

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS LANDSCAPE BOARD 2020-21 Annual Report

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ARID LANDS LANDSCAPE BOARD Railway Station Building off Stirling Rd (PO Box 297) PORT AUGUSTA SA 5700 https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal/home

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To: The Hon David Speirs MP Minister for Environment and Water

This annual report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 and Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020 and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC013 Annual Reporting.

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board by:

Ross Sawers Presiding Member

Date 26 November 2021

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From the Presiding Member

This report covers the first full year of operation of the South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board in its purpose to improve and sustain the natural resources in the South Australian Arid Lands Region under the Landscape South Australia 2019 Act.

During 2020-21 board members underwent an intensive induction program; held facilitated workshops to determine their risk management strategy, and the development of a performance excellence and self-evaluation process.

The Board developed its inaugural five year regional landscape plan in partnership with community and stakeholders, as well as its first annual Business Plan.

The Board has successfully established key partnerships within the community, which now includes the Port Augusta City and Flinders Ranges Councils with the development of the new board sub-committee, the Port Augusta-Quorn Landscape Group. It works in close alignment with other landscape boards, industry and the key stakeholders for the South Australian Arid Lands Region.

Ross Sawers **Presiding Member** South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board

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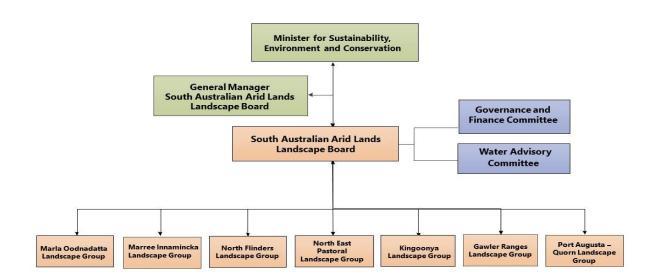
Overview: about the agency

Our strategic focus

Our Purpose	The South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board was established on 9 January 2020 under the provisions of the <i>Landscape South Australia Act 2019</i> . The Board undertakes an active role in managing South Australia's landscapes through the preparation and implementation of a regional landscape plan which is the principal document guiding the management of the state's landscape in the South Australian Arid Lands Region.
Our Vision	Leading the way to biodiverse and productive landscapes in a changing climate.
Our Values	The South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board values the ongoing input, influence and guidance of First Nations People as the cultural authority of the South Australian Arid Lands Region, alongside the communities and industries responsible for sustainable land management, protection and prosperity of the region.
Our Functions, Objectives and	The Board's objective is to protect the intrinsic value of the landscape and natural resources of the SA Arid Lands region whilst supporting the interests of Aboriginal peoples, primary production, industry and resilient communities.
Deliverables	The Board seeks to provide protection, enhancement, restoration and sustainable management of the land, soil and water resources, biodiversity, and the native fauna and flora in the SA Arid Lands region.
	The Board recognises that climate change is a significant factor in our environment that requires mitigation and adaptation; and 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 and primary production or the community.
	The Board provides educational initiatives and support mechanisms to strengthen the skills, knowledge and capacity of people to sustainably manage natural resources; and supports initiatives and action to facilitate the increased capacity of people to engage in processes under the <i>Landscape South Australia Act 2019</i> , including through the provision of information relevant to the protection, enhancement or management of the landscape.
	Where appropriate the Board will seek to partner with the other landscape boards and relevant stakeholders to deliver on the objectives of its regional landscape plan.

Our organisational structure

Section 15 of the *Landscape SA Act 2019* provides for the appointment of the Board. The Board comprises of at least five and not more than nine members all appointed by the Minister for Environment and Water. Each of the appointed members of the Board is a person who, in the opinion of the Minister, meets the requirements of section 16 of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*. For profiles on current Board members refer to <u>https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/saal/about-us/our-board/meet-our-members</u>



Board Membership

Members of the South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board during 2020-21:

- Ross Sawers (Presiding Member)
- Timothy Flowers
- Douglas Lillecrapp
- Ellen Litchfield
- Scott Michael
- Sanchia Treloar
- Kurt Tschirner

Sub-Committees of the Board

- Governance and Finance Committee
 - Kurt Tschirner (Chair)
 - o Ellen Litchfield
 - o Sanchia Treloar
- Water Advisory Committee
 - Ross Sawers (Chair)
 - o Timothy Flowers
 - Douglas Lillecrapp
 - o Ellen Litchfield

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Meetings of the Board: general and special

Six scheduled meetings and three special meetings were held by the Board during the 2020-21 financial year. The table below details Board members non-attendance at a meeting and the reason why.

Board member	No. of meetings not attended	Reason provided
Ross Sawers	1	Interstate (WA)
Timothy Flowers	1	Conflicting commitments
Douglas Lillecrapp	0	N/A
Ellen Litchfield	1	Conflicting commitments
Scott Michael	3	Conflicting commitments
Sanchia Treloar	2	Clash with RFDS Board meetings (2)
Kurt Tschirner	0	N/A

Changes to the Board

During 2020-21 the only change to the Board's structure as a result of machinery of government changes was the transfer of employment of business service staff to the General Manager which was effective from 12 April 2020.

Our Minister

The South Australian Landscape Board is a portfolio agency of the Minister for Environment and Water, the Hon David Speirs MP.

Our Executive team

The South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board does not employ staff as per section 35 of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*. Those staff who undertake the work of the Board are employed through the General Manager as the employing authority.

Legislation administered by the agency

Landscape South Australia Act 2019

Other related agencies (within the Minister's area/s of responsibility)

- Department for Environment and Water
- Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
- Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board
- Green Adelaide
- Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
- Kangaroo Island Landscape Board
- Limestone Coast Landscape Board
- Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board
- Northern and Yorke Landscape Board
- Environment Protection Authority
- Green Industries SA
- SA Water

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The Board's performance

Performance at a glance

The Board has made significant investments in land management, pest plant and animal control, water management, biodiversity conservation and community capacity building to deliver on the South Australian Arid Lands region's strategic goals. The Board has delivered a range of projects and activities to build the community's capacity to manage natural resources, address threats to landscape health, and improve the resilience of landscapes and the businesses they support.

Board contribution to whole of Government objectives

Key objective	Board's contribution
Resilient communities	Goal 1 People who have the capacity, commitment and connections to manage natural resources.
Sustainable economy	Goal 2 Diverse industries that innovate, adapt and support local economies within ecologically sustainable limits.
Vibrant biodiversity	Goal 3 Functioning, healthy environment with connected ecosystems that are understood, valued and protected.

Board specific objectives and performance

Board objectives	Indicators	Performance
 Land management Building pastoralists' capacity to adapt to changing climate and market demands 	 Land management projects Landholder capacity- building activities delivered National Landcare Program climate adaptation project 'Building Pastoral Sustainability' delivered and contractual requirements met. Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator contractual requirements met. 	 2 landholder grants for on-ground works 6 capacity building workshops on land management, animal nutrition and business strategy 2 field days hosted Property Management Planning undertaken with 6 properties Contractual requirements of 'Building Pastoral Sustainability' project met

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Board objectives	Indicators	Performance
 Pest plant/animal control Supporting landholders to undertake best practice, coordinated wild dog control Delivering landscapescale pest animal control (foxes, cats, pigs, large feral herbivores) Supporting landholders to carry out integrated weed management (focus on opuntia and Weeds of National Significance) 	 Implementation of Biteback (wild dog control) program (provision of baiting services, landholder participation, capacity building outcomes) Pest and weed control activities under National Landcare Program projects 'Coongie Wetlands Wonders' and 'Bounceback and Beyond' delivered and contractual requirements met Landholder engagement and participation in regional cactus control program Pest animal and plant compliance matters investigated 	 Annual targets met; 61 ground baiting injection services delivered; 159 participating properties; Aerial baiting undertaken across 102 properties in partnership with PIRSA Effective fox control delivered across 863,000 ha, goat control across 60,000 ha, and cat control across 60,000 ha Contractual requirements of 'Coongie Wetland Wonders' and 'Bounceback and Beyond' projects met 31 properties participating in cactus control program 12 releases of Cochineal biological cactus control agent
 Water management Ensuring the sustainable use of groundwater resources Improving our understanding of trends in the Great Artesian Basin (GAB) resource, system limits and impacts of resource use Adoption and implementation of the Far North Prescribed Wells Area Water Allocation Plan 	 Water Affecting Activities (WAA) enquiries and applications addressed Water Allocation Plan review and implementation Improving Great Artesian Basin Drought Resilience (IGABDR) project delivered Strategic adaptive management planning and partnership 	 Water Affecting Activities Control Policy adopted All enquiries and applications addressed Community consultation undertaken on Water Allocation Plan for the Great Artesian Basin; Plan adopted Unbundling of water licences achieved 294 Great Artesian Basin wells inspected across 40 properties.

Board objectives	Indicators	Performance
 Developing a strategic adaptive management plan for the Coongie Ramsar wetland, guiding on-ground actions 		 15 year Strategic Management Plan for the Great Artesian Basin launched
 Maintaining cross jurisdictional and cross border partnerships on the management of the GAB and Lake Eyre Basin 		
Biodiversity conservation		
 Managing threats to Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby and other threatened species in the Gawler, Flinders, Olary, and Gammon ranges 	 Implementation of threat mitigation works Native and pest species activity 	 Threats to Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby and other native species reduced through control of foxes goats and cats across the Gawler, Flinders, Olary and Gammon Ranges
 Managing threats to Coongie Ramsar wetland values 		 Threats from large feral herbivores reduced in the Coongie Ramsar area
 Monitoring ecosystem health and trends in threatened native plant 		 Improved understanding of pest threats in management areas
and animal populations in the Coongie Ramsar area and Bounceback and Beyond project area		 Improved understanding of ecosystem health and trends in threatened species populations, including Malleefowl, Western Quoll, and Flinders Ranges Purple- spotted Gudgeon
		 - New insurance populations of Flinders Ranges Purple-spotted Gudgeons established in the Flinders Ranges

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Board objectives	Indicators	Performance
 Board objectives Community capacity building: Building community capacity to manage natural resources through Landscape group support, and landholder extension and training Developing community through the delivery of local, on-ground projects such as Grassroots Grants, volunteer group support, and other 	 Indicators Community engaged in regional planning for the management of natural resources Landholder networks developed and supported Capacity building events delivered by Community Landscape Officers and Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator Grassroots grants delivered 	 6 Landscape districts supported, with a total of 29 meetings held New Port Augusta – Quorn Landscape Group established 39 land manager and community capacity building events delivered 15 Grassroots Grants delivered supporting local projects 5 volunteer groups supported, involving 63 volunteers, contributing
	– Volunteers supported	volunteers, contributing 3896 hours

Corporate performance summary

The Department for Environment and Water provided the corporate, governance and administrative support services to the South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board on a fee for service basis in accordance with a Services Level Agreement (SLA).

Employment opportunity programs

Program name	Performance
Nil	The South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board does not employ staff as per section 35 of the <i>Landscape South Australia</i> <i>Act 2019.</i> Staff who undertake the work of the Board are employed through the General Manager as the employing authority.

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Performance management and development system	Performance
Board Performance Report to Minister	Requirement met for reporting to the Minister the Board's priorities and achievements for 2020-21. Report was provided to the Minister 29 June 2021.
Australian Government Performance Framework	Quarterly and annual reporting requirements met for all Regional Land Partnership projects and Core Services. Quarterly assurance check of evidence for 'Bounceback & Beyond' project deemed satisfactory.
Board Presiding Member and Board members	The Board undertakes annual performance reviews, including evaluation of its effectiveness and governance responsibilities.
General Manager and staff	Twice yearly reviews are conducted for the General Manager and all staff. 96% of the Performance Development Reviews were completed by the General Manager and staff for the 2020-21 financial year (one new staff member commenced on 28/6/21).

Board performance management and development systems

Work health, safety and return to work programs

The South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board has adopted and implemented a range of safety policies and procedures to meet its requirements under the *Work Health and Safety Act (SA) 2012* and *Return to Work Act 2014* and meet whole of Government requirements.

A Work Health and Safety Committee has been established and during the reporting period has met on seven occasions. The Committee comprises of a management representative and staff from each business unit. Work Health and Safety minutes and activities are reported to the Board through the Governance and Finance Committee.

The Work Health and Safety policies and procedures adopted by the Board are applicable and implemented for any contractors undertaking work for the Board.

Program name	Performance		
The Board operates in accordance with the relevant safety policies and procedures adopted on 30 June 2020.			

Workplace injury claims	Current year 2020-21	Past year 2019-20	% Change (+ / -)
Total new workplace injury claims	0	N/A	0
Fatalities	0	N/A	0
Seriously injured workers*	0	N/A	0
Significant injuries (where lost time exceeds a working week, expressed as frequency rate per 1000 FTE)	0	N/A	0

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*number of claimants assessed during the reporting period as having a whole person impairment of 30% or more under the Return to Work Act 2014 (Part 2 Division 5)

Work health and safety regulations	Current year 2020-21	Past year 2019-20	% Change (+ / -)
Number of notifiable incidents (<i>Work</i> Health and Safety Act 2012, Part 3)	0	N/A	0
Number of provisional improvement, improvement and prohibition notices (<i>Work</i> <i>Health and Safety Act 2012 Sections 90,</i> <i>191 and 195</i>)	0	N/A	0

Return to work costs**	Current year 2020-21	Past year 2019-20	% Change (+ / -)
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	0	N/A	0
Income support payments – gross (\$)	0	N/A	0

**before third party recovery

Data for previous years is not available given the Landscape Board is a new entity and was not operational during the last financial year.

Executive employment in the Board

Executive classification	Number of executives
The South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board does not employ staff as per section 35 of the <i>Landscape</i> <i>South Australia Act 2019</i> . Those staff who undertake the work of the Board are employed through the General Manager as the employing authority.	0

Data for previous years is not available given the Landscape Board is a new entity and was not operational during the last financial year.

The <u>Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment</u> has a <u>workforce</u> <u>information</u> page that provides further information on the breakdown of executive gender, salary and tenure by agency.

Financial performance

Financial performance at a glance

The financial performance and position as at 30 June 2021 is contained within the audited financial statements and attached to the Annual Report Appendix.

Consultants disclosure

Consultant disclosures are not required to be reported by Landscape boards as they are Tier 2 reporting entities and are not required to disclose consultants in their financial statements.

Contractors disclosure

The following is a summary of external contractors that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for work undertaken during the financial year.

Contractors with a contract value below \$10,000

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
All contractors below \$10,000 each - combined	Various to undertake operational requirements across the business	\$96,146.19

Contractors with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Contractors	Purpose	<pre>\$ Actual payment</pre>
Adaptive NRM	Night Parrot Project	\$36,180.10
Bentleys (SA) Pty Ltd	Property Management Planning – Financial and Business Analysis	\$29,680.00
Contour Environmental & Agriculture Consulting	Property Management Planning – Building Pastoral Sustainability	\$87,014.00
Creation Care Pty Ltd	Coongie Lakes Ramsar Weed Control	\$25,940.00
Desert Channels QLD	Rangelands NRM Alliance Contribution	\$14,000.00
Ecoknowledge	Flinders Ranges Purple-Spotted Gudgeon Pre-Release and Translocation	\$60,454.56
Ecological Horizons Pty Ltd	Dunnart Monitoring	\$9,510.00
	Western Quoll & Possum Monitoring	\$10,452.00
Glenbarr Weed & Pest Control	Weed Control	\$46,363.56
Gum Creek Station	Aerial Baiting Program	\$54,662.50
Peter Canty	Biological Survey	\$4,200.00
	Vegetation Productivity Mapping	\$6,600.00
Primary Industries and Regions	SA Wild Dog Trapping Program	\$18,750.00
Richard Davies	Threatened Flora Monitoring	\$21,216.00
Sandy Lane Consulting Pty Ltd	Evaluation of Building Pastoral Sustainability Project	\$10,400.00
Terrain Ecology	Idnya/Virilda Trapping	\$11,095.20
Uni of NSW	Wetland Research	\$30,000.00
Department for Environment and Water - State Herbarium	Provision of Plant Survey and Identification	\$11,784.14
Commercial Helicopters	Aerial Goat Control	\$28,240.00
Primary Industries and Regions – SARDI Aquatics	Lake Eyre Basin Rivers Assessment	\$16,564.90
Parks and Wildlife WA	Eradicat Bait – Pest Control	\$11,700.00
Helifarm	Relocation of Native Fish	\$11,160.00
	Total	\$558,966.96

Data for previous years is not available given the Landscape Board is a new entity and was not operational during the last financial year. The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. <u>View the agency list of contracts</u>.

The website also provides details of across government contracts.

Other financial information

Under section 27(3) and section 28(6) of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* funding support including the Landscape Priorities Fund and Grassroots Grants Program respectively, a regional landscape board **must** ensure that a report on any assistance provided or grant provided under these sections is included in its annual report. Therefore funding support can be made to third parties such as community groups, industry, state and local government, land owners and individuals for various projects and programs under the landscape plan.

During 2020-21, the Board provided \$77,311.51 in other financial assistance and grants to the following:

- (\$0) Local government
- (\$11,962) Volunteer Groups and NGOs
- (\$10,000) Aboriginal Nations
- (\$0) State Government
- (\$0) schools
- (\$55,349) other

Other Information - Delegations

The persons or bodies to whom or to which the Board has delegated functions or powers under section 37 of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*, and the nature of the functions or powers delegated to each person or body as per section 8(c) of the *Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020* appears in the following table.

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Position	Procurement	Fleet	People Management	Contract Execution Purchase Cards	Contract Execution	Landscape SA Compliance	Procurement - Contract Pre-Approval - Payment & Disbursement
Administration Officer				\checkmark			✓
Business Coordinator			✓	✓			✓
Business Support Officer							✓
Communications Support Project Officer				✓			✓
Community Ecologist				✓			✓
Community Ecologist				✓			✓
Community Landscape Officer				✓			✓
Community Landscape Officer				✓			✓
Community Landscape Officer				✓			✓
Community Landscape Officer				✓			✓
Community Landscape Officer				✓			✓
Community Landscape Officer				✓			✓
Conservation Ecologist				✓			✓
Executive Officer				✓			✓
Finance Officer				✓			✓
General Manager	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\checkmark	✓
GIS Officer				✓			✓
Landscape Field Officer				\checkmark			✓
Manager, Business Services	✓	✓	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		✓
National Parks and Wildlife Manager Flinders Outback				\checkmark			\checkmark
Planning Monitoring & Evaluation Officer				\checkmark			\checkmark
Presiding Member - SA Arid Lands	✓		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		
Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator				\checkmark			✓
Senior Community Ecologist			\checkmark	\checkmark			\checkmark
Senior Water Resource Officer				\checkmark			\checkmark
Sustainable Landscapes Project Officer				\checkmark			✓
Team Leader, Communications & Community Engagement	✓	✓	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		✓
Team Leader, Landscape Operations & Projects	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Water Project Officer				✓			✓
Wild Dog Project Officer				✓			✓
Wild Dog Project Officer				✓			✓
Customer Service Officer				✓			✓
Customer Service Officer - Front Counter				✓			✓
Customer Service Officer – Accounts				✓			✓
Human Resource Officer				✓			\checkmark

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Report on any functions assigned to the Board by the Minister: (as per section 8(d) of regulations)

No ministerial functions were assigned during this reporting period.

Landscape Groups

The South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board has seven Landscape Groups that cover the districts of the Gawler Ranges, Kingoonya, Marree-Innamincka, Marla-Oodnadatta, North East Pastoral, North Flinders and Port Augusta-Quorn areas.

Gawler Ranges Landscape Group

The membership of the Gawler Ranges Landscape Group during 2020-21 was:

- Kate Greenfield (Chair)
- Alistair Dermer
- Brenton French
- Denise Sharp
- James Kerr
- Lesley Koch
- Amanda Michael (Deputy)
- Andrew Oswald (Deputy)
- Scott Michael (Board representative)

Meetings: A total of four general group meetings were held during the 2020-21 financial year. Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non-attendance
Alistair Dermer	0	Conflicting activities. Resigned Feb 2021
Amanda Michael	4	
Andrew Oswald	2	Conflicting activities
Brenton French	1	Conflicting activities
Denise Sharp	3	Conflicting activities
James Kerr	3	Conflicting activity
Kate Greenfield	4	
Lesley Koch	4	

Achievements and activities of the Gawler Ranges Landscape Group for the 2020-21 reporting period include:

- Weedy plant species' management, in particular cactus control with cochineal, with a Drill and Fill machine demonstration (tool to control woody weeds) and informed of the holding facility at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens;
- Transitioning to the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* and the Boards 5 year Regional Landscape Plan;

- Planning for the SA Arid Lands field day;
- Tag-Along-Tour to explore containment feeding operations in close proximity to the Gawler Ranges district;
- Hosting a Sticky Beak Day at Secret Rocks after the success of the 2019 event;
- Coordinated educational activities for kids in the Gawler Ranges district;
- Updates from mining companies about the status of the operations in the district.

Presentations organised by the group include:

- PIRSA New and Emerging Weeds;
- Dog Fence rebuild update;
- CEO Nature Foundation SA update for NFSA;
- Outback Travel Code Campaign;
- Management of cats, foxes, goats, rabbits, kangaroos, deer and wild dogs;
- SAPOL re rural security on pastoral property;
- Native Plant Propagation Workshop at Iron Knob;
- New DIT structure and road management issues.

Kingoonya Landscape Group

The membership of the Kingoonya Landscape Group during 2020-21 was:

- Clint Taylor (Chair)
- David Hunter
- James Barry
- Tina Law
- Jessica Barry (Deputy)
- Kate Taylor (Deputy)
- Ross Sawers (Board representative)

Meetings: A total of four Kingoonya Landscape Group meetings were held during the 2020-21 financial year. The following table illustrates meeting attendance:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non-attendance
Clint Taylor	3	Conflicting activity
David Hunter	1	Conflicting activities
James Barry	3	Conflicting activity
Tina Law	4	
Jessica Barry	0	Deputy
Kate Taylor	0	Deputy

Achievements and activities of the Kingoonya Landscape Group for 2020-21 include:

- Native Plant Workshops at Roxby Downs Community Garden and Andamooka Community Hall;
- SOTA Citizen Science Cat and Dog Scat Collection.

Other scheduled events were unfortunately cancelled due to COVID-19 and sickness amongst family members planning to be involved in events.

Marree-Innamincka Landscape Group

The membership of the Marree-Innamincka Landscape Group during 2020-21 was:

- Josh Haynes (Chair)
- Craig Oldfield
- Frank Warren
- Jayne-Marie Barnes
- Lyn Litchfield
- Mark Mayfield
- Gina Reick (Deputy)
- Douglas Lillecrapp (Board representative)

Meetings: A total of six general Landscape Group meetings were held during the
2020-21 financial year. Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non-attendance
Craig Oldfield	1	Conflicting activity
Frank Warren	6	
Gina Reick	1	
Jayne-Marie Barnes	3	Conflicting activities
Josh Haynes	5	
Lyn Litchfield	5	
Mark Mayfield	1	Conflicting activity

Achievements and activities of the Marree-Innamincka Landscape Group for 2020-21:

- Cattle nutrition workshop in Clifton Hills;
- Snake awareness day in Innamincka;
- MATES community wellbeing day in Marree;
- Pastoral boot camp in Marree that had to be postponed until next financial year;
- Partnered with Marree Aboriginal School, School of the Air for a scientific kids day;
- Partnered with PIRSA in the delivery of an organic dog baiting workshop in Marree;
- Boards region-wide native plant propagation workshop;
- Top 10 Travel Tips signs (joint project with Marree-Innamincka Landscape Group).

Marla-Oodnadatta Landscape Group

The membership of the Marla-Oodnadatta Landscape Group during 2020-21 was:

- Jacqueline Williams (Chair)
- Alice Taysom
- Cameron Williams
- Caroline Thomas
- Francesca Lumb
- Greg Warren
- Joel Kowald
- Christine Lennon (Deputy)
- Ellen Litchfield (Board representative)

Meetings: A total of five Landscape Group general meetings were held during the 2020-21 financial year. The table below illustrates meeting attendance:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non-attendance
Alice Taysom	0	Resigned August 2020
Cameron Williams	3	Conflicting activities
Caroline Thomas	5	
Christine Lennon	4	Deputy
Francesca Lumb	4	Conflicting activities
Greg Warren	0	Conflicting activities
Jacqueline Williams	5	
Joel Kowald	3	Conflicting activities. Resigned December 2020

Achievements and activities of the Marla-Oodnadatta Landscape group for 2020-21:

- RFDS Virtual Ladies Lounge (online);
- Business of Managing Pastoral Country Coober Pedy;
- Snake Awareness workshop- Coober Pedy;
- Top 10 Travel Tips signs (joint project with Marree-Innamincka Landscape Group).

North East Pastoral Landscape Group

The membership of the North East Pastoral Landscape Group during 2020-21 was:

- Richard Williams (Chair)
- Byron Crawford
- Nick Rasheed
- Terrence Coulthard
- Sanchia Treloar (Board representative)

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Meetings: A total of four general Landscape Group meetings were held during the 2020-21 financial year. Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non-attendance
Byron Crawford	0	Conflicting activities
Nick Rasheed	4	
Richard Williams	4	
Terrence Coulthard	0	Conflicting activities

Achievements and activities of North East Pastoral Landscape Group for 2020-21:

- Pastoral Field day held at Mannahill in May 2021. The event drew in 28 stallholders and almost 200 participants.
- Ruminant workshop held in Yunta in November 2021;
- Online scavenger hunt staged in collaboration with the North Flinders Landscape Group.

North Flinders Landscape Group

The membership of the North Flinders Landscape Group during 2020-21 was:

- Ian Ferguson (Chair)
- Jonathan Sanders
- Lesley Nicholls
- Ngatina Purnell-Webb
- Norton Warnest
- Teresa Brady
- Glenys Aird (Deputy)
- Tim Flowers (Board representative)

Meetings: A total of four general meetings were held during the 2020-21 financial year. The following table below illustrates meeting attendance:

Member	Meetings attended	Reason for non-attendance
Glenys Aird	0	Deputy
lan Ferguson	4	
Jonathan Sanders	0	Resigned August 2020
Lesley Nicholls	1	Conflicting activities
Ngatina Purnell-Webb	3	Conflicting activity
Norton Warnest	1	Conflicting activities
Teresa Brady	0	Conflicting activities. Resigned 1 April 2021

Achievements and activities of the North Flinders Landscape Group for the 2020-21 reporting period include:

- redesigned top ten travel tips poster in line with the Aussie Travel Code;

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- attended Quoll and Possum monitoring at Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park;
- engaged with the Flinders Ranges World Heritage Community Reference Group;
- hosted a plant propagation workshop in Copley.

Port Augusta-Quorn Landscape Group

The Community Landscape Officer started in November 2020 and some activities and events were delivered during the reporting period. A membership call for the new group was made during April/May 2021, with members appointed by the Board with a commencement date of 1 July 2021. As such, the Landscape group had not been formed for the 2020/2021 financial year and no meetings were held.

Meetings: No meetings were held as the group had not yet formed.

Key achievements

Achievements and activities of Port Augusta-Quorn Landscape Group for 2020-21:

- designing a Port Augusta-Quorn engagement strategy identifying key priorities for engagement;
- running two native grass community workshops delivered in Quorn, January and June;
- facilitating Chemcert training for 12 volunteers from four local organisations;
- facilitating two plant propagation workshops in Quorn;
- running a Nukunu Kid's Weekend with Nukunu Wapma Thura Aboriginal Corporation;
- facilitating a Coastal Saltmarsh community workshop;
- funding provided for AUSMAP microplastic monitoring training in 2020-2021 financial year however postponed to September 2021.

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Risk management

Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
There were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Board in this reporting period.	0

NB: Fraud reported includes actual and reasonably suspected incidents of fraud.

Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

The Board has adopted policies and procedures which set out control measures for preventing fraud and the mechanisms for reporting and investigating.

Shared Services SA provide financial services and the Board has adopted the DEW Procurement Framework to mitigate risk.

The Governance and Finance Committee endorsed the Risk Management Policy and Framework prior to Board approval.

Data for previous years is not available given the Landscape Board is a new entity and was not operational during the last financial year.

Public interest disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018:*

Data for previous years is not available given the Landscape Board is a new entity and was not operational during the last financial year.

Note: Disclosure of public interest information was previously reported under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* and repealed by the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018* on 1 July 2019.

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Reporting required under any other act or regulation

Act or Regulation	Requirement
Development Regulations 2008	12—Activities that would otherwise require a permit under the <i>Landscape South Australia Act 2019</i>
	(1) Development comprising or including an activity for which a permit would be required under section 104(3)(d) or (5)(a) of the Landscape SA Act 2019 if it were not for the operation of section 106(1)(e) of that Act (on the basis that the referral required by virtue of this item operates in conjunction with section 106(1)(e) of that Act), other than development within a River Murray Protection Area under the <i>River Murray Act 2003</i> .
	The Board received no mandatory development assessment referrals during this reporting period.

Reporting required under the Carers' Recognition Act 2005

The South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board is not a required 'reporting agency' and does not employ staff as per section 35 of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*. Those staff who undertake the work of the Board are employed through the General Manager as the employing authority.

The South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board has a strong commitment and provides support to ensure all employees who provide ongoing care for a person who has a disability or a chronic illness (including mental illness) or who is frail have flexible working arrangements to meet their situation.

Employees are encouraged to speak with their manager to seek support with flexible working arrangements including special leave with pay, compressed weeks, part-time hours or working from home. Employees can also seek support and guidance through the Employee Assistance Program.

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Public complaints

Number of public complaints reported

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2020-21
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	0
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	0
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	0
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	0
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	0
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	0
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	0
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	0
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	0
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy unreasonable or disadvantages customer	0



Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2020-21
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out dated or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	0
Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	0
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	0
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	0
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	0
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	0
		Total	0

Additional Metrics	Total
Number of positive feedback comments	2
Number of negative feedback comments	2
Total number of feedback comments	4
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	100%

Data for previous years is not available given the Landscape Board is a new entity and was not operational during the last financial year.

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Service Improvements

In line with PC039 *Complaint Management in the South Australian Public Sector*, agencies are required to assess and monitor the performance of their complaint management system annually; identifying any trends, measuring customer service quality and make service improvements. The Board maintains a Complaints Register however did not receive any complaints during the 2020-21 financial year.

As a new entity, the South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board and its sub committees and Landscape Groups regularly engage with community to seek feedback and suggestions to improve service delivery.

Staff engaged by the General Manager are actively encouraged to share innovative ideas (based on personal or community suggestions) to improve service delivery.

Compliance Statement

South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board is compliant with Premier and Cabinet Circular 039 – complaint management in the South Australian public sector.	Y
South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board has communicated the content of PC039 and the board's related complaints policies and procedures to employees.	Y

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2020-21 ANNUAL REPORT for the South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board

Appendix: Audited financial statements 2020-21

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



Government of South Australia

Auditor-General's Department

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audgensa@audit.sa.gov.au www.audit.sa.gov.au

To the Presiding Member South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of the South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board (the Board) for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board as at 30 June 2021, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial report comprises:

- a Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2021
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2021
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2021
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2021
- notes, comprising significant accounting policies and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the Presiding Member and the General Manager.

Basis for opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report' section of my report. I am independent of the Board. The *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* establishes the independence of the Auditor-General. In conducting the audit, the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* have been met.

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

Responsibilities of the General Manager and the Board for the financial report

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

In preparing the financial report, the General Manager is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

The Board is responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

As required by section 31(1)(b) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and section 38 (2) of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*, I have audited the financial report of the Board for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the General Manager

- conclude on the appropriateness of the General Manager's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

My report refers only to the financial report described above and does not provide assurance over the integrity of electronic publication by the entity on any website nor does it provide an opinion on other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the report.

I communicate with the Presiding Member and General Manager about, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during the audit.

Andrew Richardson Auditor-General 29 November 2021

South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2021

We certify that the:

- financial statements for the South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board (the Board):
 - are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Board;
 - comply with relevant Treasurer's Instructions;
 - comply with relevant accounting standards; and
 - present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board at the end of the financial year and the result of its operation and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls employed by the Board for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of financial statements have been effective.

Ross Sawers Presiding Member 26 November 2021

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Jodie Gregg-Smith General Manager South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board 26 November 2021

South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ending 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$'000
Income		
Landscape and water levies	2.1	2 674
Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding	2.2	1 942
Grant revenues	. 2.3	308
Intra-government transfers	2.4	372
Interest revenues		1
Other income	2.5	35
Total income		5 332
Expenses		
Employee benefits expense	3.3	2 130
Supplies and services	4.1	2 125
Grants and subsidies	4.2	149
Depreciation	5.1	. 44
Borrowing Costs		2
Other expenses	4.3	50
Total expenses		4 500
Net result		832
Total comprehensive result		832

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The net result and total comprehensive result are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2021

		2021
Current assets	Note	\$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	6.1	3 080
Receivables	6.2	1 206
Total current assets	0.2	4 286
Non-current assets		
Property plant and equipment	5.1	95
Total non-current assets		95
Total assets		4 381
Current liabilities		
Payables	7.1	218
Financial liabilities	7.2	42
Employee benefits liability	3.4	236
Provisions	7.3	4
Contract liabilities	2.3	263
Total current liabilities		763
Non-current liabilities		
Payables	7.1	38
Financial liabilities	7.2	37
Employee benefits liability	3.4	402
Provisions	7.3	9
Total non-current liabilities		486
Total liabilities		1 249
Net assets		3 132
Equity		
Retained earnings		3 132
Total equity		3 132

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The total equity is attributable to the SA Government as owner.

South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2021

Balance at 1 July 2020	Note	Retained earnings \$'000 -	Total equity \$'000 -
Net result for 2020-21	-	832	832
Total comprehensive result for 2020-21		832	832
Net assets received from an administrative restructure	1.3 _	2 300	2 300
Balance at 30 June 2021		3 132	3 132

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. All changes in equity are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2021

		2021
	Note	\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
<u>Cash inflows</u>		
Landscape and water levies		2 857
Commonwealth funding received		1 579
Grants		54
Intra-government transfers		372
Interest received		1
Other receipts		25
Cash generated from operations	_	4 888
Cash outflows		
Employee benefits payments		(2 129)
Payments for supplies and services		(2 155)
Payments of grants and subsidies		(140)
Interest paid		(2)
Other payments		(38)
Cash used in operations		(4 464)
Net cash provided by operating activities		424
Cash flows from investing activities		
Cash outflows		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(12)
Total cash (used in) investing activities		(12)
Net cash provided by/ (used in) by investing activities	_	(12)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Cash inflows		
Cash received from restructuring activities	1.3	2 710
Cash generated from financing activities	_	2 710
Cash outflows		
Repayment of leases		(42)
Cash generated from financing activities		(42)
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities		2 668
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	_	3 080
Cash at the beginning of the period		-
Cash at the end of the period	6.1	3 080

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

1. About the South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board

The South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board (the Board) is a body corporate of the State of South Australia, established 1 July 2020, pursuant to the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 (the Landscape Act). The Board is a not-for-profit entity.

The Board adopted the Regional Management Plans of the former SA Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board and Northern and Yorke Natural Resources Management Board as its Landscape Plan to guide its operations in 2020-21, while it developed a new 5-year Landscape Plan. The Board operates under a Business Plan which aligns to the Landscape Plan. The SA Arid Lands Business Plan 2020-21 was approved by the Minister for Environment and Water on 22 June 2020, for implementation on 1 July 2020. The Plan identifies the Board's revenue and investment in priorities for management of landscapes in the region as detailed in note 1.2.

The Board entered into a Service Level Agreement with the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) during 2020-21 for the delivery of corporate support services to the Board to enable it to meet its governance and financial management statutory requirements in delivering its business.

The financial statements include all the controlled activities of the Board. As this is the first year of operations, there are no comparative figures provided.

Landscape Groups

The Board has established seven Landscape Groups to operate within its region pursuant to the Landscape Act (section 36). The function of the Landscape Groups is defined by the Landscape Group Charter. In accordance with the Board's approval of the Landscape Group Charter the Landscape 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 Landscape 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 Board's financial statements include the figures for the Landscape Groups being: Gawler Ranges, Kingoonya, Marla-Oodnadatta, Marree-Innamincka, North East Pastoral, North Flinders and Port Augusta/Quorn. Due to their materiality they are not separately disclosed.

1.1. Basis of preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements prepared in compliance with:

- section 23 of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987;
- Treasurer's Instructions and Accounting Policy Statements issued by the Treasurer under the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987; and
- relevant Australian Accounting Standards with reduced disclosure requirements.

For the purposes of preparing the financial statements, the Board is a not-for-profit entity. The financial statements are prepared based on a 12 month reporting period and presented in Australian currency. The historical cost convention is used unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the note associated with the item measured.

Assets and liabilities that are to be sold, consumed or realised as part of the normal operating cycle have been classified as current assets or current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

The Board is not subject to income tax. It is liable for fringe benefits tax and payroll tax.

DEW prepares a Business Activity Statement on behalf of the Board under the grouping provisions of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) legislation. Under these provisions, DEW is liable for the payments and entitled to the receipts associated with GST. Therefore, the Board's net GST receivable/payable is recorded in DEW's Statement of Financial Position. GST cash flows applicable to the Board are recorded in DEW's Statement of Cash Flows.

Significant accounting policies are set out below and throughout the notes.

1.2. Objectives and programs

Board objectives

The functions of the Board under Section 25(1) of the Landscape Act include to:

- a) undertake and promote the management of natural resources within its region;
- b) prepare a regional landscape plan and water allocation plans, landscapes affecting activities control policies and water affecting activities control policies; and
- c) promote public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its region.

Board programs

The Board's 2020-21 Business Plan sets out investment in the following five priorities:

Land Management

building pastoralists' capacity to adapt to changing climate and market demands

Pest Plant and Animal Control

- supporting landholders to undertake best practice, coordinated wild dog control
- delivering landscape-scale pest animal control (foxes, cats, pigs, large feral herbivores)
- supporting landholders to carry out integrated weed management (focus on opuntia and Weeds of National Significance)

Water Management

- ensuring the sustainable use of groundwater resources
- improving our understanding of trends in the Great Artesian Basin (GAB) resource, system limits and impacts of resource use
- adoption and implementation of the Far North Prescribed Wells Area Water Allocation Plan
- developing a strategic adaptive management plan for the Coongie Ramsar wetland, guiding on-ground actions
- maintaining cross jurisdictional and cross border partnerships on the management of the GAB and Lake Eyre Basin

Biodiversity Conservation

- managing threats to Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby and other threatened species in the Gawler, Ikara-Flinders, Olary, and Vulkathanha-Gammon ranges
- managing threats to Coongie Ramsar wetland values
- monitoring ecosystem health and trends in threatened native plant and animal populations in the Coongie Ramsar area and Bounceback and Beyond project area.

Community Capacity Building

- building community capacity to manage natural resources through NRM/Landscape group support, and landholder extension and training
- developing community through the delivery of local, on-ground projects such as Grassroots Grants, volunteer group support, and other grant opportunities such as drought response, through industry and government bodies.

The Board invests in and delivers a suite of programs across the region to achieve these priorities and focus areas.

The table on the following page presents expenses and income attributable to each program.

South Australian Arid Lands Landscape Board Notes to and forming part of the financial statements For the year ended 30 June 2021

Expenses and Income by program

		Pest Plants and	Water	Biodiversity	Community	
	Land Management	Animals	Management	Conservation	Capacity Building	Total
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Income						
Landscape and water levies	95	754	561	128	1 136	2 674
Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding	461	588	172	625	96	1 942
Grant revenues	-	289		-	19	308
Intra-government transfers	23	77	- 30	31	211	372
Interest revenues	-		-	1	-	1
Other income	10	15		1	9	35
Total income	589	1 723	763	786	1 471	5 332
Expenses						
Employee benefits expense	162	715	289	329	635	2 130
Supplies and services	268	780	301	370	406	2 125
Grants and subsidies	59	-	-	-	90	149
Depreciation	5	15	6	6	12	44
Borrowing costs	-	2	-	-	-	2
Other expenses	6	17	6	9	12	50
Total expenses	500	. 1 529	602	714	1 155	4 500
Net result	89	194	161	72	316	832

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

1.3. Net assets received from an Administrative Restructure

Under the Public Sector (Reorganisation of Public Sector Operations – Department for Environment and Water) Notice 2020:

- On 25 June 2020, by notice of the Premier in the SA Government Gazette, 18 (18.0 FTE) employees transferred from DEW to the Board pursuant to section 9 (1) of the *Public Sector Act 2009* (the PS Act), to take effect from 1 July 2020.
- On 1 April 2021, by notice of the Premier in the SA Government Gazette, a further 4 (4.0 FTE) employees transferred from DEW to the Board pursuant to section 9 (1) of the PS Act, to take effect from 12 April 2021.

Transferred in

The following assets and liabilities were transferred to the Board as part of the staffing transfer:

	\$'000
Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	708
Receivables	1_
Total assets	709
Liabilities	
Payables	. 69
Employee benefits	639
Provisions	35
Total liabilities	743
Total net assets/(liabilities) transferred	(34)

Net liabilities transferred to the Board because of the administrative restructure are the carrying amount of those assets and liabilities in DEW's Statement of Financial Position immediately prior to transfer. The net liabilities transferred were treated as a contribution by the government as owner.

1.3. Net assets received from an Administrative Restructure (continued)

Additionally, on 1 July 2020, the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* was repealed, and the Natural Resources Management Boards were abolished. In accordance with a notice published in the Government Gazette on 25 June 2020, a share of the property, assets, rights and liabilities of the South Australian Arid Lands and Northern and Yorke Natural Resources Management Boards (NRM Boards) are vested in the Board, effective 1 July 2020.

Transferred in

The following assets and liabilities were transferred from the NRM Boards:

	South Australian Arid Lands NRM Board	Northern and Yorke NRM Board	Total
Assets	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	1 750	252	2 002
		232	
Receivables	498	-	498
Property plant and equipment	5	-	5
Total Assets	2 253	252	2 505
Liabilities			
Payables	171	-	171
Total liabilities	171		171
Total net assets transferred	2 082	252	2 334

Net assets assumed by the Board because of the administrative restructure are the carrying amount of those assets in the NRM Board's Statement of Financial Position immediately prior to the transfer. The net assets transferred were treated as a contribution by the government as owner.

1.4. Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the board

The COVID-19 pandemic had a minor impact on the Board during the financial year. The Board managed the move of a significant number of staff to work from home arrangements where feasible. Precautions were taken for staff and the public where sites and facilities remained open, adopting best practice advice to ensure personal safety at those sites.

Minor impacts to the Board in 2020-21 included:

Delays to works specified in the Landscape Plan and Business plan due to travel restrictions or preventative health
measures; and

· Postponement of scheduled events such as Field Days.

2. Income

2.1. Landscape and water levies	
	2021
	\$'000
Water levies collected through DEW	1 901
Landscape levy collected through councils	773
Total landscape and water levies	2 674

The Board collects Landscape and water levies under Part 5 of the Landscape Act.

Landscape levy collected through councils

The Board declares contributions by councils under section 66 of the Landscape Act for the relevant financial year by notice in the Board Annual Business Plan. The landscape levy is then collected by constituent councils from ratepayers and is based on the value of rateable land. Revenue is recognised when the invoice is raised at the beginning of the levy period to which they relate. Councils may seek to recover costs in accordance with the Landscape Act, incurred in the collection of the levy.

Water levies collected through DEW

The Minister declares the water levy rates by notice of gazette under section 76 of the Landscape Act for water licence holders within a prescribed area. Invoices are raised at the start of each financial year with the levies collected by DEW and passed onto the Board. Revenue is recognised when the funds are received from DEW.

2.2. Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding

•	2021
	\$'000
Regional Land Partnerships Program	1 909
Other Commonwealth funding	33
Total Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding	1 942

The Board has determined that the Commonwealth funding included in the table above is accounted for under AASB 1058. Commonwealth funding is generally paid in arrears, subject to an approved declaration of claim by the Board. The Board has determined that it has an unconditional contractual right to receive a portion of the funding under AASB 9 when a claim is submitted, as it has satisfied the eligibility criteria and expects that the claim will be accepted. Accordingly, revenue and a receivable are recognised when the claim is submitted. When Commonwealth funding is paid in advance it is recognised on receipt.

2.3. Grant revenues

	2021 \$'000
Income recognised under AASB 15	
State Government Grants	303
Sundry grants	5
Total income recognised under AASB 15	308

Income from grants that are enforceable and with sufficiently specific performance obligations are accounted for as revenue from contracts with customers under AASB 15. The existence of a sufficiently specific performance obligation, when it is satisfied and the amount of revenue to be allocated to each performance involves significant judgement. Revenue is recognised when the Board satisfies the performance obligation by providing the relevant services. The payments are normally received in advance or shortly after the relevant obligation is satisfied. Where payments are received in advance obligations are still outstanding at 30 June 2021 a contract liability is recognised.

Contract Balances

	2021
	\$'000
Contract liabilities	263
Total contract balances	263

Contract liabilities relate to Landscape Priorities Fund grants received in advance from the State Government, for which revenue will be recognised as performance obligations are satisfied.

2.4. Intra-government transfers

	. 2021
	\$'000
State Government recurrent funding	372_
Total Intra-government transfers	372

DEW receives recurrent funding, which is administered through the Landscape Administration Fund and provided to regional landscape Boards to support business operation and the administration of the Landscape Act. The funding is subsequently paid to regional landscape boards pursuant to subsection 90(4) of the Landscape Act.

Intra-government transfers are recognised as income when the Board obtains control of the asset which is on receipt.

2.5. Other income

	2021
	\$'000
Sale of goods	15
Other revenue	20
Total other income	35

3. Board, committees and employees

3.1. Key management personnel

Key management personnel of the Board include the Minister for Environment and Water, the Presiding Member, members and the General Manager who have responsibility for the strategic direction and management of the Board.

The total compensation for the Board's key management personnel was \$219 000 in 2020-21.

The compensation disclosed in this note excludes salaries and other benefits the Minister receives. The Minister's remuneration and allowances are set by the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990* and the Remuneration Tribunal of SA respectively and are payable from the Consolidated Account under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990*.

No material transactions with key management personnel or related parties occurred during 2020-21.

3.2. Board and committee members

Members of the Board during the 2020-21 financial year were:

- R B Sawers (Presiding Member)
- D G Lillecrapp
- S Michael
- S Treloar
- K Tschirner
- T Flowers
- E Litchfield

3.2. Board and committee members (continued)

Members of groups and committees during the 2020-21 financial year were:

Kingoonya Group

C Taylor (Chair) T B Law D Hunter J G Barry J L Barry (Deputy Member)^{*} K Taylor (Deputy Member)

Marree-Innamincka Group

J M Haynes (Chair) J Barnes L M Litchfield M Mayfield C M B Oldfield F Warren A AhChee (Deputy Member) G Rieck (Deputy Member)

Gawler Ranges

K Greenfield (Chair) L G Koch A J Dermer (resigned February 2021) B G French J G Kerr A J Michael (Deputy Member) D Sharp A Oswald (Deputy Member)

Governance and Finance committee

K Tschirner (Chair, appointed September 2020) S Treloar (appointed September 2020) E Litchfield (appointed November 2020)

Northern Flinders Group I C Ferguson (Chair) L J Nicholls N C Purnell-Webb N C Warnest J Saunders (resigned August 2020) T Brady (resigned April 2021) G Aird (Deputy Member)

Marla-Oodnadatta Group

J M Kowald (resigned December 2020) F Lumb A Taysom (resigned August 2020) C M Thomas G D Warren C J Williams C Lennon (Deputy Member)

North East Pastoral Group

R Williams (Chair) T C Coulthard B W Crawford (resigned June 2021) N S Rasheed D Sawers (resigned October 2020)

Water Advisory committee

R Sawers (Chair, appointed July 2020) D Lillecrapp (appointed July 2020) T Flowers (appointed July 2020) E Litchfield (appointed July 2020)

2021

48

1

49

Board and committee remuneration

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

\$0 - \$19 999 \$20 000 - \$39 999 Total number of members

3.2. Board and committee members (continued)

The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$57 000. Remuneration of members includes sitting fees, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits and fringe benefits, and any fringe benefits tax paid or payable in respect of those benefits.

For the purposes of this table, travel allowances and other out-of-pocket expenses paid to members have not been included as remuneration as it is considered to be reimbursement of direct out-of-pocket expenses incurred by relevant members. These expenses, in addition to payroll tax amount to \$32 000.

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

3.3. Employee benefits expense

	2021
	\$'000
Salaries and wages	1 702
Annual leave	162
Long service leave	(55)
Employment on-costs - superannuation	183
Employment on-costs - other	97
Skills and experience retention leave	5
Workers compensation	(21)
Other employee related expenses	1
Board and committee fees	56
Total employee benefits expense	2 130

Employment on-costs - superannuation

The superannuation employment on-cost charge represents the Boards' contributions to superannuation plans in respect of current services of current employees.

Executive remuneration

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

	2021
	No
\$154 001 - \$174 000	1
Total	1

The total remuneration received by those employees for the year was \$167 000.

The table includes all employees who received remuneration equal to or greater than the base executive remuneration level during the year. Remuneration of employees reflects all costs of employment including salaries and wages, payments in lieu of leave, superannuation contributions, termination payments, salary sacrifice benefits and fringe benefits and any related fringe benefits tax.

3.4. Employee benefits liability

	2021 \$'000
Current	\$ 000
Accrued salaries and wages	68
Annual leave	150
Long service leave	3
Skills and experience retention leave	15
Total current employee benefits	236
<u>Non-current</u>	
Long service leave	402
Total non-current employee benefits	402
Total employee benefits liability	638

Employee benefits accrue as a result of services provided up to the reporting date that remain unpaid. Long-term employee benefits are measured at present value and short-term employee benefits are measured at nominal amounts.

Salaries and wages, annual leave, skills and experience retention leave (SERL) and sick leave

The liability for salary and wages is measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at remuneration rates current at the reporting date.

The annual leave liability and the SERL liability in full is expected to be payable within 12 months and is measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid.

No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

Long service leave

The liability for long service leave is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Details about the measurement of long service leave liability is provided as note 9.1.

4. Expenses

Employee benefits expenses are disclosed in note 3.3.

4.1. Supplies and services

	2021
	\$'000
Fee for service	776
Fee for service - Corporate fee	407
Travel and accommodation	161
Fee for service - Board funded DEW salaries	132
General administration	90
Accommodation and property management	86
Fee for service - Shared Services SA fee	84
Minor works, maintenance and equipment	69
Contractors	60
Motor vehicles	59
Information technology and communication charges	45
Staff development	39
Other supplies and services	117
Total supplies and services	2 125

4.2. Grants and subsidies

	2021
	\$'000
Recurrent Grants	149
Total grants and subsidies	149

The Board provides grants to support community to achieve natural resource management outcomes in the region through its Grassroots Grants and Building Pastoral Sustainability Grants.

4.3. Other expenses

2021
\$'000
49
1
50

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

5. Non-financial assets

Property, plant and equipment comprises tangible assets owned by the Board and right-of-use leased assets.

5.1. Property, plant and equipment owned by the Board

Property, plant and equipment owned by the Board with a value equal to or in excess of \$10 000 is capitalised, otherwise it is expensed. Property, plant and equipment owned by the Board is recorded at fair value. Detail about the Board's approach to fair value is set out in note 9.2.

All non-current assets not held for sale with a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their service potential.

Reconciliation 2020-21

	Plant and		ROU	
	equipment	Buildings	Vehicles	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	-	-		-
Transfers from restructure	5	-	-	5
Additions	-	12	122	134
Depreciation	(1)	-	(43)	(44)
Carrying amount as at the end of the period	4	12	79	95
Gross carrying amount				
Gross carrying amount	118	12	122	266
Accumulated depreciation	(114)	-	(43)	(171)
Carrying amount as at the end of the period	4	12	79	95

Review of accounting estimates

Assets' residual values, useful lives and amortisation methods are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, on an annual basis. Changes in the expected 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.

Useful life

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
Buildings	20
Right-of-use vehicles	3-5

Impairment

There were no indications of impairment of property, plant and equipment as at 30 June 2021.

5.2. Property, plant and equipment leased by the Board

Right-of-use assets for property, plant and equipment leased by the Board as lessee are measured at cost. Additions to leased property, plant and equipment during 2020-21 were \$122 000.

Short-term leases of 12 months or less and low value leases, where the underlying asset value is less than \$15 000 are not recognised as right-of-use assets. The associated lease payments are recognised as an expense and are disclosed in note 4.1.

The Board has 6 motor vehicle leases with the South Australian Government Financing Authority (SAFA). Motor vehicle leases are non-cancellable, with rental payments monthly in arrears. Motor vehicle lease terms can range from 3 years (60 000km) up to 5 years (100 000km). No variable lease payments are provided for in the lease agreements and no options exist to renew the leases at the end of their term.

Lease liabilities related to the right-of-use assets are disclosed in note 7.2. Expenses related to leases includes depreciation disclosed at note 5.1 and borrowing costs on the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Cash outflows relates to leases are disclosed in the Statement of Cash Flows.

6. Financial assets

6.1. Cash and cash equivalents

	2021
	\$'000
Deposits with the Treasurer	3 080
Total cash and cash equivalents	3 080

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

Cash is measured at nominal amounts.

6.2. Receivables

	2021
Current	\$'000
Trade receivables	
Debtors	1 124
Less impairment loss on receivables	(1)
Total trade receivables	1 123
Accrued revenue	83
Total receivables	1 206

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. Receivables and prepayments are non-interest bearing.

Receivables are held with the objective of collecting the contractual cash flows and they are measured at amortised cost.

The impairment loss of \$1 000 relates to contracts with customers external to SA Government.

7. Liabilities

Employee benefits liabilities are disclosed in note 3.4.

7.1. Payables

	2021
Current	\$'000
Trade payables	98
Accrued expenses	65
Employment on-costs	55
Total current payables	218
Non-current	
Employment on-costs	38
Total non-current payables	38
Total payables	256

Payables and accruals are raised for all amounts owing but unpaid. Sundry payables are normally settled within 30 days from the date the invoice is first received. All payables are non-interest bearing. The carrying amount of payables represents fair value due to their short-term nature.

Employment on-costs

Employment on-costs include payroll tax, ReturnToWorkSA levies and superannuation contributions and are settled when the respective employee benefits that they relate to is discharged.

The Board contributes to several State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. There is no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only liability outstanding at reporting date relates to any contributions due but not yet paid to the South Australian Superannuation Board and externally managed superannuation schemes.

As a result of an actuarial assessment performed by the DTF, the proportion of long service leave taken as leave was 42%. The average factor for the calculation of employer superannuation cost on-costs was 10.1%. These rates are used in the employment on-cost calculation.

7.2. Financial Liabilities

	2021
Current	\$'000
Lease liabilities	42
Total current financial liabilities	42
Non-current	
Lease liabilities	37
Total non-current financial liabilities	37
Total financial liabilities	79

The Board measures financial liabilities at amortised cost. All material cash outflows are reflected in the lease liabilities disclosed above.

7.3. Provisions

	2021
Ourset	\$'000
Current	
Provision for workers compensation	4_
Total current provisions	4
Non-current	
Provision for workers compensation	9
Total non-current provisions	9
Total provisions	13
Movement in provisions	
Carrying amount at the beginning of the period	-
Provisions recognised as a result of restructure activities	35
Decrease in provisions recognised	(22)
Carrying amount at the end of the period	13_

A provision has been reported to reflect unsettled workers compensation claims. The workers compensation provision is based on an actuarial assessment of the outstanding liability as at 30 June 2021 provided by a consulting actuary engaged through the Office of the Commissioner for the Public Sector Employment. The provision is for the estimated cost of ongoing payments to employees as required under current legislation.

The Board is responsible for the payment of workers compensation claims.

8. Outlook

8.1. Unrecognised contractual commitments

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

	2021
	\$'000
No later than one year	269
Total expenditure commitments	269

The Board's commitments relate to non-cancellable contracts at the reporting date which have not been recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Financial Position.

8.2. Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and 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.

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

9. Measurement and risk

9.1. Long service leave liability - measurement

AASB 119 Employee Benefits contains the calculation methodology for long service leave liability.

The actuarial assessment performed by the Department of Treasury and Finance has provided a basis for the measurement of long service leave and is based on actuarial assumptions on expected future salary and wage levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. These assumptions are based on employee data over SA Government entities.

AASB 119 *Employee Benefits* requires the use of the yield on long-term Commonwealth Government bonds as the discount rate in the measurement of the long service leave liability. The yield on long-term Commonwealth Government bonds was 1.25%.

The actuarial assessment performed by DTF applied a salary inflation rate of 2.5% for long service leave liability. The salary inflation rate for annual leave and skills, experience and retention leave liability was 2.0%.

The unconditional portion of the long service leave provision is classified as current as the Board does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after reporting date. The unconditional portion of long service leave relates to an unconditional legal entitlement to payment arising after 10 years of service.

9.2. Fair value

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants, in the principal or most advantageous market, at the measurement date.

Initial recognition

Non-current tangible assets are initially recorded at cost or at the value of any liabilities assumed, plus any incidental cost involved with the acquisition.

Where assets are acquired at no value, or minimal value, they are recorded at their fair value in the Statement of Financial Position. However, if the assets are acquired at no or nominal value as part of a restructure of administrative arrangements, then the assets are recognised at book value (i.e. the amount recorded by the transferor public authority immediately prior to the restructure).

Revaluation

Property, plant and equipment, other than right-of-use assets, is subsequently measured at fair value after allowing for accumulated depreciation.

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 \$1.5 million and estimated useful life is greater than three years.

The Board does not hold any assets that meet this criteria.

9.3. Financial instruments

Financial risk management

Risk management is managed by the Board's corporate services section and the Board's 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 low due to the nature of the financial instruments held.

Categorisation of financial instruments

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 and financial liability are disclosed in the respective financial asset / financial liability note.

Classification of financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

		2021	2021 contractual Maturities		
		Carrying			More than 5
Category of financial asset		amount	Within 1 year	<u>1-5 years</u>	years
and financial liability	Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets					
Cash and cash equivalents					
Cash and cash equivalents	6.1	3 080	n/a	n/a	n/a
Financial assets at amortised					
cost					
Receivables	6.2	1 122	1 122	-	-
Total financial assets		4 202	1 122		-
Financial liabilities					
Financial liabilities at					
amortised cost					
Payables	7.1	114	114	ан с. " .	-
Financial liabilities	7.2	79	42	37	
Total financial liabilities		193	156	37	

Receivable and payable amounts disclosed here exclude amounts relating to statutory receivables and payables (for example, 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, they would be excluded from the disclosure. The standard defines contract as enforceable by law. All amounts recorded are carried at amortised cost.