

Role Description

(Non-Manager)



Our purpose – Helping South Australians Conserve, Sustain and Prosper.

Role Title: Heysen Trail Coordinator

Division: National Parks and Public Lands

Classification Level: ASO7

Branch/Unit: Park Planning and Visitor Experience, Park Asset Management

CHRIS Position Number: TBA

Reports to (Title): Team Leader Statewide Programs

About the Agency – [Department for Environment and Water](#)

About the Role

The Heysen Trail is South Australia's premier long-distance walking trail, covering over 1,200km from Cape Jervis on the Fleurieu Peninsula to Parachilna Gorge in the northern Flinders Ranges. The Trail traverses public and private land and its management is coordinated by the Department for Environment and Water, with a dedicated and long-running group, the Friends of Heysen Trail, critical to the promotion, advocacy and advice on the management of the Trail, as well as undertaking on-ground activities. A strategic management plan for the Heysen Trail guides priority governance, planning and delivery activities.

The Heysen Trail Coordinator will lead the coordination of activities delivered by the Department and stakeholders for the management and promotion of the Heysen Trail. The role will be responsible for coordinating and delivering on-ground activities and strategic partnerships and reviews. The role will have a focus on maintaining and enhancing relationships and improving the Heysen Trail as an important South Australian visitor experience.

Key Role Outcomes

- Coordinate the development of an asset management plan for the Heysen Trail, and prioritisation of investment, and support delivery of priority trail asset and infrastructure projects along key trail nodes.
- Coordinate key trail realignment initiatives where these enhance the visitor experience, or in circumstances where private landholder cease to support the trail traversing their properties.
- Coordinate the Department's Heysen Trail Partnership Group, which brings public land managers together with the Friends of the Heysen Trail, to improve stakeholder engagement and shared responsibility for trail management.
- Manage the allocation of annual grant funding to the Friends of the Heysen Trail for trail maintenance works.
- Review the Heysen Trail Strategic Plan in partnership with stakeholders.
- Manage license agreements with landholders to support trail access for walkers, which will include the requirement to develop, maintain and review landholder license agreements.
- Explore priorities and opportunities associated with the use of Land Management Agreements and other initiatives to enhance security of trail route and tenure on private lands.

Essential Criteria (including qualifications)

[Must be addressed by candidates in written application letter (max 3 pages) in addition to CV unless advertisement advises otherwise]

- Strong understanding of requirements for managing walking trail and associated assets.
- Strong relationship management experience and capabilities, including experience with establishing relationships and building trust and respect with external stakeholders and volunteer organisations.
- Demonstrated experience in interpreting, applying and providing advice on legislation and policy.
- Proven ability to think strategically, with a view to the development of long-term strategies on complex matters that involve ambiguity and sensitivity.
- Demonstrated experience in leading consultation, liaison and negotiations on agreements with third parties.

Desirable Criteria

- Qualifications in the field of recreation, protected area management, asset management or similar are desirable.
- Knowledge of contemporary issues related to, and approaches to long-distance walking trails is highly desirable.
- Experience working with volunteer-based or other peak bodies is highly desirable.

Key Relationships/Interactions

- National Parks and Public Lands Division employees
- Friends of Heysen Trail and associated trail partners
- External community, industry and Government stakeholders
- SATC and other Government departments

Special Conditions

- Will be required to participate in responses to state emergencies or associated duties.
- A current class “C” driver’s licence and willingness to drive is essential.
- Intra-state and remote area travel may be required.
- Some out of hours work may be required involving overnight absences and work outside of normal hours of duty.
- Prior to being employed, the successful candidate will be required to provide a Department of Human Services (DHS) Working with Children Check (WWCC) which is required to be renewed every five years. DEW will cover the cost of renewal.
- You must be an Australian citizen, permanent resident, or provide evidence that you hold a valid working visa that allows you to work in Australia.

Core Competencies	Elements	Behavioural Indicators
Shapes Strategic Thinking and changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thinking and Acting Strategically 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes strategic judgements and presents options based on implications of analytical thinking.
Achieves Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making Decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluates impact and consequences of taking a particular course of action, taking into account stakeholder concerns as well the impact across the Agency.
Drives Business Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting Customer Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works constructively with diverse people, including Aboriginal communities, to deliver high quality and responsive services and demonstrates flexibility in service delivery as appropriate.
Forges Relationships and Engages Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Influencing and Negotiating Establishing and Maintaining Networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands wider business objectives and integrates these into recommendations to gain greater buy in and commitment from others. Builds credibility with stakeholders and customers by demonstrating reliability and respect and uses this credibility to negotiate outcomes. Forms constructive relationships with key stakeholders within and outside of the Agency, including significant partnerships with volunteer-based or peak industry bodies. Builds collaborative relationships based on an understanding of stakeholder priorities/objectives.
Exemplifies Personal Drive and Professionalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrating Diversity in the Workplace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acts from the principles of equity, diversity and social justice.

Work Health and Safety

Participate in workplace safety procedures and programs

- Leads and/or participates in health and safety discussions in the workplace.
- Identifies hazards, assesses risks and implements procedures for controlling risks.
- Provides workplace safety information and advice where relevant.
- Applies procedures for dealing with incidents and emergency events as required.

Corporate Responsibilities

- Demonstrate appropriate and professional workplace behaviours that are in line with the [Code of Ethics](#) and the [South Australian Public Sector Values](#).
- Maintain a commitment to Equal Employment Opportunity, Diversity, Ethical Conduct, and record keeping within legislative requirements, according to the principles of the *Public Sector Act 2009*.
- Exhibit and promote the behaviours in line with *The way we work* outlined in the [DEW Corporate Plan](#).
- 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.
- Champion positive behaviours and conduct during all interactions with children and young people and act in accordance with the Child Safe Environment Policy and Procedure at all times.

APPROVED

Date Delegate approved original classification:	16/03/2026	Original Class method:	Full
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