



**Government
of South Australia**

Parks and Wilderness Council

2019-2020 Annual Report

Parks and Wilderness Council

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To:

The Hon David Speirs MP

Minister for Environment and Water

This annual report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009*, the *Public Sector Regulations 2019*, the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, section 19D of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the Parks and Wilderness Council by:

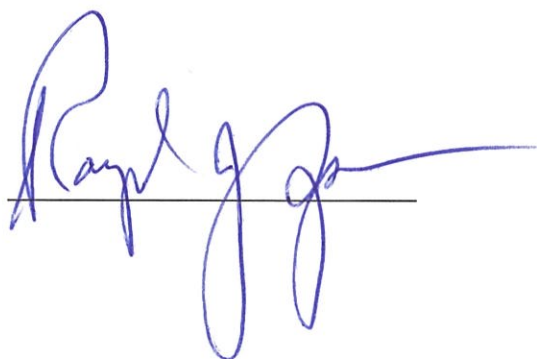
Raymond Spencer

Chair

Date

7/9/2020

Signature



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Overview: about the agency

Our strategic focus

The Parks and Wilderness Council provides strategic policy advice to the Minister for Environment and Water and advocacy for issues that improve environmental, social and economic opportunities for the State's parks and wildlife.

Objectives

The functions of the Parks and Wilderness Council are to provide advice to the Minister on any matter relating to the administration of the:

- *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*
- *Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary Act 2005*
- *Marine Parks Act 2007*
- *Wilderness Protection Act 1992*

Our organisational structure

The Parks and Wilderness Council was established on 17 October 2016, pursuant to the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* and consists of the Director of National Parks and Wildlife and eight other members appointed by the Minister for Environment and Water.

Changes to the agency

During 2019-20 there were no changes to the agency's structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes.

Legislation administered by the agency

National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972

Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary Act 2005

Marine Parks Act 2007

Wilderness Protection Act 1992

Other related agencies (within the Minister's area/s of responsibility)

The Parks and Wilderness Council is supported by the Department for Environment and Water.

The agency's performance

Performance at a glance

During 2019-20 the Parks and Wilderness Council provided strategic policy advice to the Minister for Environment and Water and advocacy for issues that improve environmental, social and economic opportunities for the State's parks and wildlife..

Agency contribution to whole of Government objectives

Key objective	Agency's contribution
<p>The <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i> provides that the Council may advise the Minister on any of the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Planning in relation to the management of reserves b) The conservation of wildlife c) Funding (including matters relating to sponsorship) and the development and marketing of commercial activities d) Community participation in the management of reserves and the conservation of wildlife e) The development of policy f) Existing or proposed national or international agreements relating to the conservation of animals, plants and ecosystems g) The promotion (including public education) of the conservation of wildlife and other natural resources 	<p>Providing strategic policy advice and advocacy on ways to enhance environmental, social and economic opportunities provided by our State's parks and wildlife.</p>

Agency specific objectives and performance

Agency objectives	Indicators	Performance
Providing advice in relation to delivery of the government's key priorities	Operate under a strong governance framework and continue to develop the capacity of the Council to deliver its statutory and functional responsibilities..	<p>Council kept itself informed about key government priorities and commitments including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of Glenthorne National Park • Nature-based tourism • More park rangers • Opening up Reservoirs • Retaining shacks • Cleland redevelopment
The management of parks and wilderness protection areas	<p>Support the development and review of park management plans.</p> <p>The Council's specific roles and responsibilities in relation to the development and review of management plans are described in legislation.</p>	During 2019-20 the Council kept itself informed about the Department's key park management planning projects.
The establishment of wilderness protection areas	<p>Council is responsible for assessing all land in the State to identify those parts of the State that meet the wilderness criteria to a sufficient extent to justify protection under the <i>Wilderness Protection Act 1992</i>, or that warrant restoration to a condition that justifies such protection.</p> <p>Council is responsible for reporting to the Minister on the results of its assessments and to make recommendations to the Minister as to what land in the State should be constituted as wilderness protection areas or wilderness protection zones.</p>	Council reviewed public submissions on the wilderness assessment report for a proposed addition to Cape Torrens Wilderness Protection Area and recommended to the Minister that the land be submitted to the Governor for proclamation.

Corporate performance summary

Council met once in the last financial year and provided advice to the Minister in line with their roles and responsibilities.

Employment opportunity programs

The Parks and Wilderness Council does not employ staff. The Council is supported by the Department for Environment and Water. The Department's Annual Report for 2018-19 reports on the Department's employment opportunity programs.

Agency performance management and development systems

Performance management and development system	Performance
Reviews of terms of reference every 12 months.	The Council established a Terms of Reference at its inaugural meeting on 6 December 2016 and reviewed this document at its meeting on 16 September 2019.
Meeting attendance records.	A record of meeting attendance is kept with the minutes of each meeting.
The Parks and Wilderness Council will meet a minimum of four times per year, including at least one off-site meeting at a location to be determined by the Council. The Minister or the Presiding Member may direct the Council to meet more regularly.	In 2019-20 the Council met on one occasion. The appointment terms of the Council members expired on 16 October 2019 and due to unforeseen complications, including COVID-19, new members were not able to be appointed until July of 2020.
The Parks and Wilderness Council is supported by staff from the Department for Environment and Water.	Government employees supporting the Council undertake a performance review and development program with their manager.

Work health, safety and return to work programs

Program name	Performance
The Council abides by the relevant health and safety policies and procedures that have been adopted by the Department for Environment and Water to meet whole of Government and legislative requirements.	Reporting on this matter is contained within the Department for Environment and Water Annual Report 2019-20.

Executive employment in the agency

Executive classification	Number of executives
N/A	0

Data for previous years is available at:

https://data.sa.gov.au/data/user/login?came_from+http%3A%2F%2Fdata.sa.gov.au%2Fdata%2Fdataset%2Fparks-and-wilderness-council-annual-report-data

The [Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment](#) has a [workforce information](#) page that provides further information on the breakdown of executive gender, salary and tenure by agency.

Financial performance

Financial performance at a glance

The Parks and Wilderness Council is a statutory body; it is not a corporate entity and has no funds of its own. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW Annual Report 2018-19.

The costs associated with the administration of the Council are met from within existing DEW resources. Members are remunerated in accordance with the Cabinet approved Remuneration Framework.

Consultants disclosure

The following is a summary of external consultants that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for the work undertaken during the financial year.

Consultancies with a contract value below \$10,000 each

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
N/A	N/A	\$0

Consultancies with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
N/A	N/A	\$0
	Total	\$0

Data for previous years is available at:

https://data.sa.gov.au/data/user/login?came_from=http%3A%2F%2Fdata.sa.gov.au%2Fdata%2Fdataset%2Fparks-and-wilderness-council-annual-report-data

See also the [Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance](#) for total value of consultancy contracts across the South Australian Public Sector.

Contractors disclosure

The following is a summary of external contractors that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for work undertaken during the financial year.

Contractors with a contract value below \$10,000

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
N/A	N/A	\$0

Contractors with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
N/A	N/A	\$0
	Total	\$0

Data for previous years is available at:

https://data.sa.gov.au/data/user/login?came_from=http%3A%2F%2Fdata.sa.gov.au%2Fdata%2Fdataset%2Fparks-and-wilderness-council-annual-report-data

The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the agency list of contracts](#).

The website also provides details of [across government contracts](#).

Other financial information

Nil to report

Other information

Nil to report

Risk management

Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
There were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Parks and Wilderness Council during this reporting period.	0

NB: Fraud reported includes actual and reasonably suspected incidents of fraud.

Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

Strategies to detect instances of fraud are reported in the Department for Environment and Water Annual Report 2019-20.

Data for previous years is available at:

https://data.sa.gov.au/data/user/login?came_from=http%3A%2F%2Fdata.sa.gov.au%2Fdata%2Fdataset%2Fparks-and-wilderness-council-annual-report-data

Public interest disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018*:

0

Data for previous years is available at:

https://data.sa.gov.au/data/user/login?came_from=http%3A%2F%2Fdata.sa.gov.au%2Fdata%2Fdataset%2Fparks-and-wilderness-council-annual-report-data

Note: Disclosure of public interest information was previously reported under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* and repealed by the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018* on 1/7/2019.

Reporting required under any other act or regulation

There are no specific reporting requirements required under any other Act or Regulation for the Parks and Wilderness Council.

Reporting required under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005*

N/A

Public complaints

Number of public complaints reported

No specific complaints have been received by the Council

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2019-20
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	0
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	0
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	0
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	0
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	0
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	0
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	0
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	0
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	0
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy	0

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2019-20
		unreasonable or disadvantages customer	
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out dated or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	0
Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	0
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	0
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	0
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	0
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	0
		Total	0

Note: the section below is mandated

Additional Metrics	Total
Number of positive feedback comments	0
Number of negative feedback comments	0
Total number of feedback comments	0
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	N/A

Data for previous years is available at:

https://data.sa.gov.au/data/user/login?came_from=http%3A%2F%2Fdata.sa.gov.au%2Fdata%2Fdataset%2Fparks-and-wilderness-council-annual-report-data

Service Improvements resulting from complaints or consumer suggestions over 2019-20: No complaints have been received or acted upon

Appendix: Audited financial statements 2019-20

Financial services are provided to the Parks and Wilderness Council by the Department for Environment and Water. Finances are audited annually as part of the Department's financial statements.

Annual report information (including financial statements) is available on the Department for Environment and Water website.

