Your Landscape Levy at work

SA Arid Lands region

YOUR LANDSCAPE BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board (SAAL) is responsible for overseeing the management of a landscape that covers more than half of South Australia – an area greater than 500,000 square kilometres.

This means its annual income of about \$5 million – generated from a number of funding sources, including grants and levies, amounts to less than \$10 per square kilometre.

To help the board meet its statutory responsibilities, a land-based levy and a water levy are collected annually. This enables the board to deliver programs across the region and seek additional funding from government and industry to increase outcomes for the community. The board has five key priorities for the region which are: Water Management, Climate Resilient Region, Sustainable Land Management, Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity; and People and Partnerships.

In 2021/22 the board's combined funding contributed to the following activities:

DISTRICT SUPPORT

Six Community Landscape Officers (CLOs) supported the region's seven districts:

North East Pastoral; Marla Oodnadatta; North Flinders; Marree Innamincka; Gawler Ranges; Kingoonya and Port Augusta-Quorn.

Thirty-six group meetings were held and CLOs supported their groups to: host community activities and events, plan for further projects; connect with SAAL Landscape programs; and work with communities, land managers and stakeholders around landscape management issues and concerns.

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SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT

- Wild dog management including bi-annual bait injection service, subsidised baits, aerial baiting and coordination with PIRSA for trappers and the bounty
- Five wild-dog trapper workshops held in the Gawler Ranges, Kingoonya and North Flinders districts.
- Control work for Boxthorn undertaken in the Port Augusta-Quorn district
- Mapping of Buffel grass across National and State Highways in SA Arid Lands region
- Weed control including Boxthorn and Mimosa Bush over an area of 3800 hectares
- Monitoring of pig and camel impacts in the Marree Innamincka and Marla Oodnadatta districts and feral pig control in the Innamincka region
- Monitoring the numbers of foxes and cats in the Gawler, Olary and Flinders Ranges
- Goat and fox control in the Gawler, Olary and Flinders Ranges
- Worked with staff at Yappala Indigenous Protected Area (near Hawker) on Pepper Tree control
- Constructed a nursery in Port Augusta to breed the biocontrol cochineal for the ongoing management of opuntia cactus species
- Coordinated cochineal release to tackle opuntia cactus and monitoring at properties across the Gawler Ranges, Port Augusta-Quorn, Kingoonya, North Flinders and North East Pastoral districts
- Stickybeak Days profiling regenerative agriculture works on Buckleboo and Wintinna pastoral properties
- Five pastoral property projects shared in almost \$115,000 in Building Pastoral Sustainability Grants











PROTECTING AND ENHANCING **BIODIVERSITY**

- River Red Gum monitoring in the Saltia Creek area near Port Augusta
- Translocation of Flinders Ranges Purple-spotted Gudgeon to double known populations
- Monitoring population of Senecio megalossus, Xerothamnella parvifolia and Slender Bell-fruit
- Continued audio surveillance survey for Night Parrots, other birds and frogs in the Coongie Lakes Ramsar area
- Fauna surveys for Malleefowl, Dusky Hopping Mouse, Crest-Tailed Mulgara, Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby, Sandhill dunnart and fish (Cooper Creek)
- Monitoring of the Western Quoll and Brushtail Possum populations in the Flinders Ranges to understand how they coped with successive dry years
- A new reintroduction location for Western Quoll in Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park
- Continued feral predator camera monitoring program across the Olary, Flinders and Gawler Ranges comparing fox baited areas with unbaited areas
- Re-assessed herbivore impact on long-lived plants to assess sustainability of current feral herbivore management practice on vegetation types across public and private lands in the Flinders, Olary and Gawler Ranges
- Continued baseline assessments of feral pig and large feral herbivore impacts in the Coongie Lakes Ramsar area
- Continued assessment of vegetation responses to changes in surface water flows from infrastructure developments in the Coongie Lakes Ramsar area
- Monitoring herbivore impact on listed threatened flora
- Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby ground surveys at known locations and herbivore impact assessment sites



PEOPLE AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Support of the Reconciliation Day event in Port Augusta
- Eight native plant workshops with Neville Bonney held at Marree, Yunta, Hawker, Copley, Coober Pedy, Andamooka, Iron Knob and Port Augusta
- Engaging with volunteers and community on Great Artesian Basin Springs projects
- Science week community events in Gawler Ranges and Port Augusta-Quorn districts
- Flora and Fauna ID workshop at Roxby Downs
- Arid Gardening workshop in Marree
- Jill Rigney Performance is Personal workshop in Port Augusta
- 'Ladies Day' workshops for women in remote regions at Quorn and Mannahill
- Chemcert training for land managers in the North East Pastoral district
- Sheep and cattle nutrition workshop in Hawker
- AUSMap training for community members and for Port Augusta Coastcare group members
- Wallaby Walk event and stall at the Quorn Show
- Weed control training in the Port Augusta-Quorn district
- Nature Play teacher professional development workshops in Port Augusta
- Online grant writing workshops across the region
- Support of the Flinders Family Fun Day in Leigh Creek
- Supported Blinman Parachilna Pest Plant Control Group volunteers who treated more than 2000 cacti through chemical and biological control, contributing almost 3500 volunteer hours in 2021/22
- Support for two new volunteer groups in the Gawler Ranges, helping with weed control and regenerative grazing projects
- Partnered with Nature Foundation SA to run activities at Hiltaba and Witchelina for its Kids on Country program
- Kids day for Indulkana Anangu School to collaborate and broaden knowledge
- Hosted the board's first Aboriginal Engagement Network













WATER MANAGEMENT

- Implementation of the Far North Prescribed Wells Water Allocation Plan
- Supporting the Water Accounting Advisory Group
- Delivering the 'Accounting for Groundwater take in the Far North Prescribed Wells Area' and the 'Assessment of metering and monitoring options for pastoral water points' projects
- Water management advice and property visits
- Administration of the Water Affecting Activity Control Policy through permits, enquiries and general communications
- Partner in Improving Great Artesian Basin Drought Resilience (IGABDR) program to support activities that contribute to water savings and management of the GAB resource
- Support for Lake Eyre Basin Community Advisory Committee
- Assistance with developing the draft Lake Eyre Basin Strategic Adaptive Management Plan to support riparian and spring management in the basin
- Working with the Great Artesian Basin officials on the development of an implementation plan for the GAB Strategic Management Plan



CLIMATE RESILIENT REGION

- Supported six pastoral businesses through the four stage Property Management Planning program
- Regional carbon accounting workshops to increase knowledge of carbon markets
- 'What you might need to know about carbon farming' workshop in Hawker
- Regional Pastoral Field Day, held over two days in Port Augusta with 273 attendees
- Cricket and Conversations Pastoral workshop in Coober Pedv
- · Marree Pastoral Bootcamp

PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- SA Arid Lands Landscape Board Facebook page
- SA Arid Lands Landscape Board website
- Quarterly Across the Outback bulletins, including two print editions
- The Board's Five Year Landscape Plan and Business Plan
- Five newsletters for the Port Augusta-Quorn district









Want to know your levy address?

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