

# Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board

## Achievements Report 2025 - 2026

*A year of action, collaboration and impact  
across the Hills and Fleurieu*



# A year of action

From protecting biodiversity and responding to emerging threats to supporting land managers and planning for the future, these are some of the ways we worked with our partners and community to make a difference across the Hills and Fleurieu in 2025 - 2026.

## Strengthening pest animal control

We collaborated with partners and landholders on feral goat and deer eradication programs. Control continued in the Greater Adelaide area while efforts were expanded to new locations, including the Southern Hills, with record numbers of private landholders participating in the program.



## Protecting landscapes from weeds

We partnered with six councils, government agencies and landholders to coordinate roadside weed management across the region, protecting biodiversity, agriculture and biosecurity, strengthening fire resilience and encouraging action on adjoining properties.



## Building climate-ready farms

Through the Carbon Farming Outreach Program, we supported landholders to explore carbon farming opportunities, adopt low-emissions practices, improve soil health and resilience, and access information on carbon markets, helping deliver environmental and economic benefits across the region.



## Helping landscapes recover from bushfire

We supported land managers following the Deep Creek and Nangkita-Tooperang bushfires through almost \$120,000 in Bushfire Recovery Grants, alongside rapid ecological assessments and coordinated recovery actions to aid the recovery of threatened species, ecological communities and critical habitat.



## Planning for our water future

We facilitated community discussions at our 'Catchment Conversations' on the future of water resources, including the challenges facing surface water, groundwater and aquatic ecosystems, to inform amendments to the Eastern and Western Mount Lofty Ranges Water Allocation Plans.



## Preparing the region for bird flu

We worked with partners to deliver bird flu preparedness projects, reducing potential impacts while strengthening ecological resilience across the culturally significant Southern Fleurieu coast and offshore islands. Activities included weed control, revegetation, pest animal management, and cultural education and surveys with local Ramindjeri rangers.



## Setting a strategic direction

We released the Southern Fleurieu Coastal Action Plan and the Action Plan for Threatened Species and Ecological Communities 2026-2040, providing clear regional priorities and a coordinated approach to habitat conservation, threatened species recovery, climate resilience and long-term ecosystem health.



## Empowering community to take action

We awarded 39 Grassroots Grants (\$260,000) and 46 GreenSafe Grants (>\$20,000), empowering schools, volunteers and community groups to protect biodiversity, improve soil health and build climate resilience across the Hills and Fleurieu region.



## Caring for Country with First Nations

Ngarrindjeri Elders, rangers and community members shared language, knowledge and stories of Country at Clayton Bay, helping to guide future wetland restoration and Southern Bell Frog recovery. The project demonstrates the value of First Nations knowledge in shaping practical, long-term environmental outcomes.



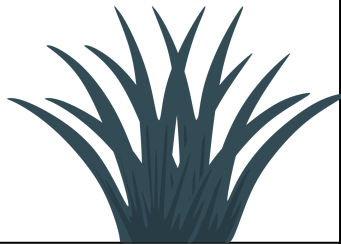
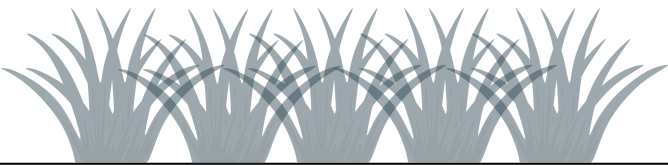
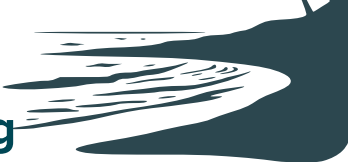
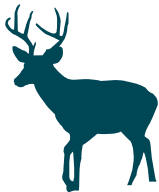
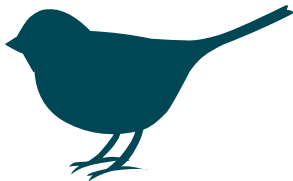
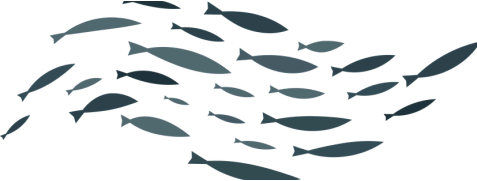
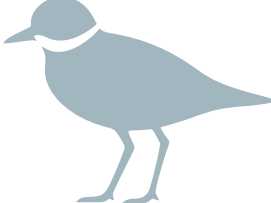
## Shaping the future of the region

We developed the Hills and Fleurieu Regional Landscape Plan 2026-2031 in partnership with communities, land managers, First Nations, industry, councils and government, establishing a shared vision and strategic direction for the sustainable management of the region's landscapes.



# Measuring the impact

We’ve invested almost \$9 million and leveraged over \$2.5 million to deliver these strong environmental outcomes across the Hills and Fleurieu region with our partners and community.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div>Roadside weed control</div> <div>528km</div> <div></div>                                                                           | <div>Non-roadside weed control</div> <div>351 hectares</div> <div></div>                                                                                                                                  | <div>Offshore island restoration</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>45 ha reveg</li><li>25 ha weed control</li><li>2,500 pest birds controlled</li></ul></div> <div></div> |
| <div>Rabbit bait distribution days</div> <div>21</div> <div></div> <div>428 Landholders participating in rabbit control program</div> | <div>Feral deer removed</div> <div>1,939</div> <div></div> <div>Feral goats removed</div> <div>159</div> <div></div> | <div>Workshops and field days</div> <div>40</div> <div></div> <div>&gt;900 Participants</div>                                                                                           |
| <div>Seed collected to restore woodland bird habitat</div> <div>13kg</div> <div></div>                                                                                                                                 | <div>3</div> <div></div> <div>Ongoing threatened species captive breeding programs</div> <div></div>               | <div>&gt;50,000</div> <div>Website users accessed information and resources</div> <div></div>                                                                                          |
| <div>Threatened species habitat revegetated with native plants</div> <div>96 hectares</div> <div></div>                                                                                                                 | <div></div> <div>36</div> <div>Citizen scientists attending waterbug bioblitzes</div> <div>Sites surveyed</div> <div>21</div>                                                                            | <div>Hooded plover nesting sites</div> <div>36</div> <div>4 Fledglings</div> <div></div>                                                                                               |

## Our Stewardship Program

Supporting land managers to be the best stewards they can be - embracing their role in caring for land, water and nature.

### Stewardship guides: Supporting land managers to take practical action

We expanded support for rural land managers with a suite of practical ‘Five Step’ guides and action plans, helping landholders build their skills, plan ahead and take action to protect and enhance the natural assets on their properties.

- Five steps to thriving native vegetation
- Five steps to thriving revegetation
- Five steps to effective weed control
- Five steps to a thriving watercourse
- Five steps to enhancing your dam
- Five steps to healthy soils on grazing properties



### Stewardship in Action workshop series: Supporting land managers through practical learning

We delivered 40 workshops, field days and information sessions throughout the year, helping land managers build skills in soil health, pest animal management, revegetation, native vegetation, weed control, healthy watercourses, farm emissions, carbon markets and green finance.

Designed for everyone from broadacre producers to lifestyle block owners, the workshops connected land managers with experts and peers and supported them to develop tailored property action plans to improve natural assets and access future funding opportunities.

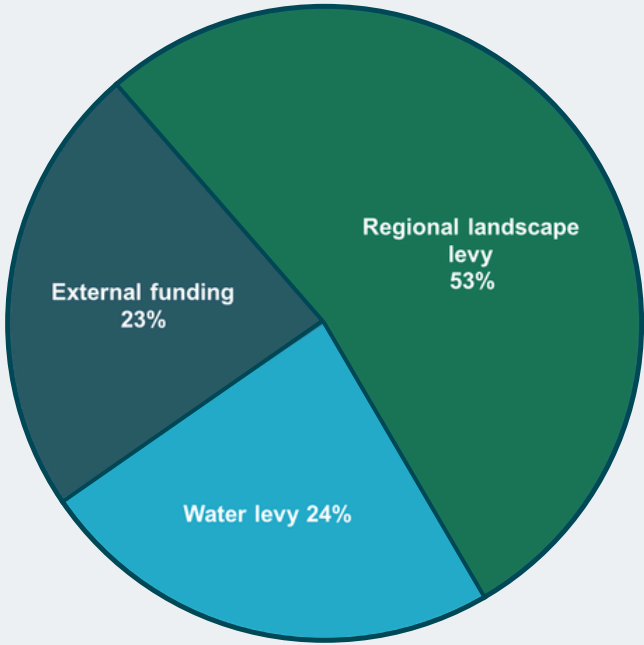
Strong attendance and positive feedback highlighted the demand for practical, locally relevant information, while bringing land managers together to learn, plan and act to help build the resilience of individual properties and the region’s landscapes for the future.



# Sources of funding

| Funding source                                  | 2025-26 (\$) |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Landscape and water levies                      |              |
| Regional landscape levy                         | 6,171,700    |
| Water levy                                      | 2,790,500    |
| External funding                                |              |
| Australian Government                           | 1,050,900    |
| State Government/Landscape Priorities Fund      | 1,488,300    |
| Interest                                        | 200,000      |
| Total revenue                                   | 11,701,400   |
| Approved carry-over funding from previous years | 1,601,600    |
| Total funding                                   | 13,303,000   |

Further details are available in the 2025-26 Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board Business Plan



Funding by source

# Major project partners and funding

## Feral deer and goat control

Program delivered in partnership with Green Adelaide, the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board, the Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA, and the Department for Environment and Water, funded by the landscape levy and the Landscape Priorities Fund, through the ‘Now or never – controlling feral deer and goats’ project.

## Roadside weed control

Project delivered in partnership with Adelaide Hills Council, Alexandrina Council, City of Onkaparinga, City of Victor Harbor, District Council of Yankalilla and Mount Barker District Council.

## Illegal dam compliance and education campaign

Funded by the Landscape Priorities Fund and delivered by the regions.

## Building Landscape Resilience with High Performing Dams

Funded by the Landscape Priorities Fund and the Department for Environment and Water, and in collaboration with Northern and Yorke Landscape Board.

## Deep Creek and Nangkita-Tooperang Bushfire Recovery Grants

Funded through the Landscape Priorities Fund and delivered by the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board.

## Bird flu preparedness projects on offshore islands and Southern Fleurieu coast

Funded by the Australian Government and delivered by the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board, with support from the Department for Environment and Water and local councils.

## Water Allocation Plan amendment

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board is responsible for the review and amendment of the Eastern and Western Mount Lofty Ranges Water Allocation Plans (WAPs) in accordance with the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*. The implementation of the plans is a shared responsibility with the Department for Environment and Water.

## Back from the Brink

Funded by the Australian Government Natural Heritage Trust, and delivered by the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board, a member of the Commonwealth Regional Delivery Partners panel.

## Carbon Farming Outreach Program

Funded by the Commonwealth of Australia through the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, and Water under the Carbon Farming Outreach Program.

## Facilitating sustainable agriculture

Funded by the Australian Government Natural Heritage Trust and delivered by Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board, a member of the Commonwealth Regional Delivery Partners panel.

## ReBird the Ranges

A partnership with over 20 other organisations. Funding is from the landscape levy, state government and Landscape Priorities Fund.



These achievements were made possible by the dedication of community, environment groups, landholders, and volunteers, alongside the generous support of our partners and funding providers. The logos below show some of the organisations involved in our projects across the financial year.







### **Acknowledgement of Watta/Ruwe/Yerta**

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board acknowledges First Nations people as the first people of the lands and waters where we live and work. We respect the Peramangk, Kurna and Ngarrindjeri peoples, past and present, who have cared for Watta/Ruwe/Yerta for generations, nurturing its life, stories and landscapes.

We recognise their deep knowledge, spiritual belonging and enduring connection to Country. We are committed to walking alongside First Nations, listening, learning, and working together to protect and restore these lands and waters.