

Opportunities to get involved

Volunteers

Opportunities exist to get involved through ForestrySA's Friends of the Forests volunteer organisation with activities such as tree planting, seed collection, flora and fauna monitoring, and data collection and analysis. For more information about volunteers contact ForestrySA.

Consider a Biodiversity Corridor on your land

You may be interested in planting wildlife corridors on your land. If so there may be assistance available. For more information, contact ForestrySA.



For more information about Biodiversity Corridors contact....

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South East Biodiversity Corridors Strategy

Planning for tomorrow's biodiversity

ForestrySA's Vision

ForestrySA has commenced a long-term strategy to improve the biodiversity of its Native Forest Reserves in the Lower South East. Over the next twenty-five years, more than twenty native vegetation corridors will be planted to connect reserves separated by timber plantations and cleared land. In many priority locations, ForestrySA will replace areas of pine plantations with native species. In other locations, it is hoped that corridors can be established with adjoining conservation reserves and landholders.

Why do we need biodiversity corridors?

Our native wildlife lives in a changed landscape. Since European settlement, land has been cleared for agriculture and industry. Our landscape today often consists of fragmented native forest areas or "habitat islands", surrounded by plantation and other agricultural land. Animal migratory movements are often no longer possible for many species, leading to little or no genetic interaction. Over time this can lead to a reduction in genetic diversity, and the species' ability to adjust to environmental change. Some examples of this include increased mortality rates and susceptibility to natural catastrophes such as fire and disease, resulting in an increased probability that a species may become extinct. Corridors help reduce this by providing an opportunity for animals to migrate from one habitat island to another.

What are biodiversity corridors?

Biodiversity Corridors are strips of native vegetation that connect fragmented landscapes. Corridors allow animals including birds, reptiles, amphibians, mammals, and insects, that would usually be isolated, to travel easily and safely from one native forest area to another.



Government
of South Australia



ForestrySA



Taking biodiversity enhancement to the next level

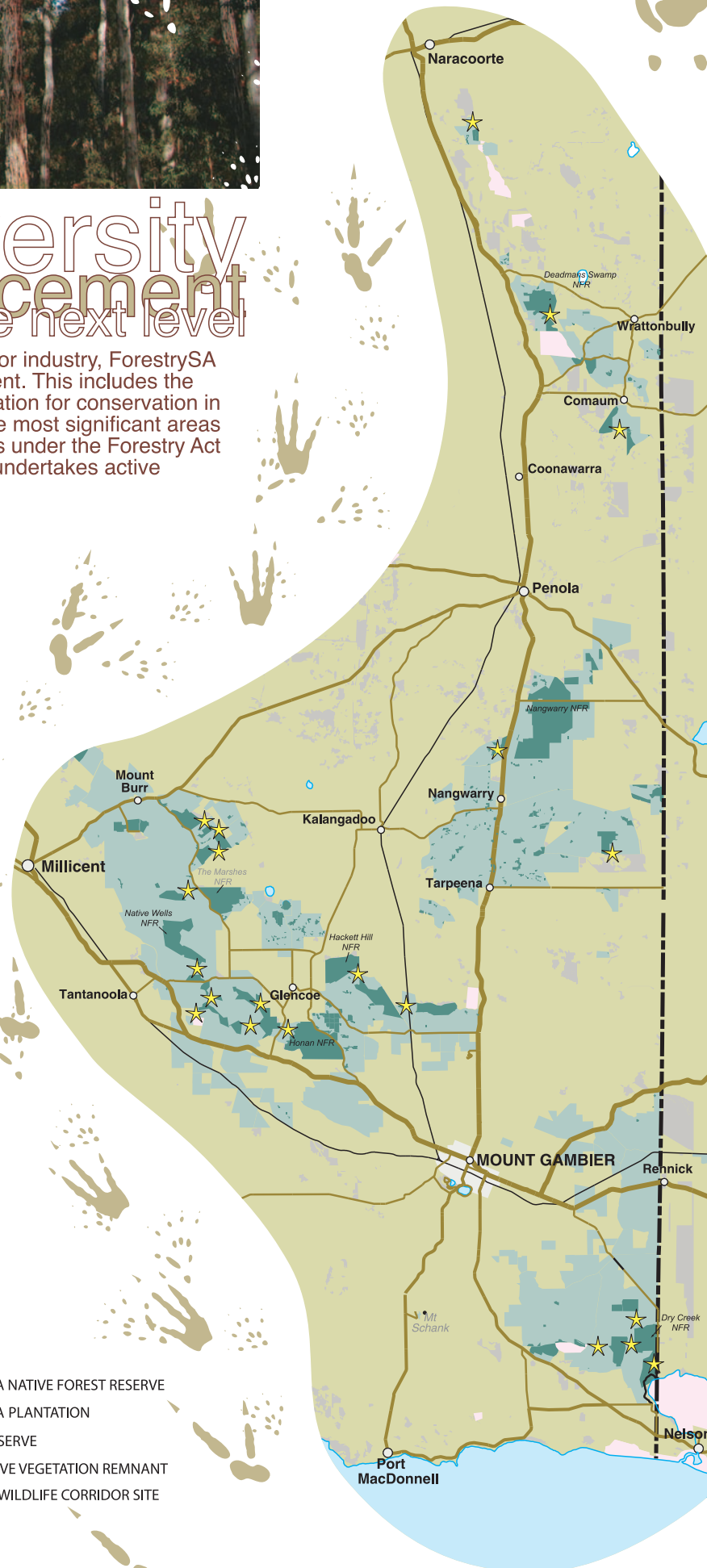
As part of its role in growing commercial timber for industry, ForestrySA is committed to sound environmental management. This includes the management of 13,300 hectares of native vegetation for conservation in the South East, representing 14% of its land. The most significant areas have been proclaimed as Native Forest Reserves under the Forestry Act to ensure a high level of protection. ForestrySA undertakes active management programs within these Reserves including pest plant and animal control, revegetation and fire management. Native Forest Reserves form about 22% of remnant native vegetation in the Lower South East, and contribute to regional biodiversity by conserving significant flora and fauna. Many of these reserves however, occur as habitat islands. In recent years, ForestrySA have taken a landscape approach to this problem, using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to identify potential corridors, and have developed a strategy which will help secure the survival of many species well into the future.

What size are the corridors?

Research has shown that corridors of native vegetation between 40 and 80 metres wide will be sufficient within radiata pine plantations. The value of the corridor decreases with length, so corridors less than around 2 km have been considered. Corridors within plantations have been shown to be of greater value than those in open areas because of decreased edge effects from wind and weather.



- FORESTRYSA NATIVE FOREST RESERVE
- FORESTRYSA PLANTATION
- NPWSSA RESERVE
- OTHER NATIVE VEGETATION REMNANT
- ★ PROPOSED WILDLIFE CORRIDOR SITE



How will corridors be planted?

The corridors will be planted by a mixture of hand planting and direct seeding, with the aim to provide an adequate structure and plant species diversity. A carefully planted corridor will provide all the elements of food, shelter and protection from predators. Over storey trees will be carefully placed, so that they grow quickly, and eventually provide habitat in the form of hollows. Understorey plants that provide cover for animals will be planted using direct seeding machinery.

How do the corridors work?

Corridors provide habitat for different species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects and allow for the dispersal from one area of key habitat to another.

A carefully planned and implemented corridor provides habitat by imitating the structure and function of native vegetation, by providing for an animals need for key elements of survival – food, shelter, and protection from predators.

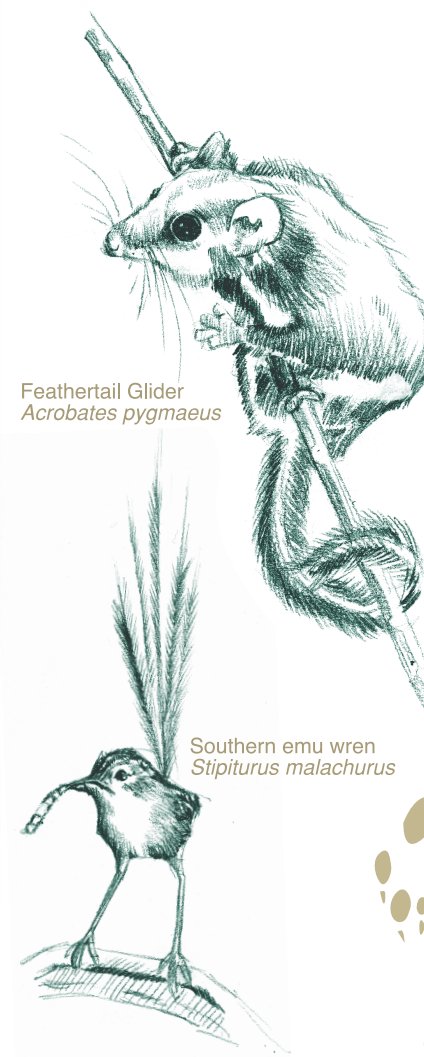
Where will the corridors be planted?

The corridors will be in various places in the South East of South Australia, from Cave Range, near Naracoorte, to Dry Creek near the Glenelg River. (See map - left)



What species will benefit from corridors?

Some of the more significant species that will benefit from wildlife corridors include the nationally endangered Southern Brown Bandicoot, and other significant species such as the Yellow-bellied Glider, Sugar Glider, and Feathertail Glider. Birds that would benefit include the Brown Treecreeper and Southern Emu Wren.



Feathertail Glider
Acrobates pygmaeus

Southern emu wren
Stipiturus malachurus

Yellow-footed Antechinus
Antechinus flavipes



Yellow-bellied Glider
Petaurus australis