



# Rebekha Sharkie MP

Federal Member for Mayo



The Hon David Speirs MP  
Minister for Environment and Water  
Level 10, 81-95 Waymouth Street  
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Minister *David*

## **ALDINGA WASHPOOL**

I am writing to you on behalf of numerous concerned constituents and environmental organisations from the electorate of Mayo in regards to potential plans for the Aldinga Washpool (the 'Washpool') site, south of the Aldinga Scrub Conservation Park.

I share in the broad local community's support for plans for the Washpool site to be consolidated into a conservation area with community access, for example, as part of an enlarged and consolidated Aldinga Scrub Conservation Park. I understand that there is escalating community concern that parcels of Washpool land currently owned by SA Water are being considered for separate sale rather than being a part of any potential consolidation.

The Washpool site, including the land currently owned by SA Water, has high conservation value as a rare seasonal freshwater wetland in the Flinders Lofty Block biogeographic region. In 2001, Washpool Lagoon was recognised as a nationally important wetland in the Commonwealth Government's Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia, and has been identified as an important Indigenous cultural site. Numerous species with conservation significance occur within the site, and the wetland is visited by migratory shorebirds during spring and summer from as far away as Japan and China. The basin also continues to play a significant role in local flood mitigation.

May I kindly enquire, does the State Government intend to work towards a full consolidation of the site for conservation purposes?

Further, will this include the titles currently owned by SA Water which are the subject of heightened community concern?

Thank you for your assistance with this matter, I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

**REBEKHA SHARKIE MP**  
***Federal Member for Mayo***

5 / 8 / 2019

Cc City of Onkaparinga  
Cc Friends of Aldinga Scrub  
Cc Willunga Environment Centre  
Cc Friends of Willunga Basin  
Cc Mr Leon Bignell MP

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