to provide access to open water from existing marinas, jetties or moorings, **or**
- (d) cause the disturbance of sediments,

Clearance of regrowth beyond these parameters must be referred to the Native Vegetation Council Secretariat, Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation (DWLBC), and is not to proceed under these guidelines unless endorsed by the Secretariat.

3. Consultation with the Native Vegetation Council Secretariat is required for any clearance in the following situations:

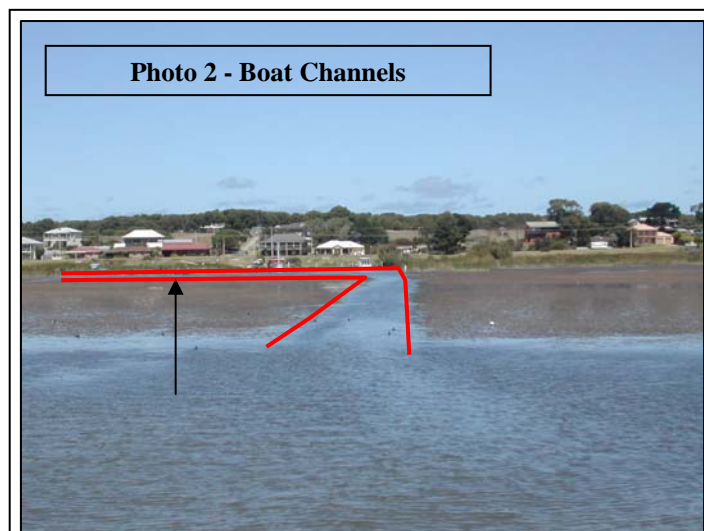
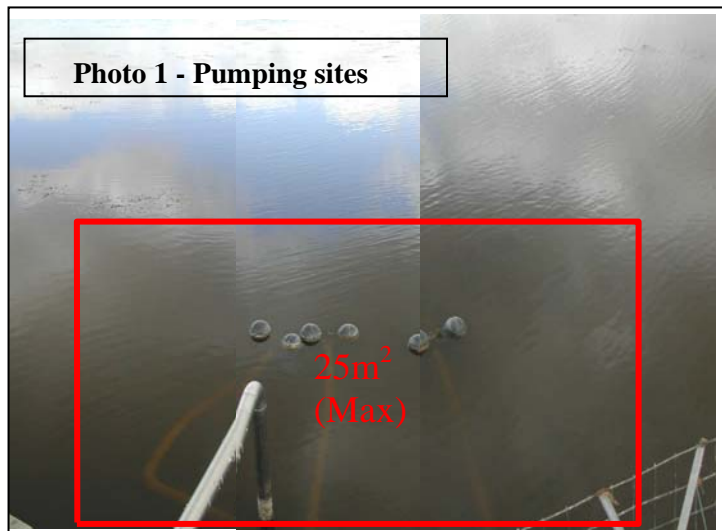
- (a) New boat ramps, pumping sites or other new lawfully established sites,
- (b) Water Milfoil (*Myriophyllum salsgineum*) growing:
 - in land designated as under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act*,
 - within lagoons and coves,
 - adjacent to other existing native vegetation eg. reed beds.

4. **Removal methods**

The method of clearance must have minimal impact on the site and on adjoining native vegetation. Any clearance of these species outside of the sites as designated below must be discussed with the Native Vegetation Council Secretariat, DWLBC, and is likely to require the consent of the Native Vegetation Council by means of a clearance application.

Boat ramps and pumping sites

Hand cutting and raking is a suitable method for sites under 25 square meters (see photo 1). Substrate plates or bottom barriers have also been used with some success in America. Bottom plates are made from sheets of fibreglass, polypropylene or a similar material and anchored to the lake bottom. This prevents plant growth by blocking sunlight. This method has been applied in America in boat docks and boat lanes. Use of such plates larger than 25 square meters must be referred to the Native Vegetation Council Secretariat, DWLBC.

**Boat channels**

Mechanical removal by floating harvesters which 'mow' the Milfoil is recommended for clearing of linear boat channels and marinas. Cut material must be collected and removed from the site. Cutting without collection of cut material will distribute the Water Milfoil and possibly increase distribution and abundance. Decomposing Milfoil also has the potential to reduce water quality.

Where access to a number of boat ramps is being inhibited by the growth of Water Milfoil, a single channel not greater than 8 metres wide should be created to clear water with a common access channel between sites (see photo 2 above). Consultation with the Native Vegetation Council Secretariat, DWLBC, is required for clearance of channels exceeding 8 meters in width.

Contact Details (Authorised Agents)

- **The Native Vegetation Council Secretariat, DWLBC:**

Postal: GPO Box 2834 ADELAIDE 5001
Telephone (08) 8124 4744
Facsimile (08) 8124 4745

GUIDELINES RELATING TO THE CLEARANCE OF COMMON REEDS (*Phragmites australis*) AND BULRUSHES (*Typha domingensis*)

Common reeds (*Phragmites australis*) and bulrushes (*Typha domingensis*) often form major components of freshwater wetlands in South Australia. As such they provide important habitat for birds and other native fauna, are important in erosion control and can assist in pollution abatement programs.

However, in many areas the distribution of reeds has increased over the years due to sedimentation in watercourses and hydrological changes associated with weirs and barrages etc. There is now an increasing incidence of reeds and rushes colonising areas such as boat launching areas and designated pumping sites at locations such as along the River Murray. Encroachment of these species into artificial drainage channels can also create problems.

The clearance of common reeds and bulrushes is exempt under the *Native Vegetation Act 1991* (through Regulation 3(1)(s) **provided that this complies with the following guidelines.**

GUIDELINES

1. **Subject to any other Act or regulation, *Phragmites australis* and *Typha domingensis* may be cleared where the clearance is of regrowth or colonising growth at:**
 - **existing** boat ramps, pumping sites or other existing lawfully established sites where access to open water is essential for the functioning of those sites;
 - artificial channels lawfully established for water diversion or flood mitigation purposes where the clearance is necessary to maintain the design function of the channel;
2. In all cases the clearance of regrowth or colonising growth must be kept to the minimum needed for the designated operation of the site, and must not go beyond the boundaries of the area initially cleared at the site. Any proposed clearance in excess of 100 square metres must be referred to the Native Vegetation Council Secretariat, Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation (DWLBC), and is not to proceed under these guidelines unless endorsed by the Secretariat.
3. The method of clearance must be chosen so as to have minimum impact on the site and on adjoining native vegetation. Any clearance of these species outside of the sites as designated above, or of other species associated with these species, must be discussed with the Native Vegetation Council Secretariat, DWLBC, and is likely to require the consent of the Native Vegetation Council by means of a clearance application.

Contact Details

The Native Vegetation Council Secretariat and Biodiversity Assessment Services Section, Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation can be contacted as follows:

Telephone: (08) 8124 4744
Facsimile: (08) 8124 4745
Postal Address: GPO Box 2834 ADELAIDE 5001
Street Address: 1 Richmond Road, Keswick 5035

STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO GAINING APPROVAL FOR DREDGING

Please read “Dredging Issues Explained” prior to reading this package

STEP 1 Gather the information required

(Note: Steps 4 & 5 will require multiple copies of consents, documents, plans and maps)

Land tenure information

All parcels of land to be excavated need to be identified on a plan (this could include freehold, leasehold, road reserve and crown land all in one proposal). **Information on land titles can be sourced via the internet at www.propertyassist.sa.gov.au.**

Approvals

Written approvals for the dredging, placing of spoil or access from the relevant landholder (other than your own land). **This could include neighbours, Council if road reserve or Crown Lands licence.**

Any new Crown Lands licence or Council approval required can be sought prior to or at the same time as the development approval.

Previous Authorisations

Copies of previous approvals for an existing excavation and/or approval to take water (if an irrigation channel) should be provided. These could include approval under the:

- Development Act
- Water Resources Act (1976 version) - Permit for Works
- Current Water Resources Act - water abstraction licence
- Crown Land licence (easement for pipes/channel pump shed etc across Crown Land)
- Any approvals & easements for other land eg road reserve

STEP 2 Prepare attached checklist, maps and plans

Discuss these issues with the intended dredging contractor and negotiate the terms of the contract (**the EPA licence is issued only to the dredging operator**).

A location map identifying all titles at 1:10 000 scale or better resolution (if available) is required. A description of the purpose of excavation, method of dredging, size and depth of excavation, stockpiling and placement of spoil must be provided (use the attached checklist) with drawings of the proposed excavation.

Checklist for preliminary assessment of dredging application

Parcels of Land to be excavated:

Lot, Section, Deposit Plan / File Plan	Volume/Folio

Note: Information on land titles can be sourced via the internet at www.propertyassist.sa.gov.au.

Reason for excavation – please tick box

To maintain water supply for domestic use only	
To maintain water supply for irrigation use only	
To maintain water supply for commercial use	
Other use - specify	

Method of excavation:

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Does proposed excavation deepen, widen or lengthen existing excavation?, Describe

Deeper	
Wider	
Longer	

Does the proposed excavation involve a retaining wall at the water's edge?

What is the angle of the wall?.....How high is the wall?.....	
Describe materials and construction methods	

Estimate volume of excavated material (cubic metres)

Silt	
Clay	
Limestone	
Plant and root mass	

Type and estimated area of Native Vegetation proposed to be removed

Attach:

Location Plan identifying:

- Relevant parcels of land
- Access route for dredging equipment
- Site(s) proposed for stockpiling and placement of excavated material

Site Plan at a scale of no less than 1:500 identifying:

- Existing channel(s) and other infrastructure, ie. jetties, pumps, pipework.
- Existing vegetation and any other relevant features

Dredging Plan at a scale of no less than 1:500:

- cross section of current situation and proposed excavation
- overhead plan with dimensions of proposed excavation

Construction detail plan of retaining wall at water's edge (if applicable) at scale of 1:100

Written approval/license from other relevant bodies

- Native Vegetation Council
- Transport SA Marine Safety
- Council reserve (road or other)
- Crown Lands
- Aboriginal Heritage Group
- Neighbor

Note: The land underwater in the lakes and river, other than that identified as freehold or perpetual lease is Crown Land. Often a strip of land at the water's edge (at normal pool level) is also Crown Land or Road Reserve.

STEP 3 Lodge a development application

With the information described above and any other letters of explanation you have prepared concerning any other approvals being sought, you should apply to your local council for development approval (application form attached to this document). The application should be defined as **"Excavation of ? cubic metres with associated maintenance dredging, to be completed within a 10 year period"**

Application fee details as follows:

Lodgement – base amount	\$46.75
Planning	\$29.25 if development cost < \$10 000 \$80.00 if development cost > \$10 000 & < \$100 000
EPA referral	\$167.00

Development approval is required whether a new excavation is widening, deepening or lengthening an existing excavation (ie new excavation) or when just removing accumulated silt (ie maintenance dredging).

Development Approval Consultation

As dredging is an activity that is required to be licensed by the EPA, Schedule 22 referral under the Development Act is triggered and Council is obliged to consult with the EPA. You should immediately lodge an EPA licence application with the EPA (see section below). **EPA licence application forms are attached to this document and also available from your local Council, from the EPA web site (www.epa.sa.gov.au) or the EPA head office (Phone 8204 2004).**

Development Approval for retaining walls

Depending on the height of retaining walls at the water's edge, development approval may be required and the proposal may require additional drawings to describe the method of construction. You should seek advice from your local Council.

STEP 4 EPA licence application

At the time that your development application is lodged with Council you should immediately lodge an EPA licence application with the EPA in the name of the contractor and signed by the contractor who will be undertaking the dredging work (they are the applicant for the licence).

Application forms are attached to this document, available from your local Council, from the EPA web site (www.epa.sa.gov.au) or the EPA head office (Phone 8204 2004).

The EPA licence application form and copies of all documents provided to the Council should be forwarded to the EPA. The application will be advertised and held for a 2 week period to allow for public submissions.

You may include payment of \$474.00 with the application (being application fee, advertising and the first day of dredging). Alternately you will be invoiced and must pay for the full amount prior to issue of the licence.

The licence (assuming no objections) will be issued immediately after the 2 week period and will be subject to various conditions (described in the "Issues explained" information package) designed to minimise environmental impacts. The licence will authorise dredging according to the proposal or otherwise as negotiated and specified and will be for a term of 10 years. The 10 year term will allow for maintenance dredging to be undertaken during that period.

Prior notification and the payment of the fee/calendar day of dredging will be required for any maintenance dredging.

STEP 5 Seek all other consents required

It will be the applicant's responsibility to ensure all other approvals are gained.

- licence to access or dredge across Crown Lands – see address STEP 1
- consent for native vegetation clearance if present:
apply to: Native Vegetation Council Secretariat
GPO Box 2834 Adelaide 5001 Ph 8124 4700
- advice concerning Aboriginal Heritage issues:
apply to: Heritage, Language and the Arts Group
Department of State Aboriginal Affairs
PO Box 3140 Rundle Mall 5000

Copies of any approvals received after lodging the Development Application with the Council should be forwarded to the Council to complete their records.

Council will issue planning approval and the EPA licence will be issued, without the above approvals but these agencies will be notified of the intention to dredge. Failure to obtain the required approvals will leave you liable to prosecution.

STEP 6 Receive approvals, undertake works

The dredging works must be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the conditions of planning approval and the EPA licence.

The licensee (dredging operator) will be required to complete and return, on completion of the dredging, an acknowledgment form stating the total numbers of days of dredging at each site. A refund or invoice will be forwarded for any outstanding fees from those originally estimated.

The licensee may also be required to take photographs and analyse water samples for salinity and provide these to the EPA on completion of each authorised dredge.

Following the initial dredge at any site, maintenance dredging may be undertaken within the 10 year period provided that the excavation does not constitute new earthworks ie removal of accumulated silt and plant matter only. A fee per calendar day is payable to the EPA for follow up work.

Disclaimer

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