

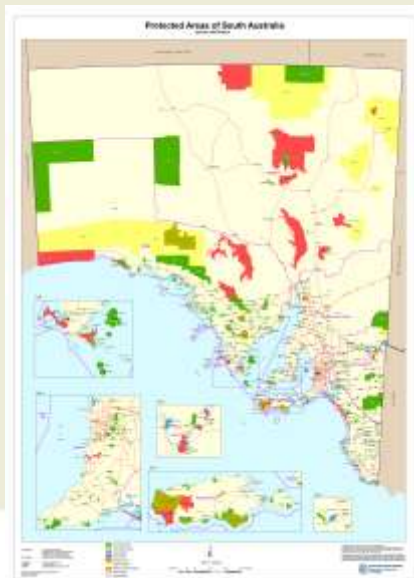
Department  
for Environment  
and Heritage

# Trails over the South Australian Horizon

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Program Leader Trails  
Visitor Management DEH

# Context

The South Australian Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH) is responsible for the management and future direction of trails on DEH protected areas and the Yurrebilla and Heysen Trails



# Government and Trails

## The State Strategic Plan and State Infrastructure Plan provide the direction Actioned through the DEH Corporate Plan.

### SASP Objective 1: Growing Prosperity

- Encouraging growth in tourism

### SASP Objective 2: Improving Wellbeing of Citizens

- Weight loss through activity

### SASP Objective 5: Building Communities

- Maintaining community involvement through volunteering

### DEH Corporate Plan aspires to:

*contribute to prosperity for South Australia that is sustainable in our rapidly changing world and*

*contribute to a society that values, conserves and invests in its rich heritage and diverse natural environments.*



# Strategic Initiatives

**Developed for the sustainable management of some 7000 kilometres of trails covering South Australia's landscapes.**

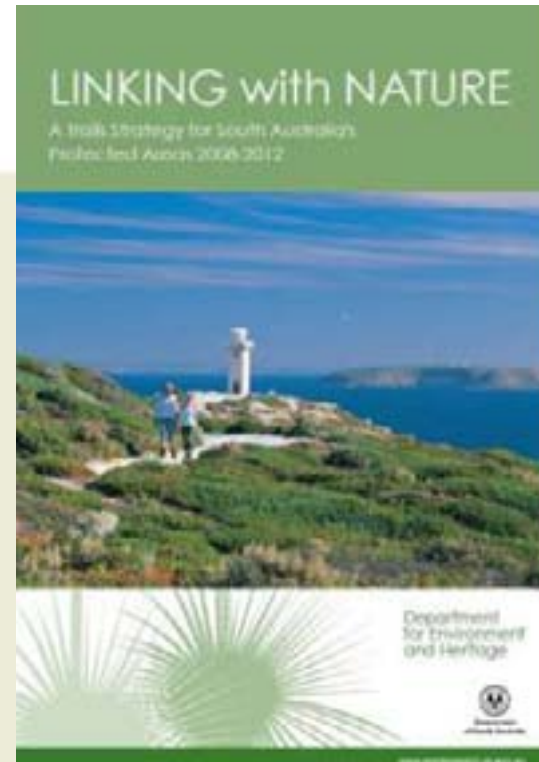


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# Strategy Development

**Heysen Trail Strategic Plan 2007 - 2012.**

**Linking with Nature A Trail Strategy for South Australia's Protected Areas 2008-2012**



# The Trail Challenges

Through staff and stakeholder workshops important trail challenges were identified:

- Environmental impacts.
- Sustainability and future investment.
- Health benefits.
- Economic benefits.
- Relevance.
- Public education and information.
- Trail design and construction.
- Coordination of trail groups and resources.
- Equitable access to reserve tracks and trails.
- Climate change and fuel availability.
- Co-management Agreements



# Heysen Trail Goals

1. **Promote the trail as offering SA's premier long distance walking experience**
2. **Broaden the variety of experiences and opportunities on the trail to encourage its increased use by a wider range of people**
3. **Ensure a high standard of management for the trail**
4. **Increase the support base and involvement with the trail**
5. **Pursue resources and ensure their effective use in the development, management and promotion of the trail**



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# Trail Strategy Goals

The challenges identified were linked to the DEH Corporate Plan Goals to set the direction for the protected area trail strategy:

1. South Australians Involved
2. A healthy environment
3. Sustainable growth
4. Better decisions and partnerships
5. Getting results



# South Australians Involved

**Planning is fundamental to achieve the goals:**

- **Promote trails in protected areas**
- **Provide quality information and interpretation**
- **Provide diverse recreational opportunities**
- **Create excellent trail experiences**
- **Engage South Australians**



# A healthy environment

## Conservation of SA's biodiversity

- **Promote responsible use of trails**
- **Enhance and rehabilitate trail corridors and decommissioned trails**
- **Provide trail design with a high level of environmental protection.**
- **Develop environmental risk assessment process for trail planning.**



# Sustainable Growth

- Evaluate priority trails where required redesign and upgrade
- Provide challenges and rewards whilst maintaining safety
- Appeal to a variety of user groups, and give access to features of great interest.



# Better Decisions and Partnerships

**Planning an exceptional trails network**

**Better trails through partnership and leadership**



# Getting Results

- **Develop DEH expertise in trail management**
- **Impart knowledge to staff, stakeholders and volunteers.**
- **Link to recognised international practice in trail planning and design.**



# How to achieve the results

## Program delivery

- **Additional funding of \$5 million over five years**
- **Delivery of trail master plans**
- **Clarity of roles across DEH**
- **Where to from here**
  - **Completion of planning**
  - **Investment phase**
  - **Recognition of trends**



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# The End



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