

## Volunteer call-out to help cockatoos

Counting cockatoos, planting seedlings and camping under the stars will be on offer this weekend through a Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) initiative to assist Kangaroo Island's endangered glossy black-cockatoos.

Community volunteers will assist DENR staff to plant drooping sheoak seedlings that form important habitat for this iconic bird and monitor nests along the Western River area of Kangaroo Island on **Friday, June 15, Saturday June 16 and Sunday June 17.**

DENR ranger Charlotte Atkin said community involvement would be an important component of the project.

"This event is a unique way for volunteers to not only plant seedlings and monitor nest sites, but will also offer an opportunity to enjoy spectacular Kangaroo Island scenery," Ms Atkin said.

"It will also be a chance to learn first hand about glossy black-cockatoos, which have an estimated current population of 360 birds, and also about their recovery on Kangaroo Island.

"The South Australian subspecies of glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami halmaturinus*) is listed as endangered under the *SA National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* and is currently restricted to Kangaroo Island.

"With striking red panels in their tail feathers, these birds are highly specialised and feed almost entirely on the seeds of the drooping sheoak (*Allocasuarina verticillata*); they also require large hollow-bearing eucalypts for nesting."

Participants can meet from 1pm until 6pm on Friday, 9am to 6pm on Saturday and from 9am until 1pm on Sunday.

Morning and afternoon tea will be provided, along with a sausage sizzle on Friday night and Saturday lunchtime.

Camping is available at the council-operated Western River campsite (fees apply).

For more information or to register interest, please contact Charlotte Atkin on 0477 331 548 or [charlotte.atkin@sa.gov.au](mailto:charlotte.atkin@sa.gov.au).

### Media contact

**Alex Taylor**

Media Adviser

Department of Environment  
and Natural Resources

Phone (08) 8204 1934

Mobile 0423 827 613

Email: [alex.taylor@sa.gov.au](mailto:alex.taylor@sa.gov.au)

[www.environment.sa.gov.au](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au)