



**Government  
of South Australia**

# **NULLARBOR PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2020-21 Annual Report**

## **NULLARBOR PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**OFFICIAL**

2020-21 ANNUAL REPORT for the Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee

To:

Michael Williams

Director of National Parks and Wildlife

This annual report is presented to the Director of National Parks and Wildlife to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the Nullarbor Wilderness Protection Area Co-Management Agreement and has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

Submitted on behalf of the NULLARBOR PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE by:

Mr Clem Lawrie

Chairperson

30/08/2021  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature  \_\_\_\_\_

## From the Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee Chairperson

This year has been another unusual year, we continued to face new challenges and adapt how we work together in a changing COVID-19 environment.

Protection of our cultural heritage and sites continues to be a high priority for our Committee and is one of our identified targets in our Far West Coast Healthy Country Plan.



Photo: NPAC Chairperson, Clem Lawrie at Uluru

Together our Committee members are forming a strong partnership, recognising the importance of Aboriginal cultural knowledge and practices to manage our Parks.

We have been working on the Nullarbor Parks signage project as part of our Visitor Experience Strategy. We are incorporating cultural messaging, we are sharing our stories with visitors, we are working towards a shared understanding and respect for country and culture.

Clem Lawrie

**Chairperson (appointed 26/8/21)**

Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee

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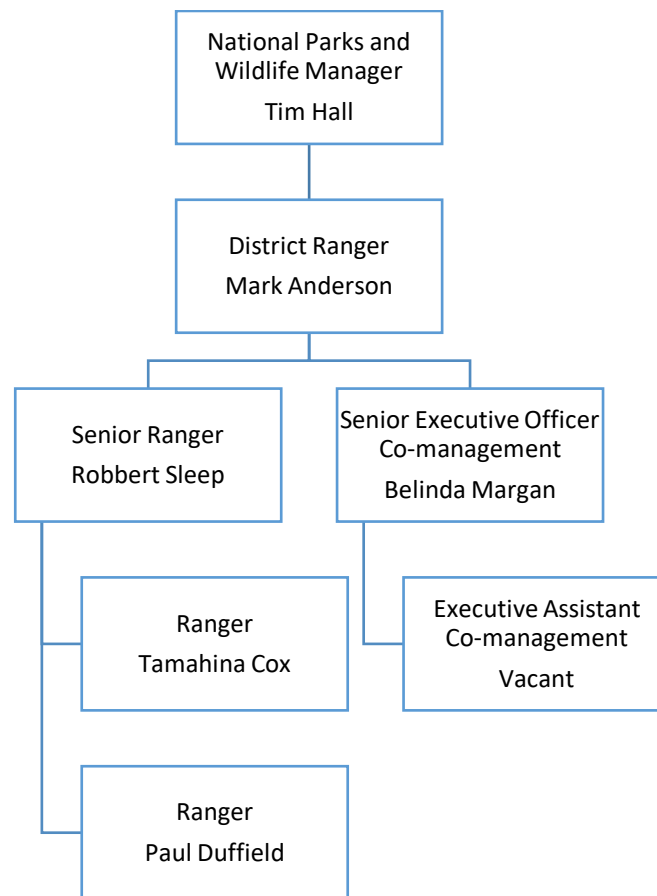
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## Overview: about the agency

### Our strategic focus

<b>Our Purpose</b>	To jointly manage the Nullarbor Parks (Nullarbor Regional Reserve, Nullarbor National Park and Nullarbor Wilderness Protection Area) in partnership with the Minister for Environment and Water and the Far West Coast People through the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation.
<b>Our Vision</b>	<p>Respect the rights, interests and needs of the traditional owners and create social development and economic opportunities for Mirning families and communities.</p> <p>To manage and preserve the cultural landscape, still known and understood by its Aboriginal traditional owners as well as the park's outstanding natural features.</p>
<b>Our Values</b>	Respect the traditional lore and customs whilst providing great experiences for visitors and position Nullarbor Parks as a recognised tourism destination by effectively and efficiently managing the park within a good governance framework.
<b>Our functions, objectives and deliverables</b>	<p>The Committee has an advisory role over the Nullarbor Parks (Nullarbor Regional Reserve, Nullarbor National Park and Nullarbor Wilderness Protection Area).</p> <p>The Committee's role includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protecting and managing cultural heritage and other cultural issues.</li> <li>• Interpreting and promoting Aboriginal culture within the park.</li> <li>• Managing the exercise of traditional rights and access to the park for traditional custodians.</li> <li>• Managing the taking of plants and animals by the traditional custodians.</li> <li>• Increasing cultural awareness for all park visitors.</li> <li>• Managing access to the park for the general public.</li> </ul> <p>Establishing training and employment opportunities for traditional owners on park.</p>

## Our organisational structure



## Changes to the agency

During 2020-21 there were no changes to the agency's structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes.

## Our Minister



The Department for Environment and Water is a portfolio agency of the Minister for Environment and Water, the Hon David Speirs MP.

## Our Executive team

As at 30 June 2021 the Board membership was as follows:

**Member: Mr Clem Lawrie** is nominated by Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation (FWCAC), representing the interests of the Far West Coast People and is responsible for leading the Committee.

**Member: Dr Matthew Ward** nominated by DEW, representing the interests of the Minister.

**Member: Mr Charlie Coleman** nominated by FWCAC, representing the interests of the Far West Coast People.

**Member: Ms Kaylene Dyinawili Wombat** nominated by FWCAC, representing the interests of the Far West Coast People.

**Member: Mr Mark Anderson** nominated by DEW, representing the interests of the Minister.

**Member: Ms Katrina Pobke** nominated by DEW, representing the interests of the Minister

**Member: Ms Pia Richter** nominated by DEW, representing the interests of the Minister

## Legislation administered by the agency

*National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*

*National Parks and Wildlife (National Parks) Regulations 2016.*

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

Department for Environment and Water.



## The agency's performance

### Performance at a glance

Not applicable.

### Agency response to COVID-19

Our members are leaders within their communities, setting an example locally abiding covid restrictions, and reaching out to family, friends & community. During times of isolation & heavy restrictions, members support the mental health of their communities by: encouraging community members to reach out to family and friends; encouraging youth to connect with elders within their isolation zone to share stories & culture; and assisting circulation of instructions through mobile phone apps to capture and edit stories from elders within isolation bubble.

### Agency contribution to whole of Government objectives

SA Government is committed to putting local communities at the heart of sustaining, conserving and revitalising our state's parks and wildlife and acknowledges the First Nations of SA and the role First Nations People continue to have in purposefully shaping and caring for the area that we know as South Australia.

Key objective	Agency's contribution
More jobs	We are respecting the rights, interests and needs of First Nations People and creating social development and economic opportunities for the Far West Coast People, their families and communities.
Lower costs	Through the DEW procurement process we seek to support local regional businesses and community in our efforts to provide a great park experience and management at a reasonable cost.
Better Services	SA Government seeks to foster a greater relationship with all South Australians to work together for better services and a better future, particularly in enabling partnerships that support and encourage First Nations People to continue to take a leading role in park management.

### Agency specific objectives and performance

Agency objectives	Indicators	Performance
Advise the Minister on any matter referred to the	Provide the Minister and/or Director with a broad based	SA public find value in managing parks, protection and promotion of culture of First Nations People, while maintaining park access and

Committee by the Minister or Director	community view on a variety of park issues.	use for the general public. The ability for First Nations People to exercise traditional rights is an expectation of the SA community.
Healthy Country Plan & Park Management Plan priorities	Consider the view of a broad community to develop strategies and prioritise work on parks based on identified targets and threats.	SA public find value in looking after parks and respecting the views of traditional owners. Sustainable park management is an expectation of the SA community.
Visitor Experience Strategy & Tourism	Provide great experiences for visitors and position the Nullarbor Parks as an iconic tourism destination by effectively and efficiently managing the park within a good governance framework.	There is public value in enhancing visitor experience in parks. Increasing cultural awareness for all park visitors is an SA community expectation.
Finalise Co-management Progression	Clarify roles & responsibilities in policy & decision making to resolve park management matters & build relationships	Building relationships and caring for Country are values shared by the SA public.
Sharing Stories	Share our co-management stories with the community and stakeholders to create awareness and understanding	Sharing stories, creating awareness and understanding. are strongly valued by the SA public

### **Corporate performance summary**

Not applicable.

### **Employment opportunity programs**

The Committee has no staff of its own and utilises the services of DEW. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW Annual Report 2020-21.

Executive, administrative and project support were provided to the Committee from existing DEW resources.

**Agency performance management and development systems**

<b>Performance management and development system</b>	<b>Performance</b>
The Committee maintains a register of attendance at Committee meetings.	A minimum of two meetings are held annually. This is considered to be effective.
Government employees supporting the Committee's operation undertake a performance review and development program with their managers.	Two sessions are held on an annual basis. This is considered to be effective.

**Work health, safety and return to work programs**

<b>Program name</b>	<b>Performance</b>
This Committee abides by the relevant health and safety policies and procedures that have been adopted by DEW to meet whole of government and legislative requirements.	Reporting on this matter is contained within the DEW Annual Report 2020-21.

<b>Workplace injury claims</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>% Change (+ / -)</b>
Total new workplace injury claims	0	0	0
Fatalities	0	0	0
Seriously injured workers*	0	0	0
Significant injuries (where lost time exceeds a working week, expressed as frequency rate per 1000 FTE)	0	0	0

*\*number of claimants assessed during the reporting period as having a whole person impairment of 30% or more under the Return to Work Act 2014 (Part 2 Division 5)*

<b>Work health and safety regulations</b>	2020-21	2019-20	% Change (+ / -)
Number of notifiable incidents ( <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Part 3</i> )	0	0	0
Number of provisional improvement, improvement and prohibition notices ( <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Sections 90, 191 and 195</i> )	0	0	0

<b>Return to work costs**</b>	2020-21	2019-20	% Change (+ / -)
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	0	0	0
Income support payments – gross (\$)	0	0	0

\*\*before third party recovery

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullarbor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

Executive employment in the agency

<b>Executive classification</b>	<b>Number of executives</b>
It is declared that there were no executives employed by the Committee	0

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullarbor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

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

## Financial performance

### Financial performance at a glance

The following is a brief summary of the overall financial position of the agency. The information is unaudited. Full audited financial statements for 2020-2021 are available in the link provided at the end of this report.

<b>Statement of Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>2020-21 Budget \$000s</b>	<b>2020-21 Actual \$000s</b>	<b>Variation \$000s</b>	<b>Past year 2019-20 Actual \$000s</b>
Total Income	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	0	0	0	0
<b>Net Result</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Result</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>	<b>2020-21 Budget \$000s</b>	<b>2020-21 Actual \$000s</b>	<b>Variation \$000s</b>	<b>Past year 2019-20 Actual \$000s</b>
Current assets	0	0	0	0
Non-current assets	0	0	0	0
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Current liabilities	0	0	0	0
Non-current liabilities	0	0	0	0
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Equity</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### Consultants disclosure

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

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

<b>Consultancies</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
It is declared there were no consultancies below \$10,000 each engaged by the Committee		\$ 0

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

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
It is declared there were no consultancies above \$10,000 each engaged by the Committee		\$ 0
	Total	\$ 0

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullarbor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

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

**Contractors disclosure**

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

**Contractors with a contract value below \$10,000**

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
All contractors below \$10,000 each - combined	Various	\$38,179.24

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

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
Barefoot Contracting	Park Infrastructure	\$ 12,000.00
	Total	\$ 12,000.00

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullarbor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data> The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the agency list of contracts.](#)

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

**Other financial information**

The Committee is a statutory body; it is not a corporate entity and has no funds of its own. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW Annual Report 2020-21.

The costs associated with the administration of the Committee are met from within existing DEW resources. Members are remunerated in accordance with a recommendation by the Chief Executive, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, in line with the Cabinet-approved Remuneration Framework.

**Other information**

Nil to report.

## Risk management

### Risk and audit at a glance

Nil.

### Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
It is declared that there were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Committee in this reporting period.	0

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

### Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

Members are required to declare any interests at each and every meeting. Members are also required to complete a Declaration of Interest form each financial year. All other strategies to detect instances of fraud are reported in the DEW Annual Report 2020-21.

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullarbor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

### Public interest disclosure

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

Nil

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullarbor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

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



## Reporting required under any other act or regulation

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<b><i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i></b>	<p><b>Section 43L—Annual report</b></p> <p>1) A co-management board established under this Division must, on or before 30 September in each year, prepare and deliver to the Minister a report on its operations during the preceding financial year.</p> <p>2) The report must include—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the audited accounts of the co-management board; and</li> <li>b) any other information required by or under the regulations.</li> </ul> <p>The Minister must, within 6 sitting days after receiving a report, cause copies of the report to be laid before both Houses of Parliament.</p>

The following information addresses the annual reporting requirements of s43L of the Act or purposes of s43L of the Act and s23 of the Regulations. Whilst the Advisory Committee is not obligated to report, for the purposes of consistency, have provided updates against the same criteria.

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> Section 23.</p> <p>a) information relating to traditional hunting activities in the park carried out in accordance with section 68D of the Act.</p>	<p>Although traditional hunting within the Parks would occur, it is difficult to estimate information due to the remote location of the Parks.</p>

Include report as per requirement

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> Section 23.</p> <p>b) information relating to the effect of traditional hunting activities in the park carried out in accordance with section 68D of the Act on native plants and protected animals or the eggs of protected animals (in particular endangered species, vulnerable species and rare species).</p>	<p>No impact or effect of traditional hunting has been noted in monitoring programs of native plants, protected animals or their eggs.</p>

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> Section 23</p> <p>c) information relating to the operation and works programs undertaken by or on behalf of the board.</p>	<p>The Committee continued to implement its work program based on the obligations under the Co-management Agreement, the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972, the Nullarbor Parks Management Plan and the Far West Coast Healthy Country Plan.</p> <p>Committee meetings enable DEW officers to collaborate on operational and management activities undertaken in the parks. Key programs undertaken in the past year include finalising the visitor management strategy for the Parks.</p>

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> Section 23</p> <p>d) information relating to park infrastructure;</p>	<p>Park infrastructure is managed through DEW's asset management program to ensure appropriate maintenance of infrastructure/assets on reserves. The Committee is provided with an overview at each meeting as part of the DEW management report. The Board is working to consolidate the asset management of all park infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpretive signage shelters</li> </ul>

Act or Regulation	Requirement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camp ground facilities</li> <li>• Park maintenance</li> <li>• Road maintenance grading</li> <li>• Barrier installation and maintenance</li> </ul>

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016 Section 23</i> e) any other information required by the Minister.	The Nullarbor Parks Management Plan continues to be the over-arching strategic document that guides on-ground management activities and stakeholder engagement.

#### Reporting required under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005*

Not applicable.

## Public complaints

### Number of public complaints reported

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2020-21
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	0
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	0
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	0
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	0
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	0
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	0
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	0
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	0
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	0
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy unreasonable or disadvantages customer	0

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2020-21
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out dated or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	0
Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	0
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	0
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	0
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	0
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	0
		<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

Additional Metrics	Total
Number of positive feedback comments	0
Number of negative feedback comments	0
Total number of feedback comments	0
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	100%

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullarbor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

**Service Improvements**

No complaints have been received or acted upon.

**Compliance Statement**

Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee is compliant with Premier and Cabinet Circular 039 – complaint management in the South Australian public sector	Y
Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee has communicated the content of PC 039 and the agency's related complaints policies and procedures to employees.	Y

## **Appendix: Audited financial statements 2020-21**

Financial services are provided to the Committee by DEW. Finances are audited annually as part of DEW's financial statements.

Annual report information (including financial statements) is available on the [DEW](#) website.