

Business Plan Achievement Report

1st Quarter 2022-2023

1 July to 30 September 2022

Southern District



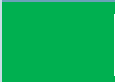


About

The Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board's [Business Plan for 2021-22](#) sets out the programs, and component sub-programs or work activities for 2021-2022, which are funded and delivered by the Board to achieve the goals and vision of the [2021-2026 Eyre Peninsula Regional Landscape Plan](#).

This *Business Plan Achievement Report* provides an update on delivery of all our Board-funded programs in the Southern District during the last quarter. It includes reporting on the following for each sub-program:

- Program highlights;
- Local government engagement;
- Communications and community engagement undertaken; and
- Upcoming priorities for the next quarter.

Each sub-program is assigned a status, based on its current progress.

	On track to deliver key programs.		On track to deliver most programs. May be some delays.		Unlikely to deliver some program elements
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For projects in the Port Lincoln City Council and District Councils of Tumby Bay and Lower Eyre Peninsula areas, further details of our work and programs can be found on the [Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board website](#) or by contacting **Ben Smith** (*Team Leader, Landscape Operations - Southern District*) on 08 8688 3243.

Note: For updates about delivery, in the Southern District, of Regional Projects such as the [Regenerative Agriculture Project \(RAP\)](#) and the [Saltmarsh Threat Abatement and Recovery \(STAR\) Project](#) refer to the *Business Plan Achievement Report: Whole of Region*.

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Water

Focus areas and priority programs	Status
<i>Managing Water Affecting Activities (WAAs)</i>	
Managing Water Affecting Activities (WAAs) , including providing support for WAA enquiries, processing WAA permit applications and ensuring compliance with WAA policies and permits	

Managing Water Affecting Activities (WAA)

Water Affecting Activities (WAA) are activities and works that can impact on the health and condition of water resources, water dependent ecosystems and other water users. Under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019, an approved permit is required to undertake a Water Affecting Activity.

*Information for those planning to undertake a Water Affecting Activity is available in the factsheet [Permits - Water Affecting Activities](#). Our Water Resources Assessment Officer and other staff are always available to advise and help with WAA enquires. They also administer and process WAA permit applications and ensure compliance with WAA policies and permits. For updates on WAA related work across the region please refer to the **Business Plan Achievement Report: Whole of Region**.*

Communications and community engagement for this period

- A WAA application was assessed and approval was given to construct a water crossing in a watercourse. A site visits was also undertaken for a landholder to assist him with a proposed WAA application.

Sustainable agriculture

Focus areas and priority programs	Status
<i>Reducing the risk of land degradation to protect the region's valuable soils</i>	
Delivering district level sustainable agriculture services , including: Monitoring and managing land management compliance	
Providing support to build awareness of the importance of erosion protection and improvement of land management practices	

*For updates on our [Regenerative Agriculture Project \(RAP\)](#) and Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator (RALF) services, please refer to the **Business Plan Achievement Report: Whole of Region**.*

More information about our sustainable agriculture program, as well as useful information and resources for land managers can be found [here](#).

Delivering district level sustainable agriculture services

Program highlights this period

- Monitoring of priority sites with known soil erosion issues has continued. High rainfall this season has resulted in significant vegetation cover at these priority sites, reducing the potential for wind-driven soil erosion.

Upcoming priorities for the next period

- Ongoing monitoring of these sites to ensure the risk of soil erosion is minimised through the implementation of sound management practices.

Pest plants and animals, and impact-causing native species

Focus areas and priority programs	Status
<i>Supporting landowners to control prioritised pest plants and animals</i>	
Implementing regional pest management plans for priority pest plants and animals	
Supporting landowners with their pest control responsibilities, including weed identification, best practice control advice and property planning assistance	
Delivering targeted pest animal baiting programs and weed control campaigns, monitoring, permitting and compliance works	
<i>Collaborating to reduce threats from impact-causing native species</i>	
Assisting landowners to connect with relevant authorities and providing information about impact-causing native species and control options	
Cataloguing current and emerging impact-causing native species, their impacts and extent	
Collaborating to reduce threats from impact-causing native species	

For updates about pest plant and animal, and impact-causing native species control activities implemented in the Southern District as part of the [Saltmarsh Threat Abatement and Recovery \(STAR\) Project](#) refer to the **Business Plan Achievement Report: Whole of Region**. Updates on development of our regional pest and impact-causing natives management plans can be found in the same report.

Program highlights this period

Pest plants

Bridal veil

- Our 2022 Bridal Veil control program has concluded as this plant has now fruited, reducing the opportunity for effective control this year. In the EP Landscape Board's [Pest Plant and Animal Control Policy](#), the level of control assigned to this priority weed is 'Contain', and our management strategy aims to prevent the ongoing spread of the species in the region.

Approximately twenty-seven hectares of roadside control was completed, with a further 19 landholders (including District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula and City of Port Lincoln) undertaking control on their properties. This coordinated approach to control appears to have reduced the geographic spread of the plant, particularly on roadsides, with known populations confined to Lake Hamilton, Coffin Bay, Green Patch, Tulka and Port Lincoln.



Photo 1:

Bridal Veil control in Coffin Bay. The treated plant has been dyed pink. Note that this is a different species from Bridal Creeper, which can also be seen in this photo.

Boneseed

- In the EP Landscape Board's [Pest Plant and Animal Control Policy](#), the level of control assigned to this priority weed is 'Contain', and our management strategy aims to prevent the ongoing spread of the species in the region. Our 2022 spring Boneseed control program is well underway. Thirty-six hectares of roadside control has been completed, 44 landholders (including District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula, District Council of Tumby Bay and City of Port Lincoln) have been contacted to undertake control on their properties, and we have been conducting follow-up inspections on these properties.

This season we are noticing a reduction in the number of mature plants, possibly due to increased control efforts in recent years. However, increased rainfall has resulted in a significant amount of germination from historic seed banks, with smaller plants appearing where larger plants used to be. Work will continue with landholders to complete control by the end of spring.



Photo 2: Boneseed control has been undertaken in both the rural and urban environments this season

Fountain Grass

- Landscape officers have been alerted to an increase in Fountain Grass outbreaks, particularly in the areas around Lipson and Tumby Bay. This non-palatable grass is a priority weed and the level of control assigned to this it in the EP Landscape Board's [Pest Plant and Animal Control Policy](#) is 'Contain', with our aim being to prevent the ongoing spread of the species in the region. We have been working with landholders to alert them to their responsibilities, in preparedness for control once the plant begins to actively grow as the weather warms up.



Photo 3: Large outbreaks of Fountain grass have been observed in areas around Lipson and Tumby Bay. This non-palatable grass has the potential to spread if not controlled.

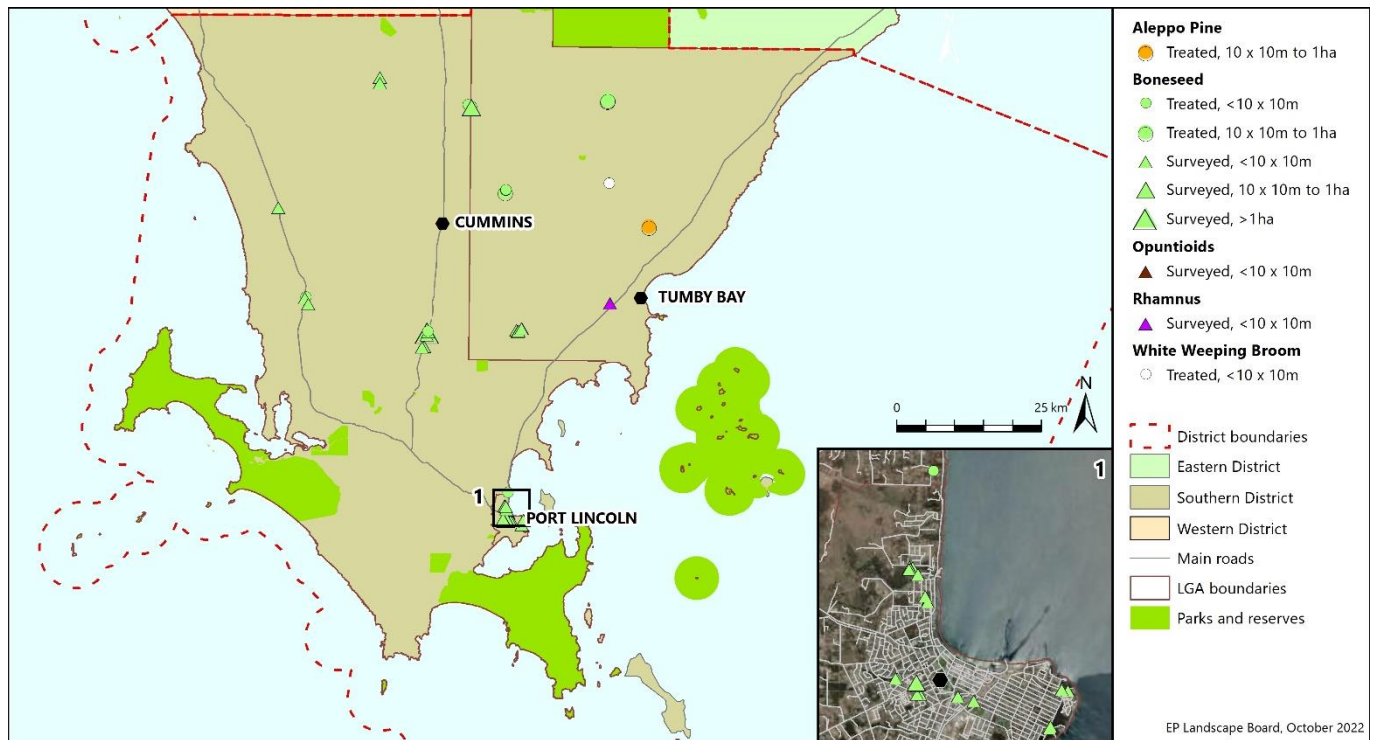


Figure 1: Priority pest plant control for the period 1 July to 30 September 2022

Pest animals

Rabbits / Planned Calicivirus release

- Landscape officers have been working closely with local councils and land holders in the Boston Bay and Coomunga areas to coordinate and facilitate a landscape scale Calicivirus release for the control of rabbits. The group in the Boston Bay area has grown to nearly 30 individual properties. With coordinated rabbit control implemented across all of these properties, we should see a very successful knock down in the rabbit population due to the amount of land that will be covered during the release. The release itself will take place in late spring/early summer in line with best practice control advice.

Deer / Deer Fence Inspections

- Landscape officers have been working with local Deer farmers to complete Deer fence inspections across Southern Eyre Peninsula. The purpose of these inspections is to assess the quality of the boundary fence to ensure the risk of escapes is minimized. It is also an opportunity to check whether all deer over the age of 12 months are tagged.

Upcoming priorities for the next period

- White Weeping Broom control in the Lipson area.
- Calicivirus release for rabbit control.

Biodiversity

Focus areas and priority programs	Status
Protecting and restoring prioritised coastal habitats	
Supporting community to undertake coastal management works in line with the Coastal Action Plan	
Birdlife Australia's Federally-funded National Landcare Program (NLP) project <i>Protect the Hooded Plover</i> , on the southern Eyre Peninsula	
Maintain and enhance biodiversity in prioritised ecosystems	
Supporting community and landholders to improve the health and condition of threatened ecological communities, native vegetation and threatened species	
Implementation of the biodiversity monitoring program	
Collaboration with partners to source funding for landscape-scale projects in priority ecosystems. Specific projects underway include:	
Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot	
Enhancing Remnant Vegetation (ERV) Pilot	

For updates about delivery of our landscape-scale and region-wide biodiversity projects and programs, including activities in the Southern District, refer to the **Business Plan Achievement Report: Whole of Region**. This report includes information on:

- the [Saltmarsh Threat Abatement and Recovery \(STAR\) Project](#);
- Blue Carbon
- the Enhancing Remnant Vegetation (ERV) pilot;
- the Biodiversity Credit Exchange Program;
- Eyes on Eyre;
- the Biodiversity Monitoring Program;
- the Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot;
- and others.

Protecting and restoring coastal habitats

Program highlights this period

• Tumby Bay saltmarshes

The latest round of Sediment Elevation Table (SET) monitoring was completed in the saltmarshes at Tumby Bay. This is a process whereby a portable mechanical levelling device is used to measure relative sediment elevation changes. We have been doing this to determine the potential rate of accumulation of sediment in these saltmarshes. Sediments in saltmarshes are rich in carbon and act as a carbon sink, thus, by understanding how much sediment accumulates, we can get an understanding of how much "blue carbon" can be stored in the saltmarsh.

• Revegetation at Moonlight Bay

In July, 43 Tumby Bay Area School students from years 3/4 and 4/5 bussed out to Moonlight Bay and then walked the 2 km round trip to help with revegetation work on the sand-dune rehabilitation there. They planted 200 native coastal tubestock, which had been propagated by the students in their school nursery. They also spread native seed was also spread in key areas of the site. These revegetation works bolstered and filled in gaps from previous plantings. The rehabilitation area will be monitored over the next two years to see how the drift-net fencing, hay bales and revegetation has assisted in the recovery of this sand dune blow-out. The students also collected marine debris along their beach walk and were surprised by how much they picked up.

- **Hooded Plovers nesting at Fishery Bay**

Reports of a Hooded Plover nest at Fishery Bay were received from the public in late August. Hooded Plovers successfully nested on this beach for the first time during the 2021-22 breeding season, and a pair has returned to the site. Following discussion with the District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula, to provide some protection for the nesting pair and chick, a decision was made to install some temporary nest site management measures (signage and fencing) following BirdLife guidelines. A similar management strategy was implemented last season, with great community support overall and a successful outcome with two chicks successfully fledging. Sadly, shortly prior to the expected hatching date, volunteers reported the eggs gone most likely due to fox predation.



Photo 4: Temporary signage informing the public of the presence of Hooded Plovers at Fishery Bay

The pair have, however, commenced making new scrapes in preparation to nest again nearby. Volunteers, with the support of landscape officers, will continue to monitor the progress of this nesting pair and the response of the public.

Local government engagement for this period

- A District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula Works approval form was completed and submitted to enable landscape officers and volunteers to install temporary Hooded Plover nest site management at Fishery Bay during the 2022-23 breeding season.

Birdlife Australia's Federally-funded National Landcare Program (NLP) project Protect the Hooded Plover, on the southern Eyre Peninsula

In addition to the Hooded Plover monitoring and conservation work we do under our STAR project, the Board is also contracted by BirdLife Australia to deliver Hooded Plover monitoring and conservation work under their federal-funded NLP Protect the Hooded Plover project. Under this project staff and volunteers monitor an additional eight priority Hooded Plover nesting sites, plan and implement intervention actions at these sites when needed to protect nesting birds and chicks, and help coordinate and deliver the National Hooded Plover Biennial Count for southern Eyre Peninsula.

Program highlights this period

In September this year, two BirdLife Australia staff members visited southern Eyre Peninsula for five days to deliver milestones for the Protect the Hooded Plover Project in collaboration with landscape officers. During their visit the following work was undertaken:

- Two events were planned and held during the week:
 - **Start of Hooded Plover Breeding season meeting**
This meeting was attended by ten volunteers and included discussion around monitoring for the upcoming Hooded Plover breeding season. Nest site management training was also held, to provide volunteers with the tools required in making decisions around nest site management.

Get to know your local Beach Birds!



Hooded Plover Conservation Workshop

THURSDAY 8th SEPTEMBER

BirdLife Australia are holding a workshop where you can learn more about Australia's most threatened beach-nesting bird, the Hooded Plover!

Learn how to interpret the quirky behaviours of the birds, why it is so important for the local community to get involved in their protection and what you can do to help out. We will spend the morning indoors, have lunch and then have a beach visit, where we'll get to see the birds behaviours! All are welcome!

Date: Thursday 8th September
Time: 10am – 1pm, followed by field trip starting at 1pm
Location: Redcliff Campsite, 789 Trinity Haven Rd
RSVP: 6th September to renee.mead@birdlife.org.au / 0422 798 388

Morning tea & lunch provided, inform of any dietary requirements at RSVP. Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather.

This project is supported by the Glenelg Hopkins LGA and delivered by BirdLife Australia, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landscape Program.




Photo 5:
Attendees at the Hooded Plover conservation workshop held at Redcliffs Camp

Photo 6:
Flier produced to advertise the Hooded Plover Conservation workshop

- **Hooded Plover Conservation Workshop**

This workshop was held at Redcliffs Camp and was well attended by 19 community members, Landscape Board staff and National Parks and Wildlife Services SA (NPWSSA) staff. Attendees were introduced to the BirdLife beach-nesting birds program and how to get involved in monitoring nesting territories.

- A total of 19 site visits to known Hooded Plover nesting territories were undertaken in the Southern District. Many visits were held with trained volunteers, and provided an opportunity for volunteers to ask site specific questions and learn more about Hooded Plover breeding behaviours and nest monitoring. Visiting known nesting territories will also greatly assist BirdLife staff in the future with assisting locally based landscape officers and BirdLife volunteers with management decisions.



Photo 7:
Site visit to a Hooded Plover nesting territory with volunteers



Photo 8:

'EJ', one of five adult Hooded Plovers
flagged during BirdLife's visit to Eyre Peninsula

- Five Hooded Plovers were also flagged as part of BirdLife's Hooded Plover flagging program. Flagging birds assists volunteers in tracking birds season to season, with re-sightings providing essential information as to a birds movements from year to year.

Communications and community engagement for this period

- A flier was produced by BirdLife staff and circulated locally to advertise the Hooded Plover Conservation Workshop. This workshop was also promoted on social media via [Facebook](#).

Upcoming priorities for the next period

- We will continue to support BirdLife volunteers locally as the nesting season progresses with monitoring, site intervention enquiries and approvals as required.

Maintain and enhance biodiversity in prioritised ecosystems

Program highlights this period

Biodiversity monitoring program

As part of our Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) plan, the Board established the Biodiversity Monitoring Program in 2015-2016. Under this program 300 sites across the region are being monitored on a ten year rotational basis, using the [Bushland Condition Monitoring methodology](#). The method enables us to get an understanding of what change is occurring in different vegetation types, and determining threats to habitats and native animals.

- Bushland Condition Monitoring will occur in November, as tides have been too high and still too wet to monitor the nominated saltmarsh site.

Carbon + Biodiversity Pilot

The Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board region is one of six pilot regions across Australia for the program which is part of the [Agriculture Stewardship Package](#) being delivered by the Australian Government. As part of this package, [this "C+B" pilot](#) has been established to develop arrangements and provide mechanisms to support and reward farmers for increasing biodiversity and storing carbon through undertaking revegetation. The Board has been assisting with delivery of this pilot and are now providing support to successful applicants who are commencing implementation of their C+B projects.

- One of the successful applicants from the Southern District, Eyre Peninsula has taken up an offer from the Australian Government and has commenced implementing their C+B projects. This applicant was supported by EP Landscape Board through the application process.

Enhancing Remnant Vegetation (ERV) Pilot

This is the [second pilot](#) which is part of the [Agriculture Stewardship Package](#) being delivered by the Australian Government. It aims to improve existing native vegetation on farms and is trialling mechanisms to pay participating farmers to manage and enhance significant remnant native vegetation on-farm, through activities such as installing fencing to exclude grazing, carrying out weeding, pest control and replanting. EP Landscape Board is supporting the delivery of this project. Following completion of the application stage, Board staff will be providing support to landholders for initial project delivery.

- The final round of successful applicants was recently announced and a total of six applicants from the Southern District, Eyre Peninsula have been successful. Contracts are being finalised and works are expected to commence in 2023. All of these applicants were supported by EP Landscape Board through the application process and will continue to provide technical advice and support when they commence their projects.
- Four project officers from the ERV team in Canberra visited Eyre Peninsula in September and met three of the successful landholders, touring their properties. Organised and supported by Landscape staff, the ERV team saw this visit as essential in order to get a better understanding of the range of projects and to speak with landholders about the application, the process and their projects.

Local government engagement for this period

- We conducted 91.5 kms of roadside assessments for threatened species, as part of the District Council of Tumby Bay proposed roadside vegetation management program for 2022-23. This information is sent to the Native Vegetation Council for approval before Council can deploy the hydroaxe to mulch a set width of native vegetation on the roadside verge. Threatened shrubs were recorded on eleven of the fifteen roadsides, with a new recording of an Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) listed species, *Acacia entrocarpa*, found.



Photo 9: Members of the Federal Government ERV team, with EP Landscape Board Planning and Assessment Officer, speaking with successful ERV pilot landholders Dion and Telene about their proposed project.



Photo 10:
Distinctive seed pod of the
Jumping Jack Wattle, *Acacia entrocarpa*

- As a result of numerous reports from the community, landscape officers have been assisting City of Port Lincoln staff regarding some illegal vegetation clearance in sensitive areas of vegetation within the City of Port Lincoln. Monitoring has been undertaken and will continue over the coming months.

Upcoming priorities for the next period

- Annual monitoring of Malleefowl nests will be undertaken at our long-term survey site in Hincks Conservation Park in November.

Community

Focus areas and priority programs	Status
<i>Community at the centre and actively engaged in landscape management</i>	
Supporting Aboriginal and community groups, Local Government, farming groups and schools to progress natural resource activities through the provision of the Grassroots Grants program	

*This section provides information about the delivery and acquittal of Grassroots Grants in the Southern District, and support provided by Board staff to grant applicants. For updates about the [Grassroots Grants](#) application process, successful applicants the award of Grants, and overall management of the Grassroots Grants program, refer to the **Grassroots Grants program** section in the **Business Plan Achievement Report: Whole of Region**.*

2022-2023 Grassroots Grants

Nine 2022-2023 Grassroots Grants have been awarded to groups in the Southern District, and one grant has been awarded to a project to be delivered in the Southern and Western District. Details are given below (Table 1).

Table 1: EP Landscape Board Grassroots Grants - 2022-23 successful applicants in the Southern District

	Project Title	Organisation	Status
1	Raising weed awareness at Ungarra	Ungarra & Districts Hall & Progress Association	Underway
2	Big Swamp Wetlands Citizen Science Project	Big Swamp Community Centre Incorporated for the Big Swamp Conservation Group	Underway
3	Creating a Butterfly Garden and Trail at Navigator College	Navigator College	Commencing
4	Protecting coastal sand dunes at Carrow Wells	Port Neill Progress Association	Underway
5	Lower Eyre Peninsula Home School Landcare Workshops	Lower Eyre Peninsula Home Schoolers Group (Sponsored by the Lower Eastern Eyre Peninsula Landcare Management Committee Inc.).	Underway
6	<i>Acacia whibleyana</i> re-population	Tumby Bay Area School	Underway
7	Restoration of Wedge Island – Stage 1: The thin edge of the Wedge.	Wedge Island Management Association Inc.	Commencing
8	Vegetation protection and rehabilitation, Greenly Beach	Lower Eyre Coastcare	Underway
9	Weed control and vegetation protection and rehabilitation, Coffin Bay Foreshore	Lower Eyre Coastcare	Underway
10	Protecting Our Soils Through Improved Grazing Management – Part 2	WoTL (Women Together Learning) Ltd	Commencing

Landscape staff will provide ongoing support for the delivery of these projects. Details of what these projects will deliver is given below.

Raising weed awareness at Ungarra

Ungarra & Districts Hall & Progress Association

This project will focus on controlling feral Aleppo pine seedlings and African Boxthorns along the Lipson-Ungarra Road. A contractor with appropriate licences will undertake the pest plant control, but it is also planned that the school/community undertake a "weed-busters" session to contribute to this control. A weed swap will enable students to learn more about local weeds and their control, and native plants will be planted in the school bush block to increase its biodiversity.

Program highlights this period

- A successful weed-swap session was held with 32 students and teachers at the Ungarra Primary School. Students were asked to bring a weed to school for identification and great discussion was undertaken learning about all the different types of weeds, why they are weeds and how to control them. Their weeds were replaced with 50 native seedlings that were planted in the school's bush block to enhance the biodiversity. The students then finished the session by completing weed focused worksheets.

Before the weed swap the students' knowledge on weeds was very low, but all were interested and engaged in tasks very well. Their learnings about weeds from this session has continued with students identifying weeds in the school grounds, as well as on big bush walk out to Moody Rocks, where they encountered many environmental weeds.

Local government engagement for this period

- Approvals were granted for the Ungarra and Districts Hall Progress Association to undertake weed control on roadsides for this project.

Communications and community engagement for this period

- A social media blog was posted highlighting the weed swap and planting session undertaken at the Ungarra School. Students also took home their learnings and shared with family.

Upcoming priorities for the next period

- Weed control on roadside



Photo 11: Weed swap ID and discussion with Ungarra Primary School



Photo 12: Planting native seedlings in the school's bush block with Ungarra Primary School

Big Swamp Wetlands Citizen Science Project

Big Swamp Community Centre Incorporated for the Big Swamp Conservation Group

This is an extension of the Grassroots Grants project funded in 2021-2022, and will support work for the management and improvement and conservation of the Big Swamp. The monitoring and management program commenced in 2021-2022 will be continued. Key works to be delivered include completion of development of the site management plan; ongoing water quality data collection to support management plan development; and revegetating habitat.

Program highlights this period

- Water sampling has been ongoing and will continue in the upper catchment longer than anticipated this season due to increased late-season rain.
- Tree planting has been delayed as the northern basin remains full with the regeneration areas inundated.
- On both sides of the swamp, stock continue to be used as a method for managing kikuyu above the current high water levels.

Upcoming priorities for the next period

- Revegetation projects will commence once water levels begin to recede.

Creating a Butterfly Garden and Trail at Navigator College

Navigator College

A butterfly garden and trail will be created within the "Bush Block" on Navigator College grounds that will facilitate pollination and insect diversity. Students, with guidance from teachers and supporting environmental organisations, will develop a garden and trail within an existing remnant that will enhance the local biodiversity. Work will restore the understory to encourage pollinators, with particular emphasis on Butterflies, back into the area while educating students on the importance these species and their role within terrestrial ecosystems. The works will include constructing raised beds, propagating and planting local natives, and signage.

Upcoming priorities for the next period

- Works will commence next quarter.

Protecting coastal sand dunes at Carrow Wells

Port Neill Progress Association

Works will be undertaken to protect sand dunes and sites of aboriginal significance at Carrow Wells beach. This will include installation of fencing, rationalisation of walking tracks to the beach using bollards, fencing and revegetation, repair and rationalisation of walkways from camping areas with adequate parking and camp sites, and construction of barriers to prevent vehicle access to the beach.

Program highlights this period

- Landscape officers are assisting the Port Neill Progress Association with pursuing native title approvals via Crownlands. Site concept plans have been developed to aid this process.
- Port Neill Progress Association members have met with contractors to seek more quotes for completing fencing work as planned.

Lower Eyre Peninsula Home School Landcare Workshops

Lower Eyre Peninsula Home Schoolers Group

This will be a series of eight interactive workshops held for the Lower Eyre Peninsula Home-school children and their families, many of whom are landholders. The workshops will introduce various environmental topics, focussing on increasing knowledge and practical skills related to bird watching; native plants identification, propagation and revegetation; coastal care; vertebrate pest and pest plant management; sustainable gardening and nature play.

Program highlights this period

- Early September saw the first two of eight environmental topics (*Introduction to bird watching* and *Native plant identification*) presented on a gorgeous day at Wanilla. Seventeen families attended, including 39 children, mainly from Lower EP, but also a family from Streaky Bay and Cleve travelled down for the day. Landscape officer, Geraldine Turner, together with a registered teacher, Glenys Sauturaga, delivered the two educational workshops to a range of ages, from 2 to 16 years, plus their parents. Teaching was achieved through a variety of methods ensuring every age group was catered for. This included PowerPoint presentations, reference books activities, a story and game, a puppet play, displays, handouts and a field walk with bird watching and native plant ID.

Communications and community engagement for this period

- A media article was written by the Home Schoolers and sent into the local newspapers.
- A home school family wrote an amazing poem about the field walk in Wanilla, which was then shared with all home schooling families.
- On social media, photos and information about the workshop was also shared ([Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)).

Upcoming priorities for the next period

- Workshop 3 (*Coastcare*) and workshop 4 (*Propagation and revegetation*) will be held at Redcliffs, Tumby Bay.



Photo 14: Landscape officer pointing out a flowering *Scaevola*.

A Walk in Wanilla

by the Parker Crew

We are taking a walk in Wanilla,
It's surely a sight to behold!
Shrubs in every direction bursting
Spring blossoms and trees dripping
Pompoms of gold.

We are here as a group of Homeschoolers,
Ages spanning from two to sixteen,
Our guides for the day we are happy to say
Are Glenys and Geraldine.

Many flowers we've seen are so tiny,
Some of the plants are really quite spiny,
Zigzag Bitter Peas,
Freesias - oops! Don't sneeze!
Sheoaks, Grevillias,
Sugar gums over head...
Wow, look at those Flame Heaths,
They're named for their bright red,
Spotted Donkey-eared orchids,
Brown fungi too,
Fan flowers, Candle Towers
and sticky Sundew.

Birds!
Look around,
Binoculars ready,
Beaks, nests, patterns, and feathers,
Maps, behaviour and call.
We're glad Knight and Pizzey have recorded them all.

The purpose of this outing?
To learn and take it in.
We want to be aware of,
Be good stewards that take care of,
The natural world around us -
We're inspired to learn still more!

Photo 13:

*Poem written by home school family
after attending the workshops at Wanilla.*



Photo 15: Home schoolers learning how to ID birds



Photo 16: ... and children discovering all plants are amazing - big and small

***Acacia whibleyana* re-population**

Tumby Bay Area School

Year 7 students at Tumby Bay Area School will investigate the threats to the endangered Acacia whibleyana and plant seedlings to help re-populate the species in the local region. Seed collection and hand seeding will also increase biodiversity at this site to support the threatened wattles. Works will include installation of an access gate, planting and weed control.

Program highlights this period

- In August, 14 year 7 students from Tumby Bay Area School visited the *Acacia whibleyana* Salt Lake sub-population to learn about this threatened wattle and see first-hand the threats this plant is facing. The students toured the site led by a landscape officer, and then completed a worksheet with lots of discussion.
- The students then travelled to the schools *Acacia whibleyana* revegetation site, which is part of the Mine Hill sub-population. They were able to see how past Whibley plantings were growing and were able to plant 50 native seedlings to increase to biodiversity of this site. The year 7's thoroughly enjoyed this experience, with one student saying they will always remember this planting day. Due to the extremely wet conditions at the time, other site works have been delayed.



Photo 17: Year 7 students Armi and Ashlee investigating the threats to a remnant sub-population of Whibley Wattle



Photo 18: Landscape officer with year 7 students planting seedlings at the schools revegetation site, with three-year old Whibley wattles (just about to burst into flower) in the background.

Communications and community engagement for this period

- A social media post was co-written with the science teacher and posted on the facebook to promote the project ([Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)).

Upcoming priorities for the next period

- Propagation of Whibley seedlings.

Restoration of Wedge Island – Stage 1: The thin edge of the Wedge

Wedge Island Management Association Inc.

This project aims to strategically manage a variety of weed species that are impacting on the structure and function of the plant communities on Wedge Island and to also manage weeds that are likely to impact on the island's unique biodiversity. Mapping the current extent of the Storm Petrel colony will also occur as part of this project to map future changes in its distribution and to ensure that risks across the entire colony footprint are managed.

Program highlights this period

- Planning for this project has commenced, with implementation scheduled for later in the year.

Upcoming priorities for the next period

- The Wedge Island Management Association meeting will be held in October, where implementation of the project will be discussed further with landholders.



Photo 19: Local coastal seed prepared and ready for planting by Lake Wangary students



Photo 20: Students carefully placing sheaok seed in prepared tubes

Vegetation protection and rehabilitation, Greenly Beach

Lower Eyre Coastcare

The objective of this project is the rationalisation of vehicle tracks through the coastal environment at Greenly Beach, thereby allowing for native vegetation regeneration and active revegetation. This will be achieved through large rock placement to contain and manage vehicle access and rationalise tracks. There will also be revegetation works undertaken, with the participation of Lake Wangary School.

Program highlights this period

- A native plant propagation day was held in September with Lake Wangary Primary school students to propagate 14 ready for Greenly Day in June 2023. 25 students from years R-2 and years 5-7 were involved, together with Lower Eyre Coastcare members and a Landscape Officer. A total of 1700 tubestock were propagated by the students on the day.

Weed control and vegetation protection and rehabilitation, Coffin Bay Foreshore

Lower Eyre Coastcare

This project is for the control of woody weeds and revegetation in the remnant native vegetation buffer along the Coffin Bay foreshore. This will enable protection of existing vegetation and allow for some natural regeneration alongside active revegetation efforts by the Lower Eyre Coastcare group. Lake Wangary School will be involved with plant propagation and revegetation activities. There will also be communication activities to raise awareness of the impact of inappropriate access and the importance of maintaining coastal vegetation around the Bay, the impact of weedy garden plants that escape into the coastal environment, and the impact of stormwater on water quality into the Bay.

Program highlights this period

- Monitoring and mapping of existing weed populations has commenced, with control work to be undertaken by a contractor in the coming months.
- Propagation of seedlings has commenced in preparation for revegetation activities.

Upcoming priorities for the next period

- Completion of weed mapping and commencement of control works.

Other Community work

Program highlights this period

- Landscape officers worked with three work experience students from Cummins Area School, Navigator College and a home schooler. Students worked across a variety of project areas including Hooded Plover monitoring and conservation, marine debris clean-up, weed control, revegetation work at Moonlight Bay and *Acacia Whibleyana* monitoring at Tumby Bay.



Photo 21:
Hunter Smith monitoring a priority Hooded Plover nesting territory during work experience

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