

MINUTES

SA Arid Lands Landscape Board Meeting #32

Wednesday 27 August 2025

10:00am – 1:45pm

Location:	MS Teams - ONLINE	
Attendees:	Douglas Lillecrapp – Chair	Scott Michael - Board Member
	Jodie Harris – Board Member	Chevahn Hoad – Board Member
	Jodie Gregg-Smith - General Manager	Abby Richards - Executive Officer
SAAL Staff:	Louise Myers – Manager Business Support (LM) Items 32.9, 32.10	
	Cherie Gerlach – Manager Partnership and Community Engagement (CG) Items 32.12	
	Ben Moulton – Manager, Landscape Operations (BM) Items 32.14, 32.15, 36.16, 36.17	
	Aaron Smith – Senior Water Resource Officer (AS) Item 32.13	
	Julia Short – Water Resource Officer (JS) Item 32.13	
Guests:	NIL	
Apologies:	Mark Mayfield – Board Member, Sanchia Treloar – Board Member, Ellen Litchfield – Deputy Chair	
Time	Item#	Items
1000		Pre meeting discussion – Board and General Manager only
1005	32.1	Welcome and apologies The chair opened the meeting with acknowledgment of Country and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apology received from Mark Mayfield, Sanchia Treloar, Ellen Litchfield
	32.2	Accept agenda The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board accepted .
	32.3	Declarations of interest Conflict of Interest was declared by Scott Michael that he has accepted the role as a committee member of the Livestock SA Rangeland Producer Advisory Group.
	32.4	Acceptance of minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAALLB Meeting #31 25 June 2025 – accepted Jodie Harris. Seconded Chevahn Hoad • SAALLB In Camera #31 25 June 2025 – accepted Jodie Harris. Seconded Scott Michael • SAALLB In Camera Circular Motion Out Of Session #22 8 Aug 2025 – accepted Jodie Harris. Seconded Chevahn Hoad and Scott Michael
	32.5	Action list review The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board noted the Action List status.
1022	32.6	IN CAMERA
	32.7	Connecting Board Members and Groups A new process of connecting Board Members and Landscape Group Members was presented to the board. This process will be put forward to the October Board Meeting when the chairs of each Landscape Group are in attendance. The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the process of connecting board members and groups.
	32.8	Board and Committees Circular and Guidelines The board was presented an update provided from the Director, Cabinet Office, Department of the Premier and Cabinet on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premier and Cabinet Circular PC016 – Boards and Committees: Remuneration, Governance and Diversity • Guidelines for South Australian Government Boards and Committees – Information for Members and Public Sector Agencies.

		<p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the updates to the Cabinet Circulation PC016 and the Guidelines for South Australian Government Boards and Committees.
1100		<i>Louise Myers, Manager Business Support joined the meeting at this time</i>
1100	32.9	<p>Governance and Finance Update</p> <p>The Manager Business Support presented the GFC Recommendations to the Board following the GFC meeting that was held 8 August 2025.</p> <p><u>External State Carryover 2024-25</u></p> <p>NOTE: As stated under 'Budget Adjustments' the Roadside Weed and Pest Control Program funded by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport has been added into the External State Carryover request following advice from Audit. (updated information since the paper's original publication)</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accepted the financial overview and associated reports. • Approved the allocation of carryover funds for 2024-25 Carryover Request - \$2,071,392 comprising variety of funding sources, inclusive of \$300k of the Roadside Weed and Pest Control Program as stated in 'Budget Adjustments'. • Approved the granting of the Instruments of Authorisation for Procurement – Contract Pre-Approval – Payment and Disbursement and Contract Execution – Purchase Cards, to be executed under to Common Seal by the Presiding Member. • Endorsed the submission of the draft Financial Statements to meet audit requirements, noting the material change which was endorsed by the Presiding Member. • Endorsed the Financial Compliance Program 2024/25 • Noted the risk attached to the late raising, and subsequent late payment of water levies, noted the board's lack of visibility over MyWater levies and payments into the LAF, and endorsed the recommendation that boards collectively communicate with DEW to develop improved reporting mechanisms. • Noted the agreements executed covering the period 28 May 2025 – 30 June 2025 • Noted the sponsorship report. • Noted the Work Health and Safety Report and endorsed the revised SAALLB WHS Committee Terms of Reference • Noted the related party disclosures report
	32.10	IN CAMERA
1133		<i>Louise Myers, Manager Business Support left the meeting at this time</i>
1134	32.11	<p>Project Status Report</p> <p>The board was presented the highlights from the 2024/25 Annual Achievements Report and the Project Status Report for June 2025 for approved programs and projects as they align to the board's 2021-26 strategic priorities.</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the 2024/25 Annual Achievements Report and the June 2025 Project Status Reports.
1135	32.12	<p>Draft Regional Landscape Plan Update</p> <p>The General Manager provided an update on the progression of consultation on the review of its five-year strategic Regional Landscape Plan.</p> <p>A draft version will be presented to the board at the October Board Meeting.</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the Regional Landscape Plan review update.
1142		<i>Aaron Smith and Julia Short joined the meeting at this time.</i>

1142 32.13	<p>Water Advisory Committee Overview</p> <p>The Senior Water Project Officer provided an overview of the current water related activities and issues which included:</p> <p><u>Lake Eyre Basin Alliance – Okavango River Basin Workshop</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Water Project Officer recently attended a Cubango Okavango River Basin 3-day workshop in Botswana and visited the Okavango Delta. <p><u>Finnis Springs Station</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the last Board meeting, SAAL wrote to the Arabana Aboriginal Corporation (AAC) advising them of the Board’s financial position on the aerial control of horses on Finnis Springs. No further update. <p><u>Friends of Mound Springs – Springs Fencing and Maintenance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update provided with the WAC working with Arabana on developing a springs maintenance program. A model will be presented to the board at the October Board Meeting. <p><u>Temporary increase on Pastoral Stocking Rates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAAL, Dew Water Licencing and the Pastoral Unit have been in discussion about the short-term increase of pastoral stocking rates and how to consider the increase in water. <p><u>Old Peak Telegraph Station – Mine Shaft Fence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on the collapsed fencing around an old mine shaft at the Peak Overland Telegraph. <p><u>Water Accounting update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Water Accounting Advisory Group (WAAG) was provided a Water Accounting update via email on 27 June 2025 summarising findings to date from the 5 trial sites, including winter and summer water use averages and observations with equipment installation costs and reliability. <p><u>Water Affecting Activity Control Policy - Review</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A second draft of the WAA Control Policy has been completed. Draft to be circulated to relevant people in DEW for advice and other Landscape Boards. Two months public consultation is required for the proposed revisions in the WAA Control Policy and a consultation strategy will be developed once revisions from DEW have been received. <p><u>CSO Dams Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update provided on the recent knowledge sharing session with the CSO that was held in Mount Barker to learn about dams in the landscape and interpretation of the Lands SA Act 2019. <p><u>Unauthorised Dams Guidelines</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief overview on internal guidelines that have been drafted to guide the board compliance program and assist the process of timely assessment of unauthorised dams/structure and triaging of potential compliance sites. <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> noted the matters outlined within paper and attachments. noted the update and endorsed a letter to be developed and sent to senior executives in the Department for Energy and Mining and Department for Environment and Water
1216	<i>Aaron Smith and Julia Short left the meeting at this time.</i>
1233	<i>Ben Moulton joined the meeting at this time.</i>
1234 32.14	<p>Biosecurity Overview</p> <p>The General Manager provided an update on the recent activities undertaken regionally within the Biosecurity Team which included:</p> <p><u>HR</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance Officer position has been advertised with applications closing Sunday 17 August. <p><u>Weeds</u></p> <p><u>Demand for Cactus Control</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing demand for cochineal across the Landscape Board region <p><u>Roadside Weed Control Collaboration</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Level Agreements and project plans have been finalised for Department for Infrastructure and Transport funded roadside weed control projects.

	<p><u>Priority Weed Communications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Priority Weed Fact Sheets have been revised, and a series of draft district-specific priority weed posters have been developed. The posters and fact sheets will be provided as handouts at district events and meetings. The fact sheets will also be available on SAAL's website. <p><u>State Buffel Grass Steering Committee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAAL General Manager and Manager Landscape Operations attended with discussions covering emerging state Buffel Grass issues and actions including flood impacts and an ARTC update. Work continues at a statewide level to support integrated management, a review of the Buffel Grass Strategic Plan. <p><u>Feral Pigs</u></p> <p><u>Feral Pig Activity and Control Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports of feral pig breeding, spread, and associated impacts continue to increase across the NEP region. In response, a project plan is being developed to guide collaborative efforts with landholders and support the implementation of effective on-ground control measures. <p><u>Surveillance and Response near Quorn</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feral pigs were recently shot just outside Quorn, with additional signs of disturbance and scat confirming ongoing activity in the area. Follow-up surveillance included the deployment of camera traps and a targeted thermal survey using drones. However, no further pigs were detected on the affected or surrounding properties. <p><u>Emerging Activity in Warburton and Innamincka</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FeralScan reports and community input and direct reporting to the board have begun to emerge from the Warburton region following recent flood events, indicating increased pig activity. Significant signs of feral pigs have also been recorded around Innamincka. Aerial control operations are scheduled to commence in early November, with a follow-up program planned for May 2026. <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> noted the most recent biosecurity activities undertaken regionally.
32.15	In Camera
32.16	<p>SA Wild Dog Trapping Program Funding 2025-26</p> <p>Approval was sought from the board for an annual financial contribution of \$18,750 (ex gst) towards the 2025-26 Trapper Program coordinated by PIRSA.</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved a financial co-funding contribution of \$18,750 (ex. GST) towards the 2025-2026 SA Trapper Program coordinated by PIRSA.
32.17	In Camera
1317	<i>Ben left the meeting at this time</i>
1317	<p>32.18 Presiding Member Report</p> <p>The board was updated on the Presiding member's recent activities.</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> noted the Presiding Member report.
32.19	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> noted the correspondence report
32.20	<p>Public Comment</p> <p>NIL</p>
	<p>Forward Agenda Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group Chairs Tenure – October meeting Online 'Out of Session' meeting for the Regional Landscape Plan.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Regional Landscape Plan presented to the board before public consultation – October Meeting Day 2 – Cherie and Kate • Okavango Presentation to the board • SIMEC – Peter Woods • Electronet – new lines through the region to support the renewable project • Livestock SA
32.21	Board Communique <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the Plan • Wild Dog Management • Goat Control in the region and works with landholders • Project Status Report for 2024-25
32.22	Any other business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December Meeting – all agreed to move to Friday 12th December 1 day only in Port Augusta. • Brief update on the recent successful Ranger Gathering held at Finnis Springs.
1345	Meeting Closed

Approved

Douglas G. Lillecrapp

Date

24/10/2025

Douglas Lillecrapp, Presiding Member
SA Arid Lands Landscape Board

FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS

Identified	Item	RO	Due Date
June 2025	Group Chairs Tenure	CG	October 2025
June 2025	Draft Regional Landscape Plan (Day 2)	CG KC	August 2025