

Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board

Minutes

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the lands of the Hills and Fleurieu region are the traditional lands for the Kaurna, Peramangk and Ngarrindjeri Nations. We respect the Kaurna, Peramangk and Ngarrindjeri people as the custodians of these lands, and that their cultural and heritage beliefs, and spiritual relationships with Country, are still important to their people today.

Meeting Title:	Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board Meeting #14			
Date:	Wednesday 28 July 2021			
Start Time:	9:30am	Finish Time:	11:00am	
Location:	Microsoft Teams	Room:		
Attendees:	Board Members: D Greenhough (Chair), A Lowe, C Schofield, C West, A Williams, J Klein			
Staff: M Garrod (General Manager), W Telfer (Manager Planning, Engagement & P B Della Torre (Manager, Landscape Operations), C Lewis (Manager, Business Governance), O Prohoroff (Executive Officer)				
	N Bennett (Team Leader, Com P Wainwright (Team Leader, W			
Apologies:	Nil.			

Item	Meeting Items
1.	Preliminary and Procedural Matters Item
	Welcome and Apologies
1.1	The Chair opened the meeting acknowledging it was being held on traditional lands of the Peramangk Nation.
	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
	There were no additional conflict of interest disclosures arising from the agenda declared at the meeting.
1.2	J Klein noted that the Hills Biodiversity is recommended to be partially funded by a Grassroots Grants, and Ngeringa is not to be funded by that grant. J Klein will sit out of the discussion for the application. It was also noted that other applications have been submitted from the Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association (GWLAP) where J Klein is a board member.
	A Williams encouraged Maxwell Wines to submit an application for the Grassroots Grants and also has an association with Fleurieu Farming Systems. Although this isn't necessary considered a Conflict of Interest, A Williams will also sit out on the discussion around their applications.





	Consent Schedule
1.3	The Chair requested for Agenda Item 3.4 'Register of Interests' to be removed from the Consent Schedule.
1.5	The board approved and agreed all items remaining on the Consent Schedule be adopted. CARRIED
	Any Other Business
	Item(s) added for discussion in 4.0 Other Business:
1.4	Bungala River Working Group;
1.4	 Coorong and Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) Community Advisory Panel (CAP); Board Member Appointment
	Minutes from the previous meeting
	A Williams provided some adjustments to the draft minutes for Item 2.6 'Draft Water Security Statement 2021' altering one of the words within the second paragraph "and that strategic priority 1 should also focus on reducing demand". The word 'reducing' will be updated to 'managing'.
1.5	A Lowe questioned whether there was an update regarding the board member appointment due to D Smith's resignation. This will be discussed under 'Other Business'.
	The board confirmed the minutes of meeting number 13 held on 23 June 2021 as a true and accurate record.
	Moved: Carol; Seconded: A Lowe CARRIED
, 1	Actions arising from previous meetings
1.6	The General Manager noted that Action Item 2.1 "DEW and H&FLB Service Level Agreement - The GM to write to relevant DEW Executive Director seeking justification for the 2.5% indexation of the Water Planning and Management contribution" is yet to be actioned, this response was sitting within his drafts folder with the intention of being sent 22 July 2021. This response will be finalised and sent.
	The board noted the current status of the actions arising from the previous meetings. CARRIED
	Resolutions Register
1.7	The board noted the resolutions register.
	CARRIED
2.	Items Presentation: Total Grazing Pressure Project overview and update
	T Brookman (Regional Coordinator, Grazing Pressure Management) provided an update on the Regional Grazing Pressure Project providing the origins of the project, project resourcing timelines, key achievements, top priorities, operational locations, and current opportunities and challenges.
2.1	A Lowe thanked T Brookman for the great presentation, in particular the issues and strategies raised were clearly laid out and he appreciated the dashboard developed "a great management tool in terms of displaying the population sizes along with eradicated animals". A Lowe expressed some confusion around the number of animals removed which he initially thought was referring to the population size. It could be useful to rephrase this to show the proportion of animals removed getting a sense of the total grazing pressure across the region. It is also a good opportunity to provide justification for the removal of non-



feral animals such as Macropods – he would also like to share an Honours Thesis with T Brookman around grazing exclusion sites.

A Lowe noted that in regards to commercial harvesting, he has encouraged T Brookman to look into the opportunities for First Nations involvement. Lastly, he questioned how the relationship has been with the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

T Brookman provided a response to the above:

- Representing data which encapsulates the level of grazing pressure reduced as opposed to the number of animals is achievable making some approximate equivalences between the animals.
- It is a great idea to have an interpolated surface for total grazing pressure across the region although this would be a major undertaking. The portion of animals removed is very difficult to calculate for both Macropods and Deer, considering the data does not exist (for population and density numbers). There will be improvements in terms of data available for Kangaroos noting that annual surveys will be undertaken by the DEW Kangaroo Management Program. Currently there is only data available from two annual surveys and the data collected have vast discrepancies.
- An interest was shown in obtaining a copy of the Honours Thesis and will certainly pursue First Nations partnerships where possible.
- Working with the National Parks and Wildlife Service on park vs off park has been great in this
 project recognising that they have committed to a dedicated ranger which is a huge step in the
 right direction. Great outcomes have come on-parks and great outcomes from private landholders
 around parks.

J Klein questioned if an approximate time-frame could be provided regarding eradicating all feral goats and deer. T Brookman clarified that feral goats are currently only feasible and would predict that this could be done within a 5-10 year timeframe. There is currently a state feral goat policy under review from PIRSA in collaboration with different regions, the outcomes of the policy review could also have impacts to his predicted timeframe. At this point deer are much more difficult problem, they are widespread throughout the region and are lower densities than goats. At current levels of control it is likely that deer will be an ongoing issue within our landscapes.

The General Manager questioned whether the new thermal technology could assist in terms of providing different estimates of population. T Brookman agreed that it could assist but the present issue with animals presented across a region is that they exist in different densities across the landscape. This technology can detect more of the existing population but it doesn't help with recording the changes across the landscape. This is new technology and it is definitely worth exploring to see whether understanding the population could ultimately convert into control.

Grassroots Grants Assessment Outcome 2021/22

The details have been provided in attachment 1 'Assessment Outcome 2021-22' in regards to the number of applicants and value of projects. N Bennett highlighted that 63 eligible applications were received with a total of \$565,875 in terms of value of applications for the available funding of \$220,000. This is a significant reduction in the oversubscription seen in last year's Grassroots Grants. Twenty eligible applications were received for smaller grants in Tier 1 (<\$1,000) at \$17,962 and 43 eligible applications received in Tier 2 (<\$20,000) at \$547,913.

Technical assessments were undertaken by staff with expertise relevant to each grant application, the panel consisted of Nicole Bennett, board members Andrew Lowe and Chris West and a community member who was previously part a technical assessment for the previous round of Grassroots Grants,



Jenny Woodley. As a result, 13 projects were recommended for funding from Tier 1 and 24 projects from Tier 2 or 59% of applications overall in comparison to 41% of applications reporting in the first round. A map was also provided as attachment 2, providing the geographical spread for the recommended 2021-22 Grassroots Grants.

J Klein clarified that an application submitted by Hills and Biodiversity which listed Ngaringa – her vineyard as a partner and was misinterpreted in the application as being a beneficiary, making it appear as though 25% of the funding was to be invested at Ngeringa. N Bennett noted that unfortunately the way that the budget table is set-up in the Smarty Grants system does not allow for sufficient distinction between in-kind and cash contributions. This will be improved in future rounds altering the table to make it more explicit in terms of how the funding can be applied.

The General Manager added that there has been some interest from the Minister's office regarding telling the state-wide story around Grassroots Grants and we have been asked to provide a summary of grants provided in rounds 1 and 2. There will be a move before the next round of Grassroots Grants to achieve more cross-regional consistency in the timing of the Grants; N Bennett and the working group will review the second round and will bring future recommendations to the board.

A Lowe and J Klein discussed the need to ensure activities were linked and led to good outcomes noting that there is an opportunity to provide applicants with priority issues and areas needing to be addressed on a landscape scale to possible applicants. N Bennett has recorded feedback from the panel on how the assessment process can be improved.

The Chair stated that the Minister has provided positive feedback regarding the approach to a two tier system for grant applications.

The board:

2.2.1 **endorsed** the funding recommendations for the Tier 1 and Tier 2 Grassroots Grant applications outlined in Attachment 1.

Moved: C Schofield; Seconded: C West

CARRIED

Transfer of Surface Water Monitoring Assets – Supplementary Information

This paper is a follow-up to the board's questions of clarification from the board meeting held in June about inheriting surface water monitoring assets located in the Western Mt Lofty Ranges (WMLR) from Green Adelaide. A significant item to come out of these discussions since June is around the pluviometers. Initially the advice provided suggested there may be little value in retaining them for our surface water monitoring network. Further discussions with DEW hydrologists suggested they provide additional data that is needed to improve runoff inputs in models of the the Fleurieu Peninsula. In this area rainfall patterns are variable and known to confound the assumptions which are otherwise used to inform runoff inputs to catchment models.

From this advice, it is recommended that the board considers inheriting and maintaining the four pluviometers in the monitoring network until at least the end of 2023-2024, at which time the need for them can be reviewed.



×	æ	Н	ILI	LS	A	N
I	T	he	bo	ar	d:	

- 2.3.1 **noted** the additional information provided in the paper relating to the surface water monitoring stations;
- 2.3.2 **endorsed** the transfer of 4 pluviometers in the Hills and Fleurieu region from Green Adelaide to the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board.

Moved: A Williams; Seconded: J Klein

CARRIED

SA Water - Best Practice Operating Procedures for Water Affecting Activities

P Wainwright provided some background information around the Best Practice Operating Procedures (BPOP) for Water Affecting Activities (WAA). P Wainwright referred to the WAA Control Policy (approved by the Minister in April 2021) which sets out the process for granting exemptions for state and local government agencies who undertake WAA on a regular basis. The BPOP allows agencies to undertake a self-assessment process when undertaking a WAA with the process being influenced by a risk assessment as part of the process. If there is a high risk, they still need to apply for a WAA Permit, but if it is a low risk, it will enable them to undertake the activity in accordance with the BPOP. The BPOP streamlines the process creating efficient for both the agency involved and landscape board.

SA Water has revised their BPOP for WAA to reflect changes under *the Landscape South Australia Act 2019* and is now seeking endorsement of the draft BPOP from landscape boards. The key changes that SA Water has made to the revised BPOP are outlined within the briefing. The Water Resources Team are happy that the amendments are appropriate and will ultimately improve the management of WAA undertaken by SA Water.

J Klein asked whether WAAs could be forecast by agencies rather than reported retrospectively. The General Manager responded that the retrospective reporting is important and forecasting would be difficult. A question was also asked about whether any compliance checks are undertaken of BPOPs. P Wainwright responded that Water Resource Team is considering how it will check compliance of agencies with BPOPs.

The board:

2.4.1 **endorsed** SA Water's Best Practice Operating Procedure for Water Affecting Activities.

Moved: C Schofield; Seconded: A Lowe

CARRIED

Instruments of Authorisation and Delegation

The General Manager acknowledged an amendment required on attachment 3 'Procurement – Contract Pre-Approval – Procurement – Payment & Disbursement'. The schedule on page 2 of the attachment incorrectly lists the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board in the first row, this will be removed and the position numbers inserted for the Presiding Member and General Manager.

Four instruments of delegation have been presented to the board: Instrument of Authorisation for Contract Execution; Contract Execution (Purchase Cards); Procurement (Contract Pre-approval, Procurement, Payment and Disbursement); Debt Write-off and a definition of 'Chief Executive' provided by the Crown Solicitor's Office. The delegations listed at the 22 July 2020 board meeting were a comprehensive list provided to the board for each instrument which required Board approval when

2.5



changes occurred. The new delegations provide for the General Manager to sub-delegate to employees. The sub-delegation will be supported by a formal instrument.

The board:

2.5.1 **approved** the delegation of powers as set out in the attached Instruments of Authorisation (with amendments noted) for Contract Execution; Contract Execution (Purchase Cards); Procurement (Contract pre-approval, Procurement, Payment and Disbursements); and Debt Write-off;

Moved: A Lowe; Seconded: C Schofield

2.5.2 **approved** that the Presiding Member of the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board sign the Instruments of Authorisation on behalf of the Board, to be executed under Common Seal;

Moved: J Klein; Seconded: A Lowe

2.5.3 **noted** that the General Manager will sub-delegate powers of authorisation to staff that are assigned to work with the Board;

Moved: C Schofield; Seconded: J Klein

2.5.4 **noted** that Department of Environment and Water (DEW) has developed an internal procurement framework in accordance with the requirements of Treasurer Instruction 18 – Procurement (TI18) and the General Manager has elected to use the DEW procurement framework and will fully comply with the requirements of the framework;

Moved: A Lowe; Seconded: A Williams

2.5.5 **noted** that DEW Procurement Framework will be in operation from 1 July 2021.

CARRIED

Financial Management Compliance Program

The Financial Management Compliance Program (FMCP) outlines the controls and policies which the board has in place. The board is committed to identifying/managing the financial risks and complying with its financial management obligations. The board has all key elements in place satisfying the requirements of TI 2 Financial Management and TI 28 FMCP.

A Williams raised queries regarding the FMCP questions relating to intellectual property and research and development – specifically:

- Does the board undertake or support "research and development" in the sense meant by the FMCP?
- Does the board manage intellectual property in the sense meant by the FMCP?

The General Manager responded that SA Government intellectual property policy that sees non-sensitive government information, particularly research publications, made available to the public subject to Creative Commons 4.0 international licensing, but that the questions would be taken on notice, as the intent of the standard FMCP questions is not entirely clear.

The board:

2.6.1 approved the Financial Management Compliance Program for the board.



Moved: A Lowe; Seconded: C Schofield

CARRIED

3. Standing Items

3.1

Work Health And Safety Report

The General Manager reported that having informally adopted the DEW policy across landscape boards, COVID-19 test and requirements to quarantine are being recorded. One staff member was directed by SA Health to quarantine as a result of a member of her household visiting one of the exposure sites - she has tested negative and has now completed quarantine.

No other Work Health and Safety Matters have been reported within the last month.

The board **noted** the General Manager's verbal Work Health and Safety Report.

CARRIED

General Manager's Report

The General Manager spoke about to the <u>recent COVID-19 lock-down</u> which occurred at both the Mt Barker and Willunga office from 6pm Tuesday 20 July 2021. The Leadership team decided to close both offices for the lock-down duration with arrangements in place for all staff to either work from home or take leave. Bait sales were suspended while level 5 restrictions were in place.

The General Manager explained that the robust nature of the end of year financial reporting processes has extended the regular monthly timelines and so the June 2021 financial overview, and interim 2021-22 financial reports will be presented to the August 2021 Board meeting.

The Kangaroo Island Cape Tulip Blitz was spoken of, being held by PIRSA to assist fire-affected landholders undertake Cape Tulip control on their properties. It's the first time that a cross-regional collaboration and investment of human resource and effort was made. Ten staff from five Landscape Boards went across to assist PIRSA and the KI Landscape Board. Three Landscape Officers went over to represent the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board. This was a great opportunity to assist with on-ground work while networking with PIRSA and other Landscape Board staff from across the State.

<u>The Cudlee Creek Fire Plant Give-away</u> was reported at the previous board meeting verbally as it occurred after the board papers were circulated. Further information has been provided including some very positive feedback from the community.

The last item to raise was the <u>Landscape Priority Fund</u> (<u>Natural Resource Centres</u>). The 'building community capacity and action on landscape priorities' project commenced in June 2021, with the negotiation of project deliverables for the 2021/22 year for the eight Environment Centres who comprise the 'Alliance' within the Hills and Fleurieu and Northern and Yorke Landscape Board footprints – the General Manager and C West attended a working group of the Natural Resource Centre coordinators recently.

The board **noted** the General Manager's report.

CARRIED

Board Member Activity Register and Engagement Forward Planner 2021-22

A Lowe and A Williams will be sending through an updated list of activities to the Executive Officer.

3.3



	The board noted the engagement forward planner 2021-22 and register of meetings and events attended by the Chair and board members in their capacity as representatives of the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board.
	CARRIED
	Register of Interests
3.4	The board noted the current Register of Interests. CARRIED
	Use of the Common Seal
3.5	The board noted that there are no updates for the Use of the Common Seal.
	CARRIED
	Correspondence
	The board was provided with the following correspondence via its Microsoft Teams portal:
,	3.6.1 3 June 2021: Incoming - Letter to the Chair from CE – endorsement of board's commitments for Climate Change Action Plan 2021-2025;
	3.6.2 17 June 2021: Incoming - Letter to GM – input of data from WEC ongoing LPF application; 3.6.3 30 June 2021: Incoming Letter from CE – SLA between DEW and HFLB;
	3.6.4 13 July 2021: Incoming - Letter from the Minister – approval of Business Plan 2021-22;
	3.6.5 30 June 2021: INVITATION Heal Country NAIDOC Week Community Celebration on 7 July 2021;
	3.6.6 30 June 2021: INVITATION South Coast NAIDOC Celebrations on 4 July 2021;
	3.6.7 4 July 2021: INVITATION HEC Hills Landcare Groups on 13 September 2021' 3.6.8 14 July 2021: INVITATION Celebrate McLaren Vale Tree Trail Launch on 20 July 2021;
3.6	3.6.9 17 June 2021: Outgoing - Response letter to Parliament of SA Natural Resource Committee NV Act;
	3.6.10 18 June 2021: Outgoing – Letter to the Minister – Final drafts of the Landscape Plan 2021-26 and
	Business Plan 2021-22;
	3.6.11 23 June 2021: Outgoing - Response to DEW – Implementation Schedule for the Climate Change Action Plan 2021-2025;
	3.6.12 23 June 2021: Outgoing – Letter to the Minister – draft Water Security Statement;
	3.6.13 29 June 2021: Outgoing – Letter to the Minister – Performance Report 2020-21;
	3.6.14 30 June 2021: Outgoing – Letter from GM – Section 107 Notice at 112 Verrall Road, Hope Forrest
	SA;
	3.6.15 23 June 2021: Grant Agreement – Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board Bushfire Recovery Funding;
	The board noted the correspondence provided via Microsoft Teams.
	CARRIED
4.	Other Business
	Other Business
	Burnarda Biyan Wankina Cuaya
	Bungarla River Working Group A Williams flagged that Peter Hamilton who has recently taken on an Executive Officer position has
	contacted her several times regarding the Bungarla River Working Group. A Williams's asked whether any
	staff members would be interested in attending some meetings.
4.0	
	Action: The General Manager to liaise with Peter Hamilton, linking either Lisa Blake or Corey Jackson into the working group.
	Coorong and Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) Community Advisory Panel (CAP)
	A Williams is currently a board representative but has struggled to attend the meetings. She questioned
	whether any other board members would be interested in attending. The Chair expressed his interest in



attending. J Klein and C Schofield also showed their interest, the possibility of J Klein and C Schofield attending on the Chair's behalf sporadically will stay open.

Board Member Appointment

The Chair spoke to D Smith's resignation and the desire to appoint an additional board member. A shortlist has commenced along with discussions with the Minister. Three people have been approached noting that one does not have availability. The remaining two are considering the role and within the next couple of weeks the outcome will be presented to the board.

CARRIED

5. Meeting Closure		
6.1	Next meeting details: 25 August 2021	
0.1	Mount Barker Office (Cnr Mann & Walker St, Mount Barker SA 5251)	
6.2	Meeting close: 12:07PM	



DAVID GREENHOUGH

PRESIDING MEMBER
HILLS AND FLEURIEU LANDSCAPE BOARD

Date: 25 August 2021



ACRONYM INDEX

Acronym	Meaning	
AEP	Annual Exceedance Probability	
AMLR	Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges	
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan	
CCSA	Conservation Council of South Australia	
CE	Chief Executive	
CEO	Chief Executive Officer	
CHRIS	Complete Human Resource Information System	
СР	Conservation Park	
CRC	Cooperative Research Centres	
DA	Development Application	
DEW	Department for Environment and Water	
DPA	Development Plan Amendment	
DTF	Department of Treasury and Finance	
e-NGO	Environmental Non-Government Organisations	
EAP	Employee Assistance Program	
EMLR	Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges	
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority	
EPBC	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	
FY	Financial Year	
ED	Executive Director	
GPT	Gross Pollutant Trap	
На	Hectare	
HFLB	Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board	
HR	Human Resources	
IM	Injury Management	
LGA	Local Government Association	
LMT	Landscape Management Team	
LO	Landscapes Officer	

MERIT	Monitoring Evaluation Reporting & Improvement Tool	
MOAA	Memorandum of Administrative Agreement	
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding	
NGO	Non-Government Organisation	
NLP2	National Landcare Program Two	
NP	National Park	
NPWS	National Parks & Wildlife Service	
NR .	Natural Resources	
NRC	Natural Resource Centre	
NRM	Natural Resources Management	
NVC	Native Vegetation Council	
RALF	Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator	
RDA	Regional Development Australia	
RLP	Regional Land Partnerships	
RP	Recreation Park	
RTW	Return to Work	
SAMDB	South Australian Murray Darling Basin	
SAPOL	South Australian Police	
SARDI	South Australian Research and Development Institute	
SCAP	State Commission Assessment Panel	
SLA	Service-Level Agreement	
SOI	Statement of Intent	
WAA	Water Affecting Activity	
WAP	Water Allocation Plan	
WAPAC	Water Allocation Plan Advisory Committee	
WHS	Work Health & Safety	
WMLR	Western Mount Lofty Ranges	
WSUD	Water Sensitive Urban Design	
WSWU	Workplace Safety and Wellbeing Unit	