

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016



Government of South Australia

South Australian Arid Lands Natural
Resources Management Board

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Annual Report 2015-16

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Hon Ian Hunter MLC
Minister for Sustainability Environment and Conservation
Parliament House
North Terrace
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Minister

In accordance with the requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009* and section 38 of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board for the year ended 30 June 2016.

This report covers the eleventh year of operation of the Board and highlights the leadership and work of the Board through engagement with key partners to develop natural resources management outcomes across the region.

The Board continues to encourage community participation in NRM across the landscape by supporting the communities, townships and industries.

I thank the Board, NRM groups and community members for their continued commitment to natural resources management across the region.

I commend this report to you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janet Crommelin-Brook'.

Janet Crommelin-Brook
Presiding Member
South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board

RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

The SAAL NRM Board acknowledges and respects the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands on which it meets. The Board acknowledges the deep feelings of attachment and relationships of Aboriginal peoples to country. The Board pays respect to the cultural authority of Aboriginal people visiting/attending from other areas of South Australia/Australia.

In fulfilling its functions, the SAAL NRM Board is cognisant of the cultural and natural heritage of traditional owners and strives to achieve positive outcomes wherever these matters are concerned.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The SAAL NRM Board would like to thank the Minister and staff of the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources for the support and encouragement that it has received over the year. Particular acknowledgement is made to the management and staff of the SA Arid Lands Region of the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources for their commitment and contribution to achieving positive outcomes in the region.

The SAAL NRM Board also acknowledge the importance of funding partnerships with the Australian Government and other partners to support NRM outcomes across the region.

PLANS AND OBJECTIVES

The South Australian Arid Lands (SAAL) Natural Resources Management (NRM) Board provides expert advice to the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation (the Minister) on Natural Resources Management issues across the South Australian Arid Lands Region.

The SAAL NRM Board set the following strategic priorities for 2015-16. Table 1 on the following page, illustrates where each theme area in the Regional NRM Plan contributed to achieving the visions and goals of the SA Strategic Plan.

Table 1: Links Between SAAL NRM Board* Theme Areas and the SA Strategic Plan

Regional NRM Plan	SA Strategic Plan					
Theme Areas (Goals)	Visions					
	<i>Our Community</i>	<i>Our prosperity</i>	<i>Our environment</i>	<i>Our health</i>	<i>Our education</i>	<i>Our ideas</i>
Adaptive landscape-scale management, which maintains and strengthens the natural functioning of the region's ecological systems			✓			
Vibrant communities and industries using and managing natural resources within ecologically sustainable limits	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Vibrant communities, governments and industries working together with the capability, commitment and connections to manage resources in an integrated way	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

**Refer to SAAL NRM Board Strategic Plan*

Table 2 below, illustrates where each theme area in the Regional NRM Plan contributed to achieving the seven strategic priorities of Government.

Table 2: Links between SAAL NRM Board Theme Areas (goals) and the seven strategic priorities of Government

Regional NRM Plan	SA Strategic Plan						
Theme Areas (goals)	Visions						
	<i>Creating a vibrant city</i>	<i>Safe communities healthy neighbourhoods</i>	<i>Premium food and wine from our clean environment</i>	<i>An affordable place to live</i>	<i>Every chance for every child</i>	<i>Growing advanced manufacturing</i>	<i>Realising the benefits of the mining boom for all South Australians</i>
Adaptive landscape-scale management, which maintains and strengthens the natural functioning of the region's ecological systems.			✓				✓
Vibrant communities and industries using and managing natural resources within ecologically sustainable limits.			✓				✓
Vibrant communities, governments and industries working together with the capability, commitment and connections to manage resources in an integrated way.			✓				✓

Table 3 below, illustrates the links between the State NRM Plan and the South Australian Arid Lands NRM Board's strategic priorities/targets (program areas) and resource condition targets (RCT) in the South Australian Arid Lands Regional Plan (2010).

Table 3: Links between the State NRM Plan and the SAAL NRM Board program areas and Resource Condition Targets (RCTs) from the SAAL Regional NRM Plan

State NRM Plan Guiding Targets		Regional NRM Board Program Areas				
Guiding Targets	Active communities	Sustainable landscapes	Functional ecosystems	Water	Planning and Evaluation	
Key	Strong contribution (> 75% alignment)	Contribution (40-75% alignment)	Low contribution (< 40% alignment)			
1. Ensure people are better informed and improve capacity in NRM decision making (links with SAAL RCT 9 and 10)						
2. Involve more people in the sustainable management of natural resources (links with SAAL RCT 9 and 10)						
3. Improve institutional and organisational capacity to support people to manage natural resources						
4. Improve capacity of individuals and community to respond to climate change (links with SAAL RCT 9 and 10)						

State NRM Plan Guiding Targets	Regional NRM Board Program Areas				
Guiding Targets	Active communities	Sustainable landscapes	Functional ecosystems	Water	Planning and Evaluation
Key	Strong contribution (> 75% alignment)	Contribution (40-75% alignment)	Low contribution (< 40% alignment)		
5. All NRM planning and investment decisions take into account ecological, social and production considerations (links with SAAL RCT 6)					
6. Maintain the productive capacity of our natural resources (links with SAAL RCT 6)					
7. Improve soil and land condition (links with SAAL RCT 5)					
8. Increase extent and improve condition of native vegetation (links with SAAL RCT 1)					
9. Improve condition of terrestrial aquatic ecosystems (includes groundwater and surface water) (links with SAAL RCT 3, 7, 8)					

State NRM Plan Guiding Targets	Regional NRM Board Program Areas					
Guiding Targets	Active communities	Sustainable landscapes	Functional ecosystems	Water	Planning and Evaluation	
Key	Strong contribution (> 75% alignment)	Contribution (40-75% alignment)	Low contribution (< 40% alignment)			
10. Improve condition of coastal and marine ecosystems (n/a –no coast and marine in SAAL region)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
11. Increase understanding of the condition of landscapes (geological and culturally important features) (links with SAAL RCT 4)						
12. Improve the conservation status of species and ecological communities (links with SAAL RCT 2)						
13. Limit the establishment of pests and diseases and reduce the impacts of existing pests (links with SAAL RCT 1, 2)						

RCT – Resource Condition Targets (10-year targets from the SA Arid Lands Regional NRM Plan)

OPERATIONS AND INITIATIVES

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The South Australian Arid Lands (SAAL) NRM Board reports the following operations and achievements for the 2015-16 financial year. As well as ongoing levy-funded activities, this year marks the third year of delivery of Australian Government-funded projects. Activities continue to be delivered effectively and efficiently, with a good level of participation, and good to excellent feedback received on workshops, field days and training activities.

NRM Planning

Through the development of a regional NRM plan in close consultation with regional stakeholders, the SAAL NRM Board provides a coordinated and integrated basis for maintaining and enhancing the region's natural resources over the next ten years.

The SAAL Regional NRM Plan re-write continued this year, combining community values with up-to-date legal, policy, scientific and technical information. The SAAL NRM Board has reviewed the draft plan and, following minor edits, this will be endorsed for consultation by the end of September 2016. Community consultation will be undertaken during October and November, with the plan expected to be adopted by mid-2017.

Sustainable Water Use

In the SAAL region, water is a key resource that attracts and supports people, biodiversity and industry. The SAAL NRM Board prioritises appropriate management of groundwater and surface water resources, and the ecosystems they support, because it is critical to the continued health of plants and animals, and to the viability of the pastoral, mining, tourism industries, our communities and cultural heritage value in the region.

An extension and compliance program has been implemented during this reporting period to assist with the implementation of sustainable water practices across the Far Northern Prescribed Wells Area (FNPWA). This was developed in part to address issues identified during the 2013-2015 Artesian Well Condition Review that was conducted by DEWNR on behalf of the Board. In addition to this, the deadline for water licence holders to ensure that water tight delivery systems have been installed on all artesian wells will occur on 16 February 2019.

The program also seeks to ensure the SAAL regions groundwater management activities are operating in accordance with the National Framework for Compliance and Enforcement Systems for Water Resource Management (CoAG Agreement).

This program has begun to address these issues by:

- providing water users with property/asset specific copies of the well condition review;
- a letter reminding water licence holders of their rights and obligations under the Natural Resource Management Act 2004 and their existing water licence conditions;
- facilitating water licence holders applications for funding under the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative Phase 4 (GABSI 4);
- updating the Great Artesian Basin Wells Maintenance Handbook for distribution in 2016-17;
- Assisting DEWNR Water Licencing on specific compliance breaches.

The Water Affecting Activities (WAA) permit application process continued this year, with a total of 60 enquiries and one application that was withdrawn by the applicant. There were no permits that expired during the year and no freedom of information requests. Generally, enquiries related to excavation of material, construction of infrastructure, in particular roads and access tracks, and discharge of water to watercourses or lakes. The majority of enquiries were from the resources sector including a significant number of referrals from the Department of State Development for comment in relation to Mine Closure Plans and review of updated operational documents.

The review of the Water Affecting Activities policy and assessment process continued during 2015-16. The WAA policies within the regional NRM plan, and the permit assessment process, have been refined to ensure consistency, transparency, and to ensure they are evidence-based and implementable. Previous applications/enquiries have been used to refine the assessment process and the policy, along with incorporation of the results from new groundwater research. The bioregional assessment data collected through the National Partnership Agreement's Coal Seam Gas project is in the process of being processed for inclusion in DEWNR's corporate databases. This will provide full coverage of robust, baseline information for the SAAL region useful for informing future mining developments in the Arckaringa Basin, Pedirka Basin and Lake Eyre Basin.

The Channel Country project continued this year, investigating the characteristics and condition of the Channel Country which encompasses the Diamantina River and adjacent Ramsar wetlands at Coongie Lakes; an area which is not currently well understood. The project aims to improve connectivity and condition of the area, through addressing key risks arising from industry, pests and weeds and climate change. This year, activities included continued development of a Traditional Ecological Knowledge database, extra field trips for the collection of follow-up data on key waterholes along the Diamantina River system and drafting of a plan for improving floodplain, pest animals and plants and visitor management.

The Desert Jewels project also continued this year, focusing on investigating key threats to the Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) listed Great Artesian Basin (GAB) Springs ecological communities. The project aims to reduce threats and improve condition of the springs through general awareness-raising/information sharing activities, conducting grazing/fire trials to manage *Phragmites* spp. encroachment across spring surfaces, and addressing other key threats such as pests and weeds, in collaboration with Aboriginal Native Title holders, Co-management Board members, land managers and the wider community. Weed control activities undertaken at GAB springs are described above in the Pest Plant Control section. Other activities this year included several field trips by aboriginal communities, volunteers and project staff involved in the collection of baseline data; site assessment and preparation for fire management and grazing management trials; commencement of fire trials; and general awareness raising training activities on spring and groundwater management.

Early project development has continued to prepare for the review of the Far North Wells Prescribed Wells Area Water Allocation Plan – the only prescribed water resource in the region - which will be fully underway from mid-2017. Discussions have been held between Natural Resources SA Arid Lands staff and key DEWNR Groups to inform the development of an implementation plan, with associated priority projects document, to help guide and plan activities that need to be delivered prior to the commencement of, and during the review.

Sustainable Landscapes program

Sustainable industries

Sustainable land management aims to manage the environment in a way that achieves a balance between our collective need for resources and the needs of the environment. The SAAL NRM Board prioritises the maintenance of resilient, functional ecosystems which provide a full range of services that are able to sustainably support productive industries. SAAL staff work closely with land managers to help identify and provide assistance with the management of issues they may encounter on their properties.

Sustainable industries activities during 2015-16 include the delivery of a suite of pastoral productivity workshops covering topics such as grazing management, groundcover assessment, water point management, infrastructure placement, cost of production, selecting stock breed attributes for improved performance, landscape rehydration and revegetation, diversification scenario planning, business structure analysis, financial management, identifying and using decision support tools, landscape function and soil conservation and plant identification. In total, 16 workshops attracted a total of 124 participants. Evaluations revealed that participants improved their knowledge and skills on a range of topics, would recommend the workshops to others and acknowledge the potential benefit from implementing appropriate change to their management approaches. The feedback also provided useful feedback to inform the next round of workshops.

The focus on developing a regional land managers network, supported through the Regional Landcare Facilitator, continued this year, aiming to maximise knowledge-sharing, skills-building opportunities and building participation and capacity overall through a range of NRM events and formal training. Activities included attendance at national and state Landcare conferences, sponsorship of regional land managers to attend the Rangelands Conference, and attendance at regional events.

Other planning activities include the development of four additional property information packs for land managers identifying and mapping Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) listed species' habitat as well as associated management implications. Also, draft district action plans produced for each district have been reviewed and refined during 2015-16 to identify priority on-ground projects, developed in collaboration with NRM Groups.

Pest Animal Control

Pest animals can pose significant threats to industries, biodiversity, public health and safety and are a key natural resource management priority of the SAAL NRM Board. SAAL staff work closely with land managers to help identify and provide assistance with the management of pest animals on their properties, with a focus on landscape-scale control.

The *Biteback* program continued its wild dog management activities, providing support for 22 local area planning groups south of the dog fence, in the North Flinders-Marree, Kingoonya, Gawler Ranges and North East Pastoral districts, delivery of 23 bait injection services at 22 locations (Baits distributed: 80063 injected, 17430 manufactured, 1400 CPE Capsules), and conducting aerial baiting in collaboration with Biosecurity SA dropping 53600 dried baits across 100 properties (Grand Total Baits 152493). 10 volunteer shooters were offered a travel subsidy

to undertake control on properties experiencing excessive wild dog numbers outside the dog fence. In addition, the services of a professional dog trapper were engaged on 37 properties, resulting in the removal of 107 wild dogs. We have also trained 116 people from 87 properties in the use of the new Canid Pest Ejectors (CPE's) and 41 people from 26 properties attended one of 4 Trapper Training workshops in the 2015/16 financial year.

The *Biteback Program* is jointly funded by the SA Arid Lands NRM Board, the South Australian Sheep Advisory Group through the Sheep Industry Fund, and with Commonwealth Drought Support funding to deliver a range of specific project activities.

During 2015-16, two rounds of aerial fox baiting occurred in the Gawler Ranges National Park, Pinkawillinie Conservation Park and Hiltaba Station, covering 322,821 hectares during the first delivery, and 166,300 hectares during the second. Complimentary ground baiting for foxes and goat shooting and opportunistic cat control was undertaken within the same area across about 150,000 hectares, resulting in the removal of 1,112 goats and 22 cats in total.

In the Flinders Ranges area, two rounds of fox baiting (aerial, supplemented by ground baiting) were delivered in collaboration with 22 land managers on Arkaroola, Yankaninna, Nantawarrina Indigenous Protected Area, Warraweena, Pinda Springs, Narinna, Moolooloo, Gum Creek, Bunkers Conservation Reserve and Arkaba stations, treating 183,000 hectares during the first round, and 184,000 hectares in the second round. Goat control (mustering and shooting) was also undertaken across 101,160 hectares in the same area, resulting in removal of 716 animals. Rabbit warren mapping was undertaken on Gum Creek station to prepare for warren ripping.

Feral animal control (aerial shooting) was also carried out across 80,000 hectares in the Coongie Lakes Ramsar reserve, removing 45 pigs, and 31 wild horses. The reserve is being monitored for feral animals using motion-activated cameras at key sites.

Pest Plant Control

Pest plants can pose significant threats to industries, biodiversity, public health and safety and are therefore a key natural resource management priority to the SAAL NRM Board. SAAL staff work closely with land managers to help identify and provide assistance with the management of pest plants on their properties, with a focus on landscape-scale control.

District Weed Management Strategies, developed over previous years, are used in collaboration with NRM Groups to guide delivery of weed management activities in the districts and are updated following delivery.

During 2015-16, 23 land managers were involved in weed control treatment across a total of 16,540 hectares. A combination of chemical and biological control methods were used to control *Opuntia* spp (Cactus), *Schinus molle* (Pepper Tree), *Xanthium strumarium* (Noogoora Burr), *Cenchrus ciliaris* (Buffel Grass), *Lycium ferocissimum* (Boxthorn) and *Prosopis* (mesquite) in multiple locations on Arcoona, Mutooroo, Oulnina Park, Paratoo, Spring Dam, Pitcairn, Teetulpa, Angorichina stations and around Arkaroola, Marree and Andamooka.

A regional weeds field day was held on a demonstration site on Balcanoona Station, showcasing the management of key weed species, including buffel grass, athel pine, prickly bushes, pepper tree and cactus. These field days are held annually to improve awareness of the impacts of key species on pastures and native plants and animals, as well as improving management practises in the longer-term. A session on groundcover monitoring was also presented on the day. An evaluation of the 12 attendees strongly indicated that the workshop improved knowledge, understanding and awareness of the impact and management of weeds. Attendees also indicated that they would likely change their management practises in response to this new information.

As part of the Desert Jewels project (see Water Program section, for more information) which focuses on reducing threats to the Great Artesian Basin Mound Springs, control of *Polypogon monspeliensis* (Annual Beardgrass) and *Phoenix dactylifera* (Date Palm) across 1610 hectares was undertaken at Dalhousie Springs and other springs in the Lake Eyre supergroup.

Community Engagement

General

NRM is an approach that recognises the importance of working together with the community, industry and all levels of government to help ensure that the environment is valued for its intrinsic, biodiversity and productivity values and managed in a way that achieves a balance between our collective need for resources and the needs of the environment. As well as working closely with land managers as described in the sections above, SAAL staff prioritise working with the wider community to raise awareness and understanding of the importance of maintaining ecosystem services and function.

Stalls were hosted at seven regional events this year; the Innamincka Races/Picnic Day, NAIDOC Week, Yunta Races, Marree Races, Oodnadatta Camp Draft and Bronco Branding, Coober Pedy Opal Festival and William Creek Bronco Branding. The stalls offered information on pest plants and weeds, environmental stewardship opportunities, landscape rehydration and soil conservation, fact sheets and reference books on native mammal, bird and reptile species of significance, general land management and local district group information as well as live hopping mice, sand goanna and barking gecko displays.

In total, about 150 people visited the stalls, including lots of children attracted by the animal displays. SAAL staff present at the stall were able to meet and greet people both at the stall and elsewhere at the event to promote services, opportunities for participation in project activities and encourage feedback on local issues.

Topics discussed included cane toads, ostriches, traditional ecological knowledge, threatened species surveys, foxes, dogs, Bounceback, woma pythons, eagles, rye-grass, break in the season, cacti species and travel across the region. Popular items taken included the grader workshop video, brochures on Birdsville and Oodnadatta Tracks, bug catchers and bug viewers, Field ID books on *Opuntia* species, stubby holders, water bottles and beanies (with SAAL NRM branding), Parks brochures, Tales in the Sand books, and Andy the Ant activity books.

A total of 127 volunteers were supported in delivering 8,362 hours (approximately 1,114 FTE days) of work across the region. Activities included cactus control, rubbish removal, heritage site restoration, and wildlife monitoring.

Aboriginal Engagement

Opportunities for Aboriginal participation in NRM project activities have been promoted widely across the region, including involvement in program and regional planning, learning new skills through informal and formal training opportunities, attendance at conferences and forums, development and implementation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) protocols, wild dog management, and short-term contract employment in NRM service delivery. Formal training opportunities have been provided through workshops on Work Zone Traffic Management and landscape rehydration and soil conservation, water quality monitoring, traditional ecological knowledge sharing, grazing management, aquatic ecosystem management, fencing and GPS use.

The Board maintains six District NRM Groups, all who had Aboriginal community members represented in their membership during 2015/16. Aboriginal engagement is delivered through the Boards Partnerships and Community Engagement Team, with Community Engagement Officers having broad responsibilities across Districts to engage all sectors of the community in NRM.

ROLE, LEGISLATION AND STRUCTURE (CORPORATE GOVERNANCE)

The SAAL NRM Board was established on 9 December 2004 under the auspices of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* (NRM Act). This report for the 2015-16 financial year fulfils the requirements of Section 38 of the NRM Act.

OBJECT OF THE *NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ACT*

The objects of the NRM Act include to assist in the achievement of ecologically sustainable development in the State by establishing an integrated scheme to promote the use and management of natural resources in a manner that—

- (a) recognises and protects the intrinsic values of natural resources; and
- (b) seeks to protect biological diversity and, insofar as is reasonably practicable, to support and encourage the restoration or rehabilitation of ecological systems and processes that have been lost or degraded; and
- (c) provides for the protection and management of catchments and the sustainable use of land and water resources and, insofar as is reasonably practicable, seeks to enhance and restore or rehabilitate land and water resources that have been degraded; and
- (d) seeks to support sustainable primary and other economic production systems with particular reference to the value of agriculture and mining activities to the economy of the State; and
- (e) provides for the prevention or control of impacts caused by pest species of animals and plants that may have an adverse effect on the environment, primary production or the community; and
- (f) promotes educational initiatives and provides support mechanisms to increase the capacity of people to be involved in the management of natural resources.

FUNCTIONS OF THE SAAL NRM BOARD

Section 29 of the NRM Act describes the functions of the SAAL NRM Board.

- (1) The functions of a regional NRM Board are—
 - (a) to undertake an active role with respect to the management of natural resources within its region; and
 - (b) —
 - (i) to prepare a regional NRM plan in accordance with this Act; and
 - (ii) to implement that plan; and
 - (iii) to keep the plan under review to ensure that the objects of this Act are being achieved; and
 - (c) to promote public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its region, to undertake or support educational initiatives with respect to natural resources management, and to provide mechanisms to increase the capacity of people to implement programs or to take other steps to improve the management of natural resources; and
 - (d) to provide advice with respect to the assessment of various activities or proposals referred to the Board under this or any other Act; and
 - (e) to resolve any issues that may arise between any NRM groups that are relevant to the management of natural resources within its region; and
 - (ea) to undertake an active role in ensuring-
 - (i) that any Development Plan under the *Development Act 1993* that applies within its region promotes the objects of this Act; and
 - (ii) insofar as is reasonably practicable, that those Development Plans and the Board's regional NRM plan form a coherent set of policies, and, in so doing, when a Development Plan amendment under the *Development Act 1993* that is relevant to the activities of the Board is under consideration under that Act, to work with-
 - (iii) in the case of a Development Plan amendment proposed by a council-the council; or
 - (iv) in the case of a Development Plan amendment proposed by a Minister-that Minister's department; and
 - (f) at the request of the Minister or the NRM Council, or on its own initiative, to provide advice on any matter relevant to the condition of natural resources within its region, or on the management of those resources, to conduct any inquiry or audit, or to provide any other advice or report that may be appropriate in the circumstances; and
 - (g) such other functions assigned to the Board by the Minister or by or under this or any other Act.
- (2) To avoid doubt, a regional NRM Board may act with respect to a particular matter despite the fact that the matter may not fall within the scope of its regional NRM plan.
- (3) However, if a regional NRM Board acts with respect to a particular matter in the circumstances described in subsection (2), the Board must furnish a report on the matter to the Natural Resources Committee of the Parliament (unless the matter is not, in the opinion of the Board, significant).
- (4) In performing its functions, a regional NRM Board should (as far as is reasonably practicable) seek to work collaboratively with—
 - (a) the other regional NRM Boards whose regions adjoin the region of the Board; and

- (b) other State agencies, agencies of the Commonwealth, and agencies of the other States and Territories, that have functions that are relevant to those of the Board; and
 - (c) NRM groups with areas that fall (wholly or partially) within the region of the Board; and
 - (d) the constituent councils for the region, and other councils as may be relevant; and
 - (e) relevant industry, environment and community groups and organisations; and
 - (f) persons who own or occupy land within the region of the Board (insofar as may be relevant).
- (5) A regional NRM Board will, with respect to the performance of its functions, report to the Minister.
- (6) If the Minister assigns a function to a regional NRM Board under subsection (1)—
- (a) the Minister must furnish a report on the matter to the Natural Resources Committee of the Parliament; and
 - (b) the regional NRM Board must cause a statement of the fact of the assignment to be published in its next annual report.

SAAL NRM BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The SAAL NRM Board consists of 9 members, appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Minister. Each appointed Board member is a person who, in the opinion of the Minister, meets the requirements of section 25(4) of the NRM Act.

As at 30 June 2016 Board membership was as follows:

Members

- Janet Crommelin-Brook
- Daryl Bell (term end 13/4/16)
- Ross Sawers
- Leonard Nutt
- Catherine Hollingsworth
- Rick Barratt
- Murray Tyler
- Mark Sutton
- Pauline Coulthard (resigned 28/1/16)
- Glenise Coulthard (appointed 14/4/16)
- Malcolm Pridham (appointed 14/4/16)

Government representatives authorised to attend meetings

- Michael Malavazos, Department of State Development
- Neil Power, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources
- John Virtue, Primary Industries and Regions South Australia

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Section 35 (1) (b) of the NRM Act provides for the establishment of advisory committees to advise the Board on any matter relating to the administration of the Act. The following Advisory Committee was operational during the 2015-16 financial year:

- Finance and Governance Committee

MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL

A total of six general Board meetings were held during the 2015-16 financial year.

A total of three special Board meetings were held during the 2015-16 financial year.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meeting attendance	Comments
Janet Crommelin-Brook	9	
Daryl Bell	2	Term end 13/4/16
Ross Sawers	7	
Leonard Nutt	8	
Catherine Hollingsworth	9	
Rick Barratt	9	
Murray Tyler	7	
Mark Sutton	6	
Pauline Coulthard	0	Resigned 28/1/16
Glenise Coulthard	2	Appointed 14/4/16
Malcolm Pridham	0	Appointed 14/4/16
Michael Malavazos	5	
Neil Power	8	
John Virtue	7	

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER AGENCIES

The Board has a good working relationship with the following agencies to deliver services:

- Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR)
- Primary Industries and Regions South Australia (PIRSA)
- Department of Planning, Transport, and Infrastructure (DPTI)
- Outback Communities Australia (OCA)
- Regional Development Australia (Far North)
- Great Artesian Basin Coordinating Committee (GABCC)
- Lake Eyre Basin Community Advisory Committee (LEBCAC)
- Australian Government representatives through Caring for our Country (CfoC)
- Local Government – Coober Pedy and Roxby Downs.

GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

DEWNR provides support to the SAAL NRM Board by providing an Executive for administration and governance. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEWNR Annual Report 2015-16.

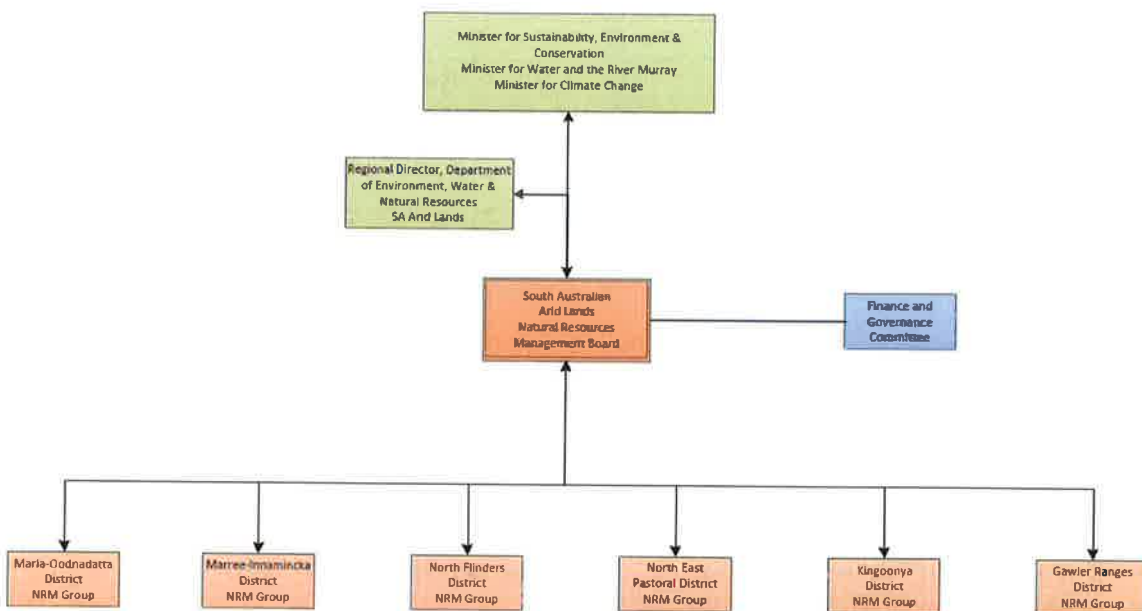
The business of the SAAL NRM Board delivers a diverse NRM investment program that is supported by a robust governance framework including planning, corporate and administrative

functions. The Board is assisted by a Finance and Governance Committee that meets prior to Board meetings to review items related to Board governance and finance.

The Board is supported by six NRM Groups and actively develops capacity to provide on-ground outcomes by engaging land managers at the local level through increased community ownership. The NRM Group members provide a social and local context for delivery of programs by encouraging community engagement and monitoring performance.

Board members are accountable to the community for the governance of the Board. The Regional Director is accountable to the Board for managing its resources efficiently and effectively. In preparation of the Annual Report, the Board prepares its financial statements and submits them for audit by the Auditor General.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



NRM GROUP ACTIVITIES

The SAAL NRM Board supports six NRM groups who provide a conduit between the community and the Board. The NRM groups continue to play a pivotal role in supporting regional NRM strategies and plans across the region. Each Group is supported by a Community Engagement Officer to assist with project delivery, as listed in the individual group reports.

- (1) The functions of an NRM group are—
 - (a) to be actively involved in the development and implementation of any relevant regional NRM plan at the local level (to the extent specified or envisaged by that plan or specified by the relevant board or boards); and
 - (b) to develop, implement or participate in programs associated with natural resources management at the local level; and

(c) to promote public awareness of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its area and to undertake or support educational initiatives with respect to natural resources management; and

(d) to provide advice to regional NRM boards, and other bodies and agencies, with respect to the assessment of various activities, proposals, situations or circumstances within its area; and

(e) such other functions prescribed by the regulations or assigned to the NRM group by a regional NRM board, or by or under this or any other Act.

NORTH FLINDERS DISTRICT GROUP

The membership of the North Flinders District Group during 2015-16 was:

Members

- Keith Slade (chair)
- Ian Ferguson
- Glenys Aird
- Ivan McKenzie
- Dion Robins
- Brendon Bevan
- Kate Blackmore
- Cheryl Waye (Deputy to Ivan McKenzie)

MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL

A total of three general District Group meetings were held during the 2015-16 financial year. One special District Group meeting was held during the 2015-16 financial year.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non attendance
Keith Slade (chair)	4	
Ian Ferguson	4	
Glenys Aird	3	Other commitments
Ivan McKenzie	2	Other commitments
Dion Robins	2	Other commitments
Brendon Bevan	3	Other commitments
Kate Blackmore	3	Other commitments
Cheryl Waye	0	

Key Achievements and focus for the North Flinders NRM Group during the 2015-16 financial year include the facilitation of a carbon farming information session for the community, cats around the Leigh Creek community and implications of townfolk leaving when town population is reduced and alternate breeds of sheep.

MARLA OODNADATTA DISTRICT GROUP

The membership of the Marla Oodnadatta District Group during 2015-16 was:

Members

- Jacqueline Williams (Chair)
- Mark Fennell
- Caroline Thomas
- Douglas Lillecrapp (retired 25/3/16)
- Peter Watts (resigned 8/6/16)
- Joel Kowald
- Francesca Lumb (appointed 1/5/16)
- Alice Taysom (appointed 1/5/16)

MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL

A total of six general District Group meetings were held during the 2015-16 financial year. Two teleconference District Group discussions were held during the 2015-16 financial year.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non attendance
Jacqueline Williams	6	
Mark Fennell	4	Road conditions
Caroline Thomas	6	
Douglas Lillecrapp	3	Resigned 25/3/16
Peter Watts	2	Resigned 8/6/16
Joel Kowald	5	
Francesca Lumb	2	Appointed 1/5/16
Alice Taysom	1	Appointed 1/5/16

Achievements of the Marla Oodnadatta NRM Group during 2015-16 include their District Action Plan which has led to the development of a plan for a NRM/ sustainable agriculture focussed field day to be held in March 2017, as well as raising community awareness of the role of the NRM Group through regular contact by Group members with community members to discuss NRM priorities in the district.

The group also hosted a Water themed information session with the DEWNR water team attended by Coober Pedy locals and the Group continue to provide support and on-going commitment to the community approach to *Acacia farnesiana* Control in The Peake catchment.

KINGOONYA DISTRICT GROUP

The membership of the Kingoonya District Group during 2015-16 was:

Members

- Michael Chuk (performed some Chair duties in Mr Noll's absence)
- Ashley Williams (performed some Chair duties in Mr Noll's absence. Appointed Chair at the first meeting of this financial year 2016-17)
- Graeme Noll (Resigned 12/2/16)
- Katie Hulmes (resigned 7/4/16)
- Julia Harris (resigned 17/3/16)
- Brenton McRae (resigned 26/2/16)
- Chris Larkin (resigned 26/2/16)
- Jasmine Richards (appointed 1/5/16)
- Ian Matheson (appointed 1/5/16)
- Stephen Lyons (appointed 1/5/16)
- Matthew Kerin (appointed 1/5/16)
- Jessica Barry (appointed 1/5/16)
- Megan Henderson (Deputy to Matthew Kerin – appointed 1/5/16)
- James Barry (Deputy to Jessica Barry – appointed 1/5/16)
- Edwina Bowie (Deputy to Ian Matheson – appointed 1/5/16)

MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL

A total of two general District Group meetings were held during the 2015-16 financial year. No special District Group meetings were held during the 2015-16 financial year.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non attendance
Michael Chuk	2	
Ashley Williams	2	
Graeme Noll	0	Resigned 12/2/16
Katie Hulmes	1	Resigned 7/4/16
Julia Harris	1	Resigned 17/3/16
Brenton McRae	0	Resigned 26/2/16
Chris Larkin	0	Resigned 26/2/16
Jasmine Richards	0	Appointed 1/5/16
Ian Matheson	0	Appointed 1/5/16
Stephen Lyons	0	Appointed 1/5/16
Matthew Kerin	0	Appointed 1/5/16
Jessica Barry	0	Appointed 1/5/16
Megan Henderson	0	Deputy to Matthew Kerin – appointed 1/5/16
James Barry	0	Deputy to Jessica Barry – appointed 1/5/16
Edwina Bowie	0	Deputy to Ian Matheson – appointed 1/5/16

With members moving out of the region and others finding life commitments having to take precedence, the Kingoonya NRM Group fell below the required quorum in 2015-16. Without the legally required number of members to make actions, the Group was unable to move forward with any planned activities. Attention was instead given to succession planning and rebuilding the Group membership and status within the community. As of the start of the 2016-17 financial year, the Kingoonya NRM Group filled all member positions, with an additional three deputy members, and had its first actionable meeting for this financial year on 5 July 2016.

MARREE-INNAMINCKA DISTRICT GROUP

The membership of the Marree-Innamincka District Group during 2015-16 was:

Members

- Raylene Ogilvy (Chair)
- Gina Reick
- Valerie Fuschtei
- Arthur Ah Chee
- Brooke McKenzie-Warren
- Alex Nankivell (appointed 1/5/16)

MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL

A total of four general District Group meetings and a Discussion was held during the 2015-16 financial year.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non attendance
Raylene Ogilvy	5	
Gina Reick	5	
Valerie Fuschtei	4	
Arthur Ah Chee	4	
Brooke McKenzie-Warren	5	
Alex Nankivell	0	Appointed 1/5/16

The District Action Plan has been continuously developed as a living document to help identify key priorities for the group. Some of the major discussions have been around excessive populations of wild dogs and tourism impacts (waste, unauthorised access/camping and education).

Engagement with the Native Title owners of the district has been ongoing interaction with each group including Wangkanguru Yarluyandi, Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka, Deiri and Andyamathanh. This was achieved through the Community Engagement Officer attending the Native Title Group meeting and introducing the Marree Innamincka NRM Group and discussing the *Community Engagement and awareness of NRM and responsible travel* signage. This also presented the opportunity to talk about the possibility of acknowledgement of their country to be included on the signage.

GAWLER RANGES DISTRICT GROUP

The membership of the Gawler Ranges District Group during 2015-16 was:

Members

- Alexander (Sandy) Morris (Chair) (retired 28/3/16)
- Jane Anderson (retired 30/6/16)
- Joanne Lee (resigned 5/11/15)
- Michael Starkey (resigned 1/4/16)
- Greg Johnston
- Joel Venables
- Kate Greenfield (appointed 8/6/16)

MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL

A total of three general District Group meetings were held during the 2015-16 financial year. One special District Group discussion by telephone was held during the 2015-16 financial year.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non attendance
Alexander (Sandy) Morris	2	Term end 28/3/16
Jane Anderson	3	Term end 30/6/16
Joanne Lee	0	Resigned 5/11/15
Michael Starkey	0	Resigned 1/4/16
Greg Johnston	3	
Joel Venables	3	
Kate Greenfield	1	Appointed 8/6/16

Whilst the Gawler Ranges NRM Group has been a little under represented, the majority of this period has focussed on planning priorities and activities for the future. They have initiated discussions around alternative sheep breeds, excessive kangaroo populations, and mapping of fountain grass

Capacity of this group dropped considerably over the first six months of 2016 due to long term members retiring or resigning with little succession planning occurring in the previous period. It is envisaged new membership will be forthcoming over the next 12 month period.

NORTH EAST PASTORAL DISTRICT GROUP

The membership of the North East Pastoral District Group during 2015-16 was:

Members

- Terrence Coulthard
- Richard Williams
- Nick Rasheed (appointed 9/11/15)
- Alistair Dermer (appointed 9/11/15)
- Sanchia Treloar (appointed 8/6/16)
- Kevin Heness (resigned 29/6/16)
- Glen Norris (resigned 9/11/15)

MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL

Four general District Group meetings were held during the 2015-16 financial year.

Two District Group discussions were held by teleconference during the 2015-16 financial year.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non attendance
Terrence Coulthard	2	Illness and work commitments
Richard Williams	6	
Nick Rasheed	4	Appointed 9/11/15
Alistair Dermer	4	Appointed 9/11/15
Sanchia Treloar	1	Appointed 8/6/16
Kevin Heness	2	Resigned 29/6/16
Glen Norris	2	Resigned 9/11/15

Over the 2015-16 period, the NEP Group have discussed the increase in pig numbers and instigated mapping sightings and control measures, prioritising African boxthorn and opuntoid through the District Weed Strategy and had multiple discussions on the increase in kangaroo numbers,. For the last meeting of the period the Group began to plan for a field day with a water focus to be held in 2017.

MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Sitting fees and travel allowances are paid to members of the SA Arid Lands NRM Board and SA Arid Lands NRM Groups. There are members of the Board and Groups who do not claim sitting fees and travel allowances as their employers support their participation and attendance. For those who do claim, His Excellency the Governor in Executive Council determined the following rates of remuneration in November 2008:

SA Arid Lands NRM Board

Chair: \$258 per four hour session + \$64.50 per hour for out of session duties; plus \$10,000 per annum A/R allowance.
Members: \$206 per four hour session + \$51.50 per hour for out of session duties.

SA Arid Lands NRM Groups

Chair: \$129 per four hour session + \$32.50 per hour for out of session duties.
Members: \$103 per four hour session + \$26.00 per hour for out of session duties.

Travel allowance

In addition to the reimbursement of travel costs, the chair and members are to be remunerated at \$26.00 per hour for every hour of travel between two and eight hours in a single journey.

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS, GENDER AND STATUS

The SAAL NRM Board has no staff of its own and utilises the services of DEWNR. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEWNR Annual Report 2015-16.

Executive, administrative and project support were provided to the SAAL NRM Board from existing DEWNR resources.

The gender balance of the SAAL NRM Board is taken into consideration when members are appointed. Gender balance of community representatives on the SA Arid Lands NRM Board and SA Arid Lands NRM Groups as at 30 June 2016 is detailed in the table below:

Name	Male	Female
SA Arid Lands NRM Board	9	3
North Flinders NRM Group	5	3
Marla Oodnadatta NRM Group	2	4
Kingoonya NRM Group	5	2
Marree-Innamincka NRM Group	2	4
Gawler Ranges NRM Group	2	1
North East Pastoral NRM Group	4	1

The following matters are contained in the DEWNR annual report 2015-16:

- Workforce Diversity
- Workplace Adaptation
- Executives
- Leave Management
- Performance Development
- Leadership and Management Development
- Employment Opportunity Programs
- Work Health and Safety and Injury Management
- Reporting Against the *Carers Recognition Act 2005*
- Disability Access and Inclusion Plans
- Government Buildings Energy Strategy
- Public Complaints
- Sustainability Reporting
- Financial Performance
- Account Payment Performance.

CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS

The SAAL NRM Board did not enter into any contractual arrangements during this reporting period.

FRAUD

It is declared there were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the SAAL NRM Board in this reporting period. Financial services are provided to the Board by DEWNR. Strategies to detect instances of fraud are reported in the DEWNR Annual Report 2015-16.

CONSULTANTS

The SAAL NRM Board did not engage any consultants in this reporting period.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

It is declared that no member of the SAAL NRM Board has travelled overseas on Board business during this reporting period.

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT IN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

The SAAL NRM Board does not own any buildings and is therefore not required to develop an asbestos risk reduction program.

URBAN DESIGN CHARTER

No events occurred in 2015-16 that required the SAAL NRM Board to consider the principles of urban design contained in the South Australian Urban Design Charter.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – INFORMATION STATEMENTS

As a DEWNR administered entity, the South Australian Arid Lands NRM Board participates and abides by the arrangements outlined in the DEWNR Freedom of Information regime.

PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of the Board to ensure it complies with the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*. The Regional Manager is the designated Freedom of Information Officer for the South Australian Arid Lands NRM Board.

Documents available free of charge:

The following documents are available by contacting the Board on 08 8648 5300:

- Brochures and Fact Sheets
- Policy documents
- Management Plans
- Meeting Minutes

Effect of Board Functions on members of the public

The Board is committed to undertaking extensive public consultation prior to the formulation of any major policies relating to the Board's functions. Any Board policy may be viewed by contacting the Board's offices between 9:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays). Instructions on how to make an application under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* can also be obtained from the Board's offices.

Information Summary

The types of documents held by the South Australian Arid Lands NRM Board include:

- Administration files
- Tender and Contract information
- Policy Documents and Procedure Manuals
- Research Reports and Publications
- Brochures, Fact Sheets, Newsletters, Photos and Posters.

Accessing Documents

Access to documents of requests for information under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* is via the Freedom of Information Officer.

Contact Officer

The Regional Director is the Board's designated Principal Officer for Freedom of Information purposes. Freedom of Information requests should be addressed to:

Freedom of Information Officer

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board

PO Box 78

PORT AUGUSTA SA 5700

WHISTLEBLOWERS PROTECTION ACT 1993

Reporting requirements against *the Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* require the SAAL NRM Board to report on the number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a Responsible Officer of the agency. There were no disclosures made during the 2015-16 financial year.

REGIONAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STATEMENTS

The SAAL NRM Board undertook a Social and Economic Impact Assessment (Econsearch Pty Ltd, 2015) to consider the impacts of the NRM levies on people and businesses in the SAAL region.

GLOSSARY

CFOC	Caring For Our Country
DEWNR	Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources
DPTI	Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure
EPBC	Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation
FNPWA	Far Northern Prescribed Wells Area
GAB	Great Artesian Basin
LAP	Landscape Action Planning
LEBCAC	Lake Eyre Basin Community Advisory Committee
NLP	National Landcare Program
NRM	Natural Resources Management
PIRSA	Primary Industries and Regions SA
SAAL NRM	South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management
SEB	Significant Environmental Benefit



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To the Presiding Member
South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resource Management Board

As required by section 31(1)(b) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and section 37(2) of the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, I have audited the accompanying financial report of the South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resource Management Board for the financial year ended 30 June 2016. The financial report comprises:

- a Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2016
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2016
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2016
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2016
- Disaggregated Disclosures - Expenses and Income for the year ended 30 June 2016
- notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the Presiding Member, the Regional Manager and the Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources.

The Board's responsibility for the financial report

The members of the Board are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as members of the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Auditing Standards. The auditing standards require that the auditor comply with relevant ethical requirements and that the auditor plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error.

In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the members of the Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

My report refers only to the financial statements described above and does not provide assurance over the integrity of publication of the financial report on the South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resource Management Board website nor does it provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these statements.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resource Management Board as at 30 June 2016, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Accounting Standards.



Andrew Richardson

Auditor-General

22 November 2016

**South Australian Arid Lands Natural
Resources Management Board**

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2016

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board Certification of the Financial Statements

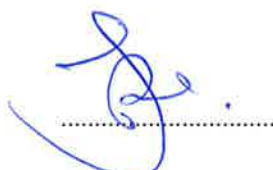
We certify that the attached general purpose financial statements for the South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board:

- comply with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under Section 41 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, and relevant Australian Accounting Standards;
- are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Board; and
- present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board as at 30 June 2016 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.

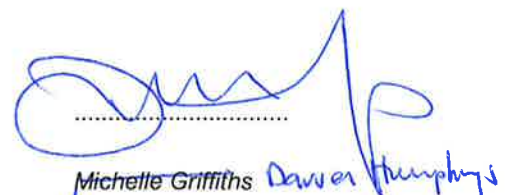
We certify that the internal controls employed by the Board for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of the general purpose financial statements have been effective throughout the reporting period.



Janet Crommelin-Brook
Presiding Member
South Australian Arid Lands Natural
Resources Management Board
17/11/2016



Stuart Paul
Regional Manager
South Australian Arid Lands Natural
Resources Management Board
17/11/2016



Michelle Griffiths Dawson Humphreys
Chief Financial Officer
Department of Environment,
Water and Natural Resources
17/11/2016

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Statement of Comprehensive Income
for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Note	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Expenses			
Supplies and services	5	5 423	5 640
Other	6	39	203
Grants and subsidies	7	53	260
Depreciation	8	5	3
Board, group and committee		90	91
Total expenses		5 610	6 197
Income			
Regional NRM and Water Levies	9	1 119	1 140
Interest	10	37	41
Grants	11	4 102	4 602
Other	12	47	69
Total income		5 305	5 852
Net result		(305)	(345)
Total comprehensive result		(305)	(345)

The net result and total comprehensive result are attributable to the SA Government as owner

The above statement should be read in conjunction with accompanying notes

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2016

	Note	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	13	1 529	1 984
Receivables	14	58	113
Total current assets		1 587	2 097
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	15	21	26
Total non-current assets		21	26
Total assets		1 608	2 123
Current liabilities			
Payables	16	526	736
Total current liabilities		526	736
Total liabilities		526	736
Net assets		1 082	1 387
Equity			
Retained earnings		1 082	1 387
Total equity		1 082	1 387

The total equity is attributable to the SA Government as owner.

Unrecognised contractual commitments	17
Contingent liabilities	18

The above statement should be read in conjunction with accompanying notes

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Statement of Changes in Equity
for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Retained Earnings \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance at 30 June 2014	1 732	1 732
Net result for 2014-15	(345)	(345)
Total comprehensive result for 2014-15	(345)	(345)
Balance at 30 June 2015	1 387	1 387
Net result for 2015-16	(305)	(305)
Total comprehensive result for 2015-16	(305)	(305)
Balance at 30 June 2016	1 082	1 082

All changes in equity are attributable to the SA Government as owner

The above statement should be read in conjunction with accompanying notes

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Note	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash outflows			
Board member payments		(90)	(91)
Payments for supplies and services		(5 635)	(5 679)
Payments of grants and subsidies		(53)	(260)
Other payments		(39)	(203)
Cash used in operations		(5 817)	(6 233)
Cash inflows			
Grant and levy receipts		5 278	5 730
Interest received		37	44
Other receipts		47	69
Cash generated from operations		5 362	5 843
Net cash (used in) by operating activities		(455)	(390)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Cash outflows			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-	(11)
Total cash (used in) investing activities		-	(11)
Net cash (used in) by investing activities		-	(11)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(455)	(401)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July		1 984	2 385
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June	13	1 529	1 984

The above statement should be read in conjunction with accompanying notes

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

	National program implementation - CFOC		Dingo management		Catchment water management		Allocating water and maintaining springs	
	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Expenses								
Supplies and services	2 429	3 414	548	382	422	332	-	2
Other	22	67	6	5	2	3	-	-
Grants and subsidies	46	125	4	35	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Board, group and committee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenses	2 497	3 606	558	422	424	335	-	2
Income								
Regional NRM & Water Levies	-	-	-	-	242	373	-	-
Interest	7	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	2 484	3 280	665	402	-	-	-	-
Other	5	25	12	15	-	-	-	-
Total income	2 496	3 310	677	417	242	373	-	-
Net result	(1)	(296)	119	(5)	(182)	38	-	(2)

	NRM regional plan		District group projects and operations		Regional governance		TOTAL	
	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Expenses								
Supplies and services	148	137	521	153	1 355	1 220	5 423	5 640
Other	1	2	4	115	4	11	39	203
Grants and subsidies	-	-	-	100	3	-	53	260
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	5	3	5	3
Board, group and committee	-	-	15	27	75	64	90	91
Total expenses	149	139	540	395	1 442	1 298	5 610	6 197
Income								
Regional NRM & Water Levies	102	165	197	80	578	522	1 119	1 140
Interest	-	-	-	-	30	36	37	41
Grants	50	50	240	112	663	758	4 102	4 602
Other	-	-	19	1	11	28	47	69
Total income	152	215	456	193	1 282	1 344	5 305	5 852
Net result	3	76	(84)	(202)	(160)	46	(305)	(345)

The Board has determined that assets and liabilities cannot be reliably attributed to individual activities.

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

1 Board objectives

(a) Establishment of the Board

The South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board (the Board) was established pursuant to the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* (the NRM Act) on 9 December 2004. The Board is a body corporate.

(b) Board objectives

The objectives of the Board are to undertake an active role with respect to the management of natural resources within its region, to prepare and implement a Regional Natural Resources Management Plan and review that Plan to ensure that the objectives of the NRM Act are being achieved.

The South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board Regional NRM Plan was adopted by the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation on 25 May 2010. The Plan contains two volumes. Volume One is the ten year strategic plan and details the resource condition targets which provide the direction for the Board's programs and activities. Volume Two is the annual Business Plan which articulates the Board's forward planned revenue and expenditure for the following three financial years.

The Business plan for the period 2014/15 to 2016/17 was approved on 21 January 2014 by the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation.

In addition, the Board promotes public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its region, undertakes and supports educational initiatives with respect to natural resources management and provides mechanisms to increase the capacity of people to implement programs or to take other steps to improve the management of natural resources.

The Board provides advice on any matter relevant to the condition or management of natural resources within its region and can conduct any inquiry or audit with regard to those natural resources.

The principal source of funds for the Board during the 2015-16 year was grant funding.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with Section 23 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*.

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (Reduced Disclosure Requirements) and comply with Treasurer's Instructions and Accounting Policy Statements promulgated under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*.

The Board has applied Australian Accounting Standards that are applicable to not-for-profit entities, as the Board is a not for profit entity.

(b) Basis of preparation

The preparation of the financial statements requires:

- The use of certain accounting estimates and requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Board's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are outlined in the applicable notes.
- The selection and application of accounting policies in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events are reported.

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

2 (b) Basis of preparation (continued)

- Compliance with accounting policy statements issued pursuant to Section 41 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*. In the interest of public accountability and transparency the accounting policy statements require the following note disclosures, which have been included in this financial report:
 - (a) expenses incurred as a result of engaging consultants
 - (b) board/committee member and remuneration information, where a board/committee member is entitled to receive income from membership other than a direct out-of-pocket reimbursement.

The Board's Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Changes in Equity have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with historical cost convention.

The Statement of Cash Flows has been prepared on a cash basis.

The financial statements have been prepared based on a 12 month period and presented in Australian currency.

The accounting policies set out below have been applied in preparing the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2016 and the comparative information presented.

(c) Reporting entity

The Board is a corporate body of the State of South Australia, established pursuant to the NRM Act.

The Board operates under a Natural Resources Management Plan (NRM Plan) which was adopted by the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation on 25 May 2010.

The Board's financial statements include the use of income, expenses, assets and liabilities controlled or incurred by the Board in its own right.

On 16 April 2012, the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation, pursuant to sub-section 24(3) of the *NRM Act*, directed the Board to:

- use the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources to provide the Board's business support and NRM services to the region
- enter into an agreement for these services
- fund the services and projects set out in the agreement.

The Board entered into an annual Service Level Agreement during 2015-16 which includes the delivery of support services to the Board to ensure it is able to meet its statutory requirements under the NRM Act and an annual work plan for the delivery of the Board's Business Plan. This agreement details the services, projects and funds to deliver the annual work plan. This SLA is reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

In accordance with notice published in the Government Gazette on 21 June 2012, all Board staff were transferred from employment under the *NRM Act* to the *Public Sector Act 2009*. This was effective from 1 July 2012 at which date staff were brought into the administrative unit of DEWNR. As a consequence,

- DEWNR assumed responsibility for the staff previously employed under the *NRM Act* by the Board.
- All staff are now employed by the Chief Executive, DEWNR under the *Public Sector Act 2009*.
- DEWNR is responsible for the management, supervision, liability, Work Health and Safety and human resources management of the staff that will undertake services under the Service Level Agreement (SLA).
- Staff undertaking services on behalf of the Board will be assigned to the Board under the *NRM Act*.
- The payment for staff salaries will be recharged to the Board under a Fee for Service Arrangement.

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

2 (c) Reporting entity (continued)

NRM Groups

The Board has established six NRM Groups to operate within its region. The function of the NRM Groups is defined by the NRM Act, (section 52) and the NRM Group Charter. The Act provides that the NRM Groups are subject to the direction of the Board (section 47). In accordance with a direction issued by the Board and the NRM Groups' Charter the NRM Groups do not have the power to enter into contracts or procure goods or services in their own right. The Board has ensured that proper accounts have been kept of the NRM Group's activities and the related financial information has been incorporated in the accounts and financial statements of the Board for financial reporting purposes.

The financial statement includes the figures for the NRM Groups being: Gawler Ranges, Kingoonya, Marla-Oodnadatta, Marree-Innamincka, North East Pastoral and North Flinders. Due to their immateriality they are not separately disclosed in this financial report.

(d) Comparative information

The presentation and classification of items in the financial statements are consistent with prior periods except where specific accounting standards and/or accounting policy statements have required a change.

Where presentation or classification of items in the financial statements have been amended, comparative amounts have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation or classification in these financial statements unless impracticable.

The restated comparative amounts do not replace the original financial statements for the preceding period.

(e) Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements and accompanying notes have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

(f) Taxation

The Board is not subject to income tax. The Board is liable for fringe benefits tax and emergency services levy.

DEWNR prepares a Business Activity Statement on behalf of the Board under the grouping provisions of the GST legislation. Under these provisions, DEWNR is liable for the payments and entitled to the receipts associated with GST.

Unrecognised contractual commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Australian Taxation Office. If GST is not payable to, or recoverable from, the Australian Taxation Office, the commitments and contingencies are disclosed on a gross basis.

(g) Events after the end of the reporting period

Adjustments are made to amounts recognised in the financial statements, where an event occurs after 30 June and before the date the financial statements are authorised for issue, where those events provide information about conditions that existed at 30 June.

Note disclosure is made about events between 30 June and the date the financial statements are authorised for issue where the events relate to a condition which arose after 30 June and which may have a material impact on the results of subsequent years.

(h) Income

Income is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the flow of economic benefits to the Board will occur and can be reliably measured.

Income has been aggregated according to its nature and has not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

2 (h) Income (continued)

The following are specific recognition criteria:

Grants received

Grants are recognised as an asset and income when the Board obtains control of the grants or obtains the right to receive the grants and the income recognition criteria are met (i.e. the amount can be reliably measured and the flow of resources is probable).

Generally, the Board has obtained control or the right to receive for:

- grants with unconditional stipulations - this will be when the agreement becomes enforceable i.e. the earlier of when the receiving entity has formally been advised that the grant (e.g. grant application) has been approved; agreement/contract is executed; and/or the grants is received
- grants with conditional stipulations - this will be when the enforceable stipulations specified in the agreement occur or are satisfied; that is income would be recognised for grants received or receivable under the agreement.

All grants received by the Board have been grants with unconditional stipulations attached and have been recognised as an asset and income upon receipt.

Commonwealth Funding - Caring for Our Country/National Landcare Program

In September 2013, the Board entered into an agreement with the State, for the continued implementation of the Caring for Our Country program. This funding spans five financial years - 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2018, and covers two broad areas: Sustainable Environment and Agriculture.

The goal of Caring for Our Country is an environment that is healthy, better protected, well managed, resilient and provides essential ecosystem services in a changing climate. Caring for Our Country has six National Priority Areas for Investment.

Under the Agreement to reflect the intent of the Commonwealth, the State and the Board work together as partners with the community and other stakeholders, in natural resource management for the Region. Pursuant to that commitment the Commonwealth agreed to fund programs undertaken by the Board.

During 2014-15 the Caring for our Country funding stream ceased and was replaced by the National Landcare Program (NLP). On 2 June 2015, the Board entered into an agreement for the implementation of the NLP, which continues the work commenced under the Caring for our Country program. This funding spans the period - 1 January 2015 to 30 June 2018.

Regional NRM and Water Levies

The Board collects Land NRM Levies through District Councils at Roxby Downs and Cooper Pedy and through DEWNR (for areas outside of council boundaries). Water Levies are received through DEWNR towards the costs of the Board performing its functions under the NRM Act. This income is recognised as an asset and income when the Board obtains control of the contribution, or obtains the right to receive the funds.

Interest revenues

Interest income is recognised when earned.

(i) Expenses

Expenses are recognised to the extent that it is probable that the flow of economic benefits from the Board will occur and can be reliably measured.

Expenses have been aggregated according to their nature and have not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

2 (i) Expenses (continued)

The following are specific recognition criteria:

Board member expenses

Board member expenses include all Board fees and related on-costs including superannuation. These are recognised when incurred.

Superannuation

The amount charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income represents the contributions made by the Board to the superannuation plan in respect of current services of current Board members. The Department of Treasury and Finance centrally recognises the superannuation liability in the whole of government financial statements.

Depreciation

All non-current assets, having a limited useful life, are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their service potential.

Assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed and adjusted if appropriate, on an annual basis.

Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for prospectively by changing the time period or method, as appropriate, which is a change in accounting estimate.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis over the estimated useful life of the following classes of assets as follows:

Class of asset	Useful life (years)
Plant and equipment	5-10
Furniture and furnishings	10
Vehicles	10

Grants and subsidies

For contributions payable, the contribution will be recognised as a liability and expense when the Board has a present obligation to pay the contribution and the expense recognition criteria are met.

All contributions paid by the Board have been contributions with unconditional stipulations attached.

(j) Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities are characterised as either current or non-current in nature. Assets and liabilities that are to be sold, consumed or realised as part of the normal operating cycle even when they are not expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting date have been classified as current assets or current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

(k) Assets

Assets have been classified according to their nature and have not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position includes cash at bank and on hand and in other short-term, highly liquid investments with maturities of 3 months or less that are readily converted to cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

Cash is measured at nominal value.

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

2 (k) Assets (continued)

Receivables

Receivables include amounts receivable from goods and services and other accruals.

Receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other government agencies and to the public. Receivables are generally settled within 30 days after the issue of an invoice or the goods/services have been provided under a contractual arrangement.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. An allowance for doubtful debts is raised when there is objective evidence that the Board will not be able to collect the debt. Bad debts are written off when identified.

The Board has determined that there is currently no need for an allowance for doubtful debts.

Non-current assets

Acquisition and recognition

Non-current assets are initially recorded at cost or at the value of any liabilities assumed, plus any incidental cost involved with the acquisition. Non-current assets are subsequently measured at fair value after allowing for accumulated depreciation.

All non-current tangible assets with a value equal to or in excess of \$10 000 are capitalised.

Revaluation of non-current assets

All non-current tangible assets are valued at fair value and revaluation of non-current assets or group of assets is only performed when its fair value at the time of acquisition is greater than \$1 million and estimated useful life is greater than 3 years.

As the Board does not hold assets that meet this criteria assets have not been revalued.

Impairment

All non-current tangible and non-tangible assets are tested for indication of impairment at each reporting date. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. The recoverable amount is determined as the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and depreciated replacement cost. An amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss.

Fair value measurement - Non-financial assets

In determining fair value, the Board has taken into account the characteristic of the asset (e.g. condition and location of the asset and any restrictions on the sale or use of the asset) and the asset's highest and best use (i.e. physically possible, legally permissible, financially feasible).

The Board's current use is the highest and best use of the assets unless other factors suggest an alternative use is feasible. As the Board did not identify any factors to suggest an alternative use, fair value measurement was based on current use.

The carrying amount of non-financial assets with a fair value at the time of acquisition that was less than \$1 million or had an estimated useful life that was less than three years are deemed to approximate fair value.

(l) Liabilities

Liabilities have been classified according to their nature and have not been offset unless required or permitted by a specific accounting standard, or where offsetting reflects the substance of the transaction or other event.

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

2 (l) Liabilities (continued)

Payables

Payables include creditors, accrued expenses and Board member remuneration on-costs.

Creditors represent the amounts owing for goods and services received prior to the end of the reporting period that are unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Creditors include all unpaid invoices received relating to the normal operations of the Board.

Accrued expenses represent goods and services provided by other parties during the period that are unpaid at the end of the reporting period and where an invoice has not been received.

All payables are measured at their nominal amount, are unsecured and are normally settled within 30 days from the date of the invoice or the date the invoice is first received.

(m) Leases

The determination of whether an arrangement is or contains a lease is based on the substance of the arrangement. The Board has entered into operating leases for office accommodation and storage facilities.

Operating Leases

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The straight-line basis is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

(n) Staff benefits

Services to the Board are provided by personnel employed by DEWNR, hence no employee benefits or related provisions are included in the Board's financial statements. Employee benefits relating to relevant employees are reflected in the financial statements of DEWNR.

(o) Insurance

The Board has arranged, through SA Government Captive Insurance Corporation (SAICORP), to insure all of its major risks. The excess payable under this arrangement is \$20 000 per claim.

(p) Unrecognised contractual commitments and contingent assets and liabilities

Commitments include operating, capital and outsourcing arrangements arising from contractual or statutory sources and are disclosed at their nominal value.

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value.

3 New and revised accounting standards and policies

The Board did not voluntarily change any of its accounting policies during 2015-16.

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

4 Activities of the Board

In achieving its objectives the Board provides a range of services classified into the following activities:

Activity 1: National program implementation - Australian Government (Caring for our Country/National Landcare Program, Biodiversity Fund)

Integrating engagement with priority on-ground actions for a range of natural resource assets to provide multiple benefits including aquatic ecosystem management, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable production:

- improving land management practices
- improving knowledge and skills of land managers
- increasing community knowledge, skills and participation
- develop and implement resource condition monitoring programs
- engagement of indigenous communities and incorporation of traditional knowledge into plans
- implement the MERI (Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting, Improvement) framework as part of adaptive management
- increasing native habitat and reducing pest flora and fauna impacts.

Activity 2: Dingo management

Addressing management of dingos south of the dog fence and buffer zone north of the dog fence, improving landholder capacity to effectively control dingos

Activity 3: Catchment water management

Addressing key management action targets specifically about water resource management:

- develop an understanding of ecosystem values process and functions
- identify hydrological drivers of a healthy aquatic ecosystem
- incorporation of community and stakeholder values and knowledge into management plans.

Activity 4: Allocating water and maintaining springs in the Greater Artesian Basin (GAB)

Investigating major surface and ground water quantity and quality issues including resource assessment and management for the GAB:

- collect information relating to diffuse and point discharge for water resource planning add to the current information on surface and groundwater resources
- conceptual model report on spring behaviour.

Activity 5: NRM regional plan

Preparation, consultation and printing of the NRM Regional Plan.

Activity 6: District Group projects and operations

Work in partnership with government, business and the community to build knowledge, inform and improve decision making, influence behaviour throughout the community to conserve, protect and sustainably manage the regions natural resources:

- support NRM training programs
- assist district groups to undertake NRM activities
- build networks to assist in NRM activities
- boards contribution to drought assistance for affected landholders.

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

4 Activities of the Board (continued)

Activity 7: Regional governance

Addressing organisational goals to become a credible, efficient and effective organisation that supports its staff and is responsive to the community:

- build and maintain a work environment that is conducive to high staff and organisational performance and growth
- develop and communicate the strategic directions of the Board.

The disaggregated disclosures schedule present expenses and income to each of the activities for the year ended 30 June 2016 and year ended 30 June 2015.

5 Supplies and services

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Travel and accommodation	118	184
Contractors	12	15
Fee for service	4 637	4 547
Minor works, maintenance and equipment	162	229
Vehicles and aircraft	177	188
Transport	8	10
General administration	80	189
Monitoring	-	5
Information technology and communication	50	56
Accommodation and property management	67	82
Staff development	45	37
Other supplies and services	67	98
Total supplies and services	5 423	5 640

6 Other expenses

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Audit fees paid/payable to the Auditor-General's Department	39	50
Unexpended grants returned	-	153
Total other expenses	39	203

No other services were provided by the Auditor-General's Department.

7 Grants and subsidies

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Desert Jewels	-	83
Pest management	-	35
Sustainable land management	18	42
Sundry grants	35	100
Total grants and subsidies	53	260

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

8 Depreciation expense

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Plant and equipment	3	1
Vehicles	1	1
Furniture	1	1
Total depreciation expense	5	3

9 Regional NRM and water levies

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Regional NRM and Water levies collected through other entities	1 119	1 140
Total Regional NRM and Water Levies	1 119	1 140

10 Interest revenues

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Interest revenues from entities within the SA Government	37	41
Total interest revenues	37	41

11 Grant revenues

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Commonwealth Funding		
National Landcare Program*	462	640
Clean Energy Future	696	982
Total Commonwealth funding	1 158	1 622
Grant revenues from SA Government		
National Landcare Program received through DEWNR*	1 326	1 659
State Government recurrent funding	953	920
Other State Government funding	390	101
Total grant revenues from SA Government	2 669	2 680
Other grant revenues		
Sundry grants	275	300
Total other grant revenues	275	300
Total grants revenue	4 102	4 602

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

Note 11 Grant revenues (continued)

***National Landcare Program - consists of the following components:**

Desert Jewels	226	353
Ranges Riches - Flinders Olary	236	287
Sustainable environment stream - Capacity Building	-	347
Sustainable environment stream - Onground Action	-	350
South Australian Arid Lands Regional Investments: 2013-18 Agriculture	-	299
South Australian Arid Lands - National Landcare Programme Regional Investment 2015-2018	1 326	663
Total National Landcare Program Funding	1 788	2 299

12 Other revenues

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Sale of goods	39	44
Support Services	4	8
Other revenue	4	17
Total other income	47	69

13 Cash and cash equivalents

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Deposits with the Treasurer	1 529	1 984
Total cash and cash equivalents	1 529	1 984

Deposits at call and with the Treasurer earn a floating interest rate, based on daily bank deposit rates

The carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents represents fair value.

14 Receivables

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Receivables	48	105
Accrued interest	3	3
Prepayments	7	5
Total current receivables	58	113

The Board has not recognised a bad or doubtful debts expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

15 Property, plant and equipment

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Plant and equipment		
At cost (deemed fair value)	119	119
Less accumulated depreciation	(104)	(101)
Total plant and equipment	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>
Furniture		
At cost (deemed fair value)	15	14
Less accumulated depreciation	(11)	(10)
Total furniture	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
Vehicles		
At cost (deemed fair value)	11	11
Less accumulated depreciation	(9)	(7)
Total vehicles	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
Total property, plant and equipment	<u>21</u>	<u>26</u>

Carrying amount of property, plant and equipment

Impairment

There were no indications of impairment of property, plant and equipment as at 30 June 2016.

Reconciliation of non-current assets

The following table shows the movement of non-current assets during 2015-16:

	Plant and equipment	Furniture	Vehicles	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	18	4	4	26
Depreciation expense	(3)	(1)	(1)	(5)
Carrying amount at 30 June	<u>15</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>21</u>

16 Payables

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Creditors	429	652
Accrued expenses	97	84
Total current payables	<u>526</u>	<u>736</u>

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

17 Unrecognised contractual commitments

Operating lease commitments

Commitments in relation to operating leases contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Within one year	34	41
Total operating lease commitments	34	41

Operating lease commitments comprise the following:

The Board's operating leases are for office accommodation and storage facilities. Office accommodation is leased from the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure. The leases are non-cancellable with rights of renewal attached. Rental is payable in advance.

Expenditure commitments

The Board's expenditure contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

	2016	2015
	\$'000	\$'000
Not later than one year	683	522
Total expenditure commitments	683	522

The Board's commitments are non-cancellable contracts relating to grants payments or services.

18 Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

The Board is not aware of the existence of any contingent assets or liabilities.

19 Remuneration of board and committee members

The following members of the Board served during the course of the reporting period:

Barratt R R	Nutt L S
Bell D W (retired 13/04/16)	Pridham M (appointed 14/04/16)
Couthard G M * (appointed 14/04/16)	Sawers R B
Crommelin-Brook J M	Sutton M R *
Hollingsworth C	Tyler M H

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

19 Remuneration of board, group and committee members (continued)

Gawler Ranges NRM Group

Anderson J M (retired 30/06/16)
Greenfield K (appointed 08/06/16)
Johnston G R
Lee J V (retired 05/11/15)
Morris A (retired 28/03/16)
Starkey M J * (retired 01/04/16)
Venables J W

Kingoonya NRM Group

Chuk M
Harris J F (retired 17/03/16)
Hulmes K M (retired 07/04/16)
Noll G I (retired 12/02/16)
McRae B A (retired 26/02/16)
Larkin C (retired 26/02/16)
Williams A A
Barry J (appointed 01/05/16)
Kerin M J (appointed 01/05/16)
Lyons S (appointed 01/05/16)
Matheson I (appointed 01/05/16)
Richards J (appointed 01/05/16)

Marree-Innaminka NRM Group

Nankivell A (appointed 01/05/16)
Ogilvy R P
Rieck G C
Fuschtei V T N
Ah Chee A
McKenzie-Warren B

North East Pastoral NRM Group

Norris G B (retired 09/11/15)
Coulthard T C
Williams R J (appointed 31/07/16)
Heness K (retired 29/06/16)
Rasheed N S (appointed 09/11/15)
Dermer A (appointed 09/11/15)
Treloar S (appointed 08/06/16)

Northern Flinders NRM Group

Aird G J
Ferguson I C
McKenzie I C
Slade K L
Robbins D
Bevin B L
Blackmore C M

Marla-Oodnadatta NRM Group

Fennell M A
Jones C S (retired 25/05/15)
Lillecrapp D G (retired 25/03/16)
Thomas C
Watts P R P (retired 08/06/16)
Kowald J M
Williams J R *
Lumb F (appointed 01/05/16)
Taysom A (appointed 01/05/16)

* Denotes government employees

South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board
Notes to and forming part of the financial statements
for the period ended 30 June 2016

19 Remuneration of board, group and committee members (continued)

The number of members whose remuneration received or receivable falls within the following bands:

	2016	2015
	Number of	Number of
	Members	Members
The number of members whose remuneration received or receivable falls within the following bands:		
\$1 - \$9 999	27	26
\$20 000 - \$29 999	-	1
\$30 000 - \$39 999	1	-
Total number of board, group and committee members	28	27

Remuneration of members reflects all costs of performing board/committee member duties including sitting fees, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits and fringe benefits, and any fringe benefits tax paid or payable in respect of those benefits. The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$53 000 (2015: \$53 000).

For the purposes of this table, travel allowances and other out-of-pocket expenses paid to members, and employment on-costs have not been included as remuneration as it is considered to be reimbursement of direct out-of-pocket expenses incurred by relevant members, or form other costs of employment. These expenses amount to \$37 000 (2015: \$38 000).

* In accordance with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet's Circular Number PC016 *Remuneration for Government Appointment Part Time Boards and Committees*, government employees did not receive any remuneration for board/committee duties during the financial year. The exception being Ms Glenise Coulthard (SAAL Board), who was granted an exemption by the Chief Executive of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

Unless otherwise disclosed, transactions between members and the Board are on conditions no more favourable than those that it is reasonable to expect the Board would have adopted if dealing with the related party at arm's length in the same circumstances.

20 Financial risk management/financial instruments

Financial risk management

Risk management is managed by the Board's corporate services section and Board risk management policies are in accordance with the *Risk Management Policy Statement* issued by the Premier and Treasurer and the principles established in the Australian Standard *Risk Management Principles and Guidelines*.

The Board's exposure to financial risk (liquidity, credit and market) is insignificant based on past experience and current assessment of risk.

The Board is funded principally from Regional NRM and water levies and contributions from Commonwealth government and State government agencies toward various activities of the Board.

There have been no changes in risk exposure since the last reporting

Categorisation of financial information

Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement, and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised with respect to each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument are disclosed in note 2.

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20 Financial risk management/financial instruments (continued)

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and liabilities: receivables and payables measured at cost are detailed below.

	Note	2016 Carrying amount / Fair value \$'000	2015 Carrying amount / Fair value \$'000
Financial assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	13	1 529	1 984
Receivables ^{(1) (2)}	14	51	84
Total financial assets		1 580	2 068
Financial liabilities			
Financial liabilities at cost			
Payables ⁽¹⁾	16	481	685
Total financial liabilities		481	685

⁽¹⁾ Receivable and payable amounts disclosed here exclude amounts relating to statutory receivables and payables (e.g. Commonwealth, State and Local Government taxes, fees and charges; Auditor-General's Department audit fees). In government, certain rights to receive or pay cash may not be contractual and therefore in these situations, the requirements will not apply. Where rights or obligations have their source in legislation such as levies, tax and equivalents etc they would be excluded from the disclosure. The standard defines contract as enforceable by law. All amounts recorded are carried at cost (not materially different from amortised cost).

⁽²⁾ Receivables amount disclosed here excludes prepayments. Prepayments are presented in note 14 as prepayments in accordance with paragraph 78(b) of AASB 101. However, prepayments are not financial assets as defined in AASB 132 as the future economic benefit of these assets is the receipt of goods and services rather than the right to receive cash or another financial asset.

21 Events after the reporting period

There were no events occurring after the end of the reporting period that have material financial implications on these financial statements.