

Hamelin Station Reserve

Scorecard 2015 - 2021



Bush Heritage Australia

Our vision

Hamelin showcases exemplary landscape-scale conservation management. We work with Traditional Owners and partners to protect endemic, threatened, and cultural values of the World Heritage Area. Hamelin supports world-class scientific research and conservation tourism.

Burralluguda (Hamelin) adds a 10% conservation buffer to the Gatharragudu (Shark Bay) World Heritage Area. It extends a corridor of nature reserves from Gatharragudu to Kalbarri National Park – a span of over 200 km.

Hamelin is in a transitional zone, supporting significant areas of Acacia shrublands and Eucalypt woodlands, core habitat for the Western Spiny-tailed Skink, Western Grasswren, Malleefowl, and Hamelin Skink.

Managed for over 100 years as a sheep station, a legacy of soil compaction and erosion are being addressed by de-stocking, closure of artificial waterpoints, and fencing upgrades to support recovery, however ongoing investment in management efforts is needed.



Reserve size: 202,644 hectares

Acquisition year: 2015

Traditional Owners:
Malgana (Gatharragudu,
Shark Bay) and Nanda peoples

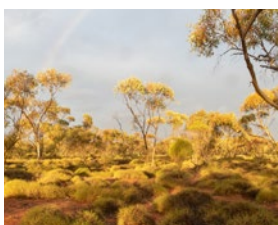
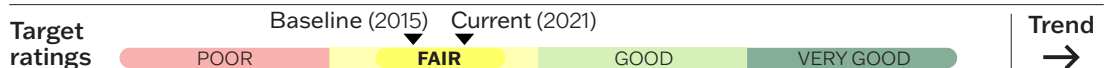
Our conservation targets

This section summarises the long-term health rating of each target and trend since acquisition. Ratings are based on ecological monitoring data and expert knowledge.



Diverse shrubland on sandplain

Diverse shrublands on sandplains support a diverse range of banksias, mallee eucalypts, and Soft Spinifex providing habitat for fossorial reptiles and several threatened species. Since 2015, fauna richness has remained stable, with over 40 species regularly detected and five species of small mammals.



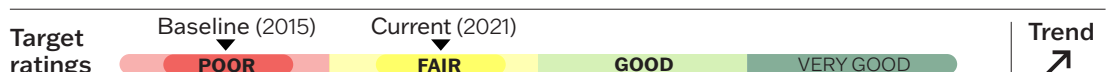
Low woodland over hummock grassland

77% of the low woodlands and hummock grassland vegetation community is protected on Hamelin, providing critical habitat for native species including the vulnerable Hamelin Skink. 80% of Hamelin Skink records occur on Hamelin.



Southern rangelands

This target covers 80% of the property and includes intact and degraded areas, affected by historical grazing. Monitoring shows an increase in cryptogam cover and decrease in browse line height following goat and sheep removal.



Managing threats

Threat	Recent rating	Trend	Resource investment	What are we doing?
Sheep and goats	HIGH	↘	👤👤👤 \$\$\$	Significant progress has been made to reduce total grazing pressure: 3 dams decommissioned, 30,000 goats and sheep trapped since 2015, 84km of boundary fence upgraded to reduce incursions.
Erosion	MEDIUM	→	👤👤👤 \$\$	Remediation of erosion gullies at priority sites completed, supporting the establishment of ground cover and slowing water flow.
Priority herbaceous weeds	MEDIUM	→	👤👤👤 \$	Weeds are present in areas of high disturbance. Control has focused on the homestead precinct and access tracks to limit seed spread. Challenges remain for managing Buffel Grass although plans have been developed and input sought from other regions.
Introduced predators	LOW		👤👤 \$\$	In 2020, we expanded our integrated pest control program, trialling multiple control methods. We are monitoring the results and will continue to refine and adapt our management approach to reduce predation pressures on native species.
Inappropriate fire regime	MEDIUM	→	👤👤 \$\$	Most of the reserve has remained unburnt for nearly 50 years. Recovery from over-grazing and recent high rainfall (2021-22) mean that strategic fire management is recommended.

Strategy highlight:

Erosion control on Hamelin

Landscape rehydration was a key focus to address gully and track-based erosion. Interventions included installation of sieve rolls and jute matting with Malgana Rangers, helping to slow water flows, and supporting groundcover establishment at priority sites.

We are working with Gatharragudu (Shark Bay) Traditional Owners to identify and protect culturally important sites on Hamelin.

We are working with the Malgana Aboriginal Corporation to achieve their aspirations for Country and the Malgana Rangers to support ranger skill development and training on Hamelin.



							
2	1	1	159	8	69	8	10,491
Threatened fauna species	Threatened flora species	Threatened vegetation community	Bird species	Native mammal species	Reptile species	BHA supported research projects completed	Volunteer hours (since 2017)

Bush Heritage acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the places in which we live, work, and play. We recognise the enduring relationships they have with their lands and waters, and we pay our respects to Elders past and present.

We are deeply grateful to our partners and supporters who are a core part of our conservation work.