Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
Meeting Minutes

Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board - Meeting 20, Day 1			
Date:	**Wednesday, 9 April 2025**	**Start: 9:00am**	**Finish: 5:00pm**
Location:	**Scotdesco Community**		
Attendees:	**Brenz Saunders (Chair), Peter Burgoyne, Tapaya Edwards, Wanda Miller, Jeremy Lebois, Debbie Hansen.**		
Apologies	**Duane Edwards.**		
Staff:	**Kim Krebs (General Manager), Thuy Phan (Business Manager), Olivia O'Leary-Fletcher (Executive Officer), Yasmin Wolf (Operations Manager), Dalin Song (Business Services Coordinator)**		
Guests:	**Tim Hall (NP&WS) [Item 3.1]; Deanne Caruso (Telstra); Reshmi Reddy, Amanda Beere (Fulton Hogan) [Item 3.2]; David Knight (SafeWork SA) [Item 4.1]**		

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Welcome, Apologies, Acknowledgement of Country, and Confirmation of Agenda

The meeting opened at 9:07am. The Chair, Brenz, welcomed all present and provided an acknowledgement of Country to Elders past, present, and emerging, and their relationship with land, sea, and Country.

Apologies were received from Duane Edwards.

There were no additional items raised and the agenda for Meeting 20 of the board was adopted.

1.2 Conflict of Interest and Related Party Disclosures

The Chair requested the board to review the agenda and declare any potential conflicts of interest. There were no declared conflicts of interest.

2. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

2.1 Review of Decisions and Minutes of Meeting 19

The Chair requested the board to review the minutes of the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board (AWLB) Meeting 19. The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate reflection of Meeting 19 and were adopted without any changes.

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Endorsed** the minutes of AW Landscape Board Meeting 19, held on 6th February 2025 without amendment.

Moved: Jeremy Lebois *Seconded: Debbie Hansen* *Outcome:* ***CARRIED***

2.2 **Business Arising**

The General Manager updated the board on actions from Meeting 19 and their status. Progression of actions were noted by the board.

AWLB Action Register:

- Item ID 11 – Kim has met with Botanic Gardens to discuss the establishment of their trust. They noted that it requires a significant investment of time and resources, with financial outcomes expected over the long term. Kim also suggested exploring potential opportunities with Unity of First People of Australia; however, it essential for the board to develop a policy statement to guide this direction, which will be presented at a future meeting in 2025.
- Item ID 31 – on track for June 2025.
- Item ID 38 – board agreed to close this action and await the outcomes of the *Native Vegetation Act*.
- Item ID 42 – to explore the possibility of a presentation from SAWDAG at a future board meeting.
- Item ID 44 – will be complete through RLP.
- Item ID 50 – will be complete through RLP.
- Item ID 67 – funding may potentially be sourced through LPF for a statewide ranger forum. There were discussions about holding the event in late-Summer, with the intention of either fully cover costs or subsidising travel costs.
- Item ID 85 – DEW CE Ben Bruce to be invited to board meeting in June or December 2025 to discuss what the partnership between AW and DEW should look like. The board discussed the preference for December.
- Item ID 140 – Kim advised she plans to speak with all LHA GMs before sending the letter.

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the progression of actions and business arising since the previous meeting

Outcome: ***NOTED***

Actions

1. Add to the 2025 agenda for the board to discuss a policy that sets out the principles for why and with whom the Board would support progressing any potential funding support through a trust mechanism.
2. Close item ID 38; for the board to review the *Native Vegetation Act* once it is complete.
3. Invite SAWDAG to present at a future board meeting to discuss their activities regarding wild dog management.
4. Invite Ben Bruce, DEW CE to December 2025 meeting to progress the partnership agreement.

2.3 **Chair's Update**

Brenz provided an update to the board on his recent events and meetings attended since Meeting 19 including:

- Landscape SA state induction event for new and returning board members.
- LSA Chairs forum in March.
- Brenz has been invited to participate as a panellist at the SA Industry Climate Change Conference.

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the Chair's update

Outcome: ***NOTED***

2.4 **General Manager's Update**

Kim informed the board about the General Manager's activities since Board Meeting 19. The board was informed on key matters relating to funding, staff, partnerships, workplace health and safety, and government which included:

- Negotiations with the Australian Government were finalised on 7 March 2025 – nearly two years since AW submitted the five-year funding application.
- Following the Ministerial Roundtable on buffel grass, the Deputy Premier has requested AW to coordinate a business case for funding. The draft proposal is seeking $15M over seven years.
- A letter has been sent to ARTC signed by AW, FWCAC, MT/OV, YCMB, and NPAC Chairs. There is a proposition to meet with them on May 20th in Ceduna so they can explain how they're managing buffel grass along the corridor and for AW to lead a discussion for a solutions-based way forward
- There have been no WHS incident reports since the previous General Manager's update.
- The Operations Team have commenced the busy field program schedule with new project officer Taylah Pitfield replacing Ashlee Benc while she is on maternity leave.
- Following discussions with the DEW CE, contract renewal talks have begun to offer Kim a five-year contract.
- AW is exploring collaboration on several upcoming projects, including a Learning on Country program with the Crows Foundation and environmental rehabilitation/revegetation at the Mintabie site with APY and Dept of Energy & Mining.
- The current focus of AW staff is community consultation for the next Regional Landscape Plan.

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the General Manager's update

Outcome: ***NOTED***

2.5 **Board Member Roundtable**

The Chair requested each board member to raise any concerns and/or discuss recent ventures.

- Jeremy – the Ceduna Area School visited the Maralinga site last week and walked away knowing what really happened in their backyard. There are plans to have another clean up at the end of this year. Jeremy attended the inaugural Ministerial Aboriginal Advisory Group meeting on 21 March, saying that it was very good and forward looking. They also agreed that all national parks in SA should have a name in language. Road repairs on Anne Beadell Hwy is making some progress.
- Peter – the board expressed concerns about water quality monitoring and ecological protection at the Iluka mine site. They would like to visit the mine site to ensure proper measures are being taken.
- Debbie – concerns were raised about Yalata ladies needing additional support following the loss of a key member. She requested support from all partners for a women's trip to help pass on knowledge and leadership to the next generation.
- Tapaya – discussions were held regarding recent APY Land Management talks with AW on current and potential projects, and whether AW has the capacity to invest in both funding and job creation in the APY Lands and Anangu regions.
- Wanda – the board discussed concerns regarding National Parks mining tenements and exploration, and how they're collaborating with FWCAC and co-management boards. The board agreed that the Co-management Agreement should be reviewed, using Maralinga's Co-management board as a model for replication.

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the updates from board members on events attended since the last board meeting

Outcome: ***NOTED***

Actions

1. Request a site visit to Iluka as part June 2025 meeting and invite their representatives to join the board meeting.
2. Kim to request water quality testing at the Iluka mine site from EPA.
3. Yasmin to explore partner capacity to support a women's trip focused on intergenerational leadership and knowledge transfer.
4. To invite Money Mob to a future board meeting to discuss collaboration potentials, and for the Board to explore a "green economics plans" that could support Anangu small businesses that delivery on Healthy Country Plan activities
5. Kim to request information about the mining tenements and exploration in National Parks and how they're working with Native Title bodies and Co-management boards to manage this.

3. STRATEGIC ITEMS

3.1 **National Parks & Wildlife Services Update**

Tim Hall, Eyre and Far West National Parks and Wildlife Manager, presented to the board an update on Far West activities in the AW region.

The Ceduna team with FWC Rangers and CAC staff have replaced signs at the Bunda Cliff lookout, installed Koonalda Homestead signage and assisted with the project camera installation. The team have been working to ensure safety and compliance at Bunda Cliffs and Eyre Highway. Tim advised that progress has been made on the Koonalda Conservation Management Plan, which has now been adopted. Cave security has been installed and the board was shown the live cameras feed.

The board requested the removal of a photo from what appears to be a government report due to cultural insensitivities, advising that the image should not be shown to anyone. The board expressed concern over the cultural advice provided for the photo and emphasised that many groups are culturally connected to the Cave.

Tapaya raised concerns about Education Department staff posting photos of the cave on social media, reiterating that such images should not be posted due to the site's sacred nature. A suggestion was made to develop an educational resource specifically for staff at Anangu schools. Kim will discuss this matter with Tim privately.

Decision
The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the update from Tim Hall on Eyre and Far West National Parks

Outcome: ***NOTED***

Action

1. The board made a request for the photo on the Koonalda Conservation Management Plan to be removed.

3.2 **Telstra Presentation – Fibre Optic Cable Laying Update**

Deanne Caruso, Senior Indigenous Affairs Advisor at Telstra, presented to the board about the Telstra intercity fibre project showcasing a map of the project across the country and the AW region. She advised construction is underway on the national project which is an opportunity to add more capacity and coverage for remote communities around Australia.

The board discussed the limited coverage at Scotdesco and whether this project will increase that capacity. Deanne advised these cables will provide faster and more data transfer capabilities and the benefit of coverage will be when towers are connected to the ends of these cables. The board agreed to provide Deanne with an outline of coverage issues experienced in the region.

Deanne discussed the flora and fauna surveys for the trenching required for the cable optic fibre infrastructure. Reshmi, from Fulton Hogan, advised there were no threatened plant species identified. Buffel grass was discussed and the need for vehicle hygiene and effective decontamination. Fulton Hogan advised the necessary measures have been taken such as pegging the area, vehicle hygiene register, and training and reinforcement. Kim asked about the compliance and Reshmi advised the construction team have measures in place to maintain compliance and that Telstra also conducts audits on these.

Yasmin raised concerns about reports of tracks being used. The board agreed they would provide suggestions to Deanne about the preference of specific access tracks and requested an overview of routes used so that AWLB staff can effectively follow up on potential buffel sites.

The board discussed the possibility of AWLB providing a toolbox on-site for the construction team to offer education about the AW region. This opportunity will be explored further in offline discussions.

There were discussions around collaboration on species management. Kim will send through information to share with the construction team and ecologist regarding a fauna spotter. AW may also be able to suggest suitable fauna spotters.

Deanne explained that the project's design process involved multiple realignments to avoid wombat warrens and cultural heritage sites, with guidance from cultural monitors. Another wombat survey is scheduled for June/July in the Nullarbor Wilderness Area and AWLB has been offered an opportunity to collaborate.

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the presentation from Telstra and Fulton Hogan about intercity fibre project.

Outcome: ***NOTED***

Actions

1. The board to initiate a discussion with Telstra (through Deanne) about the coverage issues experienced in the region.
2. The board to keep in contact with Deanne to discuss buffel grass monitoring sites, education opportunities with the construction team, and synchronicity of flora and fauna surveys.
3. Kim to follow up with Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board regarding rules related to farmers closing up wombat holes
4. Kim to talk with Tim Hall regarding their cameras capturing evidence of trucks using a business road to possibly access the rail corridor.

3.3	**Biodiversity Act Update** Kim provided an update to the board on the new Biodiversity Bill being developed by the State Government. The board participated in a workshop at Meeting 16 (March 2024) as part of the first round of consultation to create this piece of legislation. Kim advised the Bill is currently in its final draft stage and should be considered by Parliament later this year. Decision The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board: 1. **Noted** the progress of the Biodiversity Bill by the Department for Environment and Water *Outcome:* ***NOTED***
3.4	**Climate Ready Initiative** The State Government has established a Climate Ready Initiative with the expectation all State Government agencies will develop their own plans on how they will contribute to climate risk management requirements and a net zero government operations. AWLB, along with other Landscape Boards, will need to undertake: • Establishment of a policy that creates the governance and resourcing required to successfully achieve set targets by 31 December 2025. • Commencement of annual reporting to the Minister Climate, Environment and Water from 30 June 2026. • Development of a carbon management plan by 30 June 2028. • Assessment of climate risk and implement climate risk management actions by 30 June 2028. • Provide a report on the progress and delivery of any actions under the Net Zero Emissions for Government Operations program. Kim advised the board that she will be working with the other Landscape Boards to ensure a consistent and relevant approach. The board noted this directive is quite a challenge for AWLB because of the amount of driving required in remote areas and the inability to use electric vehicles as a substitute. Decision The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board: 1. **Noted** the directive from the Government of South Australia that requires the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board to be effectively operating under a zero emissions program by June 2028. *Outcome:* ***NOTED***
	Bronwyn Scott (Acting CEO Scotdesco) officially welcomed the board to Scotdesco and shared some history of Scotdesco. She discussed Scotdesco is 25,000 acres and used to be farmed, now their focus is hosting schools from across Australia. After the sheep left the property, the land has healed itself, although they have struggled to grow saltbush. As a community, one of their biggest challenges is lack of water for the community.

Communications Update

Dalin presented to the board communication activities undertaken on their behalf since the last meeting, highlighting recent communication achievements including:

- Over 300 copies of the Summer 2024 issue of Palya were distributed in December/January with a further 136 copies downloaded from the website.
- A media release was sent out about the nomination of buffel grass as a Weed of National Significance.
- TAFE information sheet was developed for Anangu students TAFE in the APY Lands
- Facebook audience has been growing steadily; the most popular posts have been about natural colour variations in dingoes and bidding farewell to Julie O'Toole.

Decision
The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the progress of AW's communications and continue to seek ways to contribute to future communication materials

Outcome: ***NOTED***

4. FINANCIAL & HR MATTERS

4.1 **SafeWork SA Report**

David Knight from SafeWork SA joined the board online to discuss the recent SafeWork SA Report conducted for AWLB and the importance of managing organisational risk within a complex business structure like AWLB. He explained that the WHS Act outlines the duties and responsibilities of key roles, noting that AW Board Members are classified as Officers under the Act. David highlighted the legal concept of "reasonably foreseeable" which refers to the extent to which an individual or entity could be held culpable for failings that lead to a fatality or serious injury. The board acknowledged that incidents deemed 'reasonably foreseeable' incidents require control measures and risk management strategies.

David outlined the consequences for non-compliance and clarified the role of an Officer in verifying and ensuring compliance. The board raised questions about the structure of culpability in situations where funding restraints exist, and how due diligence is applied in such contexts. The importance of the term 'reasonably foreseeable' was reiterated, highlighting the need to demonstrate reasonable actions taken to mitigate risks and hazards.

Brenz posed a question to the board members: given that funding is constrained by government allocation, how does due diligence apply within this framework? If funding is required to address reasonably foreseeable incidents, SafeWork would investigate whether reasonable steps were taken to seek that funding.

The board agreed they would prefer to receive the WHS updates at board meetings through Kim's general manager update.

Decision
The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the presentation from David Knight about organisational risk and officer roles and responsibilities

Outcome: ***NOTED***

4.2	**Board's Cultural Intellectual Property Policy** The General Manager has engaged Terri Janke & Company to develop Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property (ICIP) contractual clauses for the board. With the commencement of this work, discussion was held regarding the board's current ICIP policy and the need to rewrite it to ensure that engagement and free, prior, and informed consent are obtained from the board. Kim requested the board to confirm their intention to approach this work through the lens of their role as cultural advisors, and to review and provide feedback on the preliminary draft ICIP policy. The board agreed to schedule a workshop in June 2025 to develop an updated ICIP policy. Kim encouraged board members to take time to reflect on the discussion and bring their thoughts to the upcoming workshop. Decision The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board: 1. **Endorsed** the revision of the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board's current cultural intellectual property policy to improve the management of Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property (ICIP) across the board's programs and projects, with a workshop to be scheduled in June 2025. *Moved: Peter Burgoyne* *Seconded: Tapaya Edwards* *Outcome:* ***CARRIED*** Action 1. Olivia to post/email draft ICIP policy in track changes. 2. The Board to workshop an ICIP policy at the June 2025 meeting
4.3	**Financial Report (as at February 2025)** Kim presented the board with the income and expenditure dashboard reports as at February 2025. These reports showed actual income received is $2.69M and actual expenses is $1.88M. Notable financial activities included the Climate Smart Agriculture project and Sandhill Dunnart project have been finalised. The board agreed to endorse the progress against the dashboard reports. Decision The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board: 1. **Endorsed** the progress against the February 2025 income and expenditure dashboard reports *Moved: Jeremy Lebois* *Seconded: Wanda Miller* *Outcome: All in favour -* ***CARRIED***
4.4	**Financial Delegations** To support the board in balancing operational flexibility with governance controls, it was proposed that the General Manager's delegation remain at $2.5M for 2024-25. This approach was discussed in the context of enabling timely and effective decision making on high value financial matters, particularly in dealings with the Australian Government. Consequently, the General Manager signed an agreement reflecting the reinstated delegation amount of $2.5M, overriding the previously reduced limit of $1.5M agreed at Meeting 19. It was also proposed that the General Manager's delegation revert to $1.5M for 2025-26, with a paper to be submitted to the board in June 2025 to formally endorse this change. The board noted the delegations and endorsed the proposed financial delegation. Decision The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board: 1. **Endorsed** to maintain financial delegation at $2.5M for the General Manager for 2024-25 *Moved: Peter Burgoyne* *Seconded: Jeremy Lebois* *Outcome:* ***CARRIED***

4.5 **WHS Policies & Procedures**

Dalin requested the board to review and approve three new work health safety procedures which aim to ensure the continuous improvement and compliance of safety. These include procedures related injury management (non-work related); discrimination, bullying, and harassment contact officers; and psychological health. The board were also asked to note the new corporate procedure approved by the General Manager regarding parental (birth and adoption) leave procedure and guideline.

The board reviewed the procedures in their briefing pack and agreed on the recommendation to approve and note the procedures as presented.

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Reviewed** and **approved** the following three new work health and safety procedures:
    a. AW-WHS00062A Injury Management (Non-Work Related) Procedure
    b. AW-WHS00067A Discrimination, Bullying and Harassment Contact Officers Procedure
    c. AW-WHS00077A Psychological Health Procedure
2. **Noted** the new corporate procedure 'AWPOL00057A Parental (Birth and Adoption) Leave Procedure and Guideline' approved by the General Manager

Moved: Jeremy Lebois *Seconded: Tapaya Edwards* *Outcome:* ***CARRIED***

5. PROJECT MATTERS

5.1 **2024/25 Program Status**

Yasmin presented the board with an overview of the status of current programs, funded in the 2024-25 financial year. There are currently nine programs in progress including:

1. Malleefowl – protecting malleefowl and sandhill dunnart in the Great Victoria Desert
2. Sustainable agriculture support – helping famers use climate-smart farming methods
3. Pastoral development in APY and Yalata – supporting Anangu land managers to develop skills in sustainable pastoral practices
4. Carbon farming outreach – helping Anangu understand carbon markets and ways to reduce emissions through land management
5. Buffel grass and camel control – reducing spread of buffel and managing feral camels
6. Statewide buffel grass management – raising awareness of environmental threat and coordinating efforts to prevent spread
7. Health Country community leadership – helping Anangu rangers manage feral animals, protect coastal areas, and care for Country
8. Health Country planning (stage 1) – engage Anangu and key stakeholders to understand whether their HCP aspirations remain aligned with the current RLP
9. APY Land Management support – assisting with warru conservation and small vertebrate trapping

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the update on the 2024-25 funded programs

Outcome: ***NOTED***

Actions

1. Board requested a site visit to the warru pintji to coincide with an Amata/Yulara based Board meeting in March 2026
2. Kim was asked to investigate Authorised Officer training for Ranger team members

5.2 **Sandhill Dunnart Program**

AWLB was granted an additional $600K following their letter to Minister Plibersek about the inequities of the initial funding granted to deliver remote and culturally appropriate programs. The sandhill dunnart program was subsequently devised to implement conservation actions in Yellabinna and Yumbarra. The board were explained the project will focus on targeted predator control, tracking predator movements, and vegetation mapping and fire management. The board discussed the importance of dingoes to the ecosystem and support the project. A name for the project will be discussed further out-of-session.

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the March 2025 adopted program 'Protecting Anangu cultural species and habitat: conservation of the sandhill dunnart at Yellabinna and Yumbarra'

Outcome: ***NOTED***

Action

1. Board members to reflect on a new name for the sandhill dunnart project.

5.3 **Engagement Strategy**

This item was deferred to the June 2025 meeting.

6. CLOSING ITEMS

6.1 **Correspondence**

Board members were presented with a copy of the correspondence table and were advised that they may seek a copy of correspondence at any time. The overview of the incoming and outgoing correspondence was accepted.

Brenz noted Kim will be representing AWLB at the Country Cabinet in the APY Lands in May. Kim advised there will likely be an excursion to the pintji and landscape/livestock management centres. Brenz also noted the Climate Change Conference panellist invitation will need to be added to the register

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the incoming and outgoing correspondence since meeting 19

Outcome: ***NOTED***

Action

1. Olivia to add the Climate Change Conference panellist invitation to the correspondence register

6.2 **Proposed Meeting Dates and Location for next Board Meeting**

Kim advised the Landscape SA Conference is upcoming next on 13-14 May 2025. Meeting 21 of the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board is scheduled for 23-25 June 2025 in Ceduna with a possible field trip to Googs.

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Noted** the date, time, and location for Meeting 21 at Ceduna for 23-25 June 2025

Outcome: ***NOTED***

6.3 **Decisions of AW Landscape Board Meeting 20**

The board agreed that the decisions and actions of Meeting 20 were a true and accurate representation.

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Accepted** the decisions as a true representation of Meeting 20

Outcome: ***NOTED***

6.4 **Key Messages for the Minister**

The board decided on key topics from Meeting 20 they would like included in the letter to the Minister:

- Water workshop by DEW
- Broad overview of projects – highlight works from different LHAs
- Cultural Intelligence progress and aspirations of the Board
- Meeting at Scotdesco – highlighting the work at Scotdesco
- Telstra – proactiveness from AW in engaging to manage the buffel.
- SafeWork SA presentation

Decision

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board:

1. **Discussed** the key topics to include with the minutes in a letter to the Minister

Outcome: ***NOTED***

Action:

1. Write a letter to the Minister detailing key points of Meeting 20 and attaching the draft minutes

Meeting Close

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board Meeting 20 and the meeting was closed at 3:14pm

Endorsed by:

Peter Burgoyne, Acting Presiding Member Meeting 21
ALINYTJARA WILURARA LANDSCAPE BOARD
Date: 18/07/2025