

Kangaroo Island Landscape Board Progress Report

July — September 2021



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

This is the vision of the new Kangaroo Island Landscape Board (the Board). This report captures the work undertaken through Board projects from 1 April to 30 June 2021 to deliver this vision.

Formed in 2020, the Board aims to deliver practical, on-ground programs to help manage the island's water, land and soil, pests, and biodiversity in partnership with farming groups, environmental non-government organisations, local councils and community groups. The Board consists of seven members, including a Chair, Andrew Heinrich. They have recently developed a new *Kangaroo Island Landscape Plan 2021-2026* (the Plan), which combines community values, local knowledge and scientific evidence into a strategic road map to guide how the Board will work in partnership with the community and investors to support the recovery and management of Kangaroo Island's landscapes into the future. The Plan aims to strike a balance between productivity and profitability, and looking after the environment to maintain biodiversity. The plan contains five regional priorities, each with a suite of focus areas to guide the actions for the Board and the wider regional community over the next five years.

 COMMUNITY	Priority: A connected community at the centre of decision making Focus areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with all sectors of the community to improve the island's landscapes • Making decisions based on the best available scientific, local and traditional knowledge • Understanding, valuing and taking care of the natural environment and cultural heritage
 BIODIVERSITY	Priority: Healthy terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity Focus areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding the structure and function of habitats and ecosystems • Protecting biodiversity to minimise species loss • Improving our understanding of the environment and the beneficial role it plays
 ECONOMY	Priority: Sustainable primary production and the island's economy Focus areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the health of the soil, water and biodiversity that supports our economy • Strengthening the viability of primary production through sustainable practices • Working in partnership with industry to ensure the island's economy continues to prosper
 WATER	Priority: Effective water management Focus areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing water resources sustainably and equitably for all users • Improving water quality in the island's catchments and wetlands • Protecting aquatic biodiversity and ecosystems
 PESTS	Priority: Effective terrestrial and marine pest management Focus areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlling and, where possible, eradicating weeds, pests and diseases • Strengthening KI's biosecurity arrangements • Managing the impact of overabundant native species

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Cover image: Brenton Florance, KI Feral Animal Control Officer controlling feral pigs via helicopter in the Thermal Assisted Aerial Cull.

Water Resources Management

Overview:

This program supports the Kangaroo Island (KI) community to manage their water resources in line with the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*.

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- Created mapping layers of dam catchments, drainage lines and capacities of waterbodies, for a hydrologically conditioned Digital Terrain Model to assist landholders to develop water security plans for their properties.
- 30 sites have been selected for water resource health assessments (including water quality parameters, water bugs and vegetation bio-indicators) as part of developing water security plans.
- Worked with the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) Resources Monitoring Unit to replace the monitoring equipment damaged by the 2019-20 bushfire at eight sites.

Community engagement:

- Received eight Water Affecting Activities (WAA) permit applications and one Development Application.
- Advised 50 people and businesses about water resources management and the requirement for WAA permits and development applications. The number of enquires have increased due to the implications of the forestry transition on water resources and Best Practice Operating Procedure type permits.
- Advertised assistance for landholders to remediate or stabilise erosion around watercourses in the bushfire area and develop water security plans through the Growing KI newsletter.

Future directions and upcoming events:

- Hold a *Science in the Pub* presentation about developing property-scale water security plans. This will be held in partnership with Adelaide University, who will present research on interpreting sediments to reconstruct historical climate, fire frequency and ecosystems.
- Contribute to the final year of the project *Environmental Assessment of Water Management Options for KI* to improve the science underlying the Water Policy.
- Continue to work with the DEW Compliance Unit and the KI Council to progress compliance and enforcement activities under the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* and the KI WAA policy.

50 people advised about water resources

30 sites identified for water health assessments

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- Effective water management
- A connected community at the centre of decision making
- Healthy terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity
- Sustainable primary production and the island's economy

Funded by:

- Government of South Australia:
 - » State Appropriations
- Australian Government:
 - » Future Drought Fund – NRM Drought Resilience Grant
 - » Bushfire recovery package for wildlife and their habitat

Image below: Monitoring the winter water flows in the Cygnet River.



Declared Animal and Plant Control Program

Overview:

This program manages declared weed and pest animal species in accordance with risk assessment priorities and regional management plans.

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- Bronwyn Fancourt has joined the Animal Plant Control Team as the Manager Invasive Species, following Trish Mooney's retirement.

Weeds

One-leaf Cape tulip:

- An outlier infestation of one-leaf Cape tulip 6 ha in size on the Dudley Peninsula was controlled. This outlier has been controlled for three years and is starting to thin out now. A 2 ha infestation at Min-Oil Road was also controlled.
- Other known roadside infestations were controlled on the South Coast Road, Jetty Road, Crabs Road, Gosse Ritchie Road, Church Road, Airport Road, North Coast Road, Springs Road, North Cape Road, Min-Oil Road, Red Banks Road and Millers Road. Many of these infestations were larger than normal, in particular the South Coast Road between Vivonne Bay and Gosse Ritchie Road.
- More than 20,000 one-leaf Cape tulip plants were treated across 134 ha on the Noble Block and KI Plantation Timber forestry blocks.

Yellow burrweed:

- A small infestation of yellow burrweed (*Amsinckia* species) was controlled on Min-Oil Road. This infestation has been controlled for nine years now and only a few plants were found this year.
- This weed is not declared as it is very common and difficult to destroy on the mainland. However, it is an emerging, uncommon weed on KI that would significantly impact the wool industry on KI if it spread.

Wild artichoke:

- Several wild artichoke plants (*Cynara carduncus*) were controlled on Gap Road and it appears to be present on properties in the area.
- Wild artichoke is an emerging weed on KI and was first recorded this year. It is declared for control, sale and movement but is quite common on the mainland.

Bridal creeper:

- 2,200 kg of bridal creeper bulbs were removed from 101 ha at Kelly Hill, Mt Taylor and Hillview (Gosse Ritchie Road).

Tasmanian bluegum seedlings (TBG):

- Veronica Bates is the new Tasmanian Bluegum Coordinator and will continue to work with the community to control this emerging weed.

Community engagement:

Weeds

- Seven landholders (including two new ones) borrowed the weed wiper to control one-leaf Cape tulip. The weed wiper has been so successful that many landholders are now opting to buy their own weed wiper.

20,000
one-leaf Cape tulip plants
found and removed

2,200 kg
of bridal creeper removed
from 101 ha

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- 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 terrestrial and marine pest management

Image below: One-leaf Cape tulip control on western KI.



- The KILB Weeds Control Officer worked with 15 students from Seaton High School about weeds and weed control and assisted them to map African boxthorn on a farm on the Dudley Peninsula using drones and high definition, multispectral cameras. The collaboration with Seaton High School aims to develop a weed mapping tool for environmental use that detects and controls weeds using drones, in areas that would generally be too difficult, or expensive, to map by traditional means.
- Four people reported false caper and bridal creeper along roadsides.
- Three people reported bridal veil and sought advice on control. The reports were all known outlier infestations currently being controlled by the landholder and monitored by the KILB Weeds Control Officer.
- Seven people sought advice about controlling bridal creeper and one-leaf Cape tulip.

Future directions and upcoming events:

- Continue roadside control of one-leaf Cape tulip.
- Investigate the wild artichoke infestation and speak with landholders with the weed on their properties.
- Continue the control of priority weeds across KI, including fire affected areas.

15 students assisted to map and control African boxthorn

21 landholders assisted with advice about weed control

Funded by:

- Kangaroo Island Land Levy
- Government of South Australia:
 - » Minister of Primary Industries and Regional Development
- Australian Government:
 - » Regional Fund for Wildlife and Habitat Bushfire Recovery

Image below: Students from Seaton High School preparing the drone for surveying.



Feral Cat Eradication Program

Overview:

The aim of the KI Feral Cat Eradication Program is to eradicate feral cats from KI, beginning on the Dudley Peninsula and then moving west across KI. The program is being led by the KI Landscape Board in partnership with the Kangaroo Island Council, Nature Foundation and many other partners.

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- 106 feral cats were culled over 9,250 ha of the Dudley Peninsula this quarter. 79 feral cats were caught over 4,511 trap nights using cage traps. 27 feral cats were caught over 1,230 trap nights using soft-foot leg-hold traps. Feral cats that have crept in behind the eradication line are being successfully removed by a very experienced Feral Cat Field Officer.
- Over this quarter a further 100 cage traps and soft-foot leg-hold traps were deployed and the eradication line moved west approximately 30 km².
- Feral cat ground and aerial baiting using Curiosity™ baits containing para-aminopropiophenone (PAPP) was conducted over 10,585 ha of unburnt woodland refuge areas on the Dudley Peninsula. This baiting duplicated the baiting conducted from April–June in 2021, as studies have shown that two bait deployments provide a significant increase in efficacy and therefore reach as many feral cats as possible. The number of individual feral cats removed by the baiting is unknown but it is expected to achieve at least 50% knockdown based on trials from 2020 with the same technique.
- A further 23,300 ha of aerial baiting was conducted within Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area and Conservation Park.

106
feral cats controlled across
the Dudley Peninsula

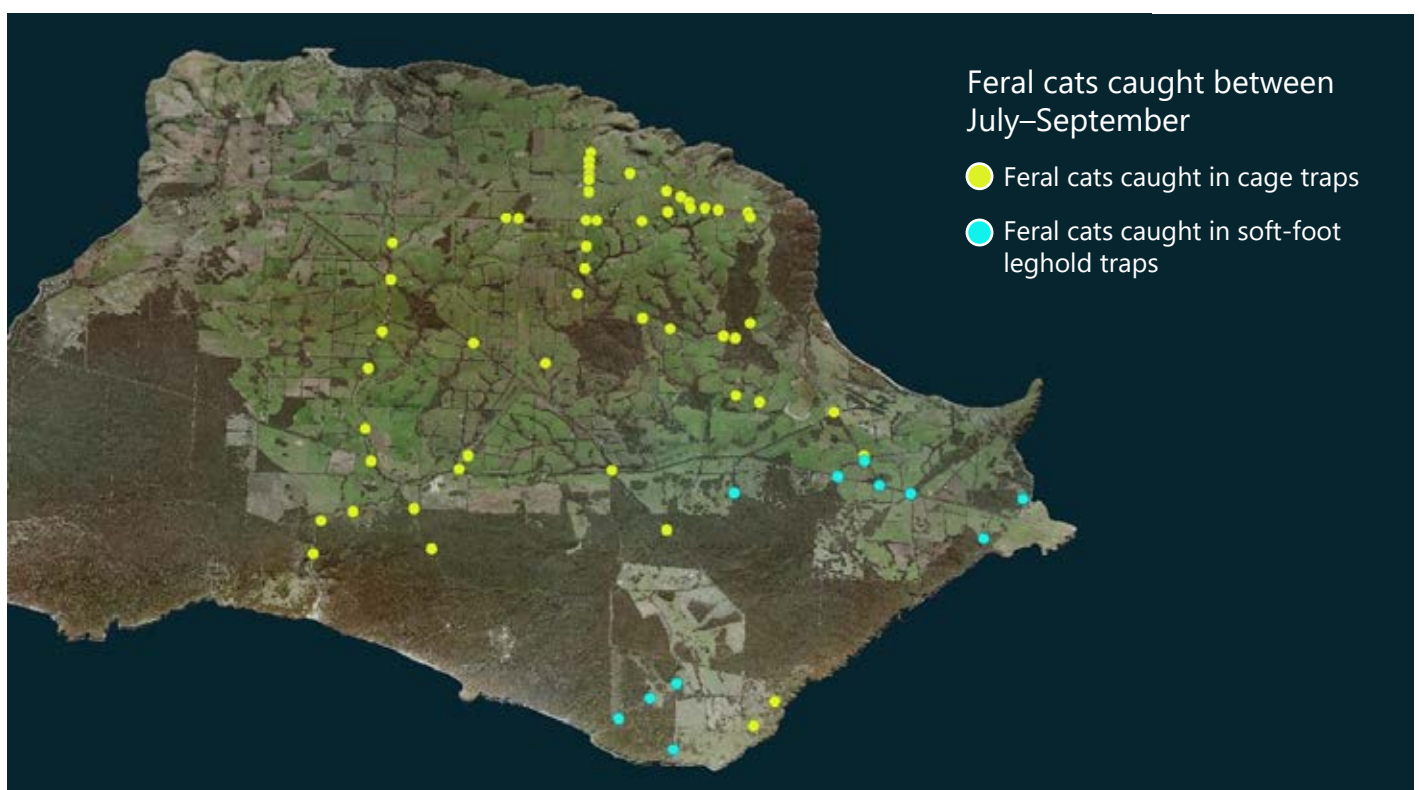
4,000
feral cat baits distributed
over 10,585 ha

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- 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 terrestrial and marine pest management

[Visit the Feral Free Kangaroo Island Facebook page for more information](#)

Image below: Map showing where feral cats have been controlled on the Dudley Peninsula between July–September.



- 90 4G connected cameras, coupled with artificial intelligence for feral cat detection, have been deployed to detect feral cats coming back behind the eradication line and to target trapping effort.
- The feral cat proof fence has been constructed across the narrowest part of the Dudley Peninsula. Thermal and infrared cameras have been designed for the fence gaps. They have a range of 500 m in complete darkness and 1 km in daylight.

Community engagement:

- A video has been produced to promote the KI Feral Cat Eradication Program and encourage funding/sponsorship for the program. See <https://bit.ly/3n76yPu>
- A project update was emailed to Dudley Peninsula landholders.
- 10 social media posts were published on the [Feral Free Kangaroo Island Facebook](#) page.
- A media article regarding the 4G camera network being used to monitor feral cats was published on the ABC News website. See <https://ab.co/3aD3cMG>

Future directions and upcoming events:

- Feral cat control activities will continue to move slowly west and north across the Dudley Peninsula. New cameras will be installed to monitor feral cat movements and detect when they have been removed from an area.
- Cage trapping, thermal scope hunting, grooming trap, and soft-foot leg-hold trapping will be conducted in the baited area.
- The feral cat fence will be opened on 8 October 2021 by SA Minister for Environment and Water David Speirs.
- The final workshop for the *Feral Cat Strike Force* project has been delayed again due to COVID-19.

90
new 4G remote cameras
installed to track feral cats

the feral cat eradication
line moved
30 km²
further west

Funded by:

- Government of South Australia:
 - » Landscape Priorities Fund
- Australian Government:
 - » Regional Land Partnerships
 - » Smart Farms Small Grants
 - » Bushfire Wildlife and Habitat Recovery Fund
 - » Regional Fund for Wildlife and Habitat Bushfire Recovery
- Members of the public

Image below: A feral cat trying to get past the new feral cat fence separating the Dudley Peninsula from western KI.



Feral Pig Eradication Program

Overview:

The program aims to eradicate feral pigs on KI across private and public land, parks, reserves, forestry and agricultural farmland using a coordinated landscape approach. This program is led by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) in close collaboration with the Landscape Board and KI National Parks and Wildlife Service. The below achievements are a record of the direct contributions made from Landscape Board staff.

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- From July until September, the KI Feral Animal Control Officer contributed a significant effort to the Thermal Assisted Aerial Cull (TAAC) activities undertaken via helicopter, as part of the DEW Aerial Marksman team. This operation killed 243 pigs across 181,000 hectares.
- The last remaining boar from the central outlier population was finally removed.
- Ground control of feral pigs continued to focus in the southern management zones, using free-feeding stations, camera monitoring and ground shooting to monitor, locate and remove feral pigs. Waterlogging following a wet winter inhibited access to many sites, requiring many areas to be accessed on foot.
- The Feral Pig Control Officer continued to focus their control efforts in feral pig hot spots, predominantly in forestry blocks south of the Playford Highway. They also collected water samples from 26 sites across western KI for subsequent eDNA testing to determine the presence/absence of feral pigs in the catchment areas.

Community engagement:

- The Control Officers engaged with 20 landholders across central and western KI to provide support, discuss the eradication program and secure access to control feral pigs.

Future directions and upcoming events:

- Continue feral pig control and landholder engagement as part of the PIRSA-led KI Feral Pig Eradication Project.

Thermal Assisted Aerial
Cull conducted over
181,000 ha

26
sites sampled for
feral pig eDNA

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- 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 terrestrial and marine pest management

Funded by:

- Government of South Australia:
 - » Minister of Primary Industries and Regional Development
- Australian Government:
 - » Bushfire Wildlife and Habitat Recovery Fund

Image below: The helicopter flight path used for the Thermal Assisted Aerial Cull (PIRSA).



Sustainable Agriculture Program

Overview:

This project uses a holistic, systems approach to assist primary producers to improve soil health and increase on-farm diversity as the basis for resilient grazing and cropping systems.

Key achievements July-September 2021:

The staff within the Sustainable Landscape Team changed early in this reporting period.

- Laura Williams and Cassandra Douglas-Hill have stepped into the role of Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitators.
- Jo Sullivan has also begun work as the Sustainable Landscapes Manager.

The new team has devoted their time to building their knowledge and understanding of the project during this quarter and reviewing its progress to date. The project remains on-track and new events and new demonstration sites are currently being finalised.

Community engagement:

- The new Sustainable Landscape Team has been developing relationships with the KI farmers currently participating in the project and the contractors delivering components of the project.
- A [Growing KI e-newsletter](#) was published in September 2021.

Future directions and upcoming events:

- An *Introduction to Grazing Naturally* Workshop will be held with Dick Richardson on Wednesday 27 October. The workshop will be held at Jenny and Will Stanton's, one of four demonstration farms trialling Dick's practical approaches to grazing systems on their farms. The content has been tailored to suit both those who are new to these practices and those with some experience.
- The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA), with support from the Board, are running a pilot 'Soil Your Undies' project to learn more about soil health. The aim is to learn about soil biota by burying a pair of cotton undies and watching their breakdown over two months.

3 new staff members in the Sustainable Landscape Team

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- A connected community at the centre of decision making
- Sustainable primary production and the island's economy

Funded by:

- Australian Government:
 - » National Landcare Program Regional Land Partnerships
 - » Smart Farms Small Grants Program

Image below: New Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator monitoring soil on a regenerative agriculture demonstration farm.



KI Narrow-leaved Mallee Woodland Threatened Ecological Community Recovery Program

Overview:

This project will improve the condition, extent and connectivity of remnant KI narrow-leaved mallee community patches through direct investment in threat mitigation actions and empowering landholders to undertake best practice management of narrow-leaved mallee on their properties.

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- Eight projects were undertaken by seven landholders to fence 68.1 ha of remnant KI narrow-leaved mallee woodland to protect it from stock grazing.
- Eleven landholders revegetated 7.7 ha of KI narrow-leaved mallee woodland with tubestock and protected this with 3.4 km of new fences. The purpose of the revegetation was to recreate KI narrow-leaved mallee woodland and strengthen corridors between remnant vegetation patches.
- 2,520 kg of bridal veil plants were manually removed from outlier populations over 100 ha of private land and roadsides along Wallers Road, Red Banks Road and Grace James Corner (Hog Bay Road and Elsegood Road intersection). These outlier populations threaten KI narrow-leaved mallee woodland communities.

Community engagement:

- Landholders were assisted with their revegetation and fencing projects being funded through the 2020-21 on-ground works funding round.
- The 2021-22 KI Narrow-leaved Mallee On-Ground Works funding round was advertised to landholders through *The Islander*, the KI Landscape Board website and via email.

Future directions and upcoming events:

- Letters of offer to be sent to successful applicants in the 2021-22 on-ground works funding round.
- Planning for a KI narrow-leaved mallee pollarding workshop.

68.1 ha
KI narrow-leaved mallee
woodland fenced

2,520 kg
bridal veil invading
KI narrow-leaved mallee
woodland removed

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- A connected community at the centre of decision making
- Healthy terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity

Funded by:

- Australian Government:
National Landcare Program
Regional Land Partnerships

Image below: Revegetation of KI narrow-leaved mallee woodland in MacGillivray.



Glossy black-cockatoo Recovery Program

Overview:

This project will deliver emergency interventions for SA glossy black-cockatoos (*Calyptorhynchus lathami halmaturinus*) affected by bushfires to assist with their recovery, including protecting glossy black-cockatoo (glossy) nests from predators to improve nesting success.

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- 71 glossy nests were checked for maintenance needs. Little corella and galah nests were removed when found and possum exclusion barriers fixed or installed in eight trees. Four new nest boxes were installed and two nest boxes were moved to new tree locations due to dead/dying original trees.
- A 16 metre telescoping pole was used to check 87 glossy nests for activity to determine their breeding success in burnt and unburnt habitat.
- Ten glossy black-cockatoo nestlings between 5-11 weeks in age were fitted with individually numbered stainless steel leg bands, to allow individual recognition of them over their lifetime and contribute to our movement and survival fauna survey.
- Plant survival of drooping sheoak was surveyed to gain a better understanding of how sheoak woodlands recover post fire, in order to predict when woodlands will become a food source again for glossies.
- Trials were established to determine if:
 1. Preventing galahs and little corellas from glossy nest boxes in spring decreases their disturbance to glossies when they nest from January-June 2022.
 2. Thinning post-fire drooping sheoak seedlings encourages stronger, faster growth of regenerating trees, so they produce cones earlier.

Future directions and upcoming events:

- Conduct glossy black-cockatoo census to determine whether we are missing major breeding locations for flocks on western KI.
- Establish monitoring to compare the internal temperatures of two different nest box types and natural hollows, to determine whether nest boxes will have adverse impacts on nesting success under predicted climate change scenarios.

10 glossy nestlings banded

71 glossy nests checked and maintained to reduce pest impacts

87 glossy nests checked for breeding success

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- A connected community at the centre of decision making
- Healthy terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity
- Effective terrestrial and marine pest management

Funded by:

- Australian Government: Regional Fund for Wildlife and Habitat Bushfire Recovery
- World Wide Fund for Nature Australia

Image below: Glossy nestling ready for banding



Kangaroo Island Dunnart Recovery Program

Overview:

This project will support the recovery of the Kangaroo Island dunnart following the 2019–20 bushfires by implementing key priorities of the *2011 Recovery Plan for the Kangaroo Island dunnart* and the 2019 draft *Conservation Advice for the Kangaroo Island dunnart*.

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- Kangaroo Island dunnarts were detected at six new sites. Three of these sites extended the current known distribution of the KI dunnart further east, with new detections at a heritage bush site in forestry east of the Gosselands, and two sites on private property along Coopers Road. There are now 66 sites where KI dunnarts have been detected by this project since the fires. This quarter KI dunnarts were detected 86 times across all sites. There have now been 414 individual KI dunnart detections since the project began in February 2020.
- Thirty-four new survey sites were installed in suitable burnt and un-burnt habitat across a combination of private land, forestry and public land, bringing the total sites surveyed to 220. Unfortunately there were no detections from these sites to date.
- Feral cats were controlled systematically across sites where KI dunnarts have been detected, and broadly across the fire scar, to buffer these sites from re-invasion. 304 feral cats were removed this quarter from 30,000 ha of public, private and forestry properties.
- An aerial baiting program using Curiosity™ baits containing para-aminopropiophenone (PAPP) was undertaken over 2,600 ha, in hard to access areas where KI dunnarts have been detected post-fire, within the Ravine des Casoars Wilderness Protection Area and Flinders Chase National Park. The baits were distributed twice, to target new feral cats moving into the baited areas following the initial baiting. Remote cameras were located at KI dunnart detection sites within the baited area to detect changes.

86 KI dunnart detections

34 survey sites installed to detect KI dunnarts

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- A connected community at the centre of decision making
- Healthy terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity
- Effective terrestrial and marine pest management

Funded by:

- Australian Government:
 - » Environmental Restoration Fund
 - » Bushfire Wildlife and Habitat Recovery
 - » Regional Fund for Wildlife and Habitat Bushfire Recovery



Community engagement:

- An update on feral cat control within, and adjacent to, sites where KI dunnarts have been detected on western KI, was sent to participating landholders.

304 removed from
feral cats KI dunnart
habitat

Future directions and upcoming events:

- To maximise feral cat control over large, landscape scales, approaches and techniques will continue to be trialled and refined, to reduce predation on threatened species and the potential for re-invasion.
- Undertake a trapping program for KI dunnarts with Zoos SA.
- Analyse remote camera images from KI dunnart detection sites within the baited area to detect changes in feral cat numbers.

2,600 ha
baited to control feral
cats on western KI

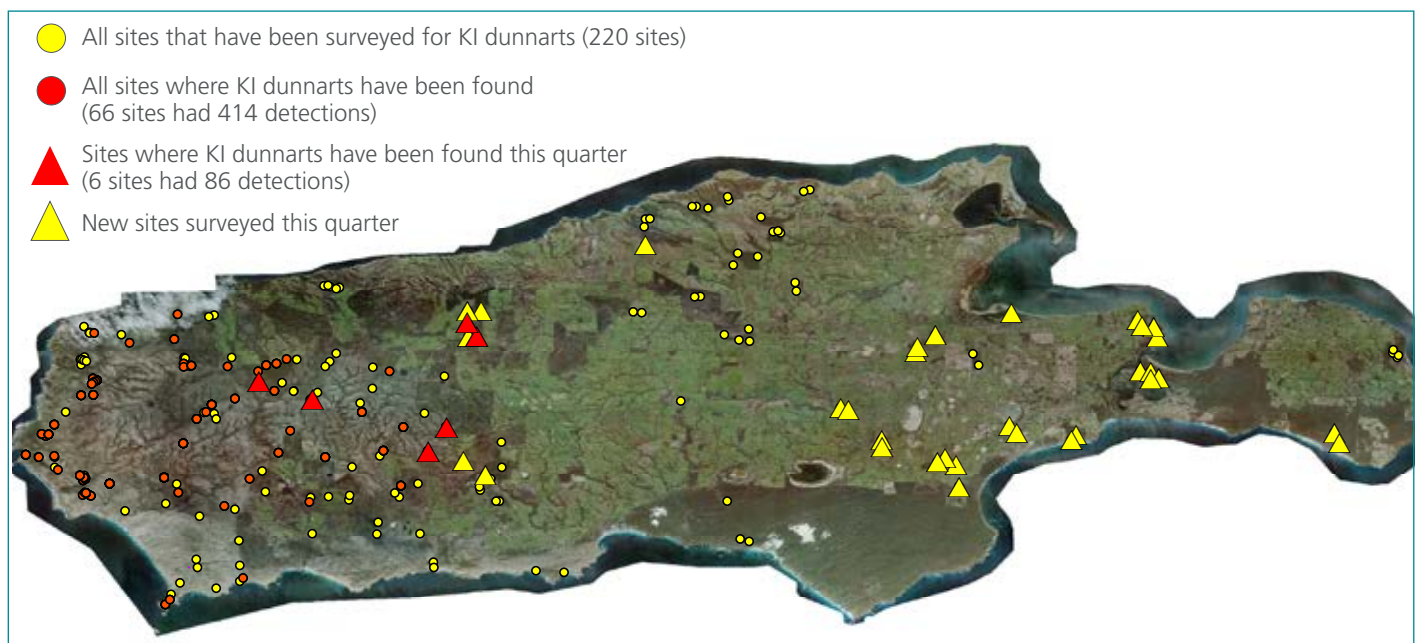


Image page 12 left: Project Officer Kelly Gledhill airborne ready to deploy feral cat baits.

Image below page 12 right: A Kangaroo Island dunnart photographed recently.

Image above page 13: KI dunnart feral cat team.

Map below page 13: KI dunnart survey sites and detections.



Oyster Reef Construction Program

Overview:

This project will build a series of 20 small, native oyster shellfish reefs close to Kingscote and American River to provide important habitat for premium recreational fishing species and to contribute to the national shellfish reef restoration initiative. The reefs, once placed on the seabed, will be initially seeded with native oyster larvae (spat) and will also provide a substrate for wild spat to settle.

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- Alex Comino has begun as the new Oyster Reef Restoration Project Officer for the KI Landscape Board to deliver this project.
- Two potential sites for the new oyster reefs were ground-truthed at American River and Kingscote by towing underwater cameras along transects across 16 ha of seabed in Nepean Bay.
- Quotes for reef building materials, including local limestone and oyster shells from KI and recycled terracotta tiles, and a commercial barge to transport this material to reef sites, were sought.

Community engagement:

- Construction of timber native oyster larvae (spat) collecting modules began with help from the Kingscote Men's Shed. They have been designed to allow water to flow through the module, bringing native oyster larvae from around the bay, while protecting growing oysters from predators.
- Engaged with The Nature Conservancy and Flinders University to collaborate on aspects of other oyster reef restoration activities planned for Kangaroo Island over the next 18 months.

Future directions and upcoming events:

- Analyse the video footage of potential sites for suitability for oyster reef construction.

2 sites
investigated for potential
oyster reefs

16 ha
of seabed surveyed
for suitability as
oyster reef sites

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- A connected community at the centre of decision making
- Healthy terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity
- Sustainable primary production and the island's economy

Funded by:

- Australian Government:
 - » Fisheries Habitat Restoration

Image below: Paul Jennings working with volunteers at the Kingscote Mens Shed to build oyster spat collectors.



Kangaroo Island Native Plant Nursery

Overview:

The Kangaroo Island Native Plant Nursery grows over 150 different species of KI native plants, which can be used for revegetating land, windbreaks, coastal plantings and home garden use. The Nursery Manager is available for native vegetation management advice to assist landholders with their projects.

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- Work at the KI Native Plant Nursery focused on maintaining the 52,000 plants that were grown for the 2021 planting season and sorting them into orders ready for collection by landholders.
- There was a significant increase in orders following the Kangaroo Island 2019-20 bushfires and the nursery was unable to grow garden plants and could only focus on growing plants to fill orders.
- Seed was collected from plants with woody fruit to help build up seed supplies to support future projects. Plant material was collected for cuttings.
- Propagation of seedlings for the 2021-22 planting season began.

Community engagement:

- The KI Native Plant Nursery was open every Tuesday and Thursday this quarter until 26 August. During this time landholders came in to the nursery to buy plants, order plants for the 2021-22 planting season and collect their orders.
- The opening of orders for native plants for the 2021-22 growing season from the KI Native Plant Nursery was advertised to landholders in through social media posts and in *The Islander*.

Future directions and upcoming events:

- Distribute orders to landholders and begin propagation of 2021-22 seedlings.

Image below: New Nursery Assistant Jo McPhee with plant cuttings in the greenhouse.

12,280
KI native plants grown
for landholders in
bushfire areas

39 landholders in
bushfire areas
supported with
free plants

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- A connected community at the centre of decision making
- Healthy terrestrial and marine ecosystems and biodiversity
- Sustainable primary production and the island's economy

Funded by:

- Australian Government:
 - » National Landcare Program
 - » Regional Land Partnerships
 - » Regional Fund for Wildlife and Habitat Bushfire Recovery
- Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation
- 8 Billion Trees
- Collette Travel



Community grants programs

Overview:

These grant programs support the KI community to undertake on-ground actions to benefit the natural resources of Kangaroo Island. Grants reported here include the KI Landscape Board Grassroots Grants and Bushfire Recovery Fencing Grants.

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- Alex James has begun as the Grants Administrator for the KI Landscape Board and will help landholders to apply for and deliver the KI Bushfire Recovery Fencing Grants.
- The 2021-22 KI Bushfire Recovery Fencing Grants round opened on 13 September 2021 and will close on 15 October 2021. Applications are accessible on-line through SmartyGrants.
- Two KI Grassroots Grants projects from the previous 2020-21 round have been completed:
 - » protecting 29 ha of native vegetation regenerating after the bushfires along a creekline and revegetating an area to prevent erosion with 2,500 native plants.
 - » control of horehound and variegated thistle at Emu Bay.

Community engagement:

- The 2021-22 KI Bushfire Recovery Fencing Grants were advertised through [an article in The Islander](#), social media, a webpage on the KI Landscape Board's website, posters on community notice boards in Kingscote and Parndana and a letter or text message to 115 landholders.

Future directions and upcoming events:

- The first round of the 2021-22 KI Bushfire Recovery Fencing Grants closes on 15 October. If the grant is oversubscribed applications for fencing larger patches of native vegetation and creeklines and natural watercourses will be prioritised for funding. If unallocated funds remain after the first round, a second grant round will be opened with different eligibility criteria.

115
landholders contacted
about the KI Bushfire
Recovery Fencing Grants

29
ha
creekline
protected via
Grassroots
Grants

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- 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

Funded by:

- Kangaroo Island Land Levy
- Government of South Australia:
 - » State Appropriations
 - » Minister for Environment and Water
- Australian Government:
 - » Regional Fund for Wildlife and Habitat Bushfire Recovery

Image below: A fence erected through the 2020-21 KI Grassroots Grants to protect regenerating native vegetation lining a creek.



Planning and Evaluation Team

Overview:

This team works with all KI Landscape Board projects to support their effective and efficient delivery and to assist them to meet their reporting responsibilities. The team also coordinates the KI Landscape Board's strategic planning, including evaluating performance towards implementing the KI Landscape Plan.

30 reports submitted to project funders

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- Submitted output, progress, annual and outcome reports for the following projects to the Australian Government through their on-line reporting tool (MERIT):
 - » *Core Services*
 - » *Recovering the KI Narrow Leaved Mallee Woodland Threatened Ecological Community through local landscape action*
 - » *Creating a safe haven for the KI dunnart and other priority threatened species by eradicating feral cats from the Dudley Peninsula*
 - » *Building resilient agricultural systems on Kangaroo Island*
 - » *Support to RLP KI (SA) Service Providers for Emergency Pest Mitigation and Habitat Protection (Phase two)*
 - » *Supporting the recovery of the KI dunnart through conservation and management actions*
 - » *South Australian Glossy Black-Cockatoo Post-fire Recovery*
 - » *Controlling feral cats to protect priority fauna species on KI*
 - » *Supporting the post-fire recovery of the Glossy Black-cockatoo on KI through conservation and management actions*
 - » *Helping threatened species on KI to recover from the 2019-20 bushfires through on-ground actions*
 - » *Building native oyster shellfish reefs to improve fish habitat on KI*
 - » *Use of native flora and fauna for regional and on-farm integrated pest management (IPM) and biosecurity in high-value horticulture and viticulture on KI.*
- Developed the Interim Technical Report for the project *Restoring bushfire affected wildlife habitat on KI* for the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.
- Developed Monitoring, Evaluation Reporting and Improvement (MERI) Plan and revised the program logic for the project *South Australian Glossy Black-Cockatoo Post-fire Recovery*.
- Revised the *Relationship Management Plan for the Australian Government and KI Landscape Board*.

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- 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

Funded by:

- Australian Government:
 - » National Landcare Program
 - » Regional Land Partnerships

Community engagement:

- Assisted with the development of posters, web pages, media articles, factsheets, newsletters and flyers for KI Landscape Board projects.

Future directions and upcoming events:

- Assist projects with reporting and monitoring requirements and liaise with the Australian Government and project staff to meet contracted requirements for projects.
- Develop a comprehensive MERI plan to measure the success of the landscape plan in maintaining or improving the condition of KI's landscapes.

Communication, media and events

Overview:

This project provides professional communication services, processes, advice and support to the Board, General Manager and regional staff. All work is in line with the Board's priorities and direction and tailored to the community (and national/international audiences) through targeted messaging and communication methods.

Key achievements July–September 2021:

- Coordinated interviews and responses with media outlets to share achievements and provide information about services offered by the KI Landscape Board.
- Assisted project managers to draft, develop and release a range of newsletters, advertisements, articles, and social media posts. Products in this quarter have mainly focused on feral cat eradication, Tasmanian bluegums, and weed management.
- Provided support for the [Feral Free KI](#) feral cat eradication Facebook page.
- Continued to liaise with PIRSA and other government and not-for-profit organisations re: communications and media for projects on which they partner with the Board or directly fund.

Community engagement:

- Continued to grow the [KI Landscape Board's Facebook](#) presence with 34 posts over the quarter and 3,035 followers.

Future directions and upcoming events:

- Departure of the current Communications and Media Manager.
- Transitioning of the current KI Landscape Board website to the new platform.

3,035
people reached through
KI Landscape Facebook

Links to KI Landscape Plan

- 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

Funded by:

- Government of South Australia:
 - » State Appropriations
- Australian Government:
 - » National Landcare Program
 - » Regional Land Partnerships

Image below: Completed feral cat fence to prevent feral cats moving onto the Dudley Peninsula once they have been eradicated from there.



How we can help you



KI Native Plant Nursery

- » local native plants
- » growing, planting and revegetation advice suited to KI soils and climate
- » plant identification

Contact Veronica Bates
0437 322 692
veronica.bates@sa.gov.au



KI Narrow-leaved mallee

- » advice on how to manage KI narrow-leaved mallee
- » grants available to protect and revegetate KI narrow-leaved mallee woodland

Contact Kym Lashmar
8553 2476
kym.lashmar@sa.gov.au



Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator

- » assist with sustainable agriculture activities, e.g. workshops, demonstrations and peer learning sessions

Contact Cassandra Douglas-Hill
0437 172 877
cassandra.douglas-hill@sa.gov.au



Water management

- » advice on water affecting activities and permits e.g. dams and earth works in or near a water body
- » advice on water resources e.g. salinity, wells

Contact Mark Agnew
8553 2476
mark.agnew@sa.gov.au



Weed control

- » weed management advice
- » weed identification
- » reports of new weeds
- » hire of cape tulip weed wiper

Contact Jason Walter
0418 708 557
jason.walter@sa.gov.au



Pest animal control

- » domestic goat and ferret permits
- » feral goat and deer reports

Contact Bronwyn Fancourt
8553 2476
bronwyn.fancourt@sa.gov.au



Feral pig control

- » control of feral pigs
- » feral pig trap hire
- » feral pig reports on eastern KI

Contact Brenton Florance
0427 618 304
brenton.florance@sa.gov.au



Feral cat control

- » control of feral cats
- » feral cat trap hire

Contact Ashleigh Wycherley
0427 947 223
ashleigh.wycherley@sa.gov.au