

# MINUTES

## SA Arid Lands Landscape Board Meeting #31

Wednesday 25 June 2025

8:30am – 5:00pm

Location:	Roxby Downs	
Attendees:	Douglas Lillecrapp – Chair Scott Michael - Board Member Mark Mayfield – Board Member Jodie Gregg-Smith - General Manager	Sanchia Treloar – Board Member Jodie Harris – Board Member Chevahn Hoad – Board Member Abby Richards - Executive Officer
SAAL Staff:	Louise Myers – Manager Business Support (LM) Items 31.10, 31.11 Cherie Gerlach – Manager Partnership and Community Engagement (CG) Items 31.18, 31.19, 31.28 Kate Cornelsen – MERI Officer (KC) Item 31.28 Victoria Love – Community Landscape Officer	
Guests:	NIL	
Apologies:	Ellen Litchfield – Deputy Chair, Ben Moulton – Manager, Landscape Operations (BM)	
Time	Item#	Items
0830		<b>Pre meeting discussion – Board and General Manager only</b>
0911	31.1	<b>Welcome and apologies</b> The chair opened the meeting with acknowledgment of Country and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apology received from Ellen Litchfield.
	31.2	<b>Accept agenda</b> The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board <b>accepted</b> .
	31.3	<b>Declarations of interest</b> Nil
	31.4	<b>Acceptance of minutes</b> SAALLB Meeting #30 30 April-1May 2025 – <b>accepted</b> Jodie Harris. <b>Seconded</b> Mark Mayfield SAALLB In Camera #30 30 April-1May 2025 – <b>accepted</b> Jodie Harris. <b>Seconded</b> Mark Mayfield
	31.5	<b>Action list review</b> The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board <b>noted</b> the Action List status.
0924	31.6	<b>In Camera</b>
1005	31.7	<b>Board Meeting Frequency / Format</b> The Board reviewed and discussed the suitability of the board meeting format, timing and scheduling.  The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>discussed</b> a range of options, including, and not, those listed in the paper</li> <li>• <b>agreed</b> on the preferred future meeting formatting/scheduling outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Format</b> Day 1 – Standing agenda items, Big Rocks and In Camera Items Day 2 – Debrief of Day 1, presentations and guest speakers, public gallery</li> <li>○ <b>Schedule</b> Remain unchanged, with the possibility that the December meeting may be held over one day only, subject to a lighter agenda</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
1025	31.8	<b>Landscape Board Forum 2025</b> The General Manager provided an overview on the Landscape Board Forum that was held in Adelaide 13-15 May 2025 with SAAL Staff and two board members in attendance. Key matters included water compliance, climate impacts and regional similarities for better collaboration.  The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>noted</b> the Landscape Board Forum report.</li> </ul>

<p>1031 31.9</p>	<p><b>International Rangelands Congress 2025 – Overview</b></p> <p>The General Manager provided an overview on the recent International Rangelands Congress which was staged in Adelaide 2-6 June 2025.</p> <p>The event was attended by several SAAL staff and board members who were involved in several aspects of the congress which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-congress Tours</li> <li>• SAAL regional sponsorship</li> <li>• Several Presentations</li> <li>• Hosted Sessions</li> <li>• SAAL Stall</li> </ul> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>noted</b> the International Rangelands Congress 2025 overview.</li> </ul>
<p>1110 31.10</p>	<p><b>Governance and Finance Update</b></p> <p>The Manager Business Support presented the GFC Recommendations to the Board following the GFC meeting that was held 11 June 2025.</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>appointed</b> Chevahn Hoad to the Governance and Finance Committee in accordance with the current members term ending 30/01/2027.</li> <li>• <b>appointed</b> Mark Mayfield to the Water Advisory Committee in accordance with the current members term ending 30/01/2027.</li> <li>• <b>reappointed</b> Ellen Litchfield and Scott Michael to the Water Advisory Committee, term ending 30/01/2027</li> <li>• <b>reappointed</b> Sanchia Treloar to the Governance and Finance Committee, term ending 30/01/2027</li> <li>• <b>accepted</b> the financial overview and associated reports.</li> <li>• <b>adopted</b> the Income Management Policy with amendments</li> <li>• <b>adopted</b> the Debt Write-Off Waiver Policy</li> <li>• <b>approved</b> the treatment of the inherited aged debt associated with out of council landscape levy</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the associated procedures and information regarding Brodie Collection Services</li> <li>• <b>approved</b> the granting of the Instruments of Authorisation for small debt/underpayment write off to the value of \$5.00</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the total current levy calculation for all Progress Associations within SA Arid Lands Landscape Board Out of Council area, which is accounted for within the unrealisable out of council levy' budget allowance,</li> <li>• <b>approved</b> the exemption of Progress Associations from the Outside Council Areas Landscape Levy and</li> <li>• <b>approved</b> the process for ad-hoc exemption requests</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the Audit Mandate Strategy for 2024/25 conducted by the Auditor General of the Audit Office of South Australia and</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the Auditor-General's Performance and Risk Committee Briefing</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the agreements executed covering the period 28 March – 27 May 2025</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the Service Level Agreement Annual Pricing Review (Schedule 2) with DEW.</li> <li>• <b>approved</b> the SA Arid Lands Landscape Board Freedom of Information Statement to be published as a stand-alone document on the board's website and</li> <li>• <b>approved</b> the addition of a 'Disclosure Log' on the board's website.</li> <li>• <b>accepted</b> the amendments to COM-09 Sponsorship Policy, GOV-15 Public Interest Disclosure Policy, GOV-01 Freedom of Information Policy and FIN-21 Overseas Travel Policy</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the Work Health and Safety report</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the sponsorship report.</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the related party disclosures report</li> </ul>

31.11	<p><b>Final Business Plan 2025-26</b></p> <p>The Manager Business Support presented the Final SAAL Board Annual Business Plan 2025-26 to the board. The final draft contains some variances from the approved budget.</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>endorsed</b> the final draft of the SAAL Board Annual Business Plan 2025-26 and</li> <li>• <b>approved</b> the variance to the approved budget</li> </ul>
1124 31.12	<p><b>Project Status Report</b></p> <p>The board was presented with the Project Status Report from April to May 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"> <li>• <b>noted</b> the April to May 2025 Project Status Report.</li> </ul>
1125	<p><i>Aaron Smith and Julia Short joined the meeting at this time.</i></p>
1125 31.13	<p><b>Water Advisory Committee Overview</b></p> <p>The Senior Water Project Officer provided an overview of the current water related activities and issues which included:</p> <p><u>International Rangeland Congress</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two presentations were given at the IRC in Adelaide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Protections of Sacred Springs in South Australia’s Rangeland</li> <li>○ Managing Groundwater in South Australia’s Rangelands</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><u>WAA – Earthworks Detection Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief update on the surface infrastructure change detection proof of concept proposal.</li> </ul> <p><u>WAA - Communication Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update provided on the draft WAA Communication Plan for the roll-out of communications associated with the board’s Water Affecting Activity policy.</li> </ul> <p><u>Terms of Reference – The Water Accounting Advisory Group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was put forward for the board to agree to extend the ToR until December 2026. Has now expired since it was first signed in November 2021.</li> </ul> <p><u>Finniss Springs Station</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update was provided on the recent aerial horse count conducted with Arabana Aboriginal Corporation as part of springs management on Finniss Springs Station. Recommendations were put forward to the board following advice for SAAL to provide to Arabana Aboriginal Corporation regarding the control of the horses.</li> </ul> <p><u>National GAB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A brief overview was provided on SAAL’s participation in cross jurisdictional projects, including providing input into the 5-year GAB Strategic Management Plan (SMP) Implementation Audit Report including reporting of state performance against SMP principles, objectives and outcomes.</li> </ul> <p><u>GABWSP</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An update was provided on the first-year annual performance that was prepared by DEW which summarised the projects delivered in the 2024-25 financial year. Planning is underway by DEW and SAAL for the 2025-26 Financial Year.</li> </ul> <p><u>Springs Monitoring</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A brief overview was provided on the Springs Monitoring Project to support the Water Allocation Plan</li> </ul> <p><u>Springs Prioritisation and Site Use Approvals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A brief overview was provided on the Springs Prioritisation Project. This project is in the early stages with further planning required on the delivery of the program.</li> </ul>

		<p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>noted</b> the matters outlined within paper and attachments.</li> <li>• <b>recommended</b> the Board extends the ToR until December 2026.</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the update of the Finnis Springs project and <b>recommended</b> to support the following advice for SAAL to provide to AAC, regarding the control of horses on Finnis Springs Station. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SAAL will not provide funding or in-kind support for a horse muster for reasons associated with horse welfare, public perception and for the precedent it will set for other SAAL projects.</li> <li>2. SAAL will support an aerial cull providing AAC co-invests and it occurs in conjunction with another aerial cull currently planned for October. It should be noted that this may be seen as forcing AAC to decide with a hard deadline which, if not met, would result in the boards removal of its support. The Boards guidance on this point is sought.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the update on national GAB cross jurisdictional projects.</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the update of GABWSP</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the update of the springs monitoring project.</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the update of the springs prioritisation project</li> </ul>
1209		<i>Aaron Smith and Julia Short left the meeting at this time</i>
1209	31.14	<p><b>Biosecurity Overview</b></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"> <li>• Ben Moulton – new appointed Manager, Landscape Operations. Commenced 16/06/25</li> <li>• A new Compliance Officer position will be created to assist both the Biosecurity and Water teams.</li> </ul> <p><u>Weeds</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Senior Biosecurity Project Officer presented a poster on Cactus Biocontrol at the International Rangelands Congress in Adelaide, June 2025</li> <li>• Update provided on the new upcoming weed management project ‘Native not Noxious’</li> </ul> <p><u>Compliance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update provided on recent compliance matters regarding wild dog baiting and goats.</li> </ul> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>noted</b> the most recent biosecurity activities undertaken regionally.</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the attached (Att3) updated Map - SAAL Pest Animal Control Sites during 2024-25 (Action Item 28.12)</li> <li>• <b>noted</b> the attached (Att4) updated Map - SAAL Pest Plant Control Sites during 2024-25 (Action Item 28.12)</li> </ul>
	31.15	<b>In Camera</b>
	31.16	<b>In Camera</b>
1300		<i>Lunch break</i>
1315	31.17	<p><b>Kangaroo Partnership Project Report</b></p> <p>The General Manager provided an update on the recent activities of the Kangaroo Partnership Project which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The main objectives discussed at the Steering Committee Meeting, 29 May 2025.</li> <li>• Drought Support Program - KPP have assisted in the collation of data on kangaroos and their impacts from across all Landscape Boards with exception of the AW by PIRSA.</li> <li>• Provided the Northern and York Landscape Board an update on the history of the KPP, the current achievements and projected outcomes.</li> <li>• Completed outputs and update on the future projects</li> </ul> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>noted</b> the KPP Update</li> </ul>
	31.18	<b>In Camera</b>
	31.19	<b>In Camera</b>

31.20	<p><b>Presiding Member Report</b></p> <p>The board was updated on the Presiding member's recent activities which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairs Forum, Adelaide 13-14 May 2025</li> </ul> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>noted</b> the Presiding Member report.</li> </ul>
31.21	<p><b>District Group Update</b></p> <p>See appendix</p>
31.22	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>noted</b> the correspondence report</li> </ul>
31.24	<p><b>Forward Agenda Items</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group Chairs Tenure – to be reviewed October meeting</li> <li>Online out of Session on the Regional Landscape Plan.</li> <li>Draft Regional Landscape Plan presented to the board before public consultation – October Meeting Day 2 – Cherie and Kate</li> </ul>
31.25	<p><b>Board Communique</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Meeting</li> <li>IRC</li> <li>Sheep Industry Fund</li> </ul>
31.26	<b>Meeting Appraisal - SLIDO</b>
31.27	<b>Any other business</b>
31.28	<p><b>SAAL Regional Landscape Plan Workshop</b></p> <p>Kate Cornelsen and Cherie Gerlach workshopped the existing plan alongside staff inputs and district action plans.</p> <p>The SA Arid Lands Landscape Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>noted</b> the Board impact report for 2021-2025</li> <li><b>endorsed</b> the proposed community engagement strategy for the development of the Board's forthcoming RLP.</li> </ul>
1600	<p>31.23</p> <p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <p>Managers from Millers Creek Station, Dylon Maidment and Maegan Nugent attended the 'Public Comment' session to discuss the Kangaroo Field Harvester Support Grant and the recent changes to the Aboriginal Heritage Act.</p>
1630	<b>Meeting Closed</b>

Approved

*Douglas Lillecrapp*

Date 27/08/2025

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

## APPENDIX

### **Marree - Innamincka**

**Community Landscape Officer:** Alice Allington

**Next Group meeting:** 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> August joint group meeting with North Flinders at Wilpena Pound and Nilpena Ediacra

#### **Other Achievements:**

- Continued support for Nature Foundation with CLO attendance with Kids on Country at Witchelina
- Arabana Ranger support with Aerial Surveys on Wild horses over Finniss.
- Family and Nature Day at Innamincka supported by Innamincka Progress Association. SAAL to deliver support and Plant Propagation Workshop with Ryan Hayward.
- Supported Water accounting project for Mt Lyndhurst, Dulkaninna and Clifton hills.
- Assistance with Snake awareness training in Andamooka with MO CLO.

#### **Planned Achievements:**

- **Tourism app launch** -Redevelopment of the Birdsville Strzelecki Great Tracks Brochure, featuring Map of the tracks, top 10 travel ticks, and APP promotion.
- **Incursion at Wilsden Primary School** with conservation programs and protecting and enhancing diversity.
- **Deployment of Plains wanderer Song meters.** Utilizing Pastoral children where applicable for citizen science education. Same as what was done with Mt Lyndhurst children at end of 2024.
- **Plant ID and Nutrition Value Roadshow 2026** through Marree-Innamincka with Jenny Milson from Longreach region in Qld, who is keen to be a contracted brains trust in this space – especially how different the channel country is from other parts of the pastoral zone. Jenny works with Qld DPI and as an independent consultant in pasture health, and currently working with flooded pastoral businesses from Longreach base.
- **Resin Project** to create Resin samples of buffel grass and similar-looking species. The goal is to develop a resource that can be lent out to communities, contractors, and friend's groups to help them accurately differentiate between buffel grass and native species when conducting monitoring or control activities.
- **Community Engagement** at Marree sporting club event. Face painting children and other hand out materials.
- **Future joint group meeting** planned with North Flinders and Marree-Innamincka.
- **Landholder Engagement** trip planned for south east of MI district.
- **Threatened Flora surveys, Kowari Trapping, Pig Transects and also with recovery of Monitoring equipment.** Assistance for Ecology team.
- **Indigenous Ranger Gathering** admin, quiz and reccy assistance.

### **North East Pastoral**

**Community Landscape Officer:** Ryan Hayward

**Group meeting:** August 8, Yunta Telecentre.

#### **Group's key issues and activities**

- Updating/extending district group memberships.
- Recent Group Meeting at Mt Victor Station – Field site visit Finlayson Trough.
- Working on SAAL promotional sign for Olary – detailing the Board and the District Group.

### **Regional activities coming up**

- National Tree Day - 27 July in Olary, rejuvenating the toilet block park with new plantings. Olary Progress are including their community cricket match on the same day to make the most of attendance.
- District weeds workshop with Chris Brodie later in the year.
- Koonamore Reserve 100 year celebration planning. Event in October

### **Other SAAL Projects in NEP**

- Completed Landscape Rehydration Bootcamp at Mount Victor 14, 15 May with the Mulloon Institute.
- Plains-wanderer project still occurring.
- Feral Pig survey going out soon to pastoralists gathering information on numbers and impacts. In preparation for future control efforts.

### **Port Augusta - Quorn**

**Community Landscape Officer:** Brett Devitt

**Group meeting:** Previous – 30 May at Curdnatta, Port Augusta. Next – 1 August at Quorn. Will include workshop for 5 year plan.

### **Group's key issues and activities**

- Education activities – School incursions and teacher PD completed
- Growing Native Gardens – native plant giveaway
- Follow up of Declared Weeds along roadsides - African Rue

### **Regional activities**

- Child, Nature, and Play Week – Week 6, Term 2. School incursions, site support and teacher PD's. Held at Quorn Area School, Caritas College, Port Augusta West Childhood Services Centre and off-site teacher PD.
- Support to Port Augusta Garden Club for their final workshop supported by Grassroots Grant.
- Native plant propagation workshop in Quorn Tuesday 6 May. 12 attendees. Held with quandong grower Amy Morgan.

### **North Flinders**

**Community Landscape Officer:** Claire McKenry

**Group meeting:** June 16<sup>th</sup> at Hawker. Joint meeting with Marree-Innaminka Group at Wilpena 12<sup>th</sup> August

### **Group's key issues and activities**

- Kangaroo numbers and their welfare given dry conditions
- Concerns of the impacts to community capacity and resources, particularly potable water, if the World Heritage nomination in the Flinders is successful
- Number of cats around towns

### **Regional activities coming up**

- Native revegetation trial near Hawker
- Threatened plant guide book for Nantawarrina Rangers

## **Kingoonya**

**Community Landscape Officer:** Tori Live

**Next Group meeting:** Next group meeting Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of August in Coober Pedy

### **Across the region**

- Introduction to Landscape Rehydration was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May in Kingoonya with Mulloon institute with carbon session by Carbon Outreach Officer Jade Leyden. Approximately. 20 attendees of next generation landholders. Discussions around the complexities of achieving on ground outcomes whilst being respectful to cultural heritage.
- Snake Awareness training in Andamooka on 10<sup>th</sup> of June. 28 attendees across community session and Andamooka Primary school.
- 18 Members of the Kokatha Aboriginal Corporation Board's Culture and Heritage Committee and Kokatha Pastoral staff came together for a field day to focus on ecologically sustainable rangeland management (ESRM) as part of a newly developed plan, and to discuss recommended works. Elements of this plan will be incorporated into KACs Healthy Country
- Cameras to be setup as apart of Discovery 4 Recovery project on Kokatha properties to see where quolls might be dispersing

## **Marla Oodnadatta**

**Community Landscape Officer:** Tori Love

**Next Group meeting:** Group meeting held on Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> of May in Marla. Key discussions around Water affecting activities, permits and desire for increased dialogue between water team and landholders.

Next group meeting Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of August in Coober Pedy

### **Across the region:**

- International Rangelands Bus tour kicking off at Marla on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May with Central Australian pastoral networking dinner, knowledge exchange opportunity between pastoral peers and researchers from Northern Territory and internationally, presentations from central Australian producers and extension staff
- Highlights include Marla networking dinner, Wintinna mini field day at Gorries Bore, Pootnoura channel stop with William Lennon from Mt Willoughby, Guided tour of Kanku-Breakaways Conservation Park with Jonathan, Josh, Keesha and Chevahn, Mt Barry mini field day
- Soils trip to APY lands and Mt Willoughby in collaboration with AW Landscape Board and Michael Eyres
- Site visit with Richard Marver and Patrick to the Neales river erosion site on the Peake. Key outcome: ongoing yearly follow up/monitoring.
- Delivery of string of springs across the region, Oodnadatta, Coober Pedy, Coward Springs, Marree, Roxby Downs

## **Gawler Ranges**

**Community Landscape Officer:** Chris Fulton

**Group meeting:** Group meeting #71 was held at SIMEC mine on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

### **Topics of discussion and upcoming events:**

- FRRR Kids & Family Day planned for Iron Knob on June 14<sup>th</sup> proved to be a great success with 71 attendees enjoying Animals Anonymous critters, balloons and face painting a DJ and musician and catering was provided for the afternoon and evening. It was held at the Errappa Youth Camp to raise awareness to the fact that it would soon be reopening
- Pepper tree volunteers have confirmed they will be at Wilkatana in September
- *Planting Local* guide, *Growing Native Cover* program and the *Gawler Ranges Feral Cat Trap Initiative* have been shared with the community and are generating lots of interest
- Cat management occurred around Iron Knob, with 45 cats removed from the landscape. There was an animal clinic run in the township at the same time which assisted residents with pet issues
- Next group meeting planned for August 15<sup>th</sup> at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden. The District Action Plan will be discussed with the group, the priorities will be reviewed and the groups direction/activities will be looked at for the next 6-12 months

### **The group heard from:**

- Matt Vasey who spoke about mining operations and future mining direction for SIMEC
- Brett Devitt (PA/Q CLO) talked about their Plant Propagation Workshop run in Quorn and the Growing Native Gardens concept
- Barb from the EP Landscape Board talked about; aerial goat control on the Eyre Peninsula and she introduced the new EP staff and said how great it was to have a full complement of staff