



Nature
Foundation



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NatureFoundation

Annual Report





— Our Vision

Inspiring people to connect with and conserve the natural habitat of South Australia for future generations

— Our Mission

Engaging people, resources and good science to conserve the precious habitat of South Australia



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Chair's Report

Jan Ferguson OAM



In this our 40th year we are continuing the great legacy provided by our visionary founders; we have continued to be bold – it has been a progressive and rewarding year, despite a challenging working environment at times, with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent global changes to the way our world operates. Our Board, staff and volunteers continued to adapt and respond as needed to grow and develop our conservation programs.

Society is changing, business is changing and so too does the nature conservation sector need to change, grow and lead. Our success over the past 40 years has come from passionate people, agile and innovative mindsets and genuine partnerships. This is a core part of Nature Foundation's brand identity.

The success of this approach was borne out with acquisition of the 360 ha Murbpook Nature Reserve through an innovative offset partnership with SA Water, including incredibly valuable 90 hectares of River Murray wetland. In another innovative partnership, 20,000 hectares were established as an offset site at Gidgealpa, near Moomba.

Our conservation programs continue to yield excellent outcomes for nature, with one of many highlights being the increase in pouch young for the western-most colony of Yellow-foot Rock-wallabies at Hiltaba Nature Reserve.

On 31 March we celebrated the launch of our new branding, website and helped kick off celebrations for our 40th year anniversary. It was a wonderful night and we enjoyed profiling our new premises at Prospect, albeit delayed by COVID restrictions and with a scaled-down launch!

Earlier in the financial year, Nature Foundation and National Parks and Wildlife Services South Australia were delighted to allocate over \$450,000 to twenty projects. These all helped

to reestablish critical habitat and undertake priority recovery actions in South Australia. The fund was established following the devastating summer bushfires in 2019-2020 and the funds assisted the recovery of threatened and vulnerable species. These bushfire recovery projects were made possible by the immense generosity of our supporters locally, nationally and from overseas.

We were thrilled to lead delivery of the new Revitalising Private Conservation in South Australia program with partners Conservation SA, Livestock SA, Trees For Life and Nature Conservation Society of South Australia, in collaboration with the Department of Environment and Water. The 2-year, \$3 million pilot program, launched by Minister David Speirs on 4 August 2020 at Macclesfield, aims to expand the number, extent and quality of protected areas of native vegetation on private land in South Australia. You can read more about the program's outcomes in this report.

In addition, over the past year we have:

- Operated for our first full year as a Company Limited
- Experienced a significantly improved financial position
- Strengthened our governance of the business
- Brought to fruition amazing new partnerships, adding to long-term partnerships with business, State Government and Commonwealth Government
- Seen a 30% increase in our supporter base and strong donor support.

The Board continues to focus on the implementation of our Strategic Plan in a rapidly changing environment. I would like to thank all Board directors for their enormous dedication and voluntary contribution to the leadership of Nature Foundation. A warm welcome to new Board directors Bec Hardy (marketing, commerce and wine production) and Anne-Marie Barbaro (finance, accounting, audit), who bring a wealth of knowledge, skills and experience to the organisation.

The terms of long-standing Board members Bob Lott (past President) and Chris Reed expired at the 2020 AGM. Both made significant contributions to Nature Foundation and Chris continues to generously contribute as our Property General Manager for Hiltaba and Witchelina.

The importance of volunteers to delivering our broad portfolio of activities cannot be emphasised enough. On behalf of Nature Foundation I wish to acknowledge and sincerely thank the many volunteers who once again contributed their skills, expertise and hard work throughout this year – on the Board and committees, on nature reserves, at Water For Nature sites, at numerous events and in the office. We feel incredibly grateful to work with such highly skilled people all dedicated to nature conservation.

As you will read in this Annual Report, all of our programs and associated projects have continued to grow and develop in innovative ways this year. My sincere thanks go to our Chief Executive Officer Hugo Hopton and the excellent staff team for all their hard work in keeping these programs flourishing in such uncertain times and for such great outcomes for nature.

Last but certainly not least, my thanks to all of you on behalf of the Board for your ongoing support of Nature Foundation and your commitment to nature conservation. Globally and locally, conservation work has never been more critical and together we can and are making a big difference to nature.

CEO's Report

Hugo Hopton



Nature Foundation has continued to inspire and work with more people in innovative ways to protect South Australia's remarkable biodiversity. Indeed, biodiversity conservation is what drives us and partnering with like-minded individuals and organisations has been fundamental to our success to date.

Through strong relationships with other environmental organisations, business, governments, universities, schools, Traditional Owners, landowners and community members, staying true to our clear Strategic Plan we have:

- Expanded our network of nature reserves for biodiversity protection with the purchase of Murbpook Lagoon and the living bequest of Geegeela Nature Reserve.
- Provided essential refugia on our nature reserves and wetlands for threatened species such as Thick-billed Grasswren at Witchelina Nature Reserve, Southern Bell Frog, Murray Hardyhead fish and Latham's Snipe through the Water For Nature program, and the Yellow-footed Rock-wallabies at Hiltaba Nature Reserve.
- Supported cutting edge ecological research through student grants and partnering with universities such as Flinders University to help the Pygmy Bluetongue lizard population adapt to climate change.
- In partnership with Department for Environment and Water (DEW), initiated work with 1600 heritage agreement owners who privately manage >\$1.8 million hectares through the pilot Revitalising Private Conservation in South Australia program.
- Managed offset projects such as the OZ Minerals offset at Witchelina Nature Reserve, and the EPBC Plains Mouse project at South Gap over an area of 6–8,000 ha.
- Been highly successful in securing grant funding such as the two Landscape Board Grassroots Grants for community

engagement through the *Getting Curious with Water For Nature* citizen science project. The second grant funded research into nocturnal basking behaviour of freshwater turtles on the River Murray in SA, and contribute to a worldwide research project led by Mike Bull medal recipient, Dr Eric Nordberg, from James Cook University.

- Continued to increase involvement and engagement of Traditional Owners, especially through our Kids on Country program, land management, cultural knowledge, and supporting future community leaders.
- Continued to be innovative and adventurous for nature through our native vegetation offsets offerings, Kids on Country online program and TAFE SA accreditation.
- Developed carbon offsets at Hiltaba Nature Reserve as a high priority project not only for Nature Foundation but also as a pilot for the pastoral zone.

We have also provided support, considered views and advice, together with many nature conservation and primary industries organisations to state and federal governments on policy matters such as bushfire recovery, the federal review of environmental protection legislation (EPBC Act), and the review of the South Australian Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act. All are significant for the future protection and management of landscapes, and threatened species of plants and animals.

The demand for tangible on-ground nature conservation progress from people from all walks of life is clear. As a result, the need for organisations such as Nature Foundation continues to grow. There is a sense of growing momentum, strength, determination and achievement in the conservation sector, with a wide range of organisations working together at local, state and national levels.

Nature Foundation could not achieve what it does without the passionate, dedicated and productive staff team, our volunteers in the office and in the field, and our Rotational Managers, who staff the Hiltaba and Witchelina Nature Reserves every day of the year. Our Board has guided the organisation with great skill, as we adapt to the ever-changing operating environment.

Whether you are a partner, member, supporter, donor, bequestor or volunteer, I join with our Board Chair Jan Ferguson OAM in thanking you for your amazing support. You inspire us to keep achieving the very best outcomes for nature conservation and society in our beautiful state.

Goal One

Increasing areas of habitat are conserved and enhanced for future generations



One of the base stations installed to remotely track the movement of radio collared YFRW at Mt Friday; credit Alex Nankivell

Science and Knowledge program highlights

- Increase in Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby (YFRW) numbers at Hiltaba Nature Reserve. Sub adult females increased by 150%, evidenced by trapping results and camera monitoring
- Increase in external funding to Science and Knowledge program to implement conservation projects through grants – a total of \$55,206 since 1 July 2020
- Funded seven postgraduate student research grants and one research project to the value of \$35,270
- Actively monitored flora and fauna including threatened species such as the Thick-billed Grasswren, Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren, Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby, native fish and Plains Mouse at four Nature Reserves
- Developed a land and conservation values prioritisation tool to assess land purchase opportunities for future acquisition
- Actively managed three biodiversity offset sites (South Gap, Nilkidicana and Balowopina-Area 1)
- Actively managed invasive pest plants and animals across all Nature Reserves and offset areas.

Biodiversity Update

Status of threatened species

Nature Foundation's reserves are significant refuges for biodiversity across several South Australian biomes ranging from arid to temperate. The reserves are home to important threatened species including Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby, Thick-billed Grasswren, Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren and Pygmy Blue-tongue Lizard to name a few. As a conservation land manager it is important to know how populations of plants and animals are faring against the many challenges facing our native wildlife. We have established population monitoring programs for key threatened species at all our major reserves to track changes in populations and inform management strategies.

Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby

Yellow-footed Rock-wallabies (*Petrogale xanthopus xanthopus*) occur at Hiltaba Nature Reserve and are listed under the EPBC Act as Vulnerable. Historically, YFRWs were widespread on the hills at Hiltaba and are now confined to one main colony at Mt Friday. Our monitoring programs consist of camera trapping, trap and release and radio collaring. Camera traps are established at sites where wallabies are known to be present and at sites with recolonisation potential. Cameras are a very useful wildlife management tool and detected a wide variety of animals including echidnas, murids, euros, reptiles, honeyeaters, babbler, ringnecks, and wombats. They also detect feral animals including goats, sheep, cats, foxes, and rabbits.



Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby (*P. xanthopus*) family at Hiltaba Nature Reserve; credit Coral Johnston

After nine years of active management, we are beginning to see the fruits of this hard work. Our wallaby trapping program recorded an increase in the number of sub adult females of breeding age with five trapped in March 2021, up from two the previous year. Although these are still low numbers it is very encouraging. We are methodically continuing our goat and predator control work.

A camera trap survey, undertaken at the May 2021 working bee, targeting areas thought to be suitable habitat for wallabies revealed they have moved back onto a nearby hill where they were once present but have not been seen for several years.

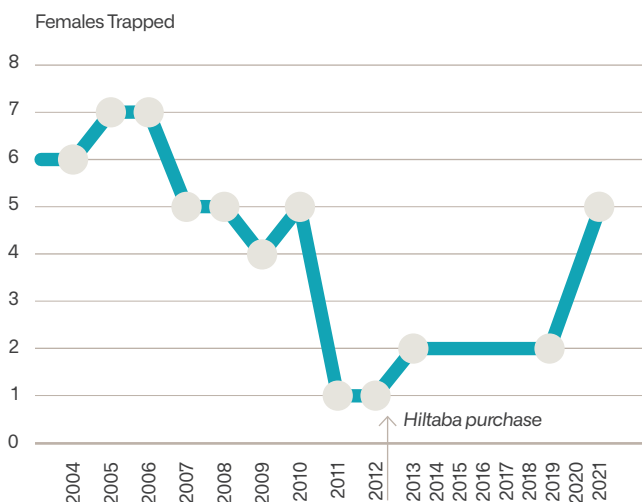


Figure 1. Trapped female Yellow-footed Rock-wallabies, Hiltaba 2004–2021

Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren

Systematic monitoring of the endangered Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren (MLRSEW) *Stipiturus malachurus intermedius* was initiated and undertaken in 2018 and repeated in 2019 and 2020 at Watchalunga Nature Reserve, adjacent to lake Alexandrina. It remains a stronghold for this threatened bird. Two fixed transects were established to survey the birds during their pre-breeding and breeding season. Results from this year's survey show that the number of birds observed pre-breeding is stable, while the number of birds observed during breeding season is markedly reduced, as it was in 2019. This reduction in observations during breeding season is likely due to the secretive nature of the species while on the nest and attending young, and not reflective of population decline. However, we will need to wait for the results of the 2021 survey to confirm that the pre-breeding numbers are stable. The area of remnant vegetation has remained stable throughout a period of extended drought and continues to support the resident population of the wrens at Watchalunga. In addition, ongoing revegetation activities continue to pleasingly increase the density and complexity of habitat in additional areas which is expected to result in an increase in population size.

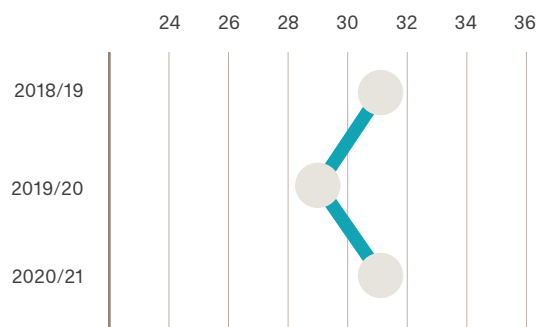


Figure 2. Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren Abundance, Watchalunga Nature Reserve.



Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren; credit Subbu Conley

Thick-billed Grasswren (*Amytornis modestus*) at Witchelina Nature Reserve; credit Deb Hopton



Thick-billed Grasswren

The Thick-billed Grasswren subspecies *Amytornis modestus raglessi*, listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC act, has a limited range confined to only a few pastoral stations within the arid region of South Australia. This includes Witchelina Nature Reserve where the majority of Thick-billed Grasswren surveys have been undertaken over the last decade. During this time, the species has been in decline within the reserve, likely due to low rainfall and exacerbated by periods of extreme heat. Gaining a better understanding of the current population dynamics of this species, over the extent of its range, has been identified as a priority – particularly to determine whether the species has undergone similar declines on neighbouring pastoral stations.

Recent funding from a Wettenhall Environment Trust Grant and a SA Arid Lands Landscape Board Grassroots Grant has enabled Nature Foundation to conduct Thick-billed Grasswren surveys at Witchelina Nature Reserve and three adjacent pastoral stations (Wilpoorinna, Mt Lyndhurst and Mundowdna). The first survey occurred in Autumn 2021 where four keen expert surveyors observed Thick-billed Grasswrens in the majority of these properties. The surveyors were surprised by the number of birds observed and that there were signs of breeding, given the continuing dry conditions. The full results of the survey will be released once all surveys have been conducted, data compiled and analysed.

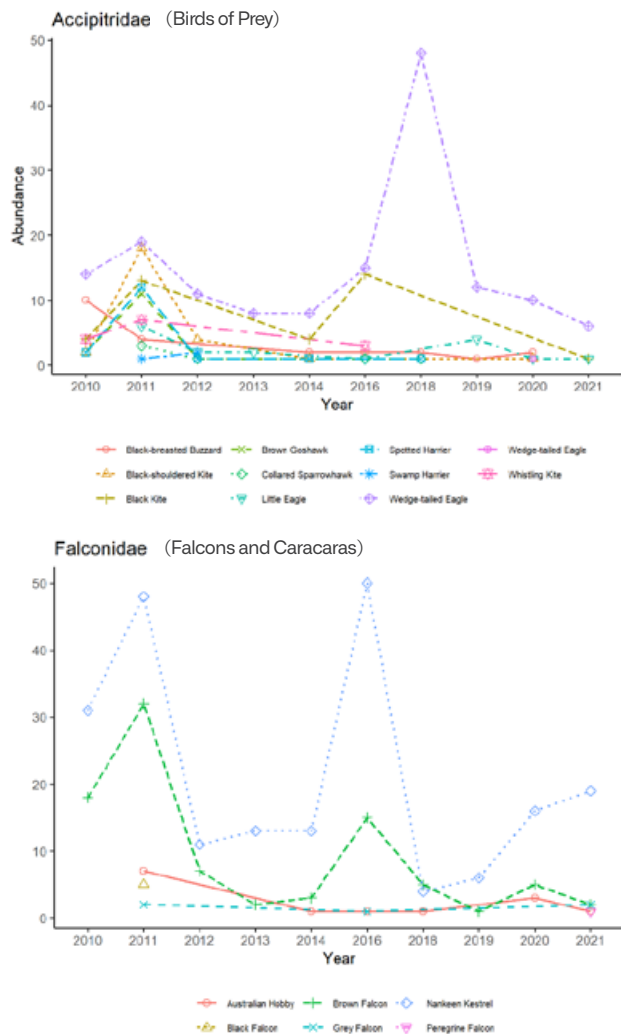
The survey team were also delighted to have Lyn Litchfield, Wilpoorinna pastoral station owner, assist them on several days during the survey. Lyn soon became a real Thick-billed Grasswren expert. Lyn was also able to direct the team to new areas to survey. The next Thick-billed Grasswren survey is scheduled for early Spring 2021. The same sites will be surveyed, by the same survey team, enabling comparisons to be drawn between the two surveys.

Raptors at Witchelina

Raptor monitoring on Witchelina Nature Reserve has been ongoing since September 2018, comprising driving transects to record all raptor observations. In addition to driving surveys, Wedge-tailed Eagle nest surveys were completed in 2018, 2019 and 2020. In total, 97 Wedge-tailed Eagle nests have been mapped. Nest surveys involve observations of breeding activity, fledgling outcome, and prey assessment. In 2018, we estimated that at least eight chicks fledged. In 2019, there was no breeding activity due to extremely dry conditions. In 2020, no Wedge-tailed Eagle breeding was recorded. However, Nankeen Kestrels and Brown Falcons were observed to be taking advantage of the improved conditions provided by the rains in early 2020.

Interestingly, analysis of long-term survey data suggests that during the survey of 2018 we were witnessing a significant Wedge-tailed Eagle breeding event that had occurred over the 2017-18 breeding seasons (see figure below). This was somewhat puzzling because this occurred during the middle of a drought. We hypothesise that the immense decline in red kangaroos during the drought provided an incredible amount of food resources, allowing Wedge-tailed Eagles to embark on perhaps a one-in-a-decade breeding event. This breeding event likely occurred across the country having a significant positive impact on Wedge-tailed Eagle populations nationally.

Figure 3. Raptor survey counts, Witchelina Nature Reserve, 2010-2021





Bird Surveys at Hiltaba

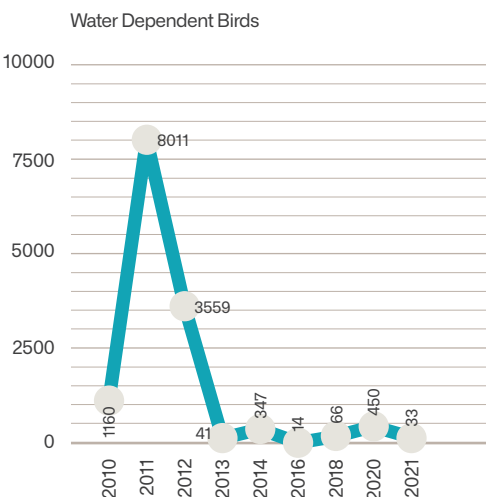
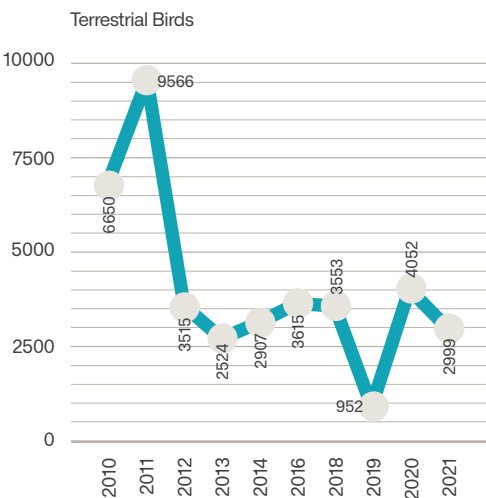
In May 2021, a team at the Hiltaba Working Bee conducted a bird survey at 15 different locations across Hiltaba, recording a total of 305 birds, comprising 37 different species! The most common species seen were Mulga parrots (no.1) (32 individuals, recorded at five locations) and the Yellow-throated Miner (no.2) (31 individuals, recorded at eight locations).

Two of the 15 survey sites had the highest species abundance: Mallee and Blackbush habitat. The high species abundance in the Blackbush habitat was surprising and may be attributable to recent rainfall stimulating flowering of the flora, in turn attracting birds and insects to the area. Two bird species dominated the observations in Mallee habitat, accounting for 64% of observations: Tree Martins (no.3) and the Dusky Woodswallow (no.4).

While, at the Blackbush site, the Southern Whiteface (no.5) accounted for a third of observations.

Species diversity was also highest in the Mallee and Blackbush habitats, although a site at the base of Mount Friday dominated by Bullock Bush was equally diverse, with 10 or 11 bird species recorded at the most diverse sites.

The data collected during the annual working bees provide valuable insight into the ecological health of the reserve, with birds being an indicator for the health of an ecosystem. We look forward to building a long-term dataset which will allow us to examine these patterns in the broader context of climatic fluctuations and ongoing conservation efforts.

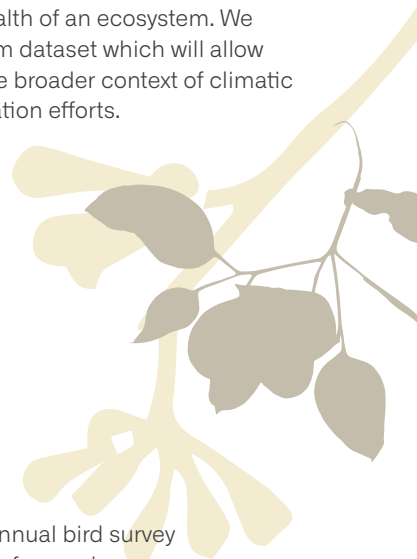


Bird Surveys at Witchelina

Members from Birds SA conducted their 11th annual bird survey at Witchelina Nature Reserve. Nearly a decade of annual surveys, traversing a total of 4000 kilometres, has built the foundation for a fantastic long-term dataset that has provided tremendous insight into the response of arid bird communities to the cycles of boom and bust in arid inland Australia.

After several very dry years, we are pleased to report that slightly more favourable weather conditions have resulted in a positive response in Witchelina's bird communities. Although rainfall in 2020 was slightly below average (142.5mm) it was enough to give a much-needed respite after the very dry years of 2018 and 2019 that saw a low 92.5mm fall over a 24-month period, resulting significant decline in bird numbers. The subsequent positive response in 2020 is testament to the resilience of the wildlife that inhabits the tough arid interior of Australia.

Figure 4. Bird abundance, Witchelina Nature Reserve, 2010-2021.



Whip-snake (*Parasuta* sp.) at Geegeela Nature Reserve; credit Bryan Haywood



Geegeela Biological Survey at Nature Foundation's newest Nature Reserve

A baseline biological survey was undertaken at Nature Foundation's newest 102-hectare reserve, Geegeela Nature Reserve, located within the Bangham district of the upper Limestone Coast, 15km north-west of Frances in South Australia. Nature Foundation partnered with Nature Glenelg Trust and Scientific Expedition Group to undertake the six-day biological survey in early May 2021 to determine the abundance and distribution of native plants and animals, including pest species, within the reserve. This survey was funded by the Limestone Coast Landscape Board through the Grassroots Grant program.

The objectives of the grant project were to map the vegetation communities within the reserve; establish a fauna and vegetation survey to capture baseline data that can be used to measure changes over time; and to involve the wider community during and after the survey. Survey methods included pitfall and Elliot traps, roofing tile grids, 2 hectare x 20 minute bird surveys, harp traps, ramble walks, micro-pitfall traps, ultra-violet light traps and opportunistic searches.

Vegetation mapping was undertaken prior to the biological survey to determine the dominant and sub-dominant vegetation types and to give an overview of their distribution. Significant habitats recorded include the Buloke woodland and Stringybark vegetation communities which are important for the nationally endangered Red-tailed Black Cockatoo. Table 2 provides a snapshot of the native species observed. The resultant report will help inform the future management of Geegeela Nature Reserve including the development of a reserve management plan and identifying priority conservation actions.

Type	# of species observed	Example species (*R denotes Rare in SA; *E denotes Endangered in SA)
Native Flora	175	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Mentha satereioides</i> (Native Pennyroyal) *R <i>Melaleuca wilsonii</i> (Wilson's Honey-myrtle)*R <i>Choretum glomeratum</i> ssp. <i>chrysanthum</i> (Yellow-flower Sour-bush)*R
Mammals	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sugar Glider (<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>)*R Lesser Long-eared Bat (<i>Nyctophilus geoffroyi</i>) Red-necked Wallaby (<i>Macropus rufogriseus</i>)*R
Reptiles	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eastern Striped Skink (<i>Ctenotus spaldingii</i>) Marbled Gecko (<i>Christinus marmoratus</i>) Whip-snake (<i>Parasuta</i> sp.)
Birds	Over 50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii graptogyne</i>)*E Painted Button-quail (<i>Turnix varius</i>)*R Restless Flycatcher (<i>Myiagra inquieta</i>)*R
Invertebrates	Over 50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rain/Ghost Moths <i>Abantiades</i> and <i>Fraus</i> species Butterfly species including Australian Painted Lady (<i>Vanessa kershawi</i>) Peacock spiders including Bat-Like Peacock Spider (<i>Maratus vespertilio</i>)

Table 2: A snapshot of native species observed during the biological survey

Grant Funding

The Science and Knowledge Program received \$55,206 in grant funding; Table 1 provides a summary of each project funded.

Project Title	Funding Body	Outcomes
Investigating population dynamics and decline of the threatened Thick-billed Grasswren	Wettenhall Environment Trust (Small Environmental Grant) and SA Arid Lands Landscape Board (Grassroots Grant)	Undertake Thick-billed Grasswren surveys at Witchelina Nature Reserve and neighbouring pastoral stations in Autumn and Spring. The project also includes engaging with these pastoral landowners and involving them in the surveys.
Geegeela Nature Reserve Biological Assessment	Limestone Coast Landscape Board (Grassroots Grant)	Conduct a baseline biological survey at Geegeela Nature Reserve and undertake community engagement events about the survey.
South Para River Corridor Restoration	Green Adelaide Landscape Board (Grassroots Grant)	Undertake minimal disturbance weed control and planting of native plants for revegetation within the South Para River Corridor of Para Woodlands Nature Reserve. Also undertake fauna surveys (e.g. birds and bats) and a community engagement event within the reserve.
Securing Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wrens at Watchalunga Nature Reserve	SA Power Networks Employee Foundation	Undertake weed control and planting of native plants for revegetation at Watchalunga Nature Reserve. Project Includes a community tree planting day and breeding season surveys of the Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren population within the reserve.

Table 1: Science and Knowledge grant / donation funded projects for 2020-21

Native fish surveys at Watchalunga

The third year of annual fish surveys were completed in October 2020 by native fish ecologists, Aquasave-NGT. The results indicate that the total abundance of native fish has declined in recent years (figure 5). However, species diversity has remained stable (figure 6). Notably, the total abundance of introduced ‘alien’ species also declined between the two survey periods.

Given that there are many variables (biotic, abiotic, and upstream) influencing habitat conditions at the site it is difficult to make sound inference as to why the decline with a small data set. The Aquatic Ecologist on the survey, Dr Nick Whiterod, suggested that the decrease in abundance may be due to increased freshwater flows at Watchalunga prior to the survey, which may have resulted in the Common Galaxias (the most abundant species recorded during the surveys) moving to different areas of the estuary.

Excitingly, the 2020 native fish survey used eDNA sampling, a new, innovative technology alongside traditional netting methods to detect nationally threatened, regionally rare native fish species. And they did! eDNA, or environmental DNA, is genetic material an organism leaves behind in its environment. By testing water samples for the DNA of specific species, detection is possible without physical observations. In the 2020 survey, eDNA sampling was used to see if three native fish species were present, including the nationally threatened Murray Hardyhead (Endangered), Southern Pygmy Perch (Vulnerable) and the regionally rare Yarra Pygmy Perch. Murray Hardyhead was positively recorded at one of eight sampling sites which is great news! Low levels of Murray Hardyhead DNA were found at a five more sites, and Southern Pygmy Perch DNA was potentially found at one site although there wasn’t enough DNA for positive identification. Watch this space for the results of the 2021 native fish survey to see what eDNA sampling finds next time!

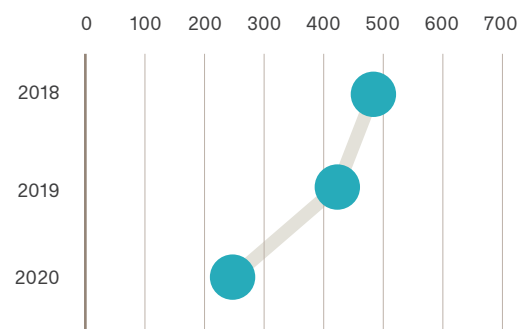


Figure 5: Native fish abundance, Watchalunga Nature Reserve, 2018-2020

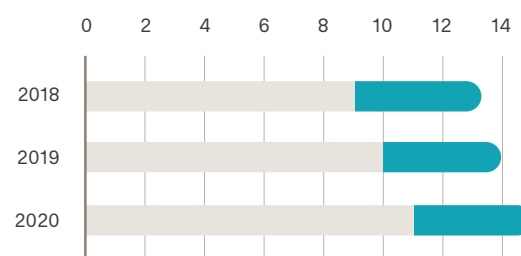


Figure 6: Fish species diversity, Watchalunga Nature Reserve, 2018-2020

Watchalunga revegetation and vegetation management

At Watchalunga, our long-term partnership with Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning (GWLAP) continued with an ongoing focus on improving and expanding habitat for threatened Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wrens and other wetland fauna. Unfortunately, no planting day was held in 2020 due to COVID-19. However, GWLAP planted 2,150 seedlings, mainly lignum and sedges, with help from Nature Foundation staff. Priority pest plants including Kikuyu, Couch, African Boxthorn, broadleaf weed, and paspalum were controlled and past revegetation areas and firebreaks were maintained.

Managing threatening processes

Predator control

Predator control activities have been ongoing at the two major reserves, Witchelina and Hiltaba. At Hiltaba, biannual aerial 1080 fox baiting has continued under the Department for Environment and Water's Bounceback program delivering 3000 baits per year. An additional 600 baits are distributed annually at Hiltaba and 3700 at Witchelina through the Biteback (wild dog) control program. Baits are used in line with PIRSA requirements.

Feral cat density at Witchelina

Feral cats remain one of the greatest threats to much of Australia's wildlife and are implicated in most mammal extinctions. They are almost everywhere, and haunt all of Australia's open bushland. One of the many landscapes where native wildlife is threatened by cats is the open plains of Witchelina Nature Reserve. Cats and foxes have already contributed to extinctions of 13 small mammal species there. But fortunately, Witchelina still provides refuge for many threatened species like the Plains Mouse and Thick-billed Grasswren. Controlling and understanding cats will help protect these species into the future.

Feral cats have long been a focus of management at Witchelina. With ongoing control for the last decade, over 700 feral predators have been removed. In 2020, we also began detailed research on how cats still present are using the landscape. We did this by deploying arrays of remote cameras from the hills north of the homestead all the way down to the saltbush flats of the Nilkidicana paddock.

The data captured helped to improve our understanding of the distribution and movement of cats over the landscape. There were few cats recorded over most of the hills and stony plains, despite placing cameras at locations where detections should be highest e.g. rabbit warrens and dry creeks. Overall density of cats was low, with an estimated average of two cats per 100km². This is over five times lower than the national average, likely due to both the drought and ongoing control. However, we did find local concentrations of cats in the saltbush flats of Nilkidicana, where many of the threatened species are also found. Over the coming years we will expand our research and controls on feral cats at Witchelina and continue efforts to reduce their impacts.



Camera trap image of feral cat at Witchelina Nature Reserve

Buffel Grass

Buffel grass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*, *C. pennisetiformis*) is an introduced perennial tussock grass, reportedly native to Africa, India and Asia, and introduced into central and northern Australia for pasture improvement and dust control. Buffel grass is invasive and is now widely distributed across arid northern South Australia. It is recognised as one of the worst weeds to invade Australia’s arid rangelands and presents a significant risk to the ecological and environmental values of Witchelina and Hiltaba Nature Reserves.

Hiltaba

Buffel grass has not been reported on Hiltaba Nature Reserve but there are infestations about 60 km to the north on the Kingoonya Road. Nature Foundation and Gawler Ranges National Park agreed to work together to monitor and control the infestation to prevent its spread, and to maintain a buffer between the infestations and the reserves.

Witchelina

Buffel grass has infested a number of creeks and floodplains in the north of Witchelina, including Rischbieth Creek, Mirra Creek and Willawalpa Creek. All the known infestations of Buffel grass on Witchelina are mapped, geo-located and marked on-ground with permanent signs, to assist the location, inspection and control program.

Buffel grass was largely controlled through a spray program during 2014 to 2017 and was mostly dormant from 2017 up to early 2020 due to low rainfall over this time. It was expected that the earlier control program had been successful in containing much of the infestation. A rain event of about 30mm in February 2020 triggered germination at the previously known infestation locations, and 60 mm of rain over August – October 2020 resulted in further germination from the dormant seed bank and plants.

Control Program

Nature Foundation increased its Buffel control efforts by retaining the services of experienced contractors. They targeted the infestations with the greatest risk of spread to other parts of the reserve, being Mirra Creek and Rischbieth Creek. Rotational Managers and volunteers worked on the less dense infestations and monitored tracks across the reserve to ensure Buffel does not spread.

Significant highlights in the Buffel grass control program this year were:

- Adoption of a revised Buffel Grass Management Action Plan. The plan sets out a range of requirements, including hygiene and cleaning requirements, access arrangements, and the spraying program.
- Contractors engaged to work on the densest infestations. This initiative allowed a rapid response over extensive areas of infestation in Mirra and Rischbieth Creeks, that could not otherwise have been achieved.
- Purchase of a RetraSpray twin reel electric return 500 litre spray plant, and modification of a tray-top 4WD vehicle to carry the unit. This was facilitated by generous donations from participants of the Members Tour to Witchelina in September 2020 to increase Nature Foundation’s capacity to contain and control this highly invasive and destructive plant.

Rabbit Control at Witchelina and Hiltaba

Rabbits remain an ever-present risk on Witchelina (421,000 ha in South Australia’s far north) and Hiltaba (78,000 ha on South Australia’s Eyre Peninsula).

When Calicivirus was first released it was very successful. Although rabbit numbers have not recovered to pre-Calicivirus numbers, they still persist in lower densities and impact the native vegetation, and the habitat for native fauna species.

We decided to undertake a trial using RHDV-K5 as an important management strategy for rabbits, in lieu of the more traditional mechanical ripping and poisoning of warrens because of the sheer scale of that task.

Commencing with population monitoring, the trial aimed at developing safe and efficient inoculation techniques, placement and monitoring method. The key question was about within-population infection when numbers are low and a percentage of the rabbit population live above-ground, and not in warrens. The control program’s goal is to keep the rabbit population low, to prevent an explosion in numbers in good seasons.

The team also trialled use of Fulcrum as a tool to make data collection, storage and transmission easier for the reserve managers via their mobile phones.

Hiltaba goat control

Goat control has continued at Hiltaba Nature Reserve since acquisition in 2012, to protect Yellow-footed Rock-wallabies, Short-tailed Grasswrens and sensitive and rare hills vegetation. Regular shooting was undertaken by a contractor and the Sporting Shooters Association of South Australia (SSASA) There was no mustering during the year.

Figure 9 reflects the significant decline in goat numbers at the reserve since purchase.

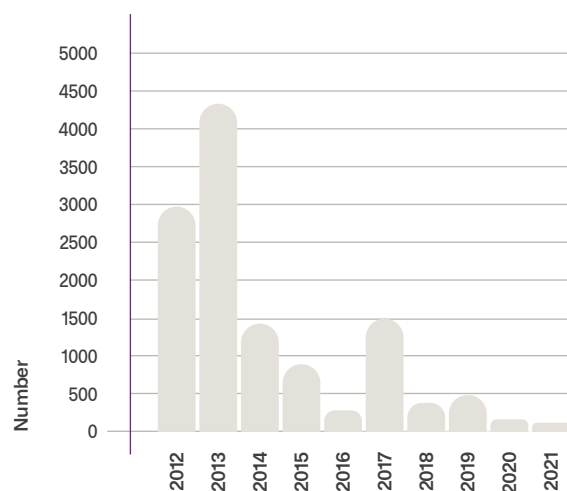


Figure 9. Goat control, Hiltaba Nature Reserve, 2012-2020

Cygnets Park Sanctuary; credit Anne Clark



Cygnets Park Sanctuary

Day-to-day management of Cygnets Park is shared between Michelle and Steve Dixon; our thanks to Penny Paton for this update on activities.

Bushfire recovery

Of the 50 tubestock of *Allocasuarina verticillata* that were planted in the burnt area north of the River in May 2020, 48 were still alive in May 2021 and had all put on good growth. This is the sole food source for Glossy Black-cockatoos, much reduced by the summer bushfires 2019-20. In addition, the 60 *A. verticillata* large tubestock planted near the house in May 2020 and which were irrigated over summer were all alive and doing well in May 2021. There were also about 200 seedlings planted in guards or in an enclosure nearby and most of these survived the summer with only one watering in January 2021. These were hand weeded in May 2021. Additional tubestock of *Banksia marginata* and *Callistemon* were planted east of the house to give honeyeaters a more constant source of nectar year-round. Irrigation was installed to improve survivability and flowering.

Bird survey

David and Penny Paton conducted one bird survey of the whole property in late September 2020. Numbers of birds were pretty similar to 2019. It was very pleasing to see that Glossy Black-cockatoo numbers on the property seemed to have returned to their pre-fire numbers (about 20 regularly using the property). There were at least three pairs with nests on the property in May 2021.

Rare plant seed orchard

In collaboration with Dan Duval, Cygnets Park is hosting a rare plant seed orchard. The orchard will cover about 100m x 80m, be fenced and contain a number of Kangaroo Island rare plants. Funds for construction will be generously donated by David and Penny Paton and a large Federal Government grant will pay for most of the infrastructure and the salaries of the project managers.

Murbpook Lagoon; credit Charles Phillpot



Murbpook Lagoon

In September 2020 Nature Foundation, acting as a third-party provider, received funding from SA Water to purchase Murbpook Lagoon to discharge SA Water's Significant Environmental Benefits obligations under the Native Vegetation Act. This project allowed SA Water to offset the clearance associated with their Zero Cost Energy Future Project which aims to achieve zero cost for its net electricity operation costs by 2020-21.

The 360-hectare Murbpook Lagoon lies on the western side of the River Murray between Blanchetown and Morgan. The wetland covers approx. 90 ha of the site and 3 km fronts the River Murray via a Crown Reserve.

The site and the immediate area around it are known to feature 17 State and Nationally Rated Fauna species – and two state rare flora species.

Fauna: Musk Duck (*Biziura lobate*), Blue-billed Duck (*Oxyura australis*), Australasian Shoveler (*Anas rhynchotis rhynchotis*), Australasian Darter (*Anhinga novaehollandiae*), Regent Parrot (*Polytelis anthopeplus*), Freckled Duck (*Stictonetta naevosa*), Banded Stilt (*Cladorhynchus leucocephalus*), Emu (*Dromaius novaehollandiae*), Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*), Southern Bell Frog (*Litoria raniformis*), Silver Perch (*Bidyanus bidyanus*), and Carpet Python (*Morelia spilota*).

Flora: State and Nationally Rated Flora include the Prickly Bottlebrush (*Callistemon brachyandrus*), Spiny Lignum (*Duma horrida*) and Purple Love-grass (*Eragrostis lacunaria*).

Nature Foundation commenced engagement with First Peoples of the River Murray Mallee Native Title Claimant Group 2 to help progress conservation at the site.

Painted Dragon (*Ctenophorus pictus*)
at Gidgealpa; credit A.Sinel



20,000 hectare Significant Environmental Benefit (SEB) offset at Gidgealpa

The Gidgealpa SEB Offset area falls within the Coongie Lakes Wetland RAMSAR reserve and the Gidgealpa Station Pastoral Lease, approx. 13 kilometres north-east of Moomba on the land of the Yandruwandha/Yawarrawarrka people.

The Gidgealpa SEB Area is being established by Nature Foundation as a SEB credit to meet Santos' obligations under the Native Vegetation Act. The site has been managed as a pastoral property under lease since 1966, but pastoralism has been occurring at Gidgealpa since the late 1880s.

The Coongie Lakes covers a total area of 21,789 km² (2,178,952 ha) and is in far north-east of South Australia in the Cooper Creek sub-catchment of the Lake Eyre Basin. The highly variable nature of watering in Coongie Lakes creates the ecological boom-and-bust character of the region. Floodwaters promote a period of flourishing plant growth, and an influx and breeding of fauna including macro invertebrates, fish, and waterfowl. It is a complex and extensive ephemeral and semi-permanent freshwater wetland system within an arid zone, comprising channels, waterholes, lakes, internal deltas and numerous shallow flood out plains, interdune corridors and swamps. The Coongie Lakes Wetland covers approximately 12,150 ha (just over 60%) of the Project area.

The offset area is partly on the Cooper Creek Floodplain. Floodplains and swamps provide significant habitat for many terrestrial and aquatic species that would otherwise not occur

within the region (Department for Environment and Heritage 2009). Along drainage lines, permanent and near-permanent waterholes act as refuges for aquatic species, enabling them to survive extended dry periods. These areas are also important for water-dependent terrestrial species.

A Nature Foundation flora and fauna survey of the area in spring 2020 found:

- 12 mammal species were identified including five exotic species. No threatened species. Four native species identified were the Fat-tailed Dunnart, Stripe-faced Dunnart, Central Short-tailed Mouse and Sandy Inland Mouse.
- 32 bird species were recorded – two of the bird species recorded were the Flock Bronzewing and Grey Falcon, both with rare conservation rating, were observed. The Flock Bronzewing was observed in flocks less than 120. One Grey Falcon was observed over low shrubland (population believed to be less than 1000 mature individuals Birdlife int. 2020).
- 15 reptile species were captured including the Blacksoil Skink which is considered to be rare.

The first major step in the ten-year management plan has been completed – building a 75 km boundary fence to exclude cattle and conserve the 20,000 hectare site.



WFN Swan (*Cygnus atratus*) on nest at Qualco; credit Natalie Stalenberg

Receiving the grant will help us get on top of the rabbit numbers. The funding also provides motivation: you're obliged to do the work and report on it. That means you have to collate the data and that helps you see the benefits of what you're doing.

Dr Suzanne Wiebkin

BEFORE: Water For Nature site Pike Winter 2015
AFTER: The same site Autumn 2021



Water For Nature

Together with South Australian communities and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, Nature Foundation's Water For Nature program delivers community-driven projects to improve the health of River Murray wetlands and floodplains.

Major achievements in the program for the year included:

- 842 megalitres of water for the environment delivered to 86 hectares of wetlands and floodplains in the SA River Murray Valley
- Threatened species supported by the program included Latham's Snipe, Murray Hardyhead, Regent Parrot and Southern Bell Frog
- A swan breeding event at a private lagoon near Waikerie resulting in at least 20 cygnets and 20 nests from 182 swans recorded on lagoon
- Seven community groups from Berri in the Riverland to Milang in the Lower Lakes were engaged in the delivery of water for the environment.

This year we also completed an inventory of Water For Nature's 100 sites across 23 wetland complexes to assist with future long-term planning.

David Welford, Heritage Agreement owner on Kangaroo Island



Revitalising Private Conservation in South Australia

Established and funded by the South Australian Government, the Revitalising Private Conservation in SA program is a two-year, \$3 million program which brings together an outstanding partnership of South Australia’s leading environmental and agricultural producer organisations including Nature Foundation, Conservation Council SA, Livestock SA, Nature Conservation Society of South Australia and Trees For Life. The program is led by Nature Foundation as the principal delivery partner working closely with the Department for Environment and Water.

There are more than 1600 Heritage Agreements in SA which protects more than 1.8 million hectares of native remnant vegetation on behalf of society across all of South Australia.



(LtoR) Colin, Bev, Ali and Andrew – on their Heritage Agreement property on Kangaroo Island at a recent 20-year celebration for the hundreds of hours they and many volunteers have put into the site, its restoration and care.



Sue in her Heritage Agreement remnant vegetation, and a Banksia – she has more than 200 plant species on her property.

Major achievements

The ‘Revitalising Private Conservation in South Australia’ program increased protection for 70 Heritage Agreements from 230 grant applicants in the first of three grant rounds.

At this time there have been 42 new Heritage Agreement applications as a direct result of this program and more people are applying to have their remnant vegetation protected in perpetuity.

The first of three grant funding rounds has been provided for private land conservation projects such as:

- Connection between private property and National Parks and public reserves
- Restoration of natural and cultural heritage sites
- Revegetation – to provide habitat and food source for wildlife
- Collection of local seed to regenerate threatened species
- Pest plant and animal control
- Fencing repairs and erection of new fencing to reduce grazing pressure

The program encountered a high and increasing demand for grants, advice and networks that would in part address the widespread disappointment of regional landholders at the decrease in funding in DEW’s Native Vegetation Branch over the last 15 years.

The Revitalising program has demonstrated the strong need for the program and the willingness of the Heritage Agreement community to invest private resources in protecting, managing and restoring native vegetation and in so doing improving the health of the conservation and primary production landscape.

The program already has a high profile. The initial phase of the Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) program gathering ecological and social information demonstrated the demand for and appreciation of the program. The program plans to invest in an economic impact assessment of the program in terms of jobs and regional economic multiplier.

New signage for Heritage Agreement properties has been welcomed by landholders who are proud to showcase the work, effort and commitment they have to protecting our natural environment.

Globally and locally, conservation work has never been more critical...

Jan Ferguson OAM

Native grass at Hiltaba Nature Reserve,
credit James Holewink

Goal Two

Nature Science knowledge that leads to evidence-based decision making

Research grant program

In 2020–21 Nature Foundation awarded a total of \$35,270 in grants for eight recipients to undertake important nature conservation related research. Nature Foundation's Grants Program continued to fund research that contributes to the conservation of South Australia's biodiversity and habitats, and since 2003 has awarded 425 grants totalling over \$1.7 million to university students and researchers.

See table below for list of 2021 Research Grant Recipients.

Applicant	Grant Category	Project
Imogen Sach	Grand Start–Honours	Behavioural and physiological responses of koalas to drones
Jack Bilby	Grand Start–Honours	Risk during natal dispersal: A case study using the Western Quoll, <i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>
Larissa Iasiello	Grand Start–Honours	Assessing how artificial light and anthropogenic noise impacts the behaviour and physiology of three seabird species
Sophie Dolling	Grand Start–Honours	Plastic pollution as a vector for the transportation of Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) to keystone species in an estuary
Claire Moore	Grand Start–Honours	The spatial distribution of Kangaroo Island koalas (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>) in the post-fire landscape, and their use of fire-altered habitat fragments
Rhys Browning	Grand Start–Honours	Drought resistance of Grey Box (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>): informing climate-ready revegetation of a threatened ecosystem
Kate Matthews	Scientific Expedition	The impact of soil moisture variability on soil microbial community structure and function in restored ecosystems
Dr Scott Hanson-Easey	Research Project	Knowing what works: A critical social psychological inquiry into how Nature Foundation's work resonates with potential and current supporters.



Credit: Cleland Wildlife Park

Future directions

Nature Foundation has prioritised the following strategies to ensure the continued accumulation of nature science knowledge that leads to evidence-based decision making.

- Continued investment in long-term datasets to provide Nature Foundation with the necessary knowledge to effectively management conservation reserves.
- Continued alignment with the international Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to ensure that Nature Foundation's strategic direction remains relevant and consistent with international conservation objectives.
- To engage effectively with local Traditional Owners on our reserves and with respect to our conservation management.
- Continued improvement in data collection, ARC GIS mapping, data analytics and communication of results in peer review journals.

Goal Three

Nature is better understood and valued



Wildlife Recovery Fund

Established in early 2020 following the very significant 2019-20 summer bushfires, the Wildlife Recovery Fund (WRF) distributed \$449,000 in grants to 20 Wildlife Recovery Fund projects in 2020-21. The fund is a partnership between Nature Foundation and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (SA).

A range of projects across bushfire-affected communities in South Australia received between \$1,000 and \$50,000 each to re-establish habitat, help the recovery and protection of threatened species and increase knowledge about the environmental impact of bushfires in a changing climate and within fragmented landscapes.

The grants would not have been possible without the incredible generosity of donors from South Australia, nationally and overseas. A truly inspirational response.

Above left: Brianiee Albrighton, Trees for Life, at nursery; credit N Davis
Above right: Ascomycete disc fungi; credit D Catcheside

A new brand for Nature Foundation

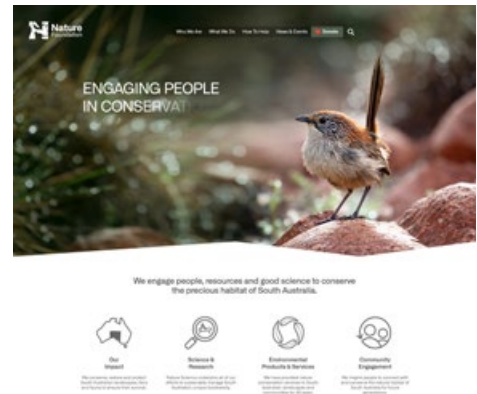
We were excited to launch Nature Foundation's new branding on 31 March 2021, in perfect timing with our impending 40th birthday this year! In the past 40 years we have achieved much, matured as an organisation and significantly broadened our reach. Our new branding, which builds on the Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby from previous logos, reflects our diverse activities and our unique, agile and innovative approach to nature conservation. It is a contemporary and fresh look for the future, and we hope it will inspire both existing and new audiences to connect with and conserve the natural habitat of South Australia and beyond for future generations.

Integral to the update of our brand and logo is our new and improved website which illustrates the breadth of Nature Foundation's activities and how we can help you, and how you can help us achieve our vision for nature. The new, easy-to-navigate website provides information about our broad-ranging programs, the places and species we work with and how people and organisations can become involved in our work for nature conservation in South Australia.

The website also provides fresh customer service and increased access options including making donations and membership payments online. Also in progress are platforms to book accommodation and activities at Witchelina and Hiltaba Nature Reserves and purchase some of our beautiful newly-branded merchandise online, 24/7!

Above: Branded Nature Foundation vehicles at Prospect Office; credit Rosemary Argue

Kangaroo Island Member Tour group; credit Anne Clark



Keeping in touch with members and supporters

A program of significant work continued to implement new systems for Nature Foundation, which will help our members and supporters to have a seamless experience with information-seeking and online transactions, while improving our ability to target communications appropriately to the correct audience.

An expanded program of e-news continued to keep our networks up to date with Nature Foundation’s work during the year, with above-average open rates by industry standards. In the 2020–21 year we sent a total of 60 e-news updates to our members and supporters, in addition to our three Nature Matters publications. Our website received nearly 28,000 visitors in the same period, with close to 83,000 website page views.

Our social media channels continued to grow with increasing rates of engagement across Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn.

Nature Foundation stayed closely attuned to the external operating environment which includes biophysical, societal, economic and political factors. We have frequently and effectively communicated through media, partnerships with industry, local landholder and irrigator communities, Aboriginal groups and the three levels of Government.

Nature Foundation actively contributes to collaborative policy comment directly and through the Australian Land Conservation Alliance (ALCA) and the South Australian Nature Alliance (SANA), and provided feedback on the Pastoral Land Bill, EPBC Act Review, Bushfires Royal Commission, and Native Vegetation changes.

Events

While COVID-19 significantly affected the events program once again and caused cancellation of some events, we were thrilled to be able to run the inaugural members tours to Witchelina Nature Reserve in September 2020 and to Kangaroo Island in March 2021. Both were over-subscribed and greatly enjoyed by all guests with excellent feedback received. It was wonderful to share Nature Foundation’s conservation work firsthand and introduce members to our partner projects on Kangaroo Island.

The Hiltaba Grand Working Bee was another highlight of the events calendar, with a great deal of nature conservation work and property maintenance completed through the generosity of 60 volunteers and staff – in total 2096 volunteer hours were donated.

Our Quiz Night held in June was also a huge success with 180 people attending and over \$10,000 raised for nature conservation. Nature Foundation is very grateful for the support from over 25 sponsors and for the support of our 11 volunteers who made it an amazing experience for all!

Goal Four

Engaged communities that support resilient habitats



Kids on Country

Nature Foundation was thrilled to deliver the first “on-country” camp for the COVID-disrupted financial year at Witchelina Nature Reserve in September 2020.

The camp programs delivered a variety of activities designed to empower, support and engage young people to enhance their learning capacity. While cultural activities deepened resilience and enhanced young people’s identity and confidence, conservation activities provided opportunities to grow an understanding of the natural environment. Transmission of ecological and cultural knowledge, stories and practice by Traditional Owners and Elders during the camps resulted in meeting Aboriginal community aspirations and priorities for their young people.

Nature Foundation recognises the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and worked closely with the Traditional Owners of the land on which the Nature Reserves are located.

Through the inclusion of Aboriginal key stakeholders and community members, Nature Foundation embedded an Aboriginal perspective across all activities to ensure a culturally appropriate program for Department of Education participants. Having Traditional Owners involved in the planning and facilitation added great value to the program; Nature Foundation and all the students benefited from the unique views of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff.

Nature Foundation has cemented positive working relationships with many key stakeholders including TAFE SA, Industry experts, our wonderful donors and grant-makers and Traditional Owners who all have a vested interest in the program through in-kind support.



Top and second photos: participants at Kids on Country camp; credit Katie Perry



Traditional Owner Warren Millera, Kids on Country Cultural Leader; credit Katie Perry

Nature-based Tourism and Artists Residency Program

Nature Foundation's tourism aims to support its vision of inspiring people to connect with and conserve the natural habitat of South Australia, enabling visitors to enjoy nature, and to contribute materially to building the organisation's supporter base and resources for conservation work.

In contrast to the COVID pandemic's impact on visitor numbers the previous year, 2020–21 resumed the steady increase in visitor activity experienced by Nature Foundation since 2016. The large majority are visitors who came to immerse themselves in the Reserves' landscapes, flora, fauna, geology and history.

It was particularly gratifying during the year to note an increase in the number of groups attracted to the outback experience offered by both properties – birders, walkers, geology enthusiasts, several clubs, large family groups and Nature Foundation member tours.

Nature Foundation continued to invest in infrastructure and other aspects of the visitor experience through initiatives that included:

- Opening of the Cottage for visitors' accommodation at Witchelina, following an ambitious restoration program undertaken largely by Rotational Managers, and with generous donations from members
- A major upgrade of the kitchen in the Witchelina Shearers' Quarters, thanks to the Commonwealth's Building Better Regions program
- Opening of a new half-day nature drive on Hiltaba, largely with the assistance of volunteers during the 2021 Grand Working Bee
- Restoration of the Hiltaba woolshed, again largely through the efforts of Rotational Managers, and including a near-complete reconstruction of the original woolpress by group of skilled volunteers from Victoria
- Two highly successful members' tours – one to Witchelina, the other taking in Nature Foundation's support of work on Kangaroo Island.

The Artists Residency Program again offered artists with an emerging professional profile an opportunity to spend up to two weeks on either Witchelina or Hiltaba, and to produce high-quality work inspired by nature. Originally introduced in 2019 but suspended in 2020 because of COVID-19 restrictions, the Program welcomed its second participating artist, Jane Rusden, in 2021. Her work will be on display via Nature Foundation's website in late 2021.

Work began during the year on measures to broaden the scope and grow the the Artists Residency Program.

Lange Powell (L) and Bob Gray in Wool Shed at Hiltaba Working Bee; credit Andy Rasheed





The Wool Press restoration team at Hiltaba Wool Shed; credit Andy Rasheed

Hiltaba Nature Reserve

Hiltaba enjoyed a magnificent season over the last twelve months with 370 millimetres of rainfall falling over 77 days. The above-average rainfall has generated good growth of native vegetation contributing to ideal conditions for the native fauna.

A mixture of conservation and infrastructure have kept the Rotational Managers busy this year. Pre feeding of Yellow-footed Rock-wallabies for six weeks ensured successful trapping and monitoring of the population by Nature Foundation's Science and Knowledge team. Regular boundary fence patrols ensured that vagrant livestock and their grazing impact were largely excluded from the reserve. The rain also stimulated a resurgence of weeds. Weed control along the reserve track network and main road was increased significantly to minimise further spread of significant weeds.

A new shed for the backhoe was constructed by volunteer Rotational Managers under the direction of our licensed builder to conform with all necessary building regulations. The Hiltaba Woolshed repairs commenced with stabilisation of the framework and then new floor stubs were inserted and a new floor was laid just in time to use the shed for evening meals for all of the people who attended the Hiltaba Working Bee in May 2021. Again the Rotational Managers and volunteers provided the necessary work to repair the shed, with more work being planned over the next few years to continue its upgrade. A highlight of the restoration was the return of restored woolpress that was found in the Hiltaba dump by a group of people who stayed at the reserve two years previously. The woolpress was reinstalled in the shed one week before the Working Bee.

Witchelina Nature Reserve

Witchelina had 171 mm of rain falling over 35 days with most of it falling in November 2020. This is around average. Higher rainfall at that time south of the reserve resulted in Leigh Creek running a large pulse of water into Witchelina via Paradise Creek into Murrumbidgee Swamp on the eastern side of the reserve, attracting a large number of birds to seek refuge in the hotter months. Lake Watherston, a lignum swamp near the Termination Range also caught water, creating another wet spot for birds to congregate. By the end of summer these lakes and swamps were dry and the birds had moved on. This is a great example of the boom and bust cycles of the Australian arid regions.

Nature Foundation received a Building Better Regions Fund grant to upgrade the shearers' kitchen and for four new rainwater tanks, taking our maximum rainwater storage capacity to 500,000 litres. A new catering gas stove, dishwasher, stainless steel cupboards and a sink were installed by a contractor.

After much work on the Cottage, it is now available as part of our accommodation mix for visitors to Witchelina.

An enclosure fence was erected around the main homestead to reduce grazing pressure, encourage regeneration of native plants and improve amenity. A small working bee also completed another 4 km of the Myrtle Springs boundary fence to reduce the risk of ingress by cattle.

Plant and equipment

Two new Toyota Landcruiser Dual Cab vehicles were purchased from CMI Toyota assisted with a generous donation from the CMV Foundation. One is now at Witchelina and the other at Hiltaba. These are a wonderful and much-needed addition to the vehicle fleet on the reserves and will assist the Rotational Managers in their duties on the reserves.

Fundraising from the 2020 Member Tour to Witchelina Nature Reserve enabled the purchase of a new weed sprayer unit. The new twin reel electric windup 550 litre unit is much easier to use than the old equipment and means that double the amount of work can be achieved.

Hiltaba Grand Working Bee group; credit
Andy Rasheed



Murrumbidgee swamp after rain at
Witchelina Nature Reserve; credit
Chris Reed



Volunteers

Thank you to all of Nature Foundation’s generous and highly skilled volunteers who once again contributed in so many ways at our nature reserves, Water for Nature activities, events, office administration and pro bono services to name a few. These contributions are vitally important to our mission to engage people, resources and good science to conserve the precious habitat of South Australia. In total 10,075 hours were contributed over the financial year, equating to over \$403,000 value. The range of volunteer work included legal services, human resourcing, research, monitoring, maintenance, administrative services, grant writing, committee expertise and assisting at events, to name just a few. Nature Foundation greatly appreciates every single one of our 231 volunteers whose efforts and skills are essential to helping deliver our work to sustainably manage South Australia’s unique biodiversity, landscapes and waters for future generations.

Nature Foundation also received in-kind contributions from a variety of supporters and organisations which greatly help to raise funds or directly deliver conservation projects. In total 42 supporters and organisations gave almost \$30,000 in goods and services – a tremendous gift to help Nature Foundation achieve more for nature conservation in South Australia.



**We are
striving to
find the
right balance
between
the needs of
society and
healthy, self-
sustaining
ecoystems.**

Hugo Hopton

Baby emu at Hiltaba Nature Reserve;
credit James Holewink



Goal Five

An inspirational organisation that is financially secure and achieves operational excellence

Appeals and donations for nature

Nature Foundation continued to work within a vastly different operating environment with COVID-19 restrictions having further impact on revenue raising activities.

In total our fundraising efforts raised a total of \$226,000 for our conservation programs and funds. A big thank you goes out to our 590 generous donors who supported vital conservation work in South Australia.

In addition to these appeals, Nature Foundation in partnership with the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board and community continued raising funds for important recovery work on Kangaroo Island through the Glossy-Black Cockatoo Recovery Program, Kangaroo Island Native Plant Nursery Fund, Kangaroo Island Feral Cat Eradication Program and Australian Sea Lion Research, which were all very well supported.

The Wildlife Recovery Fund continued to receive donations totalling over \$35,000 along with a restoration program receiving \$30,000 from one generous donor. In all, funds contributed by the wider community raised a combined total of over \$151,000.

Grant and corporate funding

Nature Foundation had positive outcomes with philanthropic and government funds through its grant submissions. The team made 39 submissions and was successful with 20 of them, totalling over \$315,000. Grants were received from the Department for Environment and Water, Westpac Foundation, Wettenhall Trust, Patagonia Foundation, Ansvar, Hammer Sprout Fund, Terracotta Foundation, Lang Foundation, FRRR, Wyatt Trust and many more. Project recipients included Kids on Country, Water For Nature, and Science and Knowledge programs.

CMV Foundation most generously donated \$50,000 towards the purchase of two 4WD vehicles that are being utilised for priority conservation activities at Witchelina and Hiltaba Nature Reserves.

Nature Foundation is continuously reviewing its revenue-raising strategies to enable it to do more for nature in South Australia.

Bequest program: Vision for Nature Society

The Gift in Wills Program continues to grow as more people show interest in leaving a gift of land, shares or funds from their Estate to Nature Foundation, to contribute to the conservation and restoration of land for future generations.

The Vision for Nature calendar of events was again well attended, and the number and diversity of events for people who have registered their interest in leaving a gift to Nature Foundation in their Will was well received. Events included a tour to Para Woodlands Nature Reserve and formal presentation with expert speakers from Kangaroo Island, Water for Nature and our research program.



Vision for Nature group at Para Woodlands Nature Reserve; credit Patrick Mentzel



Nature Reserves for Conservation

Nature Foundation is actively involved in conservation of landscapes important to the people of South Australia.

Witchelina Nature Reserve

Witchelina is a 421,000 ha nature reserve located near Leigh Creek in the far north of South Australia. The reserve conserves arid land systems and threatened species such as the Plains Mouse and the Thick-billed Grasswren.

Hiltaba Nature Reserve

Hiltaba is a 78,000 ha nature reserve located in the Gawler Ranges on the Eyre Peninsula. Hiltaba conserves important native habitat, plants and animals, particularly Yellow-footed Rock-wallabies, and other threatened species of plants and animals.

Para Woodlands Nature Reserve

Para Woodlands is a 500 ha nature reserve near Gawler, co-owned by Nature Foundation and the Department for Environment and Water. Our aim for this reserve is to restore a functioning grassy woodland to the site, to provide habitat for Mount Lofty Ranges woodland birds.

Watchalunga Nature Reserve

Watchalunga comprises 92 ha of low-lying Fleurieu Peninsula wetlands on the Finnis River. It sustains a number of threatened species including the critically endangered Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren.

Tiliqua Nature Reserve

Tiliqua is an 85 ha nature reserve north-east of Burra. The reserve is dedicated to the protection of the Pygmy Bluetongue Lizard, which was once thought to be extinct, but was rediscovered near Burra in 1992.

Cygnets Park Sanctuary

Cygnets Park Sanctuary is a 300 ha nature reserve west of Kingscote on Kangaroo Island, co-owned by Nature Foundation, Jack May and David and Penny Paton. Over the last 10 years, the former cleared paddocks have been completely revegetated through amazing community planting days, with plants propagated in the Cygnets Park nursery.

Murbpook Lagoon

Murbpook Lagoon comprises 360 ha located on the western side of the River Murray between Blanchetown and Morgan. The site and the immediate area around it are known to feature 17 State and Nationally Rated Fauna species – and two state rare flora species.

Geegeela Nature Reserve

Nature Foundation's newest 102-hectare reserve, Geegeela is located within the Bangham district of the upper south-east, 15km north-west of Frances in South Australia.

Gidgealpa

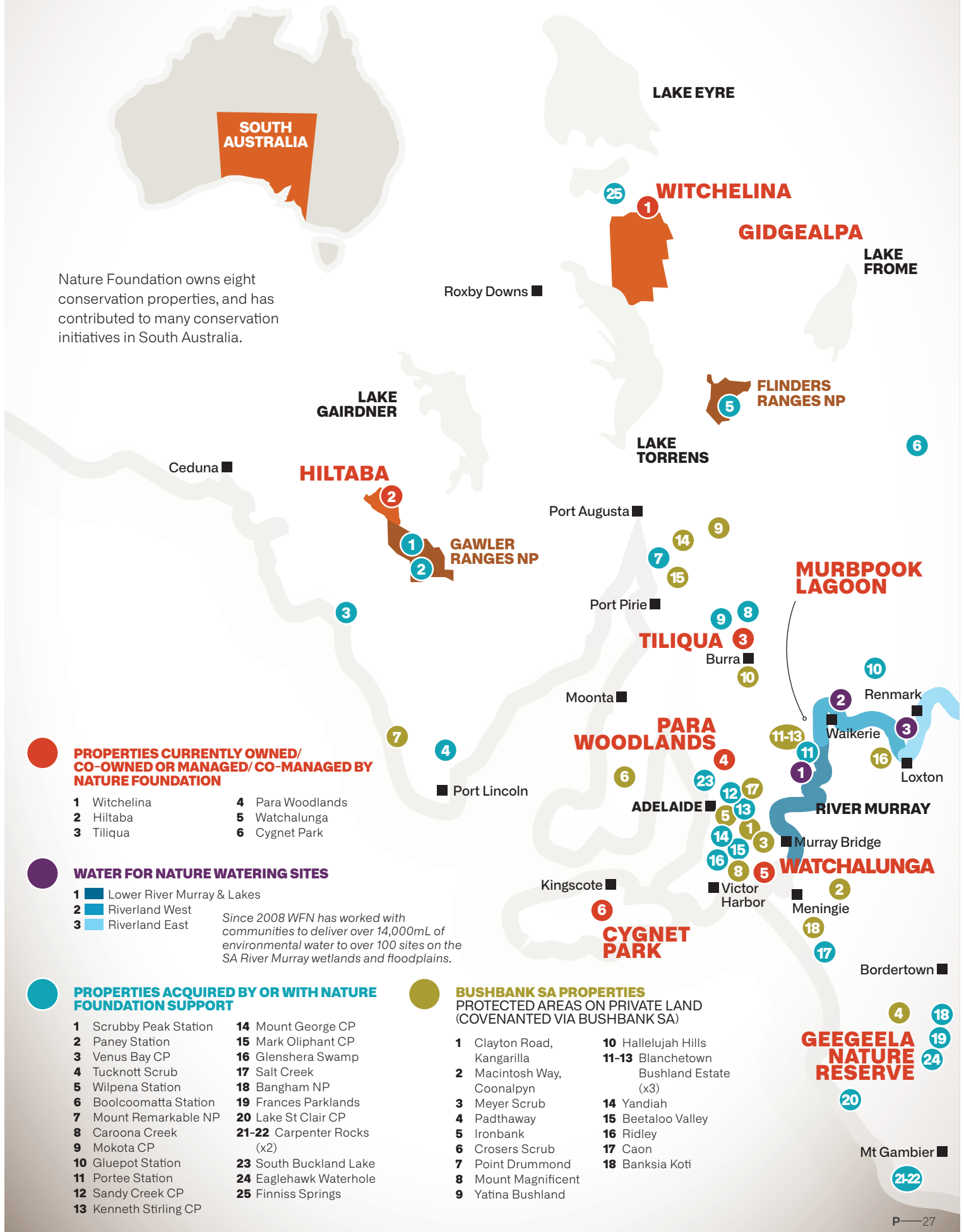
Gidgealpa falls within the Coongie Lakes Wetland RAMSAR reserve and the Gidgealpa Station Pastoral Lease, approximately 13 kilometres north-east of Moomba. The area is being established by Nature Foundation as an SEB credit to meet Santos' obligations under the Native Vegetation Act.

In our 40-year history, Nature Foundation has

- Contributed to the addition of 24 properties to the National Reserve System in partnership with State and Commonwealth Governments
- Protected another 17 properties with Heritage Agreements.

Our Footprint

Nature Foundation owns eight conservation properties, and has contributed to many conservation initiatives in South Australia.



PROPERTIES CURRENTLY OWNED/ CO-OWNED OR MANAGED/ CO-MANAGED BY NATURE FOUNDATION

- 1 Witchelina
- 2 Hiltaba
- 3 Tiliqua
- 4 Para Woodlands
- 5 Watchalunga
- 6 Cygnet Park

WATER FOR NATURE WATERING SITES

- 1 Lower River Murray & Lakes
- 2 Riverland West
- 3 Riverland East

Since 2008 WFN has worked with communities to deliver over 14,000mL of environmental water to over 100 sites on the SA River Murray wetlands and floodplains.

PROPERTIES ACQUIRED BY OR WITH NATURE FOUNDATION SUPPORT

- 1 Scrubby Peak Station
- 2 Paney Station
- 3 Venus Bay CP
- 4 Tucknott Scrub
- 5 Wilpena Station
- 6 Boolcoomatta Station
- 7 Mount Remarkable NP
- 8 Caroona Creek
- 9 Mokota CP
- 10 Gluepot Station
- 11 Portee Station
- 12 Sandy Creek CP
- 13 Kenneth Stirling CP
- 14 Mount George CP
- 15 Mark Oliphant CP
- 16 Glenshera Swamp
- 17 Salt Creek
- 18 Bangham NP
- 19 Frances Parklands
- 20 Lake St Clair CP
- 21-22 Carpenter Rocks (x2)
- 23 South Buckland Lake
- 24 Eaglehawk Waterhole
- 25 Finnis Springs

BUSHBANK SA PROPERTIES PROTECTED AREAS ON PRIVATE LAND (COVENANTED VIA BUSHBANK SA)

- 1 Clayton Road, Kangarilla
- 2 Macintosh Way, Coonalpyn
- 3 Meyer Scrub
- 4 Padthaway
- 5 Ironbank
- 6 Crosers Scrub
- 7 Point Drummond
- 8 Mount Magnificent
- 9 Yatina Bushland
- 10 Hallelujah Hills
- 11-13 Blanchetown Bushland Estate (x3)
- 14 Yandiah
- 15 Beetaloo Valley
- 16 Ridley
- 17 Caon
- 18 Banksia Koti

Our Patrons

Dr Barbara Hardy AO



Barbara is co-founder of Nature Foundation. She has worked in the environmental field in a voluntary capacity since the early 1970s, and studied Earth Sciences at Flinders University following a Science Degree at the University of Adelaide.

Barbara has been a Commissioner of the Australian Heritage Commission, President of Nature Foundation, President of the Investigator Science and Technology Centre and Chair of the South Australian Landcare Committee.

Barbara was appointed an Officer of the General Division of the Order of Australia in 1987, received an Honorary Doctorate from Flinders University in 1993, an Advance Australia Award 1991, a SA Great Award 1992, an Institution of Engineers Medal 1992, and an ABC Eureka Award for the Advancement of Science 1994. She was named South Australian Citizen of the Year in 1996 and South Australian Senior Australian of the Year in 2014.

Barbara is the Patron of the University of South Australia's Barbara Hardy Institute which was created in 2011 and brings together scientists, engineers and social scientists to work together with a focus on sustainability of our society.

Dick Smith AC



Dick, founder of Australian Geographic magazine, met Barbara Hardy in 1986 and learned of our work at Coongie Lakes Wetlands.

He was Australian of the Year in 1986, and in 1992 he was awarded the Lindbergh Award, an international award for a lifetime achievement of balancing technology and the environment.

Dick was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1999 for his services to the community, charity and business, and the Companion of the Order of Australia in 2015. In 2010 he founded media production company Smith & Nasht to create films about global issues. He became our Patron in 2011.

Reg Nelson



Reg is an exploration geophysicist with over four decades' experience in the minerals and petroleum industries including as former director of Mineral Development for South Australia, director and chairman of the APPEA Board and Managing Director of Beach Energy Limited (1995-2015).

Reg has been recognised through honorary Life Membership of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, the Prime Minister's Centenary Medal and the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association's Reg Sprigg Gold Medal. Nature Foundation recognised his support of the environment through the honorary award of Life Membership in 2010 and nomination as Fellow in 2012.

Fellows of the Foundation

Mr Clive Armour[†]
Mrs Avis Bonnin[†]
Dr Mark Bonnin AM[†]
Mr Warren Bonython AO[†]
Mr David Cleland[†]
Mr Dene Cordes PSM OAM
Mr John Daenke
Dr Barbara Hardy AO
Mr Allan Holmes
Mr Eric Jackson[†]
Mrs Elizabeth Law-Smith OAM[†]
Mrs Betty Lewis[†]
Mr Bob Lewis[†]
Ms Martha Lott
Dr Rob Morrison OAM
Mr David Moyle AM
Mr Reg Nelson
Mr William (Bill) Nankivell
Mr Julian Reid
Dr Bob Sharrad AM
Mr John Sibly AM[†]
Mr Dick Smith AC

Honorary Life Members

Mr Robert Gerard AO
Mr Bernd Stoecker[†]
Mr Nicholas Newland AM
Ms Megan Dyson
Dr Bob Inns

Honorary Research Associates

PROFESSOR DAVID PATON for long-term support of Nature Foundation and conservation revegetation advice particularly at Para Woodlands and Cygnet Park.

DR ANNE JENSEN for long-term support and ecological research in relation to the Water For Nature Project.

PROFESSOR MIKE BULL[†] for long-term support and biological advice particularly in relation to the Tiliqua Pygmy Blue Tongue project.

PROFESSOR PAT JAMES for support and advice on geology at Nature Foundation nature reserves.

DR ANDREW BLACK OAM for outstanding contribution to our understanding of Witchelina's birds through annual bird surveys on Witchelina Nature Reserve since 2010 and as a grasswren specialist, he has also surveyed the nationally Vulnerable Thick-billed Grasswren at Witchelina.

Our Committees

Strategic Coordination Committee

Jan Ferguson OAM (Chair)
 Prof Phil Weinstein
 Angela Hazebroek OAM
 Douglas Ransom
 Hugo Hopton

Engaging People in Nature Conservation Committee

Angela Hazebroek OAM (Chair)
 Jan Ferguson OAM
 Bec Hardy
 Anna Pannell
 Sharon Starick
 Hugo Hopton
 Gretta Koch

Nature Conservation Committee

Prof Phil Weinstein (Chair)
 Assoc Prof Jeremy Austin
 Prof Chris Daniels
 Prof Drew Dawson
 Andrew Johnson PSM
 Merv Lewis OAM
 Millie Nicholls
 Sharon Starick
 Hugo Hopton
 Alex Nankivell
 Natalie Stalenberg

Audit and Risk Committee

Douglas Ransom (Chair)
 Jan Ferguson OAM
 Anne-Marie Barbaro
 Bruce Trebilcock
 Abby Waters
 Hugo Hopton
 Georgie Fiedler

Our Team

Chief Executive Officer Hugo Hopton
 Science & Knowledge Program Manager Alex Nankivell
 Offsets Program Manager Caroline Nefiodovas
 Marketing & Communications Manager Gretta Koch
 Finance & Corporate Manager Georgie Fiedler
 Regional Conservation Programs Manager Natalie Stalenberg
 Program Manager Revitalising Private Conservation in SA Claire Fuller
 Strategic Management Mark Ashley
 Philanthropy Coordinator Patrick Mentzel
 Youth Programs Coordinator Katie Perry
 Office Manager Anne Clark
 Science and Engagement Project Officer Kelly Arbon
 Administrative Assistant Rebecca Clark
 Offsets Program Coordinator Liam Crook
 Executive Assistant and Board EO Jane Cooper
 Science and Knowledge Project Officer Lucy Clive
 Communications Officer Rosemary Argue
 Field Ecologist Hugh McGregor
 Field Ecologist Rick Barratt

Nature Reserve Rotational Managers

Nature Foundation is grateful for the dedication, hard work and enthusiasm of the Hiltaba and Witchelina Rotational Managers ably led by Property General Managers Chris and Maria Reed. The team undertakes infrastructure, nature-based tourism and conservation work at the nature reserves on a rostered basis.

Chris and Maria Reed
 Lange and Inara Powell
 Greg Bannon and Janet Thomas
 Kevin and Shirley Fahey
 Brenton and Nanette Arnold
 Phil Cole

Marina Louter and Scott Kinlock
 Adam and Suzanne Matthews
 Ants Harris and Jane Evans
 Fred and Ivana Distasio
 Barry and Maureen OAM Wright
 Vic Breeding and Penny Shepley
 John and Mary Schulze
 Fred and Petra van der Heiden
 John Ovenden
 Peter and Val Collins
 Peter and Bronwyn Forward
 Lynn Wood and Sally Cornish

Office Volunteers

Anne Clark
 Rebecca Clark
 Issy Maurer
 Nicki Crawford
 Doug Clark
 Rosalie McCarthy
 Carol Blesing
 Iris Strobl
 Zoe Fischer
 Jasper Wong

College of Nature Champions

Leader: Dr Baden Teague



Financial Report

For the year ended 30 June 2021.

Nature Foundation Limited
ABN: 24 131 531 874

Pitcher Partners
100 Hutt Street
Adelaide SA 5000

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Directors' Report

The Directors present their report together with the financial report of Nature Foundation Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 30 June 2021 and auditor's report thereon.

Board Directors

The names of the Directors in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

- Jan Ferguson OAM (Chairperson)
- Philip Weinstein (Deputy Chairperson)
- Angela Hazebroek OAM
- Mervyn Lewis OAM
- Bob Lott (term ended 29 October 2020)
- Millie Nicholls
- Douglas Ransom
- Chris Reed (term ended 29 October 2020)
- Sharon Starick
- Anne-Marie Barbaro (appointed 1 July 2020)
- Bec Hardy (appointed 1 July 2020)

The Directors have been in office since the start of the year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Results

The surplus of the Company for the year amounted to \$1,897,785 (2020: deficit \$664,061).

Significant changes in state of affairs

There were no significant changes in the Company's state of affairs that occurred during the financial year.

Short-term and long-term objectives and strategies

The Company's vision is inspiring people to connect with and conserve the natural habitat of South Australia for future generations. The mission of the Company is engaging people, resources and good science to conserve the precious habitat of South Australia.

The 2030 Strategic Plan defines the Company's direction, and against which progress is reported.

The short and long term strategy and objectives areas follows:

Strategy	Objectives
Increasing areas of habitat are conserved and enhanced for future generations	<p>The Company's reserves are examples of excellence in private conservation management where biodiversity conservation gains are achieved through landscape scale initiatives.</p> <p>Understand and communicate the impact of invasive and other species on habitat loss and restoration.</p> <p>Protect threatened habitat for future generations.</p>
Nature science knowledge that leads to evidence-based decision-making	<p>Develop a systemic approach to creating evidence that supports conservation of species and habitat on the Company's nature reserves and areas under the Company's care and control.</p> <p>Expand ecological knowledge that supports sustainable ecosystems.</p> <p>Promote research outcomes on the Company's properties and across the sector.</p> <p>Increase ecosystem resilience as climate change impacts on the Company's reserves and the landscapes upon which the work is carried out.</p>
Nature is better understood and valued	<p>Involve more people and communities in nature conservation.</p> <p>Engage with stakeholders and influencers in a manner suitable to their needs.</p> <p>Embed Aboriginal Cultural Knowledge in all the activities of the Company.</p> <p>Develop relationships with land management influencers to achieve better environmental outcomes.</p> <p>Increase the Company's credibility and profile locally, nationally and internationally.</p>

Table continued on page 32

Strategy	Objectives
Engaged communities that support resilient habitats	<p>The Company's conservation supporter base is highly valued and engaged.</p> <p>Volunteers are valued and supported.</p> <p>Vibrant experiences are provided for supporters.</p> <p>Aboriginal people who are Traditional owners are actively involved in the Company's operations through activities relevant to their needs.</p> <p>Within the International Union for Conservation of Nature guidelines, enhance ecotourism offerings to connect people with nature.</p> <p>Promulgate the positive impacts of environmental watering regimes within water dependent communities.</p> <p>Build the Company's membership and donor base.</p>
An inspirational organisation that is financially secure and achieves operational excellence	<p>Create a sustainable organisation by being aspirational and ambitious in a quest for funds.</p> <p>Be a highly professional organisation with a high standard of governance at all levels.</p> <p>Understand and be alert to changes in external policy and the implications.</p> <p>Ensure the Company's costing framework brings stability and increases the viability of the Company's operations.</p> <p>Maintain a fit-for-purpose risk management framework, infrastructure, system of policies and procedures, work health and safety system and corporate structure.</p> <p>Invest in the Company's people to promote a positive and innovative culture and to enhance the value of the Company's collaborations.</p> <p>Increase the Company's financial security for future generations.</p>
An inspirational organisation that is financially secure and achieves operational excellence	<p>Create a sustainable organisation by being aspirational and ambitious in a quest for funds.</p> <p>Be a highly professional organisation with a high standard of governance at all levels.</p> <p>Understand and be alert to changes in external policy and the implications.</p> <p>Ensure the Company's costing framework brings stability and increases the viability of the Company's operations.</p> <p>Maintain a fit-for-purpose risk management framework, infrastructure, system of policies and procedures, work health and safety system and corporate structure.</p> <p>Invest in the Company's people to promote a positive and innovative culture and to enhance the value of the Company's collaborations.</p> <p>Increase the Company's financial security for future generations.</p>

Principal activities

To carry out the Company's strategies and to achieve its short-term and long-term objectives, the Company engaged in the following principal activities during the year:

1. To raise funds for nature conservation;
2. To enable the long term multidisciplinary protection of high conservation value land, improve biodiversity values of degraded land and wetlands, and carbon abatement;
3. To initiate and support projects, citizen science and research which assist the conservation of nature and the natural resources of South Australia; and
4. To raise awareness and build partnerships to address the needs of the natural environment in South Australia.

Key performance indicators

To help evaluate whether the activities the Company established during the year have achieved its short- term and long-term objectives, the Company uses the following key performance indicators to measure, analyse and monitor its performance:

Key performance indicators	Target
Change in area protected	An increase of at least 7,000 SEB credit-points worth of land and \$500,000 worth of carbon per year
Proportion of nature science grants that assist Nature Foundation decision- making	At least five nature science grants with at least two research institutions
Social media trends relating to Nature Foundation	10% growth per year
Numbers of supporters	10% growth per year
Liquidity ratio	> 4:1
Asset value	3% increase on previous financial year
Reputation	% of social media comments neutral or positive > 95%
Status compared to the approved finances and work plan.	Profit and Loss net result of at least 90% of the annual budget
Net value	3% increase on previous financial year end
Status compared to the approved budget	Profit and Loss net result of at least 90% of the annual budget

After balance date events

The ongoing effects of the COVID19 pandemic continued to create uncertainty for the Company's operations. However, the Company has substantially been able to carry out its planned operations and satisfy its performance obligations under its project funding. Innovation has occurred through webinars and developing online programs.

No other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

Likely developments

The Company expects to maintain the present status and level of operations.

Environmental regulation

The Company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

Information on directors



Jan Ferguson OAM: Board Chair

Qualifications: BA

Experience: Jan is a local in the Far North, with a passion for the heritage town of Beltana. Jan is an experienced Company Director and is currently on the Heritage Council, Centre for Invasive Species Solutions Board and Beltana Progress Association. Professionally she has over 15 years' experience on Not for Profit Boards and is passionate about desert science and the rangelands. For nine years she was Managing Director of Ninti One Limited, a national not-for-profit that managed the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre headquartered in Alice Springs and the Cooperative Research Centre for Remote Economic Participation.

Special responsibilities: Chair of Strategic Co-ordinating Committee, Member of Audit & Risk, Engaging People in Nature & Nature Conservation Committees



Philip Weinstein: Deputy Chair

Qualifications: BSc MB BS AssocDepParkMgt PhD MAppEpi Cert Antarctic Studies MA FAFPHM GAICD

Experience: Philip ("Phil") is Chair of the Nature Conservation Committee helping to ensure that the Company's investment and research underpin the conservation management needs and community engagement. He is a Professorial Research Fellow in the School of Public Health at the University of Adelaide, and a Research Affiliate of the South Australian Museum.

Phil holds dual qualifications in ecology (PhD) and public health medicine (MBBS, FAFPHM). He has lectured in zoology at James Cook University, was Professor of Public and Environmental Health at the University of Queensland, and Head of School of Population Health at the University of Western Australia. He is the immediate past president of the Australian Entomological Society.

Special responsibilities: Chair of Nature Conservation Committee, Member of Strategic Co-ordinating Committee



Angela Hazebroek OAM

Qualifications: BA (town planning), GradDip Urban and Regional Planning, LFPIA

Experience: Angela was the co-founding Director of the well regarded South Australian planning firm Urban and Regional Planning Solutions. Angela is a strategic planner and community engagement specialist who has extensive experience in tourism planning, visitor management in protected natural areas and working with Traditional Owners to recognise and respect cultural heritage. Angela has worked in the fields of natural resources management and water resources planning across South Australia, including developing and monitoring strategic plans with the former SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board.

Since her retirement in September 2019 Angela has continued to work as a Community Facilitator and Spiritual Director.

Special responsibilities: Chair of Engaging People in Nature Committee, Member of Strategic Co-ordinating Committee



Mervyn Lewis OAM

Experience: Mervyn is a Life Member of the Company and since retirement from farming at Wandearah in the Upper North of SA, has been involved as a volunteer on the Company's nature reserves.

Mervyn brings to the Company considerable experience at the Board level, especially in practical application of the decisions made. He has had the privilege of following his interest over many years by contributing in the areas of Health and Wellbeing, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Management as a Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and Member on a wide range of boards and committees.

Special responsibilities: Member of Nature Conservation Committee



Bob Lott

Qualifications: Bsc Dip. Primary Metallurgy

Experience: Bob Lott is an owner and Director of Venue* Tix, Weslo staff, Weslo Holdings (trading as Thebarton and Holden Street Theatres) and Quorn Quondongs.

He is also a biochemist, producer and manager of major events, a theatrical director and entrepreneur. Bob is an enthusiastic environmentalist and supporter of Aboriginal artists. He has been a member of a number of Boards and Councils – including the SA Jubilee 150 Board, Adelaide Festival, Royal Adelaide Show, Come Out Children's Festival and the Australian National Kennel Council. He has been a Board member of the Company since 2003, Vice President from 2007 and President during 2011–2018.

Special responsibilities: Member of Audit & Risk Committee



Millie Nicholls

Qualifications: BSc, DipRuralBusAdmin

Experience: Millie has been a partner in a family farm and involved in environmental work since she completed a Science degree in 1994. She has been a member of the Native Vegetation Council, the National Parks and Wildlife Council and regional boards in the Northern and Yorke Region. She received the South Australian Individual Landcarer of the Year Award in 2011.

Special responsibilities: Member of Nature Conservation Committee



Douglas Ransom

Qualifications: BA(Hons), DipAcc, DipLocalGovt Admin, GradDip AffFinInv

Experience: Douglas has been involved with the Company since 2013. He has a background in accounting information systems and financial management.

He worked as General Manager for the Commissioners of Charitable Funds. His interest in the work of Nature Foundation is particularly focused on Nature Reserve Management, scholarships and research programs. Douglas took up the position of Treasurer on Council with a passion

to oversee the portfolio of investments and financial management responsibilities.

Special responsibilities: Chair of Audit & Risk Committee, Member of Strategic Co-ordinating Committee



Chris Reed

Experience: A retired grazier, Chris has been a Board member for nine years and has also taken on the role of Property General Manager. He has developed a model to appoint and oversee the skills based Rotational Managers of Witchelina and Hiltaba nature reserves who work on a rostered basis. He also introduced nature based tourism to the organisation which is now gaining momentum with nature drives and walking trails well established. Recognising the value of volunteers, a successful program of small working bees organised by Chris has undertaken boundary fence renewal and building restoration works.

Special responsibilities: Nature Reserves Property General Manager



Sharon Starick

Qualifications: B Ag Sc (Hons), GAICD

Experience: Sharon runs a 2000 hectare dryland cropping property and a piggery near Cambrai on the plains to the west of the River Murray with her husband. Sharon also has over 20 years of involvement in natural resources management and community organisations. Her experience includes water resources management, soil conservation, conservation and biodiversity management, pest animal and plant control, and community and industry development at state and national levels. In 2003, Sharon was awarded the RIRDC Rural Women's Award. Sharon is currently a board member of the Royal Automobile Association of SA, Grains Research and Development Corporation and Regional Investment Corporation as well as Chairing the Board of Rural Business Support and Animal Health Australia.

Special responsibilities: Member of Engaging People in Nature Committee & Nature Conservation Committee



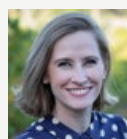
Anne-Marie Barbaro

Qualifications: B Com (Accounting), GradDip Chartered Accounting, CA

Experience: Anne Marie is a highly qualified senior finance leader with over 20 years' experience in the accounting industry, with roles covering management and financial reporting, audit and assurance engagements and small business taxation compliance.

Anne Marie has held positions with Beach Energy, Santos, Australian Naval Infrastructure and the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Special responsibilities: Member of Audit & Risk Committee



Bec Hardy

Qualifications: B Ag Sc (Viticulture), GradCert Bus, Dip Wine and Spirit Education Trust

Experience: Bec owns and manages her own wine business Bec Hardy Wines with her husband Richard and has held positions of sales manager, brand manager and Managing Director.

Bec has been a committee member of Nature Foundation for five years, serving on the Engaging People in Nature Committee. With her husband they are also life members of Nature Foundation. Her family has a long standing association with Nature Foundation with Bec's grandmother Barbara Hardy being one of the founders. Nature and the environment have always been important to Bec and since moving into their Topsy Hill property in Blewitt Springs in 2016, gardening and bird watching have gone from being casual hobbies to something she enjoys every day.

Special responsibilities: Member of Engaging People in Nature Committee

Members guarantee

The Company is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute to a maximum of \$10 each towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the Company. At 30 June 2021 the number of members was 594. The combined total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company is wound up is \$5,940.

Meetings of directors

Directors	Directors' meetings		Audit & Risk Committee meetings	
	No. eligible to attend	No. attended	No. eligible to attend	No. attended
Jan Ferguson OAM	10	10	5	4
Philip Weinstein	10	9	-	-
Angela Hazebroek OAM	10	10	-	-
Mervyn Lewis OAM	10	10	-	-
Bob Lott	3	1	1	1
Millie Nicholls	10	9	-	-
Douglas Ransom	10	9	5	5
Chris Reed	3	2	-	-
Sharon Starick	10	9	-	-
Anne-Marie Barbaro	10	7	3	3
Bec Hardy	10	9	-	-

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration under *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit for the financial year is provided with this report.

Signed on behalf of the Board Directors.

Director:

Jan Ferguson OAM (Chairperson)

Director:

Philip Weinstein (Deputy Chairperson)

Dated this 30th day of September 2021




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Adelaide SA 5000
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p: +61 8 8179 2800
e: reception@pitcher-sa.com.au

NATURE FOUNDATION LIMITED
ABN: 24 131 531 874

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
TO THE MEMBERS OF NATURE FOUNDATION LIMITED**

In relation to the independent audit for the year ended 30 June 2021, to the best of my knowledge and belief there have been:

- (i) No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*; and
- (ii) No contraventions of APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards).



A P Faulkner
Principal



PITCHER PARTNERS
Adelaide

Date: 30 September 2021

Adelaide Brisbane Melbourne Newcastle Perth Sydney



pitche.com.au

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Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue and other income			
Revenue	3	4,567,502	1,713,852
Other revenue	4	926,464	1,407,552
Other income	4	1,343,772	206,087
		6,837,738	3,327,491
Less: expenses			
Bushbank expenses		(10,325)	(15,730)
Committed funds expended		(311,574)	(750,107)
Education, communities and events		(1,804,171)	(617,103)
Conservation management activities (land)		(1,170,584)	(919,501)
Conservation management activities (water)		(224,956)	(280,494)
Developing new partnerships		(273,424)	(206,737)
Fundraising activities		(159,921)	(103,694)
Net unrealised loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		-	(302,150)
Organisational support		(984,998)	(796,036)
		(4,939,953)	(3,991,552)
(Deficit)/surplus	5	1,897,785	(664,061)
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive (Deficit)/surplus		1,897,785	(664,061)

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	709,247	1,576,005
Receivables	7	176,178	225,680
Other financial assets	8	9,236,672	7,215,529
Other assets	11	16,714	19,183
Total current assets		10,138,811	9,036,397
Non-current assets			
Lease assets	9	292,500	370,500
Property, plant and equipment	10	6,813,904	5,939,518
Other assets	11	428,390	428,390
Total non-current assets		7,534,794	6,738,408
Total assets		17,673,605	15,774,805
Current liabilities			
Payables	12	357,007	242,321
Lease liabilities	9	60,666	56,819
Provisions	13	110,590	115,467
Other liabilities	14	862,053	959,831
Total current liabilities		1,390,316	1,374,438
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	9	267,748	328,414
Provisions	13	45,803	-
Total non-current liabilities		313,551	328,414
Total liabilities		1,703,867	1,702,852
Net assets		15,969,738	14,071,953
Equity			
Reserves	15	5,469,700	5,469,700
Accumulated surplus	16	10,500,038	8,602,253
Total equity		15,969,738	14,071,953

Table continued on page 37

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Reserves \$	Accumulated surplus \$	Total members funds \$
Balance as at 1 July 2019	6,733,541	8,002,473	14,736,014
Deficit for the year	-	(664,061)	(664,061)
Total comprehensive income for the year -	-	(664,061)	(664,061)
Transfer from Para Woodlands Capital Reserve	(1,263,841)	1,263,841	-
Balance as at 30 June 2020	5,469,700	8,602,253	14,071,953
Balance as at 1 July 2020	5,469,700	8,602,253	14,071,953
Surplus for the year	-	1,897,785	1,897,785
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	1,897,785	1,897,785
Balance as at 30 June 2021	5,469,700	10,500,038	15,969,738

Statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash flow from operating activities			
Receipts from customers		5,549,037	3,443,694
JobKeeper subsidy		94,500	54,000
Cash flow boost		37,500	50,000
Payments to suppliers and employees		(4,901,110)	(3,854,087)
Dividends received		338,367	331,186
Interest received		3,616	14,230
Interest paid		(23,181)	(8,466)
GST paid/(received) - net		(123,142)	20,500
Net cash provided by operating activities	17(b)	975,587	51,057
Cash flow from investing activities			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		-	115,511
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(976,155)	(328,120)
Net Payment for investment in shares		(809,371)	(505,926)
Net cash (used in) /provided by investing activities		(1,785,526)	(718,535)
Cash flow from financing activities			
Principal portion of lease payments		(56,819)	(4,767)
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities		(56,819)	(4,767)
Reconciliation of cash			
Cash at beginning of the financial year		1,576,005	2,248,250
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		(866,758)	(672,245)
Cash at end of financial year	17(a)	709,247	1,576,005

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Directors have determined that the Company is not a reporting entity on the basis that, in the opinion of the Directors, there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy, specifically, all of their information needs. Accordingly, this financial report is a special purpose financial report, which has been prepared to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

The financial report covers Nature Foundation Limited as an individual entity. Nature Foundation Limited is a Company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Nature Foundation Limited is a not-for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The financial report was approved by the Directors as at the date of the Directors' report.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the recognition and measurement requirements specified by all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of:

AASB 101: Presentation of Financial Statements

AASB 107: Statement of Cash Flows

AASB 108: Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors

AASB 1048: Interpretation and Application of Standards

AASB 1054: Australian Additional Disclosures

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report:

a) Basis of preparation of the financial report

Historical Cost Convention

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by revaluations to fair value for certain classes of assets and liabilities as described in the accounting policies.

b) Revenue from contracts with customers

The Company derives revenue from significant environmental benefit offset payments, fees for services, sponsorship, membership, events, dividends and interest.

Revenue from contracts with customers is recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the Company is expected to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. For each contract with a customer, the Company identifies the contract with a customer; identifies the performance obligations in the contract; determines the transaction price which takes into account estimates of variable consideration and the time value of money; allocates the transaction price to the separate performance obligations on the basis of the relative stand-alone selling price of each distinct good or service to be delivered; and recognises revenue when or as each performance obligation is satisfied in a manner that depicts the transfer to the customer of the goods or services promised.

Significant environmental benefit offset payments, fees for services, sponsorship revenue and events revenue are recognised over time, as the performance obligations are satisfied.

Membership fees are recognised as revenue when the membership and affiliation services are provided, which is typically based on the passage of time and when no significant uncertainty as to its collectability exists.

Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established.

Interest revenue is measured on an effective interest rate basis taking in to account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

JobKeeper subsidy and cash flow boost are recognised when the right to receive these subsidy incomes has been established.

All revenue is measured net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

c) Contributions - Grants and Donations

Operating grants, donations and bequests

When the Company receives operating grant revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficient specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the Company:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant;
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement; and
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the Company recognises income in the profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

When the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Company:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards;
- recognises related amounts; and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and related amount.

Donations are recognised when the right to receive a donation has been established.

Capital grant

When the Company receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer) recognised under AASB 1058.

d) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and at banks, short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less held at call with financial institutions, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

e) Financial instruments

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the Company commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value adjusted for transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified as fair value through profit or loss, in which case transaction costs are immediately recognised as expenses in profit or loss.

Classification of financial assets

Financial assets recognised by the Company are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, subject to their classification.

Financial assets are classified as fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL") on the basis of both:

- the Company's business model for managing the financial assets; and
- the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset.

Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables arise from the Company's transactions with its customers and are normally settled within 30 days.

Consistent with both the Company's business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the assets, trade and other receivables are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

f) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of plant and equipment is measured at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is measured at cost. Where plant and equipment was acquired at no cost or for a nominal amount, cost is deemed to be the fair value as at the acquisition date.

Depreciation

Land is not depreciated. The depreciable amount of all other property, plant and equipment is depreciated over their estimated useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held available for use, consistent with the estimated consumption of the economic benefits embodied in the asset.

g) Land held for development and sale

Land held for development and sale is measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost includes the cost of acquisition, development, borrowing costs and holding costs until completion of development. Borrowing costs and holding costs incurred after the completion of development are expensed as incurred.

h) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period.

i) Leases

At the commencement date of a lease (other than leases of 12-months or less and leases of low value assets), the Company recognises a lease asset representing its right to use the underlying asset and a lease liability representing its obligation to make lease payments.

Lease assets

Lease assets are initially recognised at cost, comprising the amount of the initial measurement of the lease liability, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date of the lease, less any lease incentives received, any initial direct costs incurred by the Company, and an estimate of costs to be incurred by the Company in dismantling and removing the underlying asset, restoring the site on which it is located or restoring the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease, unless those costs are incurred to produce inventories.

Subsequent to initial recognition, lease assets are measured at cost (adjusted for any remeasurement of the associated lease liability), less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment loss.

Lease assets are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful life of the underlying asset, consistent with the estimated consumption of the economic benefits embodied in the underlying asset.

Lease liabilities

Lease liabilities are initially recognised at the present value of the future lease payments (i.e., the lease payments that are unpaid at the commencement date of the lease). These lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease, if that rate can be readily determined, or otherwise using the Company's incremental borrowing rate.

Subsequent to initial recognition, lease liabilities are measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments (i.e., the lease payments that are unpaid at the reporting date). Interest expense on lease liabilities is recognised in profit or loss (presented as a component of finance costs). Lease liabilities are remeasured to reflect changes to lease terms, changes

to lease payments and any lease modifications not accounted for as separate leases.

Variable lease payments not included in the measurement of lease liabilities are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Leases of 12-months or less and leases of low value assets

Lease payments made in relation to leases of 12-months or less and leases of low value assets (for which a lease asset and a lease liability has not been recognised) are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

j) Employee benefits

i) Short-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and other employee benefits (other than termination benefits) expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the reporting period are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short-term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables in the statement of financial position.

ii) Long-term employee benefit obligations

The provision for other long-term employee benefits, including obligations for long service leave and annual leave, which are not expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the reporting period, are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of the services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee turnover, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on government bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid. Any remeasurements for changes in assumptions of obligations for other long-term employee benefits are recognised in profit or loss in the periods in which the change occurs.

Other long-term employee benefit obligations are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the Company does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur. All other long-term employee benefit obligations are presented as non-current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

k) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs include interest expense calculated using the effective interest method and finance charges in respect of lease arrangements.

Borrowing costs are expensed as incurred.

l) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and purchased assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

m) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

n) New and revised accounting standards effective at 30 June 2021

The Company has applied relevant new and revised Australian Accounting Standards that apply to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2020.

NOTE 2: ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE

The AASB has issued a number of new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods, some of which are relevant to the Company. The Company has decided not to early adopt any of these new and amended pronouncements. Management has assessed that none of these standards will have a material impact on the Company's financial statements in the period of initial application.

NOTE 3: REVENUE FROM CONTRACTS WITH CUSTOMERS

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Environmental & Community contracts	1,301,388	222,399
Fee for Service	386,069	144,090
Significant Environmental Benefit offset	2,557,636	919,126
Corporate Sponsorship	40,356	222,491
Memberships, events and other	282,053	111,454
Committed Funds received	-	94,292
	4,567,502	1,713,852

(a) The Company has been credited, pursuant to section 25A of the Native Vegetation Act 1991 ("NV Act"), as having achieved an environmental benefit and as a result it is recognised by the Native Vegetation Council as the holder of Significant Environmental Benefits ("SEB") credits.

SEB Revenue of \$ 2,557,636 (2020: \$ 919,126) was received from SA Water, Beach Energy Limited and Santos Limited.

At the reporting date, the aggregate amount of transaction prices amounting to \$862,053 (2020: \$ 959,831) disclosed under Note 14 is allocated to remaining performance obligations of the above revenue from contracts with customers. This accrued revenue is expected to be recognised as revenue within the next 12 months of the reporting date.

NOTE 4: OTHER REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Other revenue			
Interest and Dividend		341,983	345,416
Not-for-profit			
Donations		494,503	1,001,032
Grants		89,978	61,104
		584,481	1,062,136
		926,464	1,407,552
Other Income			
Profit on sale/revaluation of non current assets		1,211,772	62,587
Other income			
Job Keeper Subsidy		94,500	81,000
Cash Flow Boost		37,500	62,500
		132,000	143,500
		1,343,772	206,087

NOTE 5: OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT

(Deficit) / surplus has been determined after:	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
- Interest on leases		23,181	8,466
Depreciation		179,769	104,251
Employee benefits:			
- Short term benefits		1,511,839	1,207,790
Note 4(a): Net movement in committed funds			
Committed funds received		-	94,292
Less: Committed funds expended		(311,574)	(750,107)
		(311,574)	(655,815)

NOTE 6: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash on hand		500	497
Cash at bank		688,747	1,555,508
Cash on deposit		20,000	20,000
		709,247	1,576,005

NOTE 7: RECEIVABLES CURRENT

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current			
Receivables from contracts with customers		104,196	118,191
Other receivables			
- GST Input Credits		19,286	8,452
- Other debtors		52,696	99,037
		176,178	225,680

NOTE 8: OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
CURRENT			
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss			
Investment in equity funds		7,856,672	6,423,529
Shares in other corporations		1,380,000	792,000
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		9,236,672	7,215,529

NOTE 9: LEASE ASSETS AND LEASE LIABILITIES

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
(a) Lease assets			
Buildings			
Under lease		390,000	390,000
Accumulated depreciation		(97,500)	(19,500)
Total carrying amount of lease assets		292,500	370,500
Reconciliations			
Reconciliation of the carry amount of lease assets at the beginning and end of the financial year:			
<i>Buildings</i>			
At application of AASB 16 - restated		370,500	390,000
Depreciation		(78,000)	(19,500)
Closing carrying amount		292,500	370,500
(b) Lease liabilities			
CURRENT			
Leased Buildings		60,666	56,819
NON CURRENT			
Leased Buildings		267,748	328,414
Total carrying amount of lease liabilities		328,414	385,233
(c) Lease expenses and cash flows			
Interest expense on lease liabilities		23,181	8,466
Depreciation expense on lease assets		78,000	19,500
Future cash outflows including interest and principal payments		378,904	458,904
Cash outflow in relation to leases principal payment		56,819	4,767

NOTE 10: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Land			
Freehold land at cost		5,810,295	5,355,295
Plant and equipment			
Plant and equipment at cost		1,296,758	1,022,797
Accumulated depreciation		(504,139)	(521,309)
		792,619	501,488
Motor vehicles at cost		428,016	279,592
Accumulated depreciation		(217,026)	(196,857)
		210,990	82,735
Total plant and equipment		1,003,609	584,223
Total property, plant and equipment		6,813,904	5,939,518

NOTE 11: OTHER ASSETS

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current			
Prepayments		16,714	19,183
Non Current			
Other non-current assets		428,390	428,390

Land held for sale includes properties purchased by the Bushbank fund, which have high quality native vegetation that is considered to represent South Australia's diverse and valuable natural heritage. The protection of this diversity is achieved by applying a nature conservation covenant and reselling these properties to new owners who are required to conserve and protect this natural environment.

NOTE 12: PAYABLES CURRENT

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Unsecured liabilities		
Trade creditors	284,988	209,835
Sundry creditors and accruals	72,019	32,486
	357,007	242,321

NOTE 13: PROVISIONS

	2021 \$	2020 \$
CURRENT		
Employee benefits	110,590	115,467
NON CURRENT		
Employee benefits	45,803	-

NOTE 14: OTHER LIABILITIES

	2021 \$	2020 \$
CURRENT		
Income received in advance	112,806	54,890
Orange Bellied Parrot	2,336	2,336
Wildlife Recovery Fund	173,745	457,485
Kangaroo Island Nursery Fund	49,170	48,986
Feral Cat Eradication Program - Kangaroo Island	107,665	36,665
Glossy Black Recovery Fund	177,024	146,078
Other projects	239,307	213,391
	862,053	959,831

NOTE 15: RESERVES

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Other reserves		
	5,469,700	5,469,700
	5,469,700	5,469,700

The financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income reserve is used to record changes in the fair value of financial assets classified or designated at fair value through other comprehensive income.

The Company adopted the new accounting standard, AASB 9 Financial Instruments as of 1 July 2018. Therefore, the fair value gain in relation to financial assets is now recorded in the statement of profit or loss. The Directors resolved to transfer this reserve to accumulated surplus in the 2020 financial year.

The other reserves (Capital Reserve) is used to record the cash and other financial assets of which \$5 million of capital funds was provided by an individual donor. The intention is for the investment principal plus CPI to be preserved in perpetuity and that the annual investment earnings will be applied for restoration works on the Para Woodlands Reserve.

NOTE 16: ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Accumulated surplus at beginning of year	8,602,253	8,002,473
(Deficit)/surplus during the year	1,897,785	(664,061)
Transfers from reserves	-	1,263,841
	10,500,038	8,602,253

NOTE 17: CASH FLOW INFORMATION

	2021 \$	2020 \$
(a) Reconciliation of cash		
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:		
Cash on hand	500	497
Cash at bank	688,747	1,555,508
At call deposits with financial institutions	20,000	20,000
	709,247	1,576,005
(b) Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with profit after income tax		
Surplus/(Deficit) from ordinary activities	1,897,785	(664,061)
Adjustments and non-cash items		
Depreciation	179,769	104,251
Net (gain) / loss on disposal of financial instruments	-	(62,587)
Fair value adjustment to financial instruments	(1,211,772)	302,150
Non-cash donations	-	(85,000)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities		
(Increase) / decrease in receivables	60,336	8,695
(Increase) / decrease in other assets	2,469	(3,856)
Increase / (decrease) in grants received in advance	(97,778)	539,881
Increase / (decrease) in payables	97,039	(97,278)
Increase / (decrease) in other liabilities	17,647	(1,732)
Increase / (decrease) in provisions	40,926	14,818
GST movement	(10,834)	(4,224)
Cash flows from operating activities	975,587	51,057

NOTE 18: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

(a) Transactions with Directors

Director, Chris Reed whose term ended on 29 October 2020, has a contract for provision of services to the Company for which he received a pecuniary benefit of \$10,000 (\$10,800 in 2020).

Director Millie Nicholls, agisted sheep on the Para Woodlands Reserve for which the Company received a payment of \$4,844 in 2021 financial year (\$3,797 in 2020).

These transactions are routinely declared to the Directors as required by the Company's constitution.

NOTE 19: EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO REPORTING DATE

The ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to create uncertainty for the Company's operations. However, the Company has substantially returned back to its planned operations and therefore reasonably expects to satisfy the performance obligations under its project funding. Innovation has occurred through webinars and developing online programs.

Given the dynamic nature of the measures being implemented on the economy to control and slow the outbreak, the related impact on the Company's go forward results of operations, cash flows and financial conditions, will be reflected in the Company's future financial statements.

There has been no matter or circumstance, which has arisen since 30 June 2021 that has significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- the operations, in financial years subsequent to 30 June 2021,
- of the Company, or the results of those operations, or
- the state of affairs, in financial years subsequent to 30 June 2021, of the Company.

NOTE 20: MEMBERS' GUARANTEE

The Company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute to a maximum of \$10 each towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the Company. At 30 June 2021 the number of members was 594. The combined total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company is wound up is \$5,940.

NOTE 21: COMPANY DETAILS

The registered office of the Company is: Nature Foundation Limited

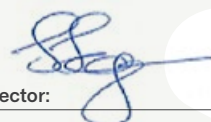
Level 2 Payinhi
128 Prospect Rd
Prospect SA 5082

Directors' Declaration

The Directors declare that:

- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013*.



Director:

Jan Ferguson OAM (Chairperson)



Director:

Philip Weinstein (Deputy Chairperson)

Dated this 30th day of September 2021

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Nature Foundation Limited**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report Opinion**

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Nature Foundation Limited, "the Company", which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Directors' Declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Nature Foundation Limited, is in accordance with *Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards and *Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* "ACNC Act" and the ethical requirements of the *Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* "the Code" that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Nature Foundation Limited to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other Information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Directors' Report and the Company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. The annual report is yet to be finalised as at the date of this report.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

When we read the other information not yet received as identified above, if we conclude that there is a material misstatement therein, we are required to communicate the matter to the Directors and use our professional judgment to determine the appropriate action to take.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The Directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the ACNC Act and for such internal controls as Directors determine are necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, Directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless Directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.


A P Faulkner

Principal


PITCHER PARTNERS

Adelaide

Date: 30 September 2021

Lake Acraman from Mt St Mungo at
Hiltaba Nature Reserve; credit Coral
Johnston



Corporate Partners

Leading Benefactors \$100k+



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Weslo Holdings
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 Megan Dyson
 (Principal, Megan Dyson Law & Policy)

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 (Principal, Gaby Jaksa Commercial
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 Andrew Hall
 (Special Counsel, Norman Waterhouse)

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Event Sponsors



Disclaimer: The Donor Recognition Level information comprises data drawn from over the last five years and although we believe this information to be correct, we are unable to guarantee accuracy.

We invite you to help

Conserve, restore and protect South Australian landscapes, flora and fauna to ensure their survival.

Become a volunteer

Every type of skill is needed. Our volunteers offer essential help with working bees, events, scientific research, planting days, and office work.

Make a donation or bequest




The generosity of donors enables us to achieve so much for nature conservation in South Australia. Donations can be large or small, individual or corporate, regular or occasional. They can be financial or in the form of land, water or goods. Every donation counts.

Become a member

Join a group of wonderful people dedicated to conserving, protecting and restoring South Australia's natural landscapes, floodplains and wetlands and make a difference. We warmly welcome new members!

We'd Love to Hear From You

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Email: info@naturefoundation.org.au
www.naturefoundation.org.au

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