



# Media Release

Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017

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## SUMMER OF SALTMARSH PLANNED FOR NORTHERN REGION

Saltmarsh will take the spotlight this summer with community members invited to get involved in a fun information day and surveys organised by NRM North.

Saltmarshes are home to diverse communities of plants, animals and birds, and also act as fish nursery habitats, coastal buffers, carbon sinks and natural sponges, filtering water runoff and improving water quality.

NRM North Facilitator, Megan Dykman, said several events were planned for the northern region this summer as part of a statewide project to better map, monitor and manage these unique and threatened wetland communities.

“These activities offer a fantastic opportunity for people to explore northern Tasmania’s saltmarshes and the data we collect is also really important in better understanding and looking after these ecosystems,” Miss Dykman said.

“You don’t need to be an expert to be involved; the fantastic thing about the monitoring is that anyone can do it.”

A community day at Barnbogle Dunes near Bridport on Sunday, January 14 will highlight the importance of saltmarshes. This event is being organised by NRM North, in partnership with the University of Tasmania and the Parks and Wildlife Service.

University of Tasmania researcher, Vishnu Prahalad, and Discovery Ranger, Larissa Giddings, will lead guided walks through the saltmarsh and along the foreshore. This free event also includes activities for children.

Community members and groups also have the opportunity to get more actively involved by participating in saltmarsh surveys in the northern region. Now in its third year, this program involves monitoring and recording birds, plants and human impacts across several saltmarsh sites in the Tamar River estuary and along Tasmania’s northern coastline.

This project is supported by NRM North through funding from the Australian Government’s National Landcare Program. To find out more and get involved, contact NRM North on 6333 7777 or at [admin@nrmnorth.org.au](mailto:admin@nrmnorth.org.au).

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