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Background Information

The Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Board (GWLAP) was incorporated in February 1998 and is one of 11 community based LAPs in the South Australian Murray Darling Basin.

The Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning area covers approximately 265,000 ha encompassing all the plains and catchments flowing directly into Lake Alexandrina between Goolwa and Wellington. This includes the Bremer/Barker, Angas and Finniss River Catchments, the Currency and Tookayerta Creek Catchments, Sandergrove, Monarto South, Mulgandawa, and Brinkley plains areas, the Western half of Lake Alexandrina including Hindmarsh Island and Mundoo Islands, and the River Murray Mouth.

The administrative boundaries include the Alexandrina Council, large parts of the District Council of Mount Barker and the Rural City of Murray Bridge Council, and small sections of the Adelaide Hills Council, City of Victor Harbor Council, City of Onkaparinga Council and Mid Murray municipalities.

The Goolwa to Wellington Local Plan identifies Action the primary natural resource management issues facing the Goolwa to Wellington LAP area and recommends appropriate management strategies to address these issues. The plan also identifies resource requirements to achieve onground restoration works through community driven engagement and participation.

The Goolwa to Wellington LAP Strategic Plan 2013-2018 provides an overarching framework for GWLAP to focus work over the next five years.



The key elements guiding the organisation and the work undertaken in the local community are captured in the Vision Statement, Mission Statement and Key Goals, Strategies and Targets of the GWLAP Strategic Plan.

Vision Statement

To create an environment where human activity and natural ecosystems can sustainably coexist.

Mission Statement

Working with local communities to protect and restore biodiversity and sustainably manage our natural resources.

Goals of the GWLAP Strategic Plan



Promote environmental and agricultural resilience and sustainability within the community



Manage impacts of climate change



Conserve and restore biodiversity in the GWLAP area



Improve health of creek, river, wetland and coastal systems



Promote and help implement sustainable land management and farming systems



Monitor and evaluate on-ground works



Negotiate with Government

Funding Partners

In 2014-15, GWLAP received grant funding for their projects and programs from the following sources:

Australian Government

South Australian Government – Murray Futures Program

Department for Environment, Water and Natural Resources

SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resource Management Board

Alexandrina Council

Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure

Native Vegetation Council

A number of Fee for Service Projects were undertaken for different organisations:

Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resource Management Board

S-A Murray Darling Basin Natural Resource Management Board

Rural City of Murray Bridge

Landcare Association of South Australia

Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure

Goolwa to Wellington LAP Board of Management



Keith Parkes Chair

Keith has held the role of Chair of GWLAP Board of Management since 2013. Keith is committed to maintaining a proactive and imaginative management team with a focus on strong corporate governance standards.



Bruce Brooks Vice Chair

Bruce lives on the Finniss River where he and his wife have a small olive grove and raise sheep and steers. Bruce is secretary of the Finniss Catchment Group, a very active and productive landcare group. Bruce was previously a meteorologist at the Bureau of Meteorology.



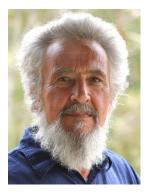
Barry Lincoln Treasurer

Barry has a special interest in governance and organisational development and is a long term member of the GWLAP Board of Management. Barry has been working in the natural resource management sector for over 13 years and has also enjoyed working with indigenous peoples around the world.



Merri Tothill Secretary

Merri has had a keen and active interest in the management of the Australian environment since the early 1980s, including working in Landcare; River Murray land use management and arid zone natural resource management across Australia



Derek Fenton Public Officer

Derek has been concerned about environmental damage, particularly increased carbon in the atmosphere for over 30 years. He works at developing resilience in our young people through Operation Flinders, and in our natural environment, through the Finniss Catchment Group

Harry Seager

Harry was the Chair of the GWLAP Board of Management for 6 years and oversaw a period of strong growth in the organisation. Harry has significant experience in the natural resource management sector having worked in local action planning for 9 years.



Margaret Wilksch

Margaret is a long term supporter of the Goolwa to Wellington LAP and has worked as a member of the Board of Management including in the position of Treasurer, for more than 10 years.



Anne Welsh

Anne has a keen interest in natural resource management and sustainable development and worked in environmental management with various government agencies over the last 40 years. She is actively involved with local groups as Secretary of the Macclesfield Bushcare Group and Chairperson of the Flaxley Landcare Group.



Paul Johnston

A teacher for 38 years, Paul now lives near Callington with his wife and both are very involved with the community. They have been restoring their 200 acre property for the last 13 years, gaining extensive on-ground experience in the management of grassy woodlands.

Chris Bagley

Chris is committed to promoting sustainability for broad acre farming in our district and the Murray Darling Basin. He is a member of the Point Sturt and Districts Landcare Group and the Milang Agricultural Bureau.



Gerry Thompson

Gerry is retired in Milang after working nearly 30 years in the SA public service. Gerry is very involved in the community and is currently on the Lakes Hub Advisory committee and a Friend of Nurragi, involved in revegetating the old Sandergrove to Milang railway line.



lan Grosser

Ian has a long history of involvement in conservation, holding positions in many groups including a period as the Vice President of the Conservation Council of SA. Currently, Ian is a councillor on the District Council of Mount Barker where he pursues social and environmental outcomes and more sustainable development.



Tom Bradman

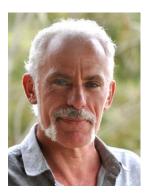
Tom has considerable experience in sustainable agriculture at a policy level (with the Australian Government) as well as on the ground. Tom is currently a full time grazier using holistic management techniques. He is a member of the Fleurieu Beef Group and serves on the Ranges to River NRM Group.



Jo McPhee

Jo has a passion for conservation and sustainable land management and continues to study to improve her already extensive knowledge and skills. Jo has been involved with GWLAP for a number of years through her role as Community Nurseries Network Coordinator for the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth program.

Goolwa to Wellington LAP Staff



Ross Oke General Manager

Before joining GWLAP, Ross planned and managed the SA Urban Forests Biodiversity Program and the Million Trees Program across greater Adelaide. These initiatives included regional biodiversity planning, policy, on-ground work and capacity building with significant investment and involvement from many stakeholders.



Caroline Holloway Finance and Administration Manager

Caroline commenced her career in finance in 2002 after 9 years as a practicing paediatric physiotherapist. Caroline has been managing the finances at GWLAP since 2008 and has seen the organisation grow significantly since that time.



Will Miles

Lower Lakes and Coorong Community Revegetation Program Coordinator

Will has been working in the environment sector for more than ten years in roles such as project manager for Green Corps, Environmental Manager for Trail Solutions Australia, Bushcare Coordinator and Project Officer for various GWLAP on ground works projects.



Ben Simon Senior Project Officer, Eastern Hills and Plains

Ben has been involved in local Landcare, developing and implementing on-ground works projects for twenty years. He has achieved significant outcomes working closely with Landcare groups and individual landholders. Ben has extensive botanical and vegetation management knowledge in a wide range of vegetation types.



John Gitsham Fleurieu Swamps Project Officer

Before joining GWLAP, John has worked in both private and government roles of the environment sector. John has worked for Earth Sanctuaries and the Australian Wildlife Conservancy and DEWNR in roles including Senior Park Ranger, National Parks and Wildlife.



Sherie Bain Eastern Hills and Plains Project Officer

Sherie joined GWLAP in 2012 after completing a Masters of Environmental Management, focusing on the impacts of grazing in riparian environments. Sherie has an interest in sustainable agricultural production and has formed some local pastures groups during her time with GWLAP.



Regina Durbridge Lower Lakes and Coorong Monitoring and Evaluation Project Officer

Regina has a background in community monitoring and through GWLAP works with the Lower Lakes community on various monitoring projects. Regina has been involved with the Signal Point Riverine Environment Group since 2009 and is a presenter with the Narnu Farm Eco Camp Program.



Kerri Bartley Lower Lakes and Coorong Community Revegetation Program Project Officer

Kerri has coordinated a variety of environmental projects in the region and currently implements on ground works and coordinates planting by community groups for the Lakes Community Revegetation Project. Kerri has a keen interest in native seed collection and is passionate about working with landholders for environmental protection through pest management projects.



Leah Hunter

Lower Lakes and Coorong Community Revegetation Program Planner

Leah has worked in the Environmental, Agricultural and Tourism sectors for many years. Leah enjoys research and uses her research skills to develop comprehensive revegetation plans for the Lakes Community Revegetation Project that include historical as well as environmental information.



Liz Schofield Strathalbyn Natural Resource Centre Coordinator

Liz has been working with local community landcare groups and in community education for many years. Liz is passionate about landscape scale restoration projects and encouraging a greater understanding and awareness of the environment to young people.



Jacqui Wilson Community Engagement Officer

Jacqui has worked in the environmental field since 1995 in roles including environment officer and revegetation officer. Jacqui believes that community groups in South Australia should be recognised and supported as the frontline delivery agents for the management of our natural resources.

Chairperson's report



Last year I wrote about how the GWLAP Board had worked on re-modelling governance structures to allow more time for strategic development to help us look for other potential forms of income. During the 2014-15 financial year, the Board and staff have continued this process working specifically on business planning and implementation. We are already seeing the benefits of this work with more fee for service income being sought and received.

Alongside our business planning, GWLAP has continued to work closely with our funding partners to ensure we are delivering well on our grant funded projects and meeting the needs of our funders and the community. This year we received three additional Connecting Communities grants from the SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board, reflecting that we remain in-step with the current direction of the Board.

A highlight for the year was sending a delegation of Board and Staff to the National Landcare Conference in Melbourne. There, GWLAP received the Australian Government Partnerships in Landcare Award, a thrill to be recognised at the National level.

GWLAP have continued to successfully deliver the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Community Revegetation Project. This large scale project has become a real centre for community involvement in natural resource management. Each week there are newspaper articles, tweets and Facebook posts from different community groups talking about their planting days and positive experiences with the project. In addition, landscape changes can now be seen from the ground and aerial photos, with five years of planting making a real impact around the Lakes and tributaries. We were happy to host the Honourable Ian Hunter for an event to celebrate the involvement of community groups and schools in the project during the planting season.

A bus tour of the GWLAP area showcased some of the large scale weed control that has been undertaken through the Ashbourne to Finniss and Mount Compass to Meadows Biodiversity Links projects. The stark changes in the health of watercourses and bushland as a result of the professional control of woody weeds are very exciting. Some of these areas have been inaccessible to landholders for years due to heavy infestations. Now these areas are able to be better managed and conserved as healthy bushland.

There have been a few staff changes this year, we farewelled Aaron Cheeseman from the Community Revegetation Program and we welcomed Leah Hunter back from maternity leave. We have also welcomed Glenn Gale to the team as Executive Officer for Landcare SA, a position GWLAP are hosting for the association on a fee for service basis.

There have been times this year when future funding was unknown and work opportunities uncertain. This situation is always stressful. I would like to thank and commend the GWLAP staff for remaining flexible and resilient in these times, and I am very happy to still have everyone on board at the end of the financial year. I am looking forward to 2015-16 when I am confident we will reap the benefits of our business planning.

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Keith Parkes Chairperson Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association

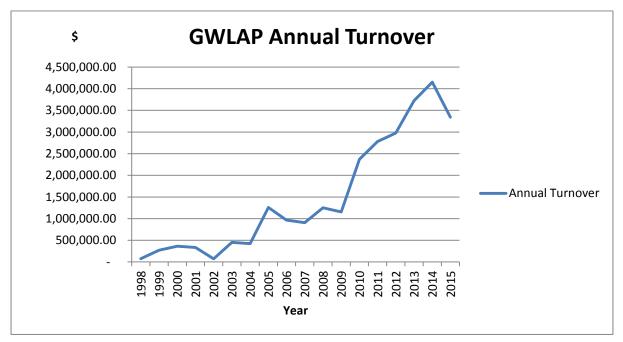
Treasurer's Report

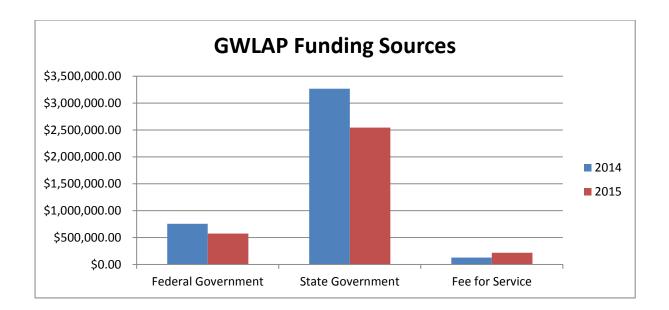


This year has been another successful year for the GWLAP and though our overall turnover has decreased, primarily due to the commencement of the winding down of the Community Revegetation Project in the Coorong and Lower Lakes Murray Mouth Project, the GWLAP is embarking on diversification of income streams to reduce reliance on government grants. We have commenced a substantial business planning process, supported by extended governance and social enterprise training, to explore viable enterprises to which the GWLAP can apply its extensive skills and experience without impacting on existing local businesses. Part of this approach is extending the fee for service component of our budget. This is relatively small at the moment but we are planning to grow into the future.

We have also undertaken an external review of our financial systems to ensure that we are operating at the highest standard of accountability. Our finance sub-committee has continued to add further rigour and protection to our financial management systems.

The 2014-15 financial year saw an annual turnover of \$3.34mill, a decrease of approximately \$800,000 from the previous financial year due to the winding down of three Federal Government Biodiversity Fund grants being in their final year and the changing shape of funding through the SA MDB NRM Board in a changing environmental funding climate.

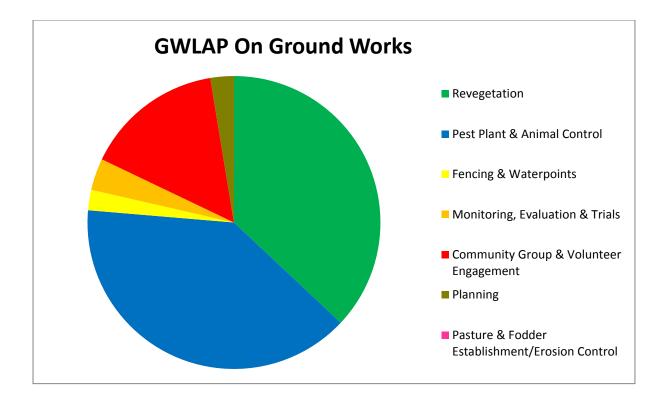




Funding in 2014-15 came through several major funding sources including:

- Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) (State Gov) -\$2,008,768 for the Community Revegetation Project in the Coorong and Lower Lakes area, GWLAP's biggest single project. It is part of the SA Government's Murray Futures Program funded by the Australian Government's Water for the Future initiative. DEWNR also provided other small grants through State NRM Grants.
- Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (Federal Gov) – through the Biodiversity Fund GWLAP received the third year of funding for three first-round three-year projects and the second year of funding for one secondround four-year project, totalling \$576,800. These projects will enable on-ground works in the Ashbourne to Finniss, Rodwell and Mt Barker Creeks, Goolwa Coastal and Mount Compass to Meadows areas.
- SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resource Management (SAMDB NRM) Board (State Gov) Over \$569,000 over a number of programs that have enabled GWLAP to engage and support the community over the whole LAP area.
- **Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) (State Gov)** funded over \$31,000 for revegetation and bushcare works across the LAP area.

A breakdown of how the aggregated funding was spent shows that the majority of funds received went to pest plant and animal control (threat abatement) in the LAP area, followed closely by revegetation, then community engagement. The following graph shows the allocation of funding for each category of activity and includes project officer salaries according to the time spent on each activity.



GWLAP also provided in-kind finance and administration support to the Prospect Hill Bushcare Group, Alexandrina Community Nursery, Friends of Kyeema Conservation Park, Goolwa Coastcare Group and Macclesfield Bushcare Group.

GWLAP collaborated with the Landcare Association of South Australia (LASA) in hosting an Executive Officer and providing financial and HR management as well as extensive administrative support in the organisation of the State Landcare Conference.

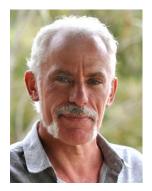
Operating expenditure was in excess of \$3.2 million in the management of 57 major budget lines. The financial year ended with a net surplus of over \$117,000. This will be spent on project activities over the coming months in line with current funding agreements.

As we move further into a new and exciting phase of the GWLAP's ongoing development we will be met with challenges from all directions and will need to develop creative and innovative solutions and options to retain the capacity we currently have. We acknowledge we may need to contract and expand as we have done with the CLLMM project and that we need to stretch our thinking into new areas to build our resilience as a community based organisation.

I thank the Board and Staff for their support over the past year with special thanks to Caroline and Jacqui for unfailing enthusiasm and patience.

Barry Lincoln Treasurer, Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association

General Manager's Report



Throughout 2014-15 the Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association (GWLAP) has continued to deliver and build on high quality projects and community engagement activities. In response to rapidly changing and generally shrinking funding opportunities, we have focussed more energy into strategic business planning and attracted revenue from a more diverse range of sources.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year with the organisation, in particular getting to know the staff, Board, members of the community and other partners. It has been a pleasure to be involved in a diverse range of inspiring projects and activities contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of our natural resources.

Long-term adequate funding for natural resource management (NRM) has been a challenge since those with insight and foresight started to do something about looking after our land and water in a focussed and systematic way. Over the past 25 years for example, Landcare in its broadest sense has been both a catalyst and a vehicle for community based NRM; and over this time many excellent programs and projects have been undertaken by a wide range of organisations. There remains however, a predominantly short-term approach to funding community based NRM. We tend to count ourselves fortunate beyond measure to attract healthy levels of funding that allow projects to run for more than a year; and luckier still to secure these funds in contracts that run for the projects' duration.

No doubt all of us involved in this work wish it were different and many continue to advocate for change. The end goal is largely agreed upon, whether it's defined as resilient, sustainable or healthy. We need to continue to push for better arrangements and draw upon our strengths – knowledge, connections and skilled capacity – to argue the point. But we also need to identify other pathways to the destination.

GWLAP has embarked upon the challenge of finding other pathways – strategies – with a clear sense of purpose. Over the past 12 months the staff and Board have invested time and effort into exploring options and prioritising where to best place our efforts to achieve a more diverse overall revenue stream. Although somewhat born of necessity, the results are tangible and the early indications positive.

Our planning has given us a framework through which to focus our efforts in a number of areas. The main strategy we are pursuing is to generate more of our overall revenue through fee-for-service activities, either directly providing services to clients or via third party purchasing arrangements. We took up the challenge to tender or quote for larger, more complex projects and for work that will meet the needs of our "customers", some of them new to us.

Some examples include successfully tendering for urban biodiversity on-ground projects with local government, organising the State Landcare Conference, being contracted to deliver workshops on topics such as bird identification, providing project support to the Angas Bremer Water Management Board and undertaking monitoring activities or supporting community involvement through contracts for service. GWLAP is also currently negotiating to deliver large-scale revegetation projects on fee-for-service basis.

A key challenge for us is to ensure that we create the necessary business systems, organisational structure and governance arrangements that are needed. We have fine-tuned policies, clarified decision-making processes and sought to ensure that flexibility is built into staffing arrangements to allow the organisation to expand or contract as required to take on more short-term projects whilst continuing to deliver on major grant-funded projects. I would like to thank the staff in particular for their enthusiasm to take on new projects and willingness to be flexible and team-oriented. To choose one example, this has been critical to the success of our two Green Army projects to date.

The bulk of our activity over the past year has been the continued focus on delivering a range of grant-funded projects to the customary high quality. We were very excited to again be recognised by our peers by winning a further national award in recognition of this great work. Significant levels of capacity building and on-ground works have again been successfully delivered with funding provided by several State and Federal Government agencies including the SAMDB NRM Board (Natural Resources SA Murray Darling Basin), SA Department of Environment Water and Natural Resources, SA Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure and the Federal Department of the Environment.

Continuing to work closely with our project partners and to influence government decisionmaking on investment into community-based natural resource management remains a cornerstone of the GWLAP mission. We look forward to building on our established working relationships to play a major role in delivering NRM programs in our region. There has been an enormous collective effort and contribution made to the GWLAP over the past financial year to ensure the success of our programs and activities. As such, I would also like to sincerely thank all of our funding partners and every group and person who has been involved in the GWLAP over the past 12 months.

Ross Oke

General Manager Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association Inc.

Projects Undertaken by GWLAP in 2014-15

Project	Project Description	Finance	Goals of the strategic plan met by this project
Ashbourne to Finniss Biodiversity links project	The restoration of areas of connected remnant vegetation in the Ashbourne to Finniss area.	Project Value \$421,000	
Funded by Australian	Includes targeted <u>Bushcare,</u> <u>weed control and restoration</u> of known priority sites to improve ecosystem function and habitat	Project Start July 2012	
Government	value. The project will lead to a large precinct of remnants managed and connected.	Project Finish June 2015	
Restoration of remnant coastal vegetation communities	Enhancement of 250 Ha of priority vegetation through the <u>removal of weeds</u> and other threatening processes and the	Project Value \$234,000	
across Goolwa	establishment of complimentary revegetation in the Goolwa area.	Project Start	
Funded by Australian	The area contains regionally threatened and EPBC listed species and vegetation	July 2012	
Government	communities.	Project Finish June 2015	mon
Riparian restoration in the Rodwell and Mt Barker Creek	<u>Revegetation works</u> along 20km of the Rodwell and Mount Barker Creek Catchments to improve habitat quality and quantity, and	Project Value: \$460,000	
Catchments Funded by	increase connectivity across the landscape. <u>Restoration and</u> <u>enhancement</u> of existing vegetation will also be	Project Start: July 2012	
Australian	undertaken.		
Government		Project Finish: June 2015	

Mt Compass to Meadows Biodiversity Links Project Funded by Australian Government	<u>Targeted ecological restoration</u> across 1100 Ha of priority remnant vegetation between Mount Compass and Meadows in the Mount Lofty Ranges. Weed control, fencing from livestock, field days, workshops and monitoring.	Project Value \$841,900 Project Start Sept 2013 Project Finish June 2017	
Delivery of coastal works and engagement program 2014/15 Funded by SA Murray-Darling Basin NRM Board	Delivery of coastal works and community engagement in the Goolwa area.	Project Value \$15,000Project Start May 2014Project Finish January 2015	
NRM Connecting Communities Grant, includes Management of Strathalbyn Natural Resource Centre Funded by SA Murray-Darling Basin NRM Board	Support community groups and provide technical support to property owners.	Project Value \$278,000 Project Start July 2014 Project Finish June 2017	
Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Community Revegetation Project 2013/14 Funded by Department of Water and Natural Resources	Undertake the Lakes community revegetation project through (but not limited to) engaging landholders, preparing site plans, site preparation, contracting nurseries to grow plants, engage community to plant and guard seedlings, follow up weed control and site monitoring.	Project Value \$2,465,750 Project Start Sep 2013 Project Finish Sep 2014	

Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Community Revegetation Project 2014/15 Funded by Department of Water and Natural Resources	As above.	Project Value \$1,972,761 Project Start Sept 2014 Project Finish Sept 2015	
2014-15 GWLAP Pest Projects Funded by Department of Water and Natural Resources	Additional funding provided to build upon and extend environmental weed control previously undertaken at strategic sites in the CLLMM project area.	Project Value \$46,000 Project Start March 2015 Project Finish September 2015	
DPTI Veg clearance grant for the Goolwa Precinct Funded by Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure	Fleurieu Peninsula revegetation and remnant vegetation enhancement.	Project Value \$180,200 Project Start July 2012 Project Finish June 2015	
Supporting Community Management of Currency Creek Funded by NRM Community grant, DEWNR	On-ground works in the Currency Creek Catchment including Remnant vegetation protection, weed control and watercourse fencing.	Project Value \$28,300Project Start August 2013Project Finish September 2014	

DPTI Veg clearance grant for the Victor Harbor area Funded by Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure	Rhodes grass control and control of exotic pine seedlings and boneseed on Victor Harbor road reserve.	Project Value \$6,000	
Wetlands Monitoring Project Funded by SA Murray–Darling Basin NRM Board	Wetlands Monitoring and on- ground works around the Lower Lakes.	Project Value \$57,000Project Start July 2014Project Finish May 2015	
Fleurieu Swamps Recovery Project – Phase 2 Funded by SA Murray–Darling Basin NRM Board	Weed control, fencing for protection from stock and revegetation on critically endangered Fleurieu Peninsula Swamps. Educate landholders on the value and management of Fleurieu Peninsula Swamps.	Project Value \$230,000 Project Start July 2014 Project Finish June 2015	
Weed control trials Funded by SA Murray–Darling Basin NRM Board	Trialling and demonstrating alternative weed control options with Fleurieu Farmers	Project Value \$9,000 Project Start March 2015 Project Finish March 2015	

Bus Tour of the GWLAP area – volunteer recognition event	Volunteer small grant for a bus tour of GWLAP project sites	Project Value \$1,000	8
Undertaken for			
SA Murray-Darling Basin NRM Board			

Fee for service contracts

Tokuremoar Action Plan Undertaken for Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM Board	Development of Goolwa Dunes and Tokuremoar Reserve Environmental Action Plan.	Project value \$14,000	
Pastures Workshops Undertaken for SA Murray–Darling Basin NRM Board	Facilitation and coordination of a Pasture Group.	Project Value \$4,249	8
Employment of an Executive Officer for the Landcare Association of South Australia Undertaken for Landcare Association of South Australia	Facilitating LASA to progress its strategic plan and the strengthening of existing network linkages through employing a LASA Executive Officer on behalf of LASA.	Project Value \$85,000	8

Environmental Water Preparation Works Undertaken for SA Murray–Darling Basin NRM Board	Servicing works on pumping station at Tolderol Wetland Reserve	Project Value \$7,000	
Basin NRM Board Bell frog monitoring program Undertaken for SA Murray–Darling Basin NRM Board	Community based frog monitoring and wetland community engagement	Project Value \$14,800	8
Fleurieu Peninsula Vegetation Offset Undertaken for Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure	Fleurieu Peninsula revegetation and remnant vegetation enhancement	Project Value \$4,728	
Bird Surveys Undertaken for SA Murray–Darling Basin NRM Board	Five days conducting bird surveys in the Murray Mallee	Project Value \$3,000	
Bird ID and Monitoring training Undertaken for SA Murray–Darling Basin NRM Board	Conduct community bird monitoring and ID training courses in the EMLR and Fleurieu	Project Value \$5,830	
Green Army Undertaken for Australian Government	Two Green Army teams were hosted by GWLAP	Project Value In-kind	

Ashbourne to Finniss Biodiversity Links Project

Ashbourne to Finniss Biodiversity links project	The restoration of areas of connected remnant vegetation in the Ashbourne to Finniss area.	Project Value \$421,000	
Funded by Australian	Includes targeted <u>Bushcare,</u> <u>weed control and restoration</u> of known priority sites to improve ecosystem function and habitat	Project Start July 2012	A mon
Government	value. The project will lead to a large precinct of remnants managed and connected.	Project Finish June 2015	

The Ashbourne to Finniss Biodiversity Links Project has resulted in the removal of environmental weeds on 768.44 hectares of priority areas of vegetation, nearly doubling the target for this project of 400ha.

More than 20 farmers were assisted through the project and a further 20 landowners not undertaking primary production were also assisted in managing weeds in native vegetation. A further 10 site visits were undertaken to provide property management advice to rural holdings.

Works have focused on the Finniss Rover corridor and has resulted in numerous adjoining private properties along priority sections of the Finniss river being managed for weeds and other threats. This work has followed best practice approaches to the main weeds in this area such as blackberry, broom, boxthorn, boneseed, briar rose, ash trees, topped lavender, Scabiousa and olives. Other outlier weeds located in the course of the project that could have easily gotten out of control if not treated were outlier patches of Erica sp, Billardiera heterophylla, Geralton wax, Watsonia, Acacia iteaphylla, Freshia and African love-grass.

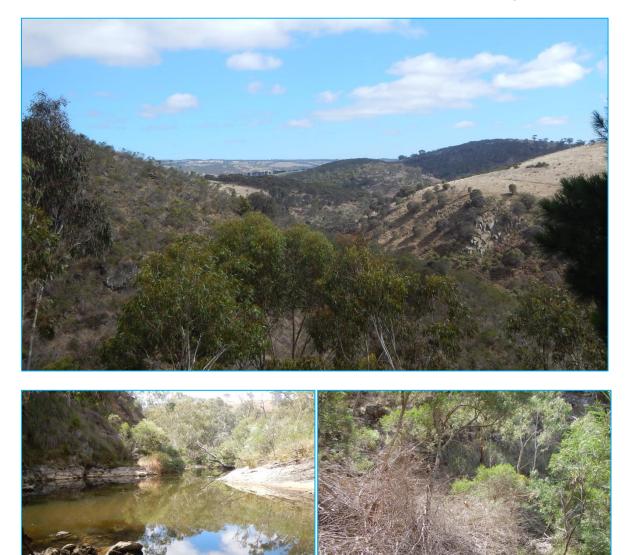
Through initial observations it is evident that this area will continue to provide better opportunities for existing native vegetation to grow. Where native plants had previously been inundated with weed competition they are now open to freely set seed and colonise areas more readily in the short to medium term.

There has been an increase in the public awareness of weeds such as boneseed resulting in further reports of weeds in the area. Excellent in-kind has been provided to this project including large areas of productive land treated for woody weeds by farmers, particularly blackberry and broom.

Revegetation to buffer, extend and/or link remnant areas has been undertaken. Revegetation targets were achieved, with an additional 13.6ha of revegetation established (50ha target, 63.5ha revegetated). Monitoring has shown an average survival rate of nearly 80% across all sites. Several revegetation sites span numerous properties, providing connectivity between important remnants and planting populations of several rare local plants.

There are now multiple adjoining properties across priority areas of the landscape between Finniss and Ashbourne with significantly reduced densities of invasive weeds. The area is managed by landholders committed to managing these sites past the life of this project. Each landholder has signed a 10 year management agreement, and GWLAP is committed to assisting these landholders wherever possible into the future.

This project has highlighted, protected and propagated numerous rare threatened plant species. There is an increased the awareness of these plants and seen keen interest in bolstering their numbers via trans-location into other suitable habitats nearby.



Restoration of remnant coastal vegetation communities across Goolwa

Restoration of remnant coastal vegetation communities	Enhancement of 250 Ha of priority vegetation through the <u>removal of weeds</u> and other threatening processes and the	Project Value \$234,000	
across Goolwa	<u>establishment of</u> <u>complimentary revegetation</u> in the Goolwa area.	Project Start July 2012	
Funded by	The area contains regionally		
Australian Government	threatened and EPBC listed species and vegetation communities.	Project Finish June 2015	A

This landscape scale biodiversity management project has worked over multiple tenures to address weed and pest animal control over a large area resulting in one interconnected area of varied coastal vegetation with fewer weeds, greater inter-property collaboration and 10 year site management agreements to ensure work continues beyond the life of the project.

Targeted restoration works on 287.5 Hectares of remnant native vegetation has resulted in a clear decrease in the visual presence of all target weed species across sites and significant regeneration of native species on some areas. Many outlier patches of `new weeds' have been identified, highlighted and treated early from the project area including Polygala, black flag, Hottentot fig, Freshia, Gladioulis, Weeping white broom, *Clematis vitabilis*, Cape marigold and Coolatai grass. All of these species are highly invasive weeds with some declared.

Rabbit control has been coordinated over the entire project area with reports from participating landholders indicting a significant reduction in density of rabbits and their evidence.

Over 15Ha of revegetation to enhance and link existing remnant vegetation has been established, with more than 10,000 seedlings being planted. This revegetation has bolstered several populations of rare and threatened plant species in the local area and provided and expanded area of habitat for wildlife.

Key dune areas have had high erosion risks treated, large areas of woody weeds removed (and the fuel loads associated with them greatly reduced) with Ngarrdinerji Ruwe contracting assisting greatly with this work.

Over 10 permanent photo points have been set up and another 8 Bushland Condition monitoring sites established for long term monitoring. Seasonal bird monitoring has been undertaken, recording more than 90 different bird species within the project area.

Close collaboration with all project participants has resulted in efficiencies in the control of weeds and rabbits over a large project area. Over the past four years, the project has engaged more than 60 young people from 5 schools. Over 35 volunteer working bees have been held for the Goolwa Coastcare Group totalling more than 840 hours and through this project GWLAP has attracted significant other funding to support and expand the on-ground works.

Currently this project area has works continuing through grants from NR SAMDB and other small grants from various programs, and will continue to be collaboratively managed by the key partners of the project area such as the Alexandrina council, NR SAMDB, NR AMLR, Goolwa Coastcare, GWLAP, Ngarrindjeri, local landholders, farmers and the District Ranger for the area.

Funding for this project was provided by the Federal Government Environment Program with complimentary funding also being provided by the Department of Transport, energy and infrastructure, South Australian Government through State NRM grants, Alexandrina council to address roadside weeds, NR SAMDB and Mobile Muster.



Riparian Restoration in the Rodwell and Mt Barker Creek Catchments

Riparian	Revegetation works along 20km	Project Value	
restoration in the Rodwell and Mt	of the Rodwell and Mount Barker Creek Catchments to	\$460,000	
Barker Creek Catchments	improve habitat quality and quantity, and increase		
	connectivity across the	Project Start	
Funded by	landscape. <u>Restoration and</u> <u>enhancement</u> of existing	July 2012	
Australian	vegetation will also be undertaken.	Project Finish	
Government		June 2015	
Project Targets		Achieved	
Revegetation – 50	Hectares	110 Hectares	
Restoration - 50	Hectares	500 Hectares	

Invasive Species Management – 50 Hectares 850 Hectares

The project has enjoyed a close working relationship with Alexandrina Council, the District Council of Mount Barker, Kanmantoo Callington Landcare Group and numerous local landholders to make a discernible change through the catchments of Rodwell and Mount Barker Creeks.

Weed removal has been undertaken across adjoining properties along watercourses, up to six continuous kilometres in sections, and roadsides throughout the catchment areas of Rodwell and Mount Barker Creeks. Species targeted include Spiny Rush, Blackberry, Gorse, Olive, African Boxthorn, Prickly Pear, Desert Ash, Watsonia, Squirting Cucumber, Dog Rose, Giant Fenneland Broad Leafed Cotton Bush. Many of these have been large infestations, overwhelming for landholders to undertake the initial control on without appropriate equipment and knowledge.

This project has enabled professional skilled contractors to undertake the initial control works and allow manageable follow up by the landholders. Additionally the Rodwell and Mount Barker Creek catchments feed into the Ramsar listed Coorong and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Wetland. Therefore removing the seed sources of invasive weeds from upstream is highly beneficial for this important ecosystem downstream.

Revegetation has predominantly been centred around recreating Peppermint Box grassy woodlands, an EPBC listed vegetation community. Additionally over 900 seedlings of *Olearia pannosa subsp. pannosa* — Silver Daisy-bush, listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act have been planted with initial survival rates of approximately 80%. *Olearia pannosa* is known for its low seed set with high infertility therefore if these seedlings can successfully reach

maturity they will provide a significant boost to the local population. On several sites, multiple methods of revegetation has been undertaken with combinations of machine direct seeding, hand direct seeding and tubestock plantings to provide the sites with greater long term resilience.

Kangaroos have provided a challenge on several sites for this project with large numbers impacting on revegetation. To combat this we have utilised large wire guards, especially on specific species such as *Allocasuarina verticillata* which is often the first species targeted by the kangaroos.

Rabbit baiting and warren destruction has been supported through the project. Working alongside the local authorised officer from Natural Resources SA Murray Darling-Basin, landholders were provided with technical knowledge and advice to undertake the baiting process on their own properties. Through landholders undertaking the baiting themselves we have seen a greater sense of ownership and reward as the rabbit numbers were significantly reduced in the area. Landholders have then undertaken warren destruction or fumigation where possible.

Fencing off the watercourses alone has provided environmental benefits with areas of native rushes and sedges naturally regenerating and covering much larger areas than during the initial stages of the project. Stock removal from the watercourse has also reduced pugging and erosion tracks creekline.

Fish monitoring has enabled us to expand on knowledge of Rodwell Creek where monitoring had been undertaken across a section and gain a base line for a large majority of Mount Barker Creek. 45 pools were monitored through the project and while we did not uncover any new populations of the endangered River Blackfish we have found Congolli further upstream in both water courses than anticipated. Mountain Galaxias, a freshwater specialist species was found in the upper section of Mount Barker Creek proving a significant find as Mount Barker township undergoes large developments in coming years we now have a baseline to work with Council to ensure the watercourse and its inhabitants are protected.



Mount Compass to Meadows Biodiversity Links Project

Mt Compass to Meadows Biodiversity Links Project Funded by Australian	Targeted ecological restoration across 1100 Ha of priority remnant vegetation between Mount Compass and Meadows in the Mount Lofty Ranges. Weed control, fencing from livestock, field days, workshops and monitoring.	Project Value \$841,900 Project Start Sept 2013	
Government		Project Finish June 2017	

The project continues to achieve landscape scale results across multiple tenures with over 2100 hectares of high quality remnant vegetation being actively managed via targeted bushcare weed control by professional contractors and the landholders. More than 28 of the current sites involved in this project are blocks of remnant vegetation greater than 20ha with a further 5 sites being over 100ha in size. Kyeema, Mount Magnificent, Finniss and Cox Scrub conservation parks have all received considerable funding to manage woody weeds and the surrounding and adjoining landholders on private land have worked in to address the common goal of weeds and pest animal management.

A weed control workshop has been delivered and involved 15 landholders who collectively manage over 600ha of connected remnant vegetation. The workshop demonstrated key weeds and native plants commonly mistaken for weeds, important methods for controlling various commonly encountered woody weeds and situations and also included the provision of handouts including a weed control manual, fact sheets on specific weeds and chemical swabbing bottles for their working bees.

Restoration works continue on all sites to treat both woody and herbaceous weeds and will be required for the remainder of the project term to ensure sites are brought to a level where the landowners can effectively manage the follow-up according to their ten year funding agreements.

The large amount of involvement from a wide variety of landholders, agencies, groups and individuals demonstrates the success of our community engagement in this project, which has been undertaken via a wide range of channels including face to face, print and social media, workshops and field days and overall through the integration of issues of common concern between all parties, to see as many different land tenures involved as possible.

This project runs until June 2017 and is funded by the Australian Government Environment Program.

NRM Connecting Communities

NRM Connecting Communities Grant, includes Management of Strathalbyn Natural Resource Centre	Support community groups and provide technical support to property owners.	Project Value \$278,000	
		Project Start	
		July 2014	
Funded by		Project Finish	
SA Murray-Darling Basin NRM Board		June 2017	

Goolwa to Wellington LAP was fortunate to receive three years of funding for community engagement from the SAMDB NRM Board from July 2014. GWLAP has successfully met all of the targets for the first year of the project and in addition, worked with the community groups in the GWLAP area to determine how to use this funding to get the best community engagement results.

In November 2014, GWLAP held a Landcare Forum in Strathalbyn and invited all natural resource management based community groups to attend. During the forum the attendees explored how we can better help groups in a time of reduced funding. Groups defined what success looked like for them and discussed how success could be achieved. A wide range of ideas resulted, some common thoughts included:

- Resources to continue work, particularly re-visiting sites that have already been worked on
- Opportunities for social interaction with members from other groups
- Recruitment, particularly younger members
- Greater media presence and increased profile in the community
- Opportunities for members to enhance skills
- Social enterprise, expanded funding base, financial security.

On the basis of this forum, GWLAP ran and supported some different and interesting events including how to engage generation Y, how to use twitter, more social events such as a plant pressing evening, bird photography workshop and a biggest morning tea/SNRC open day.

Other events held by GWLAP included a very successful workshop on feral cat management, bird monitoring, the use of grape marc as a supplementary feed source and an information session on Natural Resources, SAMDB Marginal to Mainstream project.

We attracted more 'proper farmers' to our land management events (grape marc and marginal to mainstream info session). This was pleasing and may be due to GWLAP involvement in pastures groups and the marginal to mainstream grazing projects, getting our name out in different circles.

GWLAP also attended the Strathalbyn Show, Callington Show and Goolwa Wooden Boat Festival. We have successfully launched a new website, including blog and introduced a new email newsletter system better integrated with social media. So far, results from Google Analytics so a very high level of engagement with our online media. GWLAP has also launched a new, refreshed logo and this will be followed by a more professional and uniform look for our online and printed publications.

GWLAP was very excited to receive Connecting Communities funding for three additional projects for 2015-16 and look forward to linking these projects to our existing work to add value and see substantial community benefit.



Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Community Revegetation Program

Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Community Revegetation Project 2013/14 Funded by Department of Water and Natural Resources	Undertake the Lakes community revegetation project through (but not limited to) engaging landholders, preparing site plans, site preparation, contracting nurseries to grow plants, engage community to plant and guard seedlings, follow up weed control and site monitoring.	Project Value \$2,465,750 Project Start Sep 2013 Project Finish Sep 2014	
Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth Community Revegetation Project 2014/15 Funded by Department of Water and Natural Resources	As above.	Project Value \$1,972,761 Project Start Sept 2014 Project Finish Sept 2015	

The Coorong Lower Lakes Murray Mouth (CLLMM) Community Revegetation Project is a component of a five year adaptive management response plan established to rehabilitate Lake Alexandrina, Lake Albert and the Coorong Ramsar region. This project is part of the South Australian Government's *Murray Futures* program, funded by the Australian Government.

This report highlights the achievements of the Grant Agreement in place from the 14th of August 2014 to the 25th of September 2015 and covers all aspects of propagation, planting and pest animal and plant control.

Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association (GWLAP) was contracted by the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources SA (DEWNR) to engage with the Lower Lakes and Coorong community to deliver the on ground works for this project. Key on-ground services that GWLAP carried out included engaging the Community Nurseries Network (CNN) to grow the required plants, contracting community groups to plant the CNN grown seedlings, and undertaking a multi-faceted approach to pest plant and animal control on all current and previous revegetation sites whilst endeavouring to include community wherever possible.

GWLAP contracted Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan (CTLAP) to manage on-ground works on Lake Albert and Eastern Lake Alexandrina (Eastside) and the Hindmarsh Island Landcare Group (HILG) to undertake all on-ground works and propagation for Hindmarsh Island sites. GWLAP also worked closely with the Milang and District Community Association (MDCA), in particular the CNN Coordinator, with plant propagation, seed collection and cutting collection. GWLAP strived to support and contract local community groups wherever possible, but largely employed locally established contractors for the majority of site maintenance and preparation activities.

A further 242,940 local native seedlings were planted across 52 carefully selected sites, covering 136 Hectares across Lake Alexandrina, Lake Albert, the Southern Coorong, the Finniss River, Currency Creek, the Tookayerta Creek and Hindmarsh Island bringing the Community Revegetation Project total to 1,406,009 plants since the first planting season in 2010. In 2014-2015, individual site management plans were developed for 18 sites and 1 multiple plan for 34 sites on Hindmarsh Island. Revegetation works only commenced on protected sites, with fencing installed where required. Indigenous heritage clearances were undertaken on all revegetation, fencing and soil disturbing weed control sites. In an effort to enhance the community ownership of planting sites, GWLAP strived to contract nurseries to propagate species that will be planted in their local area, and to also link community planting groups with their local revegetation sites. All plants propagated and planted for the project were grown from local provenance seed that was collected by community groups adhering to strict permit guidelines or from reputable local seed collection contractors.

A total 148 species were propagated for the 2014-2015 contract by 6 community nurseries with assistance from Investigator College. This is an increase from the 2013-2014 contract where 144 species were propagated. The Community Nurseries Network, managed by the Milang and District Community Association, continued to show immense interest in this project and displayed the ability to learn new skills and propagating methods required.

In total 2,910 volunteers from 56 community groups ranging from schools, sporting clubs, CFS, Rotary, Landcare and special needs groups, together with paid MDCA workers, completed planting at 52 sites over a 14 week period from mid-May to late August 2015. This equated to 16,958 volunteer hours over 241 days and proved to be an excellent opportunity for funding local community projects and increasing community awareness of the project aims and significance of the work.

Ongoing monitoring of revegetation sites plays a key role in the continued development of the project. Photo-points have been installed at all revegetation sites, and a wide variety of intensive monitoring occurs, including:

- Survivorship monitoring of select demonstration sites to evaluate the environmental success of the project
- Vegetation surveys at select revegetation sites to assess the natural regeneration and weed relationships occurring at sites where grazing has been removed
- Sandy Soil monitoring to determine the most successful planting and site preparation techniques in areas of sandy soil

• Fixed photo point monitoring to encourage the community to be involved in the monitoring of publicly accessible revegetation sites

Monitoring is an essential component of the project and plays a key role in guiding the future works and ongoing success of the revegetation. Many improvements have occurred throughout the life of the project as a result of monitoring, including:

- Guarding all species with biodegradable carton guards or corflute guards in high predation risk sites
- Ongoing weed control on all past sites to reduce competition with the establishing and naturally regenerating native plants
- Implementation of trials such as adding TerraCottem soil conditioning products to sandy soil sites to aid in moisture and nutrient retention
- Planting sandy soil sites early in winter to ensure the plants receive the maximum amount of rainfall possible
- Watering of all seedlings at the time of planting, with sandy soil sites receiving up to two watering sessions over summer
- Planting select species in rip-lines to break up hard black clay, or to get seedlings planted deeper in sandy soil where there is higher moisture levels.
- Reducing the amount of sedge plantings on the lake edge as the ongoing weed control results in impressive natural regeneration of sedges on a majority of sites.

GWLAP employed 13 casual site management staff for the 2015 planting season to ensure the community groups involved were adequately supported and that the detailed site plans were being interpreted and implemented accordingly. Employing 13 site managers provided GWLAP the option of issuing multiple staff to revegetation sites on planting days that attracted large numbers of participants (particularly schools and sporting clubs), or covered large areas of land.

As in previous years, the 2014-2015 Community Revegetation Program was a pronounced success and played a definitive role in supporting both the local environment and community. The project received immense support from the community and this was reflected in the variety and number of community groups that were involved. The CNN continued to prove their ongoing commitment to the project and the local environment by propagating the largest number of plants to date. Together with intensive weed management and monitoring, this project has most importantly increased the ecological resilience of the Lower Lakes and Coorong region.



Wetlands Monitoring Project	Wetlands Monitoring and on- ground works around the Lower Lakes.	Project Value \$57,000	nden
Funded by SA Murray–Darling Basin NRM Board		Project Start: July 2014	
		Project Finish: May 2015	

Wetlands Monitoring Project

GWLAP provided assistance to Natural Resources SAMDB staff with fish, bird, frog and water quality monitoring and supported 11 wetland and community groups; Birds SA, Fleurieu Birdwatchers, Clayton Bay Nursery & Environment Group, Strathalbyn Naturalists, Ngopamuldi ALOC (Aboriginal Learning on Country) team, Narrung Progress Association, Signal Point Riverine Environment Group and Green Army teams from Mount Barker, Murray Bridge, Marion and Alexandrina Council.

Tolderol Game Reserve was watered for the first time in 8 years in spring 2014, generating a lot of interest from the community and seeing a fantastic response from the birds. In total, 45 wetland dependent bird species were observed during the trial with nine Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) listed migratory wader species recorded; seven species which are state listed as rare and two species state listed as vulnerable, with up to 4,000 migratory waders observed on a single day. A flock of 72 Glossy ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*), listed nationally as migratory and rare in South Australia were also recorded. Over 60 volunteers contributed their time to the project conducting activities such as cleaning the pump, collecting data, submitting photos, checking water levels and promoting the reserve through their networks.

There has been great public interest and support for Tolderol, with over 50 people attending a recent Open Day. The 2015/16 watering of the reserve is eagerly awaited with additional basins to be watered in the upcoming season.

Support for Tolderol continues to grow with Birds SA recently committing \$10,000 towards management of the reserve.

Community Frog Monitoring in the CLLMM region

Once again in 2014, community members have assisted with frog monitoring in the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray mouth (CLLMM) region. In total 237 recordings were undertaken, totalling 19.5 hours of frog recordings across 78 sites over the monitoring period between September 2014 to March 2015. A total of 34 community members and 6 community groups participated, with 15 landholders providing permission for access to their properties for frog monitoring.

A total of seven frog species were recorded by community members with no EPBC Vulnerable listed Southern Bell frogs recorded. There was only one male Southern Bell frog recorded by Natural Resources SA MDB in the region.

Six Frog monitoring workshops were held for community members and groups between September and November 2014 for the project with an additional 4 workshops provided to schools; Strathalbyn Primary, Jervois Primary, Meningie Area and Wilderness school and 2 workshops for Green Army teams.



Fleurieu Swamps Recovery Project

Fleurieu Swamps Recovery Project – Phase 2	Weed control, fencing for protection from stock and revegetation on critically endangered Fleurieu Peninsula	Project Value \$230,000	
Funded by SA Murray–Darling Basin NRM Board	Swamps. Educate landholders on the value and management of Fleurieu Peninsula Swamps.	Project Start July 2014	
		Project Finish June 2015	men

Fleurieu Peninsula Swamps are a Critically Endangered vegetation community that is only found on the Fleurieu Peninsula in South Australia, mainly in the Mount Compass area and to the south and west of Yundi and Finniss. They are located within and around waterlogged areas and are home to approximately 170 native species, of which almost half are considered rare or endangered

Phase 2 of the Fleurieu Swamps Recovery Project has built on the work of previous years with 21 existing swamp landholders receiving follow up weed control (210 ha in total). Three new swamps were added to program receiving on ground works including fencing out stock and undertaking weed control.

Ten existing swamp properties had revegetation undertaken on their properties entailing over 6000 plants on 173 hectares of swamp supporting woodland catchment.

A Swamp Savers day was held at Mt Compass School in May with Natural Resources, SAMDB NRM Education team and students. Over 200 swamp seedlings were planted by the students as well as taking part in educational activities.

A number of talks about Fleurieu Peninsula Swamps were undertaken during the course of the year including at the Launch of the Nature Foundations "Watchalunga" swamp property, Swampfest at Stipiturus Conservation Park, Wild Wetlands Day at Murray Bridge and World Wetlands Day at Goolwa.

A new Fleurieu Swamp Plant ID guide was launched at the Mt Compass School Swamp Boardwalk in February, the publication was produced by Natural Resources, SAMDB, GWLAP and the Conservation Council of SA. The guide has proven to be very popular among landholders and others interested in Fleurieu Peninsula Swamps and is available at the Strathalbyn Natural Resource Centre.

The Fleurieu Swamps Recovery project was showcased as part of a GWLAP bus tour in May with approximately 30 members of the NRM industry attending to see what has been achieved through the project.

Other achievements of the project have included collaborating with the Alexandrina Council to install interpretive signage at the Mt Compass Wetland and an art sculpture about Swamps installed as part of the Mt Compass public toilets redesign project.



Green Army

Green Army Undertaken for	Two Green Army teams were hosted by GWLAP	Project Value In-kind	8
Undertaken för			
Australian Government			

The Green Army is for young Australians aged 17–24 years who want to participate in environmental projects in their local communities. It is open to school leavers, gap year students, graduates and job seekers. Participants are paid an allowance to work/study for up to 30 hours per week for five months.

GWLAP has successfully hosted 2 Green Army teams in 1014-15, working well with the provider organisation Workskil. Team 1 worked from October 2014 to March 2015 and team 2 worked from April to September 2015. GWLAP provided work and training for the participants while the Green Army Programme covered costs associated with the team including:

- participant allowances
- supervisor wages
- safety clothing and basic equipment
- participant training
- local transport costs
- participant insurances
- Items such as seeds, chemicals, fencing materials and equipment (with an average value of \$10,000 per project).

When the Green Army program was launched, GWLAP was one of the first organisations to facilitate a project and provide opportunities for the Green Army team to work with regional and local landcare groups and landholders.

The two Green Army teams have provided invaluable support to conservation projects on both public and private properties and have been exposed to a wide range of projects and experiences including:

- Coastal/dune restoration work
- Plant propagation with the Community Nurseries Network
- Building a native garden with Goolwa Primary School
- Working with Point Sturt and Districts Landcare Group, Kanmantoo-Callington Landcare Group and Macclesfield Bushcare Group
- Bird Monitoring at Tolderol Wetland Reserve
- Bushcare weed control

- Tree planting and guard removal with
- Attending various workshops

The program has led to a number of young people learning about their local natural environment, gaining valuable skills and learning to work as a team. GWLAP have strived to ensure the Green Army teams are exposed to a wide array of environments and activities, all of which have been completed to a high standard by team members.

The participants have gained the respect of many stakeholders and the teams have proven to be very productive, demonstrating high levels of energy, enthusiasm and output.

The following quotation is a small paragraph from a letter sent to GWLAP in May 2015 from a local farmer in Milang:

"Having had the pleasure of working with the Green Army group for 4-5 hours, it was enlightening to see that they knew the species of the revegetation seedlings and appreciated the impact that we were trying to achieve. Their attitude to us and each other was most credible and their work ethic was nothing short of amazing."

The Green Army program has boosted the capacity of GWLAP to deliver on-ground environmental improvements with strong community involvement and has supported young people to gain skills, knowledge and experience.

We look forward to hosting further Green Army teams and building on the excellent work completed and partnerships developed through the first two teams.



Financial Statements

GOOLWA TO WELLINGTON LOCAL ACTION PLANNING ASSOCIATION INC.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

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SUMMARY OF PROJECT FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

	NOTE	2	2015	20	14
		-		20	
INCOME		\$	\$	\$	\$
Grants	3				
Grants (C'wealth) Op-Non Rec GVESHO Program 2013/14 Grant		576,800.00 0.00		750,450.00 5,000.00	
Grants (State) Op-Non Rec		2,543,403.20		3,265,823.45	
Grants (Local) Op-Non Rec		2,727.27		0.00	
Total Grants			3,122,930.47		4,021,273.45
Fundraising-Gifts					
Donations Received		0.00		0.00	
Total Fundraising-Gifts			0.00		0.00
Trading/Operating Activities					
Seed Income		85.70			
Sales of Goods		1,149.08			
Fees & Charges-Unrestricted		169,138.95		80,866.37	
Total Trading/Operating Activities			170,373.73		80,866.37
Interest-Unrestricted			36,849.82		43,774.51
Rental Income			0.00		3,999.96
Novated Lease Income			10,972.61		0.00
Total Income			3,341,126.63		4,149,914.29
EXPENSES					
Accounting Fees			0.00		1,750.00
Advertising & Promotion			1,708.17		4,341.54
Assets Purchased			5,457.13		11,813.51
Audit Fees Bank Charges			4,850.00		4,700.00 144.96
Board/Governance Expenses			7,559.29		3,650.00
Cleaning & Pest Control			2,174.18		2,440.16
Client Support Services					
CSS Community Engagement		18,614.60		23,337.39	
CSS Erosion Control		0.00		375.00	
CSS Fencing		62,364.99		179,969.95	
CSS Planning		32.82		11,770.00	
CSS Monitoring & Evaluation		29,858.71		53,141.93	
CSS Pasture & Fodder		0.00		0.00	
CSS Project Co-ord/Manag CSS Revegetation		132,980.68		107,488.50	
CSS Seed Expenses		899,288.21 11,513.67		1,305,454.35 13,090.27	
CSS Soils Management		0.00		229.28	
CSS Surveys		0.00		0.00	
CSS Threat Abatement		907,657.18		1,280,356.86	
CSS Trials		0.00		0.00	
CSS Waterpoints	112	3,500.00		10,100.00	
Total Client Support Services			2,065,810.86		2,985,313.53
Computer Expenses			11,974.24		9,357.25
Equipment Hire			3,393.49		3,626.22
Fees & Permits			218.70		281.46
Health & Safety Insurance-Building & Contents			1,109.48		4,591.46
Insurance-Public Liability			1,249.78 486.94		1,319.55 495.83
Insurance-Professional Indem			1,234.68		3,202.64
Insurance-Directors & Officers			2,247.61		2,247.61
Legal Fees			3,181.81		0.00
Meetings Expense			2,984.71		3,192.45
Membership Fees Paid			90.00	I	140.00

Motor Vehicle Expenses MV Fuel & Oil MV Repairs & Maintenance MV Insurance MV Registration MV Lease Payments MV Other Total Motor Vehicle Expenses Postage, Freight & Courier Printing & Stationery Publications & Information Res Rates & Taxes	27,236.51 3,109.03 724.00 895.43 119,393.88 575.69		32,421.53 1,171.36 808.70 759.68 114,089.54 387.40	149,638.21 2,817.09 9,535.01 1,260.85 1,748.56
Rent		38,379.77		29,664.95
Repairs & Maintenance		2,247.90		5,052.38
Salaries & Wages				
S&W Annual Leave Expense S&W Fringe Benefits Tax	61,742.88 1,179.43		61,874.51 167.57	
S&W Long Service Leave Expense	10,555.19		11,376.02	
S&W Sick Leave Expense	26,254.32		15,396.42	
S&W Superannuation	70,517.43		68,976.39	
S&W Salaries & Wages	672,964.52		686,412.58	
S&W OHS Expenses	102.77		95.50	
S&W WorkCover Levy	14,683.00		13,643.00	
S&W Maternity Leave Expense	2,475.00		14,083.48	
S&W Travel Allowance	3,587.88	-	3,302.25	
Total Salaries & Wages		864,062.42		875,327.72
Novated Lease Expense		10,972.61		
Security		27.27		220.32
Staff Amenities		546.89		761.20
Sundry Expenses		1,942.73		2,461.55
Telephone, Fax & Internet Exp		11,961.25		14,671.57
Tenancy & Property Expenses		0.00		0.00
Training & Development (Staff)		2,283.30		3,534.55
Travel & Accommodation		7,034.89		3,090.67
Utilities		1,648.15		2,590.69
Transfer of funds	4	0.00		(15,565.32)
Total Expenses		3,223,762.30	-	4,129,418.17
Operating Net Income		117,364.33	-	20,496.12
Other Expenses				
Refund Unspent Project Funds	0.00		0.00	
Total Other Expenses		0.00		0.00
Net Surplus / (Deficit)		117,364.33	=	20,496.12

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	NOTE	2015	2014
CURRENT ASSETS		\$	\$
Cash at Bank (Unrestricted)		1,986,648.06	1,884,210.98
Accounts Receivable	2	151,503.00	59,957.32
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,138,151.06	1,944,168.30
TOTAL ASSETS	-	2,138,151.06	1,944,168.30
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable		194,274.23	213,654.07
Loans Payable		1,220.52	3,607.16
Payables - Other		36,485.28	21,939.11
GST Payable		121,604.71	110,086.00
Less GST Receivable		(59,092.96)	(120,547.77)
Employee Provisions		143,795.14	133,415.83
PAYG Withholding Payable		17,400.00	17,352.68
Superannuation Payable		8,003.99	7,277.94
WorkCover Payable		556.80	869.00
Less TOTAL LIABILITES	-	464,247.71	387,654.02
NET ASSETS	-	1,673,903.35	1,556,514.28
EQUITY			
Unexpended Funds as at July 1, 2014		1,556,539.02	1,536,042.90
Current Year Surplus (Deficit)		117,364.33	20,496.12
Unexpended Funds as at June 30, 2014	-	1,673,903.35	1,556,539.02

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

	2015
	\$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Net Income	117,364.33
Increase in Accounts Receivable	(91,545.68)
Decrease in Accounts Payable	(19,379.84)
Decrease in Loans Payable	(2,386.64)
Increase in Payables - Other	14,546.17
Increase in GST Payable	11,543.45
Decrease in GST Receivable	61,454.81
Increase in Employee Provisions	10,379.31
Increase in PAYG Withholding Payable	47.32
Increase in Superannuation Payable	726.05
Decrease in WorkCover Payable	(312.20)
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities	102,437.08
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH FOR THE PERIOD	102,437.08
Cash at the beginning of the period	1,884,210.98
Cash at the end of the period	1,986,648.06

PROJECT INCOME, EXPENDITURE AND BALANCES

Project Name	Balance at June 30, 2014	Total Income	Total Expenses	Balance at June 30, 2015
Alexandrina Community Nursery	0.00	2,455.20	2,455.20	0.00
Alexandrina Council Roadside Weeds	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
AMLR Tokuremoar Action Plan	12,000.00	7,595.50	11,400.00	8,195.50
Biodiversity Funds Ashbourne to Finniss	-54.46	95,000.00	94,945.54	0.00
Biodiversity Funds Goolwa Coast	-5,426.03	71,000.00	65,573.97	0.00
Biodiversity Funds Mount Compass to Meadows	-11,218.61	261,800.00	245,481.39	5,100.00
Biodiversity Funds Rodwell and Mt Barker Creek	11,801.03	149,000.00	160,801.03	0.00
Bore Monitoring (GWLAP)	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
CLLMM Community Reveg Project 2014	826,555.26	40,000.00	866,555.26	0.00
CLLMM Community Reveg Project 2015	0.00	1,932,768.00	1,114,328.03	818,439.97
CLLMM Pest Projects 2015	0.00	36,000.00	18,568.42	17,431.58
DPTI Fleurieu Peninsula Vegetation Offsets	0.00	4,728.00	1,623.04	3,104.96
DPTI Goolwa Precinct	39,911.14	26,750.00	5,122.00	61,539.14
DPTI Strath Junction	772.89	0.00	772.89	0.00
DPTI Strathalbyn-Wellington Rd, Meadows-Willunga Rd	640.00	0.00	640.00	0.00
DPTI Victor Harbor Rd	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00	0.00
Friends of Kyeema Weed Control Project	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Goolwa Coastcare Displays	0.00	800.00	0.00	800.00
Goolwa Coastcare Trailer	0.00	900.00	900.00	0.00
GWLAP Project Funds	316,612.80	1,302.72	1,243.82	316,671.70
Landcare Association Executive Officer Hosting	0.00	77,272.72	77,272.72	0.00
Macclesfield Bushcare Group	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00
Murray Bridge Council Bird Monitoring Workshops	0.00	2,727.27	0.00	2,727.27
Native Vegetation Council Prospect Hill SEB Grant	2,167.66	13,880.00	8,581.90	7,465.76
National Landcare Award	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Non Project Funds	214,448.56	38,213.46	47,942.49	
Prospect Hill Bushcare Group 2015	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	204,719.53
SA MDB NRM Board Bird Surveys Mallee	0.00	3,000.00		0.00
SA MDB NRM Board Citizen Science Bird Monitoring	0.00	5,400.00	0.00	3,000.00
SA MDB NRM Board Collaborative Farming Investigation	0.00	13,200.00	0.00	5,400.00
SA MDB NRM Board Community Bird Monitoring	0.00	5,830.00	0.00	13,200.00 5,830.00
SA MDB NRM Board Coast, Estuarine and Marine 2015	6,871.58	7,500.00	14,371.58	
SA MDB NRM Board Coastal and Wetlands Project 2016	0.00	15,000.00	800.00	0.00
SA MDB NRM Board Community Engagement 2015	0.00	140,000.00	139,105.91	894.09
SA MDB NRM Board Environmental Water Protection Works	700.00	6,300.00	1,167.87	
SA MDB NRM Board Fleurieu Swamp Recovery 2015	23,000.00	207,000.00	230,000.00	5,832.13
SA MDB NRM Board Fleurieu Swamp Recovery 2016	0.00	42,400.00	0.00	0.00
SA MDB NRM Board Frog Monitoring 2014	5,931.82	42,400.00	0.00	42,400.00
SA MDB NRM Board Frog Monitoring 2015	0.00	14,800.00	7,666.05	5,931.82
SA MDB NRM Board Linking Schools 2016	0.00	12,000.00	0.00	7,133.95
SA MDB NRM Board Pastures Workshops 2015	0.00	6,072.73	0.00	12,000.00
SA MDB NRM Board Photopoint Monitoring Project 2014	244.91	0.00	244.91	6,072.73
SA MDB NRM Board Ranges to River Project	0.00			0.00 20,000.00
SA MDB NRM Board Strathalbyn Natural Resource Centre Man't	0.00	20,000.00	0.00	
SA MDB NRM Board Tolderol Project	0.00	13,636.36	0.00	16,000.00
SA MDB NRM Board Training Evaluation Project	1,000.00	0.00	1,995.93	11,640.43
SA MDB NRM Board Volunteer Bus Tour Project	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
SA MDB NRM Board Weed control with Farmers 2016	0.00			0.00
SA MDB NRM Board Wetlands Monitoring 2015	28,500.00	6,300.00	0.00	6,300.00
Seed Bank (GWLAP)	12,611.18	28,500.00	57,000.00	0.00
SNRC Management Committee		1,731.56	1,941.73	12,401.01
State NRM Grant Currency Creek 2014	5,766.99	7,883.26	4,385.68 20,395.09	9,264.57
State NRM Grant Totness 2014	20,395.09			0.00
Strathalbyn Natural Resource Centre ARCG Funds	6,800.00	0.00	6,800.00	0.00
Volunteer Small Grant Rhodes Grass Control Victor Harbor Rd	6,627.34	2,000.00	0.00	8,627.34
Volunteer Small Grant Equipment Purchase	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
Wages Provision (Note 4)	0.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	0.00
Totals	19,579.87	0.00	0.00	19,579.87
	1,556,539.02	3,341,046.78	3,223,682.45	1,673,903.35

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985 (SA) and the ACNC Act 2012 (Div. 60 – Reporting).

The Members of the Board have determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

This financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985 (SA) and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 101 - Presentation of Financial Statements

- AASB 1031 Materiality
- AASB 110 Events after the Reporting Period

No other applicable Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

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

a) Accounting Method - Accrual Accounting

- b) Currency All values are presented in Australian Dollars
- c) Measurement Basis The financial report is based on historical costs. It does not take into account changing money values, or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets
- Income Tax The Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association has Income Tax Exemption status with the Australian Taxation Office
- e) Goods & Services Tax Revenue and expenses are recognised exclusive of the amount of GST
- f) Employee Entitlements Provision is made in respect of the statutory legal liability arising from services rendered by employees to balance date.

NOTE 2: RECEIVABLES	2015	2014
	\$	\$
SA MDB NRM Board	151,503.00	57,750.00
Sundry	-	2,207.32
Total	151,503.00	59,957.32
NOTE 3: OPERATING GRANTS - CONDITIONS OF FUNDING		

Grants for the projects that the GWLAP is currently undertaking were provided predominantly by: Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, the SA MDB NRM Board, Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure and Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts and Department for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, Local Government bodies. A condition of this funding is that these funds be applied for the purposes of meeting project targets within the time frames specified. Any unspent funds are required to be reimbursed on completion of these projects. Some grants have been provided through Corporate and Business Sources. Other Project funds have been provided as part of third party fee for service agreements which require reports on completion addressing the meeting of project targets using the funds available. Any unexpended funds from these funding sources are applied to other non-funded projects in the GWLAP Region.

NOTE 4: WAGES PROVISION

Conversion of Wages Provision Liability account to internal administrative budget line.

NOTE 5: ORGANISATIONAL BACKGROUND

The Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Plan Steering Committee and then Board (incorporated in February 1998) was created to get a more integrated approach to identify the extent and severity of the major "landcare" or natural resource management issues of this part of the SA Murray Darling Basin and develop strategies to address these issues. The Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Board Incorporated resolved to change its name on October 10th 2007 to Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association Incorporated.

REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF

GOOLWA TO WELLINGTON LOCAL ACTION PLANNING ASSOCIATION INC.

In accordance with section 35 (5) of the Associations Incorporations Act, 1985 the Board hereby states that during the financial year ended June 30, 2015:

- (a) (1) no officer of the association;
 - (2) no firm of which an officer is a member; and
 - (3) no body corporate in which an officer has a substantial interest,

has received or become entitled to receive a benefit as a result of a contract between the officer, firm or body corporate and the association.

(b) no officer of the association has received directly or indirectly from the association any payment or other benefit of a pecuniary nature.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board.

 Date:
 26/8/2015
 Date:
 26/8/2015

 Member:
 Member:
 Member:

STATEMENT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF

GOOLWA TO WELLINGTON LOCAL ACTION PLANNING ASSOCIATION INC.

In accordance with Section 35(2)(c) of the Associations Incorporations Act 1985, it is the opinion of the Members of the Board that,

- (a) The accompanying Statement of Financial Performance is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the operations of the Association for the year ended 30/6/15;
- (b) The accompanying Statement of Financial Position is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association as at 30/6/15;
- (c) At the date of this Statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board.

Date: 26/8 205-

Date: 26 2015 Member:

Member:



127 Swanport Road PO Box 5025 Murray Bridge SA 5253 **Tel 08 8532 4599** Fax 08 8531 0584 admin@perreybozzetti.com.au ABN 63 104 604 668

Directors: Michael W.J. Perrey CPA CTA Paula F. Bozzetti FIPA CTA

Associates: Philip D. Coates FCA CTA JP Registered Company Auditor Peter G. Canaway FCA CTA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GOOLWA TO WELLINGTON LOCAL ACTION PLANNING ASSOCIATION INC. (THE ASSOCIATION)

Report of the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of The Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association Inc. (The Association), which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2015, the Statement of Financial Performance, Notes to the Financial Statements and the Statement and Report by members of the Management Committee.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of The Association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act SA 1985 and the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission Act 2012 (Part 3-2 Div. 60 – Reporting) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibilities also included establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risks assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting under the Associations Incorporation Act SA 1985 and the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission Act 2012 (Part 3-2 Div. 60 – Reporting). We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, of for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

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Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of The Association presents fairly in all material respects the financial position of The Association as of 30 June 2015 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

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Michael W.J. Perrey CPA Perrey Bozzetti & Associates 127 SWANPORT ROAD MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253

Dated this 26th day of August 2015

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