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MEDIA RELEASE

LOCK 2 REMAINS CLOSED TO BOAT NAVIGATION

River Murray users are being reminded that Lock 2 at Taylorville, between Morgan and Waikerie, is currently closed to boat navigation due to high water levels.

SA Water River Murray Operations Manager Brenton Erdmann says Lock 2 was closed on February 14 and is expected to remain closed until mid to late April.

“Prior to the high flows down the River Murray, SA Water was upgrading the navigable pass at Lock 2 on behalf of the Murray Darling Basin Authority,” Mr Erdmann says.

“Construction work on the upgrade was temporarily halted in October 2010 due to rising water levels, which flooded the construction site.

“As a result of the works not being completed the navigable pass is not able to be used as would usually be the case during times of high flows.

“This means that there is currently no safe alternative for boats to pass through Lock 2.

“The lock chamber will remain closed until River Murray flows recede and water levels drop low enough to allow lockages to resume.

“At this stage we anticipate that it will be mid to late April before water levels reach the required level.

“Works on the navigable pass upgrade will also resume when the river reaches a safe level for construction crews to continue the work.

“To alert river users of the closure a line of yellow buoys has been placed across the channel and a ‘blocked channel’ sign has also been installed.

“We apologise for any inconvenience this temporary closure causes and appreciate river user’s cooperation during this time.”

SA Water will inform river users when the lock re-opens.

Navigation is available at all other locks and weirs throughout South Australia. For more information about the closure at Lock 2 the public can call SA Water’s Lock 2 office on (08) 8543 2246.
