

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
LAID ON THE TABLE**

31 Oct 2019



**Government
of South Australia**

Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee

2018-19 Annual Report

Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee
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To:

The Hon David Speirs

Minister for Environment and Water

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee by:

Clem Lawrie
Chairperson

Date: 12 September 2019

Signature:



From the Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee Chairperson

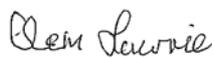
The vast, spectacular and unique Nullarbor (Mirning Country) has a strong and respected spirit. Mirning people are taking care of Country and providing opportunities for all.

This is the vision of the Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee, and as we conclude the fourth year of the Committee we reflect on our achievements in this reporting period.

We are respecting the rights, interests and needs of the traditional custodians and creating social development and economic opportunities for the Mirning people, and their families and communities.

We are managing and preserving the cultural landscape, still known and understood by its Aboriginal traditional custodians as well as the park's outstanding natural features.

We welcome you to visit!



Clem Lawrie

Chairperson

Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee



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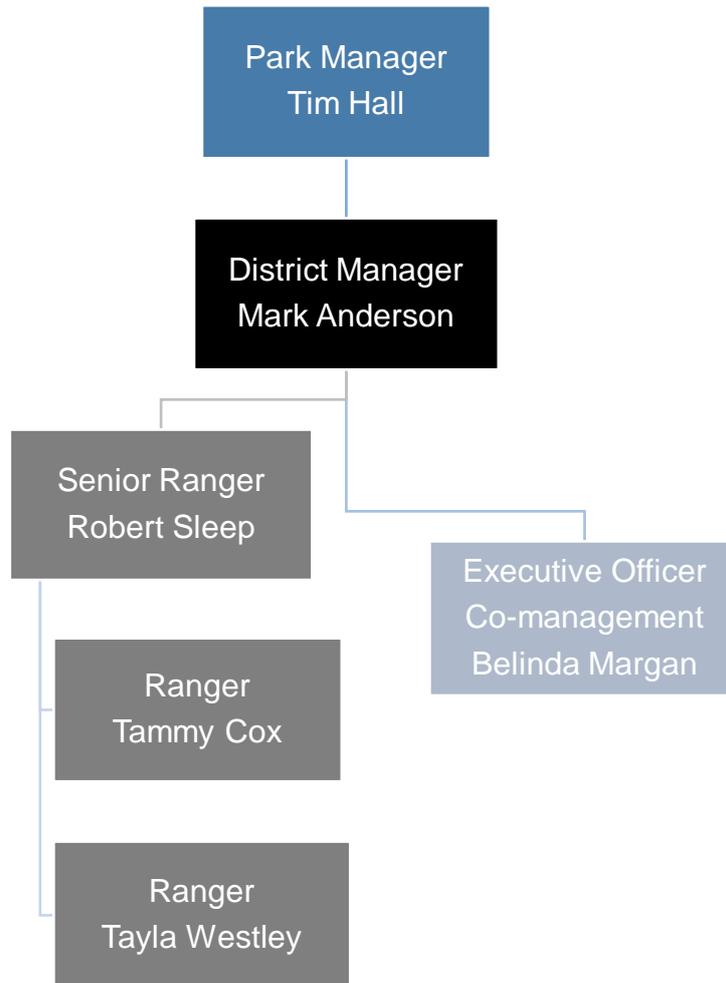
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Overview: about the agency

Our strategic focus

Our Purpose	Jointly manage the Nullarbor Parks (Nullarbor Regional Reserve, Nullarbor National Park and Nullarbor Wilderness Protection Area) in partnership with the Minister for Environment and Water and the Far West Coast People through the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation.
Our Vision	<p>Respect the rights, interests and needs of the traditional owners and create social development and economic opportunities for Mirning families and communities.</p> <p>To manage and preserve the cultural landscape, still known and understood by its Aboriginal traditional owners as well as the park's outstanding natural features.</p>
Our Values	Respect the traditional lore and customs whilst providing great experiences for visitors and position Nullarbor Parks as a recognised tourism destination by effectively and efficiently managing the park within a good governance framework.
Our functions, objectives and deliverables	<p>The Committee has an advisory role over the Nullarbor Parks (Nullarbor Regional Reserve, Nullarbor National Park and Nullarbor Wilderness Protection Area).</p> <p>The Committee's role includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting and managing cultural heritage and other cultural issues. • Interpreting and promoting Aboriginal culture within the park. • Managing the exercise of traditional rights and access to the park for traditional custodians. • Managing the taking of plants and animals by the traditional custodians. • Increasing cultural awareness for all park visitors. • Managing access to the park for the general public. • Establishing training and employment opportunities for traditional owners on park.

Our organisational structure



Changes to the agency

During 2018-19 there were changes to the agency's structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes. The second term of the Committee's membership expired 31 January 2019, appointments and re-appointments were made to the Committee's second term.

Our Executive team

Chairperson: Mr Clem Lawrie, nominated by Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation (FWCAC), representing the interests of the Far West Coast People and is responsible for leading the Committee.

Deputy Chair: Dr Matthew Ward, nominated by DEW, representing the interests of the Minister.

Member: Mr Anton Mundy, nominated by FWCAC, representing the interests of the Far West Coast People.

Member: Ms Kaylene Kerdel, nominated by FWCAC, representing the interests of the Far West Coast People.

Member: Ms Verna Lawrie, nominated by FWCAC, representing the interests of the Far West Coast People.

Member: Mr Mark Anderson, nominated by DEW, representing the interests of the Minister.

Member: Ms Louisa Halliday, nominated by DEW, representing the interests of the Minister.

Member: Ms Pia Richter, nominated by DEW representing the interests of the SA public.

Legislation administered by the agency

National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972

National Parks and Wildlife (National Parks) Regulations 2016

National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016.

Other related agencies (within the Minister's area/s of responsibility)

Department for Environment and Water.

The agency's performance

Performance at a glance

Not applicable.

Agency contribution to whole of Government objectives

SA Government is committed to putting local communities at the heart of sustaining, conserving and revitalising our state's natural resources and acknowledges the Aboriginal nations of SA and the role they continue to have in purposefully shaping and caring for the area that we know as South Australia.

Key objective	Agency's contribution
More jobs	We are respecting the rights, interests and needs of the traditional custodians and creating social development and economic opportunities for the Far West Coast People, their families and communities.
Lower costs	Through the DEW procurement process we seek to support local regional businesses and community in our efforts to provide a great park experience and management at a reasonable cost.
Better Services	SA Government seeks to foster a greater relationship with all South Australians to work together for better services and a better future, particularly in enabling partnerships that support and encourage Aboriginal nations to continue to take a leading role in park management.

Agency specific objectives and performance

Agency objectives	Indicators	Performance
Advise the Minister on any matter referred to the Committee by the Minister or Director	Provide the Minister and/or Director with a broad based community view on a variety of park issues.	SA public find value in managing parks, protection and promotion of culture of Aboriginal people, while maintaining park access and use for the general public. The ability for Aboriginal people to exercise traditional rights is an expectation of the SA community.
Nullarbor Parks Management Plan	Consider the views of a broad community to develop strategies and prioritise work on parks based on identified targets and threats.	There is public value in consultation with and empowerment of traditional owners in decision making on parks under native title. Building strong relationships and working towards reconciliation is a reflection of SA community expectations.
Healthy Country Plan Implementation	Consider the views of a broad community to develop strategies and prioritise work on parks based on identified targets and threats.	SA public find value in looking after parks and respecting the views of traditional owners. Sustainable park management is an expectation of the SA community.

<p>Communications Strategy</p>	<p>Procedure for referring park management matters with the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation. Not assessed in this reporting period.</p>	<p>There is public value in further enhancing existing relationships with Native Title bodies and Aboriginal communities. Encouraging Aboriginal nations to take a leading role in park management is an SA community expectation.</p>
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Corporate performance summary

Not applicable.

Employment opportunity programs

The Committee has no staff of its own and utilises the services of DEW. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW Annual Report 2018-19.

Executive, administrative and project support were provided to the Committee from existing DEW resources.

Agency performance management and development systems

<p>Performance management and development system</p>	<p>Performance</p>
<p>The Committee maintains a register of attendance at Committee meetings.</p>	<p>A minimum of two meetings are held annually. This is considered to be effective.</p>
<p>Government employees supporting the Committee’s operation undertake a performance review and development program with their managers.</p>	<p>Two sessions are held on an annual basis. This is considered to be effective.</p>

Work health, safety and return to work programs

Program name	Performance
This Committee abides by the relevant health and safety policies and procedures that have been adopted by DEW to meet whole of government and legislative requirements.	Reporting on this matter is contained within the DEW Annual Report 2017-18.

Workplace injury claims	Current year 2018-19	Past year 2017-18	% Change (+ / -)
Total new workplace injury claims	0	0	0%
Fatalities	0	0	0%
Seriously injured workers*	0	0	0%
Significant injuries (where lost time exceeds a working week, expressed as frequency rate per 1000 FTE)	0	0	0%

*number of claimants assessed during the reporting period as having a whole person impairment of 30% or more under the Return to Work Act 2014 (Part 2 Division 5)

Work health and safety regulations	Current year 2018-19	Past year 2017-18	% Change (+ / -)
Number of notifiable incidents (<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Part 3</i>)	0	0	0%
Number of provisional improvement, improvement and prohibition notices (<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Sections 90, 191 and 195</i>)	0	0	0%

Return to work costs**	Current year 2018-19	Past year 2017-18	% Change (+ / -)
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	0	0	0%
Income support payments – gross (\$)	0	0	0%

**before third party recovery

Data for previous years is available at <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullabor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

Executive employment in the agency

Executive classification	Number of executives
It is declared that there were no executives employed by the Committee	0

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullabor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

The [Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment](#) has a [workforce information](#) page that provides further information on the breakdown of executive gender, salary and tenure by agency.

Financial performance

Financial performance at a glance

The Committee is a statutory body; it is not a corporate entity and has no funds of its own. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW Annual Report 2018-19.

The costs associated with the administration of the Committee are met from within existing DEW resources. Members are remunerated in accordance with a recommendation by the Chief Executive, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, in line with the Cabinet-approved Remuneration Framework.

Consultants disclosure

The following is a summary of external consultants that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for the work undertaken during the financial year.

Consultancies with a contract value below \$10,000 each

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
It is declared there were no consultancies below \$10,000 each engaged by the Committee		\$ 0

Consultancies with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
It is declared there were no consultancies above \$10,000 each engaged by the Committee		\$ 0
	Total	\$ 0

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullabor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

See also the [Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance](#) for total value of consultancy contracts across the South Australian Public Sector.

Contractors disclosure

The following is a summary of external contractors that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for work undertaken during the financial year.

Contractors with a contract value below \$10,000

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
All contractors below \$10,000 each - combined	Various	\$ 15,707.49

Contractors with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
FWCAC Labour Hire	Koonalda Cave precinct works	\$ 14,478.70
	Total	\$ 14,478.70

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullabor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the agency list of contracts.](#)

The website also provides details of [across government contracts.](#)

Other information

Nil to report.

Risk management

Risk and audit at a glance

Nil

Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
It is declared that there were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Committee in this reporting period.	0

NB: Fraud reported includes actual and reasonably suspected incidents of fraud.

Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

At each meeting all attending members are required to declare any interests. Members are also required to complete a Declaration of Interest form each financial year. All other strategies to detect instances of fraud are reported in the DEW Annual Report 2018-19.

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullabor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

Whistle-blowers disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993*:

0

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullabor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

Reporting required under any other act or regulation

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i></p>	<p>Section 43L—Annual report</p> <p>(1) A co-management board established under this Division must, on or before 30 September in each year, prepare and deliver to the Minister a report on its operations during the preceding financial year.</p> <p>(2) The report must include—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the audited accounts of the co-management board; and (b) any other information required by or under the regulations. <p>(3) The Minister must, within 6 sitting days after receiving a report, cause copies of the report to be laid before both Houses of Parliament.</p>

The following information addresses the annual reporting requirements of s43L of the *Act* or purposes of s43L of the *Act* and s23 of the Regulations. Whilst the Advisory Committee is not obligated to report, for the purposes of consistency, have provided updates against the same criteria.

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> Section 23.</p> <p>a) information relating to traditional hunting activities in the park carried out in accordance with section 68D of the Act.</p>	<p>Although traditional hunting within the Parks would occur, it is difficult to estimate information due to the remote location of the Parks. FWCAC is currently in the process of employing a Coast & Sea Ranger to work in partnership with DEW to develop a Far West Coast Ranger Program.</p>

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> Section 23.</p> <p>b) information relating to the effect of traditional hunting activities in the park carried out in accordance with section 68D of the Act on native plants and protected animals or the eggs of protected animals (in</p>	<p>No impact or effect of traditional hunting has been noted in monitoring programs of native plants, protected animals or their eggs.</p>

Act or Regulation	Requirement
particular endangered species, vulnerable species and rare species).	

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> Section 23</p> <p>c) information relating to the operation and works programs undertaken by or on behalf of the board.</p>	<p>The Board continued to implement its work program based on the obligations under the Co-management Agreement, the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i>, the Nullarbor Parks Management Plan and the Far West Coast Healthy Country Plan. Committee meetings enable DEW officers to collaborate on operational and management activities undertaken in the parks. Key programs undertaken in the past year include finalising the visitor management strategy for the Parks.</p>

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> Section 23</p> <p>d) information relating to park infrastructure;</p>	<p>Park infrastructure is managed through DEW's asset management program to ensure appropriate maintenance of infrastructure/assets on reserves. The Committee is provided with an overview at each meeting as part of the DEW management report. The Committee is working to consolidate the asset management of all park infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park maintenance • Road maintenance grading • Barrier installation and maintenance

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> Section 23</p> <p>e) any other information required by the Minister.</p>	<p>The Nullarbor Parks Management Plan was prepared in partnership between the Committee and DEW and endorsed by the Minister in this reporting period. The Management Plan is the over-arching strategic document that guides management activities.</p>

Public complaints

Number of public complaints reported

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2018-19
All complaints	No specific complaints have been received by the Committee.		0
		Total	0

Additional Metrics	Total
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	* 100%

Data for previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/nullabor-parks-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

Service improvements for period

Service improvements that responded to customer complaints or feedback

No complaints have been received or acted upon.

Appendix: Audited financial statements 2018-19

Financial services are provided to the Committee by DEW. Finances are audited annually as part of DEW's financial statements.

Annual report information (including financial statements) is available on the [DEW website](#).