

Consultation report

Community and stakeholder input for the Hills
and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026

May 2021

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Summary

Between November 2020 and April 2021 the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board ('the board') undertook a two-phase community and stakeholder engagement process for the development of its inaugural Five-Year Landscape Plan ('the plan'). This report describes the process, what the board heard, and how it incorporated feedback into the Landscape Plan.

Feedback from the four online forums, 342 survey responses and through meetings with key stakeholders held as part of Phase 1 were overwhelmingly positive. The majority of concerns related to the broad scope of work to be done and lack of clarity around how this was to be achieved, as well as the unclear division of responsibility between the board and other agencies or stakeholders.

Forum comments raised two main tensions: on the one hand, a need for ambitious action in the region (e.g. on issues like climate change, biodiversity protection); and on the other, concerns regarding board capacity to deliver at the scale and speed necessary to address regional challenges. Another common concern was a perception the early ideas presented by the board prioritised primary production over conservation.

As a whole, survey feedback was supportive of the main ideas suggested by the board about plan Priorities and Focus Areas¹ (for action). Responses broadly called for the board to take on an ambitious scope of issues – affirming the need for climate action and greater emphasis on biodiversity conservation and restoration, coast and marine issues, youth involvement, nature education, increased water capture and recycling, and incentives for management and conservation.

In the formal consultation phase, the board received 32 submissions on the draft plan. These included 13 from community members, five from local councils, three from other agencies, ten from peak bodies and not-for-profit organisations, and one from a private company. Most feedback received on the draft plan was positive and complimentary. In general comments affirmed the content, scope and intent of the plan with all organisational stakeholders highlighting the alignment between the plan and their own strategic priorities.

A summary of the issues and concerns included in the plan are outlined on page 22.

¹ The Plan is required to specify Five Priorities, and Focus Areas for action have been defined under each Priority to detail specific areas for action within each priority.

Context and approach

Development of the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026 was as an important first task for the new Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board. In designing how to engage the community in the development of the plan, the board wanted to understand community and stakeholders' issues and aspirations for the region, and also build on the strong foundation of knowledge that already exists about landscape issues and management interventions required in the region.

The engagement process was designed in two phases. The objectives of the early (and more comprehensive) engagement was to ensure board members and staff connected to, and heard from stakeholders across the region to gather ideas to inform development of the plan.

The objective of the formal consultation stage (Phase 2) was to test and refine the plan content.

The timing for engagement on the plan was as follows:

1. Engagement with stakeholders on draft landscape plan Priorities and partnering opportunities for delivery (Phase 1: November 2020 – January 2021).
2. Formal consultation on the draft plan (Phase 2: 19 March to 15 April 2021).
3. Plan approval by the Minister for Environment and Water by 30 June 2021.

Phase 1 Early engagement

The first stage of engagement involved a combination of both targeted and wider (open/public) engagement processes summarised below. In most processes, a public [discussion paper](#) (the paper) was used to prompt conversations and feedback. The paper spelled out early ideas for possible inclusion in the plan and provided background on the planning context. It also specified the required structural elements in the plan (i.e. Priorities and Focus Areas).

Consultation element	Summary
Online forums	Four three-hour stakeholder forums were held between the 26 November and 8 December 2020 (total 68 attendees excluding board and staff). Originally planned as face to face events, these shifted online at short notice due to a COVID outbreak. All forums were public but invites to some forums targeted organisational stakeholders. The workshops stepped participants through a series of discussions relating to ideas presented in the discussion paper.
Online survey	An online survey based on the paper was developed and ran between 16 November 2020 and 8 January 2021. The survey asked respondents to rank Focus Areas from highest to lowest, identify missing elements and provide general feedback. The survey was promoted on the board's website, mainstream media, social media and via flyers pinned up at community centres and local gathering points.
First Nations Engagement	Meetings were held with First Nations (Ngarrindjeri, Peramangk and Kaurna) via their respective governing body meetings and workshops and in collaboration with other staff from the Limestone Coast and Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Boards where appropriate. This included meeting with Mannum Aboriginal Corporation Association Inc. (5 attendees), Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation (25 attendees), Warpuli Kumangka (Kaurna Nation, 6 attendees). Discussions involved both focus areas and wording in Landscape Plans and ideas for working together and projects. An overview of conversations with First Nations groups can be found in Appendix 3.
Targeted meetings	Meetings were also held with a range of stakeholders including Adelaide Hills Council, Livestock SA and PPSA, Rural Land Management and Sustainability Advisory Groups (14 attendees), Resilient Hills and Coast (8 attendees), and the Southern and Hills Local Government Association meeting.
Student and youth engagement	<p>Staff spoke with the Youth and Community in Conservation Action (YACCA) group at Willunga (7 December 2020). YACCA is a project formed out of the Willunga Environment Centre attended and run by young people.</p> <p>A competition was run inviting students to submit artwork of their favorite nature settings. The 'Picture This' competition was promoted to a range of schools in the region, with prizes encouraging further interaction with nature (e.g. Cleland Wildlife Park vouchers, gardening tools, Junior Keeper experiences at Warrawong Sanctuary and snorkel kits). 30 submissions were received (see Appendix 2).</p>
Written submissions	Written submissions were received from South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC) and City of Onkaparinga.

Results of Phase 1 – Online forums

Feedback from the online forums was overwhelmingly positive. The forum participants were mainly linked to government, farming, community and environmental organisations. Where possible, concerns expressed in the forums have been summarised here with minimal translation or interpretation.

General feedback to the discussion paper

On the whole, participants were positive towards the ideas presented in the discussion paper. This included favourable comments on the vision statement and the paper's emphasis on action. Comments such as the following were common:

"...structure of plan is great and logical, makes it easier to digest."

"...[priority] areas in plan are right – have the right focus"

Meanings of words generated some interest (i.e. stewardship, nature, resilience, regenerative and community) and people highlighted the meaning of these was not well articulated.

The other main general sentiments were that participants liked the interconnectedness of the Priorities and Focus Areas. However, there was contention as to whether climate, community or nature should underpin them all in the Venn diagram within the discussion paper.

The scope of Focus Areas was appreciated but also perceived as broad, raising questions about how they would be achieved. People often asked "How?" reflecting that the discussion paper lacked detail about how the Priorities would be achieved.

People put a strong emphasis on the role of community and education, and stressed the need for the board to keep doing the work it was already doing effectively and to build on existing partnerships.

Comments also reflected a desire to see the board stretch into areas that were 'new' or required strong leadership. In particular, participants were strong in their belief that the board needed to be bold and take a leadership role on climate change and on habitat loss and threatened species.

There was very strong emphasis on the need for inclusion of the role of community in the plan and many comments reflecting the need to support community to take a more engaged role in managing landscapes (e.g. through citizen science, education etc).

Many potential partners that could/should be involved in implementation of the plan were discussed. Community groups and local government were named most often.

Overarching concerns

Common concerns with the discussion paper were:

- did not articulate and clarify the responsibility of board versus other agencies
- did not articulate 'how' the Focus Areas were to be implemented enough
- was overly strong and supportive of primary production at the expense of other interests (while others expressed concern about farmers not having enough buy-in)
- was fairly weak on the science/evidence underpinning it
- reflected a scope that was possibly too broad and left the board spread too thinly
- contained targets that were generally not clear or achievable

- included terms that needed clear articulation
- contained key gaps – namely:
 - coastal protection and marine ecosystems
 - tourism and agri-tourism
 - education and awareness raising
 - food security
 - how the Priorities were connected and how the Focus Areas linked across the priorities.

Land Priority and Focus Areas

The Land Focus Areas were received positively but a few issues were raised repeatedly.

The emphasis on regenerative agriculture was broadly praised (many positive comments). However, the term is also viewed as problematic. People wanted the board to define regenerative agriculture clearly to avoid cynicism (i.e. a “bit of a buzz word”) and to define it in broader and more ambitious terms – i.e. about whole of landscape systems restoration (habitat, waterways, soils, insects, reduction in chemical use - organics etc) not just soil protection. There is a need to articulate how it is different to conventional farming practices and showcase the benefits it can bring.

People were concerned about the broad scope of the Focus Areas in Land and worried about the board over-promising. At the same time, participants wanted the Focus Areas to be more ambitious – e.g. focusing on restoration over simply management / protection.

The Land Focus Areas were interpreted as focused primarily at primary producers and participants wanted the focus to also include support for lifestyle landholders as important land managers. Issues that were linked to lifestyle landholders included protection of waterways, pest control, weed management and kangaroo populations.

Concerns

More clarity was wanted across all focus areas and removal or better definition of the targets.

Key areas missed from the Focus Areas that people suggested included:

- Broadening pest animals (to include other pests, cats, foxes and corellas).
- Fire management.
- Land clearing and subdivision.
- Erosion and water course damage from grazing.

Partnership and Project Possibilities

- Grains Producers SA, Livestock SA, rabbit free Australia - all ESD agencies.
- Agri-business partners - they are the sellers of information and products.
- There may be opportunities with councils for regenerative agriculture – not largely on council agendas but great opportunities on weeds and pest animals.
- SA Power Networks - trimming of pest trees such as olives.
- Nursery and agriculture industry groups to partner on education.

Water Priority and Focus Areas

Participants expressed broad agreement with the ideas presented in the discussion paper but important questions were raised about what the role of the board was in comparison to other agencies.

People saw the Focus Areas as motherhood statements that needed greater clarity and detail about how they would be supported.

Important connections were made between water issues and the other priorities of the plan. For example: Land (soil moisture retention, water use efficiency, fencing watercourses and agricultural run-off), Climate (major risk for water security and aquatic health), Nature (aquatic and marine ecosystem health) and Community (education and knowledge sharing, cultural water values, citizen science).

Concerns

The following issues were seen as missing by multiple participants:

- Protecting coast and marine health.
- Education and building understanding about the value and condition of water resources, and what action is needed.
- Working with landholders to restore riparian ecosystem health.
- Need targets around education, capacity and knowledge of community.

Partnership and Project Possibilities

- Support/encourage Councils with Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) in townships and reuse of water.
- Citizen science and science with SA Water.
- Partner with the Goyder Institute for Water Science and Alexandrina DC on the lower lakes and Coorong initiatives.
- Water education with Conservation Council and ECSs.

Nature Priority and Focus Areas

Online forum participants expressed broad support for the Focus Areas but wanted to see more detail about how they would be carried out. Discussions focused heavily on the need for the plan to support both on-ground work required and education /awareness raising of community, including landholders. Similarly, people stressed the need for the plan to address conservation needs at a landscape level and being tenure-blind (i.e. achieving outcomes on private and public land). They also commented on the importance of science informing on ground action, but that we shouldn't 'sit and wait' for science – more about striking a balance.

Concerns

The following issues were raised by multiple participants:

- Coast and marine health protection was seen as a weak area in the discussion paper – needing greater emphasis.
- Greater emphasis needed on controlling grazing impact animals (native and introduced) and weeds.
- Nature targets were seen as lacking in clarity and detail about how they would be achieved.
- Controlled burns were not understood as a mechanism for improving conservation outcomes.
- Lack of overt mention of on-ground action and restoration activities to support the Focus Areas.
- Connection of volunteers to the nature priority in the discussion paper needs strengthening.

Partnership and Project Possibilities

- Build on existing partnerships and networks with local groups, volunteers, environmental NGOs and ECSs.
- For private land and primary producers – Agricultural peak bodies, Livestock SA, rabbit free Australia, etc.
- New partners to include CFS, philanthropists, arts community, international stakeholders in this space.
- Environment Centres - use these centres to continue existing partnerships.

Climate Priority and Focus Areas

Climate was viewed as an essential and important aspect of the board's responsibilities. The depiction of Climate in the discussion paper was seen as clear and specific. However, questions were raised about the need to make it more ambitious and about 'how' the Focus Areas would be achieved.

"Really good start."

"Need to move toward action."

"... neatest of the priorities."

"Very happy about target for a carbon neutral board."

Climate was seen as a key driver of multiple threats to the region including causing water resource stress, species loss, and declines in agricultural productivity. A number of comments talked about the board needing to see and address climate change as a systemic issue and needing an equally systemic response (i.e. working across stakeholder groups, sectors and levels of organisations), e.g. *"Climate considerations need to be embedded in all priorities"*.

Participants wanted to see the board show leadership and ambition in the climate arena but it was stressed that the board would need to reach out to bring different people on board.

Many comments and ideas highlighted the linkages between the climate priority and the other four priorities e.g. regenerative land management for improved nature, water and production outcomes. Supporting regenerative agriculture was seen as a positive and effective mechanism to support climate adaptation and mitigation.

There was recognition of the challenges facing the board, bringing diverse stakeholders on board with their vision and helping people confront the tough climate reality and choices we face – e.g. around fire and vegetation management. Participants wanted to see more facilitated action rather than just awareness raising, including adaptive capacity building in response to a changing climate.

Concerns

- Participants wanted to see the board play a role in partnership and coalition building, education and community awareness around climate change.
- The need to address the urgency of biodiversity protection given the impacts of climate change.
- The targets were not specific enough or achievable.
- The lack of detail about how the board would achieve carbon neutrality.

Partnership and Project Possibilities

- Leveraging the Environment Centres (ECs) environment centres to drive climate education and local adaptation and linking to schools in the region.
- Carbon sequestration demonstration projects.
- Aligning board and council targets and timelines.
- Red Cross climate ready champions program.
- Communicating about changing insurance costs across region: work with councils to assess and communicate changes in insurance risks and costs.
- Raise awareness about new systems of production and produce that are likely to be necessary under changing climate conditions.

Community Priority and Focus Areas

Respondents overwhelmingly approved of the Community Priority commenting it was well set out and generally made sense. More specific comments related to:

- The need to clarify of meaning of words 'Community', 'Foster' and 'Stewardship'.
- The need to retain projects and partners involved with the previous AMLR NRM board. People were concerned that much would be lost in "re-inventing the wheel".
- The discussion paper was seen as having the right focus by emphasising the importance of community but people worried that the board's limited budget and delivery mechanisms would prevent the community's aspirations being achieved.

Concerns

- The following themes were suggested as additional focus areas under the Community Priority (education, youth, schools, coast and marine, volunteer support).
- Natural Resource Centres (NRCs)/Environment Centres (ECs) were viewed as having very strong value for environmental groups and the wider community outside the board footprint
- People saw the shift to more competitive grant processes as a time waster and motivation drainer for community groups. The monetary amounts allowable under Grassroots Grants was mentioned as being too small to achieve tangible impact.
- Volunteer groups may become disgruntled if they do not receive a basic level of on-ground support through staff for technical advice (eg. safety and bushcare training, personal protective equipment and chemicals). There was worry that this could push our community away if we do not work together to achieve on ground environmental goals.
- Acknowledging success of groups is important to their well-being and sense of value. People were concerned there was no explicit resourcing for this.
- A strong theme was the need to support and acknowledge the existing community and partnerships where they have been successful. "Wiping the slate clean" was seen as having a risk of putting a significant proportion of the community 'off-side'.
- Multiple comments that volunteers and healthy functioning groups are vital for achieving the plan's targets, and that it seemed that this was overlooked in the discussion paper.

Possible Partnerships and Project Possibilities

- A Nature Hub/Education Hub (possibly Green Adelaide) funded as a strong emphasis on education is viewed favourably for succession and the need to have an education program to deliver this or we will have a gap.
- Create a forum so other groups can all meet to prevent duplication. Need to explore this better. How can we join up (old 90's practice to focus on partnerships?).

Youth enjoy 'hands-on', practical experience whilst being supported and trained by professionals. For example, getting out on weekends at council planting days, working on the Washpool project, participating in macroinvertebrate sampling, citizen science (where they know their data capture in contributing to a bigger overall objective).

- Encourage community led participation and Citizen Science projects.

Results of Phase 1 engagement – Survey

A total of 342 survey responses were received² with a completion rate of 64% (123 people partially completed the survey). 23% of respondents were 18-43 years, 41% were 44-65 years, and 36% were over 65.

Respondents self-identified as follows:

- 30% were non-farming land holders.
- 17% were farmers.
- 0% were self-defined industry, business stakeholders or educators.
- 34% were volunteers.
- 19% urban dwellers.
- 21% identified as 'Other'.
- 64% reported being part of an environmental group or similar.
- 17% reported being part of an agriculture/industry group or peak body.

Note: respondents could choose more than one category for this question.

Reactions to Priorities

Respondents were asked to review five Priorities and comment (e.g. by suggesting missing Priorities).

At the time of surveying, the Priorities listed in the discussion paper and survey were as follows:

- **Land:** *Restored and highly productive landscapes.*
- **Water:** *Our water resources are managed sustainably.*
- **Nature:** *Our natural places, ecosystems and wildlife conserved and celebrated.*
- **Climate:** *A carbon neutral and climate resilient region.*
- **Community:** *A culture of Community-led stewardship.*

When respondents were asked if there was anything missing from these broad Priorities, 59% said 'No' and 41% said 'Yes'. Those stating yes were invited to describe what was missing.

Analysis of open ended responses showed people were identifying issues that largely aligned to the Focus Areas, but often at a finer scale than the high level priorities captured by the discussion paper. Some suggestions were also deemed out of scope (e.g. "fixing footpaths in Bridgewater").

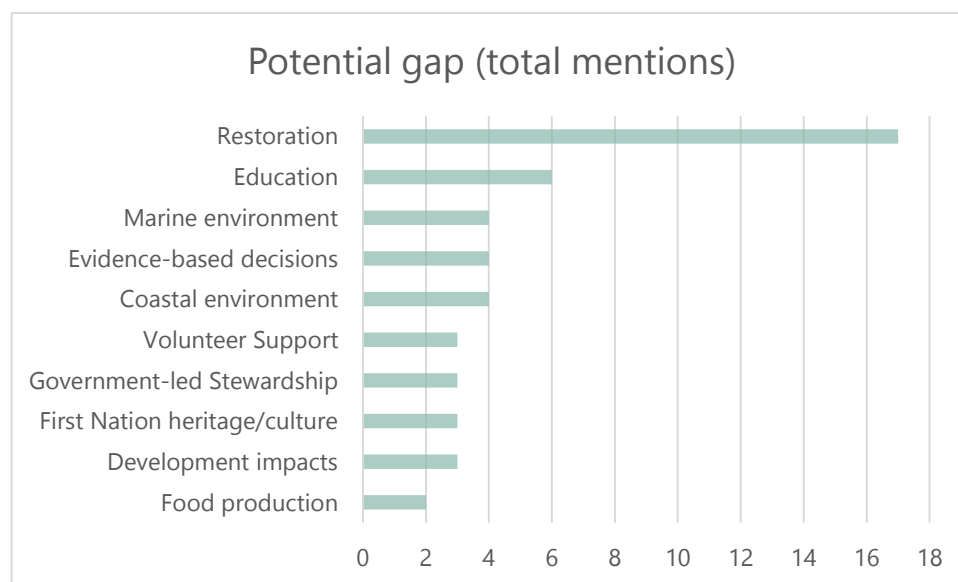
² De-identified Survey results will be made available on request

Figure 2 shows suggestions of issues ‘missing’ from the five priorities coded into common themes. Most themes map well to defined Focus Areas but also shows genuine gaps within the discussion paper (e.g. around the coastal environment and development impacts).

Figure 2. Suggested gaps in Priorities

The main negative reactions to the Priorities reflected:

1. Priorities seen as too aspirational (for a 5 year plan).
2. A perceived incompatibility between the discussion paper’s aspirations and societal norms that prioritised short



term economic benefits over social and environmental sustainability.

Reactions to Focus Areas

Respondents were asked to review and comment on example Focus Areas within each Priority, and nominate alternative or missing Focus Areas. Respondents were then asked to rank the example Focus Areas against each other as an indication of preferred resource allocation.

Interpretation of open-ended comments

The open-ended verbatim responses were reviewed, with comments deemed ‘non-actionable’ or ‘beyond the board’s remit’ removed. Non-actionable comments included those not of any relevance to the plan (e.g. kayaking, path maintenance, human population density, etc). Remaining ‘relevant comments’ made were coded based on their relevance to example Focus Areas or whether they identified a potentially new Focus Area (a gap).

Ranking comparison

Focus Area ranking under each Priority was reviewed after aggregating responses. As shown in the Figures below, the percentage of respondents who ranked a Focus Area in their top three priorities were compared to those who ranked it in their bottom three priorities. The graphs give an indication of the Focus Areas deemed a higher priority under each Priority and those considered least important to resource.

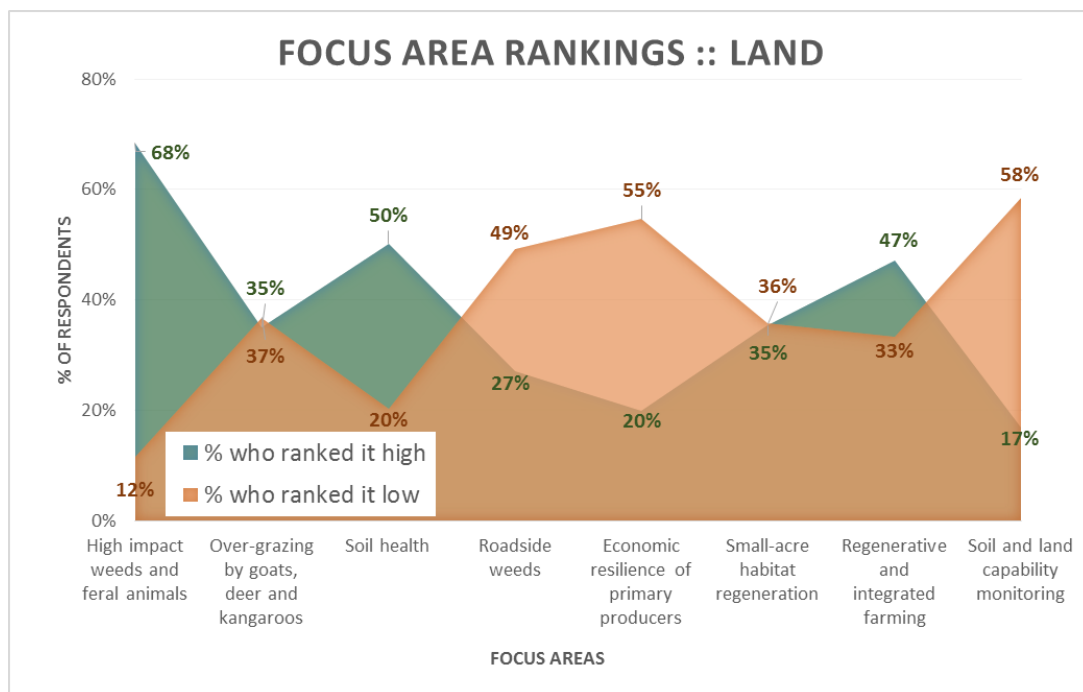
Priority - Land

At the time of surveying, the list of Focus Areas for the Land Priority area were:

- High impact weeds and feral animals
- Soil health
- Soil and land capability monitoring
- Over-grazing by goats, deer and kangaroos
- Regenerative and integrated farming
- Small-acre habitat regeneration
- Roadside weeds
- Economic resilience of primary producers

When respondents were asked if there was anything else that should be added to the list of Focus Areas for the Land Priority, 166 people chose to comment further and the following nine words were used most often in their written responses: **land, management, farming, fire, restoration, biodiversity, plants, water, protected areas.**

Ranking sentiment for the draft Land Focus Areas

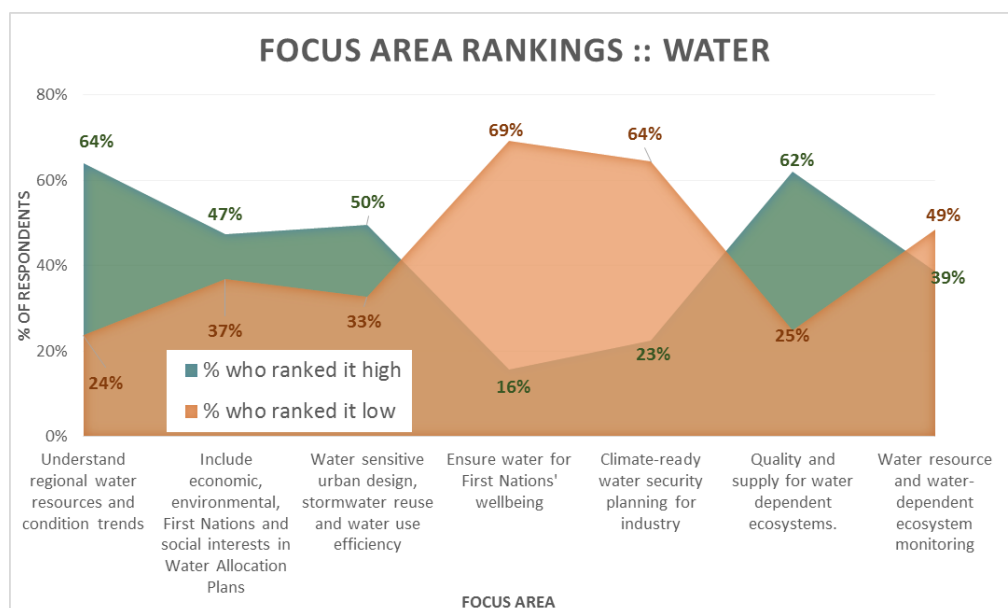


Priority – Water

At the time of surveying, the list of Focus Areas for the Water Priority area were:

- Understand regional water resources and condition trends
- Quality and supply for water dependent ecosystems
- Include economic, environmental, First Nations and social interests in Water Allocation Plans
- Water sensitive urban design, stormwater reuse and water use efficiency
- Water resource and water dependent ecosystem monitoring
- Climate-ready water security planning for industry
- Ensure water for First Nations' wellbeing

When people were asked to add anything missing to this list of Water Focus Areas the following nine words were used most often in their written responses: **water, catchment, areas, management, waterways, rainwater, restoration, monitoring and water security.**

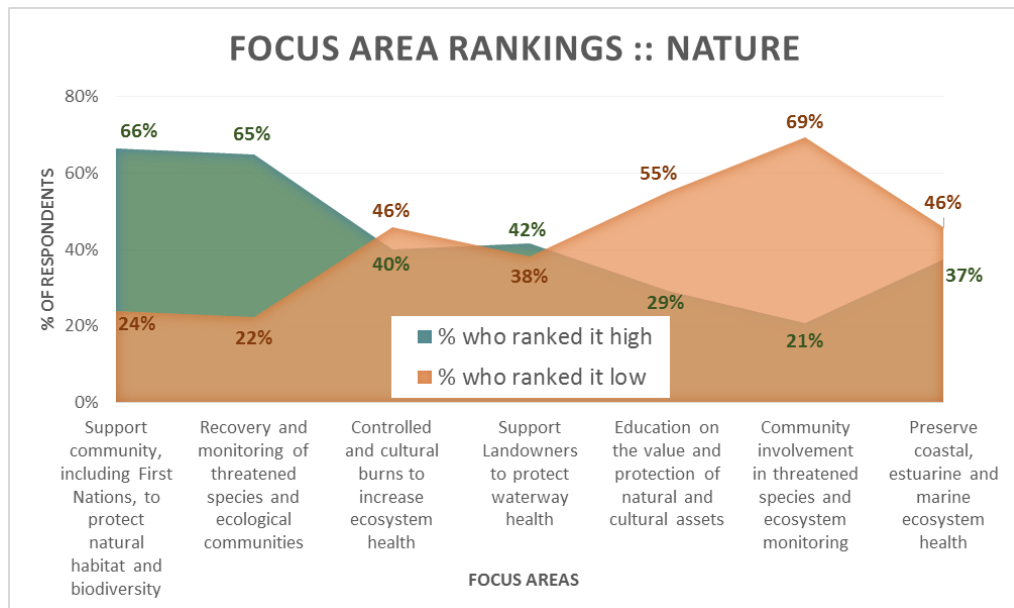


Priority - Nature

At the time of surveying, the list of Focus Areas for the Nature Priority area were:

- Recovery and monitoring of threatened species and ecological communities
- Support community, including First Nations, to protect natural habitat and biodiversity
- Support Landowners to protect waterway health
- Preserve coastal, estuarine and marine ecosystem health
- Controlled and cultural burns to increase ecosystem health
- Education on the value and protection of natural and cultural assets
- Community involvement in threatened species and ecosystem monitoring

When people were asked to add anything missing to this list of Nature Focus Areas the following 10 words were used most often in their written responses: **community, areas, habitat, monitoring, support, natural, protection, conservation, restoration and land.**

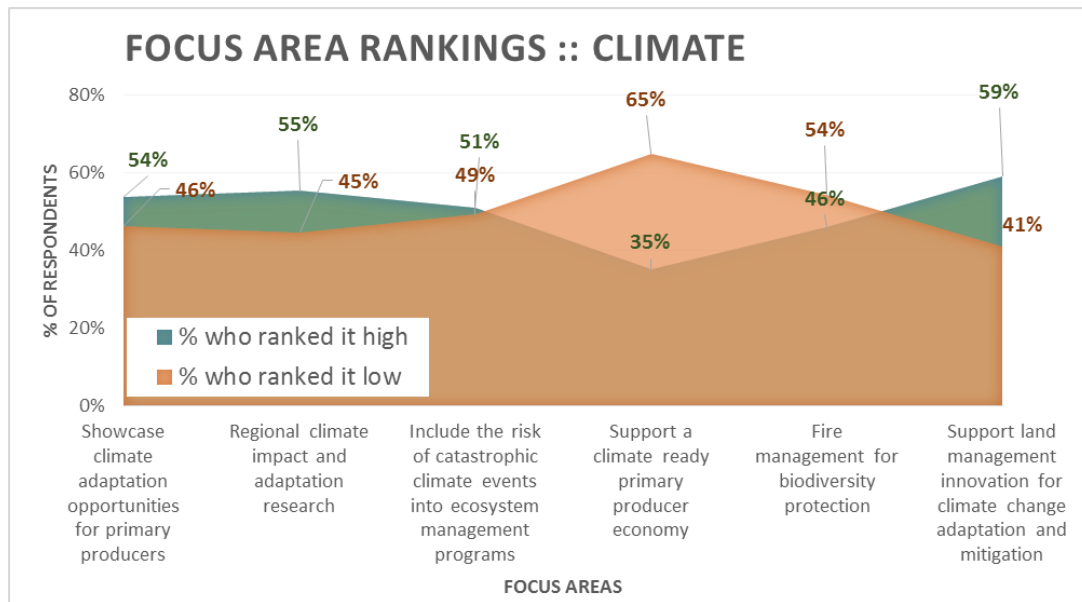


Priority - Climate

At the time of surveying, the list of Focus Areas for the Climate Priority area were:

- Support land management innovation for climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Regional climate impact and adaptation research
- Showcase climate adaptation opportunities for primary producers
- Include the risk of catastrophic climate events into ecosystem management programs
- Fire management for biodiversity protection
- Support a climate ready primary producer economy

When people were asked to add anything missing to this list of Climate Focus Areas the following 10 words were used most often in their written responses: **climate, support, community, education, carbon, soil, plans, increase, carbon neutral and primary producers.**

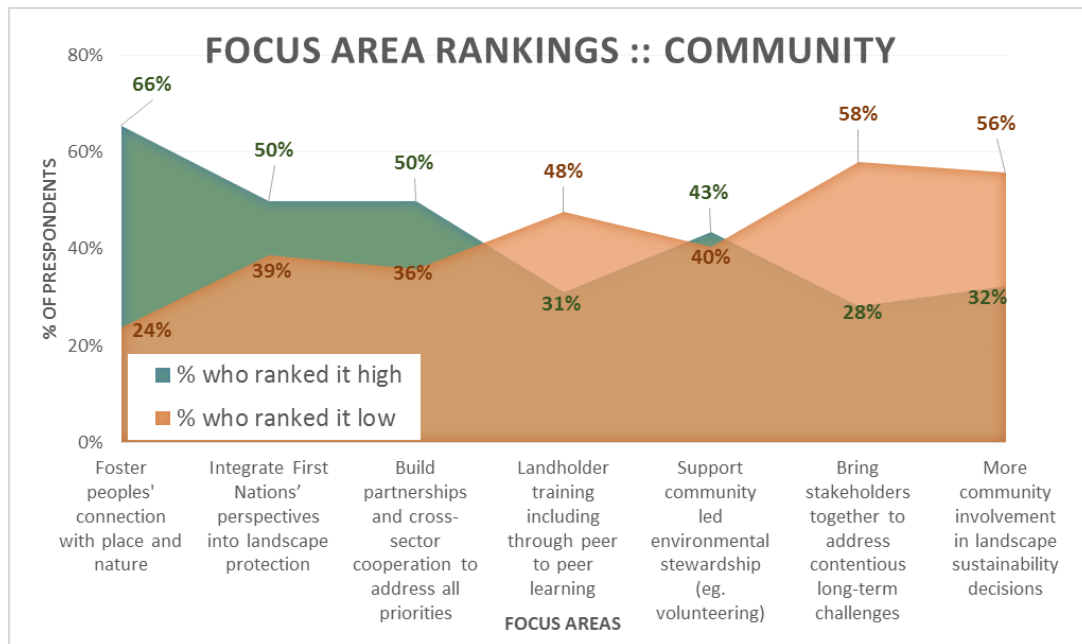


Priority - Community

At the time of surveying, the list of Focus Areas for the Community Priority area were:

- Foster peoples' connection with place and nature
- Support community led environmental stewardship (e.g. volunteering)
- Build partnerships and cross-sector cooperation to address all priorities
- Integrate First Nations' perspectives into landscape protection
- Landholder training including through peer to peer learning
- More community involvement in landscape sustainability decisions
- Bring stakeholders together to address contentious long-term challenges

When people were asked to add anything missing to this list of Community Focus Areas the following 10 words were used most often in their written responses: **community, support, people, volunteering, education, school, stewardship, landscape, encourage and foster.**



Phase 2 – Formal consultation

Formal consultation is a statutory requirement for the board to undertake when developing its landscape plan. The formal consultation period occurred between 19 March and 15 April 2021 and provided opportunity for the community and stakeholders to provide considered feedback on the draft plan.

The statutory consultation period was relatively brief given it was preceded by significant engagement with community and other stakeholders in Phase 1.

The draft plan was available for review through the YourSAy and the board's website, and feedback could be provided through YourSAy or emailing the board. On the YourSAy webpage, there was also a link to a very short two question Survey Monkey where we asked people to provide more details if they wanted to partner with us. This feature on the website was only used by a couple of individuals.

Promotion of the opportunity for community comment included:

- An email to participants that attended the forums, an email to local Members of Parliament, Councils, other landscape boards and key peak bodies and organisations, and an email to other stakeholders on the board's stakeholder list.
- The landscape plan consultation was made the 'cover' (top) image on the Facebook page for the duration of the consultation period.
- A post inviting feedback on the draft plan was pinned to the top of the Facebook page for the duration of the consultation.
- Three separate Facebook posts done at start of consultation, one week before closing and the day before closing date.
- Media stories on the draft plan ran in the *Stock Journal*, *Courier*, and *Smart Farmer*.
- A local advertising campaign inviting community feedback on the draft landscape plan was run in the *Courier*, *Victor Harbor Times* and the *Southern Argus*.
- The consultation appeared in the monthly YourSAy e-news sent to all YourSAy subscribers.

The board received 32 submissions on the draft plan. These include five from local councils, three from other agencies, one private company and 10 from peak bodies and not-for-profit organisations. The remainder of submissions were from community members.

Most feedback received on the draft Plan was positive and complimentary. Some submissions expressed that they liked the ambition and tone of the Plan, and several from partner organisations highlighted areas where they look forward to partnering with the board to implement the Plan.

Summary of feedback

All of the raw submissions are included in appendix 1.

Respondent	Summary
Primary Producers SA	<p>Consultation period too short.</p> <p>Main priorities: Pest control, Water resources and Climate adaptation.</p> <p>Supplement risk assessment with CBA to support prioritisation.</p> <p>Want improved detection and response to emerging pest plants.</p> <p>More kangaroo, rabbit and cat control.</p> <p>Include commercialised pest animal control.</p> <p>More emphasis on identifying threats to soil health.</p> <p>Support education for primary producers to adapt to climate change.</p> <p>Wants to partner with us – especially in area of education delivery.</p>
Kangaroo Island Landscape Board General Manager	<p>Comment on the wording around climate change and 'courage' is inspiring.</p>
Tim – individual	<p>Main discussion was about particulars to do with the Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges Water Resource Plan. Comments about this EMLRWRP were saying that: there are no incentives for users to use water efficiently; the EMLRWRP is grossly inequitable; elements of the Plan have no rational basis; and concerns about pricing and trading of water.</p>
Yundi Nature Conservancy	<p>Mentioned the sections of the Plan that talk about "we'll know we've succeeded when" are too aspirational - beyond the timeframe of the Plan</p> <p>Raised concern that few people connect with the UN Decade for Restoration, CCIA Projections and global call for 30% land and seas conserved for nature principles.</p> <p>Mentioned that HF have very little influence regarding climate change, and would be better off focusing on productivity. Thought that the 'Climate' priority would be better named as 'Productivity'.</p> <p>Wants to see 're-learning' of First Nations knowledge built in - so much so there was an offering of a new Strategy reflecting this and the importance of collaborating with First Nations peoples.</p>
Roger – individual	<p>"Improve the Victor Harbor, it needs it."</p>
District Council of Yankalilla	<p>Made the point about a big challenge being landholders making the necessary changes</p> <p>Keen to partner with the board to facilitate this work with landholders</p> <p>Mentions that Council have created a new position in the Economic Development team to better support primary producers, and sees this role as potentially interacting with the board</p> <p>Mentions water quality concerns of the western Fleurieu and that community groups are gathering to research and plan remediation of the Bungala Estuary</p>

Respondent	Summary
District Council of Mount Barker	<p>Upfront Council mentions the extreme pressure growth is placing on natural resources; and the challenge with managing the balance of this</p> <p>Mentions the commonality between the board's plan and Council's Community Plan</p> <p>Welcomes partnering - particularly on the topic of water, wastewater and stormwater</p> <p>Shows concern about Climate and mentions for the region to be carbon neutral as being ambitious. Welcomes further conversations on the region being carbon neutral and what it would take to become.</p> <p>Want to partner with the board on biodiversity protection and replenishment</p> <p>Keen to work with the board on opportunities to promote ecological function, connectivity, education and recreational value of nature places in DC Mount Barker</p>
Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning	<p>Impressed with the plan, its aspirations and community feel</p> <p>Would like GWLAP added to the Donate List</p>
David - individual	<p>Disappointed with the "Clarendon Community and rural environs" being separated by the NRM-to-LandscapeSA reform and boundary changes</p>
Green Industries SA	<p>GISA provided specific points of feedback and areas for potential collaboration in regards to circular economy being an accelerator to a zero carbon sustainable economic recovery</p> <p>GISA suggested some other partners for the board to consider regarding the Future Proof our agriculture Focus Area (i.e. Fight Food Waste CRC and PIRSA)</p> <p>Suggested wording changes to the circular economy 'projects like' to lift the focus to being high level rather than prescriptive</p> <p>GISA offered insights into how the board's role to support a circular economy could be better articulated</p> <p>GISA discussed opportunities for collaboration under the 'build climate resilience or our communities and agriculture' Focus Area, such as: discussing supporting and sharing of information regarding Disaster Waste Management</p> <p>Offered a list and summary of best practice case studies demonstrating circular economy in action</p>
Robin - individual	<p>Feedback was on the topics of pests, coast resilience, land condition and other comments about government.</p>
Adelaide Hills Council	<p>Comments specifically about grammar and punctuation</p>
SA Young Planners	<p>Feedback included: the plan being aspirational; including 'economic benefit' regarding regional prosperity; linking challenges to contextual factors; concern on readability of the priorities being deeply connected bit; diagram to help illustrate the structure of the plan's components; clarification of board's role and who are leaders or have responsibility for various initiatives; no focus area for the urban 'hardstand' environment and risks it brings; some parts wordy and could a diagram help with that; and finally, inclusion of a map</p>
Alexandrina Council	<p>Submission commended the board on the draft plan. There were confirming mentions of the importance of roadside weed management; embracing regenerative agriculture and</p>

Respondent	Summary
	climate change projects; and stormwater and wastewater management support (but not financial support at this point)
National Trust SA	Affirmed the 'Challenges facing our region' section; concerned that the structure of the document and priorities don't foster an integrated approach; no mention of sea level rise and coastal impacts; interpretation of roadside weed management maybe not reflecting the importance of its biodiversity value; concerned about native vegetation loss and fragmentation; and weed management in rail corridors as well as roadsides.
PIRSA	<p>PIRSA's main points were around detail and action missing from the plan, and sources of information supporting statements made in the plan.</p> <p>Emphasis needed about being production being profitable and sustainable.</p> <p>More consideration to be given to coast and marine (incl. fisheries/aquaculture) marine pests and marinas in HF being a vector for these.</p>
BirdLife Australia	<p>Would like to see reference to beach nesting birds or 'coastal birds' and their dependence on healthy coastal, estuary and marine habitats. Would like to be included as a partner under the Back from the Brink and Project Coorong parts.</p> <p>Would like to see coast estuarine and marine valued as habitat for wildlife</p> <p>Commends environment centres as important partners in the beach nesting birds and sharing our shores with coastal wildlife programs</p>
Normanville Natural Resources Centre	Mention that the formal consultation period proposed challenges to produce a more fully thought through response. Feedback that there is no acknowledgement of past good work; concern about funding shifts from previous (\$) support to now partnering for volunteering purposes; question on 'so much focus on agriculture' and PIRSA being the lead agency on that; target for increase in native vegetation.
Nature Conservation Society of South Australia	NCSSA commended the board for acknowledging the critical importance of the region and biodiversity along with recognising the First Nation peoples' connection and custodianship of land. Reiterated the importance of monitoring programs coordinated by them in providing monitoring data that can guide the sustainable management of natural resources.
SA Water	SA Water acknowledged the challenges listed in the draft plan around land management and water quality issues, and how they are open to discussing how the plan is to overcome these challenges. Commend and welcome the opportunity to continue to support the McLaren Vale Water Security Planning process, and acknowledge the importance of Water Allocation Planning mentioning there should be provisions for critical human water needs or protection of public water supplies.
City of Onkaparinga	<p>COO commended the good work done in the past and the need for it to continue. Also mentioned up front was the Landscape Priorities Fund and their hope of it being transparent with prioritisation criteria being publicly available.</p> <p>The submission then steps through the five priorities discussing each at length, including:</p> <p>LAND - Pleased to see roadside weed and vegetation management in the plan, and hope to see a continued partnership on this. Pest Management Strategy welcomed with due consideration to stakeholders and clear communication on pest and plant management.</p>

Respondent	Summary
	<p>The inclusion of impact causing native species is welcomed and supported (little corellas mentioned)</p> <p>WATER - Noting of the single catchment of the Onkaparinga river being split between HF and GA. McLaren Vale Water Security Plan supported citing economic prosperity of McLaren Vale and protection of assets such as Aldinga Washpool. Flagship projects mentioned (e.g. Urban Creek Recovery).</p> <p>NATURE - See the board having a role in the Cherry Gardens Bushfire recovery via monitoring regeneration of conservation areas. Have a view of the board having a key role in coordinating the collection of data and information to enable adaptive management approaches. Project opportunity on biodiversity linkages mentioned.</p> <p>CLIMATE - Commended building consumer demand for local provenance food and circular economy. Mention the importance of Government's/board's procurement practices and advocacy in this.</p> <p>COMMUNITY - Comment on support to community groups needing board staff resources allocated to aspects such as coordination, capacity building and infrastructure (such as the Willunga Environment Centre). Lack of clarity around resourcing and support of nature education service levels in schools going forward.</p>
Ben - individual	Emphasis on addressing root causes. Philosophical comments about humans being reliant on the environment and we should care for it.
Nigel - individual	Comments around high density development occurring in the Fleurieu and needing to be more mindful of its impact on nature.
Jane - individual	Mentioned 'motherhood statements' and a lack of detail in the plan. Discussed need to prioritise flora and fauna and re-wild degraded land. Also mentioned concerns around development and zoning.
Richard – individual	Mentioned the marine and coastal environments are “light on” in the plan.
Lorraine - individual	Mentioned heritage trees and that they shouldn't be cut down.
Dalton – individual	Provided comments on particulars not of the board's remit (e.g. subsidising electric vehicles; moratorium on commercial fishing). Some comments related to vegetation corridors, needing extension officers to be up to date on best practice and water monitoring as essential.
National Trust SA	National Trust of SA is interested in partnering in discussions and collaboration in issues such as weed control, woodland bird recovery, environmental education and landscape-scale restoration.
Friends of Glenthorne National Park	Creating the Glenthorne National Park Ityamailpinna Yarta. Holds Bush Care days at Glenthorne 1st and 3rd Sundays each month, 2nd Saturday each month 10-4p.m. And every Wednesday 9-12noon"
Rachel - individual	Concern about stormwater catchment and reuse in Onkaparinga Council.
Water Technology	Interested in partnering on drainage, flooding, surface water and groundwater consulting.

Respondent	Summary
Department for Environment and Water	<p>Commended the plan's emphasis on ensuring protection of Ag interests in land planning decisions.</p> <p>Suggests also considering how land use changes can also affect other land management issues (pests, biodiversity, resilience, Veg clearance, run-off).</p> <p>Would like to see greater recognition and role for tourism in plan. they highlight its role in linking people to nature and being able to provide a conservation dividend.</p> <p>Suggest there is a role in using tourism to increase resilience of Ag producers by improving income diversity.</p> <p>Changes suggested to two strategies and other plan content.</p>

Incorporation of comments

Comments and input from each phase of the consultation process led to multiple changes in the frame and content of the proposed plan. The main implications from each phase and subsequent inclusions and changes are outlined here.

Inclusions following phase one engagement

The first phase of engagement was aimed at testing ideas, exploring the relative importance of pre-defined issues, and drawing out aspirations and issues of concern. The most significant issues informed by the phase one process and which resulted in inclusions in the draft plan are summarised as follows.

Feedback confirmed the five priorities suggested in the discussion paper and emphasised that the plan should be ambitious and set a strong regional agenda. The breadth and scope of issues raised as well as peoples' desire to see urgent action convinced the board to develop a draft plan that outlines aspirations beyond the board's direct capacity to deliver. This input had a number of specific implications for the plan draft. In particular:

- The board defining its role as a facilitator, catalyst and program coordinator with less emphasis on direct service delivery.
- The board placing a greater emphasis on working with and supporting others to achieve shared regional outcomes.

Feedback affirmed the need for the draft plan to include Climate as one of the plan's five Priorities and more broadly to focus strongly on future risks and threats rather than responding to immediate landscape issues.

Frequent comments asking for more detail on 'how' the Priorities would be achieved could not be easily addressed in a plan that needed to be simple and 'high-level'. As a compromise, the board added a 'layer' of strategies under each Focus Area to articulate the types of action needed.

The themes of nature restoration, protection of marine and coastal systems and the negative impacts of urban sprawl were given added prominence in the draft plan. Relevant outcomes included creating:

- a Focus Area and three strategies specifically addressing marine and coastal issues
- a Focus Area addressing the need to future-proof agriculture

- multiple strategies across the Land, Climate and Nature Priorities addressing the importance of integrating ecosystem and habitat protection and restoration
- inclusion of strategies to mitigate the risk of poor planning decisions and their impact on agricultural production, ecosystems and remnant habitat.

Issues with the targets in the Discussion Paper being too broad, unachievable or unmeasurable led the board to take a different approach with the draft Landscape Plan. It decided to include long-term, aspiration statements of 'what long-term success will look like', and develop a MERI (monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement) plan to specifically articulate how and what the board will measure to understand the condition of the region's landscapes and how it will measure the board's impact.

Changes following phase two consultation

The second 'formal' consultation phase generally affirmed the scope and content of the plan with no significant issues missed. However, a number of changes were made reflecting specific comments and concerns. In particular:

- Requests for greater emphasis of marine and coastal assets and issues led to adjustments to the plan text and strategies.
- Comments highlighting the lack of a strategic regional approach to restoration and habitat protection resulted in the inclusion of two new strategies.
- Multiple adjustments to the content were made to increase clarity.
- A map focusing on land use and highlighting the marine boundaries of the landscape board region was included.
- In response to a request about greater clarity about who the board is, a section was included on the statutory role of the board.
- Responding to requests about how planning documents 'fit together', a planning framework diagram was included.
- In response from project partners, minor adjustments were made to example project descriptions. Changes helped broaden and better reflect the scope of projects.

Appendix 1

Submissions from individuals

Please note these submissions have been included verbatim and no editing has been applied.

Via YourSAy – Lorraine

Trees! I fail to see the benefit of cutting down heritage trees of several hundred years because they are at this time, in the 'wrong' place. All development must incorporate these trees, not destroy them.

Via YourSAy – Richard

On first reading, suggest that issues associated with the marine and coastal environment are extremely light on.

As with past NRM plans, the area gets left out!

Via YourSAy – Jane

There were a lot of motherhood statements that say the right thing but to be honest not much in the way of detail although I do note that you use existing projects by way of example and I'm sure there are many more not mentioned.

The Fleurieu is biodiversity hotspot but I didn't really see any prioritisation of flora and fauna. We are in a planet wide emergency for species loss and climate change but i didn't really get the urgency and what you're planning to do about it.

We need to put the idea of Rewilding on the table, buying back unusable or unsustainable farming land for the purpose of building more habitat corridors, and nurturing the wild places we have left with First Nations help.

Do we provision for wildlife habitat and corridors in all new subdivisions?

Are subdivisions that were planned and titled more than 30 + years ago and not yet built on get another look with a 21st century lens, or do we just allow developers to do what they want ?

Is there always provision made in new developments for safe walking and cycling paths to minimise vehicles use, and do older more established areas get rezoned for more public recreation and mobility ?

Also, should new development on the coastal strip and near waterways be allowed given future potential insurance and flooding problems.

Thanks

Via YourSAy – Nigel

With High Density Development occurring in the Fleurieu Peninsular we should be more mindful of the impact on Nature and the Harmony we as Humans have, thus ensuring our current Open Spaces are improved and maintained and any future developments are in keeping with this ethos

Far too many areas are losing Plants, Birds and Animals when they are usually the first ones to inhabit the areas, we can and must work to maintain this environment

Via Your Say – Ben

I am concerned that our thinking is so short term, and our solutions tend to treat symptoms we need to be thinking generations not years. Every decision we make to alter our landscape needs to have this filter. If we destroy our environment we destroy ourselves. Our human impact is a given, but can be in harmony if we want it to be. Good quality air is a must, good quality water is a must, nutrient dense food is a must, without these things life is grim and needs artificial support. If we design our region so that it is every ones responsibility to understand and feel connected, our actions will hopefully reflect that. As we have become more and more demanding on material wealth our connection to human and environmental health has declined, if we had truly progressed our mental and physical health would have become better without the need for medication.

These are big picture thoughts and its easy to say its more than we can tackle at a regional level but if I am close to being correct why not make our region an example to the world.

Lets treat our problems and not focus on symptoms.

Via YourSAy – Dalton

Despite your "best" efforts this plan is laughable. It does not reflect best practice for land management and is not evidence based.

The board is like a "friends group" for the sitting government with little or no expertise in the environment, agricultural science or climate research.

At the very least the section on land needs to include a major reafforestation target with corridors for wildlife crisscrossing the district.

And agricultural extension officers with up to date training on best practice needs to be provided by Primary Industry budget.

Water monitoring to ensure environmental flows is essential.

And the section on climate must provide for the subsidised transition to electric vehicles away from fossil fuel consumption.

And as has been known for a long while a public transport system that runs on renewable energy is required.

A supportive strategy for Nature would be to place a moratorium on commercial fishing in both gulfs for 4-5 years.

In the past the board has done little beside shoot native animals, poison roadsides, issue water licences and talk. This plan is politicised almost irrelevant document with no respect or inclusion of community.

Try again

Via email – David

It's disappointing that Clarendon Community and rural environs has been separated into two separate landscape boards, Green Adelaide and Hills and Fleurieu. Is there a reason why Clarendon and also One Tree Hill have been excluded from the hills? Is there a future plan to allow urban development in these areas to align with Green Adelaide landscape?

Looking at the Green Adelaide website I do not see what the area I live in will have in common with the Adelaide Urban landscape and therefore the service, support and policies to be provided.

I cannot understand why existing described geographical boundaries would not be used to simplify and maintain hills areas from urban areas such as wine GI, Adelaide Hills face zone etc.

Via email – Derek

I just wanted to let you know that I was very impressed with the plan and it's aspirations.

It is very readable and concise but covers all the bases that occur to me. It also has the feel of being community oriented.

The only change I would make would be to add GWLAP to the Donate list.

Via email – Roger

Improve the Victor Harbor, it needs it.

Via email – Timothy

I wish to comment on one aspect of the Draft Hills and Landscape Plan, namely, the allocation of water for agriculture.

As a farmer on the Fleurieu Peninsula, I strongly support the need for a sound management plan for water use in this area and elsewhere. At the moment, water use is determined by the Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges water resource plan, which was implemented a few years ago.

There are a number of positive aspects in the EMLRWP, including acknowledgment of the need to ensure good environmental outcomes (although aspects of the Plan ignore this - see 1 below). More importantly, there are a number of aspects of the Plan that fail even the most basic tests of equity and rationality, and must be addressed as a matter of urgency in the final Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan.

My particular concern is the aspect of the plan that relates to water licensing for agricultural irrigation.

The following aspects of the Plan are clearly flawed and must be reconsidered.

There are essentially no incentives in the Plan for users to use water efficiently.

In addition to rewarding efficient and diligent users, the Plan rewards inefficient users by basing licences on practices which existed at the time of implementation of the plan. In many cases, these licensees continue to use water in a profligate and inefficient manner. The most obvious example of rewarding bad practice is that irrigators in some areas continue to be given water to enable them to continue to grow water-hungry crops in areas that are quite inappropriate for these crops.

Solution: The way to encourage efficient use is to place a realistic price on water, i.e., a user-pays system. This is certainly not achieved by the current “levy” which is not directly related to the volume used in a given year.

The EMLRWP is grossly inequitable to the majority of landowners.

The EMLRWP has given, at minimal cost, a valuable capital handout of a public resource to *some but not all* rural land holders in the area, namely, to the landowners who happened to be irrigating during a specific window of time. By any standard, this is both unjust and inequitable to most farmers in the EMLRWP area, most of whom were not irrigating during that period for one reason or another. There are many examples of where all but one of a number of farms that adjoin each other have been given a water licence. This is the cause of significant antagonism amongst neighbours.

This gift of a public capital asset has already strongly distorted land values, rewarding landowners who were given water licences and significantly diminishing the value of land held by farmers who were not. The plan to detach water licences from the land, i.e., giving licensees the ability to sell something that they were given but don't need, makes the injustice of this proposal even more glaringly unacceptable.

Solution: A fair and equitable solution to this injustice is suggested in 3b below.

A number of elements of the Plan have no rational basis.

I will restrict my comments to three of the more egregious examples of this.

(a) The Plan prevents farmers from using water that they are permitted to store in dams, e.g., for stock and domestic use, for other valid purposes such as irrigation. This is quite irrational as the water that is stored in existing, approved dams will not magically return to the streams and aquifers if left unused.

Solution: It would be simple and rational to permit farmers to use water that they are permitted to store for irrigation or alternative farming purposes. This would have no impact whatsoever on sub-surface water stores and indeed would have the positive effect of returning some of the currently sequestered water to streams and aquifers through run-off and re-uptake. It would also redress to a very minor extent the injustice of the current discriminatory allocation of water.

(b) The EMLRWP allows a basic allocation of water (nominally for stock and domestic use) to all landowners in a manner that is unrelated either to the size of their property or to the rainfall in that area. That is, in the absence of a licence, a large farm in a high rainfall area with no licence may well be permitted to use only the same amount of water as a small farm in a low rainfall area who was given a licence. Consider the example of a farm of 300 ha in a 500 mm rainfall area. The annual rainfall onto this property will be 1,500 ML, and (depending on a number of factors) the owner might be allowed to have a single 5 ML dam for stock and domestic use (i.e., 5 of 1500 ML). Compare this with a 3 ha farm in a 300 mm rainfall area onto which the annual rainfall will be 9 ML: this farmer might also be allowed one 5 ML dam water for her stock and domestic use (i.e., 5 of 9 ML). This provision lacks any rational foundation and is both inequitable and discriminatory. In effect, farmers who have not been given a licence are subsidising those who were.

Solution: In a logical plan, each landowner would receive a basic allocation of water based on the rain that falls on that property (*area x rainfall*) to use for whatever valid purpose they see fit (stock, domestic, irrigation, etc.). Permission might be given to take this water from surface and/or

underground sources, depending on the size of the resource that is available in that area. This approach reflects the natural capacity of the land and how much it contributes to its aquifer and river systems. It would also relate to the owner's ability to catch and store rainfall in dams in line with traditional agricultural practice. This is an equitable and just approach that treats all landowners equally, in contrast with the provision in the existing Plan that frequently gives users in low rainfall areas *more* water for whatever use than is available to users in higher rainfall areas.

The Plan declines to award new licences, even in areas where the data shows that additional water is available. This provision in the Plan extends still further the basic inequity of giving licences some but not all landholders. What makes this even more invidious is that some licencees in the Mt Lofty Ranges who already have a provisional licence are negotiating, apparently successfully in some cases, to be given (free again) even more water. Some of these irrigators openly admit that they are negotiating for water in order that they can then sell it to their less-fortunate, non-licencee neighbours. This is inexplicable, when farmers who currently have no irrigation water cannot apply for a licence. This policy deters new users with innovative ideas for efficient and different irrigated crops from entering the industry.

Via email – Robin

Not a very inclusive name! Change of Govt. Change the name and focus! Cost benefit? Roadside native veg. attacked by farmers fodder species, (veldt, Kikuyu, cocksfoot, phalaris, etc) We won't mention the Blackberries promoted by the State govt. (especially VH road) (how many road accidents do they create??? with people picking fruit??? And of course the Inman river as it enters VH owned by SA Water I believe! Delightful example of Govts. sweeping problems under the carpet! Olive, briar, ash and the beautiful Bridal pair Lincoln weed, African lovegrass and the list goes on.)

Rural SA attacked by Liberal and Labour allowing subdivision and then allowing, nil management of properties. Horses, bushfire hazards, underground water, building material and other waste not controlled, petrol heads and soil and plant structure, (not all townies are bad, some are very good.)

Deer, rabbits, foxes, cats, roos in remnant veg. (All immigrants levied 10 dead foxes and cats per annum for first 20 years of residency.) Dominant birds, crows, magpies, wattle birds, rainbow lorikeets, long billed corellas, devastating fruit, commercial and back yard.

Native fish in small streams will not survive climate change. –especially ours!

Resilient Hills and coasts – stupid name, with sea levels rising. There will not be much resilience in places like Waitpinga, which already has a history of encroachment and washed away boardwalks.

In our own case we have White Purslane (rare SA) it grows mainly in and around small patches of peat (<200m²) in a 4 Ha. creek flat paddock. Should our cows destroy it? Who is going to protect it? Why should we care or pay. No political support from the two major political parties.

Our property is an unviable grazing Farm (73Ha.) Classified last century as not suitable for grazing!!! Too steep, fragile soils, sand and clay with little or nil topsoil, many soaks ranging from seasonal to permanent. One rare Australia plant (Bat Wing Fern) plus at least two SA rare (as above and Native Broom). I have forgotten the creek (about 800m) which has at least one endangered fish, which struggles with our smaller water holes and salinity as water levels drop. How does the owner of this property (protect, maintain, develop this Ecological niche????? \$\$\$ get the Minister down for a

Photo shoot so some other area can be neglected!) Environmental/ ecological walks/tours, Insurance? Not even tax incentives for viable farms.

Lone, large, paddock, trees, usually eucalypts but can be also casuarina, native cherry! Picked off each time the politically promoted climate change sends another record breaking weather change!

We are supposedly in a democracy, led by a Govt that many think can only be corrupt. Example Active (ETSA line clearers) Year in year out we see them trimming, weed and feral trees on Public and Private land. Why??? The first logical explanation can only be corruption! (The workers are a regular fire hazard, smoking on the job or behind the truck!) Why aren't Active not killing these trees? Yes they won't be there next year and the fire hazard will be reduced, saving rate payers stress and \$. City dwellers must help the environment maintenance and recovery.

Education. Too many Apartheid private schools taking resources from the kids that really need that extra environmental experience and educational/vocational help. Not enough statistics and data on all relevant subjects. Too many polities hiding stuff. The new board is just another buck passing exercise by polities, not accepting responsibility for lack of funds

Submissions from Organisations

Please note emailed submissions are transposed first, then organisations who wrote to us on their letterhead follow.

Via email – Will Durack, General Manager Kangaroo Island Landscape Board

Thanks for sharing this plan. Your coverage on climate change and the use of wording around courage is particularly inspiring and useful for me at the moment.

Via email - Glen Rowlands, Mayor District Council of Yankalilla

Thank you for your email sharing the draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape plan. I'm pleased to read that the draft plan is aiming to address a lot of things that our community has talked about for years, ever since the local plant pest board disbanded. I'm really pleased that production and biodiversity are recognised and also calling for the producer to collaborate with other organisations like councils, Landscape SA etc. I think the draft plan is very good, achievable and recognises the importance of primary production and the changes that they need to make. I see the biggest challenge being the land holders making the necessary changes. I hope our councils initiative could help the connection and implementation. What we learnt during our community engagement was our primary producers want council to provide support like we do with tourism, health etc, so we have developed a position in our economic development team. Perhaps we can expand on that later once the person is employed and settled in.

I'm particularly interested in water conservation and river (creek) restoration. As you would realise our council area has many water contributories all entering the sea at some point. The southern waterways are generally of good quality, not so for the Western ones in particular the Yankalilla, Bungala and Carrickalinga contributories which run into Gulf St Vincent. The community are gathering together to research and plan remediation of the Bungala. Council has many documents written over the years giving advice, also council completed a storm water management plan in 2013 which is a big part of the discussion.

It would be good to meet with you or a colleague once the group has convened to start building a relationship.

I'm happy to meet to discuss if you wish.

Via email – Sally Roberts, Alexandrina Council

Dear David

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026.

Various staff from Alexandrina Council have had the opportunity to contribute to the draft Hills & Fleurieu Landscape Plan (the plan) during the stakeholder consultation process and are satisfied that the points they raised have been captured.

Overall the priorities identified in the plan align well with Council's environmental strategy and its recently adopted Community Strategic Plan, A2040. It is also timely given that a review of our Environmental Action Plan will be undertaken shortly providing the opportunity to align and incorporate the Boards priorities.

For many years Council has coordinated the Alexandrina Sustainable Agriculture Round Table (ASART) in which a major concern with members was the management of roadside weeds. Council therefore supports this proposed project in the Plan where a collaborative approach is critical to ensuring that weeds are managed in a strategic way. Effort needs to be made to ensure programs are identified in all parts of the Board's region so that weeds that are problematic in a particular area are targeted rather than developing a program that targets one particular weed that may not be a particular concern in some other parts of the region.

Embracing regenerative agriculture is also supported and is likely to be considered along with increasing vegetation cover and carbon farming as part of our Carbon Neutral Plan, which is consistent with the Plan's climate projects. In addition Council will continue to support Resilient Hills & Coasts through staff membership.

With respect to the Mt Barker wastewater and stormwater management project, Council has been involved in some workshops that identified the concern of stormwater quality and quantity as a result of new development. Although Council is supportive of being a partner it does so without commitment from a financial perspective given that the scope of the project is not known. There is definitely opportunity to explore how stormwater and wastewater can be better managed however Council's commitment is dependent on elected body endorsement of the project.

Alexandrina Council has always been open to partnering with Government and other industry bodies to ensure good outcomes for our community and will therefore continue to do this when and where we can.

Again thank you for this opportunity to be involved in shaping the future of our region.

Kind regards

Sally

Via email – Chris Grant, National Trust SA

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan. The National Trust of SA owns and manages nine reserves for conservation and recreation in the Hills and Fleurieu region, some of which we have managed since the 1950's. We have a long history of management for biodiversity conservation, volunteer engagement and minimal disturbance bushcare.

1. This document includes a number of worthy objectives and high level strategies but is lacking in depth. Rather than being a plan, it is more like a framework for a plan.
2. We strongly support the statements on page 4, and would like to see more concrete statements regarding delivery of these goals. We agree there is need for "urgent and ambitious action" and for this document to qualify as a Plan, it should give some indications of what that action will be.
3. Similarly, page 5 identifies correctly many challenges, but does not have a plan to address them.
4. As with all documents of this type there are many ways of "slicing the cake" – ie of determining how to structure the document. This one chooses Land / Water / Nature / Climate / Community as the major topics. The Land and Water components tend to be production-focussed and I'm not sure that the way

the document is structured actually fosters an integrated approach. Nature and climate aspects should perhaps be infused throughout not separated out.

5. Under Climate, the Hills and Fleurieu document includes little (nothing?) about potential sea level rise and its potential impacts upon coastal and estuarine biodiversity, as well as infrastructure.
6. More specifically, there is no particular reference to the highly fragmented nature of the region's remnant native vegetation. Linking with this, strategies such as "Undertake controlled burns to improve the health of fire-dependent ecosystems" need very careful attention. Prescribed burning in fragmented landscapes is a complicated, vexed issue. Similarly, the strategy "Coordination of roadside weed and vegetation management" can be interpreted in many ways, whereas a comment on the importance of remnant roadside vegetation and the need to protect and enhance its biodiversity values would be more welcome.
7. It needs to address the significant problem resulting from ongoing incremental loss of native vegetation, further increasing fragmentation and reducing available native vegetation.
8. Dealing with the ambiguity of weeds control on roadsides is commendable, but it should also include the vexed issue of weed control in rail corridors.
9. It fails to recognise or acknowledge the role and importance of small landcare groups for achieving most of the aims of this plan.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment.

Via email – John Fargher, Yundi Nature Conservancy

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the draft Landscape Plan for the Hills and Fleurieu region. It is comprehensive and a useful summary to guide Board decisions about investment and facilitation in the period to 2026.

Building on the many strengths the draft plan has, I have three overarching suggestions:

- **Performance assessment** should focus on change within the Board mandate and within the plan period (2020-2026) – many of the "*We'll know we've succeeded when*" points are aspirational and beyond the influence and delivery of the Board alone, especially by 2026. I would suggest the plan focuses on "*We'll know we've delivered results against this plan when*" and then identify expectations about ***who will be doing what differently on June 30 2026***. The "who" and "what" should be specific, measurable and detailed in a performance assessment framework for the plan.
- **Better emphasise opportunities, productivity and local relevance** – references to UN Decade for Restoration (p3), CCIA projections (p4) and a global call for 30% of land and seas to be conserved for nature (p9) are fine but few people connect with them and without localisation they don't help the plan. Climate change is definitely something to adapt to and mitigate causal emissions, but the region and Australia are a miniscule part of a global problem, and the Board has a very small influence on the problem. A related but more tangible priority for the region would be ***productivity*** – that better links land, water, nature and community while also measurably contributing to resilience and emissions reduction. The plan would be strengthened if the ample evidence of functioning ecosystems and healthy natural environments boosting productivity, enhancing tourism and food/wine enterprises, and growing regional economic resilience and value was used for a more opportunity-based and enterprise-oriented foundation to the plan. I'd replace "climate" with "productivity" in the five priorities (p4) and mainstream climate resilience, mitigation and adaptation throughout the 5 priority areas.
- **Recognise the need for re-learning First Nations knowledge** – the specific strategies for P2 (p11) would be strengthened if they acknowledged that while First Nations values and approaches to

looking after Country are strong, much of the traditional knowledge has been lost since European settlement. A key finding of the current Board project exploring ***Aboriginal values of the Fleurieu Swamps*** highlights the on-going and contemporary values and approaches of First Nations people whilst also identifying a need to collaborate with First Nations peoples to re-learn and share historical and contemporary knowledge for looking after Country. The swamp values project highlights how much knowledge has been lost and how little is known, especially by people 50 years and younger. Most of the managing Country knowledge for the HFLB region is retained in historical and academic records/papers and needs to be re-learned, shared and adapted to a contemporary context with and by First Nations peoples. That is a wonderful opportunity linked to other strategies in the plan (e.g. P2c and P2d). I would change P2a to focus on values and approaches; and add a new strategy to P2 [Collaborate with First Nations peoples to re-learn and share historical and contemporary knowledge for looking after Country]. I encourage you to speak with Mark Koolmatrie from [Kula-Tind-Jeri](#), the swamp value project leader about this.

I am happy to discuss these comments with the Board if useful.

Ref: DOC/21/56247

14 April 2021

David Greenhough
Chair Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
hfplan@sa.gov.au

Dear David,

Re: Draft 2021-2026 Regional Landscape Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Regional Landscape Plan. The Plan presents a sobering assessment of the state of the region's natural resources, highlights the urgent need for action and identifies strategies that will help us work towards a more sustainable future for the region.

As you know, Mount Barker is one of the fastest growing urban areas in the State and the challenges in managing this growth and providing the infrastructure and services needed for the growing community are significant. Council is certainly cognisant of the extreme pressure growth is having on already highly stressed natural resources, namely water and biodiversity and the ever increasing threat of climate change and its impacts on current and future communities.

That said, Council takes a positive and proactive approach to these challenges and has recently endorsed a new Community Plan [Community Plan 2020-2035](#) that sets the vision and ambition for this place and its community. It is important to note that the priorities identified in your draft Plan have much in common with the Community Plan. This opens the way for deep and enduring collaboration between Council and the Landscape Board, which is the theme I would like to emphasise in this submission, focussing on three of the priority areas as they are relevant to Council.

Water

I understand that staff have had preliminary discussions with your officers, about stormwater management issues associated with urban growth. Council is also in the unique position of owning and managing the District's treated wastewater infrastructure and operations. Stormwater and wastewater management are both complex issues that challenge Council's financial and operational planning as well as the day-to-day work of engineering, planning and environmental staff. Both issues present significant risks and pressures for us to consider and plan for, including finding uses for the recycled water that will benefit environment and community.

I note and welcome the fact that Mount Barker is specifically identified in the draft Plan in relation to water management and suggest that further discussions occur between relevant staff to chart an ongoing and outcomes driven 'forum' of ideas, actions and opportunity development.

Climate

We all now know that climate change will increasingly affect our region into the future. Council has shown its concern about climate change by declaring a climate emergency, adopting a Climate Change Action Plan and elevating climate action as a high priority within the Community Plan. Our Council is also a member of the Resilient Hills and Coasts regional climate adaptation project, which has proven to be a successful and effective way to increase awareness and understanding of the impacts of climate change and to progress actions needed to prepare our communities as the planet heats up.

The draft Plan emphasises the need to adapt to climate change by building resilience but also is ambitious for the region to become carbon neutral. Council has targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions but would welcome a regional conversation on what it would take to become carbon neutral and to set a target for when this might be achieved by, as a region. This conversation would be best progressed via the Resilient Hills and Coasts partnership along with how we can collectively work towards implementing the various strategies identified in the draft Plan.

Nature

Nature connection is identified as a high priority in Council's Community Plan and the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board as a key implementation partner. Council is responsible for more than 360 parcels of community land and roadsides that contain significant remnant vegetation and has active programs in place to protect and extend where possible, including substantial bushcare and revegetation programs. However, with so little remnant vegetation remaining in the Mount Lofty Ranges there is much to do to make sure vegetation condition doesn't decline further and that opportunities to replenish and restore the landscape are pursued with vigour and intent. We would like to work with the Board on biodiversity protection and replenishment as a priority.

In addition to the critical management of remnant sites, the city of Mount Barker offers an opportunity to integrate nature with the growing urban community and associated education and learning benefits. As we speak, the finishing touches are being put on the first stage of a regional level sporting and recreation complex in Mount Barker. The Summit Sport and Recreation Park precinct will host traditional sporting activity and an aquatic centre, as well as informal recreation such as cycling, walking, adventure play, arts and other cultural events. Adjacent this precinct is the Laratinga Wetland, which is at the centre of the ever-expanding Mount Barker parklands and linear trail network that link the town's growth areas to Mount Barker Summit and eventually Hahndorf.

Not dissimilar to the Torrens Linear Park, the Mount Barker parklands are emerging as an appealing destination and ecological asset in their own right and offer an incredible opportunity to bring nature closer to where and how we live. We would like to work with the Landscape Board to further develop the ecological function and connectivity and educational and recreational value of this area.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on your draft Plan. I look forward to further updates as the plan is finalised and you move into the implementation phase.

Yours sincerely



Marc Voortman

GENERAL MANAGER PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Direct No. 8393 6416

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Primary Producers SA

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21P018

6 April 2021

David Greenhough

Chair, Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board

Upper level, corner Mann & Walker Streets MT BARKER SA 5251

Via email: hfplan@sa.gov.au

Dear David Greenhough,

Re: Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board Regional Landscape Plan 2021 – 2026

Primary Producers SA (PPSA) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments to the development of the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021 – 2026 (draft plan) which sets the vision and priorities for the region to achieve sustainable landscape management.

It is disappointing that the consultation period on the draft plan is so short as this has compromised a full and meaningful review and discussion of the draft plan between the primary production sectors. It is vital that the plan gives communities and landholders a greater voice in managing their landscapes.

PPSA's vision is for a strong and viable primary production sector in South Australia, which is valued by government and the community. The purpose of PPSA is to:

- Vigorously represent the interests and concerns of primary producers to government and the community.
- Present one voice to government and the wider community on cross-commodity issues affecting primary producers in South Australia.
- Promote the importance of primary production in South Australia and ensure that the contributions and achievements of primary producers are acknowledged and appreciated.
- Work with and assist stakeholders and suppliers to primary production where such assistance will ultimately benefit primary producers.

PPSA's members are the commodity organisations of South Australia. Its current members include Grain Producers SA, Livestock SA, Horticulture Coalition of SA, Wine Grape Council of SA, Australian Forest Products Association, and the SA Dairyfarmers' Association. Each organisation is represented by a councillor on the PPSA Council. The PPSA Council meets once per quarter on cross-commodity issues affecting all sectors.

We note that the draft plan focuses on the region's key landscape requirements and the programs that will be delivered across all priority areas of:

- land
- water
- nature
- climate
- community.

The three top priority issues / opportunities for the primary production sector are water delivery and security, management of pest plants and animals and over-abundant native species, and climate change/carbon neutrality.

One of the major concerns for primary producers is the security of water supplies at reasonable prices, with the increasing cost of water becoming a restraint on investment production systems throughout SA. Another key issue for PPSA is the management of pest plants and animals and over-abundant native species. Of particular concern are the relatively high numbers of kangaroos, the ease with which kangaroo numbers can quickly increase and the effect this can have on total grazing pressure. Further options need to be considered for the strategic and effective control of kangaroos.

Consideration should be given in the review to supplementing pest risk assessments with benefit cost analyses, so that an economic assessment can also be made of the management and control programs for pest animals and plants. Foster more support primary producers to adopt best practice management of rabbits, foxes, cats and emerging pests. Pest plants can have significant negative impact on primary producers. Many pest plants are escaped garden plants. The plan needs to facilitate improved detection and response to pest plants based on their invasiveness and potential impacts. We would wish to see a priority for the Board being rabbit management to destroy infestations as it is estimated rabbits cause over \$200 million a year in losses to Australian agriculture. Feral cats also need to be managed more effectively as they can threaten lamb production and carry infectious diseases. With over-abundant native species would it be possible to inject the concept of commercial exploitation? There could be value in looking at over-abundant species through a commercial lease, as what we have done so far has not worked.

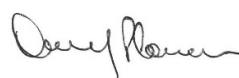
The carbon neutrality conversation is growing and aligns with the current sustainable practices being placed on the agenda for the primary industry sector. The draft plan should help identifying threats to soil health (e.g., erosion, acidification, salinity), as well as opportunities for improving soil management and condition. Ensuring healthy soils is the foundation building block to primary production. Effort on regenerating and increasing biological activity and carbon sequestration would not only benefit the landscape and environment, but also benefit economic sustainability of businesses. (e.g., additional income streams or reductions in variable costs). The plan should be about supporting adaptation to climate change, with mitigation being up to industry and business to do what they can. Increasing knowledge and adoption of land management practices that can restore soil pH levels and soil organic carbon levels also reduce nutrient loss from wind erosion. Facilitating agriculture programs that focus on education and support for these issues. Assisting producers to understand their current carbon footprint (e.g., where is our base line and where improvements can be made). Recognising current practices that meet our carbon neutral objectives (2050), e.g., sustainable management practices, new technologies etc.

PPSA is endeavouring to finalise our contribution to the state Landscape Strategy and Landscape Board plans while at the same time consulting with primary producers, through our industry communications channels, to establish regional priorities and policies. This will be an ongoing process, lasting past the target date for Boards to finalise their plans. Therefore, we look forward to establishing close linkages with the Landscape Boards over the coming years and to help them deliver education as an important part building awareness of the importance of sustainable primary production and sustainably managing natural resources.

Kind Regards,



Joe Keynes
President
Primary Producers SA NRM Committee



Don Plowman
CEO
Primary Producers SA



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DLM: *Public*

Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
hfplan@sa.gov.au

Re: Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026 Consultation Draft

Thank you for the opportunity to provide formal feedback on the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026 Consultation Draft.

Green Industries SA (GISA) commends Landscapes SA on preparing the Plan and for launching a process to seek community feedback.

GISA has reviewed the draft plan and provides more detailed feedback for your consideration at **Attachment 1**.

Central to GISA's response are its two state-wide strategies:

- *South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020-2025*
- The draft Food Waste Strategy, *Valuing our Food Waste: South Australia's strategy to reduce and divert household and business food waste* (with the final strategy forthcoming in early 2021).

Transitioning to a circular economy is a priority action in the *South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020-2025* and a guiding principle of GISA policy and programs.

Therefore the Plan's clear focus area in *Building climate resilience of communities and agriculture* and including *Developing a circular economy* as a key project within this frame are particularly acknowledged by GISA as key positive inclusions.

GISA is advancing work in developing a circular economy strategy for South Australia which is to address growing resource constraints, increasing environmental impacts and increasing waste generation. It is important to highlight the circular economy as an accelerator to a zero-carbon sustainable economic recovery while supporting greater community cohesion across all socio-economic levels.

In the enclosed response, GISA has provided key specific feedback and areas for potential collaboration in the circular economy and through disaster waste management. I understand that Landscape SA Hills and Fleurieu staff have already undertaken early consultation with Green Industries SA and the agency would welcome a further opportunity to collaborate with the Board on areas of mutual benefit.

Should the Board have any queries regarding the information provided or would like to discuss GISA's feedback further, please do not hesitate to contact Veronica Caire, Manager, Governance and Policy at: veronica.caire@sa.gov.au.

I wish you well in finalising the Plan and GISA would welcome an opportunity to collaborate or share further knowledge with the Hills and Fleurieu Landscapes Board on opportunities within the region.

Yours sincerely

Dr Ian Overton
Chief Executive
Green Industries SA

Attachment 1 – GISA Feedback on Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026 Consultation Draft

Possible areas for the consideration of the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board are provided below. Background information about Green Industries SA and the Circular Economy is also provided at **attachment 2**.

1. Specific feedback on the Plan

Area: Land

Focus area: Future Proof our agriculture

Strategies:

Build systems and consumer demand that support local provenance foods and regenerative, climate-ready land management practices

Achieved through projects like:

Paddock to plate market development

Building consumer demand and systems that support producers who undertake good land management and environmental stewardship practices.

***Partners:** Industry bodies, National Farmers Federation, Farmers Markets, farming systems groups, Open Food Network, Landscape boards*

GISA response

- **Suggest including Fight Food Waste CRC and PIRSA as key partners.**

Noting Plan's work to consider paddock to plate market development, GISA suggests the inclusion of the national **Fight Food Waste Cooperative Research Centre** which is exploring technologies and new markets applicable to the Australian food industry and improving supply chains.

Research indicates around 25 per cent of food produced in Australia goes to waste. Losses along the food supply chain are estimated to be worth \$20 billion annually.

The Fight Food Waste CRC is examining these issues and aims to improve the competitiveness, productivity and sustainability of the Australian food industry through undertaking research to solve industry-identified problems through collaborative partnerships. The South Australian Government is participating in the Fight Food Waste CRC through PIRSA and GISA.

The Fight Food Waste CRC programs are expected to deliver benefits including:

- New sources of revenue and market growth for food companies.
- Less wasted resources through the supply chain from grower through to consumer.
- Less food waste ending up in landfill.
- More donated food to feed hungry Australians.

Should the Board wish to explore collaborative research opportunities, it may wish to contact the Fight Food CRC – for information and contact details: www.fightfoodwastecrc.com.au/get-involved-2/

- **Suggest linking actions under Land and Climate in regard to nutrient looping**

A recent study shows that South Australia's organics sector recirculates a very high 83 per cent of organics materials entering formal collection systems. An example of this is the food, garden and compostable waste that households place into kerbside organics bins for collection and is processed into high quality soil improvement products. The compost is then used to improve soil health, returning carbon and nutrients to the soil, supporting reduced water and resource inputs into food production.

Area: Climate**Focus area: Build climate resilience of our communities and agriculture****Strategies:**

Encourage primary producers and consumers to adopt circular economy practices

Build systems and consumer demand that support local provenance foods and regenerative, climate-ready land management practices

Achieved through projects like:**Developing a circular economy**

Supporting new businesses that aim to minimise and retain materials to regenerate natural systems, including large-scale composting of food waste and using woody weeds for biochar.

Partners: Waste and resource recovery industry, councils, agriculture and food industries, DEW, PIRSA, GISA, universities, and regional management groups (including the Regional Development Australia (SA) network).

GISA response**Suggested change:*****Developing a circular economy***

Supporting and maintaining circular economy opportunities in food, wine and agriculture industries to maximise economic, social and environmental benefits within the Hills and Fleurieu region.

Partners: Waste and resource recovery industry, councils, agriculture and food industries, State Government (including PIRSA, DEW and Green Industries SA), environment and community groups, universities, and regional management groups (including the Regional Development Australia (SA) network).

The above amended text is provided to ensure the Board's focus is high-level and less prescriptive. GISA views that bio-char is just one potential technological solution the region could consider (but does not need specific reference to ensure that other potential technologies or systems possible for organic waste are explored).

Should it assist, **additional priority actions** which could give context to **how the Landscapes Board could potentially play a role** and support circular economy activities in the region which are provided below.

As was advised to Landscape SA Hills and Fleurieu staff, this is based on the scope of a current project with the Regional Development Australia in the Murraylands and Riverland region with funding from GISA.

Landscape Board – potential role to support circular economy in region

GISA views that the three key areas that regional areas are able to progress can be distilled to three key areas:

1. Understanding the value of the circular economy

- *Introducing and articulating **the value of the circular economy** to the region (e.g. broadly articulating the needs, opportunities and pathways for a more circular economy in the region)*

2. Identifying (or helping to identify) key sectors and businesses in the region

- ***Identifying key priority sectors and businesses** in the region which would benefit from pursuing circular economy pathways (including through profiling, mapping and metrics, sector analyses, including impact and benefit analysis).*

3. Supporting solutions

- *Supporting the development of **feasible and accessible local opportunities and solutions** through pilot projects, research and development, and collaborative opportunities*

3. Possible opportunities for collaboration with GISA

Area: Climate

Focus area: Build climate resilience of our communities and agriculture

Strategies:

Support the community to prepare landscapes for, and recover from, fire and extreme weather events.

Achieved through projects like:

Biodiversity fire planning tool

Developing a Biodiversity Fire Planning Tool to support the strategic use of fire to maintain biodiversity, while reducing fuel loads and the risk of bushfires to life and property.

Partners: DEW, Landscape Boards and Country Fire Service, First Nations

Regional dialogue on fire and native vegetation

Facilitating regional discussions about how we restore and manage native vegetation while preparing our landscapes for more frequent bushfires.

Partners: H&F Landscape Board, DEW, environment and agricultural groups, Resilient Hills & Coasts, Councils, community

Disaster planning

GISA's lead role as Disaster Waste Management Functional Lead (required under Part 4 of the State Emergency Management Plan) was activated on 6 January 2020 to support the coordination clean-up following the extreme bushfire events in the Adelaide Hills, Kangaroo Island and in Yorketown and the South East in December 2019 and January 2020. Through this process, GISA managed waste and resource recovery from 243 destroyed houses, 504 outbuildings and over 48,000 tonnes of debris and supported the reimbursement of 56 properties that were cleaned-up privately.

GISA has recently evaluated the work undertaken in response to the clean-up activity and is reviewing the South Australia's Disaster Waste Management Capability Plan and any relevant guidelines for possible improvements.

Noting the region's work to support the community to prepare for and recover from extreme weather events, it may be worthwhile supporting the sharing of knowledge and information between Landscape SA Hills and Fleurieu and GISA.

Potential regional level circular economy opportunities

Pilot Project: Benefits of A Circular Economy To Regional SA

Recognising that building regionalised or localised responses to contextual opportunities is key to progressing a more resilient and circular economy, GISA is progressing a circular economy Pilot Project to support identifying and analysing the needs, opportunities and pathways to a more circular economy at two Regional Development Australia (RDA) jurisdictional levels in SA; the Limestone Coast and the Murraylands and Riverland RDA regions, as previously mentioned.

GISA will commence this work in April 2021 (following a request for proposal process to seek the services of a supplier with circular economy expertise) and it is expected to be completed by September 2021. GISA anticipates that the work will result in sharable knowledge about how to progress circular economy opportunities at the regional and sub-regional level which will be of use to other regions.

4. Circular economy example projects

A sample of best practice case studies demonstrating the circular economy in action are provided below.

The below examples provide evidence of many businesses operating within SA's regions in the food, wine and agriculture sector.

Most projects were supported via Green Industries SA's Circular Economy Business Support Program which supports a diversity of South Australian businesses, organisations and industry sectors to accelerate sustainable change and transition to a circular economy. The program provides assistance and funding to identify, prioritise and implement improvements in resource efficiency, waste management, and resource recovery as a way to reduce operating costs, boost productivity and improve environmental performance.

For further information: <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/CEBSP>

Projects supported by GISA

Dairy SA

Green Industries SA partnered with Dairy SA to deliver *The Whey Forward for Niche Dairy Processors* project in 2017. This was a feasibility study of the options available to South Australian niche dairy producers for higher-value uses of whey by-product. It included consultation with industry to determine which options have potential for implementation and could be investigated further.

<https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/case-studies/dairy-sa>

Holla-Fresh

Holla-Fresh has embraced renewable energy innovation which allows the option of enhancing herb growth and has also created opportunities for two other companies (one also based in the State's south-east). This has provided a boost for the regional economy, inspired new research, massively reduced its carbon footprint and laid the groundwork for tangible results for its business. Holla-Fresh has also effectively provided an alternative higher-value use for an otherwise low value residue from the construction and demolition industry and thus averted GHG emissions if this biomass residue found its way to landfill.

<https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/case-studies/holla-fresh-herbs-produce>

Dorrien Estate Winery

GISA worked with Dorrien Estate Winery to identify, shortlist and assess selected energy and water resource efficiency and wastewater management initiatives at the site which resulted in significant financial savings. Further improvements were made to reduce waste through improved resource recovery and disposal to landfill.

<https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/case-studies/dorrien-estate-winery-and-vinpac-international-lean-production>

Further relevant case studies include:

- Section 28 Cheesemakers: <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/case-studies/section-28-cheesemakers>
- Accolade Wines: <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/case-studies/accolade-wines>
- Cape Jaffa Wines: <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/case-studies/cape-jaffa-wines>
- Kay Brothers: <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/case-studies/kay-brothers-winery-lean-production>
- Pernod Ricard: <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/case-studies/pernod-ricard-energy-savings>

Relevant independently completed industry projects:

Henschke Wines

Established a new vineyard-wide flood management system that includes a diverse native plant species mix and reuse of winery waste. The project supported undervine straw mulching to eliminate the need for herbicides, green waste organic compost under the straw, permanent mid-row swathes of predominantly native grasses, and the production of biochar (added to compost) from waste timber.

<https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/case-studies/henschke-wines>

Byrne Vineyards

Byrne Vineyards Scotts Creek, near Morgan in the Riverland.

Upgrading the irrigation infrastructure that supports 280+ hectares undervine in the vineyard in 2012 which led to permanent water savings of 240ML a year, 75 per cent of which is given back to environmental flows in the River Murray. Better water management through automation and moisture monitoring equates to improvements in water efficiency of around 10 per cent.

<https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/case-studies/byrne-vineyards>

Attachment 2:

About Green Industries SA

Green Industries SA is an enabler and driver of change, supporting the development of a circular economy through diverse collaborations that improve productivity, resilience, resource efficiency and the environment.

It aims to transform how South Australians use and value resources. Its objectives under the *Green Industries SA Act 2004* are to:

- promote waste management practices that, as far as possible, eliminate waste or its consignment to landfill; and
- promote innovation and business activity in the waste management, resource recovery and green industry sectors, recognising these areas present valuable opportunities to contribute to the state's economic growth.

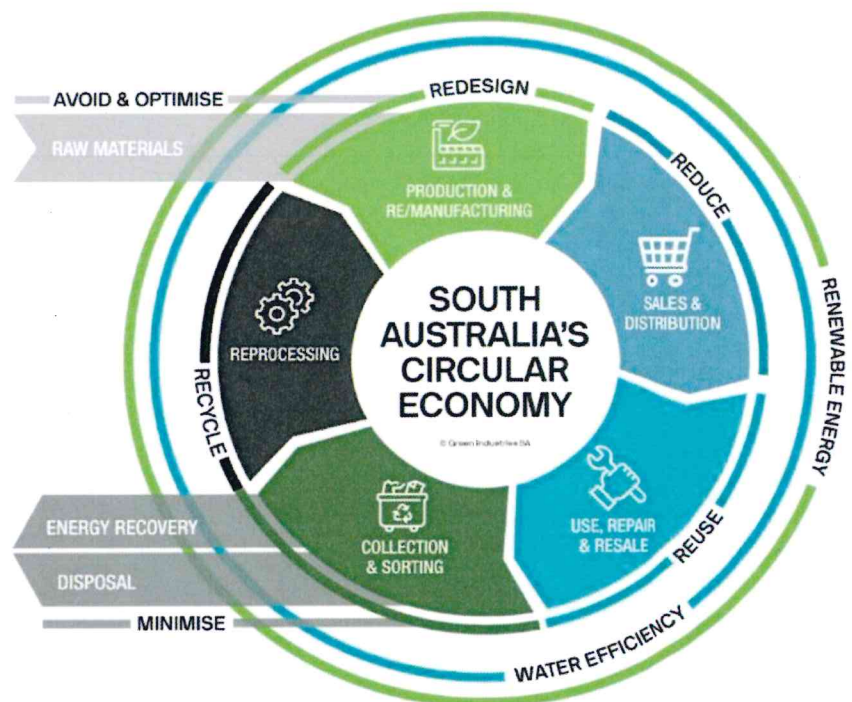
For further information: <https://www.greenindustries.sa.gov.au/>

What is the Circular Economy

The circular economy is a prominent focus for Green Industries SA. The Green Industries SA Act 2004 incorporates the concept of 'circular economy' as a guiding principle.

'Circular economy' is a generic term for an industrial economy that by design or intention is producing no waste and pollution. It refers to the better use of materials within the economy and involves more remanufacturing, repair and reprocessing than the linear 'make, use, dispose' mode of traditional economies. It entails decoupling economic activity from the consumption of finite resources, and designing waste out of the system. It is an economic model that regenerates natural capital and supports our wellbeing, and has been identified as a crucial component to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals, including combating 45 per cent of world GHG emissions created from the production, use and disposal of material products.

Figure 1:
South Australia's Circular Econon
(Green Industries SA, 2020)



Circular Economy is a systematic approach to economic development that benefits business, society and the environment. Benefits to businesses and the community are realised through reduced costs in raw materials, and increased employment and innovation because the circular economy encourages activity in preserving resources through optimal design and use. There are also significant benefits in energy and water savings in transitioning to a circular economy.

The potential benefits of a circular economy in South Australia have been measured (Creating Value: the Potential Benefits of a Circular Economy in South Australia, 2017, Green Industries SA). Gains to be achieved include local job creation and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, including:

- Create an additional 25,700 full time equivalent jobs
 - 21,000 jobs by actioning material efficiency gains
 - 4,700 jobs by actioning efficient and renewable energy gains
- Reduce South Australia's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 27 per cent or 7.7 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent
 - 21 per cent GHG reduction by actioning efficient and renewable energy gains
 - 6 per cent GHG reduction by actioning material efficiency gains

The potential global benefit of a circular economy is estimated at \$2 trillion per year by 2050¹. A report released in April 2020 estimates that the benefit of a circular economy in Australia would be \$210 billion in GDP by 2047-48². A circular economy also provides great environmental and social benefits by reducing the use of raw materials, keeping products in use longer and at their highest value, reducing water and energy use and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Approximately 45 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions globally arise from how products are made and how we use our land, including for food production³. Coupled with renewable energy this provides an integrated

Progress in transitioning to a Circular Economy

The South Australian Government is leading the development of a circular economy as identified in 'Supporting the Circular Economy - South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020-2025'. This is to address our growing resource constraints, increasing environmental impacts and increasing waste generation.

It provides a path for accelerating initiatives within South Australia's broader Green Economy Agenda that seeks to protect natural capital, ensure we operate within planetary boundaries and prevent pollution, while advancing and sustaining economic, environmental and social well-being and resilience.

The development of a state circular economy strategy will identify the scale of the opportunities to build (and rebuild) SA's remanufacturing and manufacturing industries, develop independence and resilience through circular business models, improve energy, water and materials efficiency, regenerate our environment, reduce our carbon footprint and in doing so, build post-COVID economic recovery.

¹ United Nations Environmental Plan (2017) Resource efficiency: potential and economic implications. International Resource Panel Report.

² KPMG (2020) Potential economic pay-off of a circular economy for Australia.

³ Ellen MacArthur Foundation (2019) Completing the Picture – How the Circular Economy Tackles Climate Change (United Kingdom)

Adelaide Hill Council

Your Say - Draft Hills and Fleurieu - Landscape Plan

Comments general to punctuation rather than the content.

Page	Section	Comment
1	Title Page	A stand of remnant vegetation could also be depicted in the photograph/image, perhaps in the distance/background?
2	Contents	Capitalisation for the word Board? i.e. The Board's role.
5	How to read the plan	Capitalisation of Board x 2? Paragraph 3. Capitalisation of Annual Business Plan? Paragraph 3. 'A section of projects are also' is suggested ... plural noun.
6	The board's role	Capitalisation of the word Board throughout the text? Proper noun? Title? Capitalisation of Annual Business Plan?
9	Nature	Punctuation after ecosystems and species.

Date: 15 / 04 / 2021

The Chair
Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
Email: hf.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au

Dear Sir,

Re: Draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback to the documents currently on consultation.

This document is written as a submission in response to the community consultation of the draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan (the plan). It has been prepared by members of the South Australian Young Planners network committee (SAYP), a sub-divisional committee of the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA). The views expressed here are those of the SAYP committee involved in preparing the policy submission and are intended to both actively engage as part of the community and to make the most of this opportunity to develop a resilient sustainable future, championing the concepts of accessibility of new policies or strategies across a variety of disciplines so that professionals who have only a handful of years' experience will still be able to easily and effectively navigate through the legislative environments relating to their professional fields.

Who are Young Planners?

A young planner is a student or graduate of a planning or planning related degree with up to 5 years post graduate experience. PIA strongly supports the role Young Planners play in the future of the profession and of the Institute. PIA has had a network of Young Planners promoting, supporting and representing Young Planners since March 1996. This network operates in each state and territory across Australia. At a state/territory level young planner groups:

- Arrange social and information sessions and activities.
 - Support young planners at Divisional levels.
 - Promote the role of young planners within the planning profession.
 - Foster links between PIA and Universities.
 - Promote student and graduate membership of PIA.
 - Promote interaction between young planners, especially between student and graduate planners.
 - Contribute to community consultation and provide policy responses to proposed policies, reforms or action plans at the local, state and national levels.
 - Promote the planning profession as a whole.
-

Q1. Based on the opening The Need for Action section of the plan, as outlined in the plan, are there any changes or additions you would make? Does any more detail need to be included here?

- The “The Need for Action” section works well as a call to action and is well placed at the start of the plan. It is entirely aspirational but is effective in outlining the purpose of the plan and the Landscape Board. Regarding the reference to building regional prosperity, one potential change would be to include wording which makes a clear statement regarding economic benefit, as this would likely not negatively impact the “green” image of the plan and Landscape Board.

Q2. Based on the Challenges Facing our Region section of the plan, are there any changes or additions you would make?

- This section is an excellent summary of the issues and potential risks the region faces. It conveys all concepts behind each of the challenges. This could be further expanded by linking the listed challenges to the specific contextual factors of the region e.g. acidic soils of the region have led to the selection and propagation of certain types of crops, some of which will not fare well if soil acidity continues to rise. Adding these connections would help to highlight the importance and urgency of addressing these challenges in the region and subsequently the plan.

Q3. Based on the Vision and Priorities listed in the plan, are there any changes or additions you would make?

- The five selected priorities make for a well-balanced approach and the use of the diagram makes it clear that engaging with the community is a crucial step in achieving each of the other four priorities. This same approach could be used between the other four priorities (climate & land and water & nature are not currently connected) and this could potentially be corrected by using more of a Venn diagram approach.
- In addition, the first two lines of the general text “These five priorities are deeply connected. Long-term gains in each priority will require action in others” is unclear and difficult to understand for the reader. A potential alternative instead could be: “Each of these priorities interact with one another at many levels and long-term success in any one priority will require an integrated and holistic approach”.

Q4. In your opinion how clearly does the How to Read the Plan section achieve its intended purpose?

- The small inset is straight forward and reads well, it is a useful tool for introducing new readers to the often-complex legislative environment. This section could benefit from the introduction of a diagram that sets out the structure of the plan and any of the immediately connected documents and where to find them, this will provide further clarity for those readers who do not have an abundant amount of experience working with these types of documents.

Q5. In your opinion how clearly does the plan identify The Board's Role in managing Natural Resources in the future?

- The Board has a clear role as the regional facilitator, catalyst and partnership builder for Natural Resource Management within the Region. However, it is not made clear the role the Board plays in contributing to the decision-making process Further clarification could be provided regarding what institutions and groups are leaders or are responsible for the planning and execution of projects and initiatives within the Natural Resource Management space.

Q6. Much of the second half of the plan refers to the individual priorities and their associated focus areas, are there any changes or additions you would make to the focus areas or strategies listed?

- Overall, each of the priorities and their focus areas are well considered. While there are no measurable goals included in these sections, it does make it clear what the plan aims to achieve in the long-term.
- As the urban built environment makes up a crucial part of the landscape that needs to be managed, it is noted that with future developments resulting in an increase in hardstand and decrease in surface water infiltration, especially in high growth areas such as around Mount Barker, the risk of flooding will continue to increase, having a focus area around the urban environment may be beneficial. One potential solution that will help to reduce the amount of runoff entering the stormwater drainage systems and reduce the need for further civil works would be the inclusion of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) and green infrastructures such as rain gardens and water capture systems in the road verge.

Q17. Are there any other comments or recommendations you have regarding the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan (2021 – 2026) – consultation draft?

- The Hills and Fleurieu Regional Landscape Plan (2021 – 2026) – consultation draft is a concise draft plan. It can be wordy in some sections and the inclusion of figures that convey this same information could make interpretation of this information easier. In particular, the inclusion of a map, whether this is part of The Need for Action or in another section showing the Region would be a helpful addition.

SAYP look forward to future collaborations and community consultations with the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board as the new Landscape system is rolled out throughout the region.

Yours sincerely

Sean Sparrow, Co-Convenor

SA Young Planners

Email : Sean.Sparrow@ghd.com



A4891173

David Greenhough
Chair
Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
Upper level, corner Mann & Walker streets
Mt Barker 5251
hf.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au

Dear Mr Greenhough

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the proposed draft Hills and Fleurieu Regional Landscape Plan 2021-2026 (draft Plan).

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) welcomes the opportunity to be involved in this process and to provide feedback on the proposed draft Plans. PIRSA has prepared a response to the call for comment on the draft Plan and highlighted the importance of the connection between the Landscape Board, industry and sustainable industry development across the Hills and Fleurieu Region.

Please find attached my agency's response to the proposed draft Plan which reflects that PIRSA is broadly supportive of it.

Should you require any further information on our feedback, please feel free to contact me.

I look forward to working with you as the Government delivers on its commitment to reform how our landscapes are managed into the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B Bartel", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brett Bartel
Director, Recovery
PIRSA Rural Solutions

15/4/2021

Attachment A: PIRSA feedback on the draft Hills and Fleurieu Regional Landscape Plan 2021-2026.

Attachment A: Department of Primary Industries and Regions Response to the PIRSA feedback on the draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026.

Draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026.			
Proposed Change No.	Document Reference	Comment/Observation	Suggested Change/s
1	Challenges Facing Our Regions	This plan goes further than others to acknowledge the importance and role of landscapes in securing climate change adaptation, resilience and opportunities. However, acknowledging its role as a carbon sink and the key to net emission reduction would be beneficial.	Consider acknowledging the regions role as a carbon sink and the key to net emission reduction?
2	Challenges Facing Our Regions	The plan includes reference to declining fresh fish stocks and macro-invertebrates with a rating of 'fair to poor'. It is unidentified where this information was sourced? This is a board statement and does not identify relevant species? It is unclear as to where this information was sourced from? If quantified, individual species should be listed?	Consider referencing how this statement in relation to fish stocks and macro-invertebrates was arrived upon and engaging with PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture to assist in qualifying the accuracy of statements made in relation to unidentified fish stocks/. If quantified, individual species should be listed?
3	Priority: Land	The document does not contain much in terms of actions. It would be great to see some more tangible outcomes, particularly in terms of what actions the landscape board staff will be taking to achieve outcomes - or at least reference to where this could be found. Strategy to support landholders to adopt best practice management of rabbits, foxes, cats and emerging pests is great. More education on effective control methods are needed.	Consider referencing any applicable links between the contents of the aspirational Regional Plan and activities within the Business Plan?

Draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026.			
Proposed Change No.	Document Reference	Comment/Observation	Suggested Change/s
4	Priority: Land	The plan refers to food and fibre. It is hoped that forestry is considered under fibre. Suggest references to agriculture be changed to industries or a similar word to be inclusive of forestry, aquaculture etc.	Consider ensuring that relevant terminology used is inclusive of forestry within the region?
5	Priority: Land	In relation to the identified regional priority of Land, agriculture needs to be 'profitable' as well as sustainable.	Consideration could be given to referencing agriculture as 'profitable' as well as sustainable.
6	Priority: Land	This plans goes a lot further than others in acknowledging both regenerative agriculture opportunities and the uptake of carbon farming this space, which will potentially help to quantify role of the Landscapes Board and staff in this space and will help be an important tool in future partnership opportunities with agencies also working in this space.	N/A
7	Priority Nature:	<p>A large section of coastline within this region, with little focus on marine waters within the Plan. The only reference appears to be in the Priority Water section referring to 'Seeds for Snapper' in revegetating seagrass beds as nursery areas .</p> <p>This area is the home to many marinas, which are known vectors and nodes for marine pests. Are there any examples of engagements associated with managing risks and possible monitoring activities to help protect resources?</p>	Consider addressing the omissions referred to opposite and referencing any applicable links between the contents of the aspirational Regional Plan and activities within the Business Plan (e.g. any examples of engagement in managing risks and possible monitoring activities to help protect resources)
8	Priority: Climate	It's great to see that this a standalone priority. Many opportunities exist and are growing in this space and the state's landscapes will have a critical role in helping achieve the state's net emission reduction targets - and supporting agriculture to address its emission responsibilities too.	

	Draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026.		
Proposed Change No.	Document Reference	Comment/Observation	Suggested Change/s
9	General Observation	The headings 'Achieved through projects like', could be redrafted to give a clearer sense of the projects listed are currently underway. An observation is that the document appears aspirational in content without providing the reader with proposed approaches to achieve identified priorities or referencing where these may be referred to in the associated Business Plan (refer to the Business Plan observation below)	Consider referencing any applicable links between the contents of the aspirational Regional Plan and activities within the Business Plan?
10	General Observations	There is a reference to fisheries but suggest the plan strives to ensure there is recognition of fisheries/aquaculture and the marine environment with respect to primary production and regional identity.	Consider ensuring that the plan recognises fisheries/aquaculture and the marine environment with respect to primary production and regional identity (e.g. in the 'A Special Region' component of the Plan on page 3).
11	Business Plan	Refer to the comments above regarding referencing any applicable links between the contents of the aspirational Regional Plan and activities within the Business Plan.	Consider referencing any applicable links between the contents of the aspirational Regional Plan and activities within the Business Plan?

15 April 2021

Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board



RE: Your Say: Draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan

To whom it may concern,

BirdLife Australia welcomes the opportunity to comment regarding the Draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan.

BirdLife Australia (formerly Birds Australia) is a highly respected, science-based, not-for-profit conservation organisation. With our specialised knowledge and the commitment of our Australia-wide network of 13,000 members, and more than 100,000 volunteers and supporters, we are dedicated to achieving outstanding conservation results for our native birds and their habitats. We have an extensive ongoing program of research, including our National 'Beach-nesting Birds' Program, developed to address the impacts of people and recreational activities on beaches on the breeding of Australia's native resident shorebirds, such as the Hooded Plover (*Thinornis cucullatus* [formerly *rubricollis*]).

The Hooded Plover (Eastern) is listed as Vulnerable under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) and the South Australian National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (Schedule 8).

The Beach-nesting Birds Program:

The Beach-nesting Birds program has been operating since 2006 and has trained volunteers and land managers in on-ground protection of priority Hooded Plover and Red-capped Plover breeding sites, engaged with local residents and schools to raise awareness of the plight of these birds, and established the Friends of the Hooded Plover Fleurieu Peninsula group. Working in partnership with and support from Green Adelaide (formerly Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges), and the National Landcare Program, in partnership with Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board, councils, the Normanville Natural Resource Centre, South Coast Environment Centre, and the Friends of the Hooded Plover Fleurieu Peninsula, this has been a highly effective program at boosting breeding success of these birds and preventing further decline.

One of aims of the Beach-nesting Birds Program is to seek a balanced approach to protecting beach-nesting birds and coexisting with recreation on beaches. Movements of Hooded Plover pairs between multiple sites across the Fleurieu Peninsula and metro beaches highlights the value of this entire coastline, and the importance of maintaining and improving each of these beaches as habitat in the long term.

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Sharing our Shores with Coastal Wildlife program:

BirdLife Australia and Green Adelaide work collaboratively on the Sharing our Shores with Coastal Wildlife Program. This project focuses on a range of coastal wildlife, including migratory shorebirds, beach-nesting birds such as the Hooded Plover, Red-capped Plover and Pied and Sooty Oystercatcher, seabirds such as the endangered Fairy Tern, and other tern species breeding on Southern Fleurieu Islands (Wright and West Islands). The program works wholistically across both Green Adelaide and Hills and Fleurieu Landscape region, recognising the connected nature of coastal wildlife populations and their habitats.

The project seeks to improve conservation of coastal habitats and raise community awareness through iconic coastal flagship species to engage community support and facilitate stewardship to mitigate species decline.

Coastal biodiversity conservation is imperative to coastal management and should be a critical element included in the Hills and Fleurieu Plan.

For further information on the Hooded Plover program on the Fleurieu Peninsula in particular, refer to the following website for reports: annual breeding success and threats, 7-year review of Fleurieu data etc:

<https://www.birdlife.org.au/projects/beach-nesting-birds/research-bnb>

Please find here our suggestions and recommendations with regard to the Draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan:

- Nature: Back from the Brink
 - Thank you for including an image of a Hooded Plover pair and chick, however, it would be good to specifically mention Beach-nesting Birds or “Coastal birds”, including their dependence on healthy coastal, estuary and marine habitats. As mentioned above this is a long-term program that has shown success through management, monitoring and community awareness and involvement. It is a flagship program for what can be achieved in the Fleurieu region when scientists, land managers and community-based volunteers work together.
 - “Reducing immediate extinction risks and improving the long-term viability of threatened species and ecological communities in the Mount Lofty Ranges.” This needs to include not only the Mount Lofty Ranges, but also the Fleurieu’s coast, estuary and marine environments.
 - Please include BirdLife Australia as a partner here. It is great to see Green Adelaide is included as a partner.
- Nature: Project Coorong:
 - BirdLife Australia plays a role with monitoring and management of Beach-nesting Bird and migratory species in this region, as such it is suggested that BirdLife Australia be mentioned as a partner and to highlight the area as a key habitat for these species, in particular, at an international scale for migratory shorebirds.
- Nature: N2 (a) Revegetate and control weeds and pests in coastal areas and offshore islands. We are in support of this and believe that this objective could benefit by providing context for these works. Namely, these actions not only directly reduce weeds and pests but do so to improve native vegetation and habitat for coastally dependent wildlife (as per the Southern Fleurieu Coastal Action Plan, and Fleurieu Islands Biodiversity Action Plan <https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/hf/coast-and-marine/coast-and-marine-ecosystems/coastal-action-plans>). In addition, N3 should mention the coast and marine environment specifically.

birds are in our nature



- Throughout the Plan there are only three actions which specifically mention the coast/estuary/marine environment (N2). However, we would like attention drawn to coastal, estuarine and marine values as habitat for wildlife. This environment should be specifically mentioned in many of the actions that appear under the Land, Water, Climate and Community sections:
 - Land: L2 (a) – fox control in particular,
 - Water: W2(d), W3(b).
 - Climate: Woodland Bird Resilience is mentioned which is really fantastic. We also recommend including Coastal Bird Resilience, as coastal habitats are subject to some of the greatest impacts of climate change in the face of rising sea levels. The capacity for coastal habitats to adapt to rising sea levels and retreat inward are a great example of well managed coastlines where native vegetation dominates the dune system and buffers between infrastructure exist. Action C2 (a) could specifically mention coastal environments.
 - Community: we would like to see a focus on coastal stewardship of 'seascapes' as well as landscapes, or more of a focus on coast and marine systems in this section, in particular in actions P1(a) and P4. The Fleurieu Peninsula's community-based Hooded Plover conservation has been used as a national example of successful conservation and should be promoted through this plan. We recommend incorporating coastal community volunteers in the actions.
- Working Together: Read Up, Donate, Volunteer & Connect to Nature (citizen science): are all opportunities to highlight BirdLife Australia's Beach-nesting Birds Program (in collaboration with Green Adelaide): <https://birdlife.org.au/beach>
- BirdLife Australia would also like to highlight the importance of both the Normanville Natural Resource Centre and South Coast Environment Centre as integral partners in both the Beach-nesting Birds and Sharing our Shores with Coastal Wildlife programs. The centres engage with the local community, and promote and assist the programs extensively.

BirdLife Australia wants to continue to partner strongly with the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board through the Plan to achieve and continue to grow the programs on the Fleurieu's important coast, estuary and marine environment.

Kind regards,

Emma Stephens
Sharing our Shores with Coastal Wildlife Coordinator
BirdLife Australia, supported by Green Adelaide
E: emma.stephens@birdlife.org.au Ph: 0457 333 177



Normanville Natural Resource Centre
3/50 Main Street/PO Box 131
Normanville SA 5204
Phone: 8558 3644

To: Michael Garrod
Hills and Fleurieu Landscape SA Board
22 Mann Street
MOUNT BARKER SA 5251

Dear Michael,

Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026 – Consultation Response

On behalf of the Normanville Natural Resource Centre Inc. I am providing a response to the Consultation Copy of your draft Landscape Plan 2021-2016.

I would firstly like to congratulate the Board on the inclusive nature of the initial consultation process that has resulted in the draft Plan for this final consultation, although this last 4 week consultation period has presented somewhat of a challenge to enable a more fully thought through response.

The Normanville Natural Resource Centre (NNRC) also understands the requirement for you to operate within the parameters of the Back-to-Basics approach that the Minister for Environment and Water has outlined. This plan should be capable of transcending party politics and be capable of universal support. Key to that sentiment is the need to highlight the aspiration of 'Best Practice' conservation, management and improvement initiatives within the environment.

The Plan rightly fully acknowledges the need for action in terms of how our environment/landscapes will survive the challenges to come and the part that all players have in achieving that. Whilst it is not a backward-looking document, much work has already been done in Natural Resource Management within this region and there is little in the way of acknowledgement of that past work and where programs are ongoing into the future.

The NNRC wishes to highlight our concern at what seems to be a shift away from the ongoing funding and integration of Environment Centres as part of the regional approach to Landscapes, to what is proposed as partnering for volunteer purposes. In the following comments, we will identify where we feel the real value in Environment Centres lies and urge the Board to consider ongoing support within your future Annual Business Plans.

I offer the following comments in relation to the various sections of the Plan:

Principles of Board leadership:

Harnessing and building capacity – Environment Centres offer the ability for the Board to multiply its reach into communities within the region. They are logical extensions to the Board's offices, run by paid staff and volunteers, offering information and connection with communities.

Connecting to nature and shifting culture towards restoration – Environment Centres already connect communities to the environment and inspire people to act, rather than just be informed about how we can live more sustainably, for the benefit of the environment.

LAND:

- Whilst the notions of highly productive landscapes and the control of pest plants and abundant species fit with the Back-to-Basics approach, we question why there is so much focus on agriculture? Isn't PIRSA the lead Government Agency and technical expert in this field? Surely the role of the Board should be in offering environmental solutions in conjunction with PIRSA's lead role.
- In regenerating our biodiversity, consideration could be given to a target such as "To increase the coverage of native vegetation within the region to 20%" ? There is currently only around 15% of pre-settlement vegetation remaining across the region. A target such as this would also contribute to the strategies around Nature, regenerative farming and help restore wildlife habitat in both urban and rural settings.

WATER:

- W1 could be more simply put as "Water Resources that meet ecological, economic, cultural and social needs."
- Water Allocation Plans need to strike the right balance between environmental and economic needs in a changing climate. The 10 year review timeframe would seem to be too long and not be responsive to changing needs. Water licensing requires a robust and ongoing monitoring program to ensure compliance and avoid water theft.

NATURE:

- N1 - In wanting to see a massive, collective effort in restoring and conserving biodiversity, there will be a need to move people to take action, not just to be informed or observe progress from afar. Environment Centres within the region can be key facilitators in connecting the community to nature and in taking action in revegetation efforts.
- N2 b – could the Board advocate for greater protection of fisheries within the Gulf St Vincent? Is a moratorium needed to help restore a viable marine environment?
- N2 c – Critically endangered RAMSAR Wetlands extend across the southern Fleurieu, including areas such as Parawa to Newland Head and Myponga – these areas should be included within this Strategy.
- In managing our water dependent ecosystems, consideration could be given to actions such as:
 - Continuing partnerships to help implement the construction of Water Sensitive Urban Design projects within urban areas within the region;
 - Advocating to Government for action to reverse the decline in marine species within Gulf St Vincent – enhancing the role and purpose of Marine Parks, reducing the impacts of overfishing etc.

CLIMATE:

- C3 – becoming a climate resilient region must also include initiatives for the urban communities, as these areas are where great potential exists for action and improvement;
- Continuing partnerships to facilitate Climate Adaptation can include actions such as:
 - Reducing the impact of extreme heat within urban areas – climate resilient green infrastructure such as trees/open space within the public realm;
 - Advocate for green infrastructure improvements in state planning policy
 - Advocate for continuing improvement in energy efficient building construction through changes to the Building Code of Australia


COMMUNITY:

- First Nations strategies could include:
 - Advocacy to establish Homelands within the region (not only accessing country)
 - Establish a First Nation Ranger program involved with land care, cultural needs etc
 - The role of Environment Centres within the region is not limited to access to volunteers. They provide opportunities for connecting the community with the environment by:
 - Interactive learning events; Development of skills;
 - Connection with local groups; Access to information;
 - Local shopfronts and meeting places; Support the Board to deliver programs
 - Administration, training & support for volunteers;
- All of these things help motivate people to take actions with respect to the environment and in living more sustainably.
- Consider integrating and expanding the concept of Environment Centres to increase connection with our communities and improve the effectiveness of the Board's work.

In closing, 'Back to Basics' can mean more than priority focus areas such as Water Resource Management, Sustainable Agriculture and Control of Pest Plant and Animals. To this you could add "Thriving and Resilient Communities and Biodiversity"

We look forward to future success in helping the Board in its endeavors in connecting with communities & managing our landscapes and want to reiterate the commitment of the Normanville Natural Resource Centre to delivering great environmental and community outcomes.

Yours sincerely,



Matt Robertson
Chair, Normanville Natural Resource Centre
14 April 2021



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15th April 2021

**David Greenhough
Chair, Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
Adelaide, South Australia**

Re: Draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026 and Business Plan 2020-2021

Dear David,

The Nature Conservation Society of South Australia (NCSSA) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026 and the Draft Business Plan 2020-2021. The NCSSA is a community based, not for profit organisation with a diverse membership drawn from all parts of the State. As South Australia's primary nature conservation advocacy organisation, NCSSA has an active interest in the protection and conservation of South Australia's natural resources with particular attention being paid to nationally and state listed threatened plants, animals and ecological communities, management of protected areas and remnant native vegetation.

The NCSSA recognises the challenges involved with developing this inaugural Landscape Plan to guide management of natural resources across the Hills and Fleurieu Region, given the complexity and range of the issues as well as the number and range of stakeholders involved. We commend the Board for their acknowledgement of the critical importance of this Region for nature conservation in the draft Landscape Plan, being one of 15 Biodiversity Hotspots in Australia and an area where there are many nationally and state listed plants, animals and ecological communities of conservation significance. We also commend the Board for the recognition of the Kaurna, Peramangk and Ngarrindjeri First Nations connection and custodianship of land and water across the region and commitment to working with these groups to manage landscapes in keeping with their traditional knowledge and aspirations for the area.

You may be aware that the NCSSA has a long-standing interest and involvement in the management of natural resources across the Hills and Fleurieu Region having established an extensive network of monitoring sites across the Region over the past two decades through the Mount Lofty Ranges Woodland Bird Monitoring Program and our Bushland Condition Monitoring Programs. These programs aim to assess trends in the abundance of woodland birds and assess the condition of patches of remnant native vegetation and have been supported by the Adelaide Mount Lofty NRM Board and other partners. These programs continue to provide important monitoring data that can be used to guide the sustainable management of natural resources and provide a rigorous scientific framework to assess the effectiveness of on ground works in achieving biodiversity conservation outcomes.

The Society would welcome further discussion with the Board on how we could assist in building and strengthening partnerships with the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board to assist in delivery of regional priorities. Such partnerships might include future collaborative projects, particularly in relation to biodiversity monitoring and education. We are particularly keen to assist the Board and community in continuing to improve knowledge of the

condition of the vegetation of the region and results of on-ground works through our Bushland Condition Monitoring program, and long-term monitoring of woodland birds at established sites across the Region.

Please refer to the following pages for our specific comments on these Plans. If you would like to clarify or discuss any of the points raised, please contact me on 0447848964 or via email at nicki.depreu@ncssa.asn.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N de Preu'.

Nicki de Preu

Conservation Ecologist
Nature Conservation Society of South Australia

NCSSA comments on the Draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan 2021-2026

General comments

The NCSSA considers the plan to be generally well structured and written in a style that is readily understood and engaging. The plan also recognises the challenges involved in managing natural resources across the region over the five-year term of the plan and beyond.

Our comments on the draft Landscape Plan and Business Plan are outlined further below:

Comments on specific section of the Landscape Plan 2021-2026

Page 2: Text Box - A special region

The NCSSA suggest that the first dot point should also acknowledge there are a large number of species/ecological communities with national and state conservation importance that occur across the Region. For example, the unique Swamps of the Fleurieu Peninsula are listed as Critically Endangered under *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* (EPBC Act).

We also suggest the fifth dot point should acknowledge that the Region contains a number of nationally important wetlands in addition to the Coorong and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert RAMSAR listed wetland. Further information is available on the DEW website: https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/Science/science-research/Seascapes_landscapes_and_communities/Wetland_inventories_and_mapping

Pages 3-4: Challenges facing our region

We strongly support the use of information from the State Report Cards to provide an assessment of the condition and trends in health of the indicators shown in the table on Page 4 however, suggest that indicators for threatened flora and fauna and wetlands should also be presented given their importance in this Region.

Page 10-11: Land - Regenerating biodiverse and highly productive landscapes

The title of this section is somewhat misleading as there are also areas of intact native vegetation that occur across the region that require ongoing management to ensure that their biodiversity and conservation values are maintained or improved as part of the Landscape Plan. Management of the land is not only about regeneration and restoration of habitat across the landscape. The Focus Areas of reducing the impact and spread of weeds, pest animals and impact-causing native animals apply equally to areas of intact native vegetation as they do to areas used primarily for agricultural production.

The NCSSA recommend this section also acknowledge that the land is extremely important for biodiversity too – providing habitat for a multitude of nationally and state listed plants and animals and threatened ecological communities some of which only occur within the Hills and Fleurieu Region.

Page 12-13: Water - Managing water resources sustainably

The NCSSA suggest this section should acknowledge that the Region contains wetland systems that are of international (i.e., RAMSAR listed wetlands) and national importance including the Critically Endangered Swamps of the Fleurieu Peninsula, Englebrook Reserve at Bridgewater and the bogs within Cleland Conservation Park¹.

Page 14-15: Nature - Conserving natural places, ecosystems and wildlife

The NCSSA acknowledge that there has been a substantial amount of habitat restoration across the Region that has resulted in significant knowledge and expertise being developed, however we strongly recommend this section further emphasise the importance of the Region for biodiversity conservation more broadly.

We strongly support the list of Focus Areas and strategies aimed at addressing these issues, in particular the following:

- Focus Area N3 and strategy a) that addresses the implementation of recovery interventions and monitoring for threatened flora, fauna, and ecological communities, and
- Focus Area N2 and strategy c) that aims to support the long-term health of the Coorong and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Ramsar wetland of international significance.

¹ Seaman, R.L. (2002) Wetland Inventory for the Mount Lofty Ranges. Department for Environment and Heritage.

As a minor editorial comment, we query whether strategy b) under Focus Area N1 should read: Expand high-value habitat through targeted revegetation of grassy, heathy, swampy and riparian ecosystems rather than healthy even though healthy ecosystems are no doubt desirable?

Page 16-17: Climate - Becoming a carbon neutral and climate resilient region

We commend the Board for their intentions to address climate change issues and resilience in the draft Plan and reduce emissions to net zero for the Region over the life of the plan and beyond. In particular, we support Focus Area C2 and strategy a) that aims to take targeted action to build the resilience of vulnerable species and ecosystems.

We suggest that the Adelaide Mount Lofty Bushfire Management Committee (AML BMC) should be included as a Key Partner under the Biodiversity Fire Planning Tool Project. We also suggest that NCSSA is included as a Key Partner under the Woodland Bird Resilience Project given our ongoing involvement in monitoring of Declining Woodland Birds across the Region including in the Cudlee Creek Fire Scar area.

Page 18-19: Community - Everyone caring for our landscapes

The NCSSA strongly support the intention for “everyone in the region to be landscape stewards – through their close connection to nature and active involvement in restoration”. We suggest this statement be further expanded to “.....close connection to nature, active involvement in restoration and protecting remnant native vegetation”. We also suggest that the AML BMC is included as a Key Partner under the project Regional Dialogue on Fire and Native Vegetation as the BMC provides an important link between the community, local councils, the CFS and associated agencies.

NCSSA Comments on the draft Business Plan 2020-2021

The NCSSA recognises the challenges involved with allocating finite financial resources to achieve the best outcomes for natural resource management across the Region. We acknowledge and support the focus on five transitional priorities from the SAMDB Regional NRM Plan that align closely with ‘key drivers’ in the AMLR Regional NRM Plan.

We commend the Board for the significant levels of Australian Government funding that they have been successful in attracting and efforts in working collaboratively with other Landscape Boards to achieve coordinated outcomes across landscapes. We appreciate the considerable uncertainty involved with continued access to funding through Federal and State based grants but strongly recommend that the Board continues to pursue these funding sources and other opportunities for funding through the private sector and philanthropic organisations.

We suggest that it would be useful to include an additional column in Table 3. Expenditure by priority and focus areas in 2020-21, to show how the various projects align with specific focus areas in the draft Landscape Plan.

15 April 2021

Mr David Greenhough
Chair
Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
Upper level, corner Mann & Walker streets
Mt Barker SA 5251

Dear Mr Greenhough,

Draft Hills and Fleurieu Regional Landscape Plan 2021 - 2026

Thank you for the opportunity to provide SA Water's input as a part of the consultation process for the draft Hills and Fleurieu Regional Landscape Plan.

SA Water provides safe, clean drinking water and reliable sewer services to more than 1.7 million South Australians, including 130,000 residents in the Hills and Fleurieu region either directly or indirectly.

Our Strategy 2020-25 was launched in October 2020 and charts our course over the next five years, while also having a view towards 2050. It recognises the decisions we make have a long-term impact on the wellbeing of our customers and community and the future sustainability of both our business and the South Australian economy and environment.

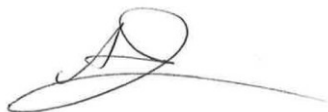
Framed by our vision, "Delivering trusted water services for a sustainable and healthy South Australia" and structured around five strategic focus areas, our strategy outlines what we will achieve for our customers, our stakeholders, and our people.

We have set an ambitious direction, and success will be achieved with continued focus on understanding our customers' and stakeholders' priorities and delivering the core water services they need and value.

We see alignment between a number of our strategic focus areas and the vision and priorities set out in the draft Hills and Fleurieu Regional Landscape Plan.

Further information on key strategic focus areas that relate to priorities outlined for the Hills and Fleurieu region are set out in Attachment 1. SA Water would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and other representatives from the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board to start a conversation on how we can work together to support sustainable landscape management for the Hills and Fleurieu region.

Kind regards,



Anna Jackson
General Manager Strategy, Engagement, and Innovation

Phone: 7424 1398

Email: Anna.jackson@sawater.com.au

Encl: Attachment 1- submission on Hills and Fleurieu Regional Landscape Plan

ATTACHMENT 1

Water for the future

To maintain long-term water security in South Australia, we are exploring increasing our fit for purpose water service offerings. We believe sustainable water sources will deliver environmental benefits such as increased reuse of water, and a secure supply in a changing climate.

We are currently developing our broader Water for the Future plan and would welcome the opportunity to discuss water planning and investment opportunities with the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board in the coming months.

SA Water acknowledges the key challenges listed in the draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape plan, particularly around interconnected land management and water quality issues that need to be considered to improve the resilience of the region. We would be open to discussing how the Landscape Board plans to overcome these challenges in the interest of maintaining the quality of surface and ground water as well as freshwater fish and macroinvertebrates in the Hills and Fleurieu region. When undertaking land use planning to future proof our agriculture industry, the impacts on the water cycle and resilience to future climates to successfully support our community will be important considerations.

We welcome the opportunity to continue to support the McLaren Vale Water Security Planning process and working towards sustainably securing the future of our local viticultural and wine industry.

SA Water also acknowledges the importance of water allocation planning to provide certainty to current and future users of water, particularly to those whose livelihoods depend on it. SA Water considers that all Water Allocation Plans should include provisions for critical human water needs for protection of public water supplies, similar to those provided by the Water Allocation Plan for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse.

Healthy Communities

One of SA Water's key strategic focus areas is promoting healthy communities through the health and wellbeing of active, thriving communities through greener, cooler urban environments.

We have been working on cooling initiatives in the community through smart irrigation and air temperature sensors. During 2019-20 we collaborated with 19 councils to test new smart irrigation technology used to drive efficient water use and optimal growing conditions for greener and cooler open spaces. These partnerships revealed some councils can become more efficient in their water use by up to 30 per cent.

More than 200 air temperature sensors installed across public open spaces and playgrounds monitored the benefits of irrigating open spaces across the state. This data is displayed on SA Water and council websites to promote the benefits of irrigating open spaces to improve community liveability and encourage people to be outside, even during the warmer summer months.

Another way SA Water is supporting healthy communities is by working collaboratively with local councils to plant trees in parks and streetscapes to reduce urban heat islands and increase tree canopy coverage. This initiative supports local councils in achieving their tree canopy targets and aligns with SA Water shared areas of focus while ensuring SA Water's water and wastewater assets are protected from tree root intrusion.

Our people for the future

We are proactively building a more diverse and inclusive organisation to better reflect the community we serve. One of the ways we are doing this is through our Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) July 2020 – June 2023.

SA Water acknowledges the Kaurna, Peramangk and Ngarrindjeri people as the traditional custodians of The Hills and Fleurieu region. SA Water is committed to building stronger Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and improving liveability and sustainability through water and wastewater services.

Appendix 2

Winning entrants to 'Picture This' competition

Amber, Primary School Student

Photo



Description

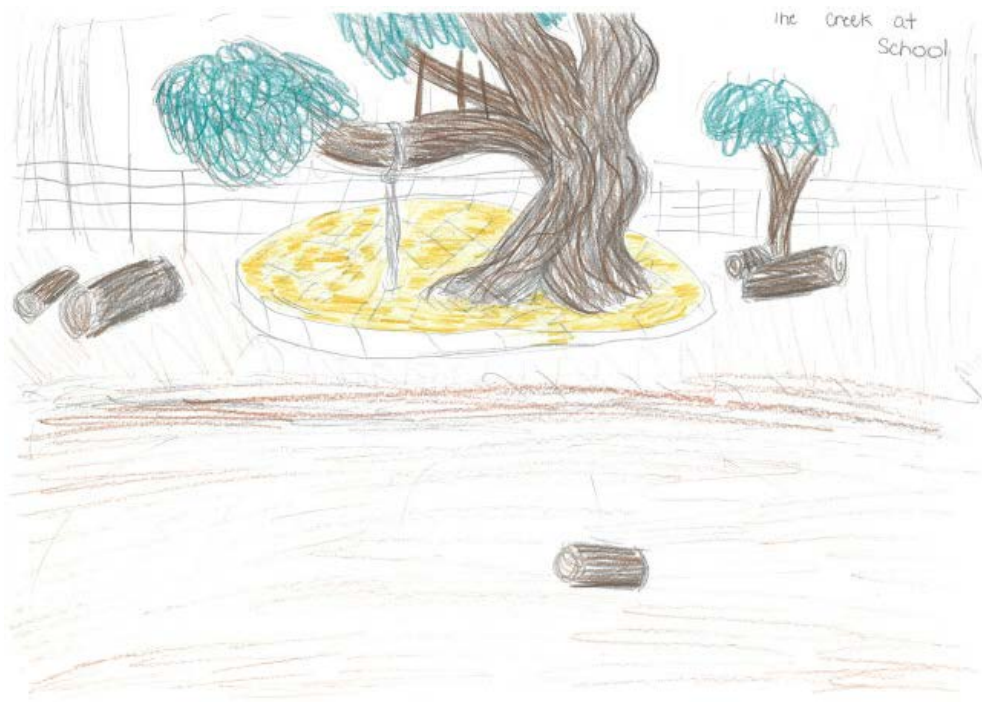
"The Fleurieu Hills is more to me than just a small place on Earth. To me, the Fleurieu is my home, a safe place where I can make memories and be my true self. Farming is a huge part of what the Fleurieu means to me. The cows that seem to be everywhere and the agricultural fields found along roads always reminds me how lucky I am to live in such a beautiful place. So many families rely on their farm to provide for them and their finances. If our hills were suddenly taken away from us, not only would our wonderful landscape be ruined, but the future of some families will surely seem dark. This is why it is important to not only keep our environment safe but to also buy local so you can support small family businesses.

Buying local is important for my community. If we buy local the local shops employ local people, resulting in employed neighbours and friends. This will create more opportunities to participate and make connections inside a small town. A strong community stands out and welcomes others. This is one of the many reasons why I love the Fleurieu so much. Living in a place where people know you supports your mental health and makes the world a happier place. So, save our environment, save our hills. "

Amber

Amelia, Primary School Student

Drawing



Description

"A special for me in nature is plants and animals. I've grown up with nature so that's why it's important to me. I've always had a love for nature, it's one of my passions."

One of my favourite places in nature is the creek at school because I have fond memories there. Although I wish that there could be more vegetation though. How we can protect it is by keeping it clean from litter and planting vegetation and allowing it to grow to restore the area more."

Amelia

Isabelle, Primary School Student

Drawing



Description

"The beach is special to me in nature. My fave place in nature is the beach because it is calming and very beautiful to look at. The fish and nature in the water is preshuse and beautiful, so we must keep them safe.

We can save it by not littering. Also by taking care of the coral reefs and not using boasts that use gas/peteral to save the water, fish, coral reefs and less pollution around the beach/in our atmosphere."

Isabelle

Natasha, Primary School Student

Drawing



Description

"My drawing is special to me because it reminds me of a grassy hill that my family and I drive past when visiting other family, the eucalyptus tree is like the large and old trees I see each day on the way to and at school, the sunset is just because sunsets make me happy and, they look nice, the Koala and, Kangaroo represent Australia and me and my friends how we're different but can also work together and have fun. In a-way, my drawing represents 2020 because it has plants growing and a kangaroo giving company to the koala and, so that leads to the fact that in tough times we can get through it with the right people by our side helping us see the good. It's important because all nature is important, and it can be protected by not littering/causing pollution, not damaging it by pulling at the leaves or branches and not hunting or shooting the animals."

Natasha

Mount Compass Primary School students using the gardening tools which they won

"Since winning \$100 worth of garden tools and equipment in our Schools Drawing and Photography Competition, Mount Compass Area School students have been enjoying trying out their new prizes. The tools will come in handy for caring for green spaces around the school and creating cool spaces to enjoy nature. Mount Compass Area School won the overall competition prize, as well as two of its students taking out the Upper Primary and Secondary categories."

Mount Compass Area School



Appendix 3

Conversations with our First Nations Peoples

An overview of meetings and conversations with First Nations People on our draft Priorities and Focus Areas (phase 1 consultation).

Conversations with Mannum Aboriginal Community Association Incorporated

2nd February 2021

Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board and Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board had the opportunity to have a joint workshop with the Mannum Aboriginal Community Association Incorporated (MACAI). In attendance were Ivy Campbell, Anita Campbell and Cynthia Hutchinson representing Mid Murray and Peramangk People.

We heard that First Nations have a broad interest across all aspects of the boards' businesses. They would like to see representation in our Plans that recognise in words: 'First Nations' or 'Traditional Owners' when the board discusses who we will/need to work with.

Of particular importance is recognising the key cultural sites and objects of value to Aboriginal people and their culture. Whilst not in the Hills and Fleurieu region, the Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park (Nildottie, SA) was discussed as being a place of great cultural significance and gives a good example of Aboriginal Peoples' connection to country. The late Richard Hunter, former Chairperson of MACAI developed Ngaut Ngaut as a cultural tourism site. Ngaut Ngaut has one of the oldest archeological digs, a large collection of rock art and flora and fauna important to First Nations Peoples. Ngaut Ngaut provides a sense of belonging and provides opportunity to feel connection to place and country.



Spiritual Healing Waters by Artist Ivy Campbell,

Peramangk and Nganguraku Elder, 2021

Ongoing communication with First Nations Peoples along with partnerships and regional knowledge sharing was cited as being key to success in delivering outcomes together. First Nations would like to see us walking side by side creating awareness, and two-way learning to make the country a better place. Connecting youth to Aboriginal culture, by working with and listening to each other is important as well.

Conversations with Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation

January - March 2021

Leaders, staff and the Chair met with Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation (NAC) early in 2021 as part of building a stronger relationship with NAC. The board were (and still will be) very interested in having a conversation about what issues NAC think are important and how these can be turned into meaningful projects undertaking real and valuable work.

Representing NAC at the meeting were Daniel Lloyd, Tim Hartman Snr, Owen Love Snr, Mark Koolmatrie, Uncle Derek Gollan, Clyde Rigney Snr, Candice Love, Kyla McHughes, Georgina Trevorrow, Bill Wilson, Rick Hartman, Brad Hartman and Owen Love.

Conversations began seeking feedback on the proposed Priorities. NAC showed general support for the landscape priorities, however, noted that they are all intertwined with each being co-dependent on the others. Coming through strong in the feedback was the need for good communication that would be key to building working relationships between NAC and the board. In addition, ideally these conversations would occur at all levels i.e. strategic, business planning and project planning. There was enthusiasm to get systems in place to allow this shared planning and conversations to occur including having Ngarrindjeri community involvement in the delivery of the board's Priorities.

NAC outlined things that are important to them such as the native title rights that allows them to undertake cultural practices – but in addition mentioned that other landscape issues can affect this. They discussed an example of the collection of swan eggs (a cultural practice wanting to be undertaken): that the ability to practice this is reliant on many other things – flows down the river, how the wetlands are managed, how pests such as foxes impact swan populations, habitat protection/revegetation etc for swans, Ngarrindjeri being able to access to wetlands. Ngarrindjeri should be involved in all these things that affect their native title rights.

NAC discussed how they see themselves and belonging to country, rather than owning land but that they felt a responsibility to look after it (country). In addition they felt a strong pull to help create a positive future for young Ngarrindjeri kids that grow up with an appreciation of the community and country.

In terms of working together, NAC discussed that the NAC Project Officer position was working very well and to properly engage with First Nations the board would need to resource appropriately within their business plans to support this. In terms of asking about Ngarrindjeri interest, the board should be asking 'what is the Ngarrindjeri interest in this?' not 'do Ngarrindjeri have an interest in this?'. Ideally, working together with Ngarrindjeri would involve overarching agreements focussed on the relationship along with other more operational agreements. The relationship should seek external funding to joint projects as well.

Conversations with Warpulai Kumangka, representing Kaurna People

11th March 2021

On the 11th March 2021 board staff had the opportunity to meet with Kaurna people at Thebarton. We asked for direct feedback on the draft plan and its Priorities and Focus Areas, and heard the following:

Feedback on draft H&F Landscape Plan:

- Reorder the P2 (First Nations) strategies so that it starts with collaboration, then cultural heritage assets, access to Country, and then the delivery through Aboriginal businesses will come.
- Broaden P2 strategy about Heritage protection to include "First Nations cultural and heritage assets"
- There's something missing about raising awareness of non-Indigenous people of cultural values. Not just walking alongside, need to create awareness.
- Supporting Aboriginal interests to access and care for Country was welcomed.

Discussion about the strategies and ideas for projects

Access to Country strategy

- Important to get access to sites and allowing Peoples to walk Country. For example, at the top of Sellick's Hill, it would be good to be able to be on that Country, which is part of the Tjilbruke trail.
- Work with landholders who want to see Aboriginal people on Country.
- The Landscape Board could write to landholders and see if they are interested in allowing access and encourage them to tell First Nations about possible cultural sites/heritage. See which landholders are open to Aboriginal people being on Country.

Delivery using Aboriginal businesses

- Part of the Aboriginal Partnerships Officer role will be developing an Aboriginal Business Hub – so it's easier to know what services are available and to contact them.
- Consider targets for Aboriginal procurement, e.g. Department for Infrastructure and Transport 6% target, Department for Environment and Water 4% target. Consider that the Landscape Board could set a target for procurement through Aboriginal businesses and organisations?

Culture and heritage

- Could put conditions on contractors to ensure they comply with procedures around heritage.
- How can we encourage farmers/commercial businesses profiting from bush-tucker species to provide benefit to, and acknowledgement of First Nations?
- Need cultural awareness training for the broader community.
- Need to encourage locals to have a conversation with us before they start ecotourism or products that use First Nations cultural values / heritage.
- Significant species/places that could be foci for restoring: Washpool, goannas, wedgetail eagles, sea eagles

Collaborating in restoring Country

- Kurna has 17 "determined areas" under Native Title in the Adelaide Hills Council area in Hills and Fleurieu. Parcels of unallocated Crown Land that were returned to Kurna. Some are degraded, others have had some work on them (e.g. with Trees for Life). Could have a project to do direct land management of these and restore.
- Working together: Kurna, with Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation (NAC) and MACAI. For example, cultural burning and 2 year training program of Nations learning / sharing together.
- Regular Four Nations meetings – bring together Peramangk, Ramindjeri. Could have joint discussions around songlines and key landscape stories. E.g. Condilla dreaming story – stories that overlap between the Nations.
- Could move around to each Nations' country and their key meeting places, e.g. near Langhorne Creek, Wellington, there was a meeting place between nations. Could target historic meeting places.
- It would be good to have some grant money for research project to work with historians.
- Modified trees – it would be good for landholders to be open to sharing if they have scar trees. Two way sharing – can bring our young people to learn, e.g. Aboriginal men teaching how to make a canoe.
- Build cultural programs with connection to nature and environment.
- Good model with 2 way conversations – e.g. we've started with Friends of Parks groups – we teach them about what to look for, water is here, scar tree is here. They teach us as well.

Appendix 4

Promotional and communications material used in the consultation periods

Includes media releases, mainstream media stories, social media posts, outward communications and flyers

Have your say about the future of your local landscape

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board is seeking community input into the development of its five year plan to guide the management of the region's landscapes.

As a starting point, five draft priorities have been identified for the region, covering Land, Water, Community, Nature and Climate.

"We're excited to begin this journey to build a plan with ideas and feedback from the community," said board Chair David Greenhough.

"We see these five draft priorities as deeply interconnected. We can't achieve gains in one without addressing the others. And ultimately, the capacity of communities and individuals to take action will be critical to managing and protecting the Hills and Fleurieu landscape.

"We want to work together to create a plan for the region which provides a clear and shared vision, identifies targets, and where to focus our activities," Mr Greenhough said.

Board General Manager Michael Garrod said the board is running targeted stakeholder workshops, key stakeholder meetings, online forums, a schools competition and a community survey over the next 2 months.

"We very much want to hear from the community about their ideas for the plan, and to explore partnerships to achieve the plan. This feedback will help the board decide where to put its efforts over the next five years," Mr Garrod said.

"There are many challenges for our landscapes, including fire, pest plants and animals, overabundant native species and a changing climate.

"The new board is keen to have conversations across the region about the complex issues we face. We want to work together to make sure our region continues to produce world-class food and fibre, remains one of Australia's 15 biodiversity hot spots, and supports our thriving communities."

To take the survey, enter the school competition and for dates for the online forums, visit <https://landscape.sa.gov.au/hf/home>

CONTACT

Abbie Thomas

Communications Coordinator

Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board

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Phase 1 media snippets

Adelaide Hills Herald

LANDSCAPE BOARD FIVE YEAR PLAN CONSULTATION

by Oliver Brown

The recently established Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board is seeking community feedback on its five year plan to guide the management of the region's landscapes.

To begin, five draft priorities have been identified for the Adelaide Hills and Fleurieu region, covering land, water, people, nature and climate.

Board chair David Greenhough said the board was excited to begin building the plan based on ideas and feedback from the local community.

"We see these five draft priorities as deeply interconnected - we can't achieve gains in one without addressing the others," David said.

"Ultimately, the capacity of communities and individuals to take action will be critical to managing and protecting the Hills and Fleurieu landscape.

"We want to work together to create a plan for the region which provides a clear and shared vision, identified targets and where to focus our activities."

The board has created several initiatives to encourage the community to get involved over the next few months.

First, residents can take part in one of the board's online forums on November 30 or December 7, where they can hear from board members about their vision for the region and make suggestions of their own.

Local students can also take part in the board's 'Picture This' photo/drawing competition, where submissions of what is personally special to entrants about nature can win prizes. Entries close at 5pm on Tuesday, December 8.

An online survey on the board's five year plan, where the community can submit feedback directly, is also open until Friday, January 8, 2021.

According to board general manager Michael Garrod, the board is also running targeted stakeholder workshops and key stakeholder meetings.

Michael said the feedback accumulated by these initiatives will help the board decide where to focus its efforts over the next five years.

"We very much want to hear from the community about their ideas for the plan, and to explore partnerships to achieve the plan," Michael said.

"There are many challenges for our landscapes, including fire, pest plants and animals, overabundant native species and a changing climate.

"We want to work together to make sure our region continues to produce world-class food and fibre, remains one of Australia's 15 biodiversity hot spots, and supports our thriving communities."

For more information about the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board's five year plan, including how to take part in the survey or school competition, visit the Landscape South Australia website.

Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board staff at a planning session and H&F board chair David Greenhough. Image by Cath Leo

Victor Harbor Times

HILLS AND FLEURIEU LANDSCAPE BOARD

Have a say on landscape future

THE Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board seeks community feedback into the development of a five-year plan to guide the management of the region's landscapes.

As a starting point, five draft priorities have been identified for the region, covering Land, Water, People, Nature and Climate.

"We're excited to begin this journey to build a plan with ideas and feedback from the community," Board Chair David Greenhough (pictured) said.

"We see these five draft priorities as deeply interconnected. We can't achieve gains in one without addressing the others. Ultimately, the capacity of communities and individuals to take action will be critical to managing and protecting the Hills and Fleurieu landscape.

"We want to work together to create a plan for the region which provides a clear and shared vision, identifies targets, and where to focus our activities."

Board General Manager Michael Garrod said the board is running targeted stakeholder workshops, key stakeholder meetings, online forums, a schools competition and a community survey over the next two months.

"We very much want to hear from the community about their ideas for the plan and to explore partnerships to achieve the plan. This feedback will help the board decide where to put its efforts over the next five years," Mr Garrod said.

"There are many challenges for our landscapes, including fire, pest plants and animals, overabundant native species and a changing climate.

"We want to work together to make sure our region continues to produce world-class food and fibre, remains one of Australia's 15 biodiversity hot spots, and supports our thriving communities."

To take the survey and to enter the school competition visit <https://landscape.sa.gov.au/hf/about-us/our-regions-plan/Have-your-say-on-the-future-of-your-landscape>

Victor Harbor Times 19-11-20



Have your say

on the future of your landscapes

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board is developing a Five Year Landscape Plan. We'd love to hear your ideas for action in the Hills and Fleurieu region.

Join our online forums on 7 and 8 December:
www.landscape.sa.gov.au/hf or **8391 7500** to register or for more information.

Fill out our online community survey

at the website above or hold your camera up to this QR code:



15/3/2021

Tackling the big issues together: Landscape plan open for feedback

Community feedback is being invited on a draft five –year Landscape Plan for the Hills and Fleurieu region.

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board, established in July last year, prepared the plan to guide management of land, water, pests and biodiversity across the Adelaide Hills and Fleurieu Peninsula.

Comment on the draft plan opens on March 18, at yoursay.sa.gov.au.

Board chair David Greenhough said the plan sets out a vision for protecting the uniquely biodiverse and productive landscapes of the region.

"In scoping this plan, we consulted widely with our stakeholders and community through meetings, public forums and a survey," he said.

"People told us there was a need for urgent action to reverse declines in species and ecological communities. We were also told about the importance of supporting producers and landholders to manage their land in a sustainable way, to maximise both economic and ecological benefits," he said.

The plan identifies five priorities: Land, Water, Nature, Climate and Community, with Focus Areas for action and Strategies spelling out how these broad priorities will be achieved.

A central theme of the plan is pursuing action on the priorities in an integrated and collaborative way. As Mr Greenhough explained "the challenges faced by the region require whole of community effort. The plan captures strategies needed across the region to protect and restore our landscapes. Whether it be working with First Nations, industry groups, volunteers, schools and tourism and agri-businesses - we need to work together and bring in new stakeholders to multiply our efforts.

"The community called on the board to tackle issues like climate change and integrated management of agriculture and nature – but also not lose sight of the essentials, like pest animal and weed management. The board will play a strong role in building new partnerships and championing those who are innovating with the region's long-term health in mind.

"After receiving great feedback in our forums last year, as well as hundreds of survey responses, we're excited to show how we've incorporated people's ideas and suggestions. This will be the final round of comments before we finalise the plan and get moving with its implementation," Mr Greenhough said.

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board was established in July 2020, following the introduction of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* which replaced the former *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*. The new Hills and Fleurieu landscape management region runs from Kersbrook to Cape Jervis, and from the Lower Gulf St Vincent across to the Murray Mouth and Langhorne Creek.

The draft plan is available for comment from March 18 - April 15, at yoursay.sa.gov.au, or email comments and feedback to hf.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au

Phase 2 media snippets

Smart Farmer

Community to guide landscape board

HILLS AND FLEURIEU LANDSCAPE BOARD

THE Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board is seeking community input to help shape its Five Year Plan which will guide the management of the region's landscapes.

Board chair David Greenhough said five draft priorities for the plan have been identified across the areas of:

- Land
- Water
- Nature
- Climate
- Community.

"The board has already undertaken a number of online forums with community and industry groups, and is running a schools competition to seek views on the environment," he said.

"We're excited to have begun this journey to build a plan with ideas and feedback from the community."

Now the board is seeking community participation in an online survey, which goes deeper into the five draft priorities to understand where action is needed in the region.

The online survey is at www.surveymonkey.com/r/Hills5YearPlan and is open until January 8, 2021.

Mr Greenhough said the board supports communities and land managers to improve the management of the region's landscapes, including soil, water, pest plants and animals and biodiversity.

"We want to create a plan that speaks for the region, not simply the board," Mr Greenhough said.

"A plan that reflects the shared aspirations of all the region's stakeholders, and which provides a clear vision and focus areas for action."

The board will present a draft plan for consultation with the community in February next year and finalise the plan by July.

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board is one of eight regional landscape boards established in July this year under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019.

The region covered by the board stretches from Cape Jervis to Birdwood and the South Para River, and from the coastal waters of Gulf St Vincent and Willunga across to Mount Barker, Callington, Langhorne Creek and Victor Harbor.

For more information, go to www.landscape.sa.gov.au/hf/home or search online for Hills and Fleurieu landscape plan.

FOCUS: How the natural and productive landscapes of the Hills and Fleurieu region will be managed is a current focus of the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board. **Photo: Darren Clements**

Smart Farmer Dec 2020

E01 6MA

Facebook

Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
Published by Abbie Thomas · July 22, 2020 ·

A milestone reached today at Mt Barker in having the first full meeting of the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board. The biggest discussion was focused on how the board will be crafting the five year Landscape Plan with the community. Watch this space to find out how you can be involved in shaping how the environment is cared for into the future. <https://bit.ly/3hmQta7>



Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
Government Organization

1,347 People Reached 124 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

33 2 Comments

Like Comment Share

Oldest

Corry Rounsevell
Hopefully some RCS grazing schools? [Like](#) [Reply](#) [Message](#) · 42m

Anthea Starr
Regen ag and landscape rehydration projects [Like](#) [Reply](#) [Message](#) · 42m

[Comment as Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board](#)



Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board

Published by Abbie Thomas · November 20, 2020 ·

...

Do you have ideas for how the natural and productive landscapes of the Hills and Fleurieu region should be managed into the future? The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board is developing a Five Year Landscape Plan and is seeking your input. Take the survey here <https://bit.ly/37TFGly>. Survey closes 8 January 2021.



5,467
People Reached

134
Engagements

Boost Post

You and 4 others

2 Comments · 25 Shares

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Comment

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Oldest ▾



Janet Klein
Adelaide Hills Wine Region

...

Like · Reply · Message · 24w

1

1 Reply



Comment as Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board





Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board

Published by Adam Thomas · March 19 ·

...

Our draft Five Year Landscape Plan is now open for comment and we want to hear what you think! The Plan sets out the vision and priorities to achieve sustainable management in the Hills and Fleurieu regions. The plan will be delivered across five priority areas: land, water, nature, climate and community. Open for comment until April 15. Find out more and have your say here <https://bit.ly/3vCh84N>

Normanville Natural Resource Centre
Willunga Environment Centre
Goalwio to Wellington Local Action Planning Association Inc.
Hills Environment Centre - HEC
South Coast Environment Centre
Strathalbyn Natural Resource Centre
Mount Barker District Council
Adelaide Hills Council
Alexandrina Council
City of Victor Harbor
District Council of Yankalilla
Dairy SA
Agricultural Bureau of South Australia
SA Apple & Pear
Fleurieu Beef
Horse SA
Regional Development Australia Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island
South Australian Regenerative Agriculture
Ideas On The Fleurieu
McLaren Vale Grape, Wine & Tourism Association
McLaren Vale Biodiversity Project
Hills Biodiversity
Adelaide Hills Wine Region
Langhorne Creek Wine Region
Currency Creek wine region
Trees For Life (SA)
Conservation Council of SA
Nature Foundation
Willunga Farmers Market
Green Adelaide
Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board
Limestone Coast Landscape Board
Northern and Yorke Landscape Board
Primary Industries and Regions SA
Good Living
David Speers MP



1,133

People Reached

73

Engagements

Boost Post



14

2 Comments 4 Shares



Like



Comment



Share

Oldest ▾



Linda Millson

Coooooooooooo

...

Like

Reply

Message · Go



Linda Millson

Cor. c9

...



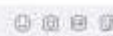
Like

Reply

Message · Go



Comment as Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board



Board to consult on draft five year plan

HILLS AND FLEURIEU LANDSCAPE BOARD

THE recently established Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board will soon release its draft Five Year Plan for public consultation.

The board was created in June last year, following the introduction of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 which replaced the former Natural Resources Management Act 2004.

As part of this process, the former Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board ceased operating and three

new boards were created:

- the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
- the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board
- the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board.

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board offers a range of services and advice to landholders to help better manage soils, water and biodiversity on properties, as well as working with industry groups, volunteers, schools, councils and the general community to protect and restore landscapes.



ASSISTANCE: The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board offers a range of services and advice to landholders.

The area covered by the Board runs from Cape Jervis to Birdwood and the South Para River, and from the coastal waters of Gulf St Vincent and Willunga across to

the Murray Mouth and Langhorne Creek.

Last year, the board consulted widely with the local community to develop a draft Five Year Plan.

Based on information from forums, surveys and direct consultation, the draft plan builds on the foundation of scientific, local and traditional knowledge that exists about the region.

It reflects the community's call for urgent action to restore and protect the land, water, nature and climate, and will form the basis for action and partnerships to

protect and better manage the landscapes of the Hills and Fleurieu.

The community will be able to comment on the draft Plan when it is released later this month through the Your-Say website.

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board website (www.landscape.sa.gov.au/hf) and Facebook page (@HFLandscapeSA) will have more information soon on how residents can get involved.

The final plan will be available online after June 30 this year.

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Board to consult on draft five year plan

HILLS AND FLEURIEU LANDSCAPE BOARD

THE recently established Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board will soon release its draft Five Year Plan for public consultation.

The board was created in June last year, following the introduction of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 which replaced the former Natural Resources Management Act 2004.

As part of this process, the former Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board ceased operating and three

- new boards were created:
- the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
 - the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board
 - the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board.

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board offers a range of services and advice to landholders to help better manage soils, water and biodiversity on properties, as well as working with industry groups, volunteers, schools, councils and the general community to protect and restore landscapes.

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ASSISTANCE: The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board offers a range of services and advice to landholders.

The Courier 17/3/21.

Landscape board guide

A plan to guide the local environment board has been released for public feedback.

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board has kicked off a month of public consultation on its draft five-year plan, which board chair David Greenhough said would help guide its programs and operations.

The plan identifies land, water, nature, climate and community as its priorities.

Mr Greenhough said the plan – created in conjunction with community meetings, public forums and a survey – set out to protect bio-diversity and productive landscapes.

“The community called on the board to tackle issues like climate change and integrated management of agriculture and nature – but also not lose sight of the essentials, like pest animal and weed management,” he said.

“The board will play a strong role in building new partnerships and championing those who are innovating with the region’s long-term health in mind.”

Have your say at www.yoursay.sa.gov.au or email hf.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au.

Consultation closes April 15.

David Greenhough's email invitation to participate in the formal consultation process

Dear Will,

I'm pleased to share with you the draft Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Plan that the board has today released for a final round of consultation.

The draft plan sets out a vision for restoring and protecting the landscapes of the Hills and Fleurieu region, and identifies five priorities: Land, Water, Nature, Climate and Community. It has a strong emphasis on addressing the region's challenges through improved collaboration and working together to tackle landscape management issues.

As an important stakeholder in the region, we are keen to hear any feedback that the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board has on the draft plan, and also on opportunities to partner in achieving the plan.

The [draft plan](#) is available for comment until 15 April at [YourSAy](#), or you can email comments and feedback to hfplan@sa.gov.au

Please let us know if you would be interested in us coming and talking to you or your organisation about the draft plan, and how we might best collaborate into the future.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

David Greenhough

Chair of the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board

Published by the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board.
May 2021

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Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board



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