

Stormwater Management Authority News

November 2022

In This Issue

- **Outcomes of Meetings 77 and 78**
- **Farewell to Stephen Hains AM**
- **Welcome to the new SMA Board**
- **Stormwater Management Planning Priorities for SA 2022**
- **Funding announced for Mt Bold Reservoir upgrade**
- **Flooding in South Australia's mid-north**
- **Vale Professor John Argue**
- **Contact Us**

Outcomes of Meeting 77 and 78



Outcomes of meeting 77

The board of the Stormwater Management Authority met on 1 June 2022. Key outcomes of the meeting were:

- The board approved the *Stormwater Management Planning Priorities for South Australia 2022*
- The board approved grant funding for stormwater management planning in Streaky Bay, and for the acquisition of a digital elevation model for Port Augusta.

Outcomes of meeting 78

The new board of the Stormwater Management Authority met on 31 October 2022. Key outcomes of the meeting were:

- The board approved stormwater management plans for the Barker Inlet Central catchment (City of Port Adelaide Enfield and City of Prospect) and the West Lakes catchment (City of Charles Sturt)
- The board approved grant funding for the Brown Hill Keswick Creek Stormwater Project for works commencing in 2022-23.

The new board seeks a deeper engagement with both regional and metropolitan local government and has agreed to hold some of its meetings outside of Adelaide. The December board meeting will be hosted by The Barossa Council. Please get in touch (see 'Contact Us' below) if you are interested in hosting a meeting of the SMA.

Farewell to Stephen Hains AM

The board recently said farewell to retiring Presiding Member of the Stormwater Management Authority, Mr Stephen Hains AM. Stephen served as the Authority's Presiding Member from December 2012 until June 2022.

During Stephen's tenure as Presiding Member:

- Thirty stormwater management plans were approved
- Almost \$60m was awarded in grant funding to local governments and other organisations
- Numerous significant projects were delivered with SMA funding support, including the Port Road drainage works, Victoria Park/Pakapakanthi Wetland, Marmion Avenue relief drain, Bickford Terrace drainage upgrade, Port Lincoln Pump Station and Tumby Bay flood mitigation works, just to name a few!

Stephen's wealth of knowledge and experience in local and state government will be missed by the Authority. Stephen takes up a new role as the Presiding Member of the Renewal SA board, while also continuing as Deputy Chancellor of Flinders University and serving on a number of boards and committees including the Minister's Stormwater Expert Panel.

We thank Stephen for his service and dedication over the years and wish him well in his future endeavors.



1 - Mr Stephen Hains AM retired as Presiding Member on 30 June 2022 after almost ten-years of service to the Authority.

Welcome to the new SMA Board

A new Stormwater Management Authority Board was appointed by Susan Close MP (Deputy Premier and Minister for Climate, Environment and Water) in September 2022. We welcome Ms. Shanti Ditter as the Authority's new Presiding Member. Shanti leads an expanded board of nine-members comprising herself and:

- Mr Wally Iasiello (Deputy Presiding Member)
- Ms Heather Barclay
- Mr Paul Bennett
- Ms Alison Collins
- Mr Trevor Daniell
- Ms Cate Hart
- Mr Simon Sherriff
- Mayor Michael (Bim) Lange OAM.

The new board will continue to be supported by General Manager David Trebilcock, Technical Advisor Belinda Skilton and Senior Project Officer Laura Allen.



2 - Ms Shanti Ditter

Presiding Member



3 - Mr Wally Iasiello

Deputy Presiding Member

(Campbelltown City Council)



4 - Mr Paul Bennett

(Department for Trade and Investment - Planning and Land Use Services)



5 - Ms Heather Barclay

(Rural City of Murray Bridge)



6 - Ms Alison Collins

(Green Adelaide)



7 - Mr Trevor Daniell

(University of Adelaide)



8 - Ms Cate Hart

(Department for Environment and Water)



9 - Mr Simon Sherriff

(Light Regional Council)



10 - Mayor Michael Lange OAM

(The Barossa Council)

New Stormwater Management Planning Priorities for SA

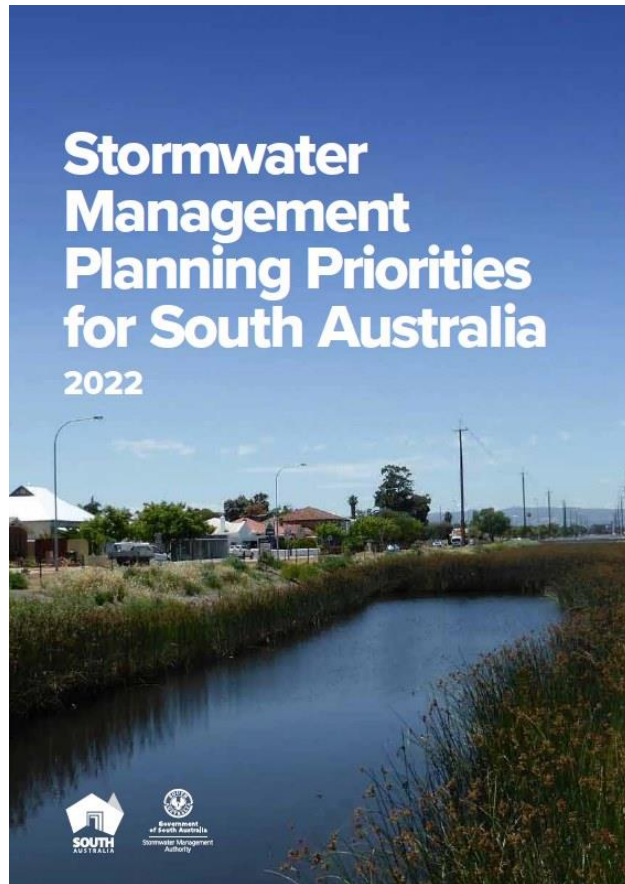


In late 2021 and 2022 the SMA has been working to develop and apply a new prioritisation framework and is pleased to release its [Stormwater Management Planning Priorities 2022](#). The new list of priorities has considered stormwater catchments across metropolitan Adelaide as well as sixty regional cities and towns, with regard for flooding and drainage risks; water quality risks; water security risks and stormwater reuse potential; climate change adaptation; development pressure; and the recency and adequacy of existing strategies and plans. A wide range of stakeholders contributed to the work including the Department for Environment and Water, Department for Trade and Investment (Planning and Land Use Services), Environment Protection Authority, State Emergency Service, Green Adelaide, landscape boards and local councils.

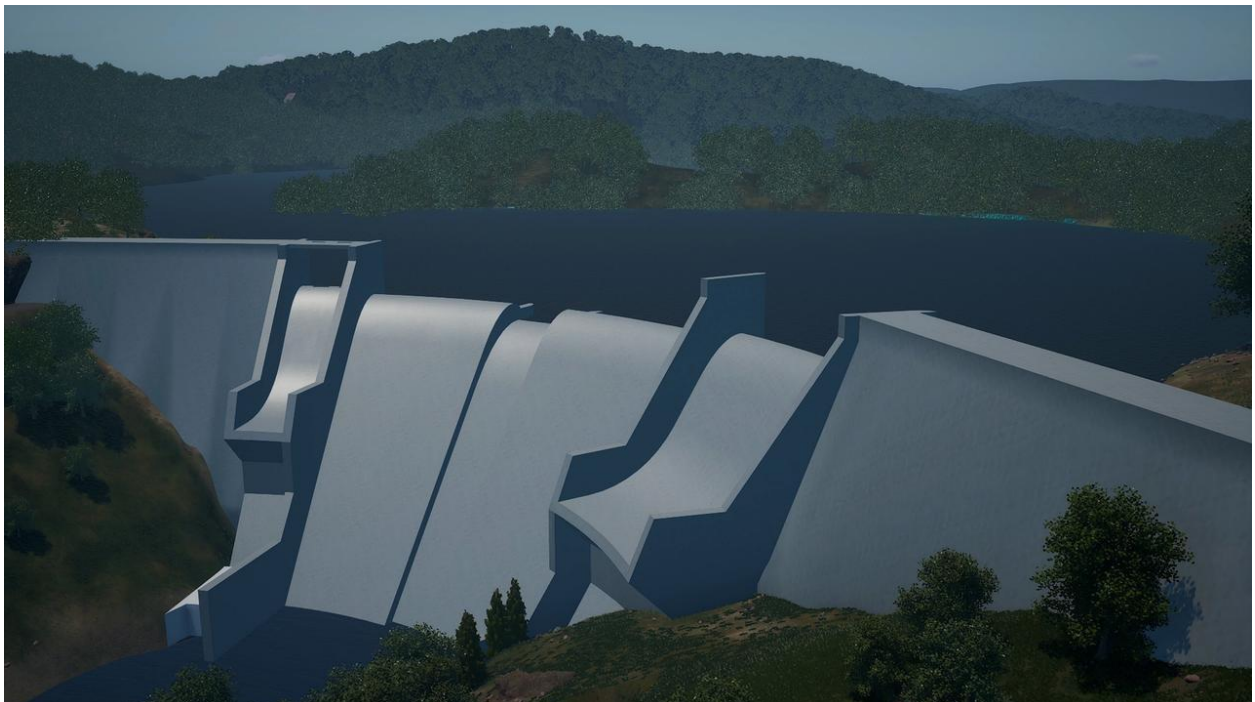
The work has identified eight metropolitan Adelaide catchments and ten regional centres as ‘very high’ priority for a new or updated stormwater management plan. Trends observed in metropolitan Adelaide and surrounds include a high level of risk to water quality, a strong need for climate change adaptation in Adelaide’s north-western suburbs, and high development pressure associated with northern and southern growth areas and Mount Barker.

Trends observed in regional centres include potential for increased stormwater reuse throughout the north and mid-north of the state, a need for climate change adaptation across the mid-north, and strong development pressure in larger regional centres including Murray Bridge and Whyalla.

The SMA would like to acknowledge [Southfront](#) and [URPS](#) for their work with the SMA in delivering this project.



Funding for Mt Bold Reservoir upgrade



The state and federal governments and the City of Onkaparinga have come together to commit an additional \$12.7 million in funding to the \$325 million total dam safety upgrade at Mt Bold Reservoir. The additional funding means that the dam wall redesign will incorporate some flood detention storage in larger events.

Constructed in 1938, Mount Bold is South Australia's largest reservoir (46.4GL) and stores water that can be diverted to SA Water's Happy Valley Reservoir, where it is treated and supplied to around 450,000 customers in Adelaide. The upgrade will include a new central spillway – three metres wide and 5.6 metres high – to allow the reservoir to retain more water during flood events, including the ability to detain the "one in one hundred" annual exceedance probability event starting from a full supply level.

SA Water has recently released concept designs for the upgrade. Detailed design is currently taking place, with construction currently expected to start in 2023 and take approximately three-and-a-half years to complete.

The Stormwater Management Authority is pleased to see progress on this upgrade which will help to mitigate flood risk posed to the downstream communities.

Further information can be found on SA Water's website: [Mount Bold Dam Safety Upgrade | SA Water](#)

Flooding in South Australia's mid north



The Mid North and Riverland Regions of South Australia experienced riverine and flash flooding in late October and early November 2022. The flooding was a result of high rainfall in October; the third wettest October in South Australia since 1900.

A large number of rainfall stations set daily rainfall records for October between the 20th and 26th. In the evening of Sunday the 24th of October, the Riverland town of Berri experienced a severe and persistent thunderstorm resulting in 93mm of rain falling in 6 hrs. This event generated numerous of calls to the SA SES for assistance for Berri and surrounding townships and flood warnings were issued for the Light, Gilbert and Wakefield Rivers. The size of the event was estimated at a 2% annual exceedance probability (AEP) (50-year average recurrence interval).

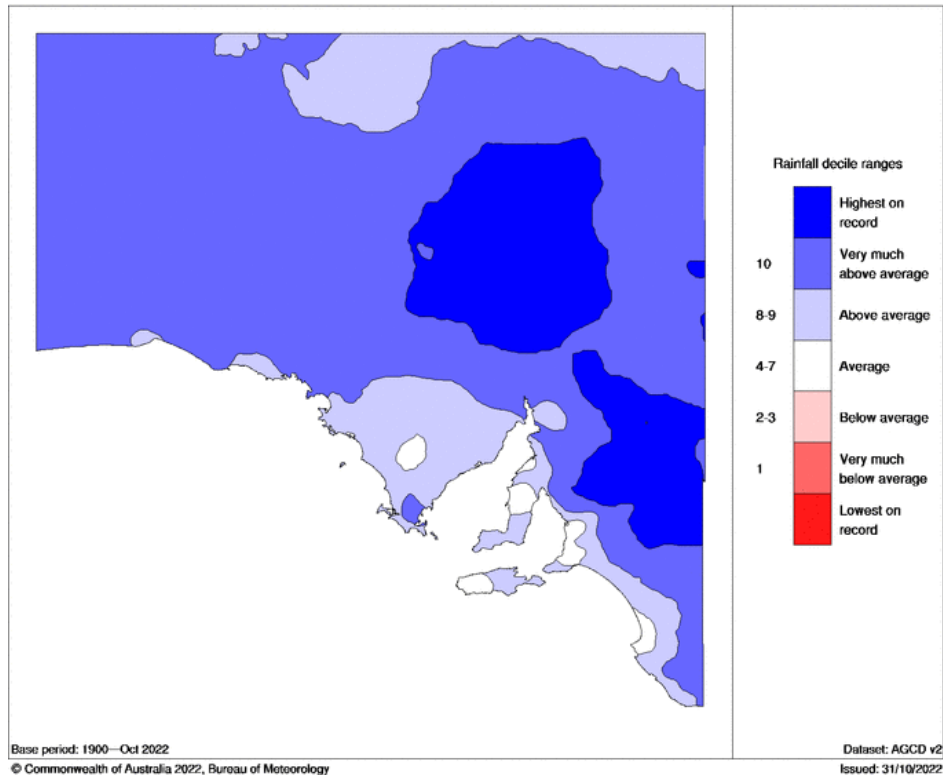
In the afternoon of the 30th of October further heavy rainfall fell on the mid north and southern Flinders Ranges. Falling on already wet catchments, significant stream rises were seen across the region including in the Hutt, Broughton, Wakefield, Gilbert and Light Rivers. Flood warnings were again issued with stream heights in the Light, Wakefield and Gilbert exceeding those experienced the week before. Many smaller creeks also rose causing numerous road closures and calls for assistance from the SES from across the region.

The often-dry watercourses in the mid north are spectacular when they flow. SA SES first responders captured [this video of the first flood wave carrying significant debris along the Gilbert River toward the township of Stockport.](#)

The high rainfall in the mid north is illustrated in the Bureau of Meteorology's rainfall summary for October 2022.

(Title image credit: ABC News)

South Australian rainfall deciles October 2022
Australian Gridded Climate Data



Vale Professor John Argue

The board and staff of the Stormwater Management Authority acknowledge with sadness the passing in September 2022 of the late Adjunct Professor John Argue AO. John was highly respected nationally and internationally as a pioneer of water sensitive urban design practice.

John was a leader and mentor as a lecturer and researcher in the field of water sensitive design and his publications and expertise since the 1980s greatly influenced the evolution of stormwater management practice in South Australia, throughout Australia and globally. John established the Urban Water Resources Centre at the University of South Australia and directed the centre until his retirement from that role in the late 1990s – thereafter continuing to play a role as a water sensitive design thought leader and capacity builder. In 2016, John was acknowledged with 'Hall of Fame' recognition by Stormwater Australia.

Described by Deputy Presiding Member Wally Iasiello as a "doyen", John leaves a lasting legacy of iconic water sensitive urban design projects, research outputs, and through his influence in advancing stormwater practice in Australia and elsewhere.

Our sincere condolences to his friends and family.



11 - The late Adjunct Professor John Argue AO.

Contact Us



Stormwater Management Authority

Level 5, 81-95 Waymouth Street, Adelaide, SA

GPO Box 1047, Adelaide, SA, 5001

(08) 8124 4740

sma@sa.gov.au

Visit us on the web at www.sma.sa.gov.au.

The [Stormwater Management Authority](#) (SMA) is a partnership between the Government of South Australia and the Local Government Association of South Australia. The SMA operates under the [Local Government \(Stormwater Management Agreement\) Amendment Act 2016](#) and comprises a nine-member board appointed by the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water. The board meets bi-monthly.