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18 Oct 2022



**Government
of South Australia**

GAWLER RANGES PARKS CO -MANAGEMENT BOARD 2021-22 Annual Report

GAWLER RANGES PARKS CO – MANAGEMENT BOARD

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To:

The Hon Susan Close MP

Minister for Climate, Environment and Water

This annual report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of *Public Sector Act 2009*, the *Public Sector Regulations 2010*, the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, *Section 43L of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*, *Section 23 of the National Parks and Wildlife (Co- management Boards) Regulations 2016* and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

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

Submitted on behalf of the Gawler Ranges Parks Co-Management Board by:

Jonathan Clark

Chairperson

Gawler Ranges Parks Co – management Board

Date 09 August 2022

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Clark', is written over a horizontal line.

From the Board

I am pleased to present the 2021-22 annual report on behalf of the Gawler Ranges Parks Co-management Board (the Board). The Board is an important partnership between the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) and the traditional custodians, the Gawler Ranges Aboriginal people, through the Gawler Ranges Aboriginal Corporation (GRAC).

The new Gawler Ranges Parks Co-management Board (the Board) replaces the Gawler Ranges Advisory Committee and Lake Gairdner National Park Co – management Board and was established under the National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016 on the 16 December 2021.

During the reporting period, no meetings had occurred owing to COVID19 protocols and the passing of Board family members.

The Board continues to work with GRAC and DEW to oversee the strategic management of both the Gawler Ranges and Lake Gairdner National Parks.

The Lake Gairdner National Park Management Plan was adopted by the Minister in September 2019 and is available at:

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/park-management/state-wide-park-strategies/park-management-plans>

The Gawler Ranges National Park Management Plan was adopted by the Minister in 2017 and is available at:

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/park-management/state-wide-park-strategies/park-management-plans>

More information is contained within the management plans, and I encourage people to learn more about this stunning landscape and its significance to the Gawler Ranges Aboriginal people, by reading these plans.

The Board looks forward to continuing to manage these important parks, along with neighbours, community and other key stakeholders into the future.



Jonathan Clark
Chairperson

Gawler Ranges Parks Co – management Board

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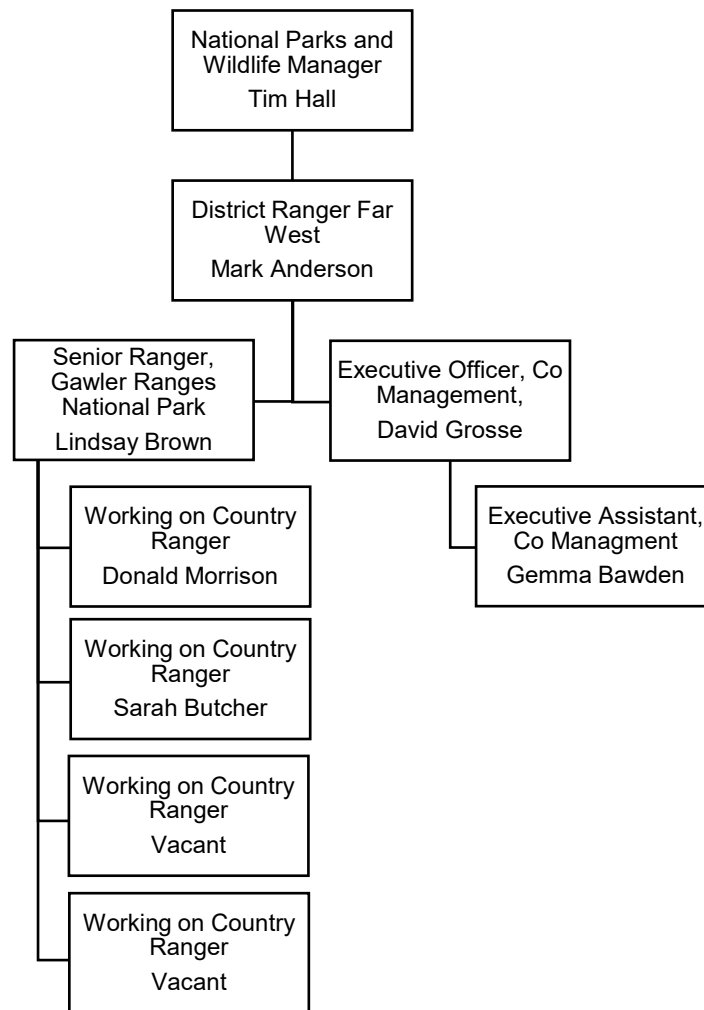
Overview: about the agency

Our strategic focus

Our Purpose	Jointly manage the Gawler Ranges Parks which comprise of Gawler Ranges and Lake Gairdner National Parks in partnership with the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water and the Gawler Ranges people through the Gawler Ranges Aboriginal Corporation
Our Vision	We are working together to improve natural and cultural landscapes for all stakeholders. We respect the rights, interests and needs of the Traditional Owners and create social development and economic opportunities for Gawler Ranges Aboriginal families and communities while sharing the responsibility for the effective management of the Gawler Ranges Parks
Our Values	Respect the laws, customs and cultural identity of the Gawler Ranges People while providing positive experiences for visitors. Position the Gawler Ranges Parks as an iconic, internationally recognised tourism destination by effectively and efficiently managing the environmental value of the parks within a good governance framework.
Our functions, objectives and deliverables	<p>The Co-management Board is responsible for managing the Gawler Ranges Parks.</p> <p>The Co-management Board's role includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting and managing cultural heritage and other cultural issues. • Interpreting and promoting Aboriginal culture within the park. • Managing the exercise of traditional rights and access to the park for Traditional Custodians. • Managing the taking of plants and animals by the traditional custodians. • Increasing cultural awareness for all park visitors. • Managing access to the park for the general public. • Establishing training and employment opportunities for Traditional Owners on park.

Our organisational structure

The section reflects the structure of the agency as at 30 June 2022.



Changes to the agency

During 2021 -22 there were the following changes to the agency's structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes.

- The Amalgamation of the Lake Gairdner National Park Co-Management Board with the Gawler Ranges Advisory Committee occurred on the 16th December 2021 when the new Gawler Ranges Parks Co-management Board was established. The Lake Gairdner National Park Co-management Board provides a separate 2021-22 annual report.

Our Minister



The Department for Environment and Water is a portfolio agency of the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, the Hon Dr Susan Close MP.

Our Executive team

As at 30 June 2022 the Board membership was as follows:

Chairperson

Mr Jonathan Clark

Appointed pursuant to the following section of the Act

Part 2, 6 (2) (c): nominated by the Minister

Deputy Chairperson

Ms Loretta Warrior

Part 2, 6 (2) (a): nominated by Gawler Ranges Aboriginal Corporation (GRAC)

Members

Ms Tracey Reid

Part 2, 6 (2) (a): nominated by GRAC

Ms Doris McNamara

Part 2, 6 (2) (a): nominated by GRAC

Mrs Elizabeth Pool

Part 2, 6 (2) (a): nominated by GRAC

Ms Tamahina Cox

Part 2, 6 (2) (b): nominated by the Department

Ms Meg Barker

Part 2, 6 (2) (b): nominated by the Department

Mr Peter Copley

Part 2, 6 (2) (b): nominated by the Department

Deputy Members

Mr Tim Hall

Deputy to Mr Copley

Mr Christopher Warrior

Deputy to Ms Warrior

Ms Cindy Morrison

Deputy to Mr McNamara

Ms Anita Taylor

Deputy to Ms Pool

Ms Dawn Taylor

Deputy to Mr Reid

Ms Mia Toscano

Deputy to Mr Clark

Ms Peter Wilkins

Deputy to Ms Cox

Legislation administered by the agency

The Board is responsible for complying with the following legislation which are administered by DEW:

National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972

National Parks and Wildlife (National Parks) Regulations 2016

National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) 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 contribution to whole of Government objectives

Key objective	Agency's contribution
We are respecting the rights, interests and needs of First Nations People and creating social development and economic opportunities for the Gawler Ranges People, their families and communities. 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.	
In accordance with the Lake Gairdner National Park and Gawler Ranges National Park Management Plans and the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i>	<p>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.</p> <p>When managing reserves, the DEW is required under section 37 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i> to have regard to, and undertake actions that are consistent with the following objectives as stated in the Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preservation and management of wildlife. • Preservation of features of geological, natural or scenic interest. • Destruction of dangerous weeds and eradication or control of noxious weeds and exotic plants. • Control of vermin and exotic animals. • Control and eradication of disease of animals and vegetation. • Prevention and suppression of bushfires and other hazards. • Encouragement of public use and enjoyment of reserves and education in, and a proper understanding and recognition of their purpose and significance.

Agency specific objectives and performance

Agency objectives	Indicators	Performance
Functions and powers of the Board are as set out in the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i> [NPWA], <i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> and the <i>Gawler Ranges Parks Co-management Agreement</i> (CMA)	Regular perusal of the NPWA, relevant Indigenous Land Use Agreements [ILUAs] and CMA Advise the Minister on matters relating to the Management of the Parks by providing an Annual Report.	Protection of the environmental and cultural assets within the National Parks whilst providing safe and controlled visitor access
In exercising its functions and powers, the Board must have regard to the objects of Co-management as specified in the NPWA and must not act inconsistently with the Management Plans for the Parks.	Regular contact between the Board and Gawler Ranges Aboriginal Corporation (GRAC) to discuss Co-management issues and general park operations. The Board is responsible for complying with the <i>NPWA 1972</i> , <i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> which are administered by DEW.	This will provide a valuable tool and sense of participation in the management of the Park by the Traditional Owners; which in turn leads to greater community knowledge of cultural practices.
Working on country program (WOC)	Support the Australian Government funded Working on Country Program employing up to 4 Aboriginal Rangers	Provision of cultural land management practices and interaction with visitors on Traditional lands

Corporate performance summary

Not applicable.

Employment opportunity programs

Program name	Performance
Working on Country Program	Support the Australian Government funded working on Country Program employing up to 4 Aboriginal Rangers
	<p>The Board has no staff of its own and utilises the services of DEW. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW Annual Report 2021-22.</p> <p>Executive administrative and project support were provided to the Board from existing DEW resources.</p>

Agency performance management and development systems

Performance management and development system	Performance
The Board undertake a performance review, including evaluation of its effectiveness and governance responsibilities	Regular governance training will be undertaken by the Board members.
The Board maintain a register of attendance at meetings	Board member's attendance will be recorded in the Minutes of each meeting

Work health, safety and return to work programs

Program name	Performance
This Board 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 2021 - 2022

Workplace injury claims	Current year 2021-22	Past year 2020-22	% Change (+ / -)
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)*

Work health and safety regulations	Current Year 2021-22	Past year 2020- 22	% 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

Return to work costs**	Current year 2021-22	Past year 2020- 22	% Change (+ / -)
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	0	0	0
Income support payments – gross (\$)	0	0	0

***before third party recovery*

Previous data not supplied as this is the first year of the Board being in place

Executive employment in the agency

Executive classification	Number of executives
	0

Previous data not supplied as this is the first year of the Board being in place

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 2021-2022 are attached to this report.

Statement of Comprehensive Income	2021-22 Budget \$000s	2021-22 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	Past year 2020- 21 Actual \$000s
Total Income	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	0	0	0	0
Net Result	0	0	0	0
Total Comprehensive Result	0	0	0	0

Statement of Financial Position	2021-22 Budget \$000s	2021-22 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	Past year 2020-21 Actual \$000s
Current assets	0	0	0	0
Non-current assets	0	0	0	0
Total assets	0	0	0	0
Current liabilities	0	0	0	0
Non-current liabilities	0	0	0	0
Total liabilities	0	0	0	0
Net assets	0	0	0	0
Equity	0	0	0	0

Consultants disclosure

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

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

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
All consultancies below \$10,000 each - combined	Various	0

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

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
		0

Previous data not supplied as this is the first year of the Board being in place

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
NIL		\$0

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

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
NIL		\$0

Previous data not supplied as this is the first year of the Board being in place

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 Board is a statutory body; it is not a corporate entity and has no funds of its own. DEW administers the budget for Lake Gairdner National Park on behalf of the Board and provides a budget report to members at each meeting. Expenditure has been maintained within the budget allocation. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW Annual Report 2021-22.

The costs associated with the administration of the Board 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 to report.

Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
NIL	0

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

Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

Previous data not supplied as this is the first year of the Board being in place

Public interest disclosure

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

0

Previous data not supplied as this is the first year of the Board being in place

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
<p>National Parks and Wildlife (<i>Co-management Boards</i>) <i>Regulations</i> 2016 Section 23</p> <p>Information relating to traditional hunting activities in the park carried out in accordance with section 68D of the Act.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gawler Ranges Aboriginal families are entitled to undertake cultural activities throughout the park. • Although traditional hunting is permitted on the Park, no hunting activities have occurred in the reporting period.

For the purposes of section 43L of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (the Act), the annual report of the Board must include the above information relating to hunting

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p>National Parks and Wildlife (<i>Co-management Boards</i>) <i>Regulations</i> 2016 Section 23</p> <p>a) 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 traditional hunting activities have occurred in the reporting period</p>

For the purposes of section 43L of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (the Act), the annual report of the Board must include the above information relating to hunting.

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016 Section 23</p> <p>c) Information relating to the operation and works programs undertaken by or on behalf of the board.</p>	<p>The Board has achieved a number of changes in the strategic management of the Park including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressing the Visitor Interpretation plan, offering visitors an opportunity to learn more about Gawler Ranges Aboriginal culture, history, and the natural values of the Park. The Board will provide advice on agreed priority sites identified within the Gawler Ranges National Park, with future plans for Lake Gairdner National Park. • The Board has amalgamated to form one Co-management Board to manage both the Gawler Ranges National Park and Lake Gairdner National Park • A governance schedule will be incorporated into every board meeting to ensure governance requirements for board members are met • The Board will continue to negotiate towards a three-year agreement between GRAC, DLRA and DEW for a multiyear agreement to provide ongoing certainty for the running of the event.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board will be provided with a park works report that includes the works program and park budget at each meeting. • Board meetings enable DEW officers to collaborate on operational and management activities in the park.

For the purposes of section 43L of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (the

Act), the annual report of the Board must include the above information relating to operations and works programs and park infrastructure.

Reporting required under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005*

NIL to report

Public complaints

Number of public complaints reported

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2021 -22
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	0
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	0
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	0
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	0
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	0
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	0
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	0
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	0
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	0
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy	0

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2021 -22
		unreasonable or disadvantages customer	
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out dated or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	0
Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	0
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	0
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	0
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	0
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	0
		Total	0

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	0

Previous data not supplied as this is the first year of the Board being in place

Service Improvements

Not applicable

Compliance Statement

Gawler Ranges Parks Co-management Board is compliant with Premier and Cabinet Circular 039 – complaint management in the South Australian public sector	Y
Gawler Ranges Parks Co-management Board has communicated the content of PC 039 and the agency's related complaints policies and procedures to employees.	N/A

Appendix: Audited financial statements 2021 – 22

Financial services are provided to the Board 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.