

31 August 2018

MEDIA RELEASE (*AMENDED*)

COUNCIL INCREASES NORTHERN RANGER SERVICE

Mid Murray Council will soon appoint a ranger to the northern end of the Council district.

The proposal, to expand the existing southern ranger service, has been given exceptionally strong support from the local community. In the coming months the Council will set about recruiting a ranger who will be based in Morgan and cover the entire Council district – with a particular focus on Morgan, Cadell and Blanchetown shack areas - for four days per week (Friday to Monday).

Local people showed their overwhelming support via a consultation survey carried out by Council during May and June 2018, where 75 per cent of respondents indicated they believed there was a high demand for ranger services in the Council's northern area.

Mid Murray Mayor Dave Burgess said the Council was responding to a community desire for the expanded service.

“A major part of our community, economy and Murray River culture is our pristine shack areas and weekend visitors,” Mayor Burgess says.

“Heading towards peak season, we want to ensure that both our local full-time residents, and seasonal holiday-makers can make the best of our district. The new northern ranger will play a key role in ensuring this is the case.

Director of Development and Environmental Services Jake McVicar said the ranger will deal with a range of issues which can arise on weekends and holidays, such as illegal houseboat mooring, riverfront issues, illegal dumping and camping, illegal motorbike riding, animal control and nuisance matters.

“Sometimes much of this is simply an educational process as we provide our visitors with information on how to enjoy the district without creating a nuisance.

“The ranger will regularly monitor our major reserves in the north – being the Morgan Riverfront and Graeme Claxton Reserve at Cadell, while also responding to other issues across the whole Council area.”

It is expected that the new Mid Murray Northern Ranger will be in place before the start of the peak summer season.

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