

# **YUMBARRA CONSERVATION PARK CO-MANAGEMENT BOARD**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016**



**Government  
of South Australia**

Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board  
Annual Report 2015-16

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## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Hon Ian Hunter MLC  
Minister for Sustainability Environment and Conservation  
Parliament House  
North Terrace  
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Minister

In accordance with the requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009* and section 19(d) of the *National Parks & Wildlife Act*, I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board for the year ended 30 June 2016.

Yours sincerely

Dr Matthew Ward  
**PRESIDING MEMBER/ CHAIR**  
**YUMBARRA CONSERVATION PARK CO-MANAGEMENT BOARD**

## PLANS AND OBJECTIVES

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board provides expert advice to the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation (the Minister) on the following:

- a) Preparation of Management Plans;
- b) Implementation of the Management Plans;
- c) Amendment of the Management Plans from time to time;
- d) Training and employment opportunities for Far West Coast People;
- e) Protection and management of Aboriginal Heritage and other cultural issues;
- f) Interpretation and promotion of Aboriginal Heritage and culture;
- g) Exercise of Traditional rights by Far West Coast People;
- h) Taking of plants and animals by the Far West Coast People;
- i) Increased cultural awareness for all visitors to the Other Parks;
- j) Access for the general public;
- k) Opportunities for integration of park management with Natural Resource Management Planning; and
- l) Any other matter referred to it by the Director or the Minister.

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board is new and began operations in February 2015. Their main strategic priority has been to establish Board meeting arrangements, put into place governance plans and to begin the Park Management Planning process.

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board, in line with the State Strategic Plan Targets, set the following strategic priorities in 2014-2015:

- Target 6: Improve the overall wellbeing of Aboriginal South Australians
- Target 28: Increase the number of Aboriginal South Australians participating in community leadership and in community leadership development programs
- Target 44: Resolve 80% of Native Title Claims by 2020
- Target 51: Halve the gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal unemployment rates by 2018.
- Target 72: Increase participation in nature conservation activities by 25% by 2015

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board works closely with the Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resources Management Board, in particular around the Board priority (as captured in Schedule Five of the AW NRM Board and DEWNR SLA):

- *People: Support Co-Management, Marine Park and Protected Area frameworks in the effective delivery of good governance, compliance and visitor management in partnership with the community.*

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board is also working closely with the Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resources Management Board and Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation (FWCAC) to ensure that our innovative Healthy Country Plan and Park Management Plan are closely aligned with the AW NRM Boards Regional NRM plan, to ensure landscape scale Park and Natural Resources Management into the future.

## **OPERATIONS AND INITIATIVES**

### **THE YEAR IN REVIEW**

#### **General Meeting 2, 28 July 2015, Ceduna**

Members of the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board held their second meeting with a full attendance. Issues discussed included: refinement of meeting formats; work model case study; Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resource Management Boards Memorandum of Understanding with Co-management and Native Title authorities; Scientific Research Permits approval process endorsed; Scientific Research Permits reviewed (current and upcoming approvals); Healthy Country Planning update; Far West Coast Parks on ground works update; budget update; and, developing a communication strategy.

#### **Healthy Country Planning On-Country Workshop, 14-16 August 2015, Scotdesco Community**

Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board held their second Healthy Country Planning On-Country Workshop. Main members, deputies, relevant Traditional Owners, elders and youth of the Far West Coast Co-management bodies were asked to identify targets, assets and threats to the ongoing health of the Far West Coast parks. This planning process will see an important alignment with the Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resource Management (NRM) Plan and Park Management Plans in the future, as each boards/communities individual Healthy Country Plan will feed into and become Alinytjara Wilurara's NRM plan and Park Management Plans.

#### **General Meeting 3, 19 November 2015, Ceduna**

Members of the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board held their third general meeting with seven out of eight members in attendance. Issues discussed included: budget allocations; interpretive signage; park maintenance; 2014-15 Annual Report; introduction to DEWNR contracting policies; role of NRM & Regional governance; Co-management priorities; Scientific Research Permits (current and upcoming approvals); Healthy Country Planning update; Far West Coast Parks on ground works update.

#### **State-wide Co-management Workshop, 17-19 February 2016, Adelaide Zoo**

Two representatives from the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board presented at the State-wide Co-Management Workshop held at the Adelaide Zoo. The workshop encouraged members to support each other's aspirations for their land by sharing ideas and experiences whilst making important connections with members of other Co-management Boards. Yumbarra members also contributed to a short film being created by DEWNR to increase awareness of Co-management arrangements within the State.

#### **Healthy Country Planning- Far West Coast Working Group Meeting 2, 23-24 February 2016, Scotdesco Community**

Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board and Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee held their second joint Healthy Country Planning Working Group meeting. Main members, deputies, relevant Traditional Owners, elders and youth of the Far West Coast Co-management bodies developed vision statements, reviewed targets and threats and prepared a situation analysis.

### **Natural Resources Committee of Parliament Southern AW Regional Visit, 4-7 April 2016**

Two representatives from Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board met with the Natural Resources Committee of Parliament during their tour of the Natural Resources Alinytjara Wilurara region. The meeting occurred on-country in Yumbarra Conservation Park where a visitor management project had been completed at Googs Lake; protecting cultural sites and habitat within the Park and encouraging greater community involvement in Park planning.

### **Healthy Country Planning- Far West Coast Working Group Meeting 3, 3-4 May 2016, Scotdesco Community**

Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board and Nullarbor Parks Advisory Committee held their third joint Healthy Country Planning Working Group meeting. Main members, deputies, relevant traditional owners, elders and youth of the Far West Coast Co-management bodies reviewed the situation analysis, identified and ranked strategies and identified goals that will feed into the future Management Plans for the Parks.

### **General Meeting 4, 14 June 2016, Ceduna**

Members of the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board held their fourth general meeting with a full attendance. Issues discussed included: 2016-17 budget endorsement; governance training; changes to the National Parks and Wildlife Act; community engagement; park damage; fire update; visitor management plan; Scientific Research Permits (current and upcoming approvals); Healthy Country Planning update; Far West Coast Parks on ground works update.

## **ROLE, LEGISLATION AND STRUCTURE (CORPORATE GOVERNANCE)**

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board is established under the National Parks and Wildlife (Yumbarra Conservation Park) Regulations 2015, under the National parks and Wildlife Act 1972.

### **OBJECT OF THE NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE ACT 1972**

The object of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (NPW Act) is to provide for the establishment and management of reserves for public benefit and enjoyment; to provide for the conservation of wildlife in a natural environment; and for other purposes.

### **ROLE OF THE YUMBARRA CONSERVATION PARK CO-MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board is responsible for providing the duties of a Co-management Board over Yumbarra Conservation Park and the duties of an Advisory Committee over the other Parks (Acraman Creek Conservation Park (part), Boondina Conservation Park, Chadinga Conservation park, Fowlers Bay Conservation Park, Laura Bay Conservation Park, Point Bell Conservation Park, Pureba Conservation Park (part), Wahgunyah Conservation Park, Wittelbee Conservation Park, Yellabinna Regional Reserve and Yellabinna Wilderness Protection Area.

## **FUNCTIONS OF THE YUMBARRA CONSERVATION PARK CO-MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The Act describes the functions of the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board.

The functions of the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board are:

- To carry out the function assigned to the Board by or under the Act; and
- To carry out the functions assigned to the Board by the co-management agreement; and
- To carry out other functions assigned to the Board by the Minister.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board consists of eight members. Members are appointed in accordance with the National Parks and Wildlife (Yumbarra Conservation Park) Regulations 2015, National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972.

As at 30 June 2016 Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board membership was as follows:

#### **Chairperson**

Dr Matthew Ward                      Nominated by DEWNR

#### **Deputy Chairperson**

Mr Leonard Miller Senior          Nominated by FWCAC

#### **Members**

Mr Edward Roberts                  Nominated by FWCAC

Mrs Wanda Miller                    Nominated by FWCAC

Mrs Sue Haseldine                  Nominated by FWCAC

Mr Mark Anderson                  Nominated by DEWNR

(Vacancy to be filled)              Nominated by DEWNR

Ms Sophie Keen                      Nominated by DEWNR

#### **Deputy Members**

Mr Bruce Macpherson              Deputy to Matthew Ward

Hayden Coleman                    Deputy to Leonard Miller Senior

William Newchurch                Deputy to Edward Roberts

Wendy Ware                         Deputy to Wanda Miller

Mima Smart                         Deputy to Sue Haseldine

Robbie Sleep                        Deputy to Mark Anderson

Ollanta Lipcer                      Deputy to (Vacancy to be filled)

Liz McTaggart                      Deputy to Sophie Keen

During the reporting period the former member Justine Graham resigned. The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board wish to thank Justine Graham for her contribution to the Board.



## ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Section 19(e) of the Act provides for the establishment of advisory committees to advise the Minister on any matter relating to the administration of the Act. This provision was not required in this reporting period.

## MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL

A total of three general board meetings were held during the 2015-16 financial year (the Co-management Agreement outlines that at least two general meetings must be held every year).

No special board meetings were held during the 2015-16 financial year, however as outlined above, it is worth noting that the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board supported three Healthy Country Planning workshops (including one on-country), the DEWNR State wide Co-management workshop, and supported the Natural Resources Committee of Parliament fact finding visit to the region.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

Member	Meeting attendance	Comments
Dr Matthew Ward	Board Meeting #2, 28 July 2015 Board Meeting #3, 19 November 2015 Board Meeting #4, 14 June 2016	
Mr Leonard Miller Snr	Board Meeting #2, 28 July 2015 Board Meeting #3, 19 November 2015 Board Meeting #4, 14 June 2016	
Mr Edward Roberts	Board Meeting #2, 28 July 2015 Board Meeting #3, 19 November 2015 <i>Apology- Board Meeting #4, 14 June 2016</i>	Deputy William Newchurch also present for Meetings #3 & #4
Mrs Wanda Miller	Board Meeting #2, 28 July 2015 Board Meeting #3, 19 November 2015 Board Meeting #4, 14 June 2016	
Mrs Sue Haseldine	Board Meeting #2, 28 July 2015 Board Meeting #3, 19 November 2015 Board Meeting #4, 14 June 2016	
Mr Mark Anderson	Board Meeting #2, 28 July 2015 <i>Apology- Board Meeting #3, 19 November 2015</i> Board Meeting #4, 14 June 2016	
Ms Justine Graham	Board Meeting #2, 28 July 2015 Board Meeting #3, 19 November 2015 <i>Apology- Board Meeting #4, 14 June 2016</i>	Deputy Ollanta Lipcer present for Meeting #4
Ms Sophie Keen	<i>Apology- Board Meeting #4, 14 June 2016</i> Board Meeting #3, 19 November 2015 Board Meeting #4, 14 June 2016	Deputy Liz McTaggart present for Meeting #2

## GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

DEWNR provides support to the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board by providing an Executive Officer and an Executive Assistant for administration and governance. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEWNR Annual Report 2015-16.

## **MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board members (other than government employees) received the following remuneration as determined by the Minister:

- Chair: \$0
- Member: \$177.00/four hour session

## **EMPLOYEE NUMBERS, GENDER AND STATUS**

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board has no staff of its own and utilises the services of DEWNR. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEWNR Annual Report 2015-16.

Executive, administrative and project support were provided to the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board from existing DEWNR resources.

The gender balance of the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board is taken into consideration when members are appointed. During this reporting period, membership of Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board was made up of four males and four females.

### **The following matters are contained in the DEWNR annual report 2015-16:**

- Workforce Diversity
- Workplace Adaptation
- Executives
- Leave Management
- Performance Development
- Leadership and Management Development
- Employment Opportunity Programs
- Work Health and Safety and Injury Management
- Reporting Against the *Carers Recognition Act 2005*
- Disability Access and Inclusion Plans
- Government Buildings Energy Strategy
- Public Complaints
- Sustainability Reporting
- Financial Performance
- Account Payment Performance.

## **CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS**

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board did not enter into any contractual arrangements during this reporting period.

## **FRAUD**

It is declared that there were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board in this reporting period. Financial services are provided to the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board by DEWNR. Strategies to detect instances of fraud are reported in the DEWNR Annual Report 2015-16.

## **CONSULTANTS**

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board did not engage any consultants in this reporting period.

## **OVERSEAS TRAVEL**

It is declared that no member of the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board has travelled overseas on Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board business during this reporting period.

## **ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT IN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS**

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board does not own any buildings and is therefore not required to develop an asbestos risk reduction program.

## **URBAN DESIGN CHARTER**

No events occurred in 2015-16 that required the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board to consider the principles of urban design contained in the South Australian Urban Design Charter.

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – INFORMATION STATEMENTS**

As a DEWNR administered entity, the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board participates and abides by the arrangements outlined in the DEWNR Freedom of Information regime. Reporting on this matter is available on the DEWNR internet site. Please visit <http://www.environment.sa.gov.au> to view the FOI statement.

## **WHISTLEBLOWERS PROTECTION ACT 1993**

Reporting requirements against *the Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* require the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board to report on the number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a Responsible Officer of the agency. There were no disclosures made during the 2015-16 financial year.

## **REGIONAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STATEMENTS**

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board did not undertake any regional Impact Assessment Statements during the 2015-16 financial year.

## **RECONCILIATION STATEMENT**

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board would like to acknowledge the land on which it meets is the traditional lands of the Far West Coast people and that it respects their spiritual relationship with their country. The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board also acknowledges the Far West Coast people as the custodians of the Far West Coast region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Far West Coast people today.

In fulfilling its functions, the Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board is cognisant of the cultural and natural heritage of traditional owners and strives to achieve positive outcomes wherever these matters are concerned.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Yumbarra Conservation Park Co-management Board would like to thank the Minister and staff of the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR), the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation and the Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resource Management Board for the support and encouragement that it has received over the year.