



**Nature**  
Foundation

22

NatureFoundation

# Impact Report





## Acknowledgment of Country

We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Custodians whose lands we live and work on and we also pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge and respect the deep spiritual attachment and the relationship that Aboriginal people have to country.

## Lands on which Nature Foundation works:

- All the lands that the **Revitalising Private Conservation program** worked on
- **Cygnets Park** - We acknowledge the traditional and contemporary cultural connection of the Ngarrindjeri, Ramindjeri, and Kurna people to Kangaroo Island
- **Geegeela** – Bindjali people
- **Gidgealpa** - Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka people
- **Hiltaba** – Gawler Ranges Peoples - Barngarla, Kokatha, and Wirangu countries
- **Murbpook** – First Nations People of the River Murray Mallee (FPRMM) and Mannum Aboriginal Community Association Incorporated (MACAI)
- **Para Woodlands** – Kurna people
- **Payinthe** – Nature Foundation Office on Kurna land
- **South Gap** - Kokatha people
- **Tiliqua** – Ngadjuri people
- **Watchalunga** – Ngarrindjeri people
- **Water for Nature** – First Nations People of the River Murray Mallee (FPRMM) and Ngarrindjeri
- **Witchelina** – Adnyamathanha, Kuyani and Arabana peoples

Front cover: Female Peninsula Dragon (*Ctenophorus frontii*). Credit: James Rolewink.  
This spread: Hiltaba Pretty Point storm sunrise. Credit: Bill Doyle.

Photo credits: Kelly Arbon, Rosemary Argue, Anne Clark, Lucy Clive, Subbu Conley, Bill Doyle, Deb Hopton, Hugh McGregor, Patrick Mantzel, Nicole Motteux, Alex Nankivell, Georgie Neave, Katie Perry, Chris Reed and Maria Reed.



# contents

- 4 Our Values**
- 5 Our Goals**
- 6 21-22 at a glance**
- 8 Increasing and enhancing habitat**
- 13 Science & knowledge**
- 15 Nature is better understood & valued**
- 19 Engaged communities supporting resilient habitats**
- 22 Financial stability**



# Chair's report

## Jan Ferguson OAM

Together the Board and I continue to focus on implementing our Strategic Plan in a rapidly changing environment. We are currently reviewing all our programs and refocusing our conservation efforts to ensure that we deliver programs that are appropriately targeted to the organisation's needs and provide positive outcomes for biodiversity.

This will be our first Impact Report as we transition from the traditional annual report. In the not-for-profit sector, annual reports have been evolving to become impact reports. A shorter, more succinct document that focuses on how our work achieves impact in real terms and delivers on our vision and mission. We believe this style will make it easier for our members, supporters, donors and corporate partners to quickly and effectively see a direct link from their investment to real on-ground outcomes for biodiversity conservation. The Impact Report will be supplemented with a separate audited financial report which has been prepared to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

As you will read in this Impact Report, all our programs and associated projects have achieved positive outcomes for Nature Conservation in South Australia. In an exciting new development, our reach has extended beyond South Australia into Western Australia, where our field-services contracting team has been undertaking vegetation surveys for future carbon projects. More field services work both in South Australia and interstate is in the pipeline, and the income from this will be reinvested in our nature conservation work.



As outlined in our values, we continue to be bold and adventurous in our pursuit of conservation outcomes. We are participating at the National level in the rapidly emerging opportunities in developing carbon, biodiversity, and nature-positive markets. As society moves to a decarbonised future it is vitally important that our life support system is also valued and integrated into everything that we do.

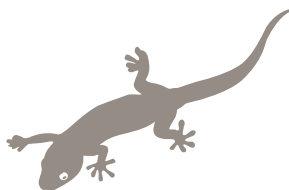
I want to thank all Board directors for their enormous dedication and voluntary contribution to the leadership of Nature Foundation.

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

I also want to thank the excellent staff team for all their hard work in keeping these programs flourishing in uncertain times with such excellent outcomes for nature.

Last but certainly not least, my thanks to all of you on behalf of the Board for your ongoing support of the Nature Foundation and your commitment to nature conservation.

Conservation work has never been more critical globally and locally, and together we can and are making a big difference in nature.





## CEO's report

Alex Nankivell

The 2021–22 financial year was not without its challenges as we adjusted to working in a post-pandemic society and economy. These challenges aside, biodiversity across South Australia and our reserves benefited from a period of strong La Niña-influenced weather patterns which we hope will continue into next year.

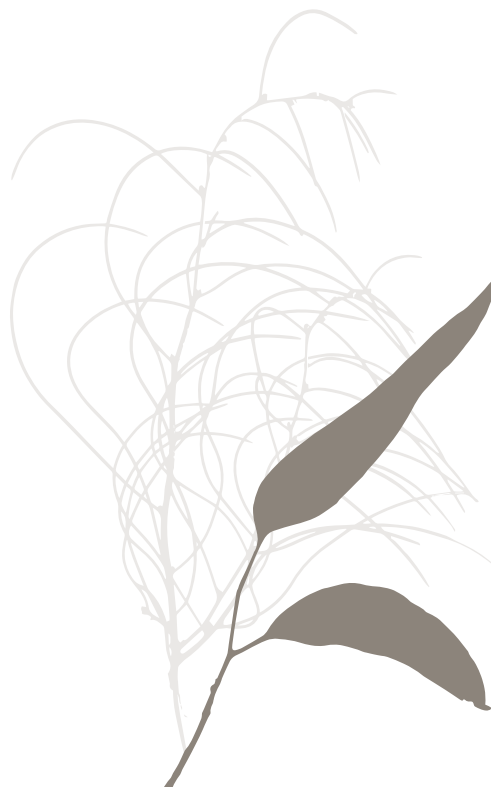
We have some exciting news about Yellow-footed Rock-wallabies at Hiltaba. This population, after 10 years of intensive management, is now beginning to grow and expand its range at Hiltaba. This will be supported by our recently approved carbon project in partnership with GreenCollar and the Gawler Ranges Aboriginal Corporation.

And more good news is that Thick-billed Grasswrens at Witchelina and neighbouring properties have bounced back after several extremely tough years. Our Spring 2021 surveys highlight how we are working with our neighbours to achieve landscape-scale conservation management of a nationally threatened species.

I am very honoured to be appointed CEO of Nature Foundation and lead the organisation in the next exciting chapter. I have been committed to Nature Foundation's vision and mission for the last 14 years, and during that time, I have worked on the majority of Nature Foundation's significant programs.

As we are all aware, the interface between biodiversity, people, and the natural world is critical for our planet's survival. At Nature Foundation, more than ever, we are committed to doing all we can to protect and restore habitats for biodiversity, manage threatened species and improve ecosystem health across the landscapes where we work. We will continue to work collectively to overcome these challenges by:

- keeping biodiversity conservation as the organisation's fundamental goal and pushing the boundaries to realise a financially viable future
- being innovative and progressive in our thinking to keep up with rapidly changing times
- refining our organisational processes to be efficient and adaptable
- telling our story based on evidence, integrity, and scientific rigour
- engaging with the public, business and government to raise the profile of the Nature Foundation.







## **Our Values**

**We are agile and adaptable, connecting communities through nature.**

**We care about each other, what we do and why we do it; we believe in the power of nature to transform lives.**

**We are creative and resourceful in tackling major environmental issues.**

**We inspire and create enjoyment through nature.**

**We strive for excellence in everything we do, holding each other accountable, and working to the highest ethical standards.**

**We are bold and adventurous in our pursuit of conservation outcomes.**



## Our Goals

Increasing areas of habitat are conserved and enhanced for future generations.

Nature Science knowledge that leads to evidence-based decision-making.

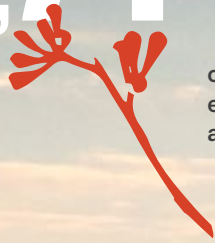
Nature is better understood and valued.

Engaged communities that support resilient habitats.

An inspirational organisation that is financially secure and achieves operational excellence.



# 3,714,916 T



of standing Carbon stock is estimated to be sequestered across all our reserves.

# 10



Habitat for 10 nationally threatened fauna species protected and actively managed.



Populations of key threatened species under management are experiencing growth including Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby, Plains Mouse and Thick-billed Grasswren through reduction in threatening processes and good seasonal conditions.

# 709 ML




709 megalitres of environmental water delivered to 12 sites in the 2021-22 watering season with a focus on providing habitat for threatened and migratory species, including Regent Parrot, Southern Bell Frog, Latham's Snipe and Murray Hardyhead.

# \$4.5M



The Revitalising Private Conservation SA program, with Nature Foundation as the principal delivery partner, invested \$2.9 million over 2 years in grant funding provided by the South Australian Government. This stimulated in-kind contribution of over \$4.5 million and achieved considerable biodiversity outcomes on private land in South Australia.





# 6,984

More than 6,984 volunteer hours with a value of \$298,040 have assisted us in advancing nature conservation in South Australia.

Kids on Country program held 5 camps positively impacting 48 young Aboriginal people

# 48



# engaging



The Gawler Ranges Aboriginal Corporation (GRAC) granted consent for the Hiltaba Carbon Project to proceed, a requirement of the Clean Energy Regulator (CER). The Carbon project provides a platform for deeper engagement and working together with GRAC community members on Hiltaba and beyond.

# \$1,862,464



Since 2000, Nature Foundation has awarded \$1,862,464 in research grants to post-graduate students, academics, and the community to kickstart careers in research, supporting 339 students across 434 projects. This year 5 student grants were awarded in the April 2022 round to the value of \$13,000.



# Increasing & enhancing habitat

## Conserving threatened species

Nature Foundation plays a vital role in conserving threatened species.

### Thick-billed Grasswren at Witchelina and beyond

The Thick-billed Grasswren subspecies (*Amytornis modestus raglessi*) is now confined to only a few pastoral stations in the arid region of South Australia, including Witchelina Nature Reserve.

Nature Foundation has managed this reserve for conservation since 2010, removing livestock and reducing other threatening processes, including predation by foxes and cats. A network of baseline monitoring sites and standard survey methodologies has been established to monitor the effectiveness of the conservation management activities and their impact on the subspecies.

After several years of arid and hot conditions, we became concerned that the subspecies had declined to dangerous levels after only recording two individuals in 2019. Grant funding enabled Nature Foundation to undertake *A. m. raglessi* surveys at Witchelina and two neighbouring pastoral properties in spring 2021. These surveys showed that the population is recovering and was present at 70% of monitoring sites across its distribution. At Witchelina the current population estimate is a minimum of 790 pairs – up from 180 in 2019.





## Conserving threatened species



### Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby at Hiltaba

When Nature Foundation acquired Hiltaba Nature Reserve in 2012, it had the challenge of addressing the threatening processes impacting the Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby population. A decade on, with effective goat and fox control programs in place, we are starting to see results with booming wallaby numbers.

Recent monitoring surveys have found that all female wallabies trapped had pouch young, and a significant proportion of joeys that had previously been trapped are now adults. This indicates that survival rates are high, and the population is growing. Sightings of wallabies outside what was once considered the core habitat are becoming more common, with wallabies seen at three new locations.

As part of our monitoring program, Yellow-footed Rock-wallabies are radio-tracked to assist us in understanding how animals are using the habitat and where threat abatement management actions need to be prioritised.

## Conserving threatened species



### Mt Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren at Watchalunga

Round four of yearly monitoring of the endangered Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren at Watchalunga Nature Reserve, on the Fleurieu Peninsula, was undertaken. In the surrounding landscape where the emu-wren population continues to decline, the Watchalunga population has remained stable.

In September 2021, during the pre-breeding survey, five individuals (including one pair) were recorded in areas revegetated with lignum approximately 3–4 years prior, evidence that our restoration efforts to enhance the emu-wren habitat are being successful.



## Increasing & enhancing habitat

Conserving  
threatened  
species



### Murbpook Nature Reserve

In April 2022, the northern wetland at Murbpook Lagoon was filled for the first time as part of the environmental watering Water For Nature (WFN) Program. We are monitoring the response of the target vegetation and planning future waterings. In June 2022, the boundary fence was erected as per our Significant Environmental Benefit (SEB) obligation to exclude stock from neighbouring properties and reduce grazing pressure.

Camera traps have been deployed across the property to monitor fauna and pest species activity and inform future management actions. The nationally threatened Regent Parrot utilises this reserve, and we are implementing a regular monitoring program to better understand this reserve's importance to this species in the wider landscape.

Conserving  
threatened  
species



### Feral animal control

Nature Foundation's reserves are leading examples of private land conservation management achieving biodiversity gains at the landscape scale. Each reserve contains habitats of high conservation value that are vital for threatened and endangered species. Through effective management, Nature Foundation aims to enhance ecosystem function and the intrinsic natural values of the landscape.

Removing feral animals is a crucial management intervention that reduces total grazing and predation pressure, ultimately providing benefits to native flora and fauna. Priority species for control are cats, foxes, goats and rabbits due to their predatory or competitive nature with native wildlife.

This financial year 1541 goats, 52 cats and 14 foxes were controlled. The low number of foxes controlled is testament to the success of the aerial and ground baiting programs.

Calicivirus biocontrol has been trialled at Hiltaba and Witchelina. The CSIRO have been collecting and testing deceased rabbits within the reserves to identify whether the strain of Calici (RHCD K5) is effective. Early indications suggest that this trial has been successful.



## Conserving threatened species

### Plains Mouse at South Gap

The South Gap EPBC offset area, located on the western banks of Lake Torrens in central South Australia, was established to offset the impacts of OZ Mineral's Carrapateena Mine in 2020. Nature Foundation delivers science and conservation management activities to this site by deploying 35 remote camera traps to monitor native and feral animals, conducting 50km of on-foot surveying for rabbits, monitoring vegetation, maintaining the stock-proof fence and removing feral predators.

A highlight of the monitoring work is that the plains mouse, nationally listed as vulnerable, has been detected on the reserve at multiple locations. In addition, other locally important species, including spinifex hopping mice, hooded robin and the elegant parrot, have also been recorded. Ongoing science and conservation activities are helping us to understand how the local species respond to management, including reducing threats and improving the reserve's ecological health.



## Increasing & enhancing habitat

### Water for Nature

Since 2008, Water for Nature (WFN) has brought people together to deliver community-driven projects to improve the health of South Australian River Murray wetlands and floodplains for the benefit of nature, community wellbeing and local economies. Nine community organisations have participated, including Traditional Owner groups, Landcare, Irrigation Trusts and 14 Private landholders.

The WFN program delivered 709 megalitres (ML) of environmental water to 12 sites in the 2021-22 watering season with a focus on providing habitat for threatened and migratory species, including Regent Parrot, Southern Bell Frog, Latham's Snipe and Murray Hardyhead. Included in the 12 sites was the first watering of the northern wetland at Nature Foundation's own Murbpook Lagoon, where 73ML of water was delivered.



### Revitalising private conservation in South Australia

Established and funded by the South Australian Government, the pilot program partnered with leading environmental and agricultural producer organisations, including Conservation Council SA, Livestock SA, Nature Conservation Society of SA and Trees For Life. The program was led by Nature Foundation as the principal delivery partner, working closely with the Department for Environment and Water.

Renewed funding from the South Australian Government through the Revitalising Private Conservation in South Australia pilot program has reinvigorated the Heritage Agreement system and directly assisted 521 property owners. The pilot program has resulted in 97 new Heritage Agreement applications, protecting more land of high-quality remnant vegetation.

The pilot program funded 125 projects, of which 32 focused on threatened plant and vegetation communities, 25 fauna species of significance were protected, 36% of projects targeted pest species and 66% included weed management.



# Science & knowledge

Nature Foundation supports nature science knowledge that leads to evidence-based decision-making on our reserves, uses the latest technology to inform conservation management, measures the impact of programs and provides student grants to assist young nature scientists in their careers.

## Thermal survey

Nature Foundation invests in scientific research to address critical knowledge gaps about our ecosystems and to inform conservation management strategies.

Nature Foundation received support from three funding bodies to engage Ecoknowledge to trial aerial thermal imagery to estimate the density, abundance and distribution of native mammals (e.g. kangaroos, wombats, wallabies) and feral species (e.g. cats, goats, foxes) within Witchelina and Hiltaba Nature Reserves.

Thermal imaging cameras, which capture infrared radiation (i.e. animal heat signatures), were mounted to a fixed-wing RPA and flown during the night at multiple sample sites in each reserve. Some animals were difficult to detect due to canopy cover or lack of movement. Still, many were spotted, including wombat warrens, as the entrances are much warmer than the surrounding ambient temperature. Estimated densities of kangaroos and rabbits were calculated and will help inform Nature Foundation's ongoing management strategies.

## ARC linkage grant

We have partnered with Bush Heritage Australia and the University of New South Wales in a successful Australian Research Council (ARC) linkage grant to investigate the impacts of kangaroos on biodiversity when they become over-abundant. This will involve excluding kangaroos from a series of 16-hectare plots where we will monitor ecosystem health and differences in biodiversity in and out of exclosures. This will provide information on kangaroos' influence on ecosystem processes, function, and biodiversity.



## Student grants

### Brock Hedges

Brock Hedges, a 2019 Roy and Marjory Edwards Scholarship recipient, is a PhD candidate at the University of Adelaide, and his research focuses on the conservation of Australia's ephemeral freshwater resources, using both modern genetic techniques and traditional ecological techniques to answer questions regarding freshwater granite rock-holes and their importance in a changing climate. He hopes to identify the fauna associated with granite rock holes at Hiltaba Nature Reserve and to test the use of eDNA as a habitat monitoring tool for the rock holes.

During the year, Brock undertook camera trapping at the rock holes and recorded 25 animal species, including kangaroos, emus, wombats, echidnas, Wedge-tailed Eagles and goannas. Invasive species, including goats, cats, foxes, rabbits and house mice, were also recorded.



## Science & knowledge



Student  
Grants

### Isabelle Onley

Isabelle Onley received a Grand Start PhD Grant in 2019 to compare the genetic diversity of a recently translocated population of Greater Stick Nest Rats with the diversity of historical populations prior to the genetic bottleneck caused by the species' extinction in mainland Australia. She also investigated whether selection occurred following translocation to increase resilience to heat stress, given the considerable difference in environmental conditions between Arid Recovery and the source population at Reevesby Island.

The project presented a unique opportunity to study the effects of climate change in an endemic species over several generations using cutting-edge DNA technology. The study has significant conservation implications for translocations of threatened species Australia-wide.

### Grants awarded in April 2022

Since 2000, Nature Foundation has awarded \$1,862,464 in research grants to post-graduate students, academics, and the community. This financial year five students were awarded grants in the April 2022 grant round to the value of \$13,000.

1. Chih-Yun Liu - *Conserving Rock-hole Biodiversity under Climate Change through Integrating Microcosm Experiments and Modelling*. (Scientific Expedition Foundation RL & GK Willing grant)
2. Colin Sobek - *Optimising sample preservation and DNA extraction of non-invasively collected hairs for genetic monitoring of South Australian marsupials*. (Grand Start PhD)
3. Donna Fitzgerald - *Quantifying dieback of red stringybark (*Eucalyptus macroryncha*) trees in the Spring Gully Conservation Park, Clare, SA*. (Grand Start Honours)
4. Gemma Sansom - *Understanding the impacts of fencing on off-target wildlife, using the Southern hairy-nosed wombat as a model species*. (Grand Start Honours)
5. Tessa Manning - *Red-tailed phascogale (*Phascogale calura*) reintroduction to South Australia: history, diet, habitat use, and genetics for the potential reintroduction of Red-tailed Phascogales*. (Grand Start PhD)



# Nature is better understood & valued

## Engagement with Traditional Owners

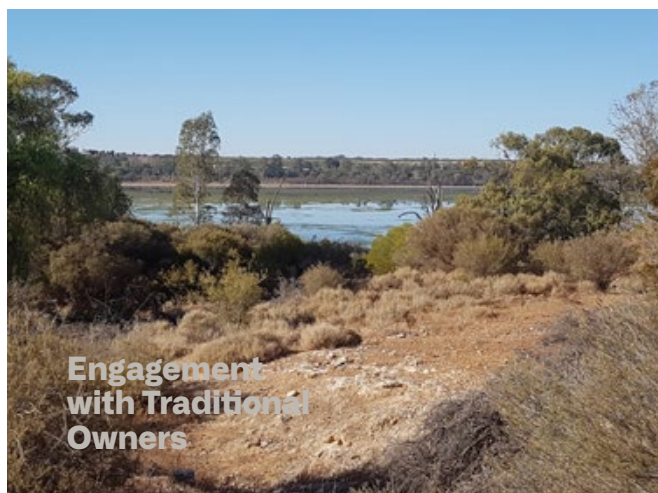


“To spend time on Hiltaba and be able to see what a Carbon Project looks like and discuss the benefits was the best way for us to learn about Carbon farming and communicate the opportunities for the community back to our Board”.

*Chris Warrior,  
Deputy Chair GRAC*

## GRAC

GRAC, Nature Foundation and environmental markets project developer GreenCollar, have been working together for some time to develop a significant Carbon Farming opportunity in the Gawler Ranges. Together we have spent time out on country sharing stories and discussing the conservation management actions Nature Foundation is undertaking at Hiltaba Nature Reserve to care for the native plants and animals and the work we are doing to reduce the grazing pressure to capture and store Carbon. Central to this conversation is discussion around benefit sharing and opportunities for the community that investment, through Carbon Partnerships with GreenCollar, can support. This time spent together on Country was the catalyst for GRAC resolving to provide its consent for the Hiltaba Carbon Project. This significant and enduring 25-year partnership with GreenCollar and GRAC will build on Nature Foundation’s existing relationships and will catalyse new ways of working together on important cultural management, conservation initiatives and training of Gawler Ranges young people.



## Engagement with Traditional Owners

## Murbpook Nature Reserve

An interim cultural heritage report of Murbpook Nature Reserve has been completed in which areas of cultural significance have been identified. The First Peoples of the River Murray Mallee (FPRMM) have been closely involved in helping us protect cultural values as we set up the reserve management infrastructure and providing cultural input into the management planning process. We look forward to continuing to grow this relationship.



## Nature is better understood & valued

### Watchalunga NAC partnership

Nature Foundation began working with the Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation (NAC) to identify and map cultural values at Watchalunga Nature Reserve. Through a grant from the NSW Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service (WIRES), we are working together to complete a Yarlularu assessment that will assist in understanding how conservation values can integrate better with cultural values. We look forward to completing the assessment and working with NAC to protect and manage these values.

**Engagement  
with Traditional  
Owners**

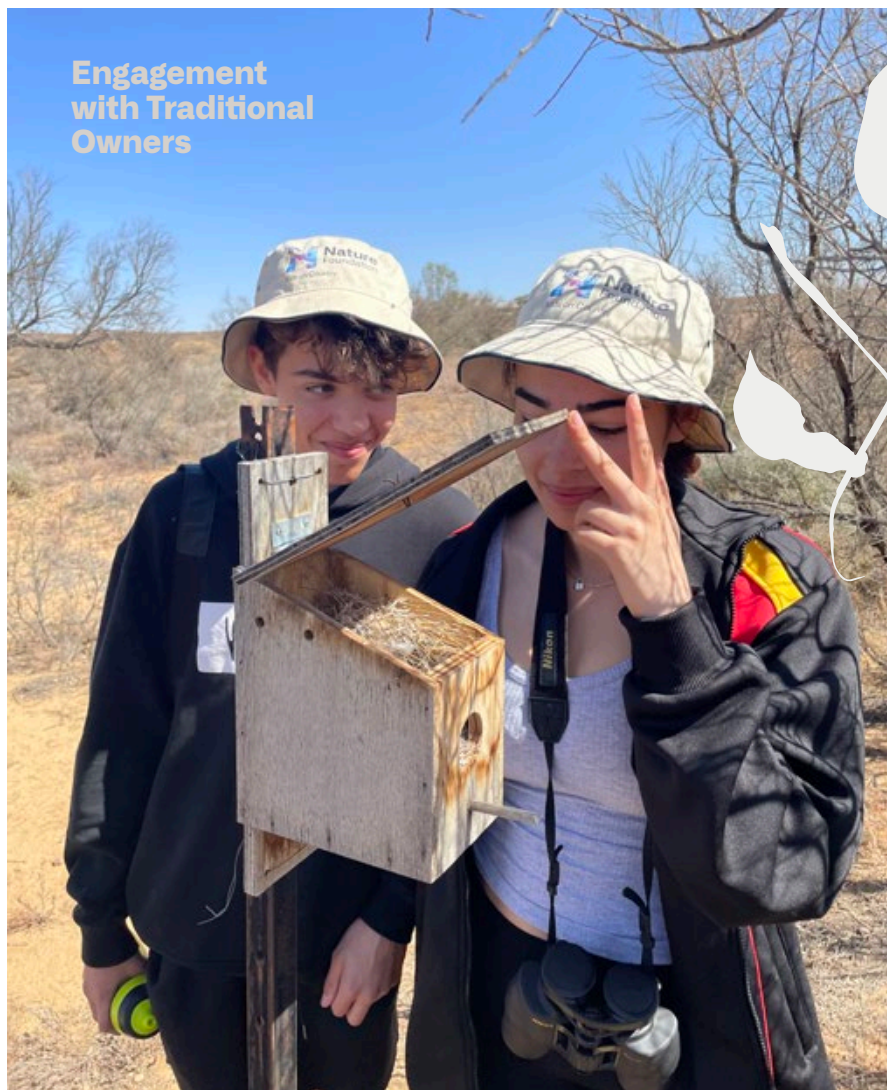






## Kids on Country

### Engagement with Traditional Owners



“

Harrison said what he loved most (during the Kids on Country camp) was the feeling of connection he experienced to the land and to the other students as they worked together. He found the whole experience so rewarding, and as a result, it has sparked a deep passion within him to pursue a career in conservation and land management practices for future generations. As a parent, I can't recommend this program enough.”

*Parent of Golden Grove High School student*



Kids on Country (KoC) provides Aboriginal young people from metropolitan, regional and remote secondary schools in South Australia with opportunities to strengthen cultural learning and wellbeing, engage in nature conservation and consider future careers in conservation and land management. It also supports ongoing youth engagement in broader education systems.

Five Kids on Country camps (one rescheduled due to wet weather) were held this year, benefitting 48 young Aboriginal people.

The program takes a 'culture first' approach and relies on the transmission of Aboriginal knowledges, stories and practices throughout its activities. Activities include a pre-camp induction, a pre-camp online learning program and a five day on-country camp held on Witchelina Nature Reserve (on the traditional lands of the Adnyamathanha, Kuyani and Arabana people) or Hiltaba Nature Reserve (on the traditional lands of the Gawler Ranges People – Kokatha, Bungala and Wirangu).

Nature Foundation has permission from Traditional Owners to hold the camps and involve a range of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal facilitators in the design and delivery of the camps, including facilitators from Traditional Owner groups.



# Engaged communities supporting resilient habitats



## Nature-based tourism

### Tourism

Despite the impact of COVID, the continued visitation to Nature Foundation's Hiltaba and Witchelina Nature Reserves in 2021–22 to enjoy nature and experience our conservation work reflects the sustained enthusiasm for members of the community to immerse themselves in the natural environment. The majority of visitors come to enjoy the reserves' landscapes, flora, fauna, geology and history.

We continued to invest in infrastructure and other aspects of the visitor experience through initiatives including:

- Continuing restoration of the Hiltaba Woolshed
- Continuing development of botanical interpretive commentary in Nature Drive track notes
- Continuing development of on-line booking facilities for accommodation and activities, and on-site sale of goods and services.

### Artists Residency Program

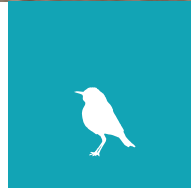
In 2021–22 the Artists Residency Program awarded three artists, Katherine Bradley (NT), Caroline Johnson (SA), Mandy Pryse-Jones (NSW) residencies of up to two weeks on either Witchelina or Hiltaba, which will be undertaken during the latter half of 2022.

The program was instigated in 2019 and received a significant boost in 2022 through generous sponsorship by the Helen James Endowment Fund.





## Engaged communities supporting resilient habitats



### Events

#### Para Woodlands member's tour

As part of a Green Adelaide Landscape Board Grassroots Grant, Nature Foundation welcomed a group of people onto Para Woodlands Nature Reserve on a sunny spring day for an educational tour that focused on the revegetation and weed control activities that have occurred in the reserve and how the Grant has contributed to these efforts.

The attendees were able to see and learn about the seed orchard, which was established in the reserve to provide seeds for tubestock propagation and direct seeding. Many of the plants were in flower, this offered an excellent opportunity to observe the local native butterflies and other invertebrates busily pollinating the orchard. The attendees were also provided opportunities to self-explore in different parts of the reserve, where bird watching was of primary interest. Different threatened woodland bird species were observed, including Diamond Firetails and Red-browed Finches, highlighting the direct result and success of habitat restoration.

### Events



#### Member's tours

Nature Foundation hosted member tours to Hiltaba in springtime and Kangaroo Island in autumn. Both tours were a fabulous opportunity for like-minded people to learn more about the conservation programs in these two magnificent regions of South Australia.

The Hiltaba Tour hosted supporters on a journey to the Gawler Ranges National Park, Hiltaba Nature Reserve and Lake Gairdner. Highlights included Aboriginal culture, wombat spotting, bird watching, pastoral history, walking trails, places of conservation and geological significance.

The Kangaroo Island Tour hosted supporters around the inspiring breadth of the island. Highlights included KI conservation program talks, Seal Bay, Remarkable Rocks, Admirals Arch, Cygnet Park Sanctuary and Antechamber Bay visits.

Profits from the tours went directly towards Nature Foundation's conservation programs.

Nature Foundation greatly appreciates the partnership support from the National Parks and Wildlife Service SA and the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board.





### Tiliqua planting day

On a sunny day in mid-June, a group of volunteers from the community and partner organisations got their hands dirty planting iron grasses within Nature Foundation’s Tiliqua Nature Reserve. Iron grass is a long-lived, hardy plant that is the backbone of a grassland community. Over 450 Iron-grass plants (*Lomandra multiflora dura* and *Lomandra densiflora*) were recently planted throughout the reserve as part of a collaborative ‘Iron-grass native grassland project’.

This project, funded by the Australian Government’s National Landcare program, is led by the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board in partnership with the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board, Mid Murray Landcare SA and Greening Australia. It aims to improve the condition of the critically endangered Iron-grass Natural Temperate Grassland of South Australia’s ecological community through different restoration and community engagement activities. In South Australia, most of the remaining Iron-grass grasslands occur on private land managed for sheep grazing, making Tiliqua Nature Reserve a natural fit for this great initiative.



### Events

### Watchalunga planting day

Designed as a community planting day, due to COVID-19 restrictions, only Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association (GWLAP) volunteers and Nature Foundation staff were able to attend. However, they still managed to plant 1,750 native lignum and sedges in one day!

These annual planting days help create nesting and foraging habitats within Watchalunga Nature Reserve for the nationally endangered Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren.



# Financial stability

Nature Foundation aspires to be an inspirational organisation that is financially secure and achieves operational excellence.



## Hiltaba carbon project

This year, a significant amount of carbon was sequestered in native vegetation regeneration and regrowth as part of the Hiltaba Human-Induced Regeneration Carbon project. This was achieved by reducing the grazing pressure from goats and livestock from neighbouring properties and controlling invasive weeds.

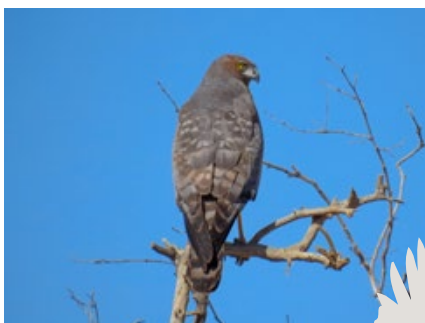
Not only will the diverse range of flora and fauna species across the property benefit from reduced pressure from introduced grazing animals, increasing landscape/ecosystem function and resilience in a changing climate, but the project will secure income from the sale of Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs) over 25 years between 2020 and 2045. The income will vary annually depending on the number of ACCUs accrued and the market driven price our project partner GreenCollar secures for the sale of the ACCUs. This income will contribute to underpinning the Foundation's financial security for many years into the future.





## Field services

Nature Foundation has been engaged by environmental market project developer GreenCollar to conduct vegetation surveys (ground-truthing and biomass surveys related to Carbon and Nature Positive projects) in South Australia and Western Australia. This work has grown Nature Foundation’s capability and capacity to deliver conservation outcomes and represents a significant growth opportunity for the 2022-23 financial year to strengthen Nature Foundation’s financial position and contribute to a more robust and secure Australian environmental industry.



## Appeals and donations

Nature Foundation has had a very encouraging year concerning its two major appeals and receiving significant gifts for its nature reserves.

With the money raised from appeals we have invested in

- GPS Trackers to learn about the movements of wedge-tailed eagles
- Conservation programs at all of our reserves.
- Infrastructure maintenance at our major reserves including replacement of the Hiltaba shearing shed roof
- Feral Cat eradication on Kangaroo Island
- Glossy Black Cockatoo Recovery Program
- Kangaroo Island plant nursery.
- Seal Bay.

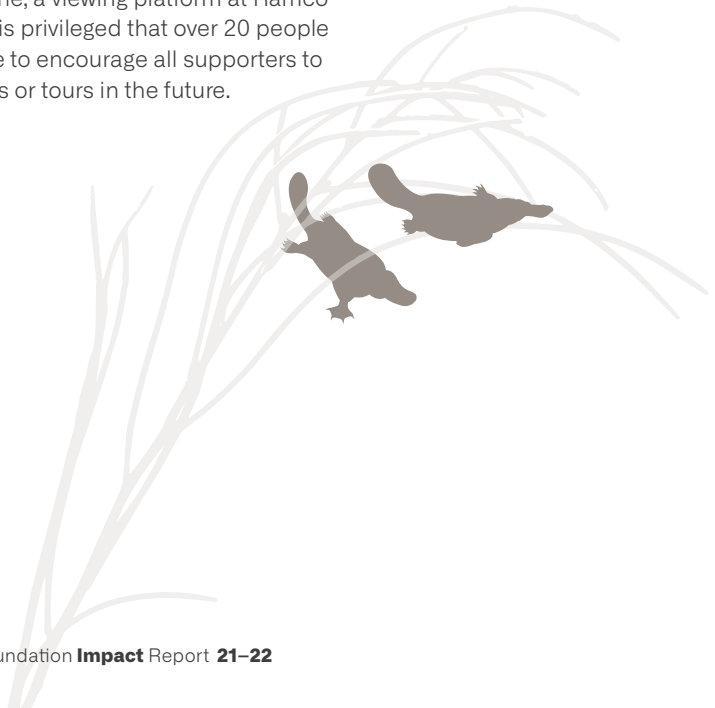


## Financial stability



### Vision for Nature

Nature Foundation continued its Vision for Nature engagement opportunities. This year, its committed supporters took a day trip to several Water For Nature sites along the Murray River. Participants enjoyed a guided tour at Murbpook Nature Reserve, a visit to the Silo Art at Waikerie, a viewing platform at Ramco and a bird hide at Cadell. Nature Foundation is privileged that over 20 people have confirmed a Gift in Will, and we continue to encourage all supporters to talk to us or join us at one of our presentations or tours in the future.







## Gifts in Wills

Gifts of land contribute to achieving our goal of increasing the area of protected high conservation value landscape. We are delighted to announce that two properties have successfully undergone the assessment process and will be gifted to Nature Foundation. These properties contain high conservation value habitats and are located on the southern Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island. These generous gifts will leave a long-lasting contribution to conserving significant wildlife and habitat in South Australia.

## Grants and corporate funding

Nature Foundation were successful in 19 grant submissions and corporate sponsorships, which helped to deliver outcomes for programs including Infrastructure upgrades, Science and Conservation, Water for Nature, and Kids on Country.

Highlights included funding for 5-day ecology camps, Youth Programs Officer, Thermal Survey project, Citizen Science and Artist in Residence.

Nature Foundation appreciates the support from various trusts, foundations, government organisations and corporates across Australia.





## **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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