



# Parks of Eastern Kangaroo Island

Management Plan 2024





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## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of Kangaroo Island and pay respect to Elders, past, present and future. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land and sea which continue to be important to First Nations people today.







# Minister's foreword



The network of 11 conservation parks covered in this park management plan helps protect striking coastal landscapes, vitally important habitat, key cultural heritage, and some of the most popular parks in Kangaroo Island.

The extent of these protected landscapes, totalling about 5,700 hectares, protects some of South Australia's most iconic species, such as the glossy black-cockatoo, and internationally significant migratory shorebirds. These natural values exist alongside significant cultural and recreational value which is so important to the local community and First Nations people.

Continuing to conserve these values is the priority of park management, and this park management plan outlines a range of strategies seeking to protect and enhance conservation outcomes, while also providing for visitors to explore trails and build new memories with these special places.

I wish to acknowledge those who helped in the plan's development by meeting with park planners during the drafting process, or providing a submission on the draft park management plan.

I now formally adopt the Parks of Eastern Kangaroo Island Park Management Plan under section 38 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*.

**Dr Susan Close MP**

Deputy Premier  
Minister for Climate, Environment and Water



# Developing this plan

The Parks of Eastern Kangaroo Island Management Plan has been developed by the Department for Environment and Water with input from local stakeholders, technical experts, park managers and First Nations people.

The objectives and strategies outlined in this plan guides management for the following parks:

- Baudin Conservation Park
- Beatrice Islet Conservation Park
- Busby Islet Conservation Park
- Cape Willoughby Conservation Park
- Cygnet Estuary Conservation Park
- Dudley Conservation Park
- Lashmar Conservation Park
- Lesueur Conservation Park
- Nepean Bay Conservation Park
- Pelican Lagoon Conservation Park
- Simpson Conservation Park

Further community input on this plan was sought through public consultation of a draft management plan as required under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*. Feedback from 93 submissions on the draft plan helped in the finalisation of this plan.

This plan replaces the management strategies outlined for Beatrice Islet, Busby Islet, Dudley, Nepean Bay and Pelican Lagoon conservation parks previously detailed in the *Conservation Parks of Kangaroo Island Management Plan 1988*.

For the remainder of these parks, this is the first management plan prepared under Section 38 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*.





# Directions for management

This plan sets the strategic direction for the long-term management of eleven parks across eastern Kangaroo Island (see Figure 1).

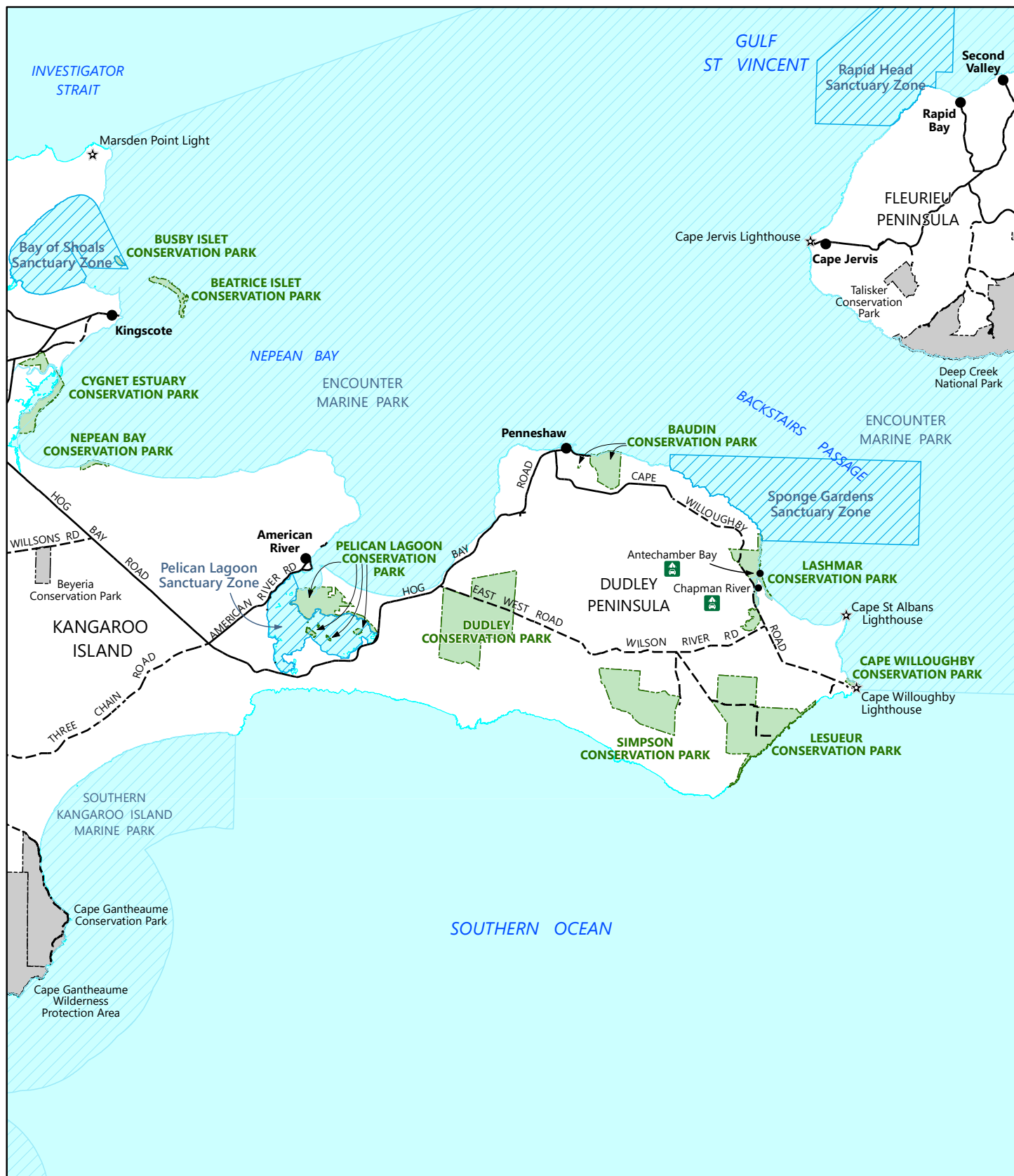
South Australia's parks are managed to achieve the objectives of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*, which includes the preservation and management of wildlife, the protection of cultural and historic sites, and the control of weeds and feral species. The parks in this plan were proclaimed as conservation parks for the purpose of conserving the natural or historic features they contain. This provides a conservation imperative to all management decisions across each of these parks, with the primary management focus to conserve and, where possible, enhance natural and built heritage values.

Many of the parks in eastern Kangaroo Island (KI) contain minimal visitor facilities and are of exceptionally high biodiversity value. This includes Cygnet Estuary, Busby Islet, Beatrice Islet, Dudley, Lesueur, Pelican Lagoon and Simpson conservation parks. Management of these parks will seek to minimise threats, limit disturbing activities, deliver appropriate fire regimes, and secure important ecosystems for study, monitoring and education. With the exception of Busby Islet, which is a prohibited area, visitors are permitted to enter these parks on foot. However as the prime function is one of conservation, minimal visitor facilities will be developed. Minor trail development is envisioned as a future potential recreational opportunity in some of these parks, subject to the development of a trails strategy.

This plan also outlines management strategies for conservation parks with a greater concentration of visitor facilities, such as walking trails, vehicle access, campsites, and day visit areas. This includes Baudin, Cape Willoughby and Lashmar conservation parks, which provide some of the key recreational spaces in eastern KI. Lashmar Conservation Park in particular is a park with a long history of local, free access for day use, which will be maintained. Nepean Bay Conservation Park has also been identified as a longer term opportunity with potential to develop campsites, should the park expand. Importantly, the expansion of the park and development of the campsites would only occur as a means of protecting the existing park and surrounding landscape from environmental degradation as the highest priority. Park management will seek to maintain, conserve and restore species and habitats within these parks, while also promoting modest visitor use.

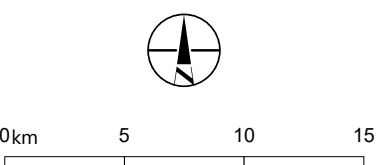
Cape Willoughby Conservation Park is unique among the parks of eastern KI in that it was proclaimed primarily to protect a heritage asset in the Cape Willoughby Lighthouse and three lighthouse-keeper cottages, as opposed to natural features. Strategies to maintain this heritage asset while also building on the value it provides in terms of education and tourism potential are outlined in this plan. Any expansion of visitor services in Cape Willoughby Conservation Park must protect the heritage values of the site.

While the plan outlines the key priorities for management of these parks, detailed actions to address these priorities are developed and monitored at a park operations level. This approach ensures that the plan is flexible and able to guide a range of future challenges.



**Figure 1**

Parks of eastern Kangaroo Island



**LEGEND**

- |                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Parks of eastern Kangaroo Island | Lighthouse    |
| Other park                       | Campground    |
| Marine Park                      | Sealed road   |
| Marine Park Sanctuary Zone       | Unsealed road |

# Significance and purpose

Kangaroo Island enjoys a well-earned reputation for its natural environment and diverse wildlife, hosting an abundance of plants and animals endemic to the island and species nationally under threat. The island is a priority place under the Australian Government's Threatened Species Action Plan 2022-2032 (DCCEEW 2022), and is recognised as a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) under International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) criteria for its global conservation value (Birdlife International, 2022).

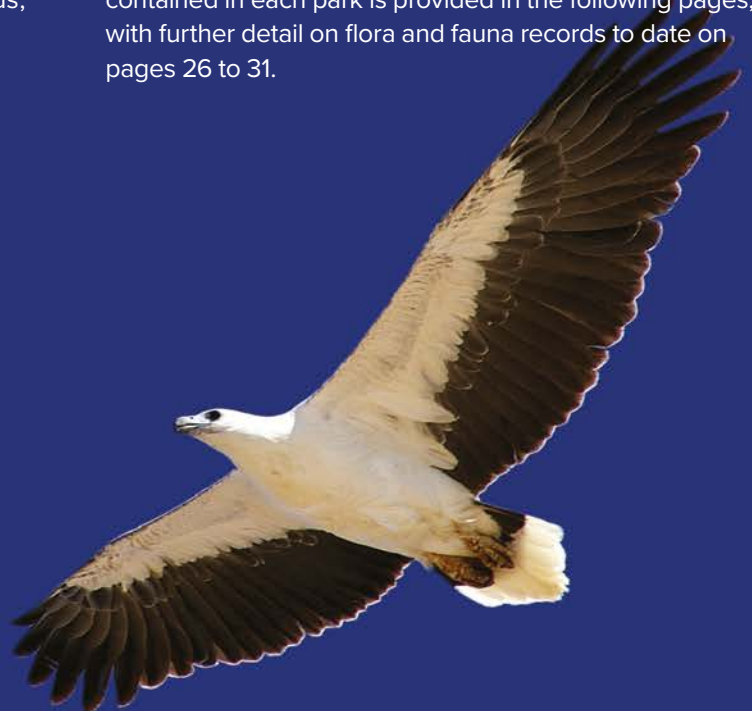
While Kangaroo Island has a high level of native vegetation cover compared to other agricultural regions in South Australia, sections of the landscape have been extensively transformed since European settlement. The eleven parks considered under this plan cover approximately 5,743 hectares of habitat across inter-tidal wetlands, heath scrub, and mallee woodlands. This provides refuge for a variety of species, including threatened species under the national *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and the South Australian *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (NPW Act). Many species threatened at the state or national level have been recorded consistently across these parks, including the common brushtail possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*), KI short-beaked echidna (*Tachyglossus aculeatus multiaculeatus*), and the heath goanna (*Varanus rosenbergi*).

The parks also contain nationally important wetlands, nationally threatened ecological communities, and internationally significant migratory bird species

protected under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention), Japanese Australian Migratory Bird Agreement (JAMBA), Chinese Australian Migratory Bird Agreement (CAMBA) or the Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (ROKAMBA). Some of the habitat protected by these parks has been recognised as nationally important migratory shorebird habitat (Weller *et al.*, 2020). All migratory species are protected under federal legislation, providing a key management consideration in eastern KI parks.

The cultural heritage value within these parks includes South Australia's oldest functioning lighthouse and other historical sites listed under the *Heritage Places Act 1993*. Historic pioneer graves and early farming infrastructure help tell the story of Kangaroo Island's settlement history, creating a tangible link to past generations. In helping to protect areas of Kangaroo Island's natural environment, the parks also support a landscape that is culturally and spiritually significant for the Kaurna, Narungga and Ngarrindjeri peoples.

The parks provide spaces of local relaxation and recreation. They also help drive visitation to Kangaroo Island by contributing to a reputation for a pristine environment, and provide space for park visitors to experience nature and explore historically significant sites. These are some of Kangaroo Island's most accessible and visited parks. An outline of the values contained in each park is provided in the following pages, with further detail on flora and fauna records to date on pages 26 to 31.



## Baudin Conservation Park

Baudin Conservation Park is a nearly 300 hectare park adjacent Penneshaw on the northern coast of the Dudley Peninsula. The land was made a park in 2002 in response to strong support from the local community. It provides valuable low-impact recreation close to Penneshaw, with the Ironstone Hill Hike offering excellent coastal views and access to historic features associated with early farming enterprises. This includes the Bates Farmhouse and threshing floor ruin, which are both listed in the South Australian Heritage Register.

While the natural values of the park have been impacted by its historic use for agriculture, the park still protects a wide diversity of coastal woodlands and native grassland vegetation. This includes stands of drooping sheoak (*Allocasuarina verticillata*), which provide suitable feeding habitat for nationally threatened Kangaroo Island glossy black-cockatoos (*Calyptorhynchus lathami halmaturinus*), and areas of Kangaroo Island narrow-leaved mallee (*Eucalyptus cneorifolia*) woodland – a critically endangered ecological community. Though these form the key conservation priorities of the park, three other threatened plant species have been recorded and are important management considerations, being the vulnerable Kangaroo Island pomaderris (*Pomaderris halmaturina* ssp. *halmaturina*), the rare dwarf skullcap (*Scutellaria humilis*), and the rare hop bush wattle (*Acacia dodonaeifolia*). Revegetation since incorporation into the parks system has built on these values, with a particular aim to increase glossy black-cockatoo foraging habitat.

Aside from glossy black-cockatoos, four additional nationally threatened animal sub-species and four state threatened species have been recorded in the park including the KI white-eared honeyeater (*Nesoptilotis leucotis thomasi*), the KI striated thornbill (*Acanthiza lineata whitei*) and KI micro-trapdoor spider (*Moggridgea rainbowi*).

## Busby Islet and Beatrice Islet Conservation Parks

Busby Islet and Beatrice Islet conservation parks are minor islets contained within Encounter Bay Marine Park, off the coast of Kingscote. The two islets were first dedicated as protected areas in the 1960's to protect important bird habitat.

Busby Islet is an approximately 17 hectare islet composed of sand and shell-grit stabilised by low lying coastal vegetation in the Chenopodiaceae family including coast

saltbush (*Atriplex cinerea*), and samphire (*Salicornia* spp.). Busby Islet is a prohibited area to protect the resident and breeding seabird populations from human interference, and is located within a Sanctuary Zone of the marine park. Beatrice Islet Conservation Park protects 103 hectares of mudflat which emerges from the sea at low tide and provides feeding and roosting habitat for birds, including migratory shorebirds.

The parks provide habitat for a range of bird species including 13 species scheduled under the NPW Act, including the nationally critically endangered far eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*). The islets are also listed together as a Nationally Important Wetland, and are adjacent nesting sites installed in the Bay of Shoals seeking to promote eastern osprey (*Pandion haliaetus cristatus*) nesting.

## Cape Willoughby Conservation Park

Cape Willoughby Conservation Park is a small park of approximately 20 hectares on the easternmost point of Kangaroo Island, proclaimed to protect the Cape Willoughby Lighthouse – South Australia's oldest operational lighthouse, first lit in 1852. Three cottages adjacent the lighthouse originally built to house lighthouse keepers have been refurbished for visitor use.

The site is one of the most popular on eastern KI, and provides public access to learn the site's history, go for a walk, and experience views over the Encounter Marine Park and across to The Pages chain of islands.

## Cygnets Estuary Conservation Park

Cygnets Estuary Conservation Park is an approximately 300 hectare park located just south of Kingscote, along the coast of Nepean Bay. It forms part of the Cygnets Estuary wetland of national importance, which incorporates this park and the nearby Nepean Bay Conservation Park. The intertidal areas of the park are also protected as a Habitat Protection Zone within Encounter Marine Park.

The park consists mostly of intertidal flats that create significant habitat for shorebirds, sea birds and water birds. The park was proclaimed in 2014 to protect habitat for threatened and migratory bird species. Nineteen different national or state threatened bird species have been recorded within the park, including four nationally critically endangered species: the red knot (*Calidris canutus rogersi*), the great knot (*Calidris tenuirostris*), the far eastern curlew and the curlew sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*).



The park also protects areas of the nationally vulnerable Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh ecological community, and contains habitat suitable for threatened flora including Kangaroo Island mallee (*Eucalyptus phenax ssp. compressa*).

## Dudley Conservation Park

The Dudley Conservation Park is a 1,768 hectare park situated between American River and Penneshaw. The park comprises mallee communities that are dominated by coastal mallee (*Eucalyptus diversifolia*) and contains stands of critically endangered narrow-leaved mallee woodlands. The park was originally protected under previous legislation in 1970, with more land added in 1977 and 2010.

The park protects at least seven threatened plant species, including the state listed rare crimson daddy-long-legs (*Caladenia sanguinea*), prickly grevillea (*Grevillea halmaturina ssp. halmaturina*), spoon-leaved spyridium (*Spyridium daphnoides*), round-leaf correa (*Correa backhouseana var. orbicularis*), and the fringe-fruit pennywort (*Hydrocotyle comocarpa*).

Eighteen animal species listed under the NPW Act and the EPBC Act have been recorded in the park, including a number of small woodland bird species such as the KI southern emu wren (*Stipiturus malachurus halmaturinus*) and KI shy heathwren (*Hylacola cauta halmaturina*). It is also home to the rare bush stonecurlew (*Burhinus grallarius*).

## Lashmar Conservation Park

Lashmar Conservation Park (363 hectares) is the key conservation park in eastern Kangaroo Island for recreation among a natural environment, providing day visit areas, camping, barbecue areas, and access to Chapman River and Antechamber Bay. It is one of the most popular parks in Kangaroo Island with locals and island visitors alike.

From 1858, the park area was managed by the Lashmar family, before its management was transferred to the local council, and eventually to the state government for the creation of a conservation park. Proclamation of the park occurred in 1993 in recognition of the relatively intact habitats, scenic and recreational opportunity, and historical significance of the park. The strength of these values at the time of proclamation is a testament to historical management practices. Various parcels of adjacent Crown land have further added to the park over time.

Vegetation in the park comprises mallee and drooping sheoak woodlands. The park protects at least 10 threatened plants listed under the NPW Act, including the rare Kangaroo Island mallee (*Eucalyptus phenax ssp. compressa*), the KI pomaderris and the endangered Kangaroo Island spider-orchid (*Caladenia ovata*). Areas of critically endangered Kangaroo Island narrow-leaved mallee woodland community are also present in the park.

The park contains riverine, woodland and coastal environments, which support a range of fauna. This includes at least 27 threatened animal species listed under the NPW Act, including the vulnerable hooded plover (*Thinornis cucullatus cucullatus*) and the endangered South Australian Bassian thrush (*Zoothera lunulata halmaturina*). The Lashmar Lagoon and Chapman River, contained within the park, together form a wetland of national importance. The adjacent Antechamber Bay, as well as the Chapman River and Lashmar Lagoon, are all part of the Encounter Marine Park.

The park contains important sites of historical significance, including early pioneer graves. It is also a park of ongoing cultural importance to the local community, who highly value the recreational access and connection with nature this park provides. A number of First Nations tool sites have also been identified within the park.

## Lesueur Conservation Park

Lesueur Conservation Park is a 1,417 hectare park comprises mallee vegetation communities that are dominated by coastal mallee woodland abutting the coast. The park forms part of a complex of native vegetation in the Porky Flat region of southern Dudley Peninsula, together with Simpson Conservation Park, heritage agreements, and privately managed conservation lands.

Flora records indicate at least nine state threatened plant species can be found in the park, including the vulnerable Kangaroo Island pomaderris and the national and state endangered Obsorn's eyebright (*Euphrasia collina ssp. osbornii*).

The mallee woodlands abutting the coast in this park provides habitat for sea birds, woodland birds, and small mammals. Significant fauna include nationally listed threatened species, including the endangered South Australian Bassian thrush, the vulnerable KI shy heathwren, the vulnerable KI striated thornbill, and the endangered white-bellied whiplbird (*Psophodes leucogaster lashmari*). Nine additional species threatened at the state level have also been recorded, including the endangered white bellied sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*).





## Nepean Bay Conservation Park

Nepean Bay Conservation Park is a 35 hectare park constituted in 1974 consisting of coastal woodland vegetation, and is a part of the Cygnet Estuary Wetland of National Significance. The waters of Nepean Bay are protected as part of the Encounter Marine Park. Private conservation lands abut the park, creating a significant complex of protected areas across a variety of tenures.

Despite being a relatively small park, Nepean Bay Conservation Park protects a range of important natural assets, including drooping sheoak feeding habitat for glossy black-cockatoos. Twenty-five threatened animal species have been recorded in the park, including a host of seabird and woodland bird species, such as the nationally endangered beautiful firetail (*Stagonopleura bella samueli*) and KI southern emu-wren. The beach area adjacent the park forms important breeding habitat for beach wading birds, in particular the nationally vulnerable hooded plover and the state-listed rare pied oystercatcher (*Haematopus longirostris*).

## Pelican Lagoon Conservation Park

Pelican Lagoon Conservation Park (445 hectares) forms a terrestrial barrier between the communities of Island Beach and Sapphire town and an environmentally significant lagoon. The lagoon itself is both dedicated as a Sanctuary Zone in the Encounter Bay Marine Park and is a part of the American River Wetland System wetland of national importance. The larger islets within the lagoon also form part of the Pelican Lagoon Conservation Park. The natural value of the lagoon is reflected in its naming by Matthew Flinders in 1802 for the pelicans found in this site which was “free from disturbance of every kind...in a hidden lagoon of an uninhabited island, situated upon an unknown coast near the antipodes of Europe” (Flinders, 1814). Though the values of the site have been impacted in the proceeding years through grazing and other disturbance, the site retains significant value.

The park mainly consists of low open heath and shrublands, and includes drooping sheoak woodlands that provide feeding habitat for glossy black-cockatoos. Three threatened plants have been recorded in the park: the vulnerable clover glycine (*Glycine latrobeana*), the rare crimson daddy-long-legs and the rare round-leaf correa. The park also contains areas of the nationally vulnerable subtropical and temperate coastal saltmarsh ecological community.

Forty-seven separate threatened fauna species or sub-species have been recorded in Pelican Lagoon Conservation Park – mostly migratory shorebirds. Of particular importance in the park is a population of southern brown bandicoots (*Isodon obesulus obesulus*), as well as sightings of the nationally critically endangered far eastern curlew and curlew sandpiper, and nesting sites for the eastern osprey. Tea tree bushes, grasses and sedges provide habitat for woodland birds such as the KI southern emu-wren and beautiful firetail. The islets in Pelican Lagoon are of exceptional habitat value to bird and reptile species, including a population of tiger snakes (*Notechis scutatus niger*) which are believed to grow at a much slower rate than those on the main part of Kangaroo Island, with potential reduced breeding rates. Weed management programs on the islands have focused on the removal of woody weeds, and re-vegetation of locally sourced native species to improve habitat quality.

The park also assists in the protection of several historic relics, including an historic threshing floor registered as a State Heritage Place in the South Australian Heritage Register. Sites of First Nations value have also been recorded in the park. Minimal visitor access occurs or is encouraged in the park.

## Simpson Conservation Park

Simpson Conservation Park is a 977 hectare park located approximately two kilometres from Lesueur Conservation Park, and is part of the same complex of coastal mallee woodland within the Porky Flat locality.

Three threatened plant species of state or national significance have been recorded in the park: the vulnerable Kangaroo Island pomaderris, the rare prickly grevillea and the rare round-leaf correa.

Fourteen animal species threatened at the national or state level have been recorded in the park, including the nationally vulnerable shy heath wren (*Hylacola cauta halmaturina*) and KI striated thornbill. While not recorded in the park, there are records of southern brown bandicoots adjacent the park within the same locality as this park and Lesueur Conservation Park. It is expected these bandicoots may utilise the park from time to time.



# What are we looking after?

- A high diversity of native flora and fauna including endemic and threatened species.
- Areas of remnant vegetation within a fragmented landscape, including critically endangered Kangaroo Island narrow-leaved mallee woodlands and nationally vulnerable subtropical and temperate coastal saltmarsh.
- Diverse habitats across mallee woodlands, heathy scrub, coastal wetlands and intertidal flats which support a multitude of species.
- Key species requiring ongoing active conservation effort to maintain and develop populations, such as the KI glossy black-cockatoo.
- Significant bird populations, including threatened migratory shorebirds, beach nesting birds, and woodland bird species.
- A landscape and historical sites that are of cultural and spiritual significance to First Nations people.
- Scenic landscapes that provide opportunities for people to connect with nature and enjoy the unique features of eastern Kangaroo Island.
- Sites of significant cultural heritage that help preserve the story of Kangaroo Island's European settlement, such as ruins, threshing floors, pioneer grave sites and the Cape Willoughby lighthouse.
- Areas of local recreation, relaxation and community connection, that provide mental health and other benefits for the residents of Kangaroo Island.





# Challenges and opportunities

Key challenges and opportunities in the protection and management of these parks are:

- Managing anticipated increases to visitor numbers to Kangaroo Island and increased interest in accessing areas of high conservation value.
- Facilitating collaborative management approaches with adjacent landholders to enable a landscape approach to priority pest plants and animals.
- Developing additional sensitive recreation opportunities where appropriate, in particular walking trails with a focus to create linkages with the broader trail network.
- Working with Landscapes SA and other stakeholders on the elimination of target pest species within parks and across the landscape.
- Monitoring the health of threatened species and ecological communities to ensure priority actions for their protection are implemented.
- Understanding the impacts of climate change and the actions required to support ecosystem resilience to decreasing rainfall, increasing temperatures, and increased fire risk.
- Supporting ecological communities to survive and thrive within a landscape of bushfire by using learnings and research from past and future bushfire events and prescribed burns.
- Strengthening partnerships with the community, researchers, volunteer organisations and other stakeholder groups to promote engagement in conservation.



# THEME 1

## Managing threats to natural values

Limiting impacts from threats such as pest species, fire, and the impacts of climate change will be an ongoing priority in the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island.

The parks consist of non-contiguous protected areas neighbouring Crown land, peri-urban settlements, heritage agreements, privately managed conservation land, tourist accommodation, and agricultural land. To maximise conservation benefit, it will be important to continue to work closely with neighbouring properties as part of landscape scale strategies to manage these threats. Maintaining and seeking to create and improve relationships and share information with volunteers and other interest groups will be a vital component in managing eastern KI parks effectively.

The key biodiversity values of these parks benefit from the island being free of foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) and goats (*Capra hircus*). Kangaroo Island is also a national priority for large-scale feral animal control programs, including the removal of feral cats (*Felis catus*). Feral cats are a significant issue across Australia, and a key risk to some of the threatened species found in these parks such as the hooded plover and the southern brown bandicoot.

The Kangaroo Island Feral Cat Eradication Program is led by the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board, and seeks to eradicate feral cats across Kangaroo Island, beginning in Dudley Peninsula. To support this program a feral cat proof fence has been built along the isthmus connecting Dudley Peninsula to the remainder of the island. Works are currently underway to remove cats across the Dudley Peninsula, working in a front from the eastern-most point towards this fence. Most parks considered in this plan are to the east of the feral fence, with the exception of Cygnet Estuary, Nepean Bay and the small islet conservation parks.

The successful eradication of feral cats has potential to bring significant benefit to the birds and small mammals protected in these parks. Access will be facilitated across parks in eastern Kangaroo Island to monitor, catch and humanely destroy feral cats as part of this program.

Feral honeybees are also found in these parks, and can represent a threat to variety of invertebrate and avian species. No dedicated removal program for honeybees is currently being undertaken in these parks, but future programs should be considered should funding become available.

Overabundant native species can also impact on ecological values within these parks. In 1997 the

Kangaroo Island Koala Management Program was initiated to reduce the island's introduced koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) population to a sustainable level, to prevent over-browsing of native vegetation. A mix of non-lethal management techniques were used, including contraception, sterilisation (temporary or permanent), relocation, management of koala habitat, and monitoring koala density and tree conditions.

While koalas are fewer in eastern Kangaroo Island than in the west, there are stands of South Australian blue gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxylon* ssp. *leucoxylon*) and manna gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) in eastern Kangaroo Island parks that are at risk if koalas were to increase beyond sustainable limits. Ongoing monitoring will be required to assess the koala population and its impacts across eastern Kangaroo Island to inform future management, which needs to be achieved as part of a strategy managing the population across the island. In collaboration with Landscapes KI, DEW is developing a Kangaroo Island Koala Management Plan with an aim to sustain a healthy koala population for the long-term. Management of koalas will occur in eastern KI parks in accordance with this plan, and subsequent plans which seek to manage impacts to these parks.

The western grey kangaroo (*Macropus fuliginosus*), tammar wallaby (*Macropus eugenii*) and common brushtail possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*) can also impact on the total grazing pressure within the parks of eastern kangaroo island, particularly in the interface between cleared agricultural land and remnant vegetation. This includes impacts on EPBC listed species, such as Caladenia species. Strategic management of these species should consider non-lethal management actions in the first instance; however, where these actions are considered ineffective or not feasible, culling may be implemented. Any culling will follow strict procedures for the humane destruction of animals. Commercial harvest options may be considered for macropod species.

Successful conservation efforts will require the control of a number of priority pest plants. The incursion of weeds is particularly prevalent in areas that have experienced historical disturbance for agricultural purposes. Weeds identified in the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island include priority weeds for the region, such as bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*), African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*) and horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*). The controlling of Arum lily (*Zantedeschia aethiopica*) has also been identified as a priority within Lashmar Conservation Park where it



has the potential to spread from pioneer gravesites. Other key weed species reported from neighbouring landholders include other listed species, such as apple of Sodom (*Solanum linnaeanum*). Common pasture weeds, including Lincoln weed (*Diplotaxis tenuifolia*) and onion weed (*Asphodelus fistulosus*) are also found in these parks. Outbreaks of Sicilian sea lavender (*Limonium hyblaum*) have also been reported in Pelican Lagoon Conservation Park, threatening coastal samphire environments.

While in some areas weeds have become well established, new weed incursions will be eradicated wherever possible and existing areas will be managed to limit spread. Weed management is anticipated to be a continuing challenge for park management, and the ongoing support of the Friends of Dudley Peninsula Parks and other volunteers, as well as information provided by park neighbours, will be essential in identifying and treating outbreaks.

A key threat to the conservation values of parks in Kangaroo Island is phytophthora (*Phytophthora cinnomomi*), an introduced soil borne pathogen that attacks and destroys native plant root systems that can be easily spread with human movement on the treads of shoes and vehicle tyres. While there have been no positive cases identified in parks of eastern Kangaroo Island, phytophthora is prevalent in the western portions of the island and has been detected within the Porky Flat locality adjacent Lesueur and Simpson conservation parks. Drooping sheoak is susceptible to phytophthora infestation, which indicates a risk to glossy black-cockatoo feeding habitat across parks (Phytophthora Technical Group, 2006).

Stringent hygiene practices for staff and contractors is an important component of managing phytophthora risk. Minimising visitor facilities in highly vulnerable areas will help discourage widespread public access, which would otherwise exacerbate risk. Identifying any affected areas will be essential to ensure no management tracks or walking trails are developed in the vicinity of these areas. The risk of spread of phytophthora should be taken into account when considering the development of any additional trails.

There has been no historic demand for commercial apiary licences in eastern Kangaroo Island parks, likely due to factors including the size of many of the parks, accessibility, and the dominant flora being potentially less attractive for commercial purposes than that found in the west of the island. Feral honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) do occur, with the primary impact being the occupation of hollows otherwise used by nesting bird and small mammal species. Apiary introduces certain risks to conservation outcomes, including pollination competition. Given the vulnerability of the relatively small parks of eastern Kangaroo Island, the availability of other parks within the island for apiary under licence, the abundance of privately managed conservation land, and the lack of any historic apiary in the eastern parks, no apiary licences will be permitted in these parks.

Grazing licences are held in parks of eastern Kangaroo Island across more disturbed areas as a method of managing weeds and limiting fire risk. These are generally areas which were historically grazed but were added to the park system given the values present elsewhere on the same parcel of land. Grazing licences occur in previously cleared locations in Lashmar Conservation Park, Baudin Conservation Park and Cape Willoughby Conservation Park. Licences for grazing will continue to be considered on an annual basis in previously cleared grazed areas. Previously grazed areas will also be explored as opportunities for revegetation where appropriate.

Climate change projections for Kangaroo Island include increased temperatures, rising sea levels and a reduction in annual rainfall (Green and Pannell, 2020). This is anticipated to strain the ecological values of these parks, including through a change in density and distribution of native plants, increased risk of extinction of threatened species, changes to the fire regime, and increased soil erosion. Management actions should include an evaluation of risks presented by climate change, and be consistent with any regional climate change adaptation plan. Research and monitoring will be vital in developing an understanding and implementing subsequent programs to mitigate impacts from climate change.

In accordance with the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* and regulations, no public vehicle access is permitted within the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island except in areas specifically set aside for that purpose. Inappropriate vehicle access from four-wheel drives and trail bikes is a risk across these parks, particularly in flat, open areas dominated by coastal samphire, with particular risks in Cygnet Estuary CP, Nepean Bay CP and Pelican Lagoon CP. This risk often coincides with and is exacerbated by unregulated camping. Ongoing works will seek to prevent inappropriate access, such as by rationalising management tracks, preventing vehicle access with physical barriers, and closing unmade road reserves. Given the increasingly peri-urban lands surrounding these parks, this risk will require ongoing compliance effort and review.

Fire management is required in eastern Kangaroo Island parks to reduce the likelihood of whole reserves and adjacent private lands and properties burning in a single bushfire event.

Management of bushfire risk will be undertaken in accordance with the Parks of Kangaroo Island Fire Management Plan 2024, which outlines strategies that lower bushfire risk to life and property, while operating within thresholds that help protect and support the species, ecosystems and ecological communities found in the landscape.

Specific fire management strategies have been created for some key species, including the glossy black-cockatoo and the southern brown bandicoot. These strategies are considered before, during and after fire in eastern Kangaroo Island parks, regardless of whether the animals have been sighted within a given park.



Other species of high conservation priority, including threatened species, can be either positively or negatively impacted by fire depending on factors including fire frequency, season and severity. Fire management will seek to drive overall positive impacts on conservation values by reducing severe bushfire risk, considering the response to fire of key species to create appropriate age-classes, and managing the

risk of an inappropriate fire regime by undertaking environmental assessment and evaluation as part of prescribed burns.

Ongoing research and evaluation into the response of key species to fire, in collaboration with the community, non-government organisations, universities and other government agencies, will continue to inform the fire management approach.

## Objective

Manage threats to natural areas to conserve wildlife, recover priority species, and maintain ecosystems.

## Strategies

- Manage potential impacts to key biological values across the parks, in particular species and communities listed under state and federal legislation.
- Contribute to regional landscape pest plant and animal control strategies.
- Monitor impacts from total grazing pressure in parks and implement management strategies where impacts are observed.
- Undertake fire management in accordance with a fire management plan which sets priorities about where, how, and why fire management activities will take place to reduce the risk of bushfire and support the environmental values of these parks.
- Manage the risk of inappropriate fire regimes to the conservation values of eastern Kangaroo Island parks by using an adaptive management approach that is informed by the latest research and knowledge.
- Continue to promote awareness of phytophthora and apply hygiene strategies to prevent spread of the pathogen through visitor activities and management actions, including fire management.
- Support monitoring and research to inform climate change adaptation actions for threatened species and ecosystem health.





## THEME 2

# Building on existing conservation values

The primary focus in managing the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island is the conservation of the natural values they contain, including approximately 60 animals and 21 plants listed under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (see appendices 2 and 3). Key ecological communities are also protected, including nationally important wetlands, drooping sheoak feeding habitat for glossy black-cockatoos and two ecological communities listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*: vulnerable subtropical and temperate coastal saltmarsh and critically endangered Kangaroo Island narrow-leaved mallee woodland.

While the protection and management of any natural value within a conservation park is of high importance, the parks support various specific conservation programs focussing on key species at high risk, or sentinel species that are useful in gauging the health of the environments they live in. The parks of eastern Kangaroo Island will continue to support island and state priority recovery programs.

The Kangaroo Island glossy black-cockatoo is a species of high importance on the island. Due to the widespread clearance of drooping sheoak feeding habitat, there are no established populations in mainland South Australia and Kangaroo Island provides a vital refuge.

A recovery program started in 1995 with less than 160 glossy black-cockatoos on the island, which has succeeded in increasing the population to over 428 birds in 2022, despite the impact of significant bushfires (Berris and Welz, 2022). Though once only found in the west of the island, the recovery program has helped spread the birds further east. While this represents a highly successful conservation program to date, it is dependent on active conservation management, including managing predation by possums, revegetation, appropriate fire management, and protection of hollow-bearing trees (Berris *et al.* 2018; Delzoppo *et al.* 2021). This active conservation effort will be an important feature of park management.

Eastern osprey and white-bellied sea eagles are emblematic, top order predators and as such are sentinel species for the health of the environments within their habitat. In South Australia these species are supported by a recovery plan which prescribes a variety of actions across the state (DEW 2022). Park management will support actions arising from this recovery plan, and any guidelines and policies developed to further support recovery. These

actions may include monitoring, managing pest species, and the development of artificial nests within or adjacent to parks. As these species are particularly sensitive to disturbance during the breeding season, seasonal access restrictions may be implemented to prevent potential disturbance. Buffer zones around known nest sites will also be implemented to prevent inappropriate development that may lead to disturbance.

Kangaroo Island is home to a large proportion of the southern brown bandicoot habitat in South Australia, and this species was historically considered widespread wherever native vegetation occurs (Willoughby *et al.* 2001). The bandicoot habitat in the east end of Kangaroo Island is generally of lower quality than that in the west; however, bandicoots have been recorded in a number of eastern KI parks, with recent sightings in the Porky Flat locality as part of the KI cat eradication program. Bandicoots are elusive, with most records of this species dependent on sightings reported from the public, or occurring as part of research into other species such as feral cats or dunnarts. Further research into the location of bandicoots in park, and programs to support their conservation, should be explored.





Key habitat exists across eastern KI parks for a range of migratory shorebirds, unique insects such as the newly discovered enigma moth (*Aenigmatinea glatzella*), and other priority species, including those listed in the federal Threatened Species Action Plan 2022-2032. Seeking out funding and participating in broader conservation programs is an opportunity across parks and the broader landscape. Programs focussing on enhancing conservation values of the parks will continue to be explored in collaboration with stakeholders, with a priority to implement projects which help conserve or improve habitat related to national and state conservation priorities.

To drive further conservation outcomes, opportunities to expand the conservation park estate in eastern Kangaroo Island will also be explored. This includes opportunities to proclaim new adjacent areas of Crown land as part of these parks, with a particular focus on land adjacent Nepean Bay and Cape Willoughby conservation parks. The Crown land directly east of Nepean Bay Conservation Park is currently used for informal camping. Impacts have been observed through this camping, and other visitor access here and on the adjacent beach. Future proclamations will be explored where it would provide better management and conservation outcomes. Former and unmade road reserves also intersect some of the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island which may cause management and enforcement issues, in particular within Pelican Lagoon Conservation Park. Closing these road reserves is planned in consultation with Kangaroo Island Council.

Revegetation and restoration of previously degraded landscapes across parks in eastern KI can provide for better conservation outcomes. However, given the quality remnant vegetation protected in these parks and the limited levels of disturbance, revegetation opportunities are limited. Given its history of clearance, the key opportunity for ecological restoration is within Cape Willoughby Conservation Park. Further revegetation at this site will focus on supporting glossy black-cockatoo populations sighted near the park, and in improving overall amenity and ecological value of what has been, to date, a highly modified and cleared landscape.

Successful management of the conservation parks of eastern Kangaroo Island will depend on strong relationships with local conservation groups, environmental non-government organisations, Friends of Parks groups, researchers, adjoining land managers, the local Landscapes Board, council, and other members of the Kangaroo Island community. This collaboration will be an important aspect of ensuring the management of the park is informed by the passion, knowledge, experience and resources of local community, to help drive lasting conservation gains.

## Objective

Increase the conservation value of the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island.

## Strategies

- Work with volunteers, local experts, scientists, not-for-profit environmental organisations and community groups to continue to monitor and improve understanding of the distribution, conservation status and management requirements of threatened plants and animals across the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island.
- Explore opportunities for revegetation across historically degraded areas of the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island, with a focus on expanding habitat for priority threatened species and communities.
- Explore opportunities to expand the conservation park estate including closing unmade road reserves across the park network to assist in management, and expanding Nepean Bay and Cape Willoughby conservation parks.
- Support key landscape-scale conservation programs, including for glossy black-cockatoos, eastern osprey and white-bellied sea eagle.
- Develop and maintain close relationships with volunteers, researchers and community members to ensure effective monitoring and management of conservation values.



## THEME 3

# Providing opportunities for recreation

The parks of eastern Kangaroo Island enable visitors to experience nature and heritage in close proximity to the largest townships on Kangaroo Island. These parks include those highly important to local Kangaroo Island residents, offering free access and important recreational spaces. There are no entry fees to these parks, except in the case of Cape Willoughby Conservation Park, making them highly accessible for local residents and visitors. Building on these experiences will be important to encourage sustainable visitation over time. This approach will manage and prevent impacts to highly vulnerable conservation areas by concentrating visitation to previously disturbed areas with infrastructure designed to limit impacts.

Visiting a park and bushwalking are two of the top four activities visitors engage in when visiting Kangaroo Island, which is high in relation to other intrastate destinations. This demonstrates that experiences in parks are significant drivers for visitors to Kangaroo Island, and the demand for park experiences will likely increase as visitation generally increases over time.

Additional trails for walking and cycling are an opportunity across the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island, where the current trail offering is relatively minimal. Of particular note are opportunities to better link the Ironstone Hill Hike in Baudin Conservation Park with local trail networks, making the Ironstone Hill Hike a loop trail, developing new trails in Lashmar Conservation Park, improving trails in Cape Willoughby Conservation Park, and providing access for cycling in eastern KI parks - particularly in Baudin, Cape

Willoughby and Lashmar parks. A walking and cycling trail strategy is being developed to investigate trail opportunities across Kangaroo Island, and this will inform future trail developments in these parks.

The development of a multi day walking trail along the east coast of Dudley Peninsula has been identified as a key recreational opportunity in KI. This trail is expected to incorporate sections of Baudin, Lashmar and Cape Willoughby conservation parks along its route.

The planning and development of the new trail is being managed by external private partners, in consultation with park managers and other stakeholders. Collaboration from a range of public and private land holders will be required to develop this trail.

National Parks and Wildlife will work with trail developers to ensure an appropriate alignment for the Dudley Peninsula walk across eastern KI parks, and facilitate the development of new trails where appropriate. No additional privately managed accommodation will be developed within parks to service walkers of this trail; however, additional walk-in campsites will be considered in Lashmar Conservation Park to help manage additional visitor numbers. Any additional trail development will be designed to reduce environmental impact, and will include appropriate buffer zones around sensitive areas, such as white-bellied sea eagle nesting sites.

Cape Willoughby Conservation Park is a key opportunity for developing recreation access in eastern KI due to its location, its iconic heritage listed lighthouse,





and its historically cleared landscape which enables small-scale development with minimal environmental impact. Building on existing visitation allows for more people to learn of Kangaroo Island's rich history. Developments within this park may include refurbishment of lighthouse cottages, new trails, and the construction of permanent visitor infrastructure such as a visitor centre or café. Additional land may be added to the park to help facilitate these developments. New development and upgrades to existing infrastructure will ensure inclusive experiences and access for all abilities where possible.

Some of the land proposed for addition to Cape Willoughby Conservation Park has been used previously for rock climbing along the coastal cliff face. If this land is added to the park, park managers will work with key stakeholders, including the Climbing Club of South Australia, to investigate formally setting aside areas for rock climbing, subject to an assessment of risks and the development of appropriate signage. To prevent potential user conflicts, any rock climbing will only occur away from main pedestrian or vehicular access points, such as lookouts or carparks.

Accommodation is provided at Cape Willoughby Conservation Park in former lighthouse keeper cottages. Proposals to manage these cottages or other visitor infrastructure at Cape Willoughby through the private sector will be considered. All proposals will be assessed on their merits, including thorough analysis of risks to park values and any approval processes required under the provisions of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* and the *Heritage Places Act 1993*.

Any proposal to alter or further restore the cottages at Cape Willoughby Conservation Park will need to be compatible with the site's heritage values and may be subject to assessment and development approval under the aforementioned Acts.

Lashmar Conservation Park is the premier park in eastern Kangaroo Island for nature-based experiences, boasting campgrounds and free day visitor facilities. This park is especially important for local residents. An increase in visitation is expected over time to this park, as population and visitation to Kangaroo Island increase over time.

Lashmar Conservation Park contains high quality shelters, barbecue facilities, a pedestrian bridge, fire pits and formalised campsites. Maintaining these existing visitor facilities to a high standard will help support increased visitation, for locals and visitors to the island alike. Improvements and upgrades to day-visitor areas and campgrounds will be considered to accommodate higher demand or reduce environmental impacts. Any additional campsites will be contained within the Visitor Use Areas identified in this plan (see Figure 2), which includes previously disturbed areas and the existing campground footprint. The Visitor Use Area identifies the key space where longer visitor stays are anticipated either by day visitors using parking, picnic and barbecue facilities, or overnight stays in campgrounds. Trails and ancillary infrastructure such as seating, boardwalks, bird hides, tables and lookouts, will continue to be explored across the park, including outside of the Visitor Use Area.



Bringing in introduced animals is prohibited in the conservation parks of eastern Kangaroo Island, with the exception of the eastern side of the Chapman River in Lashmar Conservation Park (see Appendix 1). Dogs are permitted on a lead in this area to provide public access to Antechamber Bay beach, which lies beyond the boundaries of the park. Horses, while not permitted in the park itself, are also known to access the beach at Antechamber Bay through road reserves which cross Lashmar Conservation Park. Signage and other educational materials will be developed where appropriate to demonstrate dog access areas and provide visitors to this park an understanding of the value and sensitivity of wildlife found at Antechamber Bay. Restrictions on introduced animals do not apply to assistance animals.

A tourism accommodation business adjacent Lashmar Conservation Park currently uses portions of the park under a non-exclusive licence, to allow for visitors to their business to access Antechamber Bay. Park managers will continue to work with this business to facilitate appropriate, non-exclusive access, and manage boundary issues.

While Nepean Bay Conservation Park currently consists of dense native vegetation with little direct visitor access, there is potential for the park to expand to adjacent Crown land, where additional camping spaces and visitor facilities may be developed as part of a longer term opportunity. Importantly, the driver for exploring expanding Nepean Bay Conservation Park is primarily protection of environmental values from degradation, which currently occurs through unregulated camping and visitor access to the adjacent Crown land. Any expansion of the park estate to incorporate this Crown land, or work to develop more formalised camping in this area, should only occur following more detailed consultation with adjacent landholders, including adjacent heritage agreement holders. Besides Lashmar Conservation Park and potential future opportunities in Nepean Bay Conservation Park, camping is not generally permitted in other parks in eastern Kangaroo Island.

As part of a landscape scale strategy to conserve natural features of high importance, the majority of the land protected by the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island will remain with minimal visitor facilities. This includes:

- Beatrice Islet Conservation Park
- Busby Islet Conservation Park
- Cygnet Estuary Conservation Park
- Dudley Conservation Park
- Lesueur Conservation Park
- Pelican Lagoon Conservation Park
- Simpson Conservation Park

Except where access has been specifically prohibited, visitors are permitted to enter these parks to experience nature through low-impact activities such as bird watching, bush walking and kayaking. However, these parks will not be focus points for visitor access across eastern Kangaroo Island.

Beatrice Islet Conservation Park will remain with no visitor facilities, and managed to support bird habitat. Pelican Lagoon Conservation Park will likewise maintain few visitor facilities in the terrestrial components of the park or its islets. The main access to the park is anticipated to be through the water in the lagoon itself. Some signage may be developed to help manage visitor access, or explain conservation significance.

Dudley, Lesueur and Simpson conservation parks will also be maintained with minimal visitor facilities. Some minor trail development may be considered in these parks, for example the setting aside of existing fire management tracks for cycling.

There is an opportunity for commercial tourism operators (CTOs) to operate across the eastern Kangaroo Island park network to develop new nature-based tourism ventures consistent with the ecological values of the parks. Key activities are anticipated to be kayaking tours, walking tours across the existing trail network, cultural tours led by First Nations, and tour groups taken for day visits to Cape Willoughby Conservation Park or Lashmar Conservation Park. Other potential opportunities include tours allowing for a controlled number of visitors to experience remote parks of eastern KI under guidance.

Access to parks under licences or leases will be considered across eastern KI parks. However, long term exclusive private access to these parks will not be considered. Any licences and leases will only be granted following a consideration of the potential impacts to conservation values and benefits to the general public. While local resident access to popular parks has occurred with strong environmental outcomes, access by large groups such as tour groups does have potential to impact on park values. The licensing process will be used to limit these impacts through an adaptive management approach, controlling licence numbers or conditions as required.



## Objective

Facilitate appropriate visitor access to the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island by creating exceptional low impact recreation spaces and diverting access from high risk areas.

## Strategies

- Develop Cape Willoughby Conservation Park as a premier visitor location on the east coast of Kangaroo Island, in particular by upgrading accommodation, developing trails and updated interpretation, and constructing new visitor facilities.
- Consider rock climbing in Cape Willoughby Conservation Park, subject to a risk assessment.
- Continue to maintain and enhance visitor facilities at Lashmar Conservation Park to facilitate high quality camping and day visitor locations.
- Consider the development of camping facilities in Nepean Bay Conservation Park in areas of lower conservation value, following expansion of the park estate.
- In line with a walking and cycling trail strategy, investigate opportunities to expand the trail network across eastern Kangaroo Island parks. This includes providing advice and other support in the development of a multi day trail in the Dudley Peninsula.
- Continue to manage Busby Islet Conservation Park as a prohibited area. Maintain no visitor infrastructure at Beatrice Islet and Pelican Lagoon conservation parks, except for signage and other interpretive materials that may be required to protect values or inform visitors of these values.
- Maintain minimal visitor infrastructure at Dudley, Lesueur and Simpson conservation parks, though some minor trail work may be considered where it aligns with a trails strategy.
- Educate and engage with park visitors and stakeholders to inform them of park values and conservation aims of the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island.
- Prohibit bringing in introduced animals in eastern Kangaroo Island parks, apart from dogs where they are permitted east of Chapman River in Lashmar Conservation Park.
- Work collaboratively with the tourism accommodation businesses adjacent Lashmar Conservation Park to manage boundary issues and facilitate non-exclusive pedestrian access to Antechamber Bay.

## THEME 4

# Protecting and celebrating cultural heritage

The parks of eastern Kangaroo Island support a range of heritage values, including sites of colonial heritage and a landscape of significance to First Nations people. These parks connect visitors to a long history of human settlement – from a time pre-dating the island's separation from the mainland, through to the early settlers who carved out a life in the often hostile landscape, many with descendants still living on the island. The parks protect a landscape of profound cultural significance, and protecting and promoting this heritage is an important component of park management.

Kangaroo Island is culturally significant to Kurna, Narungga, and Ngarrindjeri people and their stories about the island have been passed down over generations. Kangaroo Island is referred to as Karta, the land of the dead, by mainland First Nations groups. It is an important spiritual location associated with the Ngurunderi dreaming, a key figure in Ngarrindjeri culture.

While no Aboriginal people were observed living on the island when explored in 1802, Aboriginal people did live on Kangaroo Island for many generations before and following its separation from the mainland, and evidence of this history can be found within the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island. All Aboriginal sites, objects and remains are protected from damage, disturbance or interference by the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988*, regardless of whether they have been

registered or reported.

More recent First Nations history is entwined with the history of early settlement of Kangaroo Island. By the mid-1820s there were a number of people, mainly sealers, living permanently on the island with Aboriginal women that had been abducted or brought from Tasmania or the South Australian coast. Diary entries from 1836 tell of those first settlers who would “cross over to Cape Jervis, from which place they have at different times stolen the women who now live with them. These women are very clever at snaring game and fish for their keepers whilst the men remain at their little farms” (Kangaroo Island Pioneers Association, accessed 2023). These Aboriginal women provided vital hunting and other bush skills necessary for the survival of early settlers.

Creating strong working relationships with First Nations people will ensure they have an ongoing role in protecting their heritage and telling their story. This will also aid in the development of appropriate interpretation to help explain the First Nations history of the island to visitors, and to expand the cultural tourism offering in Kangaroo Island.





The parks also help tell the story of Kangaroo Island's colonial history, and the history of early pioneers. Three sites on the South Australian heritage register have been recorded in the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island: the Bates Farmhouse, Threshing Floor and Roller in Baudin Conservation Park; a threshing floor within Pelican Lagoon Conservation Park, and the Cape Willoughby Lighthouse tower in Cape Willoughby Conservation Park.

The Bates farmhouse ruin and threshing floor is supported by interpretation along the Ironstone Hill Hike, which tells the story of the Bates family – owners of the land of Baudin Conservation Park until its incorporation into the park system. The farmhouse ruin is a significant heritage site, that has experienced degradation from natural decay. Continuing management will seek to maintain the site, with only essential interventions. The threshing floor in Pelican Lagoon is not supported by interpretation and to date general public access is not facilitated. There are few threshing floors recorded in South Australia and only a handful survive in good condition, including those in these parks.

The Cape Willoughby Lighthouse is the first lighthouse in South Australia, and was first lit in 1852. All boats from the eastern states to Adelaide passed through Backstairs Passage at the time, and the Cape Willoughby lighthouse was an important guide. The adjacent lighthouse keeper cottages further contribute to the heritage character of the site. Tours are also provided to give visitors an understanding of the history of the site.

Other unlisted heritage sites can also be found across the parks, perhaps most prominent being the early pioneer grave sites in Lashmar Conservation Park, with markers for the graves of Jane Lashmar and Thomas Clark conspicuous in the entry to the park.

The cultural heritage values of these parks provide important links to the history of Kangaroo Island, and are of continuing cultural importance to First Nations people and the Kangaroo Island community. This cultural connection is ongoing, with descendants living on the island seeking to create their own experiences with their families, or share the stories of Kangaroo Island's settlement. An interpretation plan will be prepared to help guide how this story is told across Kangaroo Island parks.

## Objective

Preserve key heritage features within the parks of eastern Kangaroo Island, and work with First Nations groups to manage sites and celebrate culture.

## Strategies

- Maintain heritage sites and use these to share the story of Kangaroo Island's history.
- Ensure any developments in Cape Willoughby Conservation Park, including trails, lookouts, and other new facilities are sensitive to the heritage values of the site.
- Practice cultural heritage management protocols in working with First Nations people to manage parks.
- Develop an interpretation plan for Kangaroo Island with First Nations people, volunteers and the broader community that supports visitors to learn and appreciate the cultural, historical, and natural significance of these parks.
- In line with an interpretation plan, work with First Nations people to develop strategies to educate visitors about the cultural importance and history of Kangaroo Island.
- Continue to provide tours and other information for visitors about heritage places and their significance to Kangaroo Island's history, in particular Cape Willoughby Lighthouse.
- Incorporate traditional knowledge and skills of the First Nations people into research, monitoring and management activities to build capacity and maintain and enhance culture and connection with the parks.

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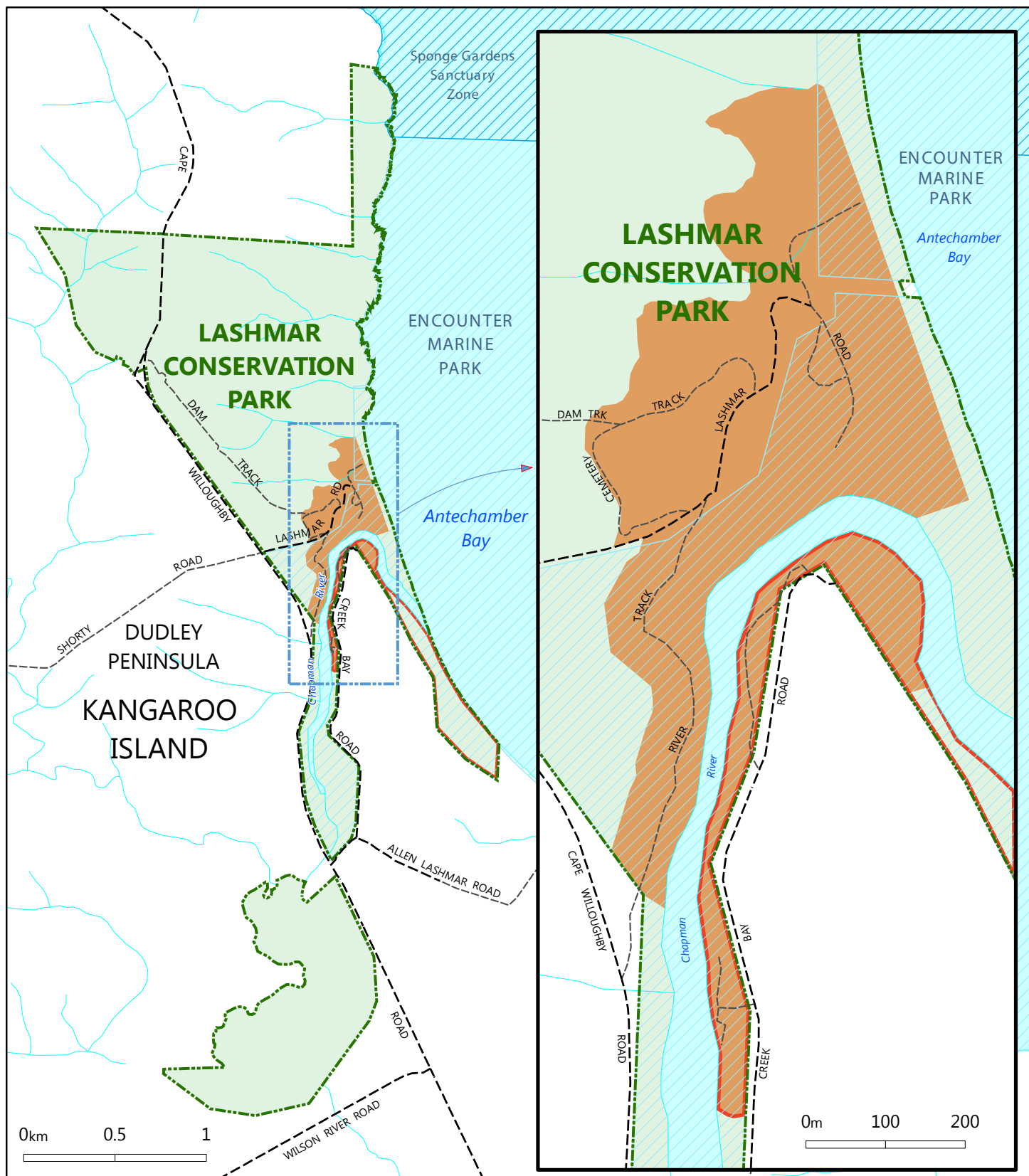






# Appendix 1: Lashmar Visitor Use Areas





**Figure 2**  
Lashmar CP Visitor Use Areas



LEGEND	
	Lashmar Conservation Park
	Visitor Use Area
	Dogs on lead Area
	Unsealed road
	Marine Park
	Marine Park Sanctuary Zone
	Vehicular track

# Appendix 2: Threatened flora

Species	Common name	EPBC Act	NPW Act	
<i>Acacia dodonaeifolia</i>	Hop-bush Wattle		R	
<i>Austrostipa multispiculis</i>	Many-flowered Spear-grass		R	
<i>Caladenia ovata</i>	Kangaroo Island Spider-orchid	VU	E	
<i>Caladenia sanguinea</i>	Crimson Daddy-long-legs		R	
<i>Centrolepis glabra</i>	Smooth Centrolepis		R	
<i>Correa backhouseana</i> var. <i>orbicularis</i>	Round-leaf Correa		R	
<i>Eucalyptus fasciculosa</i>	Pink Gum		R	
<i>Eucalyptus phenax</i> ssp. <i>compressa</i>	Kangaroo Island Mallee		R	
<i>Euphrasia collina</i> ssp. <i>osbornii</i>	Osborn's Eyebright	EN	E	
<i>Glycine latrobeana</i>	Clover Glycine	VU	V	
<i>Grevillea halmaturina</i> ssp. <i>halmaturina</i>	Prickly Grevillea		R	
<i>Grevillea muricata</i>	Rough Spider-flower		R	
<i>Hydrocotyle comocarpa</i>	Fringe-fruit Pennywort		R	
<i>Juncus procerus</i>	Tall Rush		R	
<i>Philotheca angustifolia</i> ssp. <i>angustifolia</i>	Narrow-leaf Wax-flower		R	
<i>Pomaderris halmaturina</i> ssp. <i>halmaturina</i>	Kangaroo Island Pomaderris	VU	V	
<i>Scutellaria humilis</i>	Dwarf Skullcap		R	
<i>Spyridium daphnoides</i>	Spoon-leaved Spyridium		R	
<i>Spyridium tricolor</i>	Rusty Spyridium		R	
<i>Xanthorrhoea semiplana</i> ssp. <i>tateana</i>	Tate's Grass-tree		R	

Notes: Data for this table is from the Biological Databases of South Australia (BDBSA), an integrated collection of biological databases showing records for sightings from locations within or near parks. While efforts have been made to correct errors and refine data, some errors may still be present. While this table provides a useful guide to the biological features in a given park, this should not be considered a comprehensive listing of all threatened species that utilise the parks.

## Guide to conservation status under the EPBC Act:

- VU** Vulnerable
- EN** Endangered
- CR** Critically Endangered
- M** Migratory Species

## Guide to conservation status under the NPW Act:

- V** Vulnerable
- E** Endangered
- R** Rare
- ssp** Threatened at the subspecies or population level



	Baudin CP	Beatrice Islet CP	Busby Islet CP	Cape Willoughby CP	Cygnet estuary CP	Dudley CP	Lashmar CP	Lesueur CP	Nepean Bay CP	Pelican Lagoon CP	Simpson CP
	✓						✓				
							✓				
						✓	✓				
								✓		✓	
								✓			
						✓		✓		✓	✓
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	✓					✓	✓	✓			✓
	✓										
							✓	✓			
						✓					
						✓	✓	✓			



# Appendix 3: Threatened fauna

Species	Common name	EPBC Act	NPW Act	
<i>Acanthiza lineata whitei</i>	Striated Thornbill (KI)	VU		
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper	M	R	
<i>Anhinga novaehollandiae novaehollandiae</i>	Australasian Darter		R	
<i>Anthochaera chrysoptera halmaturina</i>	Little Wattlebird (KI)	VU		
<i>Arenaria interpres interpres</i>	Ruddy Turnstone	M	R	
<i>Biziura lobata menziesi</i>	Musk Duck		R	
<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	Australasian Bittern	EN	E	
<i>Bubulcus ibis coromandus</i>	Eastern Cattle Egret		R	
<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	Bush Stonecurlew		R	
<i>Calidris alba alba</i>	Sanderling		R	
<i>Calidris canutus rogersi</i>	Red Knot (ssp. rogersi)	EN, M	E	
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper	CR, M	E	
<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>	Great Knot	CR, M	E	
<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami halmaturinus</i>	Glossy Black-Cockatoo (Kangaroo Island subspecies)	EN	E	
<i>Caperea marginata</i>	Pygmy Right Whale		R	
<i>Cereopsis novaehollandiae</i>	Cape Barren Goose		R	
<i>Charadrius leschenaultii leschenaultii</i>	Greater Sand Plover	VU	R	
<i>Charadrius mongolus mongolus</i>	Lesser Sand Plover	M, ssp	E	
<i>Cladorhynchus leucocephalus</i>	Banded Stilt		V	
<i>Egretta garzetta nigripes</i>	Little Egret		R	
<i>Egretta sacra sacra</i>	Pacific Reef Heron		R	
<i>Falco peregrinus macropus</i>	Peregrine Falcon		R	
<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe	M	R	
<i>Haematopus fuliginosus fuliginosus</i>	Sooty Oystercatcher		R	
<i>Haematopus longirostris</i>	Pied Oystercatcher		R	
<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	White-bellied Sea Eagle		E	
<i>Hylacola cauta halmaturina</i>	Shy Heathwren (Kangaroo Island)	VU	R	
<i>Isoodon obesulus obesulus</i>	Southern Brown Bandicoot (SA mainland and KI)	EN	V	
<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Bar-tailed Godwit	M, ssp	ssp	
<i>Limosa limosa melanuroides</i>	Black-tailed Godwit	VU, M	R	
<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Southern Giant Petrel	EN	V	
<i>Melithreptus brevirostris magnirostris</i>	Brown-headed Honeyeater	EN		
<i>Moggridgea rainbowi</i>	Kangaroo Island Micro-trapdoor Spider	EN		

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	Baudin CP	Beatrice Islet CP	Busby Islet CP	Cape Willoughby CP	Cygnest estuary CP	Dudley CP	Lashmar CP	Lesueur CP	Nepean Bay CP	Pelican Lagoon CP	Simpson CP
	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
					✓						
					✓		✓				
			✓		✓				✓	✓	
			✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	
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				✓		✓				✓	✓
			✓		✓				✓	✓	
					✓					✓	
					✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
	✓						✓				

✓ There has been a recording of this species within or near the park

✓ There has not been a formal recording of this species on BDBSA, but it is known this species likely occurs in the park

Species	Common name	EPBC Act	NPW Act	
<i>Myiagra inquieta</i>	Restless Flycatcher		R	
<i>Neophema petrophila zietzi</i>	Rock Parrot		R	
<i>Neophoca cinerea</i>	Australian Sea Lion	EN	V	
<i>Nesoptilotis leucotis thomasi</i>	White-eared Honeyeater (KI)	EN		
<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Far Eastern Curlew	CR, M	E	
<i>Numenius phaeopus variegatus</i>	Whimbrel	M	R	
<i>Pandion haliaetus cristatus</i>	Eastern Osprey		E	
<i>Petroica boodang boodang</i>	Scarlet Robin		R	
<i>Petroica phoenicea</i>	Flame Robin		V	
<i>Platycercus elegans melanopterus</i>	Crimson Rosella (KI)	VU		
<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	Pacific Golden Plover		R	
<i>Podiceps cristatus australis</i>	Great Crested Grebe	M	R	
<i>Pseudophryne bibronii</i>	Brown Toadlet		R	
<i>Psophodes leucogaster lashmari</i>	White-bellied Whipbird (KI)	EN	R	
<i>Spatula rhynchotis</i>	Australasian Shoveler		R	
<i>Stagonopleura bella samueli</i>	Beautiful Firetail (MLR, KI)	EN	ssp	
<i>Sterna hirundo longipennis</i>	Common Tern		R	
<i>Sternula nereis nereis</i>	Fairy Tern	VU	E	
<i>Stictonetta naevosa</i>	Freckled Duck		V	
<i>Stipiturus malachurus halmaturinus</i>	Southern Emuwren (Kangaroo Island)	EN	R	
<i>Tachyglossus aculeatus multiaculeatus</i>	Short-beaked Echidna (Kangaroo Island)	EN	E	
<i>Thinornis cucullatus cucullatus</i>	Hooded Plover	VU	V	
<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	Common Brushtail Possum		R	
<i>Tringa brevipes</i>	Grey-tailed Tattler	M	R	
<i>Turnix varius varius</i>	Painted Buttonquail		R	
<i>Varanus rosenbergi</i>	Heath Goanna		V	
<i>Zanda funerea whiteae</i>	Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo		V	
<i>Zapornia tabuensis</i>	Spotless Crane		R	
<i>Zoothera lunulata halmaturina</i>	South Australian Bassian Thrush (southern FR, MLR, KI)	EN	ssp	

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	Baudin CP	Beatrice Islet CP	Busby Islet CP	Cape Willoughby CP	Cygnest estuary CP	Dudley CP	Lashmar CP	Lesueur CP	Nepean Bay CP	Pelican Lagoon CP	Simpson CP
						✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
			✓		✓						
										✓	
	✓					✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
		✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	
			✓						✓	✓	
						✓	✓			✓	
						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
							✓				
							✓	✓		✓	

- ✓ There has been a recording of this species within or near the park
- ✓ There has not been a formal recording of this species on BDBSA, but it is known this species likely occurs in the park or is an itinerant visitor to the park









**For further information please contact:**

Department for Environment and Water.  
Phone Information Line (08) 8204 1910, or see  
SA White Pages for your local Department for  
Environment and Water office.

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