

Katfish Reach Community Tour

The local community burst into Spring on Sunday 13 September and joined a guided tour of Katfish Reach. Hosted by the Katfish Reach Steering Group and Natural Resources South Australian Murray-Darling Basin (SAMDB), community members were shown firsthand the works recently undertaken to improve flow of water and movement of native fish in the Katarapko and Eckert Creek system.

Chairperson of the Katfish Reach Steering Group, Kevin Smith said "if water does not flow, fish don't breed. We have the perfect habitat for fish in Katfish Reach, and by removing barriers we are able to help improve water flow which will then benefit fish numbers and diversity."

Katfish Reach is located within Katarapko, Murray River National Park. It is a community rehabilitation project delivered in partnership between the community and Natural Resources SAMDB.

Various in-stream barriers have been removed through the coordinated efforts of the Katfish Reach project with funding provided by the Australian Government through the South Australian Government's Riverine Recovery Project.

Over 50 enthusiastic community members were shown how native fish, such as Murray cod, Golden perch, Silver perch and Freshwater catfish will greatly benefit from the removal of barriers within the creeks, allowing fish access into parts of the system where previously there were pipes and barriers. Native fish will now have more natural cues for breeding with the aim of improving native fish numbers.



Photo 1: Community members learning about the native fish benefits of the Katfish Reach project



Photos 2 & 3: Before and after photos of an existing bank removed to now provide a flowing creek which has improved the movement of water and native fish

For further information on the Katfish Reach Project, please contact:

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