

Northern and Yorke Landscape Board

Achievements 2020–2021

Working towards a resilient and productive landscape that sustains a thriving community, environment and economy.





Contents

Introduction.....	2
Communities.....	4
Biodiversity	7
Water management	10
Sustainable agriculture	12
Pest plants and animals.....	14
Board.....	16
Keep in touch.....	17

Acknowledgement of Country

The Kurna, Narungga, Ngadjuri, Nukunu and Peramangk people are the traditional custodians of the Northern and Yorke region. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the deep spiritual relationship that Aboriginal people have to Country and the ongoing contribution they make to this region.

Introduction

South Australia's Northern and Yorke region has it all. Pristine and secluded beaches, a patchwork of cropping land and vineyards and the state's largest mountain range. It's a place to explore, seek adventure and appreciate nature at its finest. A place to treasure.

It's the job of the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board, working collaboratively with First Nations people, the community and partner organisations, to ensure our precious landscapes are valued and protected into the future.

All landholders in the region pay an annual Landscape Levy that contributes to the conservation and restoration of our natural resources, such as:

- Coastal habitats, native vegetation and threatened fauna
- Watercourses and wetlands
- Soil and groundcover

We also receive Federal Government funding and investments from conservation organisations to subsidise coordinated and sometimes decades-long environmental projects, like Marna Banggara, a 20-year rewilding project on southern Yorke Peninsula.

We're proud to share with you some of the achievements of the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board during 2020-2021.

Our vision:

A resilient and productive landscape that sustains a thriving community environment and economy.

Our mission is to inspire, educate and work with our community to sustainably manage the Northern and Yorke Landscape region.

From the hills and plains to the sea, we are committed to the protection and productivity of our natural resources to ensure resilient ecosystems, vibrant communities and a healthy economy into the future.

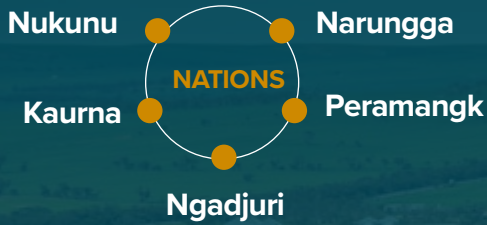




About **150,000 people** live in the Northern and Yorke region

Total region spans **38,500km²**

Traditional custodians:



Major centres: Balaklava, Burra, Clare, Gawler, Kadina, Nuriootpa, Orroroo, Peterborough, Port Pirie



About **80% of the region** is under **agricultural cropping** and grazing production, contributing a quarter of South Australia's agricultural earnings.

Other industries:

Wine production in the Clare Valley and Barossa Valley, mining and mineral processing, fishing, aquaculture, forestry, horticulture and tourism.

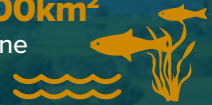


1,300km of coastline

Average annual rainfall of **250-600mm**



15,500km² of marine areas



© Tom Hunt



Communities

Active. Informed. Knowledgeable.

Engaging with volunteers, community, schools, landholders, industries, Aboriginal groups, and local government.

Lending a hand to help Hoodies

Every spring and summer a dedicated team from the Yorke Peninsula community springs into action to pave the way for another generation of the threatened shorebirds known as Hooded Plovers.

It's breeding season for this vulnerable beach dweller, which needs plenty of help to keep its eggs and chicks safe. With eggs laid in shallow scrapes on the beach and the chicks unable to fly for six weeks after hatching, they face threats from off-lead dogs, unaware beach goers, vehicles and feral predators.

And that's where the Friends of the Hooded Plover Yorke Peninsula group steps in. They're a special bunch who monitor, protect and raise awareness in the community about the Hooded Plover's plight. If you see fenced areas and Hoodie signs on the beach, there's a good chance it's their work.

Many also get involved in the Hooded Plover Biennial Count. Coordinated nationally by BirdLife Australia with on-ground support by Northern and Yorke Landscape Officers, the count involves volunteers walking kilometres along our beaches to record Hoodie numbers that paint a picture of the health of this species in our region, state and nationally.

The next count is due in November 2022 and if you'd like to get involved, please contact Landscape Officer Janet Moore via janet.moore@sa.gov.au

Ngadjuri culture comes alive at Clare's NAIDOC event

NAIDOC is a special opportunity every year to recognise and celebrate the First Nations people that have occupied and cared for this continent for more than 65,000 years.

In January 2021, more than 400 people gathered at the Clare Showgrounds for a day of music, dance, culture, food and fun. The event was in keeping with NAIDOC's 2020 theme, 'Always Was, Always Will Be', shining a light on the Ngadjuri Nation and the richness of its culture.

"NAIDOC is a time for all First Nations peoples to come together and celebrate contributions, cultural knowledge and histories with each other and all Australians," said Natalie Sommerville, Chair of the Clare NAIDOC Committee.

Led by the Clare NAIDOC committee together with Ngadjuri Nation Aboriginal Corporation, this event was supported by the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board and Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council and the Landscape Levy. The Clare NAIDOC event has also received support from Sonder and the Department for Education.

Home-grown expertise

The Board tapped into some of the expertise and local knowledge about biodiversity, soil and water in the southern part of our region towards the end of 2020. Thanks to the community members who attended our Community Action Planning (CAP) workshops in Kapunda, Mallala, Tanunda and Gawler. With the Northern and Yorke region now extending to four new council areas, these workshops were an opportunity to consult with the community about this area's priorities.



© Glenn Ehmke



Tapping into the First Nations' ancient understanding of our landscapes

There is much we can learn from our First Nations people and their deep cultural and spiritual connection to Country. For thousands of years, the Kurna, Narungga, Ngadjuri, Nukunu and Peramangk people have nurtured and cared for this region and we are committed to working with them to manage our landscapes into the future.

In 2020, the Board created the Aboriginal Engagement Committee (AEC) as one way of strengthening our ties with First Nations' communities. The AEC includes a representative from each of the region's five Nations, together with three Board members, and a representative from the Legatus Group, Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North and Regional Development Australia Barossa Gawler Light Adelaide Plains.

Meetings occur four times a year, with every second meeting held on Country. A tour of Aboriginal cultural sites near Wallaroo marked the first on-Country meeting in February 2021.

Narungga elder and Wallaroo resident Peter Turner led the tour, which featured evidence of ancient campfires, coastal fish traps and chert quarries that were used by Indigenous people to create stone cutting tools.

Mr Turner spoke at the meeting about the importance of protecting Narungga heritage sites and natural resources such as native vegetation and threatened species like Hooded Plovers.

"Evidence of Aboriginal occupation on the Copper Coast and Yorke Peninsula exists everywhere; you just need to know where to look," he said.

"Documenting and protecting what's left is important to show respect for our ancestors and for future generations. Through this committee, we hope to highlight the challenges posed by inappropriate development, off-road vehicles and difficulty accessing sites."

Northern and Yorke Landscape Board Aboriginal Partnerships Officer Matthew Turner said the on-Country meetings were a vital part of connecting with First Nations people around our landscapes.

"It's a chance for our committee to see the landscape through First Nations' eyes, and to share knowledge on caring for Country," he said.

"The benefits are many and varied. Aboriginal communities can convey what's important to them and learn what's important to the broader community. It's also a chance for the five Nations to collaborate and share solutions on natural resource management issues."

For more information about the AEC, contact Matthew Turner on 8841 3444 or email matthew.turner@sa.gov.au.

Many busy little bees make light work

It took a community-wide effort to create the Copper Coast's newest chain of Bed 'n' Breakfasts... for native bees.

The Australian Plants Society Northern Yorke Peninsula Group partnered with community volunteers, the Copper Coast Council and the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board to build and install nine native bee BnBs in Wallaroo, Moonta, Kadina and Port Hughes. It was a team effort, with solid support from the Northern and Yorke team, including Landscape Officer Janet Moore, who played a key coordination role and Board member Sam Germein who pitched in with planting.

It is hoped these new homes will attract more native bees, which work hard to pollinate fruit trees, vegetables and native plants.

Even the Copper Coast's youth got involved in the Native Bee BnB project, by helping with the 'breakfast' part of the scheme. On a Saturday in May 2021, the Wallaroo Scout Group planted native flowering food plants at the Wallaroo Dog Park. Their hard work was instigated by 10-year-old Jarrad, who wanted to earn his 'special interest' badge by caring for the environment.

The project, which was supported by a Northern and Yorke Landscape Board Grassroots Grant, involved planting more than 200 native plants.



128 community groups actively engaged.

14 community groups received insurance for their activities = **530** volunteers contributing approximately **11,199** volunteer hours valued at **\$503,955**.



3 Aboriginal Engagement Committee meetings

Delivered **303** events

(including workshops, working bees covering feral animal control, weed control, planting and watering) and meetings.



2892 Facebook followers in June 2021

121,035 people reached

44,232 people engaged

Community groups engaged with **1742** volunteers in their activities



Funded **30** Grassroots Grants, totalling **\$172,673**



17 Bite-sized Grants funded, totalling **\$14,867**





Biodiversity

Protected. Improved. Restored.

Protecting ecosystems, native vegetation, threatened and listed species, Aboriginal significant sites, rivers and creeks, coasts and marine areas.

Wildlife for Wine

Wildlife for Wine is an exciting project that promotes the positive ecological role that wildlife can play in local vineyards. Working with growers, Wildlife for Wine aims to nurture more resilient and productive vineyards with the help of native species like microbats, birds of prey and plants.



Growers involved in the project establish an individualised Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) that identifies issues and opportunities for completing environmental works in the vineyard, including an activity time line. Our Landscape Officers work with growers to develop the plans and undertake bird, bat and native vegetation surveys. The plan also opens up opportunities for landholders to work with other growers and local environmental groups to go beyond their own boundary to support the region as a whole.

Wildlife for Wine was successfully rolled out in the McLaren Vale region in 2018, before being adopted in the Barossa Valley in 2019, with the involvement of 18 growers. It is now open to Clare Valley growers, with the official launch supported by the Clare Valley Wine & Grape Association in February 2021.

Here's what some of our Barossa participants have to say about Wildlife for Wine.

"I can do something, so I am. I've got young kids, I want to be an example, that Dad has been a positive contributor to the environment. We're not just farmers, we're conservationists."

– Evan Gobell, Stonewell Cottages and Vineyards

"What I find is that when you have very healthy biodiversity you need less chemicals and the soil holds nutrients and water better."

– Shawn Kalleske, Laughing Jack

New lease of life for Wirraworra Private Sanctuary

Wirraworra Private Sanctuary is a natural oasis of native scrub at Reeves Plains, near Roseworthy that exists thanks to the dedication of the Gregor family.

With Nancy Bennett and her brother Neil Gregor currently taking the lead, the family has worked and cared for this land since 1925. The 25ha area on the Gregor's farm preserves a beautiful patch of remnant vegetation that's home to many species of rare and endangered plants.

The Gregor family received funding through the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board's first Grassroots Grants round to help them control invasive weeds like African Boxthorn and Boneseed that crowd out native species.

Nancy said the family was "delighted to receive the funding, which has renewed our long term enthusiasm and efforts to protect the Sanctuary for future generations to see the beautiful wildflowers, trees and shrubs and accompanying birds and wildlife.

"We are custodians of some very rare and endangered species, unique to our area, and not seen now anywhere else on the Adelaide Plains, due to clearing for farming and sandmining. We feel it's our duty to protect this valuable oasis in perpetuity for others to witness and enjoy."

Marna Banggara

After more than 10 years of planning, the landmark rewilding project Marna Banggara reached a significant stage in its delivery during the 2020/21 financial year.

The project aims to restore southern Yorke Peninsula's spectacular landscape by returning locally-extinct species and reinvigorating the ecological processes that ensure the bushland's health. It is the first project in Australia to apply rewilding principles in a working landscape, where conservation, agriculture and the community exist side-by-side.

As the project leader, the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board is coordinating and working with a dedicated group of partner organisations including major funding provider, the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, the South Australian Department for Environment and Water, WWF-Australia, Zoos SA and the Narungga Aboriginal Corporation, with the support of the Traditional Custodians, the Narungga people.

A recent project achievement includes the completion of a 25-kilometre predator control fence across the foot of the peninsula. It is designed to protect native species from predators like foxes and feral cats and has created a 150,000-hectare safe haven that comprises Dhilba Guuranda-Innes National Park, remnant vegetation, conservation parks, farmland and small townships.

Managing predators is key to successfully returning native species to the project area and Board staff, with support from Dhilba Guuranda-Innes National Park rangers, have been involved in a range of control activities, including

on-ground and aerial baiting, shooting and the use of Felixer devices for feral cat control. This is in conjunction with predator management by landholders on southern Yorke Peninsula – an impressive team effort!

Honouring the district's Traditional Custodians, the Narungga People, the name Marna Banggara originates from Narungga dialect with marna meaning 'healthy or prosperous' and banggara signifying 'Country'.

As reflected in the new name, it is hoped Marna Banggara will deliver flow-on benefits to the various facets of Yorke Peninsula, such as improved lamb survival rates for farmers and eventually new eco-tourism opportunities that allow the local economy and community to continue to prosper.

This project is jointly funded through the Northern and Yorke



Landscape Board, the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, the South Australian Department for Environment and Water, WWF-Australia and Foundation for National Parks & Wildlife. Other partners actively involved in developing and delivering the project include Regional Development Australia, South Australian Tourism Commission, Zoos SA, FAUNA Research Alliance, BirdLife Australia, Nature Conservation Society of SA, Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation, Primary Producers SA, Primary Industries and Regions SA, Conservation Volunteers Australia, Legatus Group, Yorke Peninsula Council, Yorke Peninsula Tourism and the Scientific Expedition Group.

Find out more: www.marnabanggara.com.au



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1,299 native plants

33 native mammals

304 native bird species

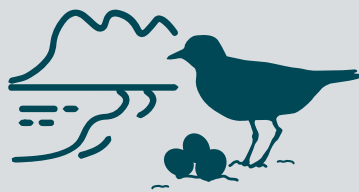
91 native reptile species

9 frog species



Beach-nesting Bird program:

285 adult Hooded Plovers counted in 2020 as part of Beach Nesting Birds program



356.9km of beach surveyed on Yorke Peninsula as part of Hooded Plover count

Wildlife for Wine:



13 Biodiversity Action Plans

Worked with **24** land managers in the Barossa and Clare



Planted **4,000** seedlings

Revegetated **10ha**

8 bird surveys

10 microbat surveys (9 species detected)





Water management

Efficient. Sustainable. Monitored.

Protecting watercourses, permanent pools, water use, groundwater, cultural water, environmental flows, water-dependent ecosystems, river red gums, and saline wetlands and lakes.

Forum taps into future water opportunities

“Without water there is no economy, without water there is no community, without water there is no environment,” stated Martin Haese, Chair of the Premier’s Climate Change Council, as he wrapped up his keynote speech at the Regional ‘Water for our Future’ forum in March, 2021.

Speaking to a crowd of nearly 100 people in the Clare Town Hall, Mr Haese encouraged guests at the Regional Forum to debate the effect of climate change and what we can do about it, not the cause. “Let’s debate how we can protect the environment and how we can manage resources like water,” he said.

He was followed by an impressive line-up of speakers in four key sessions, including water for the environment,

water for the economy, cultural water and water for well-being and community resilience.

The cultural water session included Nukunu men Jared and Travis Thomas who shared some amazing insights into how water and watercourses are core to life for Nukunu people. They described how protecting and managing water is a custodial and intergenerational responsibility and if the cultural and spiritual values of water are sustained by providing a sufficient amount of water to keep the systems healthy, then many other components of Nukunu life will also be healthy. Their stated belief that cultural flows would “breathe life” back into river systems resonated with the audience and provided a powerful take home message.

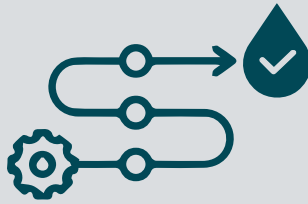
The ‘Water for our future’ forum was hosted by the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board, together with its alliance partners Legatus Group and Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North.

5 compliance investigations for water-related matters



28 Water Affecting Activities (WAA) enquiries

21 WAA permits issued



4 WAA Best Practice Operating Procedure (BPOP) agreements approved by the Board for renewal in March 2021

5 WAA BPOP agreements on track for approval before end of 2021

3 Water Allocation Plans under review – Baroota, Barossa and Clare



Riparian restoration along Wakefield River

The Northern and Yorke Landscape Board invested \$100,000 in Landscape Levy funds in 2020-21 to continue riparian restoration work along the Wakefield River.

It built on the federally-funded Four Catchments Project (2013-2017) and involved collaborating with private landholders to protect native vegetation, improve water quality and control declared plants.

Four priority sites were selected along a 5km stretch of the upper Wakefield River, near Manoora in the region's south east.

The project involved controlling woody, herbaceous and grassy weeds across 30 hectares, followed by revegetation work, with 2,750 seedlings propagated by Trees for Life from Greening Australia's native seed bank. Species were carefully selected for the River Red Gum open woodlands landscape. The Board also funded about 700m of fencing to prevent grazing pressure on the grassland area, a 3.5ha site north of the Wakefield River catchment.

A survey undertaken by Greening Australia's Anne Brown in October 2020 indicated that the site was in amazing condition and may well sit in the A class category as stipulated under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999.

Northern and Yorke's water allocation plans

There are three water allocation plans (WAP) that are wholly within the Northern and Yorke region – Clare Valley, Baroota and Barossa - which provide responsible, fair and equitable water allocations for users of surface and ground water, while maintaining the health of our landscapes and ecosystems.

With the transition to the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* (the Act), the Barossa Prescribed Water Resources Area (PWRA) joined the Northern and Yorke region. Together with Green Adelaide and the Department for Environment and Water (DEW), the Board has continued work on amending the WAP for the Barossa PWRA, which began in 2016.

This work is influenced by another significant project, the Barossa Water Security Strategy. A pilot project led by DEW, it began in mid-2020 in response to increasing water security stress identified by industry and water users in the Barossa and Eden Valleys.

Water resources are precious and need to be managed sustainably. Some activities in a watercourse can have adverse impacts on the health and condition of water resources and the ecosystems that depend on them, as well as on other water users. With the new Act, these water affecting activities (WAAs) were renewed and Board staff provided an update to councils in the region regarding the changes in WAA legislation. The Board also worked with nine councils and agencies to update and renew existing WAA Best Practice Operating Procedure (BPOP) agreements.



Sustainable agriculture

Adaptive. Resilient. Healthy.

Enhancing soil, water and biodiversity value to build resilience in agricultural systems.

Sustainable agriculture a hot topic for youth

“I went in with the mindset that it was going to be good, but I don’t think I had any idea how much I was going to learn.” That’s what Maitland youth Ellie Oster had to say about her experience at the SA Sheep Expo in Adelaide.

She was one of six young people sponsored by the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board to attend the three-day education forum during the April school holidays.

They returned to their family farms brimming with sustainable ag ideas to combat drought, control soil erosion and manage pastures.

Ellie, who lives on a cropping farm near Maitland, said the event was an incredible learning experience. “Learning about soils and different pastures to put your livestock on was really important to me...it gave me ideas to bring back to my family farm on how we can look towards different pasture techniques in the future. This includes grazing cells and rotation to improve growth of species in pasture and nutrition, and overgrazing.”

Board member, local farmer and SA Sheep Expo committee member Peter Angus said it was an excellent opportunity for the recipients to participate in workshops, network and develop their confidence.

“They learnt about topics like ewe management, classing, nutrition, ringcraft, marketing and soils and animal management over the three days,” he said. “Bonding with sheep and honing their skills in the handling classes provided a spectacle on the final day.”

On-farm sticky-beak days

Through a Community Action Grant, the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board supported three On-farm sticky-beak days in the Mid North in March.

Growers visited Tom Robinson’s farm at Hoyleton and discovered how Tom is using an intensive bale grazing method in an attempt to reclaim saline ground.

At Russel Zwar’s property at Wongyarra, growers learned how the below ground biomass of a multi-species crop sown in early November is undoing the damage of a wet haymaking and traffic compaction. While on southern Yorke Peninsula, Neville ‘Koonz’ Dolphin spoke about using a diversity of species in a low rainfall zone and how he’s seen higher yielding subsequent cereal crops and fast finishing lambs as a result of the mix.

This project was supported by Ag Excellence Alliance, through funding from the Australian Government’s National Landcare Program, Grains Research and Development Corporation and the South Australian Department for Environment and Water.



© Chelsea Dahlenburg

Turning stock into weed eaters

Our Integrated Weed Management workshop got a big tick of approval from participants in May.



A lucky group spent a day with Bruce Maynard, one of Australia's leading agricultural innovators, in Laura. They learnt all about how to turn stock into weed eaters, using constructive and easily adaptable stress-free stockmanship practices that ultimately have a positive impact on the landscape.

“Very clever way of doing things,” said one attendee about Bruce’s strategies. Plus, “This was very well presented and had a lot of interesting and valuable information. The reference materials are an awesome resource.”

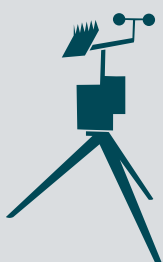
This project was supported by the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board as part of the Living Flinders initiative, through funding from the Australian Government’s National Landcare Program.

Graziers upskill in pasture production and groundcover

They say you can’t teach an old dog new tricks, but beef producer Vic Patrick disagrees. “After 50 years of farming I didn’t realise how much I didn’t know – the course is more than a refresher and extremely valuable.”

Vic was part of a group of livestock producers from across the Barossa, Lower North and Northern Hills who participated in a profitable grazing systems course, Gra\$\$ to Dollars, which was supported by the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board and Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA).

Talking Livestock’s Deb Scammell, who delivered the course with Tim Prance, said, “They built skills to manage stock in a way that improves pasture production and maintained ground cover, as well as strategies to select the best pasture varieties for their production goals and apply fertiliser to optimise production and soil health.”



7 weather stations maintained in

Burra, Burra Mokota, Burra Sod Hut, Virginia, Mt. Pleasant, Point Pass and Neales Flat

4 Grassroots Grants-funded agricultural projects



3 significant agricultural projects that increase capacity of primary producers - Goyder’s Line: Building drought resilience in transitional country, Living Flinders and Wildlife for Wine



42 groups engaged and consulted

Landscape Officers provided **67** landholders one-on-one support with land management activities



10 agricultural events supported



Pest plants and animals

Targeted. Coordinated. Collaborative.

Reducing economic and environmental impacts of pests.

Targeting pest plants

Controlling existing pest species while minimising the risk of new pest threats is critical for reducing impacts to agricultural productivity, biodiversity and human health. The *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* sets out the requirements for the control of pest animals and plants, requiring landowners to take the lead in managing declared pests, with support and assistance from the Board.

During 2020/21, Landscape Board staff brought attention to the following weeds in our region:

Wild Artichoke

Producing up to 200 seeds per flower, this spiky pest plant is equipped to quickly invade and infest waterways and also spread to new destinations in the region with the flow of water.

Boneseed

This damaging environmental weed is known as a voracious pest plant that invades native vegetation and steals summer moisture with its shallow root system.

Silverleaf Nightshade

Board staff urged farmers to monitor paddocks and roadsides for Silverleaf Nightshade, a declared pest plant that can reduce crop yields by up to 70%.

Caltrop

A prickly pest plant that is easily spread by lodging in sheep wool, shoes and vehicle tyres. Each Caltrop produces about 1000 seeds, making it important to pull out newly-germinated plants before they set seed.

African Rue

A small, white-flowered shrub that is unpalatable to stock and competes with pastures for moisture and nutrients.

Creeping Knapweed

One of the most competitive weeds, it is known to reduce cereal crop yields by 75%. It forms large, dense single-species stands and removes vital moisture and nutrients over summer.

Focus on feral cats

The Northern and Yorke Landscape Board, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, contributed to a newly-published resource to address the growing threat posed by feral cats.

The Glovebox Guide for the Management of Feral Cats aims to address the growing threat posed by feral cats, which now cover more of Australia than all other introduced mammals, such as foxes and rabbits.

Feral cat control is a focus of land restoration and rewilding project Marna Banggara, which aims to return locally-extinct native species on southern Yorke Peninsula.

You can download the guide or order hard copies here: www.pestsmart.org.au/pest-animals/glovebox-guides-order-form/



Tiny insects tackle prickly pest problem

The tiny scale insect Cochineal is an effective biocontrol agent for Opuntoid cacti, an invasive pest plant that damages stock, wildlife and people in our community

The Board called for help to increase populations of Cochineal, which sucks the sap in the cactus' pads, drawing moisture and nutrients out of the plant.

“For such a small insect, Cochineal packs a real punch when it comes to cacti,” said Landscape Officer Jessica Cavallo. “About ten years ago, two of our Landscape Officers released Cochineal on a cactus infestation near the Port Wakefield Highway. It’s taken several years, but that plant is now a shadow of its former self.”

Very hungry caterpillars set to chomp hairy Horehound

An army of very hungry caterpillars were incubated in the Barossa Valley ready for gorging on the invasive weed, Horehound.

Known as host specific, Plume Moths only have a taste for Horehound weed, with the larvae feeding on the growing tips, weakening the plant and reducing the flowers and burrs.

They have been used successfully in the region before, first as a trial in Rosedale in October 2018, with a batch eliminating 75 per cent of a five-hectare infestation in less than a year.

On Brian Sambell’s sheep property near Burra, a 50 square-metre patch of horehound completely disappeared as a result of releasing the ravenous Plume Moths about two years ago.

“It certainly works. I couldn’t show you a horehound plant where I released the caterpillars now. They’re all gone,” said Mr. Sambell. “It took about five months before the Horehounds’ colour changed and they started to look like they were dying. All it took was a small jar of caterpillars.”

Horehound has a distinct odour that taints milk and meat when consumed by stock. Seeds are dispersed when its tenacious burrs get caught in wool, fur or clothing and large mature plants can produce in excess of 20,000 seeds per year.

31 active compliance cases relating to breaches or potential breaches under the “Act” in the Lower Mid North, Valleys and Plains district



235 landholders involved in fox bait distribution in spring 2020 and autumn 2021

19,200 fox baits distributed



Engaged with **863** landholders to provide technical advice on pest plants and animal control



Board

The Northern and Yorke region is lucky to have seven dedicated Board members at its helm, including Chair Caroline Schaefer. The Board works alongside the community and First Nations people to sustainably manage our landscapes and maximise the ecological, environmental, economic and social benefits for the region.

We thank board members Anna Baum and Jane Greenslade for their service during the 2020/21 financial year.

Meet our board members

Caroline Schaefer, Chair



Caroline previously served as the Presiding Member of the Northern and Yorke NRM Board from 2010 to 2014. She has held many positions in previous governments, including Primary Industries Minister and Shadow Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Affairs, throughout her tenure as a member of parliament from 1993 to 2010. Caroline lives in the Clare Valley where she also serves on the Yorke and Mid North Regional Development Australia Board.

Peter Angus



Peter is a primary producer and the business owner of a sheep stud at Mallala which incorporates native vegetation shelter belts as an integral part of farming practices. He is a committee member of the South Australian Sheep Expo Executive, Federal Council Member Australian White Suffolk Association and Chairperson of their Promotions and Marketing Committee. Peter is also a mentor for the South Australian Agricultural Shows Next Generation Group.

Sarah Barrett



Sarah has a personal and professional passion for rural communities, agriculture and agricultural landscapes. She is self-employed, using her skills in private agri-environmental consultancy and contracting. With a rich history in community engagement Sarah is the project officer for the Angaston Community Business Alliance. Sarah also holds a wide range of volunteer roles including chairing the Barossa Reconciliation Group and as a board member of the Landcare Association of South Australia.

Sam Germein



Sam is the Farm and Landcare Supervisor for Rex Minerals and also share-farms a property on Yorke Peninsula. He has an extensive background in feral pest and weed control, including working with the Landscape Board on projects on Yorke Peninsula and the Flinders Ranges, and a large-scale feral animal and weed control program in the NSW Lake Victoria region. Sam's role with Rex Minerals includes managing the farm land and engagement with community, councils, landowners and local progress associations.

Phillip Heaslip



Phillip is the mayor of the Mount Remarkable Council. He is a primary producer and the owner of a working property producing cereals, legumes and livestock. He works as an auditor for an export supply chain which provides a quality assurance system for cattle shipped to China.

Maree Wauchope



As Barunga West Council CEO, Maree sees her Board position and council role as both working towards better outcomes for the community and the protection of Yorke Peninsula's pristine landscapes. She believes that when regional landscapes are sustainably managed, it gives regional communities the best opportunity to thrive and prosper. Maree joined the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board mid-way through 2021 and will hold her role until 2023. She is also presiding member of the Construction Industry Training Board.

Geoffrey White








Geoff is a farmer on a mixed grain and sheep farm at Kapunda. He is an experienced senior hydrogeologist who has worked with the Light Regional and Mallala Councils to integrate environmental considerations and water savings. He has also worked with Australian Water Environments delivering major projects in the Riverland. He was an inaugural member of the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Rangelands Natural Resources Management Group (NRM).



The Northern and Yorke Landscape Board team is pictured with Nukunu representatives at Bowman Park, near Crystal Brook.

Keep in touch

Here are some of the ways you can keep up-to-date with the latest news from the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board:

-  landscape.sa.gov.au/ny
-  ny.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au
-  [NYLandscapeSA](https://www.facebook.com/NYLandscapeSA)
-  **Yakka News**
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(Northern and Yorke Landscape Board)

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