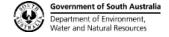


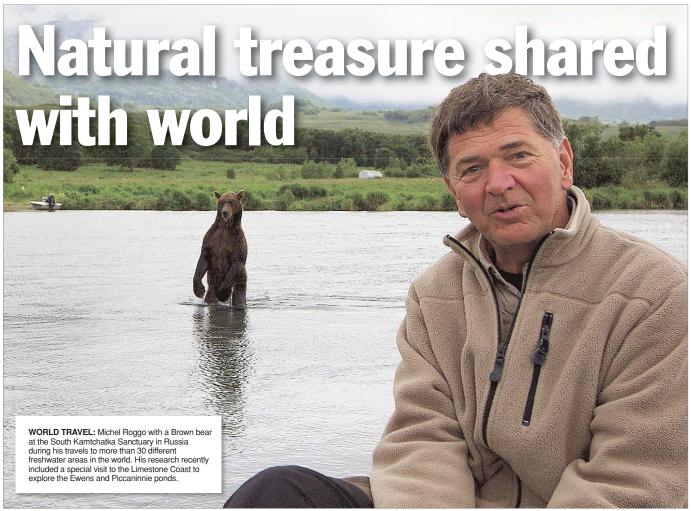
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Renowned freshwater photographer focuses on Piccaninnie Ponds

SOME of the region's most popular and unique wetlands have attracted international attention, with a renowned freshwater photographer from Switzerland making a splash in the

Natural Resources South East staff welcomed freshwater photographer Michel Roggo to the region to explore Piccaninnie

and Ewens ponds, as well as other popular sites.

Mr Roggo is part of the International League of Conservation Photographers, with his Freshwater Project dedicated to documenting freshwater environments with a particular focus on

underwater photography.

The project promotes conserva-

tion of freshwater systems and helps educate people about their importance through photography.

"Often the focus is on the ocean, but freshwater is also a place for amazing ecosystems and humans are connected to freshwater since we need it to survive," Mr Roggo said.

"The freshwater areas of the

South East have such a high interaction with the landscape."

The project will allow him to visit 30 unique freshwater places around the world over four years.

So far he has visited places

in Siberia, Slovakia, Brazil, Greenland, China and even in the deserts of Oman.

Natural Resources South East wetland conservation ecologist

Steve Clarke said it was exciting to have woter bodies in the South East recognised as part of the

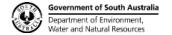
"Michel's work features in high-profile publications such as National Geographic, so it is great international exposure," Mr Clarke said.

Continued page 10



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Natural wonder shared

Acclaimed photographer focuses on Piccaninnie Ponds

From page 9

"Piccaninnie and Ewens ponds are extremely unique, not only in their beauty, but in their ecological systems, biodiversity and interaction with the groundwater and our coast," Mr Clarke said.

The wetland ecologist said many people who lived in

the region were unaware of the wetland and Karst rising spring systems and their international importance.

"We hope Michel will return to the region in the future to hold an exhibition of his photographs taken during his

time here," Mr Clarke said.
"It will be great for the community to come, see and learn."

Mr Roggo said he had enjoyed his time in the South East and thought the freshwater systems were magnificent and full of diversity.

"I first heard about Piccaninnie Ponds about 10 years ago," the professional photographer said.

"It was great to finally experience it, though for me, I really enjoyed Ewens Ponds.

"It is wonderful and I even spent some time in a small plane taking photos of the wetlands, which really shows their importance.

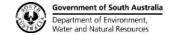
"I am pleased to include this region in my project and finally place a site pin in Australia."

Visit www.roggo.ch/ thefreshwaterproject to view the project results.



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INTERNATIONAL WATERS: Switzerland freshwater photographer Michel Roggo visited and explored the unique beauty inside Ewens and Piccaninnie ponds as part of his research into global freshwater environments.