

A new management plan for Kangaroo Island parks: Building a shared vision

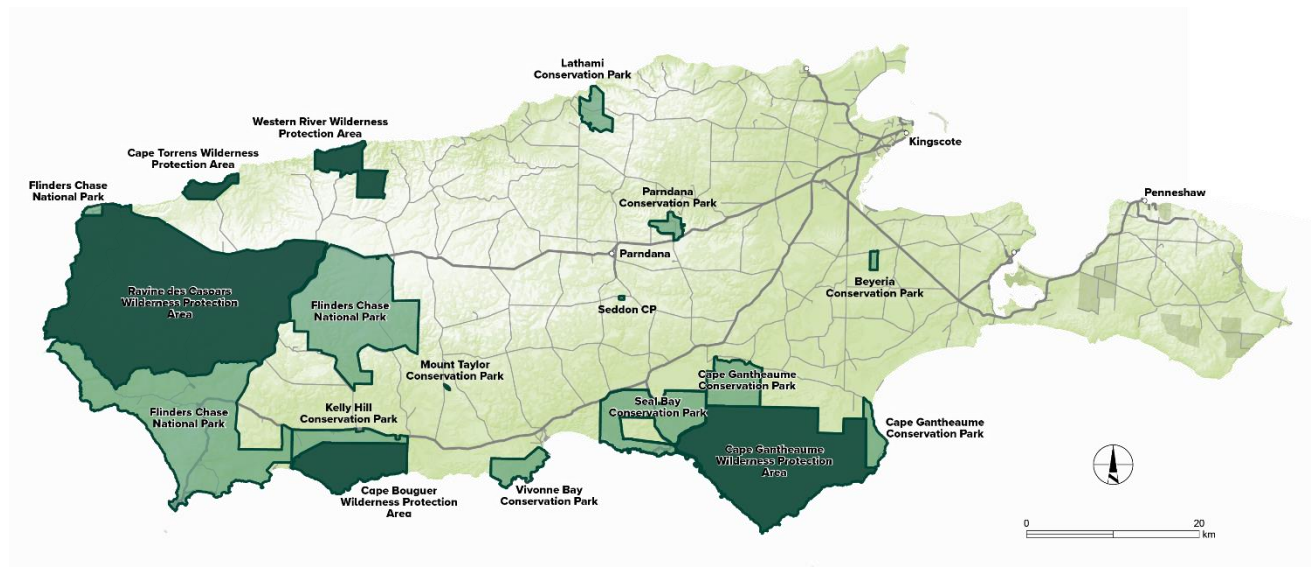


Figure 1: Parks to be included in the new West Kangaroo Island Parks Management Plan

What is a park management plan?

Park management plans outline the long term vision and provide the statutory basis for the management of parks.

The plans describe the foundational policy settings, management arrangements, key values of the parks and any environmental threats to those values. The values described in the plans often relate to areas such as plants and animals, Aboriginal heritage and culture, the landscape, historic and heritage sites, tourism and visitor access.

Management plans provide a reference document for the community, guide the development of operational plans, assist in setting priorities and support day-to-day park management decisions.

The development of management plans for parks and wilderness protection areas is a requirement of both the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* and the *Wilderness Protection Act 1992*. Both Acts require park management plans to be developed, and describe the process for their development. Parks must be managed in accordance with the adopted plan.

Why is a new park management plan being developed?

The park management plans for parks that were affected by bushfires earlier this year were adopted a number of years ago and have become outdated. Developing a new, up-to-date park management plan will support the recovery of these parks and establish a sound basis for

their long-term recovery and protection as well as a strong foundation for the outcomes needed to support the recovery of Kangaroo Island's communities and businesses.

Which parks will be included?

The following 15 parks will be included in the new plan (figure 1 shows the location of each park):

- **National Parks:** Flinders Chase National Park
- **Conservation Parks:** Kelly Hill, Latham, Mt Taylor, Parndana, Seal Bay, Seddon, Vivonne Bay, Beyeria and Cape Gantheaume Conservation Parks.
- **Wilderness Protection Areas:** Cape Bouguer, Cape Gantheaume, Cape Torrens, Ravine des Casoars and Western River Wilderness Protection Areas.

Incorporating all of these parks into a single, strategic park management plan, will establish a single point of reference and help to focus management on the key conservation values and the most critical threats.

What will it cover?

The plan will establish a long term vision and consolidate management directions for each park. It will also focus future management efforts on the key conservation values, the most critical threats, and the most important strategies to manage these threats.

During the development of the plan key areas such as tourism infrastructure, wildlife interaction and management, role of the private sector, fire management, wilderness preservation, biodiversity and threatened species conservation will be addressed.

How will it be developed?

The plan will be developed by the Department for Environment and Water with involvement and input from the community throughout the planning process.

The park planning process includes developing the draft plan with input from the community via discussions and forums, preplanning submissions on the management of Wilderness Protection Areas and feedback on discussions papers released for consultation.

The draft park management plan will be released for public consultation for three months. The analysis of submissions will guide the development of the final draft park management plan which will be submitted to the Minister for Environment and Water for consideration in early 2021.

How can I provide input?

The community will have an opportunity to provide input to the development of the plan by:

- making a pre-planning submission on the management of the Wilderness Protection Areas included in the new plan. Submissions close 5pm Thursday 10 September 2020
- participating in the 'Reimagine' engagement process for Seal Bay and western Kangaroo Island parks taking place between June and September 2020
- providing feedback at any time via the 'Kangaroo Island Parks, Reimagine, Rebuild, Renew' engagement hub

- providing feedback on discussion papers regarding key topics released for community input, July to September 2020.
- participating in forums designed to seek further input into key topics, July to September 2020.
- making a formal submission on the draft plan following its release for public consultation, October to December 2020. All submissions received will be reviewed and will assist in the preparation of a final park management plan during January 2021.

How does it relate to the 'Reimagining Kangaroo Island' project?

The 'Reimagining Kangaroo Island' project will explore the capacity of the West Kangaroo Island Parks to cater for more visitors, offer a greater diversity of eco-experiences and offer deeper emersion into the landscape, the culture, and its conservation. It will also investigate improvements to the infrastructure and facilities that will be needed to ensure that these eco-experiences match or exceed international standards.

The feedback captured as part of this project will be used to help inform the development of the draft West Kangaroo Island Parks Management Plan which will then be released for public consultation.

How can I find out more?

Visit the park management plan page of the 'Kangaroo Island Parks, Reimagine, Rebuild, Renew' engagement hub. We'll be using this page to share updates about the project and how you can get involved in helping to plan for the future management of our West Kangaroo Island Parks.

<https://reimagine-ki.parks.sa.gov.au/new-park-management-plan>

More information

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