



WildEyre Investment Prospectus

2017-2027



WildEyre

The purpose of this document

This document outlines an investment program for the next ten years, with funding currently being sought from government, philanthropic and corporate sectors.

WildEyre is an ambitious conservation project covering 1.2 million hectares on the spectacular west coast of Eyre Peninsula in South Australia. Historical clearing and overgrazing of open woodland communities has resulted in severe declines for many native species and reduced the productivity of agricultural systems. The vision of *WildEyre* is to restore these threatened ecological communities at a landscape scale while enhancing agricultural productivity and empowering aboriginal communities to work on country.

The project is now more than ten years old and has achieved much, including broad-scale coastal weed control, demonstration of sustainable grazing regimes, engagement of aboriginal communities and restoration of sheoak grassy woodlands at scale. However, there is still more work to do.

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Millenium Giant [Bill Doyle]

The case for investment

The 1.2 million hectares covered by WildEyre is recognised as of state and national significance in terms of biodiversity conservation. It is a focus area for The Wilderness Society's WildCountry Program, the South Australian Government's East meets West NatureLinks Program and Greening Australia's Transforming Our Landscapes Program.

Located on the wild west coast of the Eyre Peninsula, the project area contains some of the largest, most intact and connected areas of bushland in Australia's southern agricultural regions.

The area is home to a range of threatened plant and animal species, some of which are found nowhere else on earth. These include species such as the West Coast Mintbush (*Prostanthera calycina*), Little Patty Starfish (*Parvulastra parvivipara*) and the Sandhill Dunnart (*Sminthopsis psammophila*).

Furthermore WildEyre's coastal zone is recognised as critically important to a range of shorebirds of international significance.

Protecting WildEyre's significant ecological attributes has led to collaboration between some of this country's largest environmental organisations, working together in this important area of wildlife habitat.

The WildEyre team includes Greening Australia, The Wilderness Society, The Nature Conservation Society of SA, Department of Environment & Natural Resources and the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board.

This combination of people, expertise and local knowledge ensures your investment in WildEyre will result in a significant natural legacy for all Australians to enjoy.

WildEyre Vision Statement

A vibrant community living amongst pristine coastal environments, intact mallee habitats and restored tracts of Sheoak Grassy Woodlands, all of which support the recovery of the region's most threatened fauna and flora species.



Sea-lions on rocks at nearby Waldegrave Island Conservation Park Eyre Peninsula [Bill Doyle]



Sheringa Cliffs, Eyre Peninsula [John White Photos]





The Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) is listed as Vulnerable in SA. [Keith Baseley]

“With large areas of both intact and modified native habitats the WildEyre project presents both significant opportunities and challenges. The WildEyre team has a tremendous depth of expertise, but ultimately, success will depend on commitment from all levels of government, land managers and the wider community.”

Matt Turner
WildCountry Scientist,
The Wilderness Society

The challenge

The challenge for WildEyre is to restore healthy ecosystems and species populations across the full diversity of habitat types. The fundamental strategy is to protect the large intact tracts of native vegetation as ‘core habitat areas’ and to address the critical threats to the vulnerable habitats within the agricultural zone.

To many the wild west coast of Eyre Peninsula can seem like a tough and rugged landscape. However, the impact of native vegetation clearance, feral animals, invasive weeds and over-grazing has taken its toll. Without intervention and significant on ground action populations of native plant and animal species will continue to decline ultimately leading to the local extinction of some.

The good news is there remains within the WildEyre project area much of the original vegetation and associated flora and fauna species. Despite a high percentage of cover remaining in these

‘core habitat areas’ their significant conservation values will be lost if current threats such as fire, feral animals and weeds are not controlled.

In contrast, the impact of historical vegetation clearance and over-grazing on the more productive soils has resulted in the devastating loss of over 95% of the region’s Sheoak grassy woodlands, including important vegetation buffers for coastal wetlands.

A crucial element of the WildEyre project is to restore large tracts of native vegetation and wildlife habitat in these areas.

Some threatened species and ecological communities of concern

Mammals	Threat
Australian Sea-lion (<i>Neophoca cinerea</i>)	State vulnerable
Sandhill Dunnart (<i>Sminthopsis psammophila</i>)	Nationally endangered
Birds	
Malleefowl (<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>)	Nationally vulnerable
Plains-wanderer (<i>Pedionomus torquatus</i>)	Nationally vulnerable
Hooded Plover (<i>Thinornis rubricollis</i>)	State vulnerable
White-Bellied Sea-Eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>)	State endangered
Eastern Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>)	State endangered
Yellow-tailed Black-cockatoo (<i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i>)	State vulnerable
Diamond Firetail (<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>)	State vulnerable
Flora	
West Coast Mintbush (<i>Prostanthera calycina</i>)	State vulnerable
Vegetation communities	
Sheoak (<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>) Grassy Woodlands	State vulnerable
Thatching Grass (<i>Gahnia filum</i>) Sedgeland	State vulnerable



Murphys Haystacks, Eyre Peninsula
[Tim Phillips Photos]

“An alliance like this is rare...it brings together so many groups that normally have vastly different agendas, but who share an ecological vision for the landscape. The partners have put politics aside to focus on conservation outcomes for the area.”

Andrew Freeman

Biodiversity Program Manager,
Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources
Management Board

The response

The WildEyre team has joined forces to develop a united ecological vision for the region. Four integrated programs covering 26 strategic projects have been identified to achieve the conservation goals of WildEyre.

WildEyre’s key projects have been strategically developed using the Conservation Action Planning (CAP) process – a landscape-scale planning methodology developed and refined over the past 20 years by the U.S. based environmental organisation The Nature Conservancy.

This process is underpinned by sound science and an in-depth understanding of landscape conservation and is used in thousands of projects worldwide.

The WildEyre team have developed these programs to meet 18 key conservation goals for the project area as identified through the CAP process (refer WildEyre summary document).

This prospectus outlines the additional investment sought to meet these goals over the next ten years. Each partner organisation provides significant in-kind contribution annually.

Breakdown of WildEyre program investment (80% on ground work)

-  On-ground conservation projects
-  Monitoring and evaluation
-  Coordination, governance and administration
-  Science, research and technical planning
-  Promotion, marketing and fundraising
-  Community / landholder engagement



Pie chart seedling image: *Acacia longifolia subsp. sophorae* [Matt Turner]

Priority Project

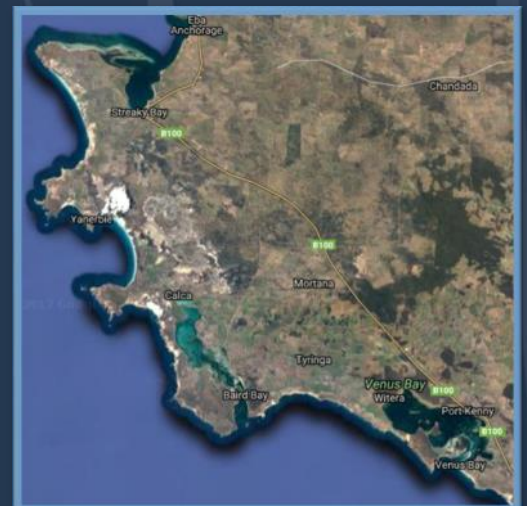


West Coast Rewilding Project

 **TARGET: \$750K over 3 years**

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Establish a new coastal refuge for threatened fauna such as Brush-tailed Bettongs
- Manage threats to White-bellied Sea Eagles, Osprey and Hooded Plover
- Protection and replanting of threatened flora such as West Coast Mintbush
- Revegetation of sheoak grassy woodland
- Control of priority coastal weed species



Priority Project



Hambidge to Barwell Wildlife Corridors

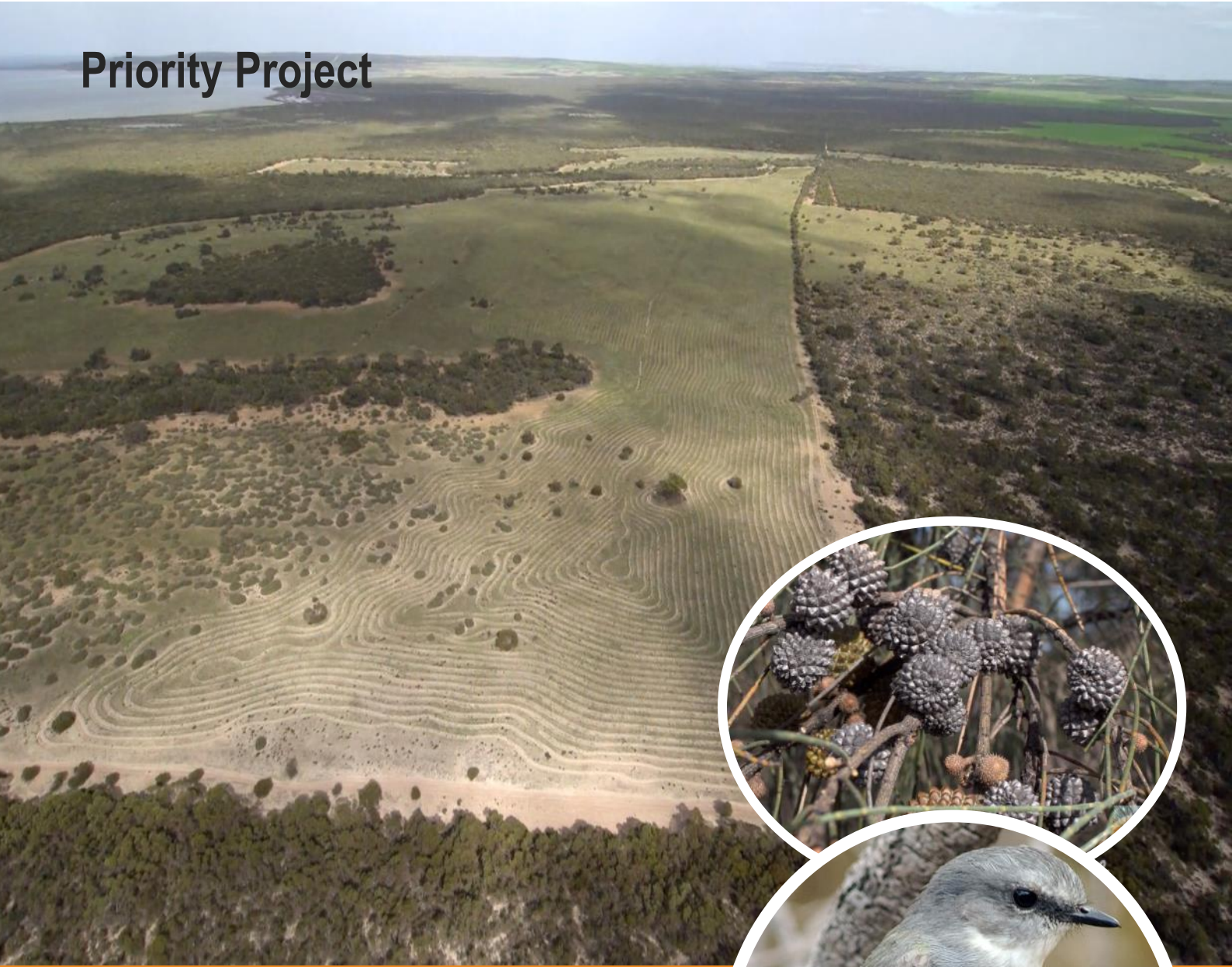
 **TARGET: \$1M over 5 years**

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Revegetation of sand mallee communities to enhance habitat connectivity for threatened fauna such as Sandhill Dunnart and Malleefowl
- Trial integration of native vegetation into agricultural cropping systems to improve pollination and crop yields



Priority Project



Woodland Bird Habitat Restoration

 **TARGET: \$1.5 M over 5 years**

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Revegetation of sheoak grassy woodland for declining woodland birds such as Diamond Firetail and Western Yellow Robin
- Assisting landholders to transition to sustainable (and productive) grazing systems that benefit birds and sheoak grassy woodlands
- Woodland bird monitoring and citizen science program

Priority Project



Working on Country Program

 **TARGET: \$300k per year**

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Training and employment of young Aboriginal people in conservation and land management activities such as pest plant and animal control and seed collection, in partnership with aboriginal groups across the western Eyre Peninsula
- Increasing Aboriginal community involvement and capacity for natural resource management by supporting Aboriginal businesses and projects on country.

Partnership and Investment Opportunities

Priority Projects	Description	Annual	5 year total
West Coast Rewilding Project	This project will establish a new wildlife sanctuary for threatened fauna such as the Burrowing Bettong and threatened plants such as West Coast Mintbush, managing critical threats and restoring depleted coastal woodland habitats.	\$250,000	\$750,000
Haimbidge to Barwell Wildlife Corridors	This project will reconnect Haimbidge Wilderness Protection Area to Barwell Conservation Park, establishing wildfire refuge areas for threatened species such as Malleefowl and Sandhill Dunnart, while improving pollination rates and cropping yields in adjacent agricultural areas.	\$200,000	\$1,000,000
Woodland Bird Habitat Restoration	This project will focus on helping landholders transition to sustainable grazing regimes that increase agricultural production and enhance habitat for declining woodland birds, with revegetation of sheoak grassy woodlands in strategic linkage areas.	\$300,000	\$1,500,000
Working on Country Program	This program will support local aboriginal groups to reconnect to country and undertake conservation and land management activities through training, employment and enterprise development.	\$300,000	\$1,500,000
Supporting Activities			
Project Coordination		\$150,000	\$750,000
Collective Impact Workshops		\$35,000	\$175,000
Research Partnerships		\$50,000	\$250,000
Monitoring and Evaluation		\$50,000	\$250,000
TOTAL		\$1,335,000	\$6,175,000

Pelicans at Venus Bay [Betty AN]



Dragon, Eyre Peninsula [Jana Bradley]

“Working together, integrating projects and combining resources will be the essence of achieving long term, broad-scale change across the WildEyre landscape.”

Mark Anderson

Chief Executive SA,
Greening Australia

Capacity to deliver

Meeting the conservation challenge of WildEyre is beyond the capacity of any one group. Members of the WildEyre team include community members working alongside some of the SA’s leading experts in native vegetation management, habitat restoration, landscape conservation, and monitoring and evaluation.

With over 28 years of experience in native vegetation management and habitat restoration **Greening Australia** has developed into Australia’s largest environmental non-government organisation with over 300 staff in 40 locations across the continent.

The Wilderness Society (TWS) is a national, community-based, environmental advocacy organisation whose purpose is to protect, promote and restore wilderness and natural processes across Australia for the survival and ongoing evolution of life on Earth.

The Department for Environment & Natural Resources (DENR) is the Government of South Australia’s lead environment agency. DENR is a new department that brings conservation of the environment and the management of natural resources together.

The Nature Conservation Society of SA is a major environmental group celebrating over forty years of devoting its energies to ensuring the survival of South Australia’s biodiversity.

The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board (EPNRM) is committed to working with the local community to improve the rich resources that underpin our quality of life. Their goal is to protect and enhance the region’s economic, agricultural and industrial sustainability while maintaining a healthy environment for the local community and visitors to enjoy.

The WildEyre team has the expertise to deliver significant on ground results and is dedicated to the local community and environment. You can be confident your investment into WildEyre is in safe hands.



Sailing boat motoring - early morning [Matt Turner]

This is an opportunity unlike any other.
The results of your 10 year investment will
live on for 1000 years.

Working together

The success of WildEyre depends on strong organisational partnerships with the support of local communities, visionary business leaders and large-scale investment.

Our approach combines the forces of the private and public sectors, community, business and government.

The WildEyre team is looking for partners and investors willing to not only protect and restore this precious landscape, but also create new, more sustainable opportunities for local communities.

To discuss your support for the WildEyre program please contact one of the following partner organisations:

- Greening Australia
- The Wilderness Society
- Department for Environment & Natural Resources
- Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board
- The Nature Conservation Society of South Australia





WildEyre

Contact us

Please contact one of the organisations below to discuss how you might become involved in the WildEyre project.

www.wildeyre.com.au

The WildEyre website aims to promote the valuable conservation work being undertaken on western Eyre Peninsula.

Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board

(08) 8682 7555 • www.epnrm.sa.gov.au

Department of Environment and Natural Heritage

(08) 8688 3111 • www.environment.sa.gov.au

The Wilderness Society

(08) 8231 6586 • www.wilderness.org.au

Greening Australia

(08) 8372 0100 • www.greeningaustralia.org.au

Nature Conservation Society of South Australia

(08) 7127 4630 • www.ncssa.asn.au



Government of South Australia
Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources
Management Board



**Nature Conservation Society
of South Australia**