

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
LAID ON THE TABLE

31 Oct 2019



**Government
of South Australia**

Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park Co-management Board **2018-19 Annual Report**

Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park Co-management Board
Department for Environment and Water

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To: The Hon David Speirs MP
Minister for Environment and Water

This annual report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009*, the *Public Sector Regulations 2010*, the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and section 43L of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

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

Submitted on behalf of the Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park Co-management Board by:

Jason Irving
Chairperson

Date 31 August 2019 Signature *Jason Irving*

From the Chairperson

The Co-management of the Park involves a partnership in which the Adnyamathanha People work together with the Department for Environment and Water to share responsibility and decision-making for the management of the Park.

As the Chairperson for Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park Co-management Board, I am very honoured to work closely with our partners and aim to maintain the crucial connection between conserving the park's natural and cultural heritage, using both traditional and scientific knowledge to better manage the land.

I have been involved in progressing the co-management model for a number of years. The foundations of a good working relationship have been established for the Park, which the Co-management Board strives to continually build upon. We will continue to strengthen our working partnership while achieving on-ground management outcomes.

It is with great pleasure that I present the Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park Annual Report.

Jason Irving

Chairperson

Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park Co-management Board

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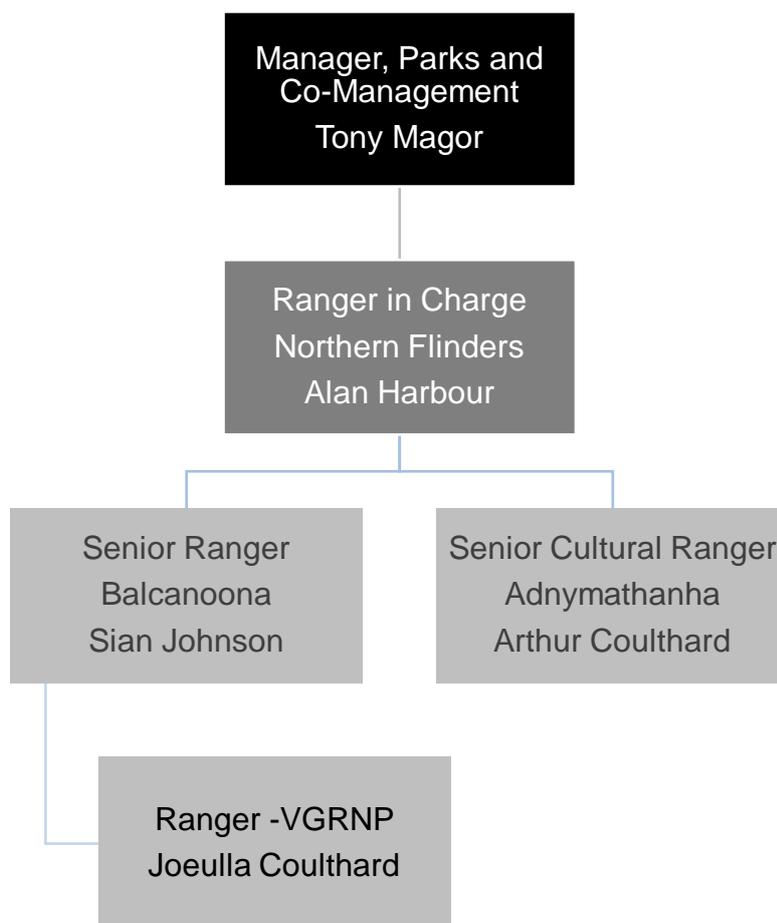
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Overview: about the agency

Our strategic focus

Our Purpose	Jointly manage the Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park in partnership with the Minister for Environment and Water and the Adnyamathanha People through the Adnyamathanha Traditional Lands Association
Our Vision	Respect the rights, interests and needs of the traditional owners and create social development and economic opportunities for Adnyamathanha families and communities. 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.
Our Values	Respect the traditional lore and customs while providing great experience for visitors and position Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges as a recognised tourism destination by effectively and efficiently managing the park within a good governance framework.
Our functions, objectives and deliverables	<p>The co-management board is responsible for managing the Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park.</p> <p>The co-management board'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 no changes to the agency's structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes.

Board Membership is up to a four year term and commenced on 1 November 2018 and concludes on 31 October 2022.

Our Executive team



Chairperson: Mr Jason Irving is a DEW representative and has a range of governance and strategic management skills including management planning, wilderness protection, native title and co-management, tourism and recreation.



Deputy Chairperson: Ms Janet Coulthard is an ATLA representative and has been elected by the broader community for her traditional knowledge skills and expertise.



Member: Ministers Representative: Mr Trevor Naismith has a broad range of park management skills and significant expertise in working with Co-management Boards and Aboriginal communities.



Member: Mr Kelvin Johnson is an ATLA representative and has been elected by the broader community for his traditional knowledge skills and expertise.



Member: Ms Stella Kondylas is a DEW representative and has extensive experience in developing and implementing nature conservation and sustainability programs.



Member: Mr Michael Anderson is an ATLA representative and has been elected by the broader community for his traditional knowledge skills and expertise.



Member: Ms Angela Breeding is a DEW representative and has experience in tourism, particularly in guiding tourism businesses and regional tourism organisations to activate nature-based tourism in South Australia.



Member: Ms Sandra Coulthard is an ATLA representative and has been elected by the broader community for her traditional knowledge skills and expertise.

Legislation administered by the agency

The Board is responsible for complying with the following legislation which are administered by DEW:

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

Agency specific objectives and performance

Key objective	Agency's contribution	
<p>Better Services</p> <p>DEW Corporate Plan 2016-19: Goal 2: Sustaining the natural resources of our state.</p> <p>In accordance with the Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park Management Plan</p>	<p>When managing reserves, the DEW is required under section 37 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i> to have regard to, and undertake actions that are consistent with the following objectives as stated in the Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preservation and management of wildlife. • Preservation of features of geological, natural or scenic interest. • Destruction of dangerous weeds and eradication or control of noxious weeds and exotic plants. • Control of vermin and exotic animals. • Control and eradication of disease of animals and vegetation. • Prevention and suppression of bushfires and other hazards. • Encouragement of public use and enjoyment of reserves and education in, and a proper understanding and recognition of their purpose and significance. • Generally, the promotion of the public interest. 	
<p>DEW Corporate Plan 2016-19: Goal 3 – Connecting people to nature, parks and places</p>	<p>Progressing the reconciliation agenda by working respectfully and constructively with Aboriginal communities.</p> <p>The Reconciliation Action Plan will continue to help us build our ability to partner with Aboriginal people through increasing our capacity to be culturally respectful, improve employment and economic opportunities for Aboriginal people and embed Aboriginal knowledge and perspectives into our policies and procedures.</p>	
<p>Economic Growth DEW Corporate Plan 2016-19: Goal 3: Connecting people to nature, parks and places</p>	<p>Promote nature-based tourism opportunities on parks.</p>	
<p>Agency objectives</p>	<p>Indicators</p>	<p>Performance</p>

Functions and powers of the Board are as set out in the Co-management Agreement, the National Parks and Wildlife Act and the Regulations.	Regular perusal of the NPWA, ILUA and CMA Advise the Minister on matters relating to the Management of the Park by providing an Annual Report.	Protection of the environmental and cultural assets within the National Park whilst providing safe and controlled visitor access.
In exercising its functions and powers, the Board must have regard to the objects of co-management as specified in the NPWA and clause 8 of the Co-management Agreement, and must not act inconsistently with the Management Plan for the Park.	Regular contact between the Board and Adnyamathanha Traditional Lands Association to discuss co-management issues and general park operations The Board is responsible for complying with the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i> , <i>National Parks and Wildlife (National Parks) Regulations 2016</i> and <i>National Parks and Wildlife (Co-management Boards) Regulations 2016</i> , which are administered by DEW.	This has provided a valuable tool and sense of participation in the management of the Park by the Traditional Owners; which in turn leads to greater community knowledge of cultural practices.

Corporate performance summary

Not applicable

Employment opportunity programs

Program name	Performance
	The Board 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 Board from existing DEW resources.

Agency performance management and development systems

Performance management and development system	Performance
The Board undertake a performance review, including evaluation of its effectiveness and governance responsibilities.	Regular governance training is undertaken by the Board members.
The Board maintain a register of attendance at meetings	Board members attendance are recorded in the Minutes.

Government employees supporting the Board's operations undertake a performance review and development program with their managers	Two sessions are held on an annual basis. This is considered to be effective.
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Work health, safety and return to work programs

Program name	Performance
This Board 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 2018-19.

Workplace injury claims	2018-19	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	2018-19	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**	2018-19	2017-18	% Change (+ / -)
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	0	0	0

Income support payments – gross (\$)	0	0	0
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***before third party recovery*

Data for previous years is available at:

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/vulkathunha-gammon-ranges-national-park-co-management-board-annual-report-data>

Executive employment in the agency

Executive classification	Number of executives
SAES Level 1	Nil

Data for previous years is available at:

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/vulkathunha-gammon-ranges-national-park-co-management-board-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 Board 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 Board 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.

Statement of Comprehensive Income	2018-19 Budget \$000s	2018-19 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	2017-18 Actual \$000s
Expenses	0	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Net cost of providing services	0	0	0	0
Net Revenue from SA Government	0	0	0	0
Net result	0	0	0	0
Total Comprehensive Result	0	0	0	0

Statement of Financial Position	2018-19 Budget \$000s	2018-19 Actual \$000s	Variation \$000s	2017-18 Actual \$000s
Current assets	0	0	0	0
Non-current assets	0	0	0	0
Total assets	0	0	0	0
Current liabilities	0	0	0	0
Non-current liabilities	0	0	0	0
Total liabilities	0	0	0	0
Net assets	0	0	0	0
Equity	0	0	0	0

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
All consultancies below \$10,000 each - combined	-	0

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

Consultancies	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
-	-	\$ 0
	Total	\$ 0

Data for previous years is available at:

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/vulkathunha-gammon-ranges-national-park-co-management-board-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	-	0

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

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
-	-	\$ 0
	Total	\$ 0

Data for previous years is available at:

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/vulkathunha-gammon-ranges-national-park-co-management-board-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 financial information

The Board is a statutory body; it is not a corporate entity and has no funds of its own. DEW administers the budget for the Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park on behalf of the Board and provides a financial report to members at each meeting. Expenditure has been maintained within the budget allocation. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW Annual Report 2017-18.

The costs associated with the administration of the Board 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.

Other information

Nil to report.

Risk management

Risk and audit at a glance

Nil to report

Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
Nil	0

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

Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

Data for previous years is available at:

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/vulkathunha-gammon-ranges-national-park-co-management-board-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/vulkathunha-gammon-ranges-national-park-co-management-board-annual-report-data>

Reporting required under any other act or regulation

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>The Traditional Use Zone is established under the Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park Management Plan.</p> <p>Twelve red kangaroos have been taken in the reporting period.</p>

For the purposes of section 43L of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (the Act), the annual report of the Board must include the above information relating to hunting.

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 particular endangered species, vulnerable species and rare species).</p>	<p>The low numbers taken have not affected the overall population, as drought has influenced the reproduction and survival of kangaroos across South Australia</p>

For the purposes of section 43L of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (the Act), the annual report of the Board must include the above information relating to hunting.

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 is provided with a park works report that includes the works program and park budget at each meeting.</p> <p>Board meetings enable DEW officers to collaborate on operational and management activities in the park. Key programs undertaken in the past year include;</p> <p>Cultural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ V-GRNP Staff continue to patrol the Munyi Site. ○ Investigate improving Munyi site records with Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation. <p>Biodiversity</p>

Act or Regulation	Requirement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pest and weed control programs. ○ Conservation and Wildlife Volunteers (Sporting Shooters). ○ Friends of V-GRNP water and vegetation studies along Weetootla Creek to monitor the health of the creek line ecosystem ○ Fox baiting and wild dog baiting program. ○ Commercial Mustering of Goats by Adnyamathanha person. <p>Visitor Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Online bookings ○ Walking Trails and Maintenance - Walking Trails Support Group. ○ Artist in Residence at Grindell's Hut.

For the purposes of section 43L of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (the Act), the annual report of the Board must include the above information relating to operations and works programs.

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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Central Hills 4WD Club volunteer works at Balcanoona. ○ Friends of V-GRNP volunteer group works at Oocaboolina Outstation. ○ Concept planning for facilities at Balcanoona Shearers Quarters ○ Development of interpretive signs for the cultural plant trail along the Weetootla site. ○ Redevelopment of cultural signs and unique Adnyamathanha signs frames. ○ Development of interpretive sign at Italowie Gorge to acknowledge RM Williams and Adnyamathanha involvement.

For the purposes of section 43L of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (the Act), the annual report of the Board must include the above information relating to park infrastructure.

Reporting required under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005*

Nil to report

Public complaints

Number of public complaints reported

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2018-19
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	0
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	0
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	0
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	0
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	0
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	0
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	0
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	0
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	0
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy unreasonable or disadvantages customer	0
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out dated or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	0
Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	0
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	0

Complaint categories	Sub-categories	Example	Number of Complaints 2018-19
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	0
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	0
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	0
		Total	0

***Note:** % of complaints resolved within policy timeframes is a mandatory field.

Additional Metrics	Total
Number of positive feedback comments	0
Number of negative feedback comments	0
Total number of feedback comments	0
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	*

Data for previous years is available at:

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/vulkathunha-gammon-ranges-national-park-co-management-board-annual-report-data>

Service improvements that responded to customer complaints or feedback

Not applicable

Service improvements for period

Appendix: Audited financial statements 2018-19

Financial services are provided to the Board 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.