Nature Glenelg Pty Ltd
[ACN: 153 577 907]

as Trustee for

Nature Glenelg Trust

Regional, Focussed, On-ground

ABN: 23 917 949 584

Annual Report:

2018-19 Financial Year

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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 source of professional ecological knowledge available for delivering project work that improves environmental management outcomes; and,
3. a recipient of charitable donations for supporting habitat restoration and other environmental work consistent with the priorities set out in our Deed of Trust.

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 – NGT (for aquatic ecology) and NGT Consulting (for general ecology). 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 costs of running our not-for-profit organisation.

Since Nature Glenelg Trust was admitted to the Register of Environmental Organisations in 2014, this model also seeks to diversify organisational funding streams and minimise the need to rely upon any precious future donated funds to support day-to-day operations and administration. In this way, we aim to give supporters the confidence that their donation to our Public Fund will achieve maximum impact in furthering the on-ground environmental objectives (such as wetland habitat restoration) of Nature Glenelg Trust.

All core activities of Nature Glenelg Trust (including our ecological consulting services) meet at least one of our organisational objectives 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/CMA regions situated between Melbourne (Victoria) and Adelaide (South Australia).

DIRECTORS REPORT

1. Summary of the year's activities

1.1 Project work overview

Nature Glenelg Trust delivered a total of 112 projects during the 2018-19 financial year, with 42 of these projects completed by the 30th June 2019.

Type of Project Work	Number of Projects Active during 2018-19 Financial Year
Native flora, vegetation management or ecological monitoring	28
Native fish	29
Other fauna	9
Community engagement and education	12
Multi-faceted projects (several types combined)	6
Wetlands and waterways	28
TOTAL	**112**

1.2 Grant funded project work

Nature Glenelg Trust was awarded grant funding to commence or continue the delivery of 32 grant funded projects in the 2018-19 financial year. Thirteen grant funded projects were acquitted during the financial year, with the other nineteen remaining active into the 2019-20 financial year.

1.3 Environmental consulting project work

Nature Glenelg Trust delivered 80 contracted environmental fee-for-service projects for a range of clients in the 2018-19 financial year. Twenty-nine (29) of these projects were completed and closed during the financial year, with the balance (51) remaining active into the 2019-20 financial year.

As previously explained, irrespective of whether they are grant funded or contracted professional fee-for-service projects (as delivered under our registered trading names: Aquasave NGT, or NGT Consulting – logos below), NGT only delivers projects that are consistent with our organisational objectives, making a positive contribution to regional environmental management. The breakdown of these projects by category is included in the overall summary table presented in section 1.1.

AQUASAVE - Nature Glenelg Trust

Ecology, Monitoring, Conservation

NGT Consulting

2. Achievements: Case studies from across the NGT focal region

2.1 A big year for NGT Restoration Reserves

The 2018-19 Financial Year was the busiest yet for NGT Reserves, with the establishment of 2 new reserves (Hutt Bay Wetland, Long Point) and many important activities occurring across our existing four reserves (Eaglehawk Waterhole, Mt Burr Swamp, Kurrawonga, Walker Swamp). Here is a brief story about each reserve:

2.1.1 Hutt Bay Wetland

Thanks to the foresight and incredible generosity of Rob and Deb Thompson, in early 2019 NGT announced the creation of a wetland restoration reserve at Hutt Bay, about 5 km west of the township of Port MacDonnell, on the South Australian coast south of Mount Gambier. This private reserve, which is situated immediately to the west of the (SA Water managed) Finger Point water treatment plant, is a little under 160 hectares (or roughly 400 acres) in size, and includes extensive areas of coastal wetland, complemented by dry-land tea-tree woodland and coastal dune scrub which adjoins Hutt Bay.

The Thompsons' connection to this area goes back a long way, as Rob's great-grandfather took up his first block (Section 677) when the land was made available by the State Government in 1880, and the family has farmed in the area ever since (read Rob's family story in his own words here).

NGT will now simply look to build on the momentum of environmental management activities started by the Thompsons, and, as resources allow, develop and implement a long-term restoration and management plan for the property.

2.1.2 Long Point

Sometimes – because of wonderful people in our community who are willing to go 'over and above' to work with us – fresh opportunities come along out of the blue and the stars align to make the impossible suddenly seem plausible. Indeed, this is the story of Long Point – 500 acres of magnificent Red Gum studded country, on the edge of Dunkeld – at the gateway of the southern Grampians.

The NGT Team in Red Gum country at Long Point – December 2018

Thanks to the generosity of a major private donor, NGT was able to acquire the property in 2018 without the need for a fundraising campaign – which is tremendous news for us given that this is normally the main obstacle we encounter at the very first step in the restoration process.

The "Long Point" property is 200 hectares in size, and is bounded by the Dunkeld Racecourse and Cemetery on the west, Old Ararat Road on the south and the Wannon River along its northern boundary. This means it is literally on the north-eastern fringe of town, which opens up all sorts of interesting possibilities for NGT down the track, given the popularity of Dunkeld and the Grampians for travellers seeking nature-based experiences.

Given a long history of farming, the woodland consists of a largely modified understorey of introduced pasture species, and we certainly have a few management challenges to address. For example, a very large resident Eastern Grey Kangaroo population which is limiting natural regeneration. However, despite its modified condition there are still numerous positive environmental values. Grasslands on the property are home to a population of the nationally threatened Striped Legless Lizard (*Delma impar* – right), the Wannon River here is home to populations of Platypus and nationally threatened fish, and River Red Gums, which are hundreds of years old, provide the perfect building blocks for a future grassy woodland restoration project.

Before we rush into any major decisions, and given the other nearby projects we have underway that are a current priority for us (like Walker Swamp, several kilometres up-river), from the outside this property will appear to initially remain in 'maintenance mode'. This means that while we get to know

the place and actively seek funding to implement our conservation plans, it will continue as a working farm, while still meeting similar previously identified conservation goals, including managing sections of the property for woodland regeneration and threatened species.

Also note that the new conservation goals we ultimately settle on for a property of this type might end up having a slightly different focus to our other reserves, and will more than likely be experimental in nature. Grassland and grassy woodland fauna will feature heavily in our thinking, as will innovative ways of addressing the imbalances in the ecosystem that have led to the proliferation of an over-abundant kangaroo population.

2.1.3 Sand Goanna at Eaglehawk Waterhole

While we continue to undertake revegetation and pest management on our first restoration reserve Eaglehawk Waterhole, it is often the newly recorded wildlife that captures our interest and imagination. Andy, our past resident caretaker at Eaglehawk Waterhole, sent through the below photo of a large reptile he'd just seen in September 2018. He'd been out fumigating rabbit warrens and said he almost trod on it.

NGT's Bryan Haywood consulted the reference books to identify the creature and came up with Sand Goanna or *Varanus gouldii*. Then for a bit of weekend fun, he forwarded the message to Mark Hutchinson from the SA Museum who is a reptile expert and would give us confirmation. Within minutes, a reply came through, "Sand Goanna, no dark cross bands on back, pale stripes along the neck – gee, it looks a big one." So finally, after four years of hoping a goanna would wander through Eaglehawk, one finally has!

Sand Goannas are considered rare in the South East of SA. They live in burrows with an entrance which has an arched top (and a flat bottom). They use burrows mainly as a retreat during weather extremes and to avoid trouble but otherwise will climb trees to avoid predators and to take it easy. Sand Goannas are carnivores, eating animals smaller than themselves, although insects and carrion are on the menu too. Like snakes, they can unhinge their jaws to swallow large prey, but interestingly keep eating if prey is abundant.

2.1.4 Critically endangered bat recorded at Mt Burr Swamp

If you've been following NGT for a while you will remember that back in 2016 we ran a campaign to secure funding for the organisation's second restoration reserve, Mt Burr Swamp. Our supporters got behind our vision for the property, and helped us raise the funds necessary for the purchase of 300 hectares immediately adjacent to an existing wetland and native forest reserve (Marshes NFR – 600 ha), 40 kilometres north-west of Mt Gambier. During the campaign, we shared that this property would be or may become important habitat for seven threatened or iconic species, one of which was the critically endangered Southern Bent-wing Bat (*Miniopterus orianae bassanii*). This bat has a limited distribution across south-eastern South Australia and western Victoria and is dependent on suitable roost caves.

The Southern Bent-wing Bat is insectivorous and is known to forage at wetlands. In addition to this, there are a number of important bat caves in the wider Glencoe/Mt Burr area. With this combination of factors we were fairly confident that Southern Bent-wing Bats would make use of the Mt Burr Swamp property. But it hadn't been confirmed – until now!


The male Southern Bent-winged Bat caught in the recent survey (left), and harp trap (right)

In March 2019, NGT's Rose Thompson headed out to Mt Burr Swamp to undertake a bat survey including both trapping and recording of echolocation calls. After determining some likely "batty" locations, she set up five recorders, spreading them out in different parts of the property. Rose decided to use all four harp traps in the south-eastern area of the reserve, near wetlands within the blue-gum plantation. Harp traps are designed to capture bats in a way that is very low stress to the animals. Each trap consists of vertical fishing lines held taut by a metal frame on legs, which is placed in a spot likely to see bat traffic (often a flyway among forest or near a water source). The bats fly into and slide down the lines to a holding bag at the bottom where they snuggle in to roost, safe from predators, until processing and release.

After two nights of zero captures, it seemed likely that we'd be relying on the bat call detectors to create the bat species list for Mt Burr Swamp, but on the third morning we had bats! Nine individuals were captured (all in one trap!) from three genera. Among the Long-eared Bats (*Nyctophilus* sp.) and Forest Bats (*Vespadelus* sp.) was a single Southern Bent-wing Bat! It was a really great feeling to confirm that this endangered species is present and presumably feeding on the property, as we had long suspected.

2.1.5 Volunteering in a beautiful patch of bush at Kurrawonga

NGT's Nicole Mojonnier had a big year at Kurrawonga as our caretaker, and what a year it was!

Among other great sightings over the year, we had our first confirmed record of a Dusky Antechinus (*Antechinus minimus*) on the property (right).

Over that time Nicole also discovered that possibly the biggest challenge is to accept that, no matter how enthusiastic and passionate you are about a conservation property, you will never be completely ahead of various tasks at hand. Luckily NGT has had the help of many wonderful and dedicated volunteers, and together we have achieved some great things!

Volunteers play a major part in the maintenance of Kurrawonga, and we at NGT would like to send out a huge thank you for all the hard work they have put in over the last year. Over 230 volunteering hours have gone into weed control, nest box and reptile grid installation, monitoring, surveys and lots more.

Volunteers at Kurrawonga working bee in April learning about bats from Rose.

But it isn't all hard work! We always find plenty of time to chat and explore. Our working bees have welcomed many people; from our "regulars" to passing backpackers, families and kids. Our volunteers get to spend time with like-minded people and also make a significant difference to our conservation property.

Anyone interested in volunteering on one of NGT's Reserves in Victoria or SA, can register their details by calling the NGT office on 08 8797 8586 or emailing info@natureglenelg.org.au .

2.1.6 A wetland transformed at Walker Swamp, leading into our first winter after restoration

The busy months of transformation across the Walker Swamp Restoration Reserve brought much joy to NGT's Senior Ecologist Greg Kerr over the 2018-2019 year. In fact, the changes really have to be seen to be believed! Positive environmental changes usually take a long time. So to make such significant steps forward in such a short time has transformed our understanding of what is possible when restoring wetland landscapes, and some of the key milestones that have occurred below.

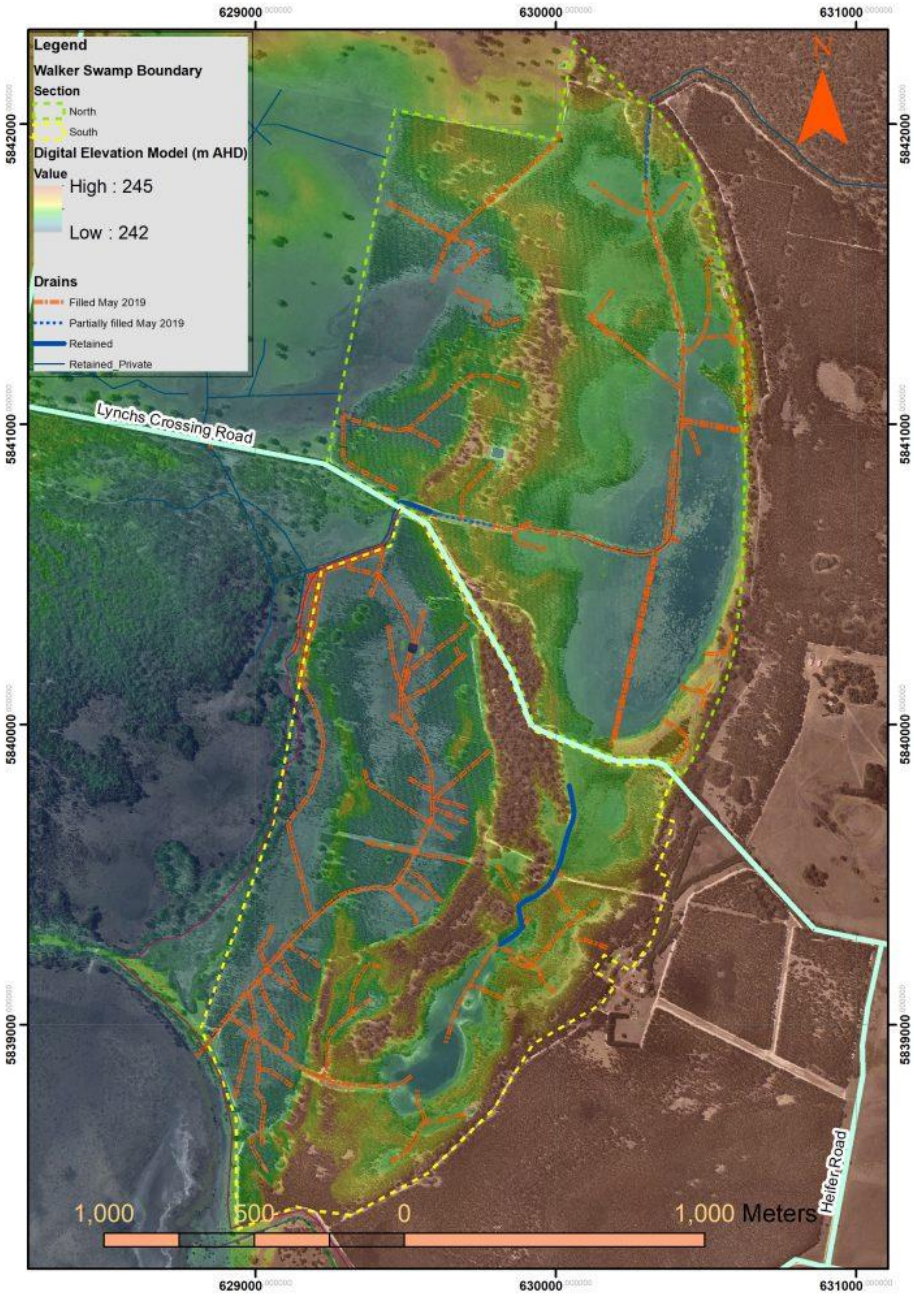
Sunset on a Walker Swamp in Transition. Undisturbed vegetation in the foreground and an area of mound and furrow removal in the background. Photo: Greg Kerr

Over 90 hectares of furrows and mounds from areas of failed Blue Gum plantation (in the heaviest wetland soils) were removed. Innovative use of a laser bucket supported by a grader has minimised damage to the wetland vegetation. The rapid recovery achieved in the partially restored basin of Walker Swamp, provided a remarkable transformation in 2018 (see photo above). It gives us a lot to look forward to with the works completed in 2019!

As any visitors to the property know, the previous forestry plantation land-use was very much evident in the landscape. Many areas of uneconomic plantations were left behind when the property was commercially harvested in 2016 and 2017. We have used a few different methods to deal with this legacy, including mechanical removal, spraying of coppicing Blue Gum stumps and logging of remaining poor quality standing Blue Gum plantations. As a result of these works, over 100 hectares of scattered remnant River Red Gum, Rough Barked Manna Gum and Blackwood trees have now been revealed, along with Sand Forest habitat on the lunette bank that runs north-south through the centre of the reserve.

As of autumn 2019, NGT has restored the floodplain landscape to retain significant areas of water on the property, with works informed by and based upon a Hydrological Study completed prior (funded by the Glenelg Hopkins CMA).

The 26 km of drains across the wetlands (see below) were challenging to remove, especially where the drains went through the Blue Gum stumps. A combination of laser bucket, grader and excavator, and a whole lot of team work, have significantly improved the prospects of future natural water movement and retention. When the water arrives, we will witness the immediate recovery of wetland function. Water can now only leave via seepage to groundwater or evaporation or, when full, via the regulator on the edge of Walker Swamp.



Restoring natural drainage patterns – removal (orange lines) of 26 km of artificial drains

The photographic record shows the incredible transformations as a result of this recent work.

Looking east along the northern Bunnugal Drain in 2014 when the temporary regulator was put in place (LEFT), and the same location in 2019 (RIGHT). Photos: Mark Bachmann

Southern Lunette outlet drain prior to being filled (LEFT) and the same location after works (RIGHT). Photos: Mark Bachmann

The construction of the new regulator, and backfilling of the northern Bunnugal drain outlet, show the new sill level, and gives us a sense of how large Walker Swamp will be when it fills. Two levees have also been raised and another has been removed.

The location of the new regulator on the western edge of Walker Swamp. Photos: Mark Bachmann

In summary, the large seasonally inundated area of Red Gum grassy woodland will now provide a highly productive shallow wetland zone, and a carbon source for the wetland food web. It is anticipated that Walker Swamp itself will hold water well into autumn in many years, providing important summer and drought refuge for birds and other fauna.

2.2 NGT Staff Stories and Awards

2.2.1 Nick Whiterod was offered a Churchill Fellowship in 2018

As one of the nine South Australian Churchill Fellows awarded by The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust (Australia) in 2018, NGT's Senior Aquatic Ecologist Nick Whiterod attended a ceremony at Government House in November 2018. The ceremony was hosted by the South Australian Governor, His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le (right, with Nick) who is the patron of the Churchill Fellowship Association of SA.

These prestigious Fellowships allow for overseas travel to investigate inspiring practices that will benefit Australia communities. The award is highly competitive, only 4100 have been awarded across Australia (385 in SA) in the 53 years since the Trust was established.

Nick was awarded the Richard Rischbieth Churchill Fellowship to study the natural environment of South Australia, and was able to meet and chat with Henry Rischbieth (Richard's son) who has sponsored the Fellowship.

Nick's Fellowship enabled him to travel overseas in 2019 to explore world-leading reintroduction strategies to assist threatened South Australian aquatic species. Nick is looking forward to applying these new insights about successful aquatic fauna translocations in his future work with Aquasave - NGT.

2.2.2 Sylvia Zukowski was awarded a presenters prize at the Australian Freshwater Sciences Society conference in 2018

At the 2018 annual Australian Freshwater Sciences Society conference, Sylvia Zukowski, Aquatic Ecologist with NGT, was awarded the best presentation in freshwater conservation.

The award, supported by John Wiley and Sons, the publisher of the journal Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems, was presented by Professor Phil Boon who is the Chief Editor of the journal.

Sylvia's presentation was titled: "Take the long way home: minimal medium-term recovery in a large freshwater crayfish impacted by significant population loss" and presented work that she had been undertaking with Aquasave – NGT.

2.2.3 Bryan Haywood receives the Green Triangle Timber Industry Work Health Safety and Environment Award in 2018

NGT Senior Ecologist Bryan Haywood, received the 2018 Green Triangle Timber Industry Work Health Safety and Environment Award, recognising his commitment to conservation within the forestry industry.

Bryan has been with NGT since mid-2014, and has been working in the environmental industry in the South East since graduating with a degree in Natural Resource Management in 1994. After completing his studies in Adelaide, he moved back to Mt Gambier and worked in various roles which saw him educating the region's young people in environmental issues, preparing park fire management plans, and encouraging landholders to manage their areas of remnant bush and wetlands.

In 2005, Bryan joined the timber industry as a conservation planner for ForestrySA. Initially, Bryan worked on conservation planning in the region's Native Forest Reserves (which cover more than 12,000 hectares in 53 reserves) and later also in conservation planning within productive pine plantations. From 2006 to 2014, Bryan was part of a team that implemented the establishment of a series of biodiversity corridors across the plantation estate, strategically linking patches of native forest in order to facilitate greater flora and fauna movement. The program continues still today, with NGT assisting its delivery on behalf of ForestrySA for the past two years.

In a five year period from 2009 to 2014, Bryan and ForestrySA colleague, Troy Horn, assessed the environmental significance of remnant vegetation patches and wetlands within 90,000 hectares of ForestrySA's pine estate, ensuring that all areas of high conservation value were protected during operations.

Since joining the NGT team, Bryan has continued to work with the forestry industry, providing specialist advice on native vegetation regulations, and working with the industry to protect and enhance environmental values. Bryan's efforts have seen wetland birds return, weeds decrease, and the quality of native vegetation increase. A recent achievement has been the implementation of wedge-tailed eagle monitoring at known nest sites within plantation, which has resulted in positively influencing harvest practices and eagles returning to their nests.

Bryan is held in high regard within the timber industry due to his practical approach to managing environmental values of remnant bushland and wetlands situated within commercial plantation operations.

Bryan and wife Toni with the award

2.2.4 NGT joint winners of the 2018 SERA (Society for Ecological Restoration of Australasia) Award for Restoration Excellence, for the Long Swamp Restoration Project

In September 2018, NGT's Principal Ecologist and Manager Mark Bachmann was invited to join the Society for Ecological Restoration Australasia (SERA) at their biennial conference dinner and awards ceremony in Brisbane.

The National SERA Award for Restoration Excellence (for large-scale projects) had an incredibly diverse field of 16 restoration projects from all around Australia. Due to the quality of these projects, it was announced that the judges had split the prize and awarded joint winners in 2018.

SERA Awards – Brisbane, 27th of September 2018. *Hank Bower (far left) – Lord Howe Island Restoration Project and Mark Bachmann (far right) – Long Swamp Restoration Project, presented as joint winners of the 2018 SERA Award for Restoration Excellence by Professor Kingsley Dixon (centre left) and Dr Tein McDonald (centre right).*

Firstly it was announced that the Lord Howe Island Restoration Project, was a worthy joint winner of the top prize. This World Heritage Listed site is a magnificent island with unique ecology, but crucially is of a scale where eradication of invasive species has been able to be pursued as a realistic restoration goal – with great success so far.

Then – in some tremendous news for building the national profile of wetland restoration – it was announced that Nature Glenelg Trust was the other joint winner of the national prize in 2018, for our work with the community over several years to restore the hydrology of Long Swamp in Discovery Bay Coastal Park. Long Swamp is now part of Australia's 66th and newest Ramsar site (Glenelg Estuary and Discovery Bay), and is recognised as a wetland of international importance.

As well as the trophy and certificate (shown in the photo above), the Lord Howe Island Board and Nature Glenelg Trust also received a half-share of the $3000 prize. NGT's half share of $1500 was directly invested in NGT's next major restoration project at Walker Swamp.

Additionally, thanks to a funding announcement by the Victorian Government around the time of the award, the trial restoration structure was able to be converted to a reinstated sand dune in autumn 2019, permanently blocking the artificial channel and securing the hydrology of Long Swamp, in Discovery Bay Coastal Park.

Our project coordinator for the final phase of works, NGT Ecologist Jonathan Tuck, discovered that rebuilding the dune was not a regular construction project, and required some creative engineering. The design was finalised in an earlier project run by NGT Wetland Ecologist Tessa Roberts, with the well-established 7000 sandbag structure re-purposed to become the permanent solid 'core' of the reformed dune. More than 500m^3 of sand was to be added and shaped to form a sloping dune that, in time, will blend into the natural coastal landscape.

The project area is culturally significant for the local Gunditjmara people, and ecologically sensitive, and with challenges to ensure the works protected these values. It was agreed by all parties that the lowest impact method for moving very large quantities of sand was to pump it from the beach, over the dunes as a slurry into the former channel, before being shaped into its final form. After the complex task of moving sand pumps and pipes to the site, the sand finally got moving. A couple of weeks later, including some stops and starts due to the unpredictable weather on this wild bit of southern coastline, the pumping and shaping was complete, and jute matting was rolled over the whole structure to help hold it in place. More than 500m^3 of sand makes for a significant change, and the resulting dune is pretty impressive!

Time sequence showing the trial structure and recreation of the sand dune at Nobles Rocks. Photos: Mark Bachmann

2.3 Discovery of two new populations of the Eared Worm Lizard (*Aprasia aurita*)

NGT's Graduate Ecologist Lu-Wei Spinks initially wasn't too optimistic about the new reptile monitoring tile grids we'd established in 2016. The Swamp Gum Woodland vegetation type seemed quite promising, but during summer surveys in 2017 and 2018 we had only found skinks and brown snakes!

But on a warm, overcast day in late February 2019 under tile number 1.1, she found it – a fresh *Aprasia aurita* skin! It was almost intact with only the head missing. What was also surprising was the length of it; at 21cm it is by far the longest Eared Worm-lizard Lu-Wei has recorded. Before this, all lizards had been between 10cm and 15cm.

The monster Aprasia aurita skin (photo: Lu-Wei Spinks).

Since monitoring began in 2012 when the species was only known from three populations, NGT has discovered *A. aurita* populations at nine new sites within the Reedy Creek Range, in the South East of SA. The four new tile grids were established in December 2016 in locations chosen to investigate any links between *A. aurita* distribution and Swamp Gum Woodlands vegetation with Cutting Grass (*Gahnia trifida*) in the understorey. Then Lu-Wei discovered two *A. aurita* skins at another of the new grid sites in mid-March; one under a tile atop a jumper ant nest, and the other under an adjacent tile.

Across all our tile grids, live *A. aurita* (only four) were seen in January to early February 2019, then in late February to March fifteen fresh *A. aurita* skins were collected, strongly suggesting that late summer – early autumn is likely to be when *A. aurita* shed their skins.

Lu-Wei hopes that in future surveys we may catch the lizards that shed these newly-found skins, and continue to learn more about the population and habitat requirements of these elusive creatures.

2.4 The Kang-o-meerteek Project (article by NGT's Jodie Honan)

On Saturday, 10th November 2018, we celebrated community, art, history and the power of story-telling at an event to celebrate the Kang-o-meerteek sculptures at Narrawong, Victoria. Over 140 people visited the two new sculptures and three years of dreaming, talking, designing, planning, digging, planting, and creating culminated in a community celebration in Mt Clay State Forest.

Mayapa Weeyn ('Make Fire') - Pronunciation: MAYA – pah – WEE-YUN

The sculpture pays tribute to the Cart Gunditj and all fifty-nine clans of the Dhauwurd Wurrung. The design recalls the signal fires the Cart Gunditj lit to signal to other clans when whales beached. When non-Aboriginal whalers arrived, the fires were lit to signal a whale in the bay.

Mayapa Weeyn: designed and constructed by Walter Saunders, with construction assistance by Jason Scott and Andrew Walsh. Stainless steel and basalt. Photo by Damian Goodman

Koontabpul Thirng Wuul ('Whale Sun Shadow') - Pronunciation: KOON-TAB-pul – THIR-NG – wu-ul

Nestled beside the Surry River, Koontabpul Thirng Wuul includes a human sundial and four sculpted stone seats. The basalt seats that surround the sundial are based on Greystone, an unusual pale grey Southern Right Whale. The paving includes a map of the Portland Bay coast with markers for the two sculptures.

Koontabpul Thirng Wuul: designed and constructed by Glenn Romanis and Mark Trinham with construction assistance from Brodie Hill. Basalt, steel, sandstone. Photo by Damian Goodman

Community Art at the Launch

Down by the Surry River, Koontabpul Thirng Wuul was decorated with festive turquoise banners. A trail of small turquoise flags led like a breadcrumb trail from the Surry River, all the way up Boyers Road to the Sawpit Picnic area, then tantalisingly into the forest. As celebration attendees walked down the forest track, the sticks transformed into clusters of coloured stick wraps created by our tireless volunteers and local kids. A new discovery awaited at every turn, until encountering the magical curtains.

The eco-dyed silk curtains floated and twisted on the breeze, enticing children and big kids alike to play for a while before they finally met Mayapa Weeyn for the first time.

Opening Ceremony

The sleepy Sawpit Picnic area was transformed into a small festival site with marquee for the afternoon. Displayed around the perimeter of the marquee were flags representing the 59 clans of the Dhauwurd Wurrung language group which had been created by all 59 students of Narrawong District Primary School (how serendipitous that they were the same number!). A large photograph of members of the Dhauwurd Wurrung language group hung behind the stage.

The Winda Mara dancers welcomed everyone to the celebration, with Master of Ceremonies, Andy Govanstone. After months of intense work, lead artist Walter Saunders spoke about the growth of the project from the seed of an idea to the final artwork at the Whalers Lookout. Joel Wright, from Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages, explained the meaning of the Dhauwurd Wurrung and Peek Wurrung languages words which were chosen for the project and the individual sculptures.

Representing the project host and administrator, Nature Glenelg Trust, Lachlan Farrington thanked all those who had helped, including representatives of Regional Arts Victoria who had travelled from Melbourne for the event, and the Narrawong community for getting behind the project.

The original song Cart Gunditj was composed for the project by Andy Alberts and Wal Saunders. This song, together with the two permanent artworks, and Powerhouse Productions' film of the project (soon to be released for all to see!) will be legacies of the project. The event finished up with grooving tunes from south-west band Modus Vivendi. Thanks everyone who contributed their work and energy to creating and celebrating the project.

"Today is a chance for understanding, but more importantly it's about knowledge and appreciation, particularly for the Cart Gunditj who are no longer with us."

Walter Saunders

Clockwise from top: Wal Saunders, Crowds enjoy Mayapa Weeyn, Windamara dancers prepare, community members enjoying the walk to Mayapa Weeyn, Jason Scott, Braydon Saunders leads the dancers.

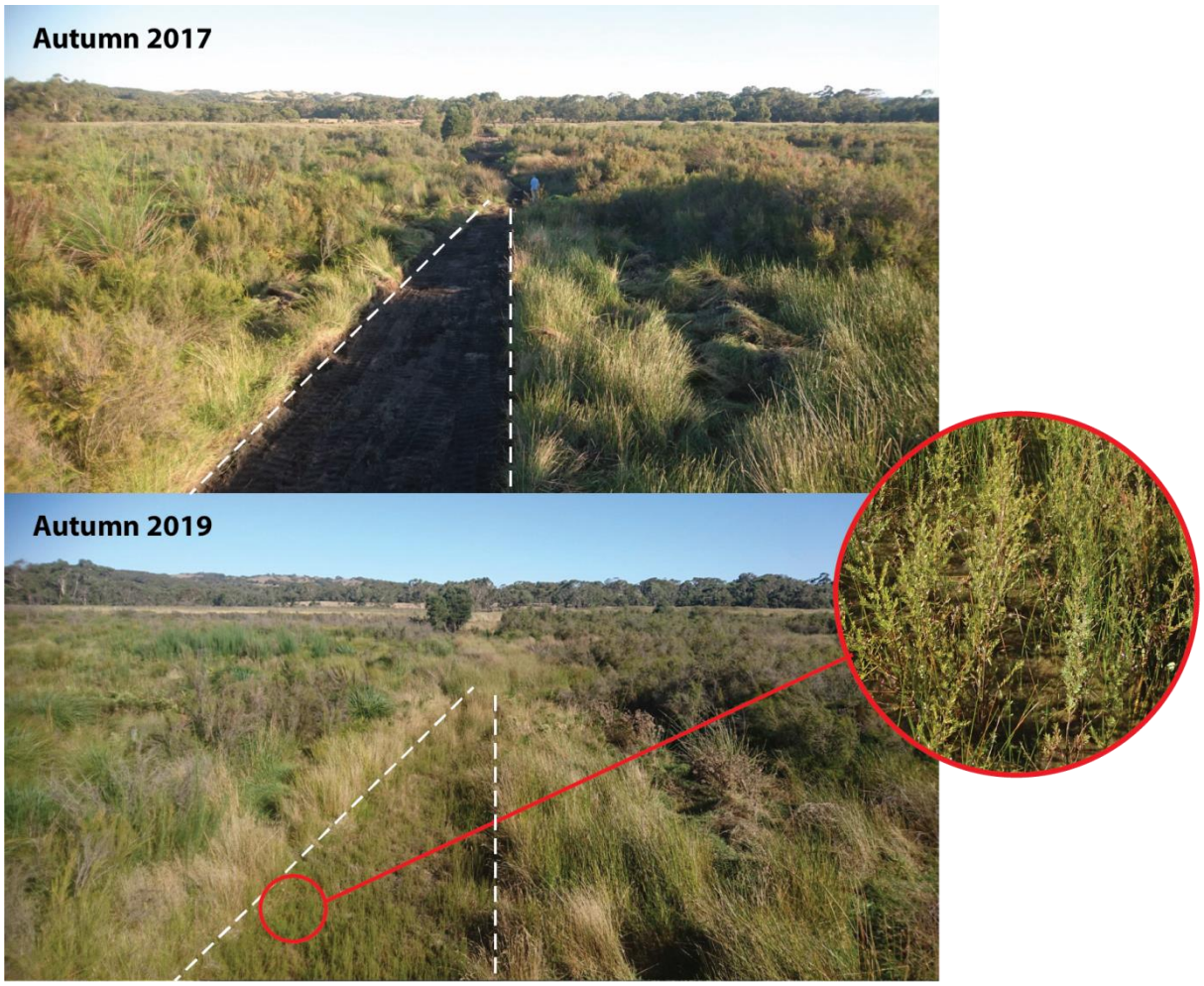
The Narrawong Kang-o-meerteek Small Town Transformation acknowledges the Cart Gunditj and Gilgar Gunditj who are the original custodians of the land on which this project takes place, and pays its respect to all past and present members of the Dhauwurd Wurrung Language Group and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. The Kang-o-meerteek project was funded through the Regional Arts Victoria Small Towns Transformation program.

2.5 Revisiting the outcome of restoration works at Stipiturus Conservation Park (article by NGT's Ben Taylor and Tessa Roberts)

Native plants are sprouting and weeds are drowning at Glenshera Swamp, Stipiturus Conservation Park! Two years after hydrological restoration work began, the early-season rains are really showing results. Our sandbag structures, built with the help of many hardworking volunteers, are redirecting water into the swamp and rehydrating the soil with amazing results. Time-series images show the subtle but significant transformation taking place.

Park boundary: Increased soil moisture fast-tracks regeneration

On the Park boundary a drain on private land was completely backfilled and sandbag weir built to stop water from escaping down another deep drain. The increased soil moisture has provided perfect conditions for wetland plant regeneration. Seeds from nearby remnant tea-trees have germinated on the bare soil from the works, with a flush of tea-tree seedlings. The higher soil moisture also increases ecosystem productivity. This means more food, particularly for the park's resident and Nationally Endangered Mt Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wrens (*Stipiturus malachurus intermedius*) in summer and autumn, than when the area was previously drier.



Top: Dry exposed soil of the backfilled drain; Bottom: Rehydrated soil brings a flush of tea-tree seedlings. Photos: Mark Bachmann

Spillway 2: Paddock returns to wetland

At "Spillway 2" on the adjacent private land, we backfilled an artificial drain and built a sandbag weir to regulate flows and retain water. Since March 2017 the paddock has been gradually returning to wetland. The introduced grasses, mainly *Phalaris aquatica* (Toowoomba Canary-grass) seen in the first image, have been drowned out and wetland species have been returning. In the April 2019 image, the native wetland rush *Juncus sarophorus* (Broom Rush) is thriving in the rehydrated peat. Note the absence of natural tea-tree regeneration, due to the lack of remnant tea-trees nearby.

1 – Before restoration, introduced pasture grasses dominate the drained wetland; 2 – After restoration, water returns and paddock grasses are drowned; 3 – One year after restoration, wetland vegetation begins to return ; 4 – Two years after restoration, wetland vegetation is thriving. Photos: Mark Bachmann

Spot the difference: A shift in vegetation composition

"Spillway 1" on the boundary of Glenshera Swamp, shows the shift from terrestrial to wetland vegetation. The large patch of dark green bracken (red oval) has died off, and pasture grasses (yellow oval) are being replaced by rushes and sedges, which are also dominating other weedy grasses in the understorey.

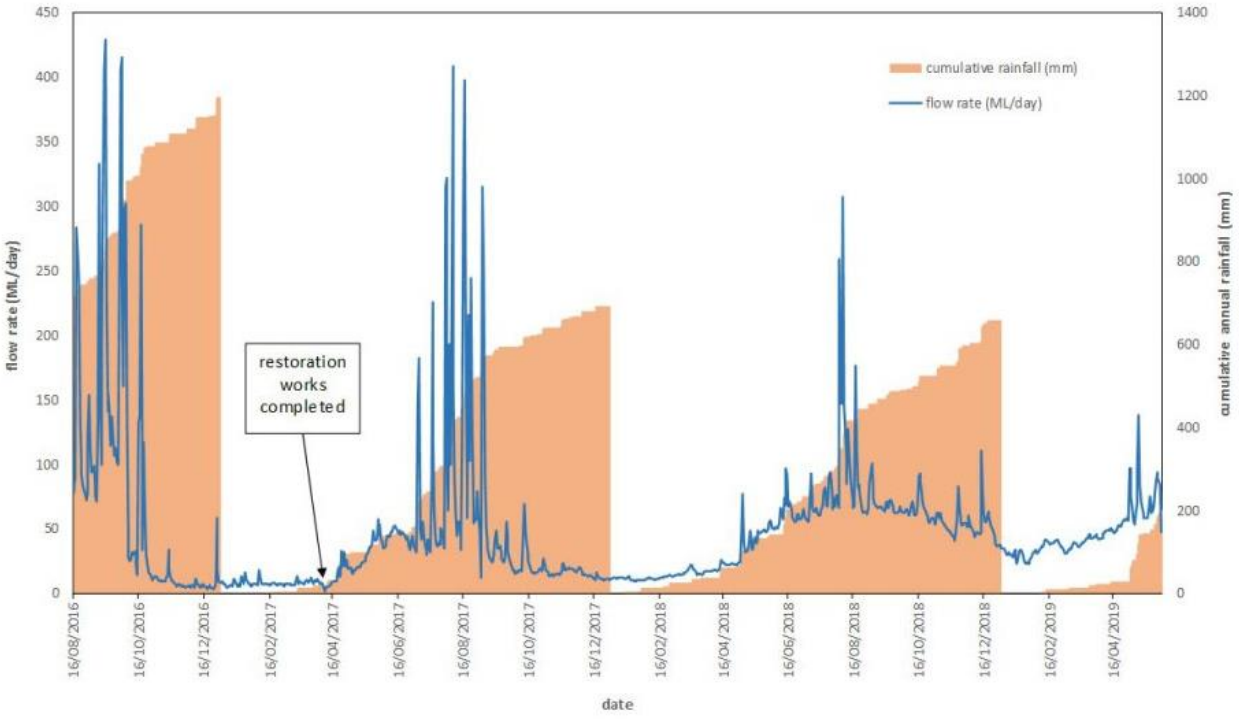
The structures NGT built in the main drain divert flows back along the original creek line and into the swamp. The structures also create weir pools that trap nutrients and debris as the early-season flows arrive, filtering the water before it enters the swamp. The pools also help recharge ground water, because the water sits, rather

than run straight down the drain. Good news for the swamp!

In fact, we can now also clearly demonstrate this positive effect with data. Back in July 2016, several months before we had undertaken any restoration works, we installed a water level logger in the drain at Saffrons Road. All flows from Glenshera Swamp pass this location, so it is ideal for measuring the effect of restoration on flows leaving the wetland.

After our hydrological restoration works at Glenshera were completed in early April 2017, we anticipated that as restored areas of the wetland 'refilled' to a new level, there would be a brief drop in outflows, followed by a return to pre-restoration flow rates.

At the end of May 2019 we downloaded the Saffrons Road logger and converted the data to an average daily flow rate (megalitres per day). The results are a striking example of what wetland restoration can achieve, and far exceeded our expectations (see graph below).



Firstly, from the cumulative annual rainfall (orange bars), it is clear that 2016 was a wet year, with about 1200 mm of rainfall, and that 2017 and 2018 were drier, each with around 700 mm of rain. The average (for Mt Compass, where this rainfall was measured) is 786 mm.

Secondly, the flows out of the wetland, at Saffrons Rd (blue line), decline to a low level in summer, when rainfall is minimal. This 'summer baseflow' has clearly increased following restoration. A very brief decline in flow rate (only a few days) occurred immediately after the restoration works were completed, but in the summers of 2017/18 and 2018/19 summer baseflow was markedly higher than it had been prior to restoration. Of note, this baseflow was higher despite 2017 and 2018 being considerably drier than 2016.

Thirdly, the higher flow rate in the wetter months appears to persist for longer after the restoration

occurred. In 2016, despite the wet winter and spring, flows had dropped to their minimum by mid-November. In 2017 flow rates reach their minimum in December and by the summer of 2018/19 elevated flow rates persisted through to January.

With its peaty sediment substrate, Glenshera Swamp acts like a large sponge. The 'sponge' absorbs and stores the water entering it, and releases water when it becomes saturated. NGT's hydrological restoration works have effectively increased the capacity and size of the 'sponge' (i.e. restoring the former area of peat wetland), meaning there is more water being stored during the wetter months, and therefore more is being gradually discharged during the drier months. The bigger wetland means more, and wetter, habitat for the flora and fauna of Glenshera itself. But it also means benefits downstream too. Increased summer baseflows out of Glenshera means important downstream refuge pools, for fish or other aquatic species, are less likely to dry out in the summer. Significantly for neighbours, this also means that shallow groundwater levels in the immediate vicinity of the swamp are also being buffered by these works, which means an extended dry period in the future is less likely to result in their bores running dry.

When extrapolated to the landscape scale, these results clearly illustrate the cumulative effects of swamp drainage. In drained areas, winter flows run off the country much faster than it did naturally, and less water is retained in peat wetlands for slow release during the drier months. As a consequence, watercourses are more prone to erosion in winter and complete desiccation in summer, conditions less suitable for the flora and fauna that rely upon these wet habitats.

In summary, wetland restoration can definitely have benefits well beyond the wetland itself!

And the good news is that what we have now demonstrated at Glenshera Swamp can readily be replicated in peat wetlands elsewhere across the Fleurieu and similar habitats throughout south-eastern Australia.

2.6 NGT positively influences the design of the South East Flows Restoration Project

In May 2018, NGT's Mark Bachmann attended a small gathering near Kingston in the south-east of South Australia, held at the location of the new regulator installed on Blackford Drain. The regulator and off-take channel at the site are key pieces of infrastructure in the South East Flows Restoration Project; redirecting environmental flows to the Coorong and associated wetlands in the Upper South East drainage network.

Natural Resources South East staff (of the SA Department for Environment and Water (DEW)) organised the event to thank landholders, staff, consultant engineers, contractors and wide range of other people who made the project possible. Mark de Jong (DEW), Frank Brennan (Chair of the South Eastern Water Conservation and Drainage Board (SEWCDB)) and Tim Collins (DEW) spoke on behalf of the project, and described how such an enormous and incredibly complex piece of work, with far-reaching impacts, actually came together.

We are proud to share how this event neatly rounded off a journey that began several years ago for Nature Glenelg Trust. It was back then, starting in December 2014, that NGT began actively talking with the community, landholders, project staff and senior representatives of the state and federal government, because the initial plans for the project were for a "drain only" design that unfortunately would have bypassed the expansive (but long dehydrated) wetlands of Tilley Swamp.

As an alternative, we sought to explain how that initial design could be 'tweaked' to maximise the potential environmental benefits for wetlands in the Upper South East – especially Tilley Swamp – *en route* to the Coorong. The main advantage of this alternative design option is that when releases into the Coorong via Salt Creek are not immediately required, Tilley Swamp could be used as a major storage area (instead of Blackford Drain water being lost to the sea at Kingston). Not only would this result in the immediate restoration of more than 4000 hectares of wetlands, but it would also provide future managers with much greater choice and flexibility when deciding the timing, volume and quality of releases (when and if required) into the Coorong.

However, as you might imagine, seeking to influence the fundamental design philosophy of a $60M joint state and federal government project with considerable momentum, at the 11th hour (and with construction deadlines looming), was extremely complex and presented a range of seemingly insurmountable challenges. With that context in mind, it was truly tremendous to witness the cooperation and genuine goodwill ultimately shown by everyone involved to achieve a better outcome for wetlands in the Upper South East over the subsequent two years. This culminated in a formal commitment by the Hon. Ian Hunter MLC, the then SA Minister for the Environment, to a revised project design incorporating the "watercourse option" in September 2016, largely based on the NGT proposal from 2014.

It was amazing to see everything in place on the ground, capping off the final phase of a project that had been under development since 2007, ready for vast amounts of additional water will be retained in this part of the South East landscape once again!

Former Project Manager Bob Furner and NGT's Mark Bachmann at the event. (Photo: Alison Boomsma)

3. Plans for the 2019-20 Financial Year

3.1 Strive to be universally viewed as leaders in restoration ecology in south-eastern Australia

Nature Glenelg Trust has already had considerable success delivering a wide range of projects over the organisation's first five years. However, consistent with having an organisational emphasis on restoration and threatened species ecology, we continue to strive to be universally viewed by current and future project partners as leaders in these fields in south-eastern Australia.

Goal: Increase the geographic reach and effectiveness of NGT's restoration activities in south-eastern Australia, based on the ecological expertise and commitment of our staff, volunteers and supporters.

3.2 Continue a focus on high quality research and monitoring to inform conservation management

An important element of our organisation's work has been an ability to initiate and participate in scientific research and monitoring that provides information to better conserve and manage aquatic species and ecosystems. Each year, a number of scientific publications have been produced and used to assist conservation and fisheries managers. We believe that greater opportunities exist in the future to robustly document the outcomes of restoration actions as well as continue to conduct research on key aquatic species.

Goal: Continue to produce scientific publications and foster new research collaborations

3.3 Build lasting partnerships within our focal region

Further to the previous goals, NGT will seek to build on our reputation and credibility in the sector to form longer term partnerships with any individuals or organisations who may want to support our work. This will enable NGT to continue to explore different pathways for achieving environmental results, including research partnerships and looking for opportunities to work across sectors (especially with those involved in the arts, education and social justice) to facilitate meeting the organisation's goals.

Goal: Forge new partnerships to achieve positive results on the ground

3.5 Develop and implement restoration and/or management plans for NGT Reserves

In order to trial and demonstrate property-scale restoration activities for wider conservation benefit on NGT's Reserves, each property requires a restoration and/or management plan to be in place or under development. This will provide a clear set of objectives to drive NGT's grant seeking, or other funding mechanisms pursued, to support active restoration, management and on-ground works.

Goal: To develop ecologically sound management plans for implementation on NGT Reserves

3.6 Grow the balance of the NGT Foundation

The NGT Foundation was launched in early 2018, meeting a goal from the previous NGT Annual Report. In order to successfully meet the long-term objectives of the Foundation, creating a recurrent funding stream to support the management of NGT Reserves, the balance of the Foundation requires significant growth.

Hence the priority now shifts to attracting additional support for the Foundation and attempting to lift its balance during these initial stages after its establishment. During this initial growth phase, all interest generated by the Foundation will be re-invested and no funds will be used for NGT operations.

Goal: To explore strategic opportunities to grow the balance of the NGT Foundation, broadening its funding base and over the next 12 months.

3.7 Provide interesting practical opportunities for our staff, ecology graduates and volunteers

Nature Glenelg Trust is proud to be creating regular opportunities for our staff, recent graduates (as interns) and volunteers to develop and build their ecological expertise through their work with NGT. With changes to the tertiary education sector and its teaching methods, providing opportunities to gain this hands-on ecological experience is a key service NGT can provide, while also adding significant value to our work. This will continue to be a focus for the next 12 months.

Goal: To continue to provide practical learning opportunities for ecology graduates and volunteers

3.8 Explore new and innovative ways to add value to our operations

NGT is a small and dynamic operation that is at the mercy of the range of economic forces that shape the environmental sector on a regular basis. Government funding sources, such as grants, are notoriously unpredictable and make longer term planning difficult. Hence NGT will continue to explore options for value adding to and diversifying our operations to improve our longer term financial security and viability.

Goal: To explore new and innovative ways to add value to our operations

4. Employee Statistics

Nature Glenelg Trust employed 8 full-time, 9 part-time and 19 casual staff throughout the 2018-19 financial year. Our full-time and part-time staff at the end of the financial year were:

1. Mark Bachmann (Manager / Principal Ecologist)
2. Jessica Bourchier (Administration Support and Project Ecologist)
3. Lauren Brown (Aquatic Ecologist)
4. Lachlan Farrington (Senior Wetland and Landscape Ecologist)
5. Ruan Gannon (Aquatic Ecologist)
6. Bryan Haywood (Senior Ecologist)
7. Greg Kerr (Senior Ecologist)
8. Lauren Kivisalu (Project Ecologist)
9. Ryan Little (Nursery Officer)
10. Nicole Mojonnier (Program Co-ordinator – Education on NGT Reserves)
11. Tessa Roberts (Wetland Ecologist)
12. Lu-Wei Spinks (Graduate Ecologist)
13. Ben Taylor (Senior Wetland Ecologist)
14. Rose Thompson (Project Ecologist)
15. Jonathan Tuck (Ecologist and Project Logistics)
16. Nicholas Whiterod (Senior Aquatic Ecologist)
17. Sylvia Zukowski (Aquatic Ecologist)

5. Membership

As a duly constituted fixed trust, Nature Glenelg Trust does not have its own financial membership base. As a charitable environmental NGO 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 (and the wider community) through participation in our projects. Nature Glenelg Trust is listed on the Register of Environmental Organisations, enabling the organisation to seek tax-deductible financial contributions to our Public Fund. Supporters of Nature Glenelg Trust are also encouraged to register their email address on our website (www.natureglenelg.org.au) to receive regular updates on our projects and organisational activities.

The Board of the Trustee for Nature Glenelg Trust, currently has five voting members:

1. Mark Bachmann
2. Catherine Dickson
3. Lachlan Farrington
4. Michael Hammer
5. Nicholas Whiterod

At present, the Trustee for Nature Glenelg Trust members also comprise NGT'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).

6. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD T/A NATURE GLENELG TRUST

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2019

	Note	2019 $	2018 $
Revenue			
Sales		1,858,526	1,312,830
Administration Fees		192,344	276,084
Donations		1,925,270	2,749,647
Direct Grants		-	417,860
Other Income		201,694	63,817
Total Revenue		**4,177,834**	**4,820,238**
Less			
Expenses			
Cost of Goods Sold		668,269	368,808
Employee benefits expense		1,057,394	824,526
Other expenses		299,690	282,765
Total expenses		**2,025,353**	**1,476,099**
Net surplus for the Year		**2,152,481**	**3,344,139**
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income		**2,152,481**	**3,344,139**

NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD T/A NATURE GLENELG TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30th JUNE 2019

	Note	2019 $	2018 $
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents		1,493,253	4,110,999
Receivables	2.	356,319	320,260
Inventories	3.	1,226,623	1,149,931
Other	4.	335,000	-
Total Current Assets		**3,411,195**	**5,581,190**
Non-Current Assets			
Property Plant and Equipment	5.	7,499,273	3,098,389
Total Non-Current Assets		**7,499,273**	**3,098,389**
Total Assets		**10,910,468**	**8,679,579**
Current Liabilities			
Trade Creditors and Other Payables	6.	2,190,801	2,196,946
Provisions	8.	271,135	195,744
Total Current Liabilities		**2,461,936**	**2,392,690**
Non-Current Liabilities			
Interest Bearing Liabilities	7.	218,734	231,759
Provisions	8.	99,533	77,346
Total Non-Current Liabilities		**318,267**	**309,105**
Total Liabilities		**2,780,203**	**2,701,795**
Net Assets		**8,130,265**	**5,977,784**
Equity			
Issued Shares & Settled Sum		396	396
Retained Surplus		8,129,869	5,977,388
Total Equity		**8,130,265**	**5,977,784**

NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD T/A NATURE GLENELG TRUST

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
AS AT 30th JUNE 2019

2018	Retained Earnings	Issued Shares $386 Settled Sum $10	Total Equity
Balance as at 1st July 2017	2,633,249	396	2,633,645
Total Comprehensive Income for the Period	3,344,139	-	3,344,139
Balance as at 30th June 2018	**5,977,388**	**396**	**5,977,784**

2019	Retained Earnings	Issued Shares $386 Settled Sum $10	Total Equity
Balance as at 1st July 2018	5,977,388	396	5,977,784
Total Comprehensive Income for the Period	2,152,481	-	2,152,481
Balance as at 30th June 2019	**8,129,869**	**396**	**8,130,265**

NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD T/A NATURE GLENELG TRUST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
AS AT 30th JUNE 2019

	Note	2019 $	2018 $
Cash Flow from Operating Activities			
Receipts from			
Donations and Gifts		1,925,270	2,749,647
Government/Other Grants & Income		2,178,113	2,160,771
Interest		28,392	34,006
Payments to			
Suppliers and Employees		(2,315,372)	(1,995,470)
Interest paid		(11,186)	(11,803)
Net cash flow from operating activities		**1,805,217**	**2,937,151**
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Purchase of Property Plant & Equipment		4,410,374	(703,687)
Net cash flow from investing activities		**(4,410,374)**	**(703,687)**
Cash Flow from Financing Activities			
Repayment of interest bearing liabilities		(12,589)	(11,638)
Net cash flow from financing activities		**(12,589)**	**(11,638)**
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		**(2,617,746)**	**2,221,826**
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the year		4,110,999	1,889,173
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the year		**1,493,253**	**4,110,999**

Reconciliation of Net Surplus for the year to net Cash Flows from Operations		
Net Surplus for the year	**2,152,481**	**3,344,139**
Depreciation Expense	19,054	17,483
(Increase)/Decrease in Inventories	(76,692)	(505,482)
(Increase)/Decrease in Receivables	(46,059)	(193,554)
Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	97,578	(34,592)
Increase/(Decrease) in Trade Creditors	(6,145)	309,157
Increase/(Decrease) in Trade Other Assets	(335,000)	-
Net Cash Flow from Operations	**1,805,217**	**2,937,151**

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ACCOUNTING AUDIT ADVISORY
giving business direction
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INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
TO THE BOARD MEMBERS OF
NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD ATF NATURE GLENELG TRUST

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

AUDIT OPINION

We have audited the financial report of NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD ATF NATURE GLENELG TRUST (the trust), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2019, the statement of comprehensive income, for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the members' declaration by those charged with governance.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial presents fairly, in all material respects of NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD ATF NATURE GLENELG TRUST is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

(a) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2019 and of its performance for the year then ended; and

(b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report.

We are independent of the entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's (APES 110) Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, which has been given to the members of the association, would be in the same terms if given to the members as at the time of this auditor's report.

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

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INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
TO THE BOARD MEMBERS OF
NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD ATF NATURE GLENELG TRUST

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

EMPHASIS OF MATTER – BASIS OF ACCOUNTING AND RESTRICTION ON DISTRIBUTION AND USE

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note No1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting.

The financial report is prepared to assist NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD ATF NATURE GLENELG TRUST members to comply with the financial reporting provisions of the Corporations Act (2001).

As a result, the financial statement may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD ATF NATURE GLENELG TRUST and should not be distributed to or used by other parties other than NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD ATF NATURE GLENELG TRUST.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBERS FOR THE FINANCIAL REPORT

The members of the association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members.

The members' responsibility also includes such internal control as the members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the members are responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the members either intend to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting

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INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
TO THE BOARD MEMBERS OF
NATURE GLENELG PTY LTD ATF NATURE GLENELG TRUST

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the members' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the board members regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

INHERENT LIMITATIONS

Due to the inherent limitations of an assurance engagement, together with the internal control structure, it is possible that fraud, error, or non-compliance with the listed provisions may occur and not be detected.

A reasonable assurance engagement does not provide assurance on whether compliance with the listed provisions will continue in the future.

COMPASS GROUP SA PTY LTD

Barrie Lloyd.

BARRIE LLOYD
RCA - 5357

Signed at Adelaide on the 16 December 2019

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