

Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

Position Description

Ecologist – P50195

Tenure: Term Contract

Classification: PO2

Hours of work: Fulltime (37.5 hours/week)

Reports to: Team Leader Landscape Ecology

Direct reports: nil

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board promotes diversity, and flexible ways of working including part time hours and opportunities to work from home. Applicants are encouraged to discuss the flexible working arrangements for this role by contacting the hiring manager.

About the role

The Ecologist supports conservation and threatened species outcomes by providing expert ecological advice and delivering threatened flora conservation programs across the region. The role translates ecological knowledge into practical management actions, assesses environmental risks and opportunities, and works closely with land managers, stakeholders and community partners to achieve on-ground outcomes across private and public land. The Ecologist also builds regional capability through technical support, knowledge sharing and project leadership.

About the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board

The Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board is a statutory body with a focus on enhancing, conserving, and sustaining the landscapes of our impressively diverse region. Spanning vast natural environments and productive agricultural lands, our foremost focus is to collaborate with the region's communities across projects that empower people to be at the heart of landscape management. Our teams work across projects to conserve native flora and fauna, manage pest plants and animals, and improve the health of the wetlands and floodplains along the River Murray. Our sustainable agriculture team works to drive on-farm productivity, while our engagement team collaborates with First Nations, young people, volunteers and citizen scientists to build the skills and capacity of our greatest asset – our people.

Frontline staff are supported by a dynamic team of professionals working behind the scenes in roles ranging from finance and governance through to communications, planning, information management, monitoring and evaluation, investment support and more, working as one team to deliver for our region.

The landscape board employs around 85 staff with offices located in Berri and Murray Bridge, with satellite sites in Lamerloo and Cambrai

Find out more about the role of the landscape board and the work we do.

About our culture

People are at the heart of everything we do. Whether it's engaging with the region's landholders or creating a supportive environment for our staff, people are always at the forefront.

Reflecting this is an organisational culture that nurtures, empowers and develops staff to create real impact through the work they do. Landscape board employees' skills are developed through ongoing training, education and mentoring opportunities, and leadership programs with the opportunity to grow through promotional opportunities. We offer highly flexible working conditions including the ability to work from home and schedule your work around personal commitments.

Key results of the position

- Develop, coordinate, implement, monitor and report on threatened species recovery programs ensuring outcomes are delivered on time, within budget and supported by effective risk management.
- Provide high level ecological expertise and evidence-based advice to support decision making, fire management planning, environmental assessment processes, and threat management and monitoring, particularly in relation to threatened flora and other priority species.
- Apply ecological restoration principles to project design and delivery to support long-term landscape management outcomes.
- Improve the management, protection, and extent of native vegetation and wetland habitats on private land through the delivery of on-ground conservation activities.
- Ensure conservation projects are delivered in accordance with state and Commonwealth environmental legislation and scientific best practice.
- Contribute to improved biodiversity and threatened species outcomes aligned with South Australian Government conservation objectives and Regional Landscape Plan targets.
- Deliver regional biodiversity programs that provide appropriate technical support to participants for effective pest control and habitat conservation.
- Build and maintain collaborative relationships with landholders, community groups, government agencies, e-NGOs and other stakeholders, and deliver targeted communication and engagement activities that increase awareness and participation in regional biodiversity conservation initiatives.
- Contribute to a safe workplace by taking responsibility for personal and others' safety, identifying and reporting hazards, and actively participating in health and safety consultation and risk management processes.

Key relationships

- Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board employees, Board members and Landscape Ecology team members.
- National Parks and Wildlife Services staff across the Murraylands and Riverland region.
- Key Department for Environment and Water (DEW) staff, including the Native Vegetation Unit and other regions.
- Key staff within other landscape board regions.
- Private landholders, including Heritage Agreement holders, grant recipients and those interested in entering into a Heritage Agreement.
- Local, SA state and Australian Government agencies.
- Non-government environmental organisations (eNGOs), community environment groups, advocates and community members.
- Universities, research organisations, environmental contractors and consultants.

Special conditions

- Position is based at either Murry Bridge or Berri.
- A current minimum class C driver's licence and willingness and ability to safely operate a 4WD is required.
- Appointment will be subject to a satisfactory criminal history check.
- Will have the opportunity to participate in fire management or associated duties
- Some out of hours work and intrastate travel involving overnight absences from home may be required.
- Required to work alone in a field environment, including working in adverse weather conditions from time to time.
- Required to participate in the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board's Performance Development and Review Program.

Key selection criteria

- Maintains current and comprehensive knowledge of ecological science, biodiversity conservation, landscape restoration, threatened species recovery, fire management, pest plant and animal control, habitat restoration, water resources and land management across terrestrial and riverine environments.
- Provides accurate, evidence-based technical advice to support private land conservation and biodiversity outcomes, with a sound understanding of relevant state and national policies, legislation and guidelines.
- Identifies, analyses and interprets ecological and environmental data, drawing sound conclusions and recommending practical solutions to complex issues.
- Demonstrates proficiency in the use of geospatial (ESRI), data management and statistical analysis tools to support planning, monitoring, evaluation and decision-making.
- Produces well-researched, concise and accessible written material tailored to the audience and expressed in plain English.
- Applies an understanding of community engagement, adult learning and rural extension principles to support effective communication and stakeholder participation.
- Maintains sound knowledge and practical experience in project management, including planning, procurement, risk management, implementation, monitoring and review.
- Effectively prioritises workloads, manages competing demands and adapts to changing priorities while maintaining focus on achieving key outcomes.

Qualifications / Education

- A tertiary qualification in ecology, environment, conservation biology or a related discipline is essential.
- A current First Aid Certificate is desirable.

Expectations and values

- Maintain a commitment to professional conduct in line with the Code of Ethics for the South Australian Public Sector.
- Maintain a commitment to Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO), cultural safety and diversity in the workplace.
- Acknowledge and respect the cultural authority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in line with the Landscape SA *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statement of Commitment*.

CLASSIFIED

Division:	Landscapes SA	Date approved:	18 August 2026
Branch:	Murraylands & Riverland Landscape Board	Classification Reviewed by:	Katrina Bell