SA Seep Site 3: Simon Martin, Karoonda
“Bringing a saline swamp back into production,
using lucerne, salt tolerant grasses and soil amelioration”
Dr Chris McDonough, Insight Extension for Agriculture

Team,
I looked at Martins Demo site (we visited this as a group) yesterday and am very pleased. The lucerne well established in paddock is well established, fenced and will completely stop excess water flowing into seep areas. The Puccinellia is thriving (he may even be able to reap to spread it further). Some tall wheat grass is also poking through now. The trial spots with bringing in soil and hay have shown success in bare scald areas. We will try and get cover over whole site this year, hopefully without extra soil, but we will see. My ultimate expectation is that we will dry this soak up completely and return it to permanent grazing!

Lucerne well established (sown Aug this year) over the total sandy recharge area above seep.
Improved Puccinellia establishment where sand/straw mix was added on top.

Site has now dried (looking west from the east end)

March 2018 comparison view
Water flowing from paddock into the seep in May 2017 (when crop grew much closer to the Piezo).

Lucerne now established above in paddock (along with Puccinellia) to stop this happening.