

# Significant Environmental Benefit NEWSLETTER

Number 2  
DEC 2014

**Nature Foundation SA – SA’s largest non-government conservation land owner**

*“The success of our Inaugural SEB Forum at Witchelina, has ignited enthusiasm and enhanced a spirit of cooperation—of which I am very proud. In their own words: “it has given resource sector ‘enviros’ a platform to meet and discuss the industry.”*

*Bob Lott – Nature Foundation SA President*

## Inaugural SEB Forum

In September, Nature Foundation SA welcomed 21 resource industry ‘enviros’ to Witchelina Nature Reserve, located near Lyndhurst, for the Inaugural SEB Forum. Companies and organisations who were represented included Arrium Mining, Beach Energy Ltd, BHP Billiton, ElectraNet Pty Ltd, Heathgate Resources Pty Ltd, OZ Minerals, Rex Minerals Ltd, Santos Ltd, Senex Energy Pty Ltd, SACOME, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, and the Department of State Development.

Forum attendees were able to see first-hand what has been achieved on the 421,900 ha reserve, with SEB offsets deployed through Nature Foundation SA as a third party provider. They were shown how threat abatement activities are producing measurable environmental benefits. A special highlight for many was a presentation from Flinders University BirdLab PhD candidates, Marina Louter and Amy Slender\*, and the opportunity to visit a Thick-billed Grasswren research site. Feedback from participants overwhelmingly expressed support for the Foundation’s principal of reinforcing management with scientific research.



*Restoration Ecology Forum participants at Mt Nor West Gorge, Witchelina Nature Reserve. Credit: Natasha Harper*

The forum was also an opportunity for participants to meet the Foundation’s SEB team, and to network with one another. The Foundation was represented by Bob Lott (President), Chris Reed (NFSA Councillor), Ian Atkinson (CEO), Alex Nankivell (Conservation Programs Manager), Caroline Nefiodovas (SEB Business Development Manager), and Deb Agnew (Remarkable NRM Consultant)—who are all SEB Committee members, and a small group of NFSA support staff and volunteers.

*\*Thick-billed Grasswren research is under the supervision of Prof. Sonia Kleindorfer, Dr. Jeremy Robertson and Dr. Mike Gardner, and is supported by a Nature Foundation SA-Flinders University partnership.*

## SEB Credits on Hiltaba

Nature Foundation SA's Hiltaba Nature Reserve, located immediately north-west of the Gawler Ranges National Park on northern Eyre Peninsula, is situated in a biodiversity transition zone. The 78,000 ha property links temperate-mallee vegetation in the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management (NRM) region with semi-arid vegetation in the Arid Lands NRM region. In this zone, conservation actions are more effective at a landscape scale.

Nature Foundation SA's whole-of-property approach aims to improve native vegetation regeneration on Hiltaba through management that reduces the impact of livestock and feral herbivores over a large area. The strategy means populations of species such as the vulnerable Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby, which requires habitat restoration at this scale, can recover.

Hiltaba is expected to be part of a pilot program for SEB crediting in South Australia. The ability to discharge clearance offsets, through purchasing SEB credits on Hiltaba, will make it possible for the industry to contribute to nature conservation at the scale which is needed.



Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby



## Introducing Alex Nankivell – NFSA Conservation Programs Manager

Alex has a Bachelor of Applied Science in Environmental Management and a Masters in Project Management. For the past six years Alex has been planning the Foundation's conservation activities and adeptly handles both the strategic and operational sides of Nature Foundation SA programs. His work includes project development, project management, SEB approvals, building stakeholder relationships, writing management plans, and on-ground implementation.

Alex's love of the environment and ecology has been shaped by adventures to some far flung places in search of the world's natural and cultural wonders. Trips to the Himalayas, Andes, Amazon, and African plains have helped him to crystallize the importance of making a difference to the environment at a local level.

## Why Choose Third Party Delivery?

Third party delivery of SEB offsets for vegetation clearance liabilities under the *Native Vegetation Act 1991*, is proving to be a model that has significant appeal for industry. Companies who choose to devolve their liability through Nature Foundation SA have opportunity to be more closely involved in, and derive added value from, their contributions toward nature conservation outcomes.

The environmental outcomes being achieved on Witchelina Nature Reserve demonstrate the success that Nature Foundation SA has achieved. The property was acquired with contributions from five resource sector companies: Santos Ltd; Beach Energy Ltd; Epic Energy Ltd; Stuart Petroleum; and Victoria Petroleum NL. These companies have been able to rely on the Foundation's proven nature conservation capability, which guarantees a net biodiversity gain is delivered.

Also, Nature Foundation SA is committed to developing industry partnerships by supporting initiatives such as:

- conservation information sessions for interested staff
- opportunities to be involved in volunteer programs
- feature articles in the Foundation's publications.

## More News ...

### SACOME Membership

Nature Foundation SA is pleased to announce it has joined the SA Chamber of Mines and Energy (SACOME), as a service provider of environmental offset solutions.

### Supporter Update

NFSA welcomes new SEB programme supporter KJM Contractors. KJM incurred an SEB obligation through clearance of native vegetation for their Logistics Support Hub in the Cooper Basin, South Australia. The Foundation would also like to thank Beach, Santos, Senex and Heathgate for their ongoing commitment to our programme by choosing to discharge their 2014/15 SEB obligations with us.

*The Nature Foundation SEB Programme is supported by:*

*Arrium Mining, Beach Energy Limited, ElectraNet Pty Ltd, Epic Energy South Australia Pty Ltd, Heathgate Resources Pty. Ltd, KJM Contractors, Santos Limited, SEAGas Pty Ltd, Senex Energy Limited, and WPG Resources*