

Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary

Interim Management Statement for the
Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary
National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara



Department of Environment,
Water and Natural Resources



**National
Parks**
South
Australia

Foreword

The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary is a unique and highly significant landscape that is helping to protect more than 23 species of migratory shorebirds and many species of resident shorebirds, several of which are listed as endangered. Each year these remarkable birds leave their breeding grounds in the northern hemisphere on a journey that spans thousands of kilometres across the East Asian-Australasian Flyway.

Their destinations are in the southern hemisphere – including the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary, which is a key site, and where they can feed and replenish their energy supplies in readiness for their next northerly trip to breed.

The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary makes an important contribution to global shorebird conservation efforts. It also provides opportunities locally. It's a place where people can see birds, learn about them and contribute to their protection. It's also a place that will help to support the resilience of local communities and the growth of the South Australian economy.

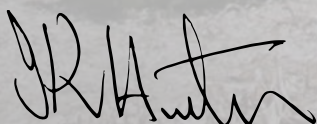
South Australia's newest national park, the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara, will be a conservation centrepiece of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary. The national park is part of the South Australian Government's commitment to conserve these shorebirds. This is part of the establishment of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary, which recognises the global significance of the area, and the recent nomination of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary and surrounds to become an East Asian-Australasian Flyway Network Site, adding it to the global map of important shorebird sites.

Over the next year, the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara will be further expanded.

The establishment of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary is backed by a large group of people representing a diverse range of perspectives. All are united in seeking the protection of these very special birds. The bird sanctuary concept has the support of the Kaurna Traditional Owners, local government, non-governmental organisations, volunteers and local community representatives.

Many of these people have now joined together to form a leadership round-table, the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary Collective – a group committed to harnessing community commitment to the protection of the shorebirds and their habitat. This interim management statement sets out how the Collective, the South Australian Government and other partners will continue to work together to realise the vision for the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary.

I thank all members of the Collective and those involved in the protection of this landscape over many years. Together we should be immensely proud of our achievements. I look forward to continuing to work with the community to further establish and enhance the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary and the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara.



The Hon. Ian Hunter MLC
Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation

Cultural Sensitivity Warning

Aboriginal people are warned that this publication may contain images of culturally sensitive material.



Above: Kids at the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary

Front cover: curlew sandpiper
© Martin Stokes



Contents

Introduction.....	1
Establishing the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary.....	2
A safe haven for shorebirds from across the globe.....	5
Bringing people together for Collective Impact.....	6
Collective Impact for birds and people.....	6
The Kurna People – Traditional Owners of the Bird Sanctuary.....	9
Sanctuary more than a national park.....	10
Creating the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara within the Sanctuary.....	13
Interim management statement for Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara.....	14
Story so far.....	16
Planning for impact.....	17

Introduction

With the introduction of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary, I can see the beginning of a new story for the northern plains communities of Adelaide, and people are embracing it. The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary is fast becoming a remarkable asset that will drive better outcomes both for people and the environment. Through the leadership roundtable for the bird sanctuary, known as The Collective, we have been given an opportunity to build this new story, a story that has and will continue to draw on the strengths, wisdom and commitment of our Kurna, Vietnamese and coastal communities whilst also bringing the critical job of nurturing our environment and shorebirds to front of mind.

Northern Adelaide has carried a negative story for too long. With the closure of many local industries the landscape has been changing not just physically but mentally in the minds of people that live here.

We don't need another plan or strategic document to add to the pile - we need to act and what I have seen is that the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary is committed to action. However with that action we need to be held accountable to ensure the bird sanctuary is leading to healthy birds, healthy people and a growing local economy. That's why we have adopted and are implementing cutting edge systems to collect relevant data, learn from that data and act on what we have learnt.

This is not just another time scaled project, as our actions require long term thinking. Using collective impact for birds and people takes time and we are lucky to have a remarkable number of people from the community and relevant sectors who are in for the long haul.

The passion and commitment I have witnessed and that has come to the forefront over the past 18 months is remarkable. I have every confidence that The Collective will lead this passion and commitment to help better lives of people in the north and bring a brighter future for our shorebirds and environment.

Carolyn Curtis

First Chair of The Collective - Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary

Establishing the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary

The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary is already a unique safe haven for shorebirds, many of which are truly remarkable – migrating each year between Australia and the northern hemisphere.

Over many years, volunteers, local communities and non-government organisations have strived to protect this internationally significant area, the shorebirds and their fragile habitat.

In 2014, the South Australian Government got behind the community's conservation efforts by committing nearly \$1.7 million to establish a protected area and management arrangement for the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary.

The bird sanctuary currently encompasses over 60 km of coastline north of Adelaide, adjacent to Gulf St Vincent, Gulf St Vincent Marine Park and the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary and Adelaide's northern suburbs – St Kilda, Port Gawler, Middle Beach, Port Prime, Thompson Beach and Port Parham. Two key entry points have been identified for the bird sanctuary and these are the Southern gateway at St Kilda Beach and the Northern gateway at Thompson Beach. The location of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary is shown in on the opposite page.

To be effective, conservation of nature requires a coordinated effort across public and privately owned land. That's why the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary is not defined by fences and boundaries specifically but is rather a general overlay of an area that is known to be globally important for migratory shorebirds. This overlay helps to identify where new partnerships for the bird sanctuary can be realised.

The bird sanctuary offers a landscape where local communities, volunteers, government, non-government organisations, and land managers can work together towards shorebird conservation, enhancing community and ensuring that tourism is also protecting this valuable place. A diverse range of land uses such as traditional Aboriginal land use practices, and other more modern uses such as salt production, horticulture, farming, recreation and manufacturing have co-existed alongside conservation in the landscape for many years. Enhancing conservation in parallel with sustaining other land uses is a cornerstone of the bird sanctuary concept.

The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary is a much bigger concept than a national park, but the creation of a national park for the bird sanctuary is the government's long term commitment to protecting vital shorebird habitat. While conservation will be a priority, the national park will also become a focal point for people, as a destination to enjoy national park facilities, learn about Kaurna culture, and gain an appreciation of the role that the area plays in global shorebird conservation.

The bird sanctuary will help to redefine the identity of Adelaide's northern suburbs, bring people together and strengthen local economies through nature-based tourism enterprises, creating jobs, and increasing local commercial activity.

To create a future for the bird sanctuary, community and government's have collaboratively created a Vision, which will be delivered through a sustained and coordinated effort and focus on four areas (see opposite page).



Red-capped plover © Chris Purnell



Key

- Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara
- Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary

1

Focus area

Establish and sustain the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary for native species, in particular migratory shorebirds and species that are endangered.

2

Focus area

Facilitate opportunities to stimulate the local and state economy through activating economic pathways while protecting the range of ecosystem, recreational and cultural services that the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary provides.

4

Focus area

Cultivate partnerships locally and across the globe to share scientific and cultural knowledge and support the growing movement of global flyway conservation.

The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary is an important area that safeguards native species, helps to develop a thriving economy, enhance the wellbeing of all visitors and expand global conservation efforts.

3

Focus area

Enhance the wellbeing of visitors to the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary by creating places for people to engage with, be active, explore, learn about nature and share experiences with other people.

Our vision:
Protecting shorebirds and creating opportunities for people





Curlew sandpiper © Martin Stokes

A safe haven for shorebirds from across the globe

The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary, also known as the Samphire Coast, is a key terminal site for the East Asian-Australasian Flyway – a route for millions of migratory shorebirds. These species – such as the red-necked stints, grey plover, sharp-tailed sandpipers, ruddy turnstone, bar-tailed godwit and pacific golden plovers – breed in northern Asia and Alaska. They then fly south through more than 23 countries on their way to key sites in South East Asia and Australia for up to 5 months, where they feed and roost in preparation for their next annual northerly migration through the flyway.

Habitat loss throughout the flyway has contributed to drastic declines in many of the migratory shorebird species that spend their summer in Australia. Ongoing habitat degradation along the length of the flyway is threatening some migratory shorebirds with extinction, and a disproportionately high number of shorebird species have been classified as threatened along the flyway such as the curlew sandpiper, eastern curlew and great knot.

To support the conservation of migratory shorebirds, international collaboration is critical to ensure a coordinated response along the entire flyway. The East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership is the major international framework for conserving migratory shorebirds and their habitat across the flyway, and complements Australia's commitments to protect shorebirds and migratory species under international agreements, plans and policies.

The mangroves, samphire communities, wetlands, dunes and creeks of the bird sanctuary support at least 263 fauna and flora species including an estimated 27,000 migratory and resident shorebirds.

Bringing people together for Collective Impact

People are driving the establishment of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary through a new way of working together and achieving shared outcomes – an approach called Collective Impact.

Collective Impact in the bird sanctuary is the bringing together of local councils and townships, international experts, Kurna Elders and Kurna People, farmers, local government, tour operators and so many more.

This approach recognises that many people have a role to play in making an impact for things that matter, in this case protecting shorebirds and creating opportunities for people. Collaborating for a better future depends on genuine community participation in decision-making throughout the design, implementation and ongoing management of the bird sanctuary. Using Collective Impact to deliver outcomes for people and nature is an innovative approach to achieve this.

Collective Impact for shorebirds and people

The future for the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary is being built on cross-sector collaboration, seeking to drive significant change in the South Australian community towards deepening a relationship with nature. This approach has created an innovative leadership group coined 'The Collective', who are so far a partnership of 35 groups, people and

organisations that have come together to create a shared vision for the bird sanctuary and the communities around it.

The Collective has provided strategic leadership and a representative voice for local, state and national communities. It is not a committee; it is a coming together for action. The Collective has defined a vision and four focus areas needed for long term sustainable action for the bird sanctuary that everyone agrees will make the bird sanctuary a success for people. The Collective works together to feed information and expertise into the bird sanctuary initiative and then back out into their linked communities.

The high level of genuine engagement by activated citizens is creating the alignment needed to generate results in communities. This will continue driving outcomes whereby stakeholders and the community takes the lead.

The role of state government in this initiative has been to listen, discuss and connect people up with a common set of ideas and aspirations and facilitate the building of a framework to implement the actions from the four focus areas defined by The Collective. Collective Impact lets people see how government can redefine its role to be a facilitator and enabler of action that will lead to the long-term sustainability of the bird sanctuary and our four focus areas.

The five elements of Collective Impact are being used to guide the work of The Collective and partners wanting to align. These elements are common agenda, common progress measures, communications, mutually reinforcing activities and a backbone organisation. In the establishment phase, the South Australian Government is proud to be providing the critical backbone support to sustain this initiative.

“There is no other initiative like this in Australia and it is definitely one to watch.”

Ms Kerry Graham, Thought Leader for Collective Impact, Collaboration for Impact Australia.

'The Collective' December 2015



The Vietnamese Farmers Association of South Australia continues to be empowered by the positive developments of the bird sanctuary. The sky is the limit. May it be so for the wellbeing of our country.

Ly Luan Le, Vietnamese Farmers Association of South Australia Inc.





Adelaide Flyway Festival

The Kurna People – Traditional Owners of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary

Kudla yarlu kurrarinthi - To approach peacefully

The Kurna People have had a deep and spiritual connection with land and waters of the bird sanctuary for thousands of years and are the recognised Traditional Owners of the Adelaide Plains. Through their deep understanding of the land, strong commitment to reconciliation and caring for their Country, Kurna People are actively leading in the establishment of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary.

Kurna knowledge is integral to the planning, establishment and management of the bird sanctuary. Their vision is to 'Bring Meaningful Reconciliation of the Past–Present–Future' through supporting the recognition of the Kurna identity to be strong, self-sufficient and a healthy sustainable Kurna Nation for the Kurna People. Their vision will support Kurna participating in the wider economy and social life of the Adelaide Plains, while protecting Kurna heritage.

The landscape of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary – its water, plants, animals and special places – are a part of Kurna culture. Understanding this and working together for shared access to Country will help to strengthen respect for Kurna culture, and support the Kurna People in their aspirations for the future. Meaningful engagement with Kurna Elders has unearthed numerous possibilities for the bird sanctuary and will continue to underpin its future success.

“Since our very first visit, the bird sanctuary has offered genuine engagement with Kurna. This has brought new economic opportunities to our community, including rediscovering language, family and connection to the bird sanctuary. We look forward to working together into the future.”

Mr Jeffrey Newchurch - Kurna and Narrunga Elder

Sanctuary more than a national park

Food, water and shelter don't just occur in national parks. They occur across the landscape and from one person's land to another. The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary recognises this – the national park at its core protects important areas, but just as important is the land and waters outside of the national park.

The bird sanctuary is an idea – it is a commitment to providing a place for these birds to come and rest and feed every year, as they have for millennia.

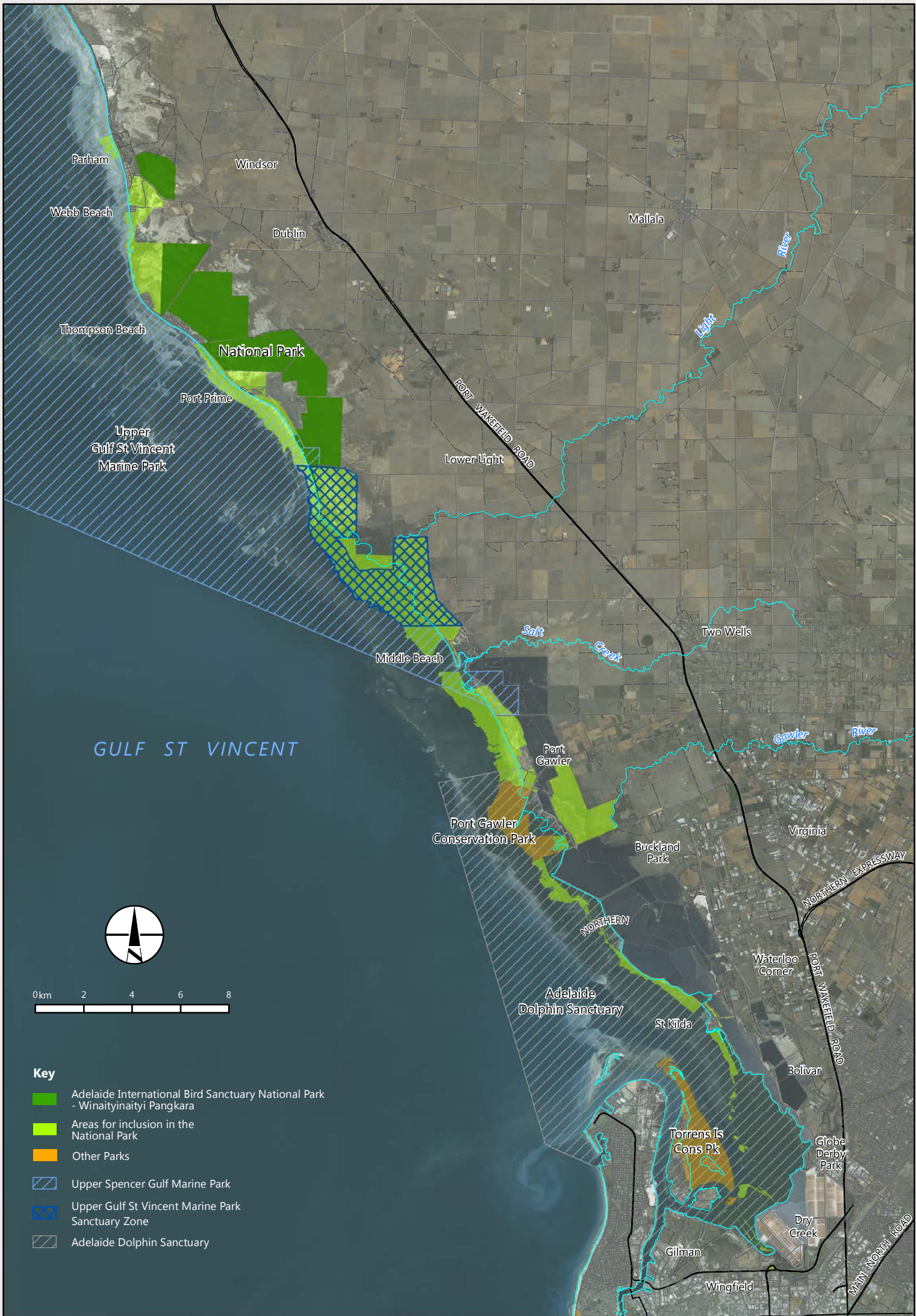
It is a partnership – government creating a national park, local people caring for their land, and partners working together to make good planning and economic decisions. The 2016 update for the 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide recognises the importance of the bird sanctuary and recognises the area as a Nature Protection Area and the need to work together to create a sustainable future.

The protection of shorebirds will be most effective if all areas of important habitat are well managed. That's why the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary will consist of a national park surrounded by a broader landscape that is characterised by multiple ownership and use. Many landowners have cared deeply about the birds and their environment for years and been instrumental in their protection.

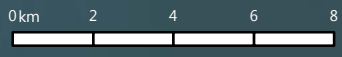
This approach to conservation relies on encouraging a voluntary contribution from land managers rather than regulation. It is based on the idea that parks can create jobs, enhance communities, and support local economies. There are now many examples around the world where communities have generated a complementary relationship between parks and other land uses such as agriculture and tourism. Through the collective impact of partners and local communities, the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary will assist in the protection of shorebirds far beyond the boundaries of the national park.



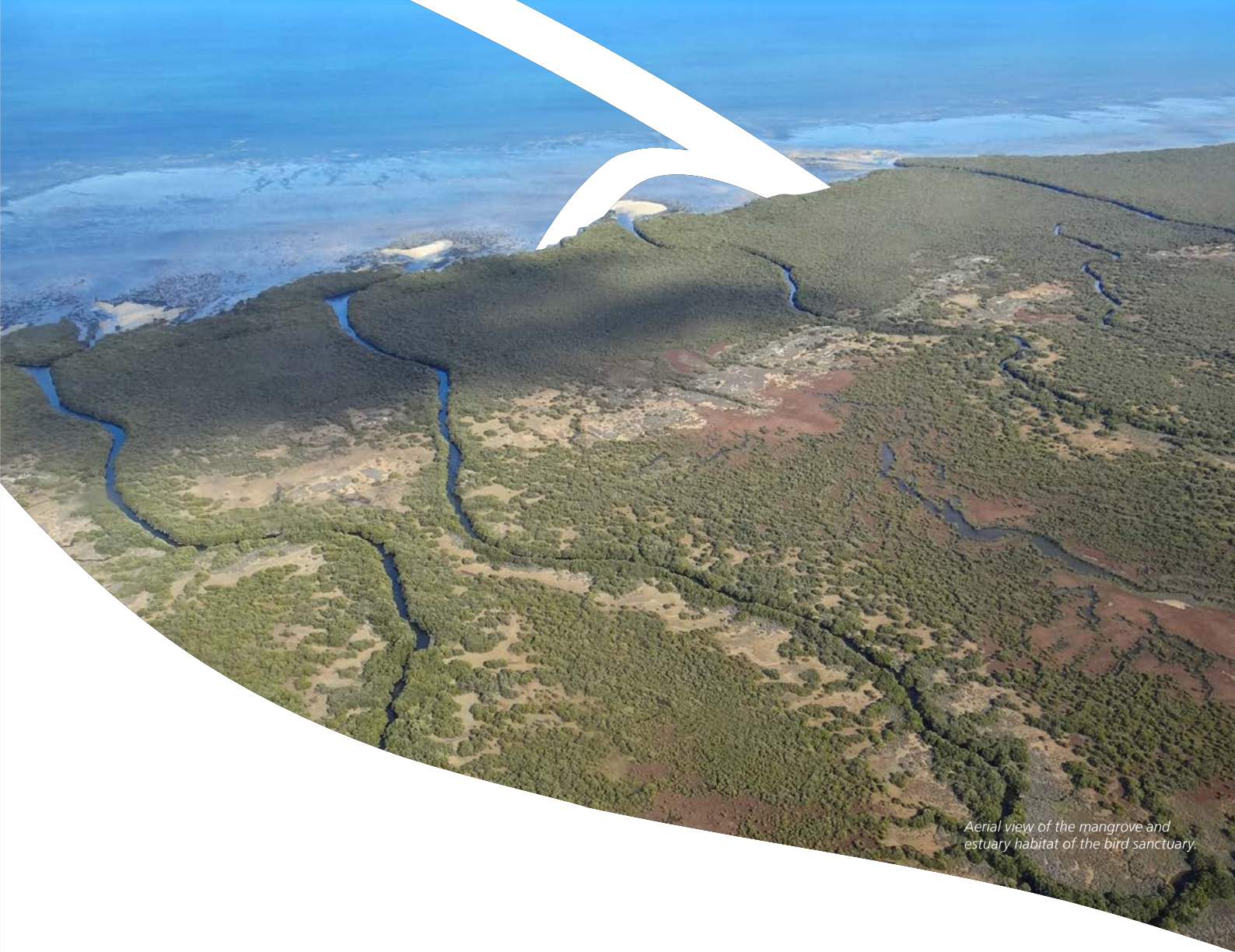




GULF ST VINCENT



- Key**
- Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara
 - Areas for inclusion in the National Park
 - Other Parks
 - Upper Spencer Gulf Marine Park
 - Upper Gulf St Vincent Marine Park Sanctuary Zone
 - Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary



Aerial view of the mangrove and estuary habitat of the bird sanctuary.

Creating the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara within the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary

National parks are areas of land that are significant to the community and whose conservation values are protected for future generations to enjoy.

In order to provide for public use and appreciation and to protect areas of particular conservation importance, a core portion of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary is becoming a national park. It is being created in stages, with the first stage now proclaimed and future stages over the next 18 months.

The map opposite, of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara shows additional areas of land that may be included in the national park after further investigations and consultation with the community.

Winaityinaityi Pangkara for Kurna People means a country for all birds and the country that surrounds these birds.

Engaging Kurna People in identifying an appropriate name for the area is a statement of respect and acknowledgment of the Kurna cultural heritage, connection to place and an intention to walk a future path together.

The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara will take its place alongside South Australia's other national parks, such as Coorong National Park, Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park, and Belair National Park.



Red-necked stilt and curlew sandpiper
© Paul Wainwright

Interim management statement for the national park






Now that Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara has been proclaimed, it is important that people have some guidance on how they can access and enjoy it.

This interim management statement provides that guidance and is based on many conversations to understand what is important about the land to people – both what they value and want to see protected, and what they value in using the land.

To be effective as a safe haven for shorebirds, a coordinated approach to land management is needed across the breadth of the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary. A broader management plan will be developed to set directions for how











we will work together across the entire Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary, including the national park. The development of this management plan will build on this interim management statement, provide further detail about management strategies, and will provide the opportunity for members of the public have a further say.

This interim management statement describes how, at the outset, the national park will be managed to enable people to visit and use the park. It is the guiding document for park managers until the management plan has been developed with the community. Further public conversations and consultation will be held throughout the development of the management plan.

Activity	Interim management statement
	<p>Access to South Australia’s parks by 2WD vehicles, 4WD vehicles and motorbikes is provided through a properly planned and sustainable network of vehicle access tracks. Access to areas outside of the approved track network is not permitted in parks. Access roads, approved tracks and the closure of trails will be a key community conversation point in the coming months. In the meantime departmental staff will be on site at various times to advise the public on current use and future plans.</p>
<p>Vehicle access</p>	<p> Tracks that are required for public access to the park and the coastline will remain open to the public.</p> <p> There will be no change to vehicle access in the short term. However, where it is necessary for the protection of the environment, the closure of some trails may be considered as a part of the management planning process.</p>
<p>Walking and exercising dogs</p>	<p> Dogs will continue to be permitted in the area of the national park, provided they are on a lead.</p>
<p>Horse riding and horse training</p>	<p> As the current area of the park is not used for horse riding there are no changes required.</p>
<p>Fishing and crabbing</p>	<p> As the current area of the national park does not extend below high water mark, there will be no changes to fishing or crabbing access. Existing fisheries regulations, such as bag limits therefore are not affected by the creation of the national park.</p>



Samphire wetlands
© Bill Doyle

Activity	Interim management statement
Boating	 As the current area of the national park does not extend below high water mark, there will be no changes to boating access.
Walking	 There will be no constraints on general walking access throughout the national park.
Entrance fees	 There are no entrance fees for the national park.
Camping	 Camping and the use of campfires (outside of the fire ban season) will continue to be permitted. Collection of firewood is not permitted.
Commercial tours	 Commercial tour operators will be encouraged in the national park. Any proposed tours will require a commercial tour operator licence from the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources.
Commercial photography	 Commercial photography or filming in the national park will be encouraged and any activities will require a permit from the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources.
Collection of materials	 Generally, the collection of plants, animals or soil from parks is not allowed. A permit for collection may be issued by the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources under special circumstances.
Community or sporting events	 It is not intended to restrict community or sporting events within the national park, however this will require a permit from the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources.
Construction of facilities or buildings	 Within the national park it is an offence to build anything such as a trail, shelter, shack or jetty without approval from the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources.
Development of facilities for visitors	 The national park will remain as a largely undeveloped and natural landscape. The development of some facilities will be necessary to enable access and enjoyment of the national park. These will require careful planning to make sure they meet people’s needs. The type and style of facilities needed will be discussed with the community during the management planning process. Some signs will be installed immediately so that people are aware of the national park.

The story so far



2014

SA Government purchases 2,300 hectares of land for bird sanctuary

March 2014
SA Government commits \$1.7 million to a proposed bird sanctuary at the state election

December 2014
Roundtable of Possibilities forum held

December 2014
'Collective Impact' model announced as framework for involving people

2015

April 2015
Minister Hunter attends Thompson Beach to discuss development of Northern Gateway with Kaurna and community reps

March 2015
Minister Hunter meets with Vietnamese Farmers Association to discuss opportunities arising out of the establishment of bird sanctuary

July 2015
Launch of 'The Collective' Leadership Roundtable

August 2015
Two day bird sanctuary ecology summit held at St Kilda

July 2015
Start of collecting stories about bird sanctuary

September 2015
First meeting of 'The Collective'

October 2015
First bird sanctuary festival held at St Kilda

November 2015
Sanctuary Representative is invited to China to talk about partnerships for bird sanctuary

October 2015
Minister Hunter announces intention to nominate bird sanctuary as an official East Asian-Australasian Flyway Network Site

2016

February – October 2016
Nine data working group meetings held so far for the bird sanctuary

January 2016
Community meetings held at Port Parham, Middle Beach, Thompson Beach and Dublin to talk about creating the national park

June 2016
Hosted Expert Workshop 1 - Protect the Sanctuary for Shorebirds

May 2016
The bird sanctuary celebrates World Migratory Bird Day raising \$2,500 for kids activities in the bird sanctuary

July 2016
Hosted Expert Workshop 2 - Build and protect the local economy

August 2016
Hosted Expert Workshop 3 - Enhancing wellbeing through the bird sanctuary

August 2016
His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC Governor of South Australia visited St Kilda for a special guest walk in the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary

August 2016
Kaurna flag handed to Vietnamese community as a sign of a new partnership formed through the bird sanctuary

August – September 2016
Taskforce working groups convened

September 2016
Bird sanctuary nominated as a flyway network site

October 2016
IAP2 conference tour to St Kilda Beach, Southern gateway of the bird sanctuary

September 2016
Presentation of the bird sanctuary and collective impact at the 10th Australasian Shorebirds Conference

October 2016
Kaurna Cultural Heritage Survey and plan prepared for the bird sanctuary

October 2016
As part of Open State, hosted CollabLab: A Collaborative session to reimagine the north. Using story and collective organising to reimagine people, place and nature.

October 2016
Second Annual Adelaide Shorebirds Festival at St Kilda

October 2016
Presentation of the bird sanctuary to the global flyway partners at bilateral meetings in Cairns



Planning for impact

The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary seeks to align with interested people and organisations locally and across the globe.

A taskforce is being convened for each of the bird sanctuary four focus areas, to ensure that the creation and ongoing management of the bird sanctuary results in a thriving sanctuary for resident and migratory shorebirds, as well as providing real and meaningful opportunities for people.

Each taskforce is action orientated, and we are seeking enthusiastic members to join these groups to deliver the necessary results. To self-nominate for these voluntary taskforce groups please email your expression of interest via the contact details provided.

The bird sanctuary initiative provides taskforce members with an opportunity to make a change with leaders and influencers across sectors. We are inviting taskforce members to be a part of changing the system, not just treating the symptoms.

To support measuring impact during the establishment and management of the bird sanctuary a Data Working Group has been established to lead on the collection, analysis and progression of data. This is an essential part of knowing if we are creating a positive impact for shorebirds and people.

If you are interested in getting involved in the Data Working Group or and creating data for impact, then send your expression of interest through to our team via the contact details below.

If you'd like to become a partner, discuss how your work can align, or support the bird sanctuary, there are many avenues for participation. Email us for a Partner Alignment Form.

Subscribe to the e-news for regular updates, particularly on the development of the management plan or to get involved in the Management Planning Working Group please email us or subscribe to the regular updates via

www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/adelaidentloftyranges/subscribe

Contact Details

Follow us on Twitter @SADEWNR and @birdsanctuarySA

Join us on our Official 'Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary', Facebook page.

Email us: DEWNR.AIBS@sa.gov.au



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