

Nature Glenelg Pty Ltd
[ACN: 153 577 907]

as Trustee for



ABN: 23 917 949 584

Annual Report: 2011-12 Financial Year



Table of Contents

ORGANISATIONAL PURPOSE	3
FOREWORD AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	4
DIRECTOR'S REPORT	5
1. Summary of the year's activities	5
1.1 Legal establishment and commencement of the organisation	5
1.2 Grant funded project work	6
1.3 Environmental consulting project work	6
1.4 Habitat Restoration Fund	6
2. Achievements	6
2.1 Project work	6
2.2 Website	6
3. Plans for the 2012-13 Financial Year	7
3.1 Aquasave Consultants.....	7
3.1 Increasing the reach and scope of the organisation	7
4. Employee Statistics	7
FINANCIAL STATEMENT	8
5.1 Balance Sheet	8
5.2 Profit and Loss	9
MEMBERSHIP	10

ORGANISATIONAL PURPOSE

Nature Glenelg Trust is a mission-driven, not-for-profit organisation that has been established to operate as:

1. a community environmental NGO;
2. a repository of professional ecological knowledge available for delivering project work that improves environmental management outcomes; and,
3. an environmental charity.

This operating model enables the organisation to (1) seek and deliver grants for community environmental benefit, but also (2) provide ecological consulting services under two registered trading names: Aquasave Consultants and NGT Consulting. In furthering our organisational purpose by working with clients on important conservation management projects, our consulting services also provide a financial contribution to support the cost of running our not-for-profit organisation. Subject to eventual Australian Government approval for admission to the Register of Environmental Organisations, this model seeks to remove the organisational reliance on precious donated funds to support day-to-day operation and administration, a situation that is otherwise common-place among charities but reduces the altruistic “impact” of donated funds. In this way, we aim to give all potential supporters the confidence that their donation to our Public Fund will be entirely invested in furthering the on-ground environmental objectives (such as wetland habitat restoration) of Nature Glenelg Trust.

Everything Nature Glenelg Trust does (including our ecological consulting services) must meet our organisational objectives, taken directly from our Deed of Trust, namely:

1. To protect and enhance the natural environment, with a particular emphasis on wetland conservation and restoration activities in the Focal Region^{*1}, supported by the Habitat Restoration Fund.
2. To generate and provide high quality scientific information that enhances management of the natural environment.
3. To support and undertake key conservation ecology research predominantly within, but not limited to, the Focal Region.
4. To promote public awareness of nature through education, and involving the community in the activities of the Trust.

^{*1}: Our focal region includes the NRM regions situated between Melbourne (Victoria) and Adelaide (South Australia).

FOREWORD AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The concept that led to the creation of Nature Glenelg Trust materialised over a 6 month period from the autumn of 2011. Having decided that the basic idea had merit and the timing was right, it was during that time I approached six colleagues to become involved in the daunting process that lay ahead. We had limited financial resources at our disposal, but each person brought a range of complementary skills and a shared passion for practical, community driven - but scientifically based - environmental outcomes. I want to take this opportunity to deeply thank these six people (Cath Dickson, Lachlan Farrington, Michael Hammer, Melissa Herpich, Becky McCann and Nick Whiterod) for their commitment, support and willingness invest their own time to help guide, and ensure the success of, our new organisation.

A special mention is particularly justified for Michael Hammer, previous proprietor of Aquasave Consultants in South Australia – now a registered trading name of Nature Glenelg Trust. Michael's reputation for his commitment to work quality, outcomes and ethical approach have not only served as a great reference for developing our organisational philosophy to the provision of consulting services, but we also recognise his generosity in donating the Aquasave Consultants trading name to Nature Glenelg Trust to continue to deliver native fish conservation related project work in south-eastern Australia.

I also wish to thank Lizzie Corke, co-founder of the Conservation Ecology Centre – Cape Otway, for her support and willingness to share very practical first-hand advice in the lead up to our organisation's creation.

Richard Crew (my father-in-law) has voluntarily offered his wealth of professional accounting expertise to manage the Nature Glenelg Trust accounts and finances during our establishment phase. Without this generosity, the organisation simply would not function effectively.

Finally, my wife Charlene and five children (Brendan, Caleb, Dale, Elly and Correa) have endured a lot (in a range of ways) as a result of this extremely demanding "living experiment" – for their flexibility, understanding and unwavering love and support I will always be grateful.

Mark Bachmann

Director,

Nature Glenelg Pty Ltd as Trustee for

Nature Glenelg Trust

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Summary of the year's activities

1.1 Legal establishment and commencement of the organisation

After a series of preparatory meetings in the early part of the 2011-12 financial year, when the best option for organisational structure was determined, Nature Glenelg Pty Ltd was formally registered under the *Corporations Act 2001* on the 5th of October 2011. A scanned copy of the Certificate of Incorporation is provided below.



The Deed of Trust for Nature Glenelg Trust was signed on the 14th October 2011, and stamped and registered in Victoria on the 19th October 2011. Nature Glenelg Pty Ltd is the Trustee for Nature Glenelg Trust.

Nature Glenelg Trust formally commenced operating on Monday the 16th January 2012.

1.2 Grant funded project work

Nature Glenelg Trust was awarded grant funding to commence the delivery of 5 projects in the 2011-12 financial year.

These grants were provided by a range of government and non-government organisations, including the Australian Government and Nature Foundation SA. Two high-profile 5-year projects funded by the Australian Government are among the grants awarded towards the end of the 2011-12 financial year: *The Cross-border Community Nursery and Seed Collections Project* and *The Cross-border Wetland Restoration Program on Private Land*. Updates on the progress of these projects will be provided in the next annual report.

1.3 Environmental consulting project work

Nature Glenelg Trust commenced (and in some cases completed) seven (7) contracted environmental consulting projects for a range of (mostly government) clients in the 2011-12 financial year.

1.4 Habitat Restoration Fund

The Public Fund account has been created but did not receive any contributions in the 2011-12 financial year. Donations to the fund are not being actively sought or promoted until Nature Glenelg Trust is accepted onto the Register of Environmental Organisations, at which time donors will be able to receive a tax-deduction for any contribution received over \$2.

2. Achievements

2.1 Project work

Given that the first financial year for the organisation was a short one (6 months), the commencement of 12 projects (5 grant funded, 7 contracted environmental consulting services) is a significant achievement. The two, 5-year projects funded by the Australian Government are of particular note, given that they will achieve significant on-ground outcomes and are a perfect representation of the organisation's objective to work closely with and for the community in achieving its environmental purpose.

2.2 Website

The Nature Glenelg Trust website has provided the organisation with an excellent "shop-front" in the absence of initially having a publicly prominent office. The website use and functionality has grown to the point that it is now utilised as a highly effective form of "public accountability and reporting", with regular updates for grant funded projects being posted for public information and review.

3. Plans for the 2012-13 Financial Year

3.1 Aquasave Consultants

Although Nature Glenelg Pty Ltd has held the trading name registration for Aquasave Consultants in Victoria since commencing operations, the South Australian trading name registration continued to be held by Michael Hammer until the 30th June 2012 – to enable the formal transition of operations to occur with the change in financial years.

The transition was scheduled to occur from July 1st 2012, and will reported in the next Annual Report.

3.1 Increasing the reach and scope of the organisation

The early success of the organisation paves the way for the 2012-13 financial year to be a time for building upon the early grant-funded project success, in an attempt to become truly recognised and accepted as an effective and highly-regarded cross-border NGO in South Australia and Victoria. Goals include:

- to continue to meet, share ideas with and support membership-based community groups within our focal region;
- to build and grow working relationships with government environmental agencies, particularly regional NRM bodies (NRM Boards / CMA's);
- to aim to have staff based at a number of locations across the organisation's focal region;
- to grow the in-house staff expertise base to enable a wider range of biodiversity related projects to be delivered for the benefit of the regional environment (meeting our organisational purpose); and,
- seeking and attracting additional grant-funded resources to fill gaps in environmental management, bringing further investment into the region to tackle environmental issues currently not being addressed.

4. Employee Statistics

During the 2011-12 financial year, Nature Glenelg Trust employed 3 staff:

Full-time staff:

1. Mark Bachmann (Manager)
2. Catherine Dickson (Ecologist)

Casual staff:

3. Christopher Carr (Casual Field Assistant)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
5.1 Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet
Trustee for Nature Glenelg Trust
As at 30 June 2012

Assets	
Bank	
Bankmecu	\$170,773.35
Total Bank	\$170,773.35
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Current Assets	
Accounts Receivable	\$90,200.00
Work In Progress (WIP)	\$4,209.62
Total Current Assets	\$94,409.62
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Total Assets	\$265,182.97
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Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Deferred Revenue	\$205,034.40
GST	\$26,631.48
Staff Related Liabilities	\$67,550.66
Total Current Liabilities	\$299,216.54
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Non-Current Liabilities	
Provision for Long Service Leave	\$1,982.92
Total Non-Current Liabilities	\$1,982.92
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Total Liabilities	\$301,199.46
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Net Assets	-\$36,016.49
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Equity	
Current Year Earnings	-\$36,436.49
Share Capital	\$420.00
Total Equity	-\$36,016.49
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5.2 Profit and Loss

Profit & Loss
Trustee for Nature Glenelg Trust
For the 12 months ended 30 June 2012

Income	
Interest Income	\$564.26
Sales	\$75,236.24
Total Income	\$75,800.50
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Gross Profit	\$75,800.50
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Less Operating Expenses	
Annual Leave Provision Adjustment	\$6,101.25
Bank Fees	\$13.42
Computer Expenses	\$1,530.37
Conference Expenses	\$368.13
Consulting & Accounting	\$150.00
Corporate Expenses	\$1,278.01
General Expenses	\$259.32
Insurance	\$1,996.84
Legal expenses	\$1,016.30
Long Service Leave Adjustment	\$1,982.92
Motor Vehicle Fuel Expenses	\$1,209.33
Office Expenses	\$31.82
Personal/Carers Leave Adjustment	\$3,660.73
Postage & Stamps	\$83.10
Printing & Stationery	\$419.58
Subscriptions	\$128.75
Superannuation	\$7,379.30
Telephone & Internet	\$2,196.97
Travel - National	\$32.31
Wages and Salaries	\$81,992.34
Workcover	\$406.20
Total Operating Expenses	\$112,236.99
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Net Profit	-\$36,436.49
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MEMBERSHIP

As a duly constituted trust, Nature Glenelg Trust does not have its own financial membership base. This is because, as an organisation committed to filling gaps, we are specifically interested in using our expertise to work with (not compete with) other membership-based community groups to increase their effectiveness, and ultimately help them to retain and attract members. We also hope to provide regular and meaningful volunteering opportunities for these groups' members through our environmental project work.

When the organisation's Public Fund is able to accept tax-deductible donations (reliant on Nature Glenelg trust being accepted onto the Register of Environmental Organisations – a process currently underway), then we will seek regular financial contributions to the Fund. This form of support however, will not constitute organisational "membership".

Supporters of Nature Glenelg Trust are being encouraged to register their email address on our website (www.natureglenelg.org.au) to receive our regular blog updates, to keep up to date with our projects and latest organisational information.

Nature Glenelg Pty Ltd, the Trustee for Nature Glenelg Trust, has seven voting shareholders*:

1. Mark Bachmann
2. Catherine Dickson
3. Lachlan Farrington
4. Michael Hammer
5. Melissa Herpich
6. Rebecka McCann
7. Nicholas Whiterod

* **Note:** as a not-for-profit organisation, no dividend is payable to shareholders in the Corporate Trustee. The shareholding is of fixed value and simply represents decision making / voting rights.

The seven shareholders of Nature Glenelg Pty Ltd, the Trustee for Nature Glenelg Trust, also comprise the organisation's Committee of Management, which meets 3-4 times a year to oversee the strategic direction of the organisation, and are legally accountable for the administration of the Public Fund (the Habitat Restoration Fund).