



## WildEyre

### WildEyre continues to get results

In the last twelve months over 10,000 ha of weed control and conservation works have been delivered on the Eyre Peninsula's West Coast. WildEyre wishes to thank all the landholders and contractors involved in achieving these results.

The WildEyre project area includes the coastal townships of Sheringa and Mt Hope in the south to Streaky Bay and Haslam in the north and extends inland to the large Wilderness Protection Areas of Hincks and Hambidge. The WildEyre partner organisations who work together are the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board, Department

for Environment, Water and Natural Resources, Nature Conservation Society of SA, The Wilderness Society South Australia and Greening Australia.

WildEyre Project Manager Andrew Freeman said continuing to work with Ceduna Aboriginal Corporation's labour hire team has achieved great results. "The labour hire team have undertaken African Boxthorn control on various sites including areas near Streaky Bay and Port Kenny. They've also collected 161 kg of native seed from between Elliston and Smoky Bay," said Mr Freeman.

"We have undertaken follow up control of 7,000ha of African Boxthorn by continuing to use the helicopter-based granular herbicide dispersal method. These works have been done on both public and private land with an emphasis on Waldegrave Island and Lake Newland Conservation Park." said Mr Freeman. Initial control works undertaken in early 2014 have seen 80-90% of African Boxthorns controlled in these areas. Follow-up control is targeting the few individual plants that were missed initially.

African Boxthorn is an invasive environmental weed, capable of altering coastal bushland. Plans are already underway to continue African Boxthorn follow-up control works in August 2016. Owners of adjoining land have also been requested to control their African boxthorns within 500m of the completed control works to minimise seed dispersal back into these areas.

"We are pleased to have the cooperation of 4 private landowners who have excluded stock from 2,541ha of remnant vegetation. Five land managers have also undertaken 142 ha of direct seeding in total. A further 45 ha of direct seeding within Venus Bay Conservation Park has also been completed. Management of Western Grey Kangaroo grazing impacts has been essential for seedling survival over the dry summer months.

Contractors and Natural Resources Eyre Peninsula staff have also been working to control another invasive environmental weed, Italian Buckthorn, between Mt Hope and Sheringa Beach.

In Spring this year a large monitoring program will be undertaken to measure the changes the last four years of onground works have achieved. Bird surveys and assessments of vegetation condition will be conducted by experts and volunteers at 80 sites across the project area.

Funds for these activities have been provided by the Australian Government.

Landholders who own land in the WildEyre area or community members are encouraged to discuss any project ideas with local Natural Resources EP staff at Elliston or Streaky Bay, or with the WildEyre Project Manager.

For more information about WildEyre 'A collaborative conservation project on western Eyre Peninsula' visit [www.wildeyre.com.au](http://www.wildeyre.com.au) or contact Andrew Freeman ph: (08) 8688 3076.



Photo of WildEyre Working Group members Liz McTaggart and Andrew Freeman looking at the success of revegetation in Venus Bay Conservation Park.