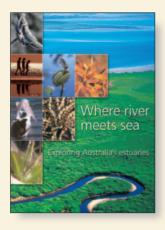
The revealing roles of estuaries

Estuaries are dynamic coastal waterways where salt and fresh water mix in highly productive ecosystems. Where River Meets Sea describes the value and status of Australia's 974 estuaries and takes readers on an engaging state-by-state tour describing their health, geography, science, management and vital ecological functions.

Chapters on natural history, coastal science and management give an understanding of our vast network of pristine and heavily modified estuaries from isolated tide-dominated estuaries in Australia's tropical north to those shaped over eons by waves in southern, temperate waters. Other chapters show how people use and value coastal catchments and waterways, the impacts of human development on these natural ecosystems, and how estuaries can be better managed in future.

The book's many photographs, maps, case studies and diagrams provide student, professional, and casual readers alike with rewarding reading,



Where River Meets Sea
Dieter Tracey, Lynne Turner,
Jan Tilden & Bill Dennison

CRC for Coastal Zone Estuary and Waterway Management, 2004 ISBN 0 957 86788 3 RRP \$49.95

Available from CSIRO PUBLISHING www.publish.csiro.au/pid/ 3897.htm

and a deeper appreciation of our coastal waterways – both vital for our economy and fundamentally precious to our quality of life.

Questioning growth for growth's sake

Economist, author, and commentator, Clive Hamilton, has manifested what many people are increasingly writing and thinking as the sustainability paradigm evolves: that the West's dedication to economic growth and associated hard-driven consumerism might be leading society just a bit too far in the wrong direction.

If you haven't read it yet, Growth Fetish, at the very least, is important and timely in raising a stimulating debate about this fundamental point and its associated societal questions. But it makes entertaining and educational reading too. Hamilton has long contemplated these issues, and is well placed to set out a thought-provoking argument, irrespective of whether some reviews have opined that there are obvious stretches in the book's logic and a lack of a solid chart to progress.



Growth FetishClive Hamilton

Allen & Unwin, 2003, Paperback ISBN 1741140781 RRP \$24.95

With enough star-qualified endorsements of Hamilton's work to rank it as a solid book. there are also the usual arguments around consigning it to a radical agenda - the case with any incisive questioning of a long-standing, fundamental structure driven by dominant forces. Growth Fetish is encouraging thinking for Australia, and, importantly, has opened a forum into which we can hope to see offered some other fascinating, reasoned contributions from the nation's leaders.

Peer-reviewed progress

The first international journal on the chemistry of environmental processes has recently been launched, providing a new and timely peer-review channel for the advance of this burgeoning field of science.

Environmental Chemistry, an Australian publishing initiative, will encompass atmospheric, marine, interstellar, and soil chemistry, (bio)geochemistry, climate change, chemical toxicology, and green chemistry, giving a wide platform for the progress of understanding into fundamental environmental questions.

The journal is receiving strong

support internationally, with the high-calibre International Advisory Board including F. Sherwood Rowland and Mario Molina who (with Paul Crutzen) were jointly awarded the 1995 Chemistry Nobel Prize for establishing that CFCs harm the ozone layer.

The promised range of topical research should ensure that *Environmental Chemistry* attracts readers from sociological and well as science-based disciplines, and will likely include interested professionals from industry, government and the general community. Useful 'environmental context'

'Environmental chemistry is a thriving, interdisciplinary field without a dedicated journal – until now'.

Alison GreenEditor of Environmental Chemistry

briefings are provided upfront outlining each paper's motivation and broader significance.



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Environmental Chemistry is available free of charge online for 2004 at www.publish.csiro.au/journals/env