Algal Bloom Coordination and Summer Plan

SA Coastal Councils Alliance – Coastal Forum & Jetties Summit
7 November 2025

Government of South Australia

The bloom currently impacts less than a third of South Australia's coastline

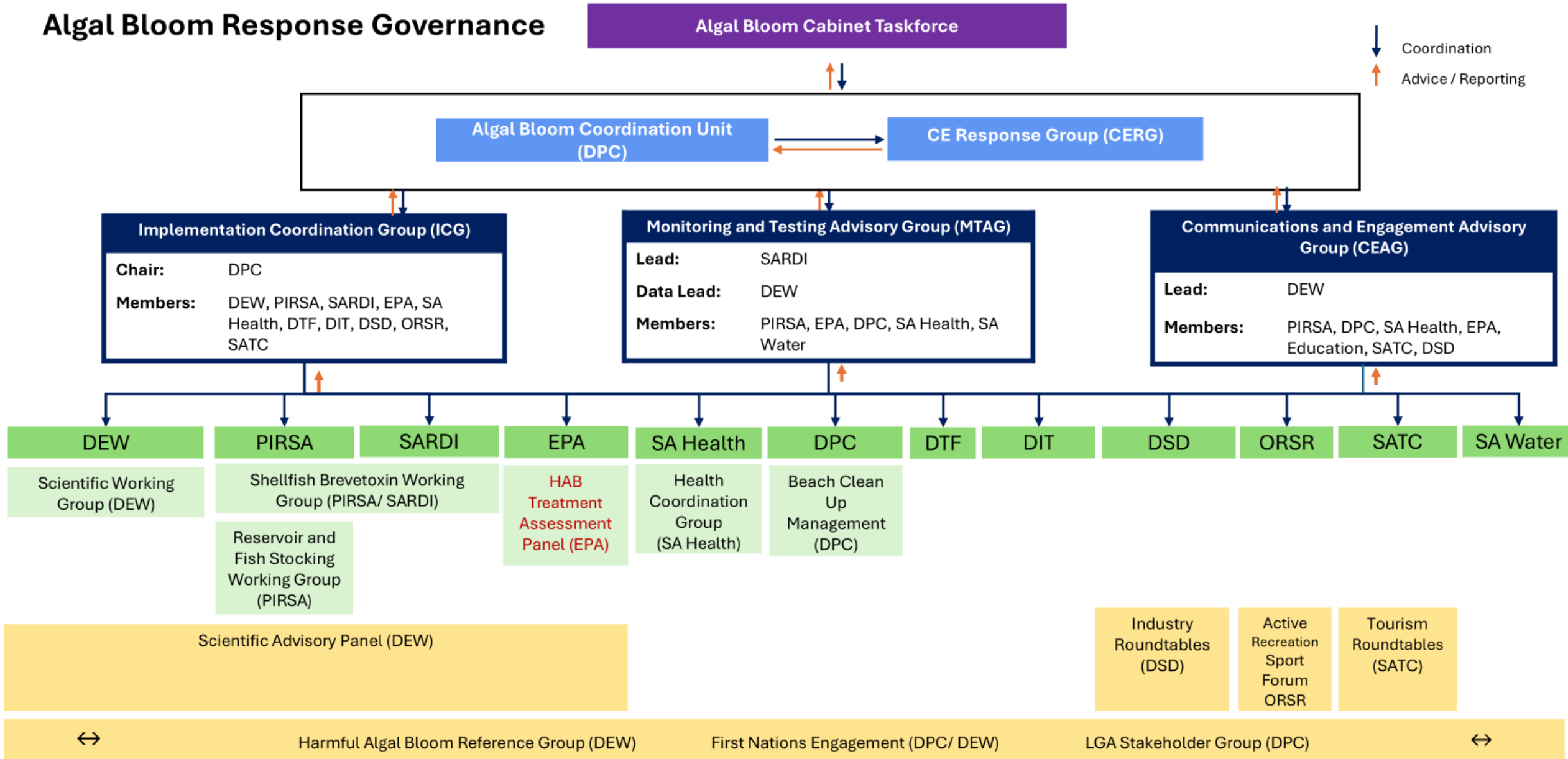
- 25 affected council areas
- 9 councils in unaffected areas

Government of South Australia

algalbloom.sa.gov.au

Government response

Algal Bloom Response Governance



Response commitments

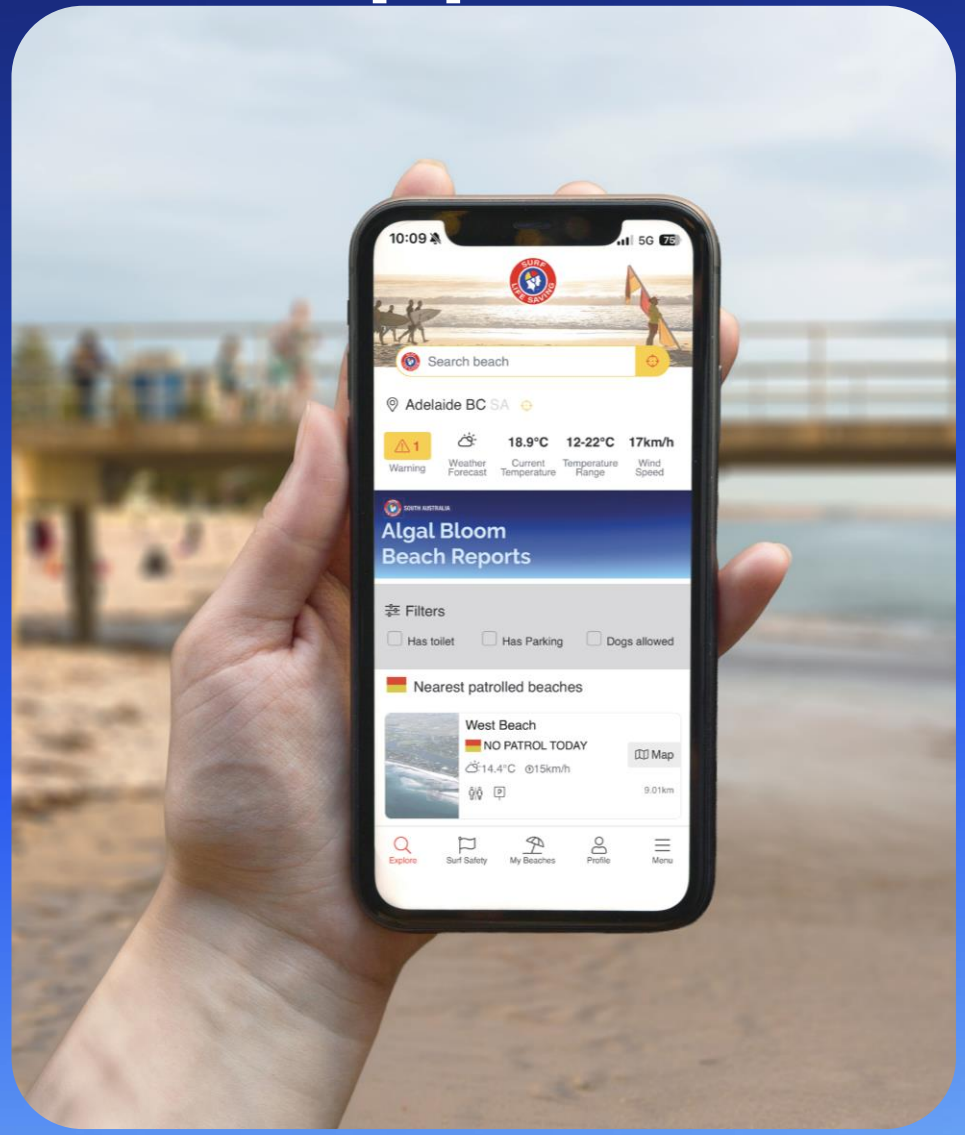
- **$28 million** initial State and Commonwealth response
- **$102.5 million** Algal Bloom Summer Plan – State and Commonwealth
- **$18.5 million –** fisheries management support measures - State

Adopting a triple bottom line approch

Ensuring South Australians can safely enjoy their summer

Backing coastal businesses and communities

Advancing research and protecting our environment



Advancing science and protecting our environment

Investing in our natural environment
$20.6 m

- Large-scale shellfish reef restoration
- Seagrass and blue carbon restoration
- Community shellfish reef restoration
- Threatened and vulnerable marine species breeding

Research and monitoring
$17.3 m

- Water monitoring and forecasting
- Offshore water analysis
- AI Flow Cytobots
- Office of Algal Bloom Research
- Algal bloom mitigation

Government of South Australia

algalbloom.sa.gov.au

Backing coastal businesses and communities

Coastal communities
$6.1 m

- Local Government Algal Bloom Grant Program
- Coastal infrastructure grant programs
- Coastal events support

Fishing and marine sector
$40 m

- Business support grants
- Industry response and resilience program
- Licensing fee relief
- Growing the recreational fishing sector

Backing tourism & hospitality
$20.5 m

- Dining cashback
- Travel vouchers
- *Coast is Calling* campaign

A Summer for all of us

On the beach

- Between the flags beach patrols
- Beachsafe app
- Daily beach monitoring and clean-up support

Community support

- Activating school pools for community use $1.6m
- Active Club Grants $500,000
- Free access to coastal parks $1.2m
- Mental health support $690,000

Keeping you informed

- Algal Bloom public information campaign
- Buy SA Seafood Campaigns extended through summer
- Algal bloom hotline, website, community forums and signage

Grants and support

Small business support

- 61 grants paid - $610,000
- 28 applications under assessment

Licence Holder Assistance Grants

- Teir 1 – 56 approved ($1.4m) 17 under assessment
- Teir 2 – 21 approved ($1M) 1 under assessment
- Fee relief – 155 paid ($458k) 62 under assessment

Tourism vouchers & incentives

- 20,000 vouchers allocated under round 1
- 44.7% redeemed
- $1.42m voucher value
- $2.66m additional booking value
- $4.09m total booking value from round 1
- Round 2 launch 30,000 vouchers
- Dining cashback registrations open 3-9 Nov

Fish Recovery Program

- Plan for the long-term recovery of fishing stocks in waters affected by the algal bloom
- Measures to protect and support businesses, support recreational fishing, and protect and grow fishing stocks

Commercial fishing restrictions

GSV/KI Fishing Zone

- Temporary closure to all commercial fishing in this zone by the Marine Scalefish Fishery and Blue Crab Fishery
- No change to management arrangements in other fishing zones
- Snapper closure arrangements in the Gulf St Vincent / Kangaroo Island, Spencer Gulf, and West Coast Fishing Zones have been extended for another 12 months to 30 June 2027 for all fishing sectors

New assistance for commercial fishing sector

- Fishing fee relief and industry grants
- Expanded Small Business Support grants
- Expanded Fisheries and Aquaculture Assistance grants
- $500,000 comprehensive study of options to support the Marine Scalefish Fishery – licence and quota analysis
- Establishment of an industry recovery framework
- Supporting industry partnerships – SISA grant

Charter Boat Restrictions

- GSV/KI fishing zone
  - 50% reduced individual passenger catch limits
- Spencer Gulf
  - 50% reduced individual passenger catch limits for Calamari, Garfish, Blue Swimmer Crab, and King George Whiting

Recreational Fishing

GSV/KI fishing zone

- 50% reduced personal daily bag limits and daily boat limits (all species)

Spencer Gulf

- 50% personal daily bag limits and daily boat limits for Calamari, Garfish, Blue Swimmer Crab, and King George Whiting

Voluntary catch reporting is strongly encouraged via the **SA Fishing app** to inform understanding of recreational catches and fish stock recovery

Photo credit: AFTA

New support measures for recreational fishing sector

Discounted boat and trailer registration

- 50% discount on recreational boat and light boat trailer registrations from 1 December 2025 for 12months
- Commitment to free boat ramps

Freshwater fish restocking program

- $1m for native freshwater fish stocking
- $4m to establish a marine restocking program with a focus on key target species, including Snapper and King George Whiting
- Additional $1.1 million towards support for the recreational fishing community and tackle stores through events, competitions, programs and public campaigns

Key initiatives – Local Government

Beach cleanup support

Daily operations, 7 days/week

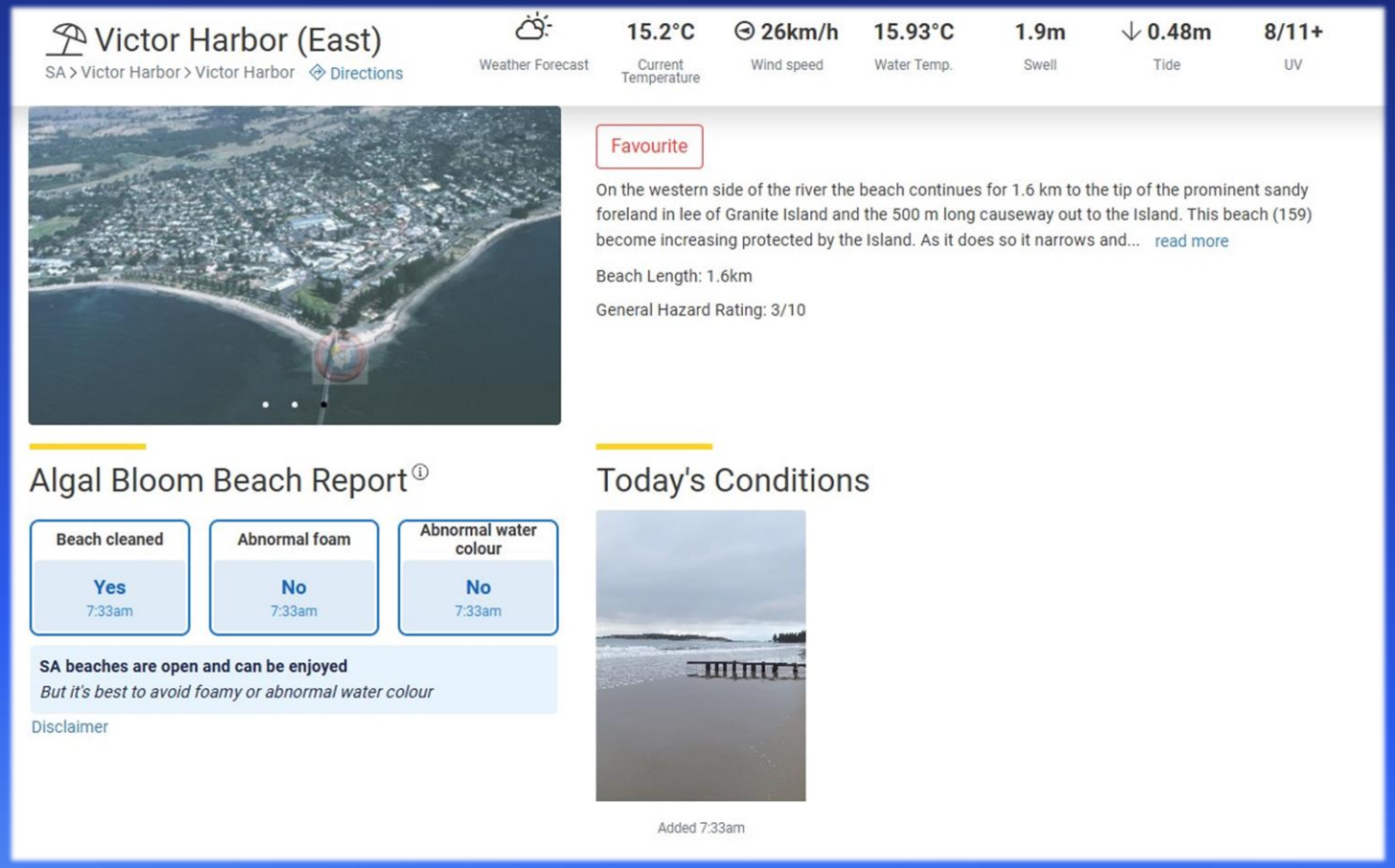
The teams on the ground:

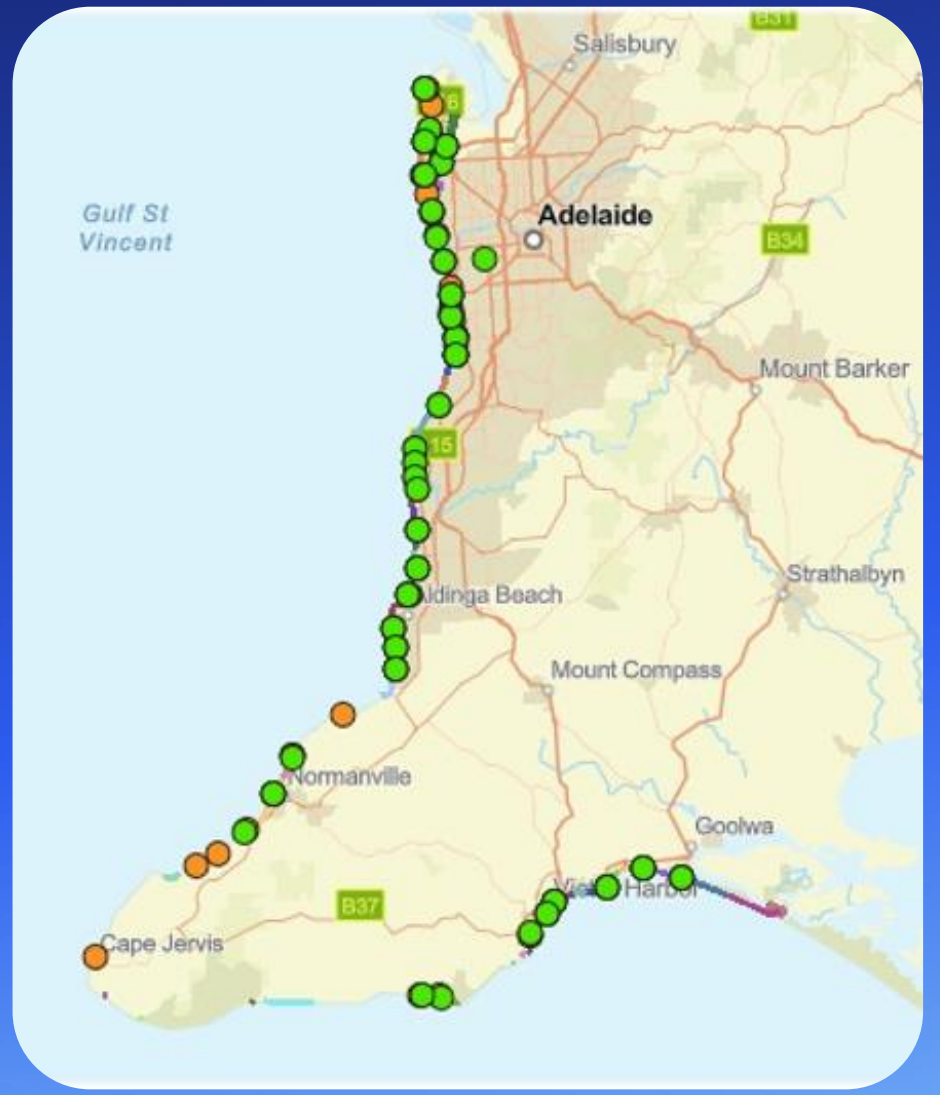
1. PipiCo Ngarrindjeri – South Coast and Fleurieu
2. Randstad – Metro beachews
3. Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation – Yorke Peninsula
4. National Parks and Wildlife Service - Field Officers/Fire Crew

Disaster Relief Australia crews concluded 5 November

In an average week teams collect between 1,000-4,000 kgs along the coastline being cleaned.

On ground teams – beach condition reporting





8 field staff covering 31 beaches across Adelaide, Fleurieu and the South Coast

FRIDAY - 7 November 2025 0910h

OFFICIAL: Sensitive//SA CABINET

Algal Bloom - Beach Conditions

Date Selector
No date selected

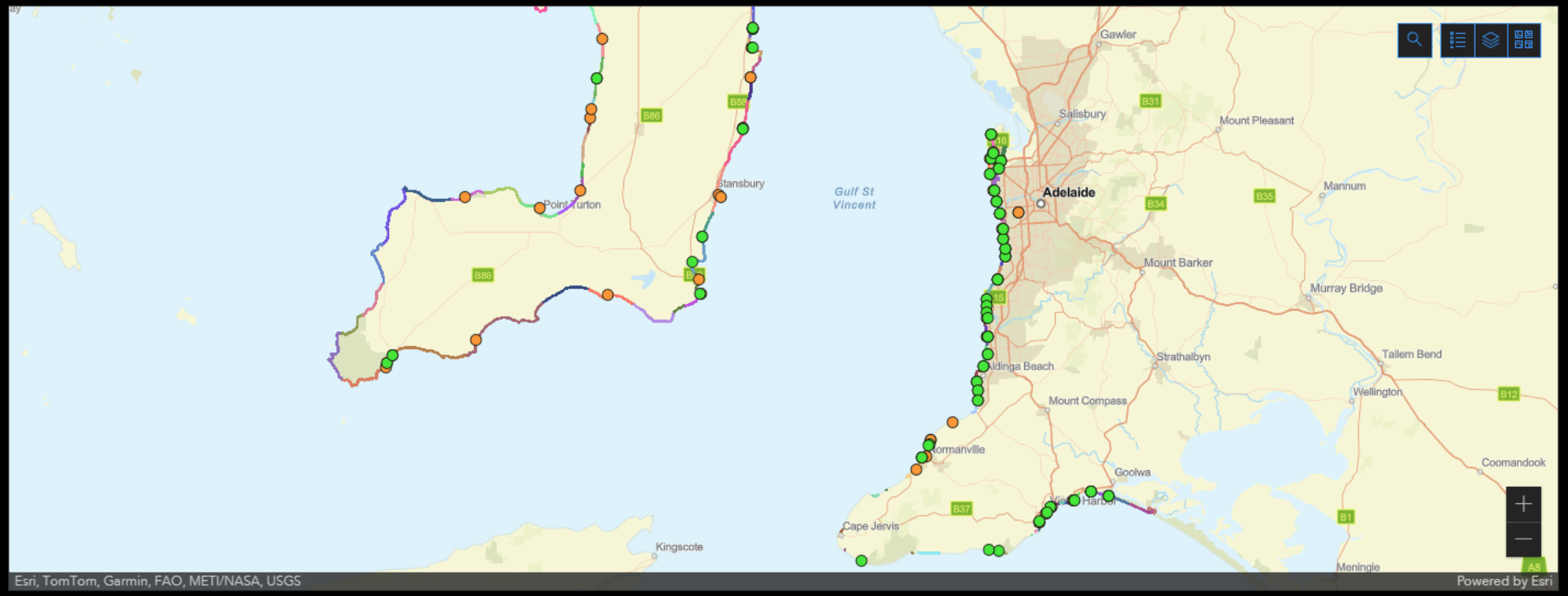
Today's Inspections
56
Last update: a few seconds ago
Today's Ins...

Total Inspections
2.9k
Last update: a few seconds ago

Water Discoloured
25
Today
Last update: a few seconds ago
Today

Foam in Water
15
Today
Last update: a few seconds ago
Today

Foam on Beaches
11
Today
Last update: a few seconds ago
Today



Water Discolouration - Today
None 31
Low 20
Medium 3
Last update: a few seconds ago
Today | Yesterday | All Inspections

Water Foam - Today
None 41
Low 13
Medium 2
Last update: a few seconds ago
Today | Yesterday | All Inspections

Beach Foam - Today
None 45
Low 9
Medium 2
Last update: a few seconds ago
Today | Yesterday | All Inspections

Beach Cleanliness - Today
Good 32
Medium 21
Poor 3
Last update: a few seconds ago
Today | Yesterday | All

Today's Inspections

- Inspection ID: 3012 Date & Time: 07/11/2025, 09:05:00
- Inspection ID: 3010 Date & Time: 07/11/2025, 09:04:00
- Inspection ID: 3008 Date & Time: 07/11/2025, 09:03:00
- Inspection ID: 3011 Date & Time: 07/11/2025, 08:58:00
- Inspection ID: 3007 Date & Time: 07/11/2025, 08:49:00
- Inspection ID: 3006 Date & Time: 07/11/2025, 08:47:00
- Inspection ID: 3005 Date & Time: 07/11/2025, 08:43:00
- Inspection ID: 3004 Date & Time: 07/11/2025, 08:37:00
- Inspection ID: 3003 Date & Time: 07/11/2025, 08:35:00
- Inspection ID: 3009 Date & Time: 07/11/2025, 08:33:00

Last update: a few seconds ago
Today's Inspections

ABC Unit Update

Beach Cleanup (30 October – 5 November)

	Metro North	Metro South	Fleurieu	South Coast	Yorke Peninsula	Total
Quantity collected (kilos)	1733	870	439	27	122	3191
Number of personnel per day (average)	36	15	8	2	4	65
Number of hours on beach per day (average)	22	8	9	4	3	45

- Tiddy Widdy and Ardrossan are inundated with fish kill – tractor towed beach rake to be deployed Monday 10/11
- DRA concluded 5 November 2025
- Field Officer recruitment - 42 field officers commencing
- No mammals or bird numbers above reporting thresholds
- Increasing foam on the south coast but this appears to be natural and not reportable at present. IMT will monitor and compare with cell count data.

Volunteers

We are engaging with passionate and motivated South Australians

Enabling them to be part of the beach clean up and the collection of important scientific data

Sign up:

Government of South Australia

algalbloom.sa.gov.au

iNaturalist for SA Beach Clean Up Crew

1. Sign up for iNaturalist and download the app (iNaturalist Classic).

Android | iPhone

2. Take photos of every **new species** you come across during your beach clean up.

Taking useful photos

- Take **clear** photos of the entire animal.
- Give **context of size** (ruler, scale card, hand).
- If time: Take 'whole scene' photo showing distribution of washup (add to record after the closeup image).

[1] Blue Weed-Whiting , photo: Johanna Williams 2025, CC-BY-NC, https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/318106955

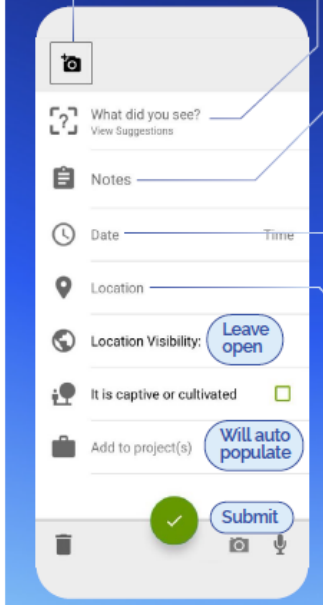
[2] Whole-scene washup. Photo: Johanna Williams 2025, CC-BY-NC https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/317396128

Submit a record of each species to iNaturalist that includes the following:

Add species ID
To save on time, choose the first suggestion from the AI tool.

Upload photos
Add 'whole animal' photo first

Notes
Include codes: **"BCUP, Dead"**
Optional: indication of number seen (e.g. "25 in 100m stretch", or "only 1")



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App will populate the current date and time or those of the first image.

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Check location on the map makes sense. ***If not, tap through to set the location manually.***

Seadragon Alert

Keep aside in a separate bag.
Count every individual.

Government of South Australia

Algal Bloom Volunteer Community

Thank you for your interest in volunteering to support South Australia's response to the current algal bloom.

By registering your interest, you'll be the first to hear about upcoming opportunities to get involved, from one-off events to ongoing projects. At this time, the opportunities are centered on beach clean ups, but there will be other events ahead.

You can visit the algal bloom website to learn more: Algal Bloom Update

Algal Bloom Coastal Remediation Volunteer Support

Already have an account? Click to login

First Name *

Last Name *

Email *

Date of Birth *

dd/mm/yyyy

You must be 18 years or over to register in our system

Communications and engagement

- Weekly Local Government online meetings
- 20 community forums held Aug-Oct, 2000+ attendees
- 700+ attendees at health, recreation, education, tourism & industry forums

- Targeted engagement with key stakeholders, including First Nations groups continuing

- Updated signage from mid November 2025, replacing more than 900 signs
- New seafood safety sign will be installed at popular fishing locations
- Advertising campaigns continue

- algalbloom.sa.gov.au – over 398,000 views since launch
- Hotline launched Oct 2025, 383 calls
- Weekly e-newsletter – 4441 subscribers

Signage

New designs include updated information on:

- algal bloom hotline
- Beachsafe app
- asthma and health advice
- seafood safety messages
- translations

Government of South Australia

Seafood advice

Caught or collected yourself:

The flesh of fish, crabs, prawns, lobsters and squid caught live are safe.

Bivalve molluscs (oysters, cockles, mussels, pipis and scallops) plus abalone should **not** be eaten as we can't be sure they are safe to eat.

Government of South Australia

algalbloom.sa.gov.au

HEALTH WARNING

DO NOT EAT PIPI

危险！请勿食用蛤蜊。

危險！請勿食用蜆。

Nguy hiểm! Không được ăn nghêu

Delikado! Huwag kumain ng halaan

Harmful levels of toxins have been found in bivalve molluscs including Pipi (Goolwa Cockle) which may cause food poisoning.
Pipi are currently not suitable for human consumption.
The area remains open to fishers collecting Pipi for bait only.

The following rules apply:
Size limit: **3.5 cm** Daily limit: **330** per person
Vehicle limit: **990** per vehicle (where three or more people are present)

For more information visit:
pir.sa.gov.au/fishing
or download the free
SA Fishing app

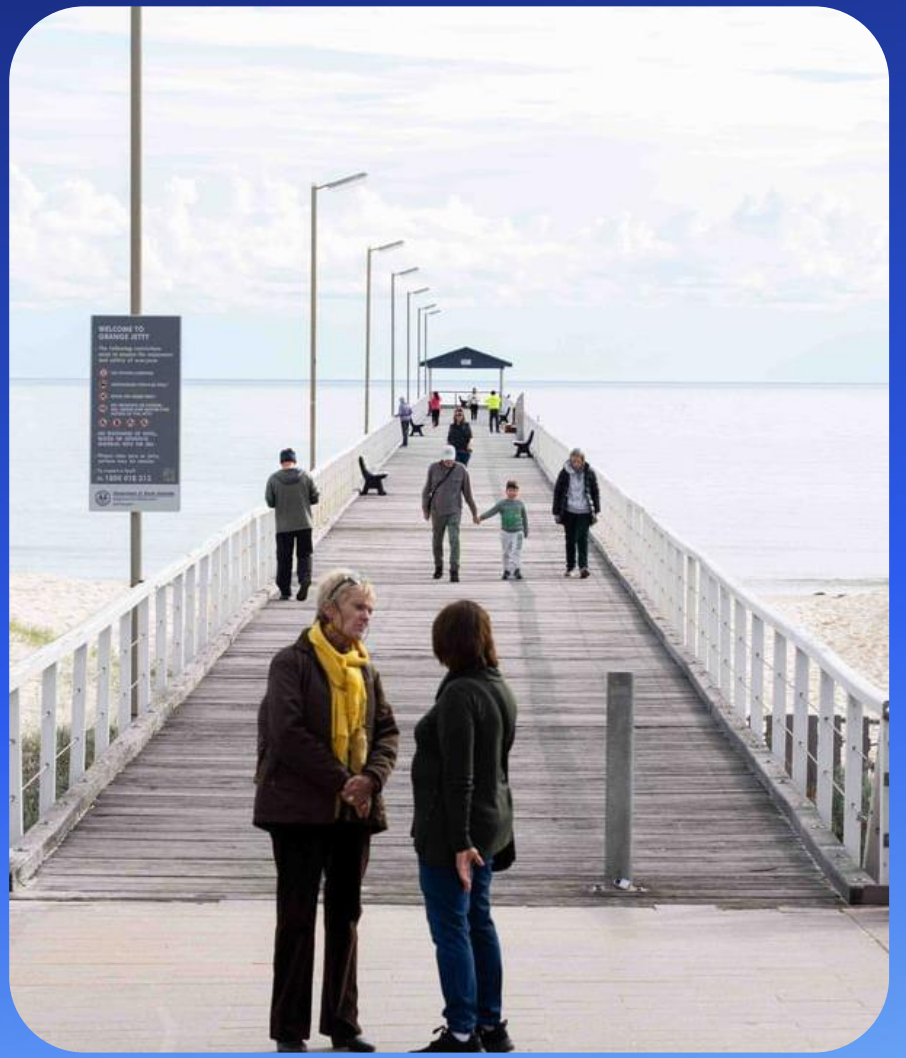
Fishwatch
1800 065 522

Government of South Australia
Department of Primary Industries and Regions

Algal Boom Response – Local Government Grant Fund

$4m fund

- **General Purpose Grant** – non-competitive and are available to all eligible councils who meet the eligible criteria, up to a grant of $50k
- **Coastal Camera Network Opt-in** - available for all eligible councils to opt-in to the coastal camera network for a grant amount up to $50k
- **Merit-based Grants** are awarded through a competitive process in which proposals are evaluated on their merit against the eligible criteria



Eligible projects

Coastal infrastructure

- Beachside showers
- Recreational infrastructure – shades, BBQs, rod holders, fish cleaning stations at boat ramps
- Waste management infrastructure – bins
- Coastal Camera Network (opt-in program)

Environmental remediation activities

- Beach clean up
- Wetlands restoration
- Citizen science initiatives

Community Support Program

- Community information and awareness campaigns
- Events, festivals and cultural activities

Key info

Applications opened 31 October

Applications close 31 December 2025

Eligibility list subject to change with the approval of either The Premier, Chief Executive, Department of the Premier and Cabinet or the Coordinator, Algal Bloom Response

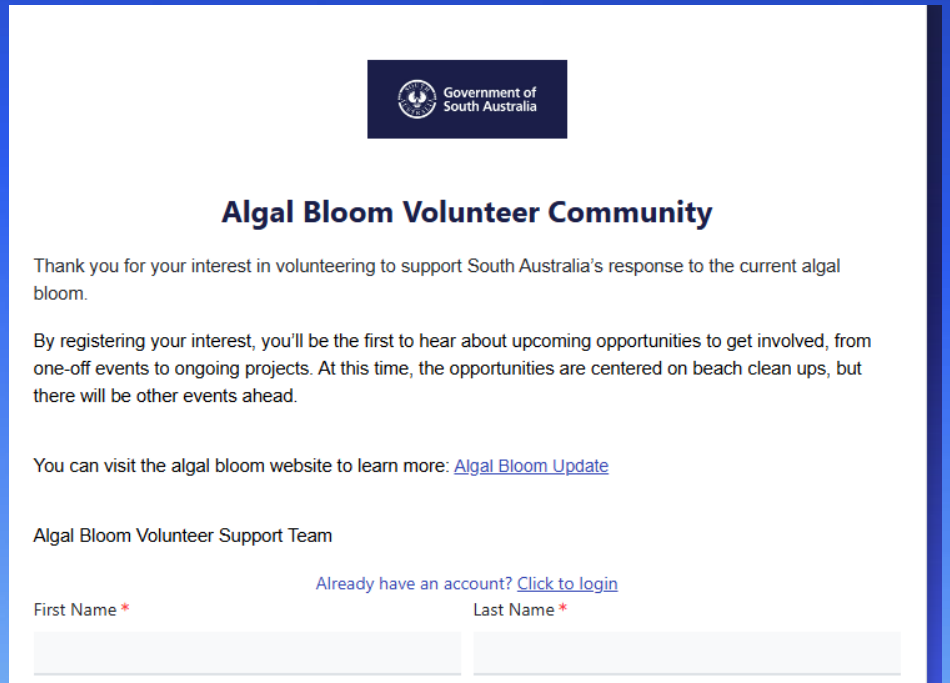
Appendix 2: Eligible Councils

The following councils are eligible to apply for grants under these guidelines.

City of Port Adelaide Enfield	Adelaide Plains Council
City of Charles Sturt	District Council of Barunga West
City of West Torrens	Northern Areas Council
City of Marion	Port Pirie Regional Council
City of Holdfast Bay	Wakefield Regional Council
City of Playford	Copper Coast Council
City of Onkaparinga	Yorke Peninsula Council
District Council of Yankalilla	City of Whyalla
City of Victor Harbor	District Council of Franklin Harbour
Alexandrina Council	District Council of Cleve
Kangaroo Island Council	District Council of Tumby Bay
Tatiara District Council	City of Port Lincoln
Wattle Range Council	District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula
Mount Remarkable District Council	City of Port Augusta

Volunteer portal

- Sign up page – initial focus on beach clean up
- iNaturalist instructions for contributing data & collecting specimens for science



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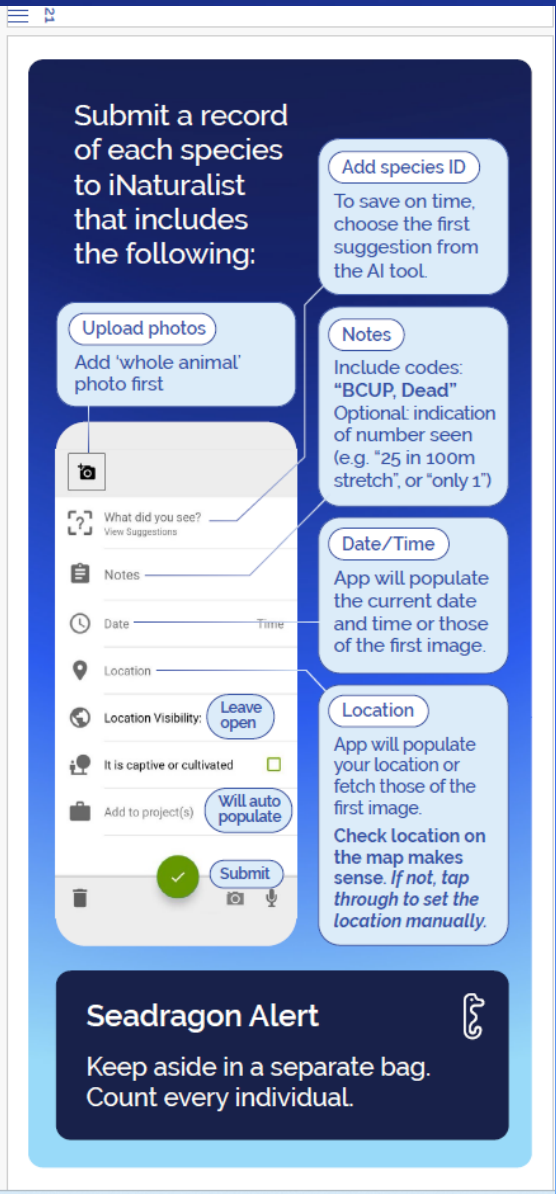

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What did you see? View Suggestions
Notes
Date Time
Location
Location Visibility: Leave open
It is captive or cultivated
Add to project(s) Will auto populate
Submit

Date/Time
App will populate the current date and time or those of the first image.

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Questions