

Role Description

(Non-Manager)



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

Role Title: Field Ecologist

Division: Biodiversity & Nature Economy

Classification Level: PO1

Branch/Unit: Conservation & Wildlife /
Conservation & Threatened Species

CHRIS Position Number: P59551

Reports to (Title): Coordinator Bounceback
Program

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

About the Role

The Field Ecologist is responsible for providing project support and basic ecological knowledge and services to implement Bounceback Program projects and activities, primarily on DEW managed lands across the Gawler Ranges, Flinders Ranges, and Olary Ranges.

The role supports the Bounceback team by undertaking species surveys and monitoring, feral animal control, data collation and management, and contributing to report preparation. Working with key partners, including Ranger staff, volunteers, contractors, neighbours and Aboriginal communities, the position helps maximise awareness, delivery capacity and the successful delivery of Bounceback projects.

Key Role Outcomes

- Deliver Bounceback projects and activities, including pest management works and monitoring of priority fauna and flora species, informed by timely and professional ecological advice.
- Support is provided to Bounceback Team and Ranger staff in the delivery of works programs, projects and activities.
- Undertake collection, management, and interpretation of monitoring data to assist with the management of priority species.
- Work programs, projects and activities are delivered safely and in a timely manner, in compliance with approved safe work procedures, WHS policies and relevant legislation.
- Develop and maintain effective working relationships with relevant stakeholders to deliver priority projects.
- Contribute to the development of technical reports and data summaries for a wide range of stakeholders.
- Achievement of team and organisational goals is supported through strong teamwork and a collaborative approach.

Essential Criteria (including qualifications)

- A university degree in environment, conservation or a related NRM discipline.
- Knowledge of South Australian fauna and flora species (including weed species) and their ecology.
- Knowledge of fauna and flora ecological survey methods and techniques.
- Experience in collating, documenting and managing technical data and information.

- Demonstrates good communication skills (verbal and written) in an applied science and/or NRM setting.
- Is thorough in checking work to ensure alignment with the expected standards and protocols of the organisation.
- Ability to work effectively and maintain relationships with a team and a range of stakeholders.
- Demonstrates ability to work alone and be self-reliant.
- A current Class C driver's licence.
- Willingness and ability to safely operate a 4WD.
- A current First Aid Certificate.

Desirable Criteria

- Experience working with Aboriginal Communities.

Key Relationships/Interactions

- Works collaboratively with the members of Bounceback Program team.
- Works collaboratively with NPWS-Regional Operations (Flinders & Outback, Eyre & Far West & Yorke and Mid North regions employees).
- Liaises with and work collaboratively with contractors, Volunteers and Friends of Parks Groups, and SA Landscape Board staff.

Special Conditions

- May be required to participate in emergency preparedness, response and recovery activities required by government agencies.
- 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.
- This role has been identified as a:
 Position of trust ☒ Prescribed position ☐ Not applicable ☐

The following screening check(s) is/are required:

- You will be required to provide a valid Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check prior to being employed, which is required to be renewed every three years before expiry. DEW will cover the cost of renewal.
- Wearing a company uniform during working hours and/or when representing the department is mandatory.
- Inter and intrastate and remote area travel is required, including travel in light aircraft.
- Will be required to undertake intra or interstate travel, regular overnight absences, and work outside of the normal hours of work.

Core Competencies	Elements	Behavioural Indicators
Shapes Strategic Thinking and changes	• Thinking and Acting Strategically	• Can identify and articulate potential issues and implications.
Achieves Results	• Delivering effective outcomes	• Establishes own credibility by demonstrating personal competence and technical expertise.

	• Makes decisions	• Knows when to seek further information, clarify issues or involve others in the decision making process
Drives Business Excellence	• Establishing and Maintaining Networks • Communicating and managing Conflict	• Works well with others and is effective in collaborating with colleagues across the Agency. • Respectfully interacts with people from diverse backgrounds, including Aboriginal communities. • Presents information clearly in writing and verbally, in a way that is well suited to community groups, scientists and staff at all levels.
Forges Relationships and Engages Others	• Displaying Flexibility and Resilience • Demonstrating Commitment to Learning and Development.	• Is flexible in handling changing priorities. • Quickly regains focus in the face of unexpected setbacks. • Demonstrates an awareness of relevant trends/developments. • Keeps abreast of relevant developments within their own field of expertise.
Exemplifies Personal Drive and Professionalism	• Thinking and Acting Strategically • Integrating Diversity in the Workplace	• Can identify and articulate potential issues and implications. • Is flexible and responsive to the diverse perspectives in a group or of an individual. • Is open to learning about and developing awareness of other cultures.

Work Health and Safety

Contribute to workplace safety

- Accepts responsibility for own and others 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](#) 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.

Date Delegate approved original classification:	03/08/2026	Original Class method:	Comparison
Update:	RD update only	Date this version was approved by delegate:	10/08/2026
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Approved