

Kangaroo Island Landscape Board Minutes

Meeting Title:	Kangaroo Island Landscape Board Meeting #9		
Date:	Wednesday 27 January 2021		
Start Time:	9:02 am	Finish Time:	1:20 pm
Location:	35 Dauncey St Kingscote	Room:	Boardroom
Attendees:	<p><i>Board Members:</i> A Heinrich (Chair), G Crowley, P Davis, P Rismiller, J Stanton, R Willson</p> <p><i>Staff:</i> C Thomas (A/General Manager), S Gullickson (Administration and Board Support Officer)</p> <p><i>Guest:</i> L Dohle (Senior Soil Consultant, PIRSA); F Gill (Director, Fire Management), D Ezis (Manager, Fire Planning), Mike Greig, (Manager, National Parks and Wildlife Kangaroo Island), S Black (KI Business and Brand Alliance), L Helyar (KI Business and Brand Alliance)</p>		
Apologies:	M Pengilly		

Item											
1.	Preliminary matters										
1.1	<p>Welcome, Apologies, Acceptance of Agenda</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to Meeting 9, and introduced Chris Thomas, Acting General Manager</p> <p>The Board approved the agenda with additional item for discussion under 3.5 Other business regarding blue gum seedlings, removed Items 4.1, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.8 from the consent schedule and agreed that the following items remain on the consent schedule:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">4.2 Declared Animal Policies – update</td> <td style="text-align: right;">That the decision be accepted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.5 Chair’s report</td> <td style="text-align: right;">That the decision be accepted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.6 A/General Manager Report</td> <td style="text-align: right;">That the decision be accepted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.7 Out of session decisions</td> <td style="text-align: right;">That the decision be accepted</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6.2 Next Meeting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">That the decision be accepted</td> </tr> </table>	4.2 Declared Animal Policies – update	That the decision be accepted	4.5 Chair’s report	That the decision be accepted	4.6 A/General Manager Report	That the decision be accepted	4.7 Out of session decisions	That the decision be accepted	6.2 Next Meeting	That the decision be accepted
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1.2	<p>Conflict of Interest Disclosures</p> <p>The Kangaroo Island Landscape Board noted a declaration of interest from P Davis regarding Item 3.2 Apiary activity on DEW managed lands. The Chair asked Mr Davis to remain in the room during discussion but Mr Davis will not participate in approving the decision of the Board.</p>										
1.3	<p>Minutes from previous meeting</p> <p>Decision 09/1.3</p> <p>Moved: G Crowley Seconded: R Willson</p> <p>That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accepts the minutes of the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board meeting held on 2 December 2020 as read. <p>CARRIED</p>										
1.4	<p>Action list and Decision Register</p> <p>Decision 09/1.4</p>										

	<p>Moved: P Rismiller Seconded: G Crowley</p> <p>That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the status of actions relating to matters arising from previous meetings of the Board. <p>CARRIED</p>
2	Strategic matters and Items for Decision
2.1	<p>Developing the Kangaroo Island Landscape Plan</p> <p>The Board requested some additional changes to the final draft Landscape Plan prior to the draft plan being released for public consultation.</p> <p>Decision 09/2.1</p> <p>That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approves the release of the draft Kangaroo Island Landscape Plan for public consultation subject to agreed amendments being included. <p>CARRIED by resolution</p>
2.2	<p>Protocols for DEW CFS Brigade</p> <p>The Board noted the support Landscape Board staff provide to the DEW CFS Brigade, and the Department for Environment and Water’s (DEWs) and the request to formalise the ongoing collaboration and sharing of resources.</p> <p>The Board requested inclusion in the protocol of how risks will be management so the board can be confident that staff are fit for purpose and have received appropriate training.</p> <p>The Board asked that further discussion on this matter be delayed until Fiona Gill, Director, Fire Management is available to respond to the Board’s questions.</p> <p>Discussion on this matter resumed 12:26 pm</p> <p>Ms Gill reinforced the importance of Landscape Board staff involvement in the DEW CFS Brigade and that DEW is aiming for all boards to endorse the protocols, as supported by the Minister.</p> <p>In response to the Board’s request for clarification on risk management and liabilities if a staff member was injured, the Board noted that the <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012</i> does not allow the delegation of responsibility. The Board noted all DEW fire training is nationally accredited and staff are not permitted on the fire ground without successfully completing the extensive training program. While each agency retains WHS responsibility, all operate under the same regime. The Board needs to accept that risk can’t be delegated and be confident in DEWs policy and procedure framework.</p> <p>The Board requested further information on risk management and liabilities regarding Board staff. The A/General Manager will work with Ms Gill on an attachment to the protocol outlining responsibilities and risks to the board.</p> <p>Decision 09/2.2 was deferred.</p>
2.3	<p>Objectives of the KI Landscape Board Communications & Engagement Strategy</p> <p>The Board discussed the overall objectives for communication and engagement and agreed to the following as the three key objectives of the Board’s communications and engagement strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All sectors of the Kangaroo Island community are aware of the KI Landscape Board, its value to the island and have the opportunity to influence and benefit from the Board’s activities.

2. The Board's roles, objectives and achievement are promoted locally, nationally and internationally, maximising potential partnerships and funding opportunities.
3. Communication with the community is coordinated and smooth, increasing interaction between the community and the Board/Board staff.

The Board noted that the Communications and Media Manager will now draft the Board's communication and engagement strategy, with a prioritisation schedule/calendar of activities requiring communication output.

Decision 09/2.3

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

- i. Notes the potential communications and engagement objectives listed in section 4
- ii. Endorses three overall Board communications and engagement objectives to be incorporated into strategic planning as discussed

CARRIED by resolution

3. Items for Discussion

3.1 Finance Report – December 2020

The Board noted the revenue and, expenditure reports and balance sheet for December 2020, including the transfer of liabilities relating to staff entitlements (annual, sick and long service leave).

The Board noted carryovers will not be identified until March, when the draft 2021-22 budget process will commence.

Decision 09/3.1

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

- i. Endorses the December 2020 revenue and expenditure finance reports and balance sheet.

CARRIED by resolution

3.2 Apiarist Activity on DEW Managed Lands

Mike Greig and Michael Pengilly joined the meeting at 10:00 am.

The Board noted the invitation from DEW to comment on a draft apiary policy which aims to provide a balance between industry needs and conservation and community use. The outcome aims to increase efficiency and certainty for apiarist and park managers.

P Davis declared an interest and supported the policy's general principles, however, other members expressed concern regarding the lack of use of the precautionary principle in the risk assessment process (i.e. if limited evidence is available then best not to proceed). This is particularly important in relation to Figure 4 Threatened Flora and Fauna.

M Greig informed the Board that DEW has issued approximately five licences to bee keepers to place hives in Kangaroo Island parks. The Board noted that the policy is not about removing hives from protected areas, and aims to provide a consistent risk assessment approach to site selection across the state.

Several members felt the risk assessment framework lacked detail and the Board agreed to draft a response out of session.

Decision 09/3.2

Moved: M Pengilly Seconded: G Crowley

That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Notes the invitation to comment on the draft DEW Apiary Policy and The Bee Frame by 31 January 2021; and ii. Endorses that a draft submission regarding the policy intent and risk assessment approach of the framework is circulated to members as soon as possible and for comment and then be provided to DEW by 31 January 2021. <p>CARRIED</p>
3.3	<p>Kangaroo Island Business and Brand Alliance</p> <p>Shauna Black, Executive Officer and Leanne Helyar, Board Member of the Kangaroo Island Business and Brand Alliance (the Alliance) presented on the benefits and values of the Alliance.</p> <p>The Board noted P Davis is a current member of the Alliance board and declared an interest in this matter. The Chair requested P Davis remain in the room for the discussion, and refrain from participating in any decisions.</p> <p>The Board noted the overview of the Alliance, its membership and activities it has taken to build a unique identity and brand for Kangaroo Island produce and businesses. The Alliance works closely with KI businesses and associations to grow the local economy and establish the Kangaroo Island brand.</p> <p>The Board noted the current projects the Alliance is delivering and key partners such as Agriculture KI (AgKI) with joint partners and the success of the Alliance’s social media presence. Benefits to the Board in becoming a member of the Alliance include understanding what Kangaroo Island businesses are delivering; using the Alliance network to tell people what the Landscape Board is doing; have a profile on the Alliance website; influence certification system(s) for Kangaroo Island produce and products; and training opportunities.</p> <p>S Black and L Helyar left the meeting at 11:24 pm</p> <p>The Board noted that a fee of \$1,100 would apply to be a brand partner (or \$110 to be a business member) of the Alliance and that joining would need to provide significant benefit to the Board, as the Board needs to ensure value for money.</p> <p>Board members expressed differing views about becoming a brand partner. The Board requested that further discussion on the matter be deferred until more specific information was available.</p> <p>Decision 09/3.3</p> <p>Decision 09/3.3 deferred to next meeting.</p>
3.4	<p>Member Reports</p> <p>P Davis reported a biosecurity issue with bee hives at a site where fruit and vegetables were fed to wildlife during the fire. Several small hive beetles have been found at this site but so far there is no evidence of the beetle at any other sites. KI bee keepers have been advised of the issue and all precautions to eradicate the beetle are being taken. This biosecurity breach highlights the need for protocols for future bushfires and the distribution of food for wildlife.</p>
3.5	<p>Other Business</p> <p>3.5.1 <i>Blue Gum Seedlings</i></p> <p>The Board noted the growing community concern regarding the emergence and spread of blue gum seedlings following the 2020-21 bushfires. The Chair recommended that the Board play a coordinating role in tackling the blue gum seedling issue, noting that National Parks and Wildlife have received funding to support blue gum seedling removal and both KI</p>

	<p>Plantation Timbers (KIPT) and Nature Conservation Society of South Australia (NCSSA) are already active in removing seedlings on private property in fire affected areas.</p> <p>Decision 09/3.5.1 That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board supports the Board taking a coordinating role in tackling the blue gum seedling issue on Kangaroo Island. CARRIED via resolution</p>
4	Standing Items or Items for Noting
4.1	<p>Policies for Adoption The Board requested changes to the Sponsorship (incoming) and Sponsorship (outgoing) policies and procedures, asked that position titles be included in the Financial Delegations Policy rather than position levels, and noted additions or amendments to the procedures handbook can be raised by members at any time.</p> <p>Decision 09/4.1 That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board adopts the following policies and procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Financial Delegations Policy ii. Kangaroo Island Landscape Board procedures handbook noting this is a living document and members can amend at each time. iii. Legislative Delegations Policy <p>CARRIED by resolution</p>
4.2	<p>Policies for Adoption: Declared Animal Policies - Update</p> <p>Decision 09/4.2 That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approves the Declared Animal Policy Domestic Deer, noting the information provided by PIRSA’s Biosecurity SA in regard to permits to keep deer <p>CARRIED via the consent schedule</p>
4.3	<p>Financial Authorisation update Members requested consistency in terminology between the policy and instrument of delegation.</p> <p>Decision 09/4.3 That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Endorses the updated Instrument of Authorisation: Contract Execution ii. Approves the Chair signing and sealing the Instrument of Authorisation on behalf of the Board. <p>CARRIED by resolution</p>
4.4	<p>Project Funding Update The Board noted that short term contract staff will be engaged to support the project team deliver projects that receive additional funding.</p> <p>Decision 09/4.4 That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Notes the additional project funding received by the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board. <p>CARRIED by resolution</p>

4.5	<p>Chair’s Report</p> <p>Decision 09/4.5</p> <p>That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board notes the activities of the Chair of the Board since the last meeting</p> <p>CARRIED via consent schedule</p>
4.6	<p>A/General Manager’s Report</p> <p>Decision 09/4.6</p> <p>That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Notes the activities of the A/General Manager since the last Board meeting ii. Notes the Work Health and Safety activity report for October 2020 iii. Notes the report on legislative delegations <p>CARRIED by consent schedule</p>
4.7	<p>Out of session decision</p> <p>Decision 09/4.7</p> <p>That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board ratifies the decisions of the out-of-session papers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Distributed on 14 December 2020 seeking approval for the draft submission to the Department of Infrastructure and Transport on the revised Planning and Design Code for Kangaroo Island Council, for submission by 18 December 2020. ii. Distributed on 15 December 2020 seeking support for project concepts for funding through the Landscape Priorities Fund. <p>CARRIED by consent schedule</p>
4.8	<p>Correspondence for noting</p> <p>Decision 09/4.8</p> <p>That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board notes the correspondence received since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M Williams, Department for Environment and Water • J Trethewey, PIRSA • J Schutz, Department for Environment and Water • S Bowman, Landcare Association of South Australia <p>CARRIED by resolution</p>
5	Presentations
5.1	<p>Fire Planning and Management on Kangaroo Island</p> <p>Fiona Gill, Director, Fire Management, Damon Ezis, Manager, Fire Planning and Mike Greig, Manager, National Parks and Wildlife, Kangaroo Island joined the meeting at 12:15 pm.</p> <p>DEW has been meeting with key stakeholders, including Council to review and revise fire planning and management following the 2020-21 bushfires. This supported by the Government commitment to provide additional resources for fire planning and management. The additional funding is contributing to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New positions for fire management: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Senior fire management officer based on Kangaroo Island who will focus on key stakeholder relations and broader strategic matters

- b. Additional seasonal fire crew employed from September to May each year to conduct fire mitigation works and fire response.
- 2. Burning on private land (BOPL) program expanded:
 - a. Two new positions to lead burning on private land program
 - b. Focus on strategic areas to address risk for community benefit and greater good. BOPL staff assist landholders with the range of legal processes required to conduct burning on private property, including conducting environmental assessments (native vegetation and threatened species (EPBC)). Risk is borne by the Crown, not the landholder.
- 3. Extension of fire planning on protected areas:
 - a. Fire management plans will be reviewed for Flinders Chase
 - b. The current prescribed burning program will be expanded by up to 50%
 - c. The current fire access tracks will be expanded and improved. Fire track access is important to aid fire suppression but also prescribed burn program and will enable a mosaic approach to prescribed burns.

Stakeholder consultation is underway (public consultation session 4 February).

The Board noted that the Bushfire Management Area Plan (BMAP) is the most important tool for fire mitigation work but there is a lack of ownership of this document among Kangaroo Islanders.

The Board noted the BOPL program was a pilot project in Adelaide Hills, and involved environmental assessment of properties with landholders gaining an understanding of what is involved in planning fire to reduce fuel loads and risk, to reduce fire spread and intensity and gain environmental and safety outcomes. The BOPL program is driven by the relevant Bushfire Management Area Plan (BMAP) and prioritisation of areas requiring fire suppression work. The program also aims to work with local CFS brigades to build firefighting capacity of these brigades

Questions?

Can the BOPL program be apply to roadsides? It can, if a burn on a roadside is considered strategic.

Burns should not just be conducted in spring or autumn; there are opportunities in winter when there is lower low risk to people and the burns are a bit more natural, creating more of the mosaic effect.

Need to get back to the philosophy of fire is a natural tool and not clearance. Mechanism is there to use fire as a tool but we need to do the planning first. For the first time DEW has funding to do unbounded burns and winter burns and this will be incorporated into the plan.

Can you clarify the time frames, how long does the planning process take? New officers should be on board by Autumn this year, and some BOPL burns already identified through the BMAP plan.

General a BOPL burn takes 12 months to plan including the allocation of resources.

How long does a fire management plan last? Our procedure asks for a fuel hazard and ramble survey which last five years since assessment occurred. *How is this resourced?* If the burn is identified as a priority, then resources should be allocated.

Does DEW apply the principle 'the more you burn, the less you burn' i.e. burn as soon as you can, burn smaller patches e.g. as big as this room, burn often earlier rather than later? Fire is only one tool, burning may be the right tool, but other tools such as mechanical or chemical may be just as appropriate to reduce fuel loads, and preparedness is essential in responding to fire risk. *How do we work together to have a conversation and raise awareness of fire preparedness?* Working with local CFS brigades is vital to increasing and sharing knowledge of fire behaviour.

6	Meeting Closure
6.1	<p>Invitations for next meeting</p> <p>Decision 09/6.1</p> <p><i>That the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board:</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>i. Invites Doug Green to present at the next meeting of the Board.</i></p> <p>CARRIED</p>
6.2	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>As per the approved meeting schedule, the Board confirmed that meeting 10 of the Board will be held on Wednesday 24 March 2021 at 9:00 am</p>
6.3	<p>Board Member Feedback</p> <p>Nil</p>
6.4	<p>Board Claims and Administration Items</p> <p>Members were asked to complete the claim form enclosed in the agenda pack.</p>
6.5	<p>Meeting closed at 1:20 pm</p>

Sign: 

Date: 24 March 2021

Andrew Heinrich
Presiding Member, Kangaroo Island Landscape Board