

Harmful Algal Bloom Symposium

Day 1 Program | 2 June 2026

South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) | 2 Hamra Avenue West Beach SA 5024

Time	Introduction
9:00am	Acknowledgement of Country – Pauly Vandenberg (Tjindu Foundation)
9:05am	Ministerial introduction
9:15am	Overview and introduction – Mike Steer (SARDI)
9:20am	Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS) national overview – Michelle Heupel (IMOS)
9:35am	Broad overview harmful algal blooms / worldwide context – Chris Bolch (SARDI)
Time	Theme 1: Drivers
9:50am	Evaluation of drivers of the 2025 harmful algal bloom event in South Australia – Simon Goldsworthy (SARDI)
10:05am	Theme 1: Drivers panel discussion - Simon Goldsworthy (SARDI), Mark Doubell (SARDI), Michelle Heupel (IMOS) and Chris Bolch (SARDI)
10:25am	MORNING TEA
Time	Theme 2: Oceanography
11:05am	Establishing early detection, monitoring and forecasting system – Mark Doubell (SARDI)
11:20am	CSIRO Aquawatch: integrated coastal water quality monitoring and forecasts using <i>in situ</i> data, satellite sensing and AI forecast models – Nagur Cherukuru (CSIRO)
11:35am	SARDI/CSIRO Ocean Modelling: harmful algal bloom modelling support and capability development – Mark Baird (CSIRO)
11:50am	Theme 2: Oceanography panel discussion - Simon Goldsworthy (SARDI), Mark Doubell (SARDI), Nagur Cherukuru (CSIRO) and Mark Baird (CSIRO)
12:10pm	LUNCH



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Time	Theme 3: Aquaculture
12:55pm	Brevetoxin dynamics in oysters from various harmful algal impacted farms – Sasi Nayar (SARDI)
1:10pm	Pure cultures and upscaling - Hai Tran (SARDI)
1:25pm	Global overview of harmful algal bloom mitigation - Patrick Burke (SARDI)
1:40pm	South Australian clay mitigation trials – Sam Gaylard (EPA)
1:55pm	Molecular tools being applied in the SA harmful algal bloom event – Sarah Catalano (SARDI)
2:10pm	Theme 3: Aquaculture panel discussion – Sasi Nayar (SARDI), Hai Tran (SARDI), Patrick Burke (SARDI), Sam Gaylard (EPA), Sarah Catalano (SARDI)
2:25pm	AFTERNOON TEA
Time	Theme 4: Environmental sampling
2:55pm	HAB Cell Testing Protocols: Monitoring Frameworks and Policy Perspectives – Mike Steer (SARDI)
3:15pm	Developing <i>Karenia</i> identification and monitoring capability through science: industry collaborative water sampling – Vinuri Silva (SARDI)
3:30pm	Presence of <i>Karenia cristata</i> in historical water samples / IMOS - Justin Seymour (University of Technology Sydney)
3:45pm	Citizen science work – Samantha Sea (Phytoplankton of South Australia)
4:00pm	Brevetoxin monitoring in seagrass and sediments – Sam Gaylard (EPA)
4:15pm	FPV <i>Southern Ranger</i> : Chasing the bloom – Sasi Nayar (SARDI)
4:30pm	Theme 4: Environmental sampling panel discussion – Vinuri Silva (SARDI), Mike Steer (SARDI), Justin Seymour (UTS), Samantha Sea (Phytoplankton of South Australia), Sasi Nayar (SARDI) and Sam Gaylard (EPA)
4:50pm	Sharks/Rays – Charlie Huveneers (Flinders University)
5:05pm	CLOSE – DAY 1



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Day 2 Program | 3 June 2026

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Time	Theme 5: Ecosystem impacts
9:00am	Assessing the impact of harmful algal blooms on fisheries and fish stocks in Gulf St Vincent and Spencer Gulf: including a roadmap for recovery – Adrian Linnane (SARDI)
9:15am	Assessing impacts of harmful algal bloom events on South Australian benthic habitats – Shannen Smith (SARDI)
9:30am	Biodiversity impacts - Danny Brock (DEW)
9:45am	Theme 5: Ecosystem impacts panel discussion – Adrian Linnane (SARDI), Shannen Smith (SARDI) and Danny Brock (DEW)
10:05am	MORNING TEA
Time	Theme 6: Impact and recovery modelling
10:35am	Ecosystem modelling to inform harmful algal bloom impact assessment and recovery planning - Amelia Desbiens (SARDI)
10:50am	Theme 6: Impact and recovery modelling panel discussion - Amelia Desbiens (SARDI) and Simon Goldsworthy (SARDI)
Time	Theme 7: Recovery
11:10am	Restorative aquaculture – Aaron Wolfe (SARDI) and Brayden McKenzie (SARDI)
11:25am	Overview of recovery assessment - Jason Higham (DEW)
11:40am	Ecological Recovery Plan – Sandy Carruthers (DEW)
11:45am	Oyster reef restoration – Dom McAfee (Adelaide University)
12:00pm	Recovery plan – Chris Beattie (DPC)
12:15pm	Theme 7: Recovery panel discussion – Aaron Wolfe (SARDI), Brayden McKenzie (SARDI), Jason Higham (DEW), Sandy Carruthers (DEW), Tim Carruthers (DEW), Dom McAfee (Adelaide University) and Chris Beattie (DPC)
12:35pm	LUNCH



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Time	Theme 8: Regulatory and policy
1:20pm	Challenges for the fisheries and aquaculture industry during harmful algal blooms: Mechanisms implemented to assist industry - Emily Mellor (PIRSA) and Sam Stone (PIRSA)
1:35pm	South Australian Shellfish Quality Assurance Program: Policy driven / regulatory aspects - Sarah Spurling (SASQAP)
1:50pm	Brevetoxin test kits: initial assessment of performance and possible usage scenarios - Andreas Seger (SafeFish/UTAS)
2:05pm	Biotoxin science: NZ experience - Tim Harwood (Cawthron Institute)
2:20pm	Theme 8: Regulatory and policy panel discussion – Emily Mellor (PIRSA), Sam Stone (PIRSA), Sarah Spurling (SASQAP), Andreas Seager (UTAS) and Tim Harwood (Cawthron Institute)
2:40pm	AFTERNOON TEA
Time	Theme 9: Health
2:55pm	Health impacts – David Cunliffe (SA Health)
3:10pm	Citizen Science: public health impacts, social impacts including mental health aspects – Amy McLennan (The Algal Bloom Shed) and Jacqueline Stephens (Flinders University)
3:25pm	Citizen Science: Cultural impacts of the harmful algal blooms on first nations coastal communities - Pauly Vandenberg (Tjindu Foundation)
3:40pm	Theme 9: Health panel discussion – David Cunliffe (SA Health), Amy McLennan (The Algal Bloom Shed), Jacqueline Stephens (Flinders University) and Pauly Vandenberg (Tjindu Foundation)
4:00pm	ANZ HABnet – Ali Turnbull (University of Tasmania)
4:05pm	NESP HAB project – Martina Doblin (University of Technology Sydney)
4:10pm	Summary of gaps / where to from here - Gretchen Grammer (SARDI)
4:30pm	Closing remarks – Mike Steer (SARDI)
4:40pm	CLOSE



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