

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
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28 Nov 2019



**Government  
of South Australia**

# **PARKS AND WILDERNESS COUNCIL**

## **2018-19 Annual Report**

**PARKS AND WILDERNESS COUNCIL**

Level 9, 81-95 Waymouth Street, Adelaide SA 5000

[www.environment.sa.gov.au](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au)

Contact phone number: +61 8 8124 4802

Contact email: [ParksandWildernessCouncil@sa.gov.au](mailto:ParksandWildernessCouncil@sa.gov.au)

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2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT for the Parks and Wilderness Council

To:

The Hon David Speirs MP  
Minister for Environment and Water

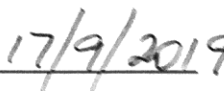
This annual report is to be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009*, the *Public Sector Regulations 2010*, the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, section 19D of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* and meets the requirements of Premier 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:

Anne McEwen  
Presiding Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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## Overview: about the agency

### Our strategic focus

<b>Our Purpose</b>	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.
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>The functions of the Parks and Wilderness Council are to provide advice to the Minister on any matter relating to the administration of the:</p> <p><i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i></p> <p><i>Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary Act 2005</i></p> <p><i>Marine Parks Act 2007</i></p> <p><i>Wilderness Protection Act 1992</i></p>

### 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 2018-19 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 agencies related to this agency (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

The Parks and Wilderness Council kept itself informed about key government priorities and commitments, and provided strategic policy advice to the Minister for Environment and Water on matters including park management plans and additions to Wilderness Protection Areas.

### Agency contribution to whole of Government objectives

Key objective	Agency's contribution
<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>	<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"> <li>a) Planning in relation to the management of reserves</li> <li>b) The conservation of wildlife</li> <li>c) Funding (including matters relating to sponsorship) and the development and marketing of commercial activities</li> <li>d) Community participation in the management of reserves and the conservation of wildlife</li> <li>e) The development of policy</li> <li>f) Existing or proposed national or international agreements relating to the conservation of animals, plants and ecosystems</li> <li>g) The promotion (including public education) of the conservation of wildlife and other natural resources</li> </ul>

## Agency specific objectives and performance

Agency objectives	Indicators	Performance
<p>Providing advice in relation to delivery of the government's key priorities</p>	<p>Operate under a strong governance framework and continue to develop the capacity of the Council to deliver its statutory and functional responsibilities.</p>	<p>Council kept itself informed about key government priorities and commitments including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of Glenithorne National Park</li> <li>• More Park Rangers</li> <li>• Marine Parks</li> <li>• Ecologically sensitive development in National Parks</li> <li>• Opening up Reservoirs</li> <li>• Reforming NRM legislation</li> <li>• Kangaroo Management</li> <li>• Flinders Ranges World Heritage</li> </ul>
<p>The management of parks and wilderness protection areas</p>	<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>	<p>During 2018-19 the Council provided advice to the Minister on the following management plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Munga-Thirri–Simpson Desert Conservation Park and Munga-Thirri–Simpson Desert Regional Reserve Management Plan</li> <li>• Yellabinna and Warna Manda Parks Management Plan</li> <li>• Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park – Winaityinaityi Pangkara Management Plan.</li> <li>• Witjira National Park Management Plan</li> <li>• Nullarbor Parks Management Plan</li> </ul> <p>Lake Gairdner National Park Management Plan</p>

<p>The establishment of wilderness protection areas</p>	<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>	<p>Council identified land for addition to the Cape Torrens Wilderness Protection Area and recommended the proposal to add this land to the boundary be released for public comment.</p>
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### Corporate performance summary

The Council is supported by the Department for Environment and Water. The Department's Annual Report for 2018-19 reports on the Department's corporate performance summary.

### 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 2018-19 the Council met four times which included a meeting at Cleland Wildlife Park.
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 2018-19.

### 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](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](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
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<b>Contractors</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
N/A	N/A	\$0

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

<b>Contractors</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
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](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 information**

Nil to report

## Risk management

### Risk and audit at a glance

Optional summary from Audit and Risk Committee(s)

### 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

### Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

Strategies to detect instances of fraud are reporting in the Department for Environment and Water Annual Report 2018-19.

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](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)

### Whistle-blowers disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993*:

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](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)

## **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

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](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 for period

Service improvements that responded to customer complaints or feedback
No complaints have been received or acted upon

## **Appendix: Audited financial statements 2018-19**

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 [DEW](#) website.