

MINUTES

SA Arid Lands Landscape Board Meeting #30

Wednesday 30 April 2025 (DAY 1)

10:00am – 5:00pm

Location:	SAAL Boardroom 1 Jervois Street Port Augusta SA 5700	
Attendees:	Ellen Litchfield – Deputy Chair	Sanchia Treloar – Board Member
	Jodie Harris – Board Member	Mark Mayfield – Board Member
	Jodie Gregg-Smith - General Manager	Louise Myers – Manager, Business Support
SAAL Staff:	Cherie Gerlach – Manager, PACE (CG) Items 30.11 & 30.19	
	Kate Cornelsen – MERI Officer (KC) Item 30.11	
	Matthew Westover – Senior Sustainable Land Management Officer (MW) Items 30.19	
	Reshnee Lalla – Manager, Landscape Operations (RL) Items 30.13-30.16	
Guests:	NIL	
Apologies:	Douglas Lillecrapp – Chair	Scott Michael - Board Member
	Chevahn Hoad – Board Member	
Time	Item#	Items
1000		Pre meeting discussion – Board and General Manager only
1030	30.1	Welcome and apologies The deputy chair opened the meeting with acknowledgment of Country and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apology received from Douglas Lillecrapp, Scott Michael, and Chevahn Hoad (Wednesday only)
	30.2	Accept agenda The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board accepted the agenda with the following amendments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Item 30.19 – move to after item 30.10 – all agreed. Item 30.23 and 30.24 – move to Day 1 – all agreed.
	30.3	Declarations of interest Nil
	30.4	Acceptance of minutes SAALLB Meeting #29 12 March 2025 – accepted Sanchia. Seconded Jodie <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note – Jodie Harris was recorded as accepting GFC minutes from November, however she was not in attendance at meeting. ACTION: EO to amend minutes SAALLB In Camera #29 12 March 2025 – accepted Sanchia. Seconded Jodie
	30.5	Action list review The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board noted the Action List status.
1045	30.6	Board Performance Self-Review – Online SLIDO Discussions at the March 2025 board meeting it was agreed by the board to review the process of the Board Self Evaluation. The board was presented with an online survey that has been developed through ‘Slido’. Following some discussion, it was agreed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slido was an appropriate forum Flow of questions should be tick responses first, text response last Slido frequency will be after every board meeting Review retrospectively every meeting Will not be anonymous to encourage freedom of conversation Health checks on board function and effectiveness highly regarded among board members The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> discussed and considered the process proposed and endorsed implementing this process

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discussed and considered the proposed questions and/or provide additional suggestions and endorsed implementing in this proposed process • discussed and considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the process to include the board member names ○ review of the results presented at the following meeting
1115	30.7	In Camera
1140		<i>Short break taken</i>
1145	30.8	<p>Flood Impacts</p> <p>The General Manager provided an overview on the impact of the recent floods in the far north-east of the region which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The delay/unachievable contract deliverables of Federal funded Ecology Projects – The Wetlands Wonders project and the Plains-wanderer project • Potential damage/loss of on-ground equipment – cameras and song meters which could result in loss of data • Upcoming aerial cull schedule (pigs and large feral herbivores) and weed distribution survey. Unknown of amendments required to the project services/deliveries • Confirmed that conversations have occurred with NHT representatives, as well as PIRSA <p>A general discussion occurred around pest animals, including new threats which may result from flood waters. Additional aerial operations may be considered whilst pest animals are on high country.</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the Flood Impact Report.
1200	30.9	<p>Governance and Finance Update</p> <p>The Manager Business Support presented the GFC Recommendations to the Board following the GFC meeting that was held 9 April 2025.</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accepted the financial overview and associated reports. • endorsed the final budget for 2025/26, noting the projected available funds for 2025/26 (Table 1) and confirm the expenditure priorities for 2025/26 (table 2). • noted the agreements executed covering the period 19 February – 27 March 2025. • adopted the 2024/25 Financial Management Compliance Program. • endorsed the Legislative Compliance Register. • accepted the amendments to the WHS8-01 WHS Policy for Board and Committee Members and GOV-27 Key Management Personnel – Related Parties Policy and noted no amendments made to the GOV-12 use of Common Seal policy after the 3 year review period. • noted the Work Health and Safety report. • noted the sponsorship report. • noted the related party disclosures report.
1210	30.10	<p>Draft Business Plan 2025-26</p> <p>The Manager Business Support presented the Draft SAAL Board Annual Business Plan 2025-26 to the board.</p> <p>Of note in the Business Plan 2025-26:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Heritage Trust projects confirmed, along with Australian Government ‘preferred provider’ projects. • Strategic alignment to a number of national, state and regional strategies and plans including the Australian Government’s Nature Positive Plan, 30 by 30 National Roadmap and Threatened Species Action Plan 2022-2032, South Australia’s Net Zero Strategy 2024-2030, and Outback SA Drought Resilience Plan. • Reference to the identification of additional Out of Council levy accounts • Several projects administered by the board through the Landscape Priorities Fund (LPF), as well as collaborations with BHP and the Future Drought Fund. • Partnering with DEW to administer the Great Artesian Basin Water Security Program

		<p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the DRAFT SAAL Board Annual Business Plan, taking into account any further recommendations put forward by the Board.
1220		<i>Cherie Gerlach and Matt Westover joined the meeting at this time</i>
1220	30.19	<p>Project Spotlight – Building Pastoral Sustainability</p> <p>The Senior Sustainable Land Management Officer and Manager, PACE provided a presentation to the board an update on the Building Pastoral Sustainability project.</p> <p>The Deputy Chair noted the intentional use of the single Building Pastoral Sustainability, observing that it had already achieved good brand recognition. Board members also noted that the brand had already achieved credibility and good reputation in the region.</p> <p>Discussion occurred around the partnership with Kokatha Pastoral to deliver aspects of the project and the opportunities this presented to learn from First Nations people and build on our foundation to add value to future projects and partnerships.</p> <p>A four-page prospectus will be made available to the Board following the meeting.</p>
1235		<p><i>Matt Westover left the meeting at this time</i></p> <p><i>Kate Cornelsen, MERI and Planning Officer, joined the meeting at this time via Teams</i></p>
1235	30.11	<p>Community engagement approach for development of the new and evaluation of the existing Regional Landscape Plan</p> <p>The Manager, PACE and MERI Officer presented to the board an outline of the proposed approach for engagement that will give community and other key stakeholders an opportunity to share feedback on the SA Arid Lands Landscape Board’s Regional Landscape Plan to help set the new strategic direction for the Board.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District plans and Aboriginal engagement in-feed for the landscape plan, avoiding consultation fatigue. • Reiterated by the MERI and Planning Officer that consultation with community will occur, with a proposal that a draft plan will be presented for targeted engagement with the public and First Nations consultation in November, as well as a general invitation for comment provided on social media. • It was noted that the State Landscape Strategy (SLS) will be finalised before each of the Boards’ Regional Landscape Plans (RLP) so there is a line of sight between the SLS and RLPs before the RLPs are finalised. • Landscape Boards have agreed to submit their RLP to the Minister after the state election for consistency (ie signed off by the same Minister) • Key themes and stakeholders will be workshopped and agreed upon at the June board meeting. <p>Positive feedback was provided to Kate around her ability to make sense of complex information and integrate these details into her work.</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the timeline for community engagement • provided feedback on the list of key stakeholders and approaches for engagement.
1245	30.12	<p>Project Status Report</p> <p>The board was presented with the Project Status Report from March 2025 to April 2025 for approved programs and projects as they align to the board’s 2021-26 strategic priorities.</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the February to April 2025 Project Status Report.

1255		<i>Kate Cornelsen left the meeting at this time</i>
1255		Lunch break
1330		<i>Reshnee Lalla, Manager Landscape Operations joined the meeting</i>
1330	30.13	<p>Biosecurity Overview</p> <p>The Manager, Landscape Operations provided an update on the recent activities undertaken regionally within the Biosecurity Team which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pest Animal Control – Pigbaita trials in the Far North currently halted due to rains/flooding. The LPF Resilient Rangelands Project has been extended for a further 6 months to June 2026. Planning in progress for upcoming control operations in the Gawler Ranges for April and May. • Weeds – Buffel grass infestations treatments have been completed on roadsides near Leigh Creek, Stirling North and African Rue near Yunta. • A project plan has been drafted for a new three-year strategic weed management project. A new research study has been proposed by Flinders University PhD candidates, on collection of data on buffel grass associated biocrust, soil, and root microbial communities. This project entails sampling sites in the latter half of this year, some of which fall in the SAAL Board region, e.g. Coober Pedy, Port Augusta and Kingoonya. More engagements will follow with Board Biosecurity staff re capacity and support of this project. • Potential name identified – ‘Native not Noxious’. Will have a panel of contractors to be able to treat weeds at the right time. • State buffel grass project from DIT • New weed detection – keep on radar but low priority. <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the most recent biosecurity activities undertaken regionally. • noted ‘Native not Noxious’ weed project
1340	30.14	<p>Ecology Projects Overview</p> <p>The Manager, Landscape Operations provided an overview of three externally funded Ecology projects.</p> <p><u>Wetland Wonders</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 year project – aims to maintain and/or improve the ecological character of the Coongie Lakes Ramsar site, building resilience to climate change and protect the threatened species of the Kowari • On-ground operations commenced in the last quarter of 2023/24 • Achievements thus far – site visit to prioritise site for target buffel grass, two aerial culls, two fauna surveys and one pest animal survey. • Due to recent flooding of the project site the deliverables for 2024/25 are unlikely to be complete. <p><u>Discovery for Recovery</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 year project – aims to monitor/survey four EPBC Act listed species: Western Quoll, Arckaringa Daisy, Desert Greenhood and Flinders Ranges Purple-spotted Gudgeon. • Achievements thus far – one flora survey, one training workshop, one aerial fox baiting operation. • Scheduled to be complete this financial year is a quoll trapping event, communication materials, Autumn aerial fox baiting operations, fauna surveys and First Nations engagements. <p><u>Monitoring Plains Wanderer</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 year project – aims to gather data on Plains-wanderer populations • Monitoring only – no control etc. • Partnered with Bush Heritage Australia and Birdlife Australia • Project Officer, contracted to collect and analyse data from song-meters across more than 50 sites • Achievements thus far – delivered 2 communication materials, three stakeholder engagements and ten fauna surveys. <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p>

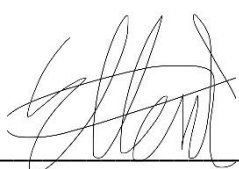
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the overview of three externally funded Ecology projects.
1350	30.15	In Camera
1405	30.16	In Camera
	1420	<i>Reshnee Lalla left the meeting at this time</i>
1420	30.17	<p>Kangaroo Partnership Project – Update</p> <p>The General Manager provided an update on the Kangaroo Partnership Project which included:</p> <p><u>Grants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expression of Interest were received and assessed for the KPP Grant round. • Invitations for full applications in stage 2 were extended with projects for 3-4 projects submitted. • Narrative that people on the land recognise. <p><u>Field Day</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 chefs provided cooking and butchering demonstrations. • Follow up media from the event has occurred <p><u>Parliamentary Enquiry</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The submissions for the Parliamentary Enquiry into Kangaroo and Wallaby management from the Kangaroo Partnership and another from the Landscape Boards of SA were presented to the board. <p><u>Drought Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update provided on the recent SA Government drought package announcement with a small amount of funding dedicated to kangaroo removal from drought affected properties. <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the KPP report.
1450	30.18	<p>Presiding Member Report</p> <p>The board was updated on the Presiding member’s recent activities which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscape SA Chairs Forum, Wednesday 19th March 2025 • SAAL Field Day, Thursday 20th March 2025 <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the Presiding Member report.
1530	30.24	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the correspondence report
1545	30.23	<p>District Updates</p> <p><i>See appendix</i></p>
1615		Meeting Closed

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Thursday 1 May 2025 (DAY 2)**8:30am – 11:20am**

Location:	SAAL Boardroom 1 Jervois Street Port Augusta SA 5700	
Attendees:	Ellen Litchfield – Deputy Chair Sanchia Treloar – Board Member Jodie Harris – Board Member Chevahn Hoad – Board Member (Online) Mark Mayfield – Board Member Jodie Gregg-Smith - General Manager Abby Richards – Executive Officer	
SAAL Staff:	Cherie Gerlach – Manager, PACE (CG) Items 30.20 – 30.22 Reshnee Lalla – Manager, Landscape Operations (RL) Items 30.20 – 30.22 Aaron Smith – Senior Water Project Officer (AS) Items 30.20 – 30.22 Julia Short – Water Project Officer (JS) Items 30.20 – 30.22	
Guests:	NIL	
Apologies:	Douglas Lillecrapp – Chair, Scott Michael - Board Member	
Time	Item#	Item
900		Reconvene board meeting
	30.20	In Camera
	30.21	In Camera
1024	30.22	GAB numerical groundwater model update – P Baker The Far North Ground Water Model was presented to the board by Peter Baker, DEW Director, Water Science and Monitoring.
	30.25	Meeting Appraisal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board members to complete SLIDO Survey
	30.26	Public comment (if applicable) – NIL
	30.27	Forward agenda items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop Strategic Plan Debrief Landscape Board Forum May 2025 Debrief International Rangelands Congress June 2025 Grassroot Grants 2025/26 – panel endorsement/review
	30.29	Board Communique Merge with March Meeting #29 items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce new board members Spotlight on the BPS Flood update/biosecurity what the flood means for SAAL
1120		Meeting Closed

Approved


Ellen Litchfield, Deputy Chair
SA Arid Lands Landscape Board
Date 30/06/2025

APPENDIX**District Group Update – Board Meeting #30 30 April – 1 May2025****Marree - Innamincka**

Community Landscape Officer: Alice Allington

Next Group meeting: 23rd may 2025 – Online/Office

Other Achievements:

- Continued support for Nature Foundation with CLO attendance with Kids on Country at Witchelina
- Arabana Ranger support with Aerial Surveys on Wild horses over Finniss.
- Family and Nature Day at Innamincka supported by Innamincka Progress Association. SAAL to deliver support and Plant Propagation Workshop with Ryan Hayward.
- Supported Water accounting project for Mt Lyndhurst, Dulkaninna and Clifton hills.

Planned Achievements:

- **Tourism app launch** -Redevelopment of the Birdsville Strzelecki Great Tracks Brochure, featuring Map of the tracks, top 10 travel ticks, and APP promotion.
- **Incursion at Wilsden Primary School** with conservation programs and protecting and enhancing diversity.
- **Deployment of Plains wanderer Song meters.** Utilizing Pastoral children where applicable for citizen science education. Same as what was done with Mt Lyndhurst children at end of 2024.
- **Plant ID and Nutrition Value Roadshow** through Marree-Innamincka with Jenny Milson from Longreach region in Qld, who is keen to be a contracted brains trust in this space – especially how different the channel country is from other parts of the pastoral zone. Jenny works with Qld DPI and as an independent consultant in pasture health, and currently working with flooded pastoral businesses from Longreach base.
- **Resin Project** to create Resin samples of buffel grass and similar-looking species. The goal is to develop a resource that can be lent out to communities, contractors, and friend's groups to help them accurately differentiate between buffel grass and native species when conducting monitoring or control activities.
- **Community Engagement** at Marree sporting club event. Face painting children and other hand out materials.
- **Future joint group meeting** planned with North Flinders and Marree-Innamincka.

North East Pastoral

Community Landscape Officer: Ryan Hayward

Group meeting: May 13, Mount Victor Station – Update from SAAL water team and field visit to look at the Finlayson Trough idea.

Group's key issues and activities

- District group member call in NEP

Regional activities coming up

- Landscape Rehydration Bootcamp at Mount Victor 14, 15 May with the Mulloon Institute.
- National Tree Day - 27 July in Olary, rejuvenating the toilet block park with new plantings and a sign promoting the Landscape Group and Board. Olary Progress are including their community cricket match on the same day to make the most of attendance.
- District weeds workshop with Chris Brodie later in the year.

Other SAAL Projects in NEP

- Plains wanderer project, Ryan and Saskia recently spent a week installing, removing, and moving song meter recorders on various properties in NEP. (data will be released soon, properties are quite excited to find out the data)

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- Noogoora burr funding opportunity, SAAL applied for funding with the Sheep Industry Fund to better assist the NEP district in control.
- Bait injection service, Riley and Ryan spent 4 days in NEP undertaking this service and engaging with property owners on all things Biosecurity, Pig numbers etc.

Port Augusta - Quorn

Community Landscape Officer: Brett Devitt

Group meeting: Previous – 4 April in Quorn. Next – 30 May at Curdnatta, Port Augusta

Group's key issues and activities

- Education activities – School incursions
- Growing Native Gardens – native plant giveaway
- Issue of Declared Weed Control along roadsides - African Rue

Regional activities

- School incursions with Marine Discovery Centre - Term 1 Week 11. Flinders View - 20 students, SOTA 35 online, Quorn Area School 105 students, PASS 60 students. Very well received and appreciated.
- Support to Port Augusta Coastcare for their Science by the Sea children's event at the Yacht Club with 174 attendees. Supported by a GRG.
- Support to Port Augusta Garden Club for their latest GRG workshop with about 45 attendees.
- Organising Teacher PD sustainability workshop in Port Augusta & Quorn
- Native plant propagation workshop in Quorn Tuesday 6 May. 15 places. Full. With Quandong grower Amy Morgan.

North Flinders

Community Landscape Officer: Claire McKenry

Group meeting: June 16th at Hawker. Joint meeting in August with Marree-Innaminka Group

Group's key issues and activities

- Purchasing RHDV K5 (calici virus) with group funds and distributing to landholders to use in as part of their integrated management
- Kangaroo numbers and their welfare given dry conditions
- Discussion on the rules and permits for removal of rocks and stone samples from the Flinders Ranges including TO perspective

Regional activities coming up

- Native grass revegetation trial near Hawker
- Regenerative grazing with Alejandro Carrillo and Collin Seis workshop 26th May (location TBC)
- Training with Nantawarrina Rangers on plant ID including EPBC listed Desert Greenhood Orchids

Kingoonya

Community Landscape Officer: Tori Live

Next Group meeting: June 2025

Across the region

- Introduction to Landscape Rehydration to be held on the 12th of May in Kingoonya with Mulloon institute with carbon session by Carbon Outreach Officer Jade Leyden
- Snake Awareness training mid-June in Andamooka/Roxby Downs
- Kokatha community day with Richard Marver – scheduled for third week of May
- International rangelands bus tour passing through region late May, itinerary includes Mt Eba, Bon Bon, Arid Recovery, Woomera
- Sourcing Aussie travel code signage for key restops

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Marla Oodnadatta

Community Landscape Officer: Tori Love

Next Group meeting: 26th May in Marla ahead of Central Australian Pastoral Networking Dinner

Across the region:

- Family fun day on 5th of April in Oodnadatta – Football clinic with Port Adelaide, Dunjiba community council showcasing their garden, yoga, music by Gavin Chandler, 150+ people in attendance
- Grader accreditation – looking to next financial year due to lack of uptake from training provider
- International Rangelands Bus tour kicking off at Marla on the 28th of May with Central Australian pastoral networking dinner, knowledge exchange opportunity between pastoral peers and researchers from Northern Territory and internationally, presentations from central Australian producers and extension staff
 - Itinerary includes, Marla event, Wintinna, Kanku-breakaways
- Tori, Elisa, Patrick and Julia participated on Friend of Mounds Springs trip with threatened plant action group and Arabana rangers on Finnis Springs in search for endangered plant, Salt Pipewort
- Delivery of string of springs across the region, Oodnadatta, Coober Pedy, Coward Springs, Marree
- Soils trip to APY lands and Mt Willoughby in collaboration with AW Landscape Board and Michael Eyres

Gawler Ranges

Community Landscape Officer: Chris Fulton

Group meeting: Held at the Old Courthouse Boardroom on Friday 14th

Topics of discussion and upcoming events:

- Marine Discovery Centre came up and visited the SOTA students on 9th April
- SIMEC mine tour on May 23rd, with a quick Gawler Ranges group meeting #71 squeezed in
- FRRR Kids & Family Day planned for Iron Knob on June 14th
- Cactus control with cochineal is going well throughout the district
- Pepper tree volunteers have confirmed they will be at Wilkatana in September
- *Planting Local* guide, which the GR landscape group funded, is being distributed to GR community members and is being well received
- *Growing Native Cover* program has been shared with community and there has been plenty of interest
- *The Gawler Ranges Feral Cat Trap Initiative* has been approved and the opportunity has been shared with the community
- Cat management around Iron Knob is underway, camera traps setup with trapping to follow
- Pastoral Field Day - Thursday March 20th

The group heard from:

- Jade Leyden who provided an Introduction to Carbon Farming Outreach Program and discussion about opportunities in the Gawler Ranges
- Cassia Paragnani may also provide a Kangaroo Partnerships Program update