

Media Release

WHAT DOES CLIMATE CHANGE MEAN FOR YOU? Invitation to attend an Information Session in Kojonup Friday 26th June, 2009

South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc., invite you to attend an Information Session to find out more about the implications of Climate Change in the South Coast NRM Region.

The Information Session will be held at 11am to 1.30pm on Friday June 26th at the Shire of Kojonup Council Chambers. There will also be information sessions in Denmark, Mount Barker, Gnowangerup, Jerramungup, Ravensthorpe and Esperance.

'The Information Session will present information that has been gathered as part of whole-of-landscape analysis of Climate Change impacts in the South Coast NRM Region' said South Coast NRM Inc. CEO, Rob Edkins.

'We need to know what is going to happen in the Region so that we can plan and adapt to potential changes such as increased temperature, less rainfall and higher sea levels', he said.

'The South Coast community is already active in planning for and managing changes to biodiversity, the land, water resources and our coast. To ensure that our economy and natural resource assets are resilient, we must assess the risks and come up with strategies to address them'.

'The South Coast has already shown a huge ability to adapt to change – an example of this is our farming community who have already experienced a 20% decrease in rainfall since 1975. Potential changes to come include a predicted 40 to 80mm rise in sea level by 2100,' he said.

Mr Edkins also said that although native species are well adapted to the climatic extremes common in Australia, many species are likely to be at risk with small increases in average temperatures. Some experts are predicting a loss of 10 – 30% of all species if the temperature increases by 2° Celsius.

An agenda and discussion paper for the Information Session can be downloaded from the South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc. website:
<http://southcoastnrm.com.au>

For further information or to RSVP, please contact Melanie Price, at Coffey Environments: melanie_price@coffey.com or (08) 98926400.

South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc. is the regional group for natural resource management on the South Coast of Western Australia. Funding is provided by the Australian Government and the Government of Western Australia.

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