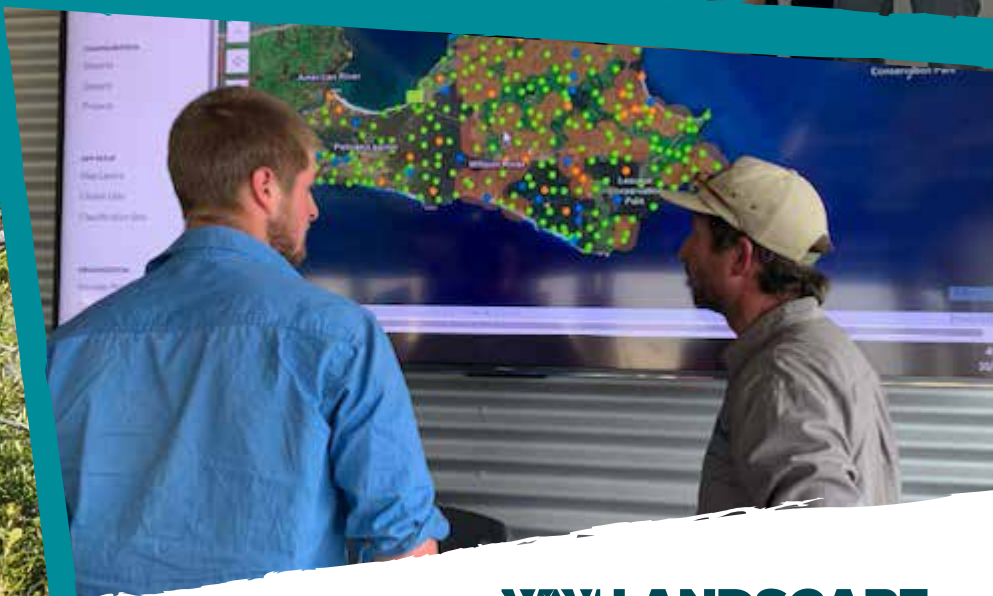


Kangaroo Island Landscape Board Business Plan 2025–2026





Quentin Chester Photography

Acknowledgment of Country

The Ngarrindjeri, Kurna and Narungga Nations are the traditional owners of Kangaroo Island, connected to its lands and waters via ancient storylines and ancestral occupation. The three Nations acknowledge and respect the interests that each group hold to Kangaroo Island, including their storylines, spiritual and cultural connections, and histories. The three Nations work together to protect and preserve the cultural values of the Island for current and future generations. The three Nations also acknowledge the interests of other Aboriginal groups who have historic connections to the Island.

The Kangaroo Island Landscape Board acknowledges the deep, ongoing spiritual connection that Ngarrindjeri, Kurna and Narungga Nations hold to Kangaroo Island, and commit to working together to protect and preserve the cultural values of the Island for current and future generations.

Foreword



I'm excited to share the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board's Business Plan for 2025-26. This plan lays out how we'll use the funding we receive — from levies and other sources — to bring our vision for Kangaroo Island to life.

Our work encompasses the five priorities outlined in our Kangaroo Island Landscape Plan: Community, Biodiversity, Economy, Water, and Pest Management. These priorities are interconnected, and many of our projects address several of them simultaneously.

A great example is our feral cat eradication program on the Dudley Peninsula. Thanks to the strong support from the community, stakeholders, and funders, this program is making significant strides nationally. We're using cutting-edge technology, skilled experts, and working closely with First Nation practitioners. As we near the final phase of removing feral cats, we're already seeing positive impacts. Local farmers are spotting more native birds like bush stone curlews, and improved stock health — good news for both biodiversity and the local economy.

This kind of integrated approach is at the heart of everything we do, whether it's protecting threatened species and helping biodiversity, managing pests, supporting sustainable farming practices, or ensuring equitable water use.

We're grateful to all our supporters — the Australian Government, Government of South Australia, Ian Potter Foundation, PurryBurry Trust, Nature Foundation of Australia, and, of course, our local community through the Landscape Levy. Your support means the world to us, and we're committed to working together to protect and enhance Kangaroo Island's environment and economy.

I also want to thank our dedicated staff. Their creativity and commitment help us find new ways to deliver our projects and support our community.

Thank you for being part of this journey with us. We look forward to continuing to work alongside you to create a healthy, thriving Kangaroo Island for everyone.

Andrew Heinrich
Chair, Kangaroo Island Landscape Board

June 2025

Our vision

Nurturing Kangaroo Island’s landscapes
together to create a
thriving, sustainable future



Regional priorities

In 2021 the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board (the Board) developed the *Kangaroo Island Landscape Plan 2021–2026* (the plan) in conjunction with the community. This plan brings together community values, local knowledge and scientific evidence under five regional priorities to provide the Board with a framework for working in partnership with the community to deliver a range of activities to manage the island’s landscapes. It is compliant with the requirements of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* (the Act).

REGIONAL PRIORITIES	 COMMUNITY	 BIODIVERSITY	 ECONOMY	 WATER	 PESTS
	A connected community at the centre of decision making	Healthy terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity	Sustainable primary production and the island’s economy	Effective water management	Effective terrestrial and marine pest management
	Working with all sectors of the community to improve the island’s landscapes	Safeguarding the structure and function of habitats and ecosystems	Improving the health of the soil, water and biodiversity that supports our economy	Managing water resources sustainably and equitably for all users	Controlling and, where possible, eradicating weeds, pests and diseases
	Making decisions based on the best available scientific, local and traditional knowledge	Protecting biodiversity to minimise species loss	Strengthening the viability of primary production through sustainable practices	Improving water quality in the island’s catchments and wetlands	Strengthening KI’s biosecurity arrangements
FOCUS AREAS	Understanding, valuing and taking care of the natural environment and cultural heritage	Improving our understanding of the environment and the beneficial role it plays	Working in partnership with industry to ensure the island’s economy continues to prosper	Protecting aquatic biodiversity and ecosystems	Managing the impact of overabundant native species



Partnering across Kangaroo Island

Community

The Board works closely with all sectors of the community, across all land tenures, to take care of the island's landscapes together.

- **KI Grassroots Grants**
These grants will continue to support individuals, landholders, volunteers, schools, community organisations, First Nations and not-for-profit groups to undertake local projects to help KI's landscape and natural assets.
- **NRM education**
This project is partnering with the local school, KI Community Education, to develop and implement a free environmental education program embedded in Australian and SA curriculum.

Biodiversity

KI has diverse natural habitats and numerous species and ecological communities found nowhere else. The Board works with community, agencies and stakeholders to benefit these.

- **Kangaroo Island Native Plant Nursery**
The nursery will grow native plants from local seed to benefit KI's biodiversity and agricultural systems, as it has since 2004. This supports farmers, those recovering from bushfires, lifestyle block owners, businesses and local gardeners.
- **KI narrow-leaved mallee & threatened plant restoration**
KI landholders will be supported to protect, restore and reconnect threatened ecological plant communities and species.
- **Woodland bird recovery**
Strategic, on-ground management actions will be used to support the recovery of woodland habitat for threatened birds, including glossy black-cockatoos and KI crimson rosellas.
- **Improving small mammal habitat**
Critical habitat refuges will be provided to support threatened mammals recovering from the 2019-20 bushfires including KI dunnarts, southern brown bandicoots and KI echidnas.
- **Improving coastal habitats**
Coastal areas used as breeding and feeding habitat by priority coastal fauna, including hooded plovers and little penguins, will be improved through on-ground actions.

Economy

Recognising the essential work that farmers do, this program works with them to implement innovative agricultural systems to benefit production and sustainability outcomes.

- **Soil extension**
This program will continue to assist farmers to improve their soil health. The project will support a community of practice to deliver extension activities, including education resources, demonstration sites and case studies.
- **Carbon outreach**
This program supports landholders to understand and adopt carbon farming and low emissions technologies and practices. Tailored training will be offered with one-on-one follow-up advice to landholders.
- **Farming towards the Future**
This project will support farmers to drive agricultural growth while adopting sustainable NRM practices that protect and conserve natural capital and biodiversity. Events and resources will assist farmers to adopt practices that reduce emissions and future proof their farms against the impacts of climate change.
- **Sustainable Agricultural Facilitator**
This project will provide a central point of contact to assist farmers to undertake sustainable agricultural practices.

Pests

Being an island, the Board has a unique opportunity to prevent pests establishing and remove existing pests in partnership with the community, agencies and stakeholders.

- **Declared animal and plant control management**
This program will continue to work closely with landholders and community groups to manage priority declared animal and plants and implement declared animal and plant policies.
- **Feral cat eradication (Dudley Peninsula)**
Building on five years of strategic control, this program is using advanced monitoring and control technologies to remove feral cats from the entire Dudley Peninsula in partnership with landholders. The program is supported by the community, industry, organisations, research bodies and developers of innovative technology. This will bring immense benefits to biodiversity and primary production.
- **Feral pig eradication**
Work will continue to support the Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA to finish eradicating feral pigs and prove no more remain on KI.
- **Tasmanian blue gum wildling removal**
Tasmanian blue gum wildlings grew rapidly over 5,000 ha after the 2019-20 bushfires. Working with contractors, volunteers and landholders, this project will remove wildlings from priority areas of native vegetation.

Water

Working closely with all KI stakeholders, including community, agencies and local government, this project will continue to administer Water Affecting Control Policies and monitor a suite of water quality attributes within the Cygnet River and other river systems across KI.



Sources of funding

This Business Plan outlines the estimated resources available for investment in natural resources management by the Board for the 2025-26 financial year.

Funding to support the Board’s programs (see Figure 1) in 2025–2026 includes:

- funds collected through the landscape levy (6%)
- state government funding to ensure provision of human resources and infrastructure required to build the Board’s capacity, attract external funding for investment in natural resource projects and to contribute to the Government of South Australia’s environmental and agricultural priorities and targets (23%)
- Australian Government funding to contribute to the Australian Government’s environmental and agricultural priorities and targets (42%)
- in addition the Board has expenditure authority from the SA Department of Treasury and Finance to utilise income from previous financial years in the 2025-26 financial year which is included in ‘other funding’.

The Board will also pursue further funding opportunities as they arise. The Board’s current funding is shown in Table 1.

Landscape levy

The Kangaroo Island (KI) landscape levy is raised and collected from local and off-Islander ratepayers by the Kangaroo Island Council. The landscape levy is collected on a per property basis and is charged to all rateable properties on KI. For Kangaroo Island, the landscape levy makes a small but important contribution to managing and protecting KI’s natural assets and is used to deliver pest plant and animal control and the Grassroots Grants Program. Due to the low levy base on KI the Board receives Annual State Allocation funding to assist with delivery of legislative requirements outlined in the Act.

Figure 1. KI Landscape Board funding 2025–26

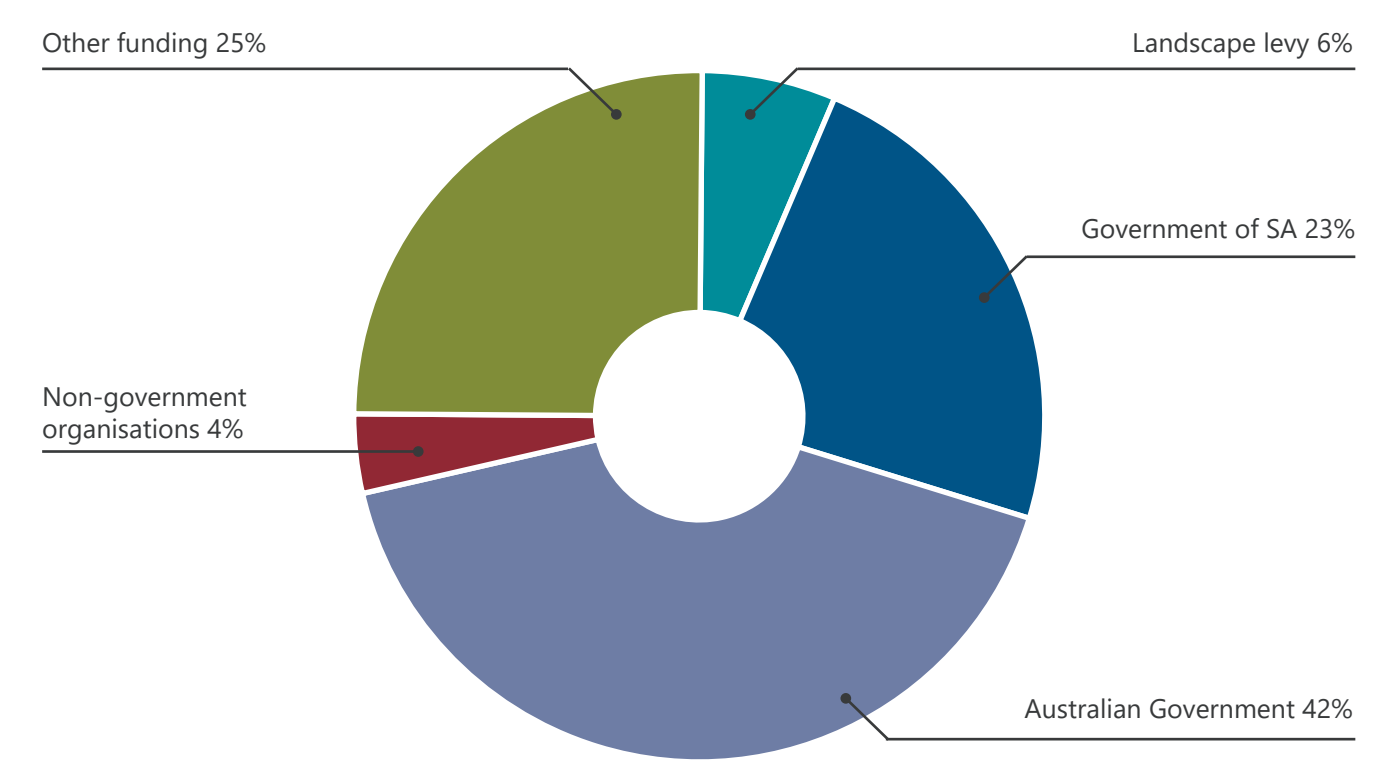


Table 1: Summary of funding sources in 2025–2026

Project/activities	2025–26 Estimated budget (\$)
Levy	
Landscape Levy*	487,700
South Australian Government	
Annual State Allocation	1,367,000
Landscape Priorities Fund	451,259
Australian Government	
Regional Delivery Partnerships Program	1,043,458
Saving Native Species Program	1,320,232
Carbon Farming Outreach Program	876,219
Non-government organisations	
Ian Potter Foundation	146,000
Nature Foundation of Australia	120,217
Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation	9,400
Kangaroo Island Wildlife Network	12,500
Total revenue	5,833,985
Other	
Nursery sales and licence fees	100,000
Approved carryover	1,687,527
Interest	160,000
Total funding	\$7,781,512

*For 25-26 the landscape levy has been calculated based on a 5.9% CPI increase.



Program investment (expenditure)

This Business Plan sets out the planned expenditure from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026. The Board invests funding from the landscape levy and other sources into delivering activities against the five priorities and their key focus areas. The Board's investment will be delivered through a range of projects and approaches including direct investment, contracts for works or services, and community grants. Table 2 provides the anticipated expenditure against each priority and program.

Figure 2. KI Landscape Board investment in priorities 2025–26

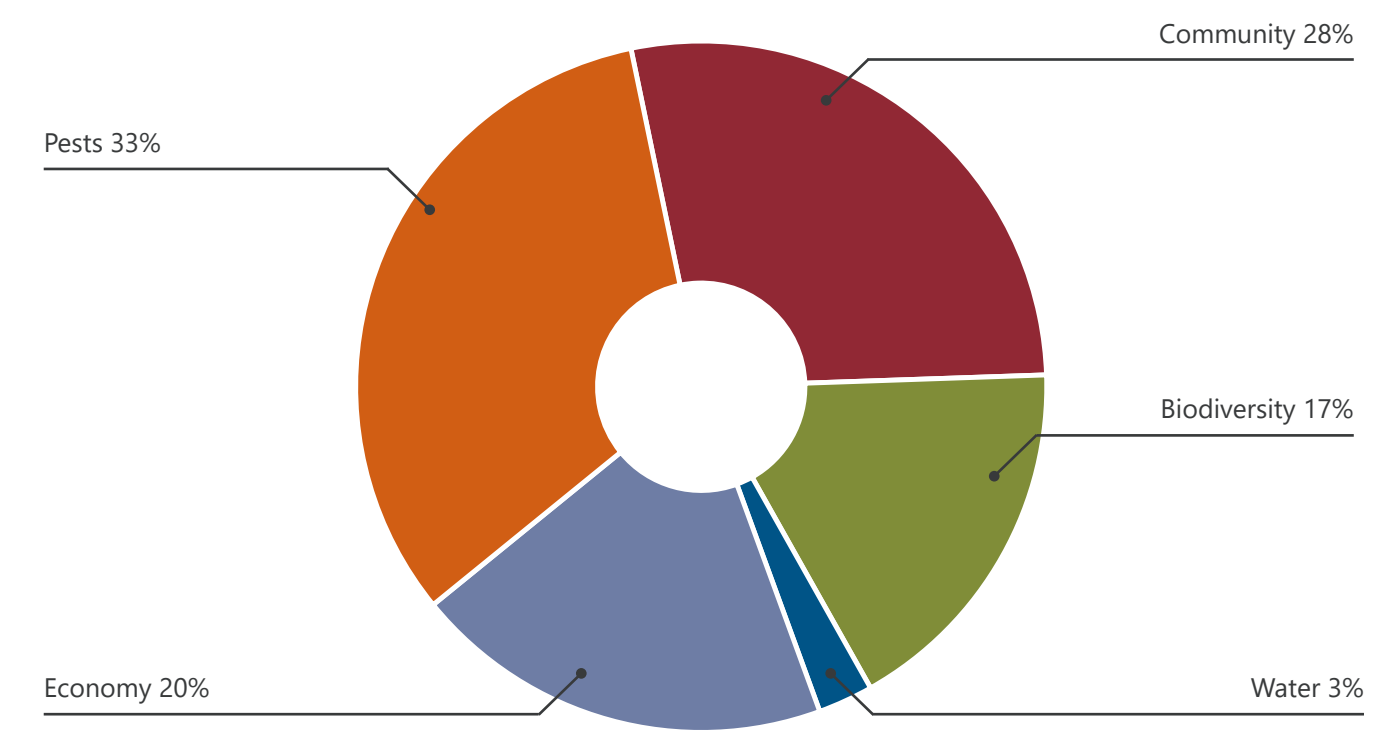


Table 2: Summary of expenditure on Board priorities

Priority	Project/activities	2025–2026 Investment				
		Landscape Levy	State Funding	Other income	External funding	Total
 Community	Board governance & support		975,146	42,871		
	Grassroots grants	14,143	41,854			
	Project support			29,000	400,000	
	Communication, media & events		90,000			1,932,735
	Compliance initiatives	85,000				
	NRM education		62,075			
	Healthy country planning		141,646	51,000		
 Biodiversity	KI Native Plant Nursery		18,000	180,000	64,426	
	KI Narrow-leaved Mallee Woodland & threatened plant restoration			40,000	329,994	
	Improving woodland bird habitat				271,362	1,212,731
	Improving small mammal habitat				120,789	
	Improving coastal habitats			52,086	67,970	
	Biodiversity coordination				68,104	
 Economy	Soil extension project		80,000			
	Farming towards the future				169,453	1,374,332
	Carbon outreach			17,246	876,219	
	Sustainable agriculture facilitation			70,000	161,414	
 Water	Water resources management		180,000			180,000
 Pests	Feral cat eradication (Dudley Peninsula)		21,000	679,199	759,943	
	Feral pig eradication		111,038	46,000		
	Priority environmental weed control		97,500			2,273,237
	Tasmanian blue gum wildling removal			170,000		
	Declared animal & plant control & management	388,557				
Strategic initiatives			570,125	238,352		808,477
Total Investment		\$487,700	\$1,818,259	\$1,947,527	\$3,528,026	\$7,781,512

The Board and staff

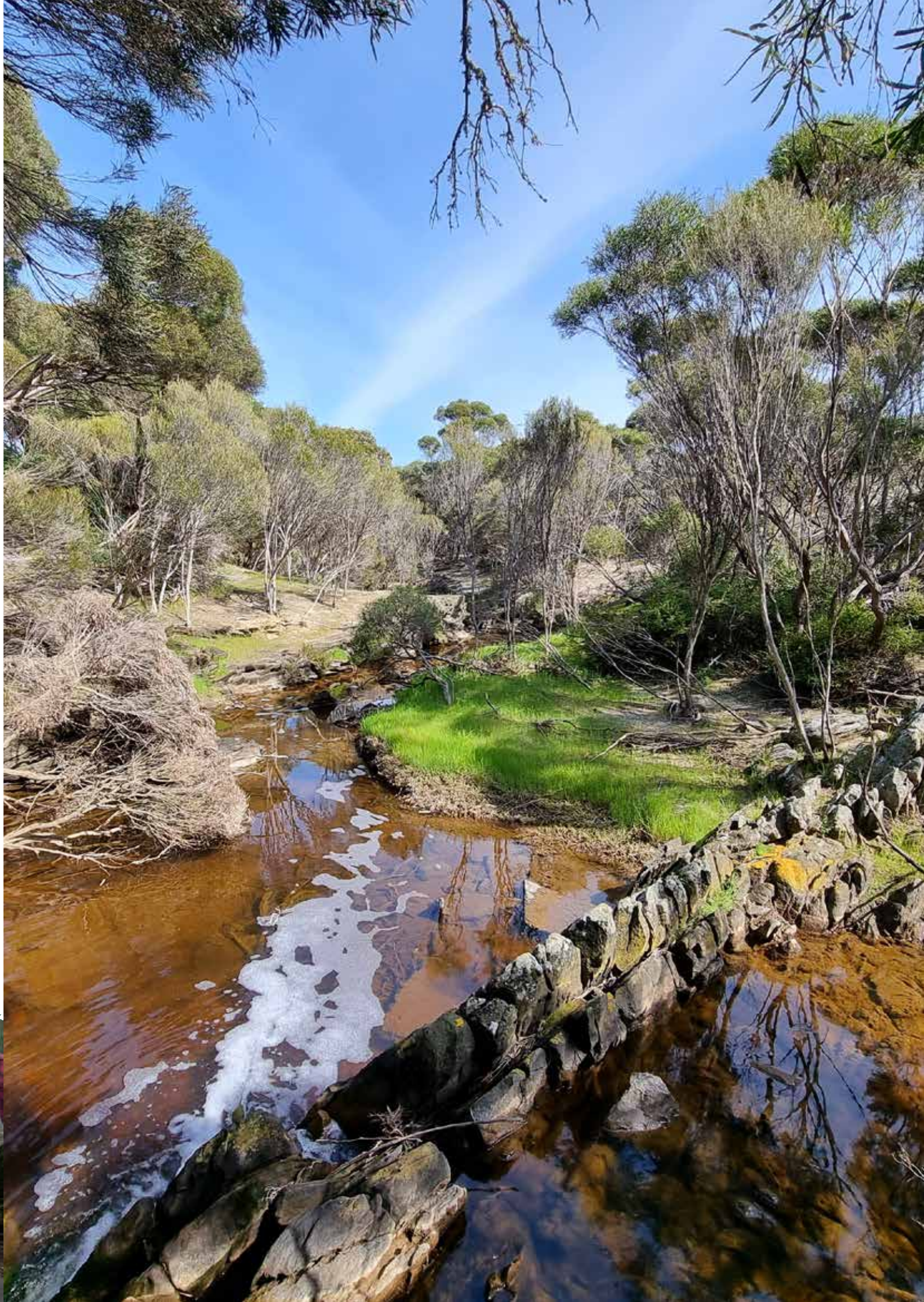
The Board is a statutory regional board formed under the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*. The Board consists of seven community members with a range of skills and knowledge, appointed by the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water. They join Chair Andrew Heinrich, in delivering community centred, integrated natural resource management, which values and utilises the connection between people and their environment. Board members all live locally and provide a diverse range of skills and expertise. See Figure 3 for the seven board members and chair.

Figure 3. KI Landscape Board



Staffing arrangements

Under the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*, the Board has a General Manager and staff working to deliver the programs and services of the Board. In 2025–26, it is anticipated that there will be 30.1 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions (2 FTE funded by levies with remainder funded by the Board, Australian and State Governments and non-government organisations) employed by the General Manager on behalf of the Board. These staff are public sector employees. The Board will continue to be supported through a Service Level Agreement with the Department for Environment and Water for information and technology services, and specialised corporate services. These services are subject to an annual review.



Further information

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