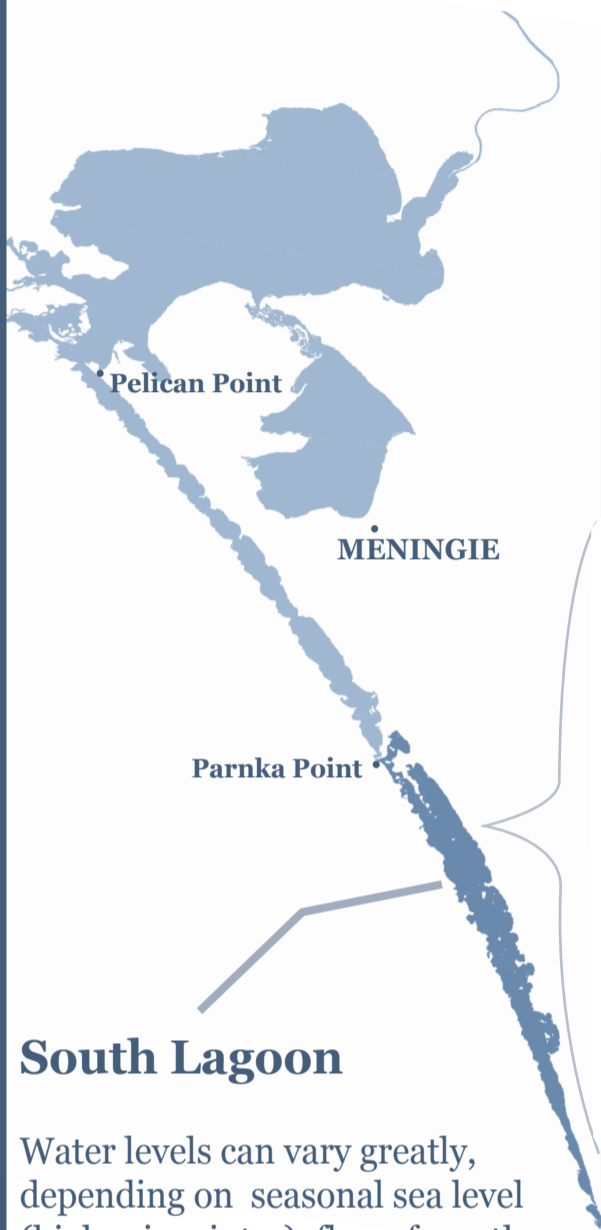


Coorong, Lower Lakes & Murray Mouth Waterbird Diversity and Distribution

South Lagoon

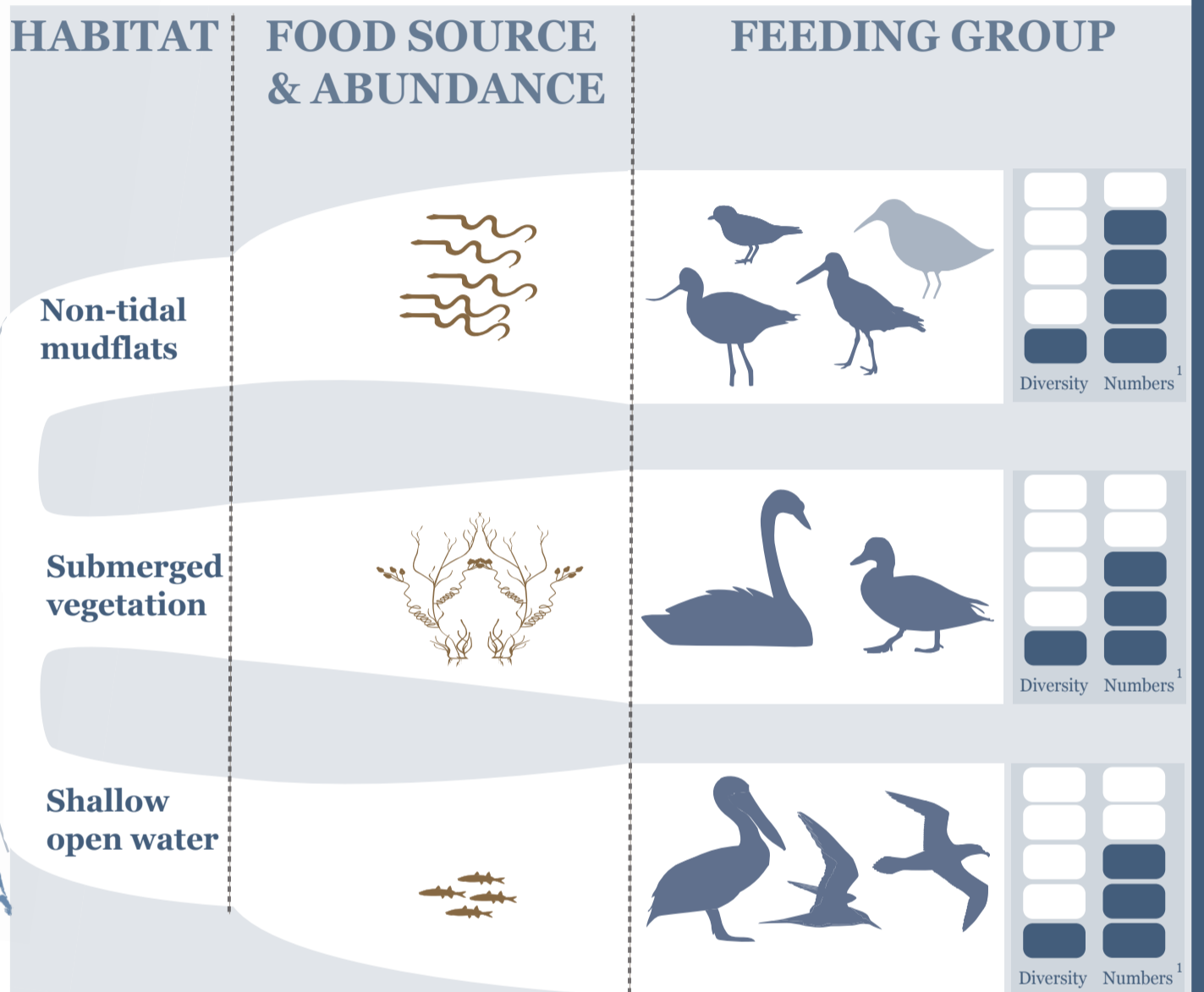


South Lagoon

Water levels can vary greatly, depending on seasonal sea level (higher in winter), flows from the Lower Lakes barrages and the South East drainage system, and also wind strength and direction.

There is a salinity gradient in the South Lagoon - from higher in the south (5 times as salty as sea water), to lower in the north (2 times as salty as sea water).

The South Lagoon provides significant areas of island that are important nesting sites for Terns, Gulls and Pelicans.



KEY

Food abundance

Lots Little

Distributional range

World Australia Local

Nesting²

Here Elsewhere

Major food sources

Fish
 Smallmouth hardyhead

Plants
 Ruppia

Invertebrates
 Chironomids

Feeding group members

Waders
 Plovers
 Sandpipers; Stints
 Avocets; Stilts
 Oystercatchers

Grazers
 Swans
 Ducks

Fishers
 Pelicans; Cormorants
 Terns
 Gulls

¹ Diversity and numbers relative to the total Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth area

² Nesting is known to occur here (ie. South Lagoon), or elsewhere (ie. either elsewhere within or outside of the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth area)