

Role Description

(Non-Manager)



Role Title: Wildlife Ecologist – Australian Sea Lion Conservation

Division: National Parks and Wildlife Service

Classification Level: PO2

Branch/Unit: Regional Operations, Kangaroo Island

CHRIS Position Number: Pxxxxx

Reports to (Title): National Parks and Wildlife Manager, Kangaroo Island

Our Organisation

The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) works to help South Australians conserve, sustain and prosper. Our work is critical to South Australia's future social, environmental and economic prosperity and well-being. We aim to be a flexible, responsive and influential adviser to Government and we deliver high quality policy, programs and assets across our wide and diverse portfolio of responsibilities. We have embraced technology that enables our people to have impact no matter where they live or how they work. Collaboration, diversity, inclusion, customer service and outcomes all matter to us. We work in partnership with community, traditional owners, industry and stakeholders to get results.

Purpose

The National Parks and Wildlife Service is a division of DEW that conserves nature, parks and places that enrich our identity and benefit our community. With over 358 reserves covering approximately 22% of South Australia, the work of the Division supports broad goals associated with conservation and scientific endeavour, nature-based tourism and visitor services, community health and wellbeing, and reconciliation.

The Division's business is delivered through seven regions, where park staff work with the community and key partners to manage the protected area estate and Crown land, which includes diverse terrestrial, marine and riverine environments. Regions maintain a focus on the delivery of park management programs, which span the fields of conservation and wildlife management, fire management, visitor services, planning, project and asset management, and the co-management of reserves with Aboriginal community partners. The central branches of the Division provide strategic leadership and program direction to support regional business delivery, the day to day management of the public land estate and commercial interests and operations.

Specifically, the work of the National Parks and Wildlife Service includes:

- designing and implementing on-ground conservation and threat abatement measures that deliver on the State's national and international obligations;
- managing wildlife based on sound ecological, environmental, social and economic factors;
- showcasing key attractions and providing exceptional visitor experiences and services at commercial sites and parks;
- delivering DEW's fire management program;
- managing visitor infrastructure, services, public access to and the commercial use of national park, reserves and Crown land;
- leading DEW's engagement with Aboriginal communities, including co-management of parks and reserves, and supporting DEW's reconciliation agenda;
- leading DEW's compliance and enforcement responsibilities;
- providing policy leadership and legislative expertise in conservation, Aboriginal engagement, protected areas and wildlife management; and
- engagement and participation of E-NGOs and volunteer groups.

About the Branch/Business Unit

The Regional Operations Branch of the National Parks and Wildlife Service provides leadership and guidance to support the effective management of national parks and reserves across the state. The branch plays a critical role in coordinating the delivery of services and programs across a broad range of key functions and activities, inclusive of conservation and wildlife programs, national parks and crown lands programs and fire management. Through the Director, the branch will lead in establishing and maintaining partnerships with key regional partners and stakeholders and ensure that the community understands and is actively engaged in the business of the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

The Regional Operations Branch comprises seven regions including:

- Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges
- Eyre and Far West
- Flinders and Outback
- Kangaroo Island
- Limestone Coast

- Riverland and Murraylands
- Yorke and Mid North

About the Role

The Wildlife Ecologist-Australian Sea Lion (ASL) Conservation works with a diverse range of partners and networks, including industry stakeholders to implement high quality and practical, scientific evidence-based conservation actions for ASL. The role works closely with both internal and external stakeholders and particularly focuses on mitigating threats to South Australia's ASL population.

Key Role Outcomes

- Wildlife conservation programs are implemented and coordinated across the Department and with external stakeholders.
- Scientific findings are interpreted and incorporated into internal and external project reporting.
- Relationships and strategic links with other agencies, local councils, community-based bodies, researchers and stakeholders are developed to assist in the effectiveness and delivery of conservation strategies.
- Community awareness and understanding of conservation activities relating to the Australian Sea Lion are enhanced through the delivery of high-quality community engagement, promotion and publicity.
- The Department and relevant external stakeholders are provided with accurate and timely advice to resolve problems relating to the conservation of the Australian Sea Lion.
- The effective, and accountable use of the Department's resources related to Australian Sea Lion conservation by managing budgets and exercising financial and procurement delegations as authorised and ensuring compliance with policies, guidelines and procedures.

Key Relationships

- DEW staff across all Divisions, in particular the Conservation & Wildlife branch
- Other relevant Government agencies, in particular the Commonwealth's Department for Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water
- Local Government
- Peak industry bodies
- Landscape SA Boards
- NGOs

Special Conditions

- Will be required to participate in fire management or associated duties.
- A current class "C" driver's licence and willingness and ability to safely operate a 4wd is essential.
- Inter and intrastate and remote area travel may be required, including travel in light aircraft and work outside of the normal hours of work.
- A current First Aid Certificate is desirable.
- This role has been designated as a Position of Trust pursuant to the standards required in the Australian Government Protective Security Policy Framework. By applying for this role you consent to being screened under the process of obtaining a National Police Clearance (NPC), and to the Department requiring you to obtain an NPC.

Core Competencies	Elements	Behavioural Indicators
Shapes Strategic Thinking and changes	• Thinking and Acting Strategically	• Can identify and articulate potential issues and implications. • Raises potential options for consideration arising from research analysis.
Achieves Results	• Delivering Effective Outcomes	• Works with key stakeholders to problem-solve, over-coming challenges, and facilitate the achievement of outcomes. • Develops and communicates clear and realistic goals/expected outcomes for projects and tasks.

Drives Business Excellence	• Facilitating Quality and Continuous Improvement • Optimising Performance	• Monitors and questions the effectiveness of existing practices within the team. • Works collaboratively with team members to set challenging team and individual goals.
Forges Relationships and Engages Others	• Establishing and Maintaining Networks • Influencing and Negotiating • Using Political Savvy	• Works well with others and is effective in collaborating with colleagues across the agency. • Shows the ability to persuade managers and colleagues by presenting business benefits. • Identifies political issues when they arise. • Builds a strong network of influential contacts across the agency that is used as a source of information and advice.
Exemplifies Personal Drive and Professionalism	• Displaying Flexibility and Resilience	• Is flexible in handling changing priorities.

Technical, Professional/Knowledge and Experience (including qualifications)

- Degree in the field of science, ecology, biodiversity management, natural resource management (or related field) is essential.
- Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of wildlife conservation, ideally of Australian Sea Lion or other pinnipeds.
- Experience in project management, including implementation, on-ground support and reporting.
- Provides thoroughly researched documents that are expressed concisely, in plain English and in unambiguous terms.
- Is able to digest information from diverse sources, identify key issues and assess broad impacts on the organisation and/or relevant situation.

Work Health and Safety

Contribute to workplace safety

- Accepts responsibility for own and other's safety.
- Actively participates in consultation about work, health and safety issues.
- Identifies and reports hazards and identifies risk controls where appropriate.

Corporate Responsibilities

- Demonstrate appropriate and professional workplace behaviours that are in line with the Code of Ethics for the South Australian Public Sector.
- Maintain a commitment to EEO, Diversity, Ethical Conduct, and record keeping within legislative requirements, according to the principles of the Public Sector Act 2009.
- Actively participate in the Department's Performance Review and Development Program.
- Demonstrate appropriate and professional workplace behaviours that align closely with the White Ribbon message.

APPROVED

DEW Branch:	Regional Operations – Kangaroo Island	Date classified:	18/07/2025 (Comparison from M20092)
DEW Division:	National Parks and Wildlife Service	Classified:	Yes