



Friday, January 13, 2006

Media Alert

Swan River Trust on algal bloom alert

The Swan River Trust has been tracking information from the State Flood Warning Centre on the rainfall and flood situation due to the potential impacts of high flows through the Avon River on the Swan Estuary.

Swan River Trust General Manager Rod Hughes said there was the potential for heavy rains to bring large amounts of nutrients into the river.

“With the return to warm summer conditions it is possible that we will experience algal blooms, especially in the middle and upper reaches of the Swan,” Mr Hughes said.

“We have established extra monitoring in the river which will track water flow, physical properties and phytoplankton.”

Mr Hughes said the Trust had also set up an incident response team, in preparation for a potential significant event, which was standard in these circumstances.

“We are investigating response options depending on what develops over the next few days,” he said.

Trust General Manager Rod Hughes will be available to speak to media:

Time: 3pm

Date: Friday, 13 January, 2006

**Place: Corner Terrace and Plain Streets, East Perth
(Behind the Hyatt in the park)**

Contact: Media Liaison Officer 6364 6499

NOTE: For information on flood warnings, access the Department of Water's river level information page and the Bureau of Meteorology sponsored State flood warning centre webpage:

<http://apostle.environment.wa.gov.au/idelve/rms/index.html>

<http://www.bom.gov.au/hydro/flood/wa/>