

Rewilding for a better future

Prospectus



marnabanggara.com.au



**Marna
Banggara**

HEALTHY, PROSPEROUS COUNTRY

“It is hard to think of a movement more overbrimming with optimism, joy and meaning than one dedicated to restoring wild places. Rewilding may be the most powerful tool we have for restoring equilibrium to our ecosystems, the climate and our own lives. We need nature for everything we have and everything we do...

We are nature. And nature is us.”

Ben Goldsmith, UK Investor, Rewilding champion, YouTube Podcast host,
Philanthropist - Rewilding the World, May 2024 - edited.

This project is jointly funded by the Australian Government, the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board, a member of the Commonwealth Regional Delivery Partners panel, the SA Department for Environment and Water, and WWF Australia, in partnership with Zoos SA, the Narungga Nation Aboriginal Corporation and with the support of Traditional Custodians, the Narungga people.



Australian Government



Government of South Australia

Department for Environment
and Water



Narungga Nation
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION
Community. Culture. Progress.



**“This program is like nothing before.
It is unique. It is groundbreaking and bold.”**

Darren Grover, World Wildlife Fund - edited.



Photo credit: Matthew Turner

As a world class and nation-leading restoration project Marna Banggara will provide significant environmental, economic and social benefits for the region. The reintroduction of native fauna will value-add to the southern Yorke Peninsula's identity as an ecotourism destination, stimulating economic vitality and retention of local services. Reduction of foxes and feral cats can significantly boost agricultural pursuits safeguarding against stock loss, improving birth rates and reducing spread of disease.

Marna Banggara – The vision

Let's go for a walk back in time, a walk that can also be a walk into the future - a rich and fertile landscape with animals working as nature intended. It's a landscape shared by brush-tailed bettongs (yalgi), bandicoots, bilbies, possums, quolls, numbats, malleefowl and all manner of birds and reptiles.

Sadly, southern Yorke Peninsula (SYP) has lost over 80% of its ground-dwelling mammal species since European colonisation. Primary drivers have been habitat loss and predation by foxes and feral cats. But with your help, we can restore and reinvigorate the region for a more natural and resilient future.

Stretching across 140,000 hectares of SYP, Marna Banggara envisions a landscape working cooperatively with agriculture and local communities, promoting healthy, functioning

ecosystems filled with iconic native species, thriving biodiversity, and deeply rooted cultural connections. The working landscape of SYP comprises thriving coastal and rural towns, productive dryland agricultural and fishing industries as well as unparalleled tourism and recreational opportunities.

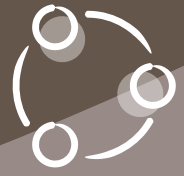
The groundwork has been laid with feasibility studies for future reintroductions, and continued enhancement of effective fox and cat management strategies which underpin the project's current and future success. This long-term, landscape-scale commitment is powered by a growing collective of partners and supporters and it's of international significance – projects of this type are traditionally confined to islands or completely quarantined behind a fence.

Marna Banggara provides unique funding opportunities to:

- Give back to nature by conserving Australia's unique fauna.
- Nurture ecological and predator management innovation by mixing research and science with local ingenuity.
- Support and learn with Narungga in caring for Country.
- Work in partnership with primary producers for local outcomes and productivity.
- Provide the catalyst for eco and restorative tourism opportunities in the region, providing jobs, and diverse economic potential.
- Harness the power of people through education and Citizen Science.
- Future proof the region to ensure natural assets can withstand the threats of climate change, rising sea levels, algal blooms and potentially lethal outbreaks of bird flu.

We invite you to leave your mark and be a part of something great. Through a range of sponsorship and partnership opportunities, we invite you to be part of this transformative, rewilding journey. It's your legacy for a better future, a chance to positively enhance your green credentials and environmental statements by investing in conservation and the environment. Now is the time to give back to nature, to boost our air and our water, to revegetate our bushland and allow our native species to thrive or indeed, return. Let's enhance productivity, liveability on the Southern Yorke Peninsula, harness the power of ecotourism and improve outcomes on farms - and give our wildlife a helping hand at the same time.





Why partner with Marna Banggara?

The Global Nature Positive Summit in Sydney in October 2024 reinforced growing international recognition for collective action – not just Governments and NGOs but business and financial institutions - to drive investment and capital in protecting nature and reversing biodiversity loss.

With consumers increasingly aware of environmental and conservation issues, expectations for business to embrace green credentials, biodiversity and nature in their brand values, mission statements and corporate obligations have never been more important. Remember, without nature our future is bleak.

By joining Marna Banggara, through sponsorship, donations and partnerships, you are not simply

supporting a project — you're investing in a national flagship for ecological restoration and cultural reconciliation. Marna Banggara offers a suite of opportunities to invest – whether through financial support of grassroots community projects, to academic research or funding projects that utilise the latest technology and science.

Marna Banggara is an initiative of the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board with strategic direction provided by the Executive Steering Committee comprising leaders in zoology, conservation, fauna research, animal welfare, Narungga culture, and community and industry interests.



Photo credit: WWF Australia

Marna Banggara is your unique opportunity to:

Align brand values and mission statements with a proven success story: Marna Banggara has delivered milestone achievements—from the construction of a 25 km predator management fence to the successful reintroduction of the endangered Brush-tailed bettong (*yalgi*).



Support a new approach to conservation: With an emphasis on scalable, science-backed, and adaptive restoration, this project pushes the boundaries of what's possible in integrated land management and pest animal control — pioneering research with global relevance.



Amplify cultural and community impact: At its core, Marna Banggara promotes balance not just in ecosystems, but between people and the land. Our partnership with the Narungga Nation and the ceremonial reintroduction of *yalgi* is a model of how cultural values and environmental stewardship can co-exist, enrich each other, and lead the way forward.



Enhance your brand through purpose-driven action: Marna Banggara has gained national and international recognition through media, academic publications, and high-profile forums. As a partner, your organisational values will be showcased alongside a project that is successfully tackling the climate and biodiversity crisis with credibility, compassion, and creativity.



Brand with sustainability credentials: Adopting a multi-faceted approach to nature restoration, Marna Banggara offers opportunity at multiple levels. From overall investment and sponsorship of key pillars, supporting and co-branding key infrastructure initiatives, species translocations, educational programs, through to grass roots support of community groups.



Drive pioneering innovation, technology and best practice: As a science-backed project Marna Banggara is a perfect tool to develop, harness and fine-tune the latest in smart and emerging technologies and artificial intelligence.

This prospectus outlines how your involvement can help scale our vision, deepen our impact, and ensure the long-term success of this nationally significant restoration effort.

Read on to discover how you can become a vital part of Marna Banggara—where conservation meets innovation, culture, and community.

Sponsorship and Partnership opportunities



A new era in Predator Management

The importance of suppressing and reducing fox and feral cat populations cannot be underestimated. It is the foundation that underpins the protection of vulnerable native fauna and allows opportunities for the reintroduction of species.

Game-changing technologies and techniques – AI assisted cellular cameras, thermal imaging equipment, and wireless trap monitoring systems providing real time data; both significantly reduce human inputs and create effective and sustainable barriers against predators.

Already, South Australian ingenuity has pioneered targeted feral cat control that capitalises on the fastidious grooming nature of cats. Using LiDAR

and camera AI technology, Felixers can discharge 1080 gel on passing feral cats, saving resources in hard-to-access locations.

Opportunities exist to develop predator suppressing technology at major thoroughfares of the 25km management fence, while 'Smart Gate' technology offers potential for native animals to be able to move freely through the fence.

Such cutting-edge initiatives not only provide funding and sponsorship opportunities for nature-based organisations, universities, researchers and smart technology entrepreneurs, but the catalyst for development of a powerful fox and feral cat arsenal to be utilised nationwide and internationally.



Threatened Species Management and Translocations

Nature at work is an incredible force - species that dig, fertilise and till the soil, pollinators and seed dispersers, or those that regulate insects and small herbivore numbers in naturally functioning ecosystems - this is Marna Bangarra.

Working hand-in-hand with the community and experts, Marna Bangarra provides the best chance and a scientific approach to allow our native species to flourish and to foster natural

resilience, vitality and productivity in one of the most distinctive regions in the country. This is a unique investment opportunity to become a champion for wildlife – by funding the protection of existing species or targeted sponsorship to fund the translocation of individual species previously lost to the region.

One of the headline species for reintroduction to the area is the Bilby.

Outstanding diggers, they contribute to soil health, water infiltration, nutrient cycling and their burrows provide refuge for a diverse array of native fauna. In South Australia, the species is at risk of extinction and threatened by habitat loss, and predation by feral cats and foxes. Feasibility studies suggest they are an ideal candidate to fulfil the project's ecosystem and species conservation priorities.

Strategies for translocation timings and order will be informed by expert opinion and scientific guidelines. The overarching strategy begins with soil engineers and nutrient cyclers to build foundational habitat and ecosystem processes, followed by seed dispersers and pollinators to enable plant community recovery and stabilisation. This will facilitate the introduction of mesopredators to play an important role in mid-level trophic dynamics, finishing with higher order predators to restore top-down ecosystem regulation with fewer introduced predators in the landscape.



Other species being considered for translocation or supplementation (contingent on further feasibility studies) include:

- Southern brown bandicoot (Soil Engineer)
- Bush rat (Seed Disperser)
- Mitchell’s hopping mouse (Seed Disperser)
- Heath mouse (Seed Disperser)
- Brush-tailed possum (Seed Disperser, Pollinator)
- Bush-stone curlew (Extant, Seed Disperser, Nutrient Cycling)
- Numbat (Termite Regulation, Nutrient Cycling)

- Dunnart spp. (Mesopredator)
- Red-tailed phascogale (Mesopredator)
- Western quoll (Apex Predator)

In addition, immediate funding opportunities also exist for further monitoring and conservation efforts of Hooded Plovers; the iconic beach-nesting, resident shorebird of the SYP, malleefowl, the bush-stone curlew; as well as the cryptic and endangered Mallee Whipbird, of which the SYP is home to one of three remaining subpopulations.

Did you know?

With its large eyes, large ears and long whiskers the Western Pygmy Possum is an iconic species of Southern Yorke Peninsula.

Weighing in between 8 to 18 grams and with a body size 70 to 100 mm (excluding tail) Western Pygmy Possums feed primarily on nectar and pollen, hence performing a vital role in the pollination of native plant species.

Its traditional predators were quolls, owls and snakes but after European occupation foxes and feral cats have ravaged populations.

A nocturnal species, they shelter during the day in tree hollows, bird nests or dense vegetation.

Marna Bangarra aims to give these cute little creatures a helping hand through fox and cat control, improved research, monitoring and installation of nesting boxes.





Research and monitoring

The power of science and our growing understanding of ecological processes is critical to the success of the Marna Banggara project by helping guide management actions moving forward.

Marna Bangarra is home to many rare, threatened, and hard-to-detect species and ecological communities that support important social, economic, and environmental values. Investing in research and monitoring, through

government, corporate, academic, and citizen science partnerships is essential to ensure their long-term sustainability and success.

Funding priorities include developing a biodiversity strategy, aligning project values with state, commonwealth and global frameworks, outlining protocols for monitoring of threatened flora, fauna and ecological communities, and prioritizing actions for landscape scale restoration.



Community and Narungga engagement

Marna Banggara harnesses the enormous power of community collaboration, working alongside, and with, the Narungga people, community groups, schools, agriculture, tourism and local industry and business. Recognition of Narungga custodianship, and incorporation of traditional ecological knowledge in land management and decision making is integral.

Reduction of predatory foxes and feral cats provides significant benefit to the local farming community through reduction of predation rates on fat lambs. Feral cats are also associated with the spread of toxoplasmosis and flea-borne diseases. Fewer cats can realize improved birthing rates (toxoplasma gondii being a major cause of abortion in small livestock), and improved meat production (sarcocystosis can influence carcass value).

Opportunities for community engagement will be targeted through a rewilding education package in schools and an education officer, communications via podcast, video and social media; a potential documentary series and collaborations with influencers; a community engagement and grants programs among local groups; and Narungga community cultural partnerships promoting biodiversity, ecosystem resilience, reconciliation and stewardship.



Photo credit: WWF Australia

Join Us in Creating a Lasting Legacy

We invite forward-thinking organisations; philanthropic, academic, government, and corporate entities, to collaborate with us for an iconic walk on the wild side. Through investment, expertise, and strategically aligned partnerships, we can create a sustainable model for landscape-scale environmental restoration. This is not only an investment in nature, it's an investment in our climate-resilient future.

Bronze level partnerships start at \$10,000, Silver at \$25,000 and Gold at \$100,000. Platinum partnerships are by negotiation.

If you would like to invest, partner, donate, or investigate more specific details on individual aspects of Marna Banggara please contact:

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“It’s significant on a global scale – bringing back animals that have been extinct in an area for over 100 years. We’re an island continent that has been impacted by invasive species both in fauna and flora. Now is the time to bring our efforts together – creating awareness and reconnecting people with nature.”

Mark Smith, Zoos SA - edited.

For further information please contact:

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