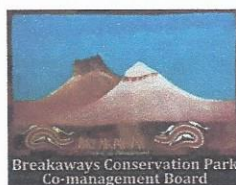
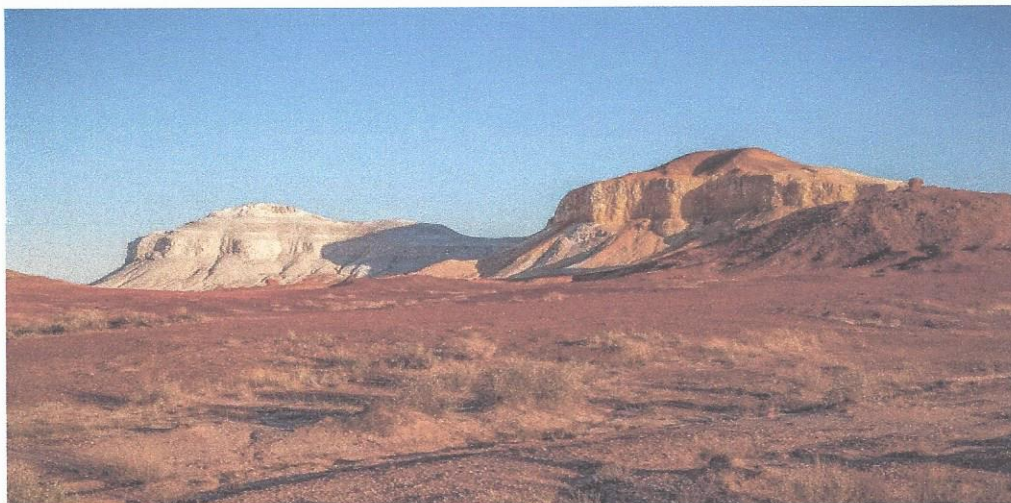


Breakaways Conservation Park Co-management Board

Annual Report

2013–14



Government
of South Australia

www.environment.sa.gov.au

Annual Report of the Breakaways Conservation Park Co-management Board 2013-14

29 September 2014

Copies of this report can be obtained from:

Telephone +61 499982999

Email choad@cpcouncil.sa.gov.au

Presented to Parliament by Hon Ian Hunter MLC, Minister for Sustainability Environment and Conservation,
pursuant to section 43L of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*

For further information please contact:

District Council of Coober Pedy

Phone Information Line (08) 8672 4600,

ABN 51 908 978 026

Online information available at: <http://www.cooberpedy.sa.gov.au>

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29 September 2014

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Hon Ian Hunter MLC
Minister for Sustainability Environment and Conservation
Parliament House
North Terrace
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Minister

In accordance with the requirements of section 43L of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* and the *Public Sector Act 2009*, I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the Breakaways Conservation Park Co-management Board for the year ended 30 June 2014.

For further information on this matter please contact Ms Chevahn Hoad, Executive Officer, Breakaways Co-management Board, on telephone 0499 982 999 or via email, choad@cpcouncil.sa.gov.au



Ian Crombie
Chairperson

Breakaways Conservation Park Co-management Board

A unique partnership

First proclaimed in 2013, the Breakaways Conservation Park (Park) forms part of the traditional country of the Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara people. It has cultural significance to the Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara through past and current use.

The District Council of Coober Pedy (DCCP), the State Government and Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara (AMY) share a common vision for the park. The area has long been protected as a regional reserve and managed by the local council. The Breakaways Reserve was dedicated as a reserve under the Crown Lands Act 1929 (SA) (CLA) for Natural Features by Gazette dated 24 June 2001. The DCCP has had the care, control and management of the Reserve since 12 September 1991. The first co-management agreement between a traditional owner group, a local council and the state government was signed in December 2011. The Co-management model provides the framework for Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara people, Coober Pedy community and the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources to share responsibility for the park. The Breakaways Conservation Park Co-management Board was created in 2013.

The Park is an Aboriginal owned, co-managed Conservation Park under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (SA) (NPWA). The Co-Management Agreement (CMA) provides for use of the land by the Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara people in such a way that their cultural, economic, social and environmental aspirations are enhanced in a manner consistent with the management objectives of the Land.

It is the second Aboriginal owned conservation park after Mamungari Conservation Park. It is owned by Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara Aboriginal Corporation (AMYAC). What also makes this partnership unique is park management being delivered in a cooperative arrangement with the local council, District Council of Coober Pedy.

The Board and the manner in which the park is operated seeks to make a significant contribution towards the reconciliation of Indigenous people and non-Indigenous people.

The Board acknowledge the principles within the CMA to

- Ensure the continued **enjoyment** of the Park by the Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara people for **cultural, spiritual and traditional uses**;
- Ensure the continued **enjoyment** of the Park by members of the public in a manner consistent with the CMA;
- Ensure the **preservation** and **protection** of Aboriginal sites, features, objects and structures of **spiritual** or **cultural significance** on the Park and
- Provide **protection** for the **natural resources**, wildlife, vegetation and other features of the Park.

This is the first Annual Report of the Board and covers the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014. It is prepared to fulfil requirements of section 43L of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*, Regulation 16 of the *National Parks and Wildlife (Breakaways Conservation Park) Regulations 2013* (the Regulations) and the *Public Sector Act 2009*.

Links between the Board and the SA Strategic Plan

In pursuing its operations and initiatives, the Board contributed to the following targets in South Australia's Strategic Plan:

Target 28: Aboriginal leadership; increase the number of Aboriginal South Australians participating in community leadership and in community leadership development programs.

Target 53: Aboriginal employees; increase the participation of Aboriginal people in the South Australian public sector.

Target 69: Lose no species; lose no native species as a result of human impacts.

The Board in developing its management plan seeks to align with the regional natural resource management plans of the South Australian Arid Lands and Alinytjara Wilurara NRM Boards.

Strategic priorities and achievements for 2013-14

Management Plan – Breakaways Conservation Park

The Co-management Agreement provides for the development of a management plan for the park in partnership with the Board.

The Breakaways Conservation Park Management Plan will be the over-arching strategic document guiding the management of cultural and natural heritage values in the Park. It will set a vision for the Park and have a strong influence from AMY and the wider community. The plan will build upon the Management Guidelines provided with the CMA.

The Board has a key role in developing the Management Plan for the Park and engaging with key partners including the broader AMY and Coober Pedy community. The Management Plan is currently being drafted and is programmed for completion in 2015.

In addition to the responsibilities for the Park the Board has nominated a Tallaringa Conservation Park Advisory Committee to provide an advisory role to the Minister with respect to Tallaringa Conservation Park.

Park Management

The Board delegated some routine and day-to-day responsibilities for park management to District Council of Coober Pedy(DCCP) staff to manage in accordance with government policy and procedures. This ensures the effective and timely management of the Breakaways Conservation Park and allows the Board to focus on park management at a strategic level.

At this early stage in the management of the area as a Conservation Park initial works have focussed on public safety and signage.

Providing richer visitor experiences

The Board looks forward to providing a richer visitor experience with a strong Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara link. The Board are gathering information on the current park usage including detailed visitor numbers and observations of visitor actions. The Board have identified improved infrastructure as one of their first steps to providing a richer visitor experience. Infrastructure discussed includes signage upgrades, seating, shade and toilet facilities.

The stories and history of the Breakaways have also been identified by the Board as a priority area for providing a richer visitor experience, particularly for school groups.

The Board recognise the benefits of tourism and in particular filming and photography opportunities to both promote the park and provide a source of income. The Board have also supported "The Great Breakaways Bolt" annual community event.

Working with neighbours and the Community

The Board is committed to working with neighbouring landholders to achieve shared management objectives. Through communications with Department for State Development regarding opal mining on the boundary of the Breakaways Conservation Park the Board are ensuring that opal mining does not accidentally occur in the conservation park.

The Board have been working with Umoona Community Council to leverage advantages such as shared resources and training opportunities.

The Board are starting to build relationships with SAAL and AW NRM Boards.

Managing the Park for success

Co-management of the Park is a partnership where the AMY people work together with the DCCP and DEWNR to share decision-making and responsibility for the management of the Park. This unique situation allows the management of the park to support the cultural values of the AMY people and the tourism and environmental values of the wider community. The DCCP through their already extensive works program and administrative capability support the management of the park allowing a seamless transition to co-management arrangements. Works were able to be conducted at the park in a timely and efficient manner with past experience with managing the roads and infrastructure informing the decisions of the Board.

Promoting Co-management

The Board continues to maintain an active role in promoting the park and co-management. The Board through AMYAC members or the Executive Officer also provides presentations and updates at AMY Aboriginal Corporation (AMYAC) meetings.

Members

Under Regulation 5 of the *National Parks and Wildlife (Breakaways Conservation Park) Regulations 2013*, (1) Subject to subregulation (2), the Board consists of 7 members appointed by the Minister of whom—

- (a) 4 must be Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara people appointed on the nomination of AMYAC; and
- (b) 2 must be persons nominated by the District Council of Coober Pedy; and
- (c) 1 must be an officer of the Department.

(2) If AMYAC refuses or fails to nominate a Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara person in relation to a particular office under subregulation (1)(a), the Minister may appoint a suitable Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara person to fill the office.

(3) The Minister may appoint a person to be a deputy of a member appointed under subregulation (1) and a person so appointed may act as a member of the Board in the absence of the member.

(4) A requirement or qualification specified by this regulation in relation to an appointment of a member extends to an appointment of a deputy of that member.

The full membership of the Co-management Board is as at 30 June 2014 was as follows.

Chairperson

Mr Ian Christopher Crombie (5)(a): nominated by AMYAC

Deputy Chairperson

Mr Michael John Maylin (5)(b): nominated by DCCP

Members

Ms Maureen Williams (5)(a): nominated by AMYAC

Ms Julie O'Toole (5)(a): nominated by AMYAC

Mr Barney Francis Lennon Jnr (5)(a): nominated by AMYAC

Ms Rose-Marie Suzanne Berry (5)(b): nominated by DCCP

Dr Matthew James Ward (5)(c): officer of the Department (Regional Manager
Natural Resources Alinytjara Wilurara Region, DEWNR)

Deputy Members

Mr Kevin Dennis O'Toole Deputy to Mr Crombie

Mr David Bowman Deputy to Mr Maylin

Mr Michael Brown Deputy to Mr Lennon Jnr

Ms Maisie Wintinna Deputy to Ms Williams

Ms Jane Fatima Khan Deputy to Ms O'Toole

Mr Stephen Harley Staines Deputy to Ms Berry

Mr Grant Anthony Pelton Deputy to Dr Ward

The appointments are staggered to be for a one or two year period from 31 July 2013 to 31 July 2014 or 31 July 2015.

The gender balance of the Board is taken into consideration when members are appointed. During the reporting period membership of the Board was made up of four(4) males and three (3) females.

Meetings

The Board held four meetings.

- 4 March 2014: Coober Pedy
- 3 December 2013: Coober Pedy
- 31 October 2013: Coober Pedy
- 7 August 2013: Coober Pedy

Attendance at Meetings

Member	4 March 2014	3 December 2013	31 October 2013	7 August 2013
Mr Ian Crombie	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mr Mike Maylin	Y	Y	N*	Y
Ms Maureen Williams	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ms Julie O'Toole	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mr Barney Lennon Jnr	N	Y	Y	Y
Ms Rose Berry	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mr Matthew Ward	Y	Y	Y	Y

* Deputy Member attended for Member

Reconciliation Statement

The Board would like to acknowledge that the land on which it meets is the traditional lands for the Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara people.

In fulfilling its functions, the Board is aware of the cultural and natural heritage of traditional owners and strives to achieve positive outcomes wherever these matters are concerned.

Functions of the Co-management Board

The functions and powers of the Board are set out in Regulation 9 of the *National Parks and Wildlife (Breakaways Conservation Park) Regulations 2013* as follows:

- 1) The functions of the Board are —
 - (a) to carry out the functions assigned to the Board by or under the Act; and
 - (b) to carry out the functions assigned to the Board by the co-management agreement; and
 - (c) to carry out other functions assigned to the Board by the Minister.
- (2) The Board has the power to do anything necessary, expedient or incidental to the performance of its functions.
- (3) Without limiting the generality of subregulation (2), the Board may enter into any form of contract, agreement or arrangement.
- (4) The Board must perform its functions, and exercise its powers, in a manner that is consistent with the co-management agreement.

Regulation 10 (1) of the Regulations states that 5 members (of whom at least 3 must be Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara people, at least 1 must be a member appointed under regulation 5(1)(b) and 1 must be the member appointed under regulation 5(1)(c)) constitute a quorum of the Board. This requirement was met at each Board meeting.

Regulatory Reporting

The following information addresses annual reporting requirements established under Regulation 16 of the *National Parks and Wildlife (Breakaways Conservation Park) Regulations 2013*.

(a) information relating to traditional hunting activities in the Park carried out in accordance with section 68D of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*;

There has been no traditional hunting within the park.

(b) information relating to the effect of traditional hunting activities in the Park carried out in accordance with section 68D of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* on native plants and protected animals, or the eggs of protected animals (and in particular those species that are scheduled as rare, endangered or vulnerable under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*);

There has been no traditional hunting within the park.

(c) information relating to the operations and work programs undertaken by or on behalf of the Board;

The initial works program for the park was agreed on at the first meeting in August 2013. The works program reflected a focus on the management plan development, signage installation and preventing unwanted traffic in sensitive areas via windrows.

DCCP staff reported to the board regarding park management activities at each meeting. Visitor numbers, permit information including commercial photography and filming, grading, road closures, storm damage and corrective action and sign installation were reported.

(d) information relating to Park infrastructure;

Park infrastructure is managed by DCCP and reported on at Board meetings. There is very little infrastructure currently at the park. Park signage has been improved to increase visitor safety. Signage has been developed through collaboration with DEWNR Business and Asset Services in order to meet the requirements of the CMA regarding signage that is consistent with other DEWNR parks.

(e) any other information required by the Minister.

No additional information was required by the Minister during this reporting period.

Human Resource Matters

Staffing

The Board has no staff of its own. Ms Chevahn Hoad, from DCCP provides executive support to the Board.

In accordance with the CMA, staff employed to work on the park have been given reasonable access to training and development.

Disability Action Plans

The members of the Board are aware of and abide by their obligations under the Commonwealth *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the State *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*.

Equal Opportunity Programs

The Board has no staff of its own and is serviced by staff of DCCP. Members are aware of and abide by the equal opportunity policies and programs of DCCP.

Work Health and Safety

There were no incidents reported by the Board during the reporting period.

As a user of DCCP facilities and equipment, the Board is aware of and abides by DCCP's Work Health and Safety policies.

During the reporting period DCCP Staff operating in the Park undertook First Aid training.

Use of Consultants

The Board did not engage any consultants in the reporting period.

Financial Performance

DCCP administers the budget for the Breakaways Conservation Park on behalf of the Board and provides a quarterly financial report at each meeting. Expenditure has been maintained within the budget allocation. See attachment 2 for audited financial statements.

Finance

The costs associated with the administration of the Board are met through a funding agreement with DCCP. Some administration and support is provided by DEWNR. Members are paid sitting fees in accordance with the recommendation from the Chief Executive, Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

Session fees are:

Chair: \$221 per four hour session

Members: 177 per four hour session

Travel and accommodation expenses are in accordance with DPC Circular PC016 – Remuneration for Government Appointed Part-Time Boards and Committees.

Account Payment Performance

DCCP provides administrative resources for processing account payments for the Board.

Contractual Arrangements

The Board did not enter any contractual arrangements during the reporting period.

Other Reporting Items

Overseas Travel

It is declared that no member of the Board has travelled overseas on the business of the Board during the reporting period.

Fraud

It is declared that there were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Board.

Financial services are provided to the Board by DCCP. Please visit www.cooberpedy.sa.gov.au to view the DCCP Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy.

Regional Impact Assessment Statement

The Board undertook no Regional Impact Assessment Statements in 2013-14.

Freedom of Information

As a DCCP administered entity, the Board participates and abides by the arrangements outlined in the DCCP Freedom of Information regime. Reporting on this matter will be made in the DCCP annual report.

Urban Design Charter

No events occurred in 2012-13 that required the Board to consider the principles of urban design contained in the South Australian Urban Design Charter.

Acknowledgement

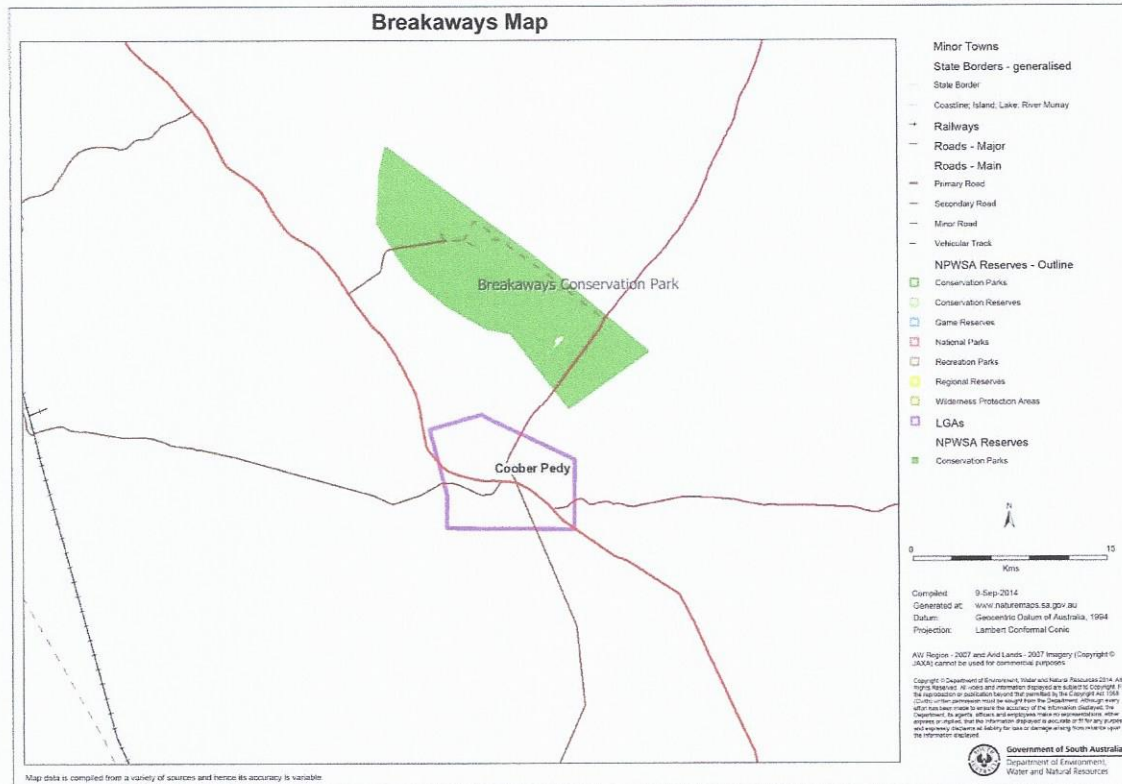
The Board appreciates the support and encouragement it received over the past year from the Minister for Sustainability Environment and Conservation, the Hon Ian Hunter MLC.

The Board would like to thank the staff of DCCP, in particular Chevahn Hoad and Phil Cameron, staff of DEWNR Eliza Northrop, Crystal Pannicia, Alinytjara Wilurara NRM Staff, and Mark Walsh (South Australia Arid Lands NRM), for their support.

The Board is working collaboratively and advancing partnership arrangements between DCCP, AMYAC, Umoona Council, DEWNR, the Antakirinja Matuntjara Yankunytjatjara and the Coober Pedy community to achieve shared objectives for future conservation management in Breakaways Conservation Park.

Attachments

Attachment 1 Breakaways Conservation Park Location Map



Attachment 2 Audited Financial Statements

RMBAS
17 Gertrude St
Norwood SA 5067
Ph: 0408 890 840

05 DEC 2014

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To: District Council of Coober Pedy and the Department of Environment, Water & Natural Resources

For: Breakaways Co-management funding agreement

Report on the Financial Report

I have audited the accompanying financial report of the District Council of Coober Pedy in respect to the above named project. This includes the books, records and financial statements in respect of the Funds and the Other Contributions (separately and in the context of the funding recipient's overall financial position) for the period 1 August 2013 to 30 June 2014.

The Responsibility for the Preparation of the Financial Statements

Damian Clark is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I conducted the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by Damian Clarke, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

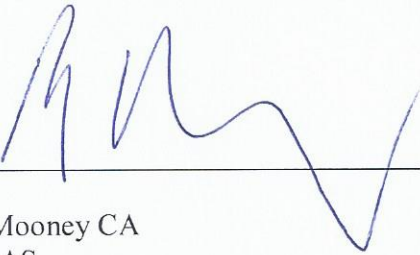
We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

RMBAS
17 Gertrude St
Norwood SA 5067
Ph: 0408 890 840

Auditor's Opinion

In my opinion: ¹

1. The statements for the Breakaways Co-management Board present fairly in all material respects, the financial position of this program as included in the District Council of Coober Pedy financial system and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the period for the period 1 August 2013 to 30 June 2014.
2. The associated funding was expended in accordance with the Agreement.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Rex Mooney', is written over a horizontal line.

Rex Mooney CA
RMBAS
17 Gertrude St
Norwood SA 5067

¹ If the auditor concludes that, based on the audit evidence obtained, the financial report as a whole is not free from material misstatement; or is unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to conclude that the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, the auditor is required under ASA 700 to modify the opinion in accordance with ASA 705 Modifications to the Opinion in the Independent Auditor's Report.

District Council of Coober Pedy
Financial Statement for the Breakway Conservation Park Co-Management Agreement
for the period 1 August 2013 to 30 June 2014

	Actual 2013-14 \$	Budget 2013-14 \$	Variance \$	Comment
Operating Income				
Dewnr Grant	181,317	181,317	0	
Park Fees - Film/Tv/Media	364	0	(364)	
Breakaways Pass Income	4,364	0	(4,364)	
Breakaways Conservation Park Cultural Heritage Guide Fees	70	0	(70)	
Total Operating Income	186,115	181,317	(4,798)	
Operating Expenditure				
<i>Breakaways Board Sitting Fees</i>				
Breakaways Board Sitting Fees	16,430	12,833	(3,597)	Budget included travel & accommodation fees
Board Meeting Expenses	1,897	7,333	5,436	Meetings held at Coober Pedy instead of on site in the park. Internal Charge from CP could be levied.
Marketing Fees	2,933	2,750	(183)	
Opening Event	25,000	25,000	0	
				Actuals include travel & accommodation fees budgeted above. Overall overbudget by \$4k when combined.
Travel & Accommodation	9,631	5,317	(4,314)	
<i>Breakaways Staff</i>				
Wages	38,246	44,000	5,754	
On- Costs	10,854	13,750	2,896	
				No training undertaken. Training is planned for 2014-15.
Training	15	1,833	1,818	
				Budget not spent in 2013-14. Varies from year to year according to staff turnover.
Recruitment	304	1,833	1,529	
Office Equipment	6,446	1,375	(5,071)	
				\$2,280 & \$12,330 of this budget line moved into capital as used to fund a capital project.
Projects Breakaways	0	34,387	34,387	
Accounting & Finance	6,780	8,000	1,220	
Vehicle reimbursement	1,098	0	(1,098)	
<i>Work Program For Breakaways</i>				
General Park & On Ground / Maintenance	11,852	18,333	6,481	
Total Operating Expenditure	131,487	176,745	45,259	
Operating Surplus	54,628	4,572	(50,056)	

MA
24/9/14

District Council of Coober Pedy
Financial Statement for the Breakway Conservation Park Co-Management Agreement
for the period 1 August 2013 to 30 June 2014

Capital Expenditure					
Signage Installation For Breakaways	15,538	15,538	0	\$12,330 Budget transferred in from Operating projects	
Windrow For Breakaways	0	6,417	6,417	Expenditure included above in general park & onground maintenance.	
Visitor Management Plan & Park Infrastructure	2,280	2,280	0	Budget transferred in from Operating projects	
Total Capital Expenditure	17,818	24,235	6,417		
Operating Surplus less Capital Expenditure	36,810	(19,663)	(56,473)		

AMW
24/9/14