

# BEYERIA AND LATHAMI CONSERVATION PARKS MANAGEMENT PLAN

---

Kangaroo Island Region

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING**



# BEYERIA AND LATHAMI CONSERVATION PARKS MANAGEMENT PLAN

---

Kangaroo Island Region

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**This plan of management has been prepared and  
adopted in pursuance of Section 38 of the  
*National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972-81.***

Published by Department of Environment and Planning  
July 1992

© Department of Environment and Planning 1992

ISBN 0 7308 2674 0

Prepared by  
Kangaroo Island Region  
National Parks and Wildlife Service  
Department of Environment and Planning

Cartography by  
Technical Services Branch  
Departmental Services Division  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
<u>FOREWORD</u> .....	III
<u>THE PLANNING PROCESS</u> .....	1
<u>PURPOSE OF THE PLAN</u> .....	5
<u>BEYERIA CONSERVATION PARK</u> .....	6
<u>PARK DESCRIPTION</u> .....	6
Location and Size.....	6
Landscape, Geology and Soils.....	6
Vegetation.....	6
Fauna.....	9
Outstanding Natural Features.....	9
History.....	9
Fire History.....	9
Existing Capital Works.....	10
 <u>PLAN OF MANAGEMENT</u> .....	 11
Management Philosophy.....	11
Management Objectives.....	11
Management Actions.....	12
 <u>LATHAMI CONSERVATION PARK</u> .....	 13
<u>PARK DESCRIPTION</u> .....	13
Location and Size.....	13
Climate.....	13
Landscape, geology and soils.....	13
Vegetation.....	13
Fauna.....	14
Outstanding Natural Features.....	14
History.....	14
Fire History.....	17
Existing Capital Works.....	18

<b>PLAN OF MANAGEMENT</b> .....	19
<b>Management Philosophy</b> .....	19
<b>Management Objectives</b> .....	19
<b>Management Actions</b> .....	20

<b><u>REFERENCES</u></b> .....	22
--------------------------------	----

**FIGURES**

1. Kangaroo Island Park Locations.....	3
2. Beyeria Conservation Park.....	7
3. Latham Conservation Park.....	15

FOREWORD

In January, 1988, the Minister for Environment and Planning formally adopted a management plan for twelve small conservation parks on Kangaroo Island. The draft version of that plan had previously been released for public review in 1984.

Two additional reserves were dedicated during the period between draft and adopted plans; Beyeria Conservation Park (184 ha) in May, 1987 and Latham Conservation Park (1190 ha) in October of the same year. These reserves were set aside to protect examples of the natural habitat of Kangaroo Island and it seems appropriate that their future use and management should be considered in the same context as the other conservation parks.

As the Management Plan (1988) stated:

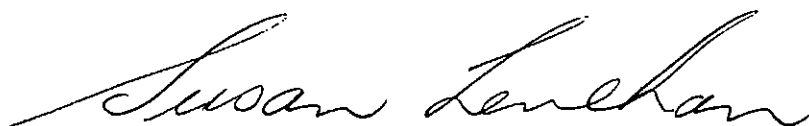
"The importance of the small parks on Kangaroo Island lies not only in the natural environment and landscape qualities which each park itself exhibits, but also in the qualities which the combination of small parks contribute to the island as a whole. The habitats conserved in the small parks are important, integral parts of the sum of wildlife habitats on Kangaroo Island".

Hence, this management plan, dealing specifically with Beyeria and Latham Conservation Parks, has been produced as a supplement to the Management Plan for the Conservation Parks of Kangaroo Island. Those persons seeking general background information on the Kangaroo Island region are urged to read the principal document.

The supplement was released in draft form for public review in January,

1991 and resulted in nine written submissions from interested individuals and organisations. All representations received were considered when preparing the document for adoption.

Following consideration of the public comments and advice from the Reserves Advisory Committee, the supplement has now been formally adopted under Section 38 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972 as the Plan of Management for Beyeria and Lathami Conservation Parks.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Lenehan". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Susan Lenehan

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING**

## THE PLANNING PROCESS

The National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 provides the authority by which the Minister for Environment and Planning controls and manages all reserves in South Australia which are proclaimed under this Act.

Section 38 of the Act states that plans of management are required for all reserves. Plans should include proposals for the management and improvement of reserves and indicate the means by which relevant objectives of the Act are to be achieved.

Section 37 lists ten objectives which the Minister, Chief Executive Officer and Director "shall have regard to" in managing reserves:

1. The preservation and management of wildlife.
2. The preservation of historic sites, objects and structures of historic or scientific interest within reserves.
3. The preservation of features of geographical, natural or scenic interest.
4. The destruction of dangerous weeds and the eradication or control of noxious weeds and exotic plants.
5. The control of vermin and exotic animals.
6. The control and eradication of disease of animals and vegetation.
7. The prevention and suppression of bushfires and other hazards.
8. The encouragement of public use and enjoyment of reserves and education in, and a proper understanding and recognition of, their purpose and significance.
9. In relation to managing a regional reserve - to permit the utilization of natural resources while conserving wildlife and the natural or historic features of the land.
10. Generally the promotion of the public interest.



These objectives form the foundation for all management plans and have been duly considered in preparing this management plan for Beyeria and Latham Conservation Parks.

Upon completion of a draft plan, it must be announced in the Government Gazette and placed on public exhibition for at least two months. During this period, interested persons may make submissions on the plan. The plan, with all such submissions, is then referred to the Reserves Advisory Committee, who may make further comments or suggestions.

The Minister, after considering all representations, may then adopt the plan of management with or without any alterations. Notice of such official adoption is published in the Government Gazette and copies of the plan are made available to the public.

A similar process applies for any amendment proposed to a plan of management. Once a plan of management is adopted, its provisions must be carried out in relation to the reserve in question and, conversely, no operations may be undertaken unless they are in accordance with the plan.

This plan is intended to "set the scene", as it were, for the management of the two parks for the next five to ten years. For that reason it is generally couched in broad, concept terms rather than addressing specific issues in minute detail.



## PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

This plan is a supplement to the Management Plan for the Conservation Parks of Kangaroo Island (1988), dealing specifically with two more recently proclaimed conservation parks; Beyeria and Latham. It briefly outlines the more significant natural and cultural values of these reserves, includes philosophies of management, lists management objectives and outlines strategies by which these may be achieved. Proposed management actions to implement selected strategies are to be found at the end of the chapters on each of the parks.

Beyeria Conservation Park is an area of natural habitat of particular importance for the conservation of plant species endemic to Kangaroo Island.

The role of Latham Conservation Park is to preserve natural habitat, particularly for the Glossy Black Cockatoo, whose occurrence in South Australia is restricted to Kangaroo Island.

## BEYERIA CONSERVATION PARK

Reserve Number - C 186

### PARK DESCRIPTION

#### Location and Size

Section 164, Hundred of Haines, County Carnarvon. 184 ha (Figure 2)

#### Climate

Cool, temperate, with a winter rainfall maximum. Average annual rainfall approximately 550 mm.

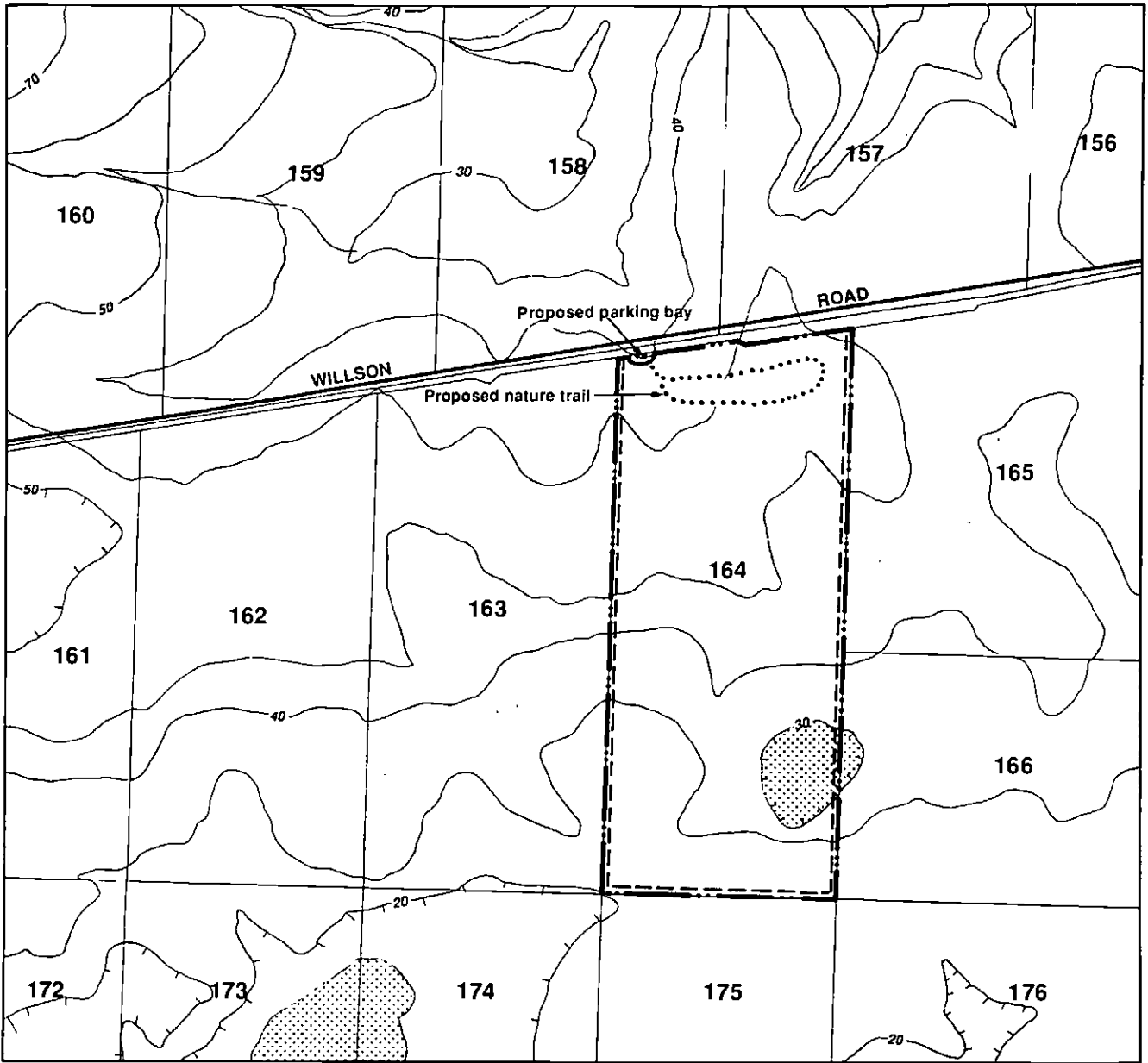
#### Landscape, Geology and Soils

A small reserve on the northern edge of the MacGillivray Plain, with sandy-loam soils (laterite) over deep clay, evidencing 'crab hole' formation in the otherwise level terrain. A small, seasonally filled swamp occurs in the south-eastern corner of the park. Geology and soil maps of Kangaroo Island are to be found in the Management Plan (1988).





#### Vegetation

Predominantly low open-woodland, with Kangaroo Island Narrow-leaved Mallee (Eucalyptus cneorifolia), in alliance with Broombush (Melaleuca uncinata). Scarlet Bottlebrush (Callistemon rugulosus) and Broombush occur in the lower-lying, swampy areas.

Patches of open-heath, particularly in the northern sector, contain a number of significant, endemic plant species, including; Grevillea muricata, Kangaroo Island Turpentine Bush (Beyeria subsecta) and Small-flowered Daisy Bush (Olearia microdisca). Kangaroo Island Spider-orchid (Caladenia ovata) has also been recorded from the park.



Contour Interval 10 metres

-  Park boundary
-  Sealed road
-  5m access tracks
-  Swamp



0 km                      1                      2

Figure 2

**Beyeria Conservation Park**

### Fauna

Fauna populations have not been formally surveyed. The Management Plan (1988) provides information on animals found generally on Kangaroo Island, and the District Office (Kingscote) maintains records of fauna species known from the locality.

### Outstanding Natural Features

Rare, endemic plant species.

### History

This reserve was proclaimed on the 14 May, 1987, following representations to the State Government from botanists and conservation organisations, who sought to prevent further vegetation clearance for agricultural land use in this vicinity. The name of the reserve relates to the scientific name of Kangaroo Island Turpentine Bush, which only occurs in this locality.

### Historic Sites

- (a) Aboriginal sites - none recorded.
- (b) European sites - none recorded.

The Management Plan (1988) includes a distribution map of known Aboriginal sites on Kangaroo Island.

### Fire History

Prior to acquisition, repeated burning and chaining is understood to have occurred in the northern sector of the reserve, the most recent event of this nature taking place in April 1986.

## Existing Capital Works

### Roads

Access to the reserve is from Willson Road which forms the northern boundary (Figure 2). Internal access is by 5m tracks constructed along the western, southern and eastern boundaries.

### Fencing

The reserve is fenced on all boundaries, except the northern boundary adjacent to Willson Road.

### Visitor Facilities

None. The park has had little use by the public in the past, other than by special interest groups. Due to the absence of any significant landforms this is unlikely to change.

### Staffing

The park is administered by ranger staff based at the National Parks and Wildlife Service Regional Office at Kingscote.

## **PLAN OF MANAGEMENT**

### Management Philosophy

The park should be managed to ensure the conservation, in perpetuity, of its natural environment and landscape qualities. Management should also address the need to research the successional cycle of the endemic plant species present, to ensure their long term survival and abundance.

Visitors should be permitted to use the reserve; however, as its primary function is conservation, only limited facilities should be provided. Management, particularly fire management, should be based on up to date ecological information and scientific research.

### Management Objectives

1. Protect the habitat of remnant, endemic plant communities.
2. Facilitate research into the biology and successional cycle of rare and endemic plant species.
3. Manage wildfire for the maintenance and/or enhancement of the natural biophysical features of the park, while recognising the priority to protect human life and property.
4. Inform the public on the existence and location of the park and provide interpretation.
5. Limit public access to foot traffic only.



## Management Actions

---

Action	Priority
(a) Provide boundary sign-posting and a small parking bay off Willson Road, with interpretive information for visitors.	High
(b) Provide a short, self-guided nature trail for visitors, that includes occurrences of Kangaroo Island Turpentine Bush. Provide interpretive information about the flora of the park.	Medium
(c) Investigate and structure funding for research into the biology of the significant plant species present, with the aim of developing species management plans to ensure their long term conservation.	High
(d) Monitor the impact of visitors on the park, with particular attention to any impacts on rare plant communities.	Ongoing
(e) Maintain 5m boundary access tracks for emergency purposes and as walking trails.	Ongoing

## LATHAMI CONSERVATION PARK

Reserve Number - C190

### PARK DESCRIPTION

#### Location and Size

Sections 119, 122, 201, 202, Hundred of Cassini, County Carnarvon. 1190 ha  
(Figure 3)

#### Climate

Cool, temperate, with a winter rainfall maximum. Average annual rainfall approximately 600 mm.

#### Landscape, Geology and Soils

Geology and soil maps of Kangaroo Island are to be found in the Management Plan (1988). Soils are typical of the undulating, laterite plateau of central Kangaroo Island in the southern sector of the park, deeply dissected by Gum Creek and its tributaries. These soils grade into shallow, grey-brown sands, interspersed with rocky outcrops of the Kanmantoo Group parent material nearer the coast, finally grading out to shales and aeolinite right on the coast.

The main watercourses, Gum Creek and Deep Gully, contain semi-permanent waterholes and have formed rock-faced gorges along parts of their lengths.

#### Vegetation

On the higher portions of the park, a tall shrubland formation occurs. This is dominated by a Brown Stringybark (Eucalyptus baxteri)/heath alliance, with Tates Grass-tree (Xanthorrhoea semiplana subsp. tateana), Broombush (Melaleuca uncinata) and Slaty Sheoak (Allocasuarina muelleriana). This is interspersed with woodland formations, dominated by Sugar Gum (Eucalyptus cladocalyx).

On the lower reaches of Gum Creek, an open-forest formation occurs, dominated by Sugar Gum and South Australian Blue Gum (E. leucoxylon). Areas of Drooping Sheoak (Allocasuarina verticillata) occur on the skeletal soils nearer the coast, often as a dense, homogenous woodland.

A number of the understorey plant species recorded from the park have been "firsts" for Kangaroo Island, including Rock Spurge (Phyllanthus saxosus) and Wingless Fissure-weed (Maireana enchylaenoides).

### Fauna

Mammal populations have not been formally surveyed. The Management Plan (1988) provides information on animals found generally on Kangaroo Island, and the District Office (Kingscote) maintains records of fauna species known from the locality.

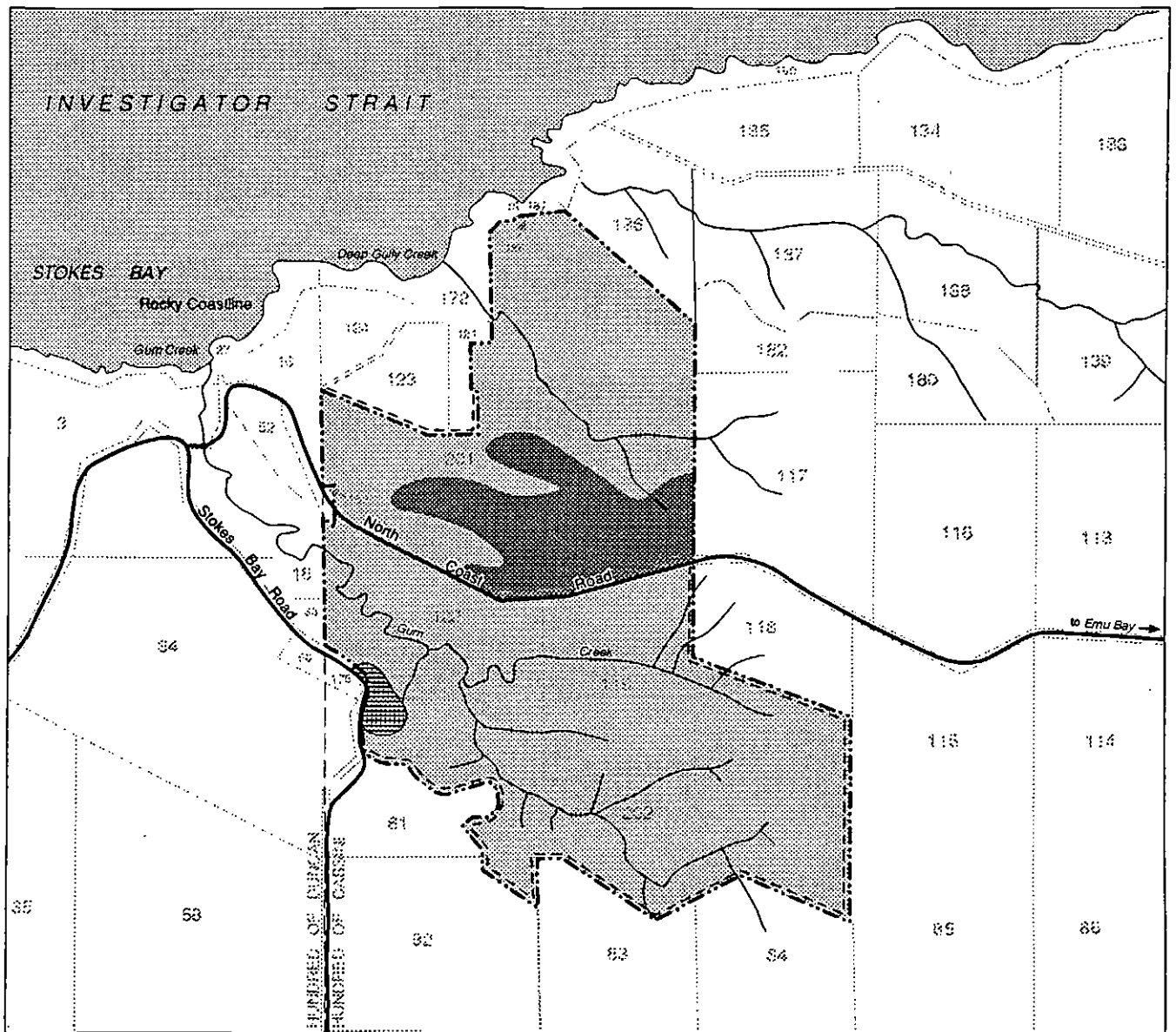
### Outstanding Natural Features






Foraging and breeding habitat of the Glossy Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus lathami), an endangered species in South Australia (Schedule 7, National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972). In South Australia, Glossy Black Cockatoos only occur on Kangaroo Island.

### History

The park was proclaimed on the 1 October, 1987; the park name relating to the scientific name for the Glossy Black Cockatoo. The northern sector of the park includes the Deep Gully Creek and drainage system, which contains large areas of Drooping Sheoak habitat. During a survey in 1980 which assessed the Glossy Black Cockatoo population, this particular locality was identified as being of considerable importance as a foraging area for this species (Joseph, 1980).

Following unauthorised vegetation clearance in what is now the southern



-  Latham Conservation Park
-  Sealed road
-  5 metre access track
-  Area of grazing lease
-  Proposed development node
- 242 Section numbers



0 km 1 2

FIGURE 3

Latham Conservation Park

sector during January, 1985, negotiations were commenced with the aim of acquiring a substantial area of the known Cockatoo habitat. The owners of Section 201 (the northern sector) then placed the Deep Gully drainage system on offer, which included some 130 ha of open pasture. The two sectors, totalling almost 1200 ha, were eventually purchased and now comprise the park.

A grazing lease has been issued for the pastured portion. The proceeds from this lease accrue in a trust account and are used for management works on the reserve.

During the latter half of the last century, much timber, particularly South Australian Blue Gum and Sugar Gum, was cut from this area for use in the copper mines at Moonta.

### **Historic Sites**

#### **(a) Aboriginal sites**

Aboriginal artefacts have been found on the park and in the Stokes Bay area generally. The Management Plan (1988) includes a map showing known Aboriginal sites on Kangaroo Island.

#### **(b) European sites**

The Water Reserve (Section 188) on the northern boundary is of some interest, as it was used extensively as a stock watering point and campsite from last century through to the development of motorised stock transport in the 1950s.

### **Fire History**

A devastating fire which started at Stokes Bay and burnt right through to the south coast in January, 1975, burnt through the park except for the Deep Gully Creek system. Prior to this, there had been peripheral fires

on the eastern boundary in 1957 and to the south in the late 1940s.

Before the second World War, the park would most certainly have been subjected to the common practice of regular burning by landowners along the north coast (W.B. Kelly - Parndana: personal communication).

### Existing Capital Works

#### Roads

The park is part bounded and dissected by two arterial roads (Figure 3). There are no internal tracks in the park, apart from a 5m emergency access track which has been constructed along most of the boundaries.

#### Fencing

Much of the park is unfenced, particularly along the eastern boundary.

#### Visitor Facilities

None. The park has had little use by the public in the past other than by special interest groups. There is, however, scope within the park for minor developments, such as walking trails and day visitor picnic areas.

#### Staffing

The park is administered by ranger staff based at the National Parks and Wildlife Service Regional Office at Kingscote.

## **PLAN OF MANAGEMENT**

### Management Philosophy

The park should be managed to ensure the conservation of its natural environment and landscape qualities. Special consideration should be given to the habitat requirements of the Glossy Black Cockatoo.

Management should also protect the artefacts and integrity of any Aboriginal sites.

Visitors should be encouraged to use the park in an appreciative way and limited facilities should be developed for public use.

Management, particularly fire management, should be based on up to date ecological information and scientific research.

### Management Objectives

1. Protect the artefacts and integrity of any Aboriginal sites which are located in the park, while not precluding archaeological research.
2. Protect the foraging and breeding habitat of the Glossy Black Cockatoo.
3. Manage wildfire for the maintenance and/or enhancement of the natural biophysical features of the park, while recognising the priority to protect human life and property.
4. Complete boundary fencing of the park to prevent stock from entering.
5. Establish re-vegetation trials on cleared areas in northern sector of the park, funded by grazing lease rent payments.
6. Establish a limited development node on the western boundary of the southern sector.
7. Interpret the park and its management objectives to visitors.

Management Actions

Action	Priority
(a) Provide boundary sign-posting and a small parking bay off Stokes Bay Road, with interpretive information for visitors.	High
(b) Investigate and structure funding for research into the biology and habitat requirements of the Glossy Black Cockatoo.	High
(c) Set up revegetation trials by contract or other means, with the aim of establishing further tracts of Drooping Sheoak woodland.	Medium
(d) Monitor the impact of visitors on the park environment.	Ongoing
(e) Negotiate the completion of boundary fencing on all boundaries.	High
(f) Negotiate with the Lands Department for extension of the park boundary to include the Coastal Reserve to low watermark (Pt. Section 187), including the adjacent road reserve.	High



- (g) Negotiate with regard to purchase or lease on Section 50, Hd. of Duncan and Section 175, Hd. of Cassini (Timber Reserve); also Pt. Section 81 and Pt. Section 117, Hd. of Cassini; to rationalise boundary situation and to secure additional nesting habitat for the Glossy Black Cockatoo population. Section 189 is a stone reserve re-entrant to the park which should be considered for addition. Medium
- (h) Investigate the potential impacts associated with the development of a small picnic area and scenic lookout, plus a walking trail system within the park. Construct these public facilities if conservation values will not be compromised. Medium
- (i) Maintain present grazing lease on those areas already developed for grazing in the northern sector. The lease agreement should be re-negotiated on a regular basis. Ongoing
- (j) Establish a staged programme, identifying any reduction in area available for grazing through successful revegetation of cleared land. Medium

## REFERENCES

Joseph, L. (1980) - Studies of the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo and Glossy Black Cockatoo. Unpublished Report for Dept. Env. & Planning, Adelaide.

National Parks and Wildlife Service (1988) - Conservation Parks of Kangaroo Island - Management Plan. Dept. En. Planning, Adelaide.

National Parks and Wildlife Service (1991) - Conservation Parks of Kangaroo Island - Beyeria and Lathamii Supplement (Draft). Dept. En. Planning, Adelaide.