FOX CREEK
BIKE PARK

ForestrySA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Long-term, viable and sustainable management models to help ensure Fox Creek Bike Park can be maintained, and enhanced, as a premier mountain bike destination.

Image credit: Australian Mountain Bike Magazine



PERAMANGK AND KAURNA COUNTRY

Fox Creek Bike Park is situated on shared Peramangk and Kaurna country. The Peramangk and Kaurna People cared for the Land and the natural environment through lore and customs for more than 50,000 years.

The Country was well endowed with resources, food, water, firewood, and raw materials such as stone; timber and resins for tool manufacture; bark for huts, shields and canoes; pigments for painting; and furred animals for warm rugs. During winter, warm, dry huts of branches, bark grass and leaves, were constructed, often built around the hollow side of old red gums. Cudlee Creek runs through the bike park near the lower car park and is known by the Peramangk as Kadli-parri. This translates as Dingo Creek, named after the wild dogs which once lived here in abundance.



INTRODUCTION

Fox Creek Bike Park has been a favourite mountain biking destination for decades. Spanning across over 50km of single track and 75km of fire track trails, the park has significantly contributed to recreational tourism in the Adelaide Hills.

The landowner, ForestrySA, is a statutory corporation responsible for managing public plantation forests for commercial production, native vegetation for conservation and cultural heritage. It operates in accordance with best practice standards for forestry operations and sustainable environmental management.

Following the 2019 Cudlee Creek Bushfire, the park underwent a comprehensive rebuild, supported by significant bushfire recovery funding and countless volunteer hours. The park remains popular with an estimated 120,000 visitors in 2023-24 and is free to the public to use.

ForestrySA is committed to identifying a viable management model to ensure Fox Creek Bike Park can continue to be a premier, nationally respected, mountain bike destination; alongside ForestrySA's core operations.

The future of Fox Creek Bike Park hinges on sustainable management to maintain its contribution to tourism, the economy, and community well-being. Your ideas, proposals, and feedback are crucial to developing a sustainable management model that will keep our park thriving.

TIM RYAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE
FORESTRYSA

BACKGROUND

Fox Creek Bike Park, located in Cudlee Creek, South Australia, has been a beloved mountain biking destination since the early 1990s.

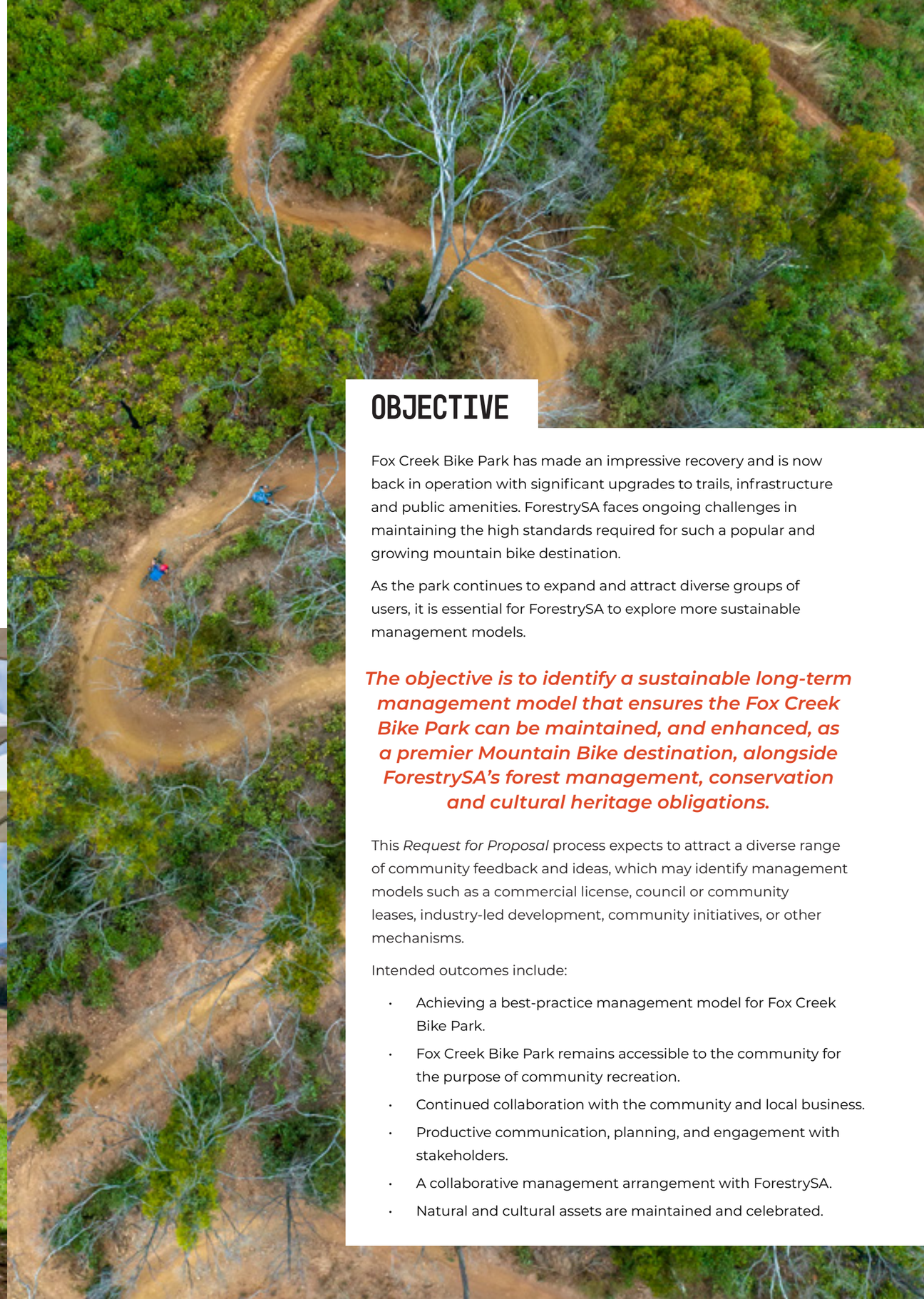
The park is spread across more than 800 hectares, featuring a jumps park, skills area, 50km+ of downhill, gravity, cross country and all terrain single track trails, multiple kilometres of gravel tracks and 180 metres of vertical elevation, and is open to riders of all ages and skill levels. Managed by ForestrySA, Fox Creek Bike Park, has played a pivotal role in promoting outdoor recreation and tourism in the Adelaide Hills, drawing community, social and competitive riders alike.

In December 2019, Fox Creek Bike Park was devastated by the Cudlee Creek bushfire, which severely impacted the trails and infrastructure. Following this destruction, a major effort was undertaken to rebuild the park with a vision to make it bigger and better. This reconstruction has not only restored the park's status as a premier mountain biking destination but also helped reinvigorate the local economy and community as they recovered from the disaster.

A notable addition in the redevelopment has been the introduction of adaptive mountain biking trails, making Fox Creek Bike Park more inclusive for riders with disability. This dedication to building adaptive trails reflects the park's commitment to accessibility and creating a more welcoming environment for all riders.

Fox Creek Bike Park's impact extends beyond its thrilling trails; it plays a critical role in the region's tourism, economy, and community.





OBJECTIVE

Fox Creek Bike Park has made an impressive recovery and is now back in operation with significant upgrades to trails, infrastructure and public amenities. ForestrySA faces ongoing challenges in maintaining the high standards required for such a popular and growing mountain bike destination.

As the park continues to expand and attract diverse groups of users, it is essential for ForestrySA to explore more sustainable management models.

The objective is to identify a sustainable long-term management model that ensures the Fox Creek Bike Park can be maintained, and enhanced, as a premier Mountain Bike destination, alongside ForestrySA's forest management, conservation and cultural heritage obligations.

This *Request for Proposal* process expects to attract a diverse range of community feedback and ideas, which may identify management models such as a commercial license, council or community leases, industry-led development, community initiatives, or other mechanisms.

Intended outcomes include:

- Achieving a best-practice management model for Fox Creek Bike Park.
- Fox Creek Bike Park remains accessible to the community for the purpose of community recreation.
- Continued collaboration with the community and local business.
- Productive communication, planning, and engagement with stakeholders.
- A collaborative management arrangement with ForestrySA.
- Natural and cultural assets are maintained and celebrated.

KEY STATS

OVER 120,000
Visits recorded in 2023/2024.

OVER $3.5M
Invested in Fox Creek Bike Park development.

OVER $122M
Impact through South Australia's thriving cycle tourism industry.*

814HA
Comprising over 50km of single tracks and 75km of fire tracks.

45MINS
From Adelaide CBD, 1 hour from Adelaide International Airport.

35 TRAILS
Including flow, downhill, adaptive and cross country.

3 ADAPTIVE TRAILS
Supporting riders of all abilities.

OVER 20
Community events and races annually.

*2023 WeRide Australian Cycling and eScooter Economy Report

PROCESS

STAGE 1 | NOVEMBER 2024 - JANUARY 2025

Request for Proposal submission process commences, including:

- Official submission form for viable proposals at: forestrysa.com.au.
- Open community feedback survey through YourSAy.
- Stage 1 will close at ***5pm, Friday 31 January 2025.***

STAGE 2 | FEBRUARY 2024 - MARCH 2025

- Panel consideration of proposals, alongside community feedback from YourSAy.
- Site visits and presentations from shortlisted proponents (if required).

STAGE 3 | APRIL 2025 - JUNE 2025

- Detailed financial assessments and direct negotiation with shortlisted proponents (if required).

ENGAGEMENT

ForestrySA recognises the deep connection that many users have with Fox Creek Bike Park. To honour this connection, ForestrySA is committed to a multi-stage process that prioritises clear and transparent communication. This approach is designed to ensure that future decisions about the park are made through a consultative and collaborative process with stakeholders.

Drop-in Sessions: ForestrySA staff will set up a stall at Fox Creek Bike Park to be available for discussions with users about the *Request for Proposal,* the purpose and objective of the engagement, and intended outcomes.

Information Stall # 1 | Fox Creek Bike Park Trail Hub, Croft Road.	Sunday 1 December 2024, 10am - 1pm
Information Stall # 2 | Fox Creek Bike Park Trail Hub, Croft Road.	Sunday 15 December 2024, 10am - 1pm

Community Feedback Platform: An engagement survey and feedback form will be available through YourSAy. Key information, trends and themes from YourSAy will be collated for consideration by the assessment panel, alongside official proposal submissions.

The YourSAy platform will include:

1. Basic user survey to gather overarching data about who uses the park.
2. Questions and feedback regarding key successes and issues experienced in the current operational structure of the park.
3. Questions and feedback about potential management models.

Proposal Submission: Proponents with viable management proposals for the ongoing maintenance, and enhancement, of Fox Creek Bike Park are invited to submit their proposals via forestrysa.com.au with the following information:

Section	*Content*	*Requirements*
Business/Contact Details.	Multiple Questions.	Fillable fields.
Brief overview of business.	Description of proponent's core business/background.	Fillable field: Up to 2000 characters (approx 250-300 words).
Summary of Proposal.	Top-level summary of a Fox Creek Bike Park management model.	Fillable field: Up to 2000 characters (approx 250-300 words).
Detailed Proposal.	Provide a detailed proposal addressing: 1. The long-term vision of a sustainable management plan for Fox Creek Bike Park. 2. Capacity and experience of the proponent to deliver the proposal. 3. A business plan including management structure and proposed financial sustainability. 4. Community and stakeholder engagement plan. 5. An understanding of environmental and cultural impacts of managing a Bike Park.	File Upload.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Assessment Criteria	*Considerations*
The long-term vision of a sustainable management plan for Fox Creek Bike Park.	*Considerations can include:* • Trail management and development strategies • Enhanced public engagement initiatives. • Influence to regional economic growth. • Attraction of high-profile events. • Improvement of public amenities and services.
Capacity and experience of the proponent to deliver the proposal.	*Considerations can include:* • Proven experience and qualifications of the proposed project team. • In-depth understanding of the requirements for safe park operations. • Quality management systems and a track record of past performance. • Demonstrated expertise in trail building and maintenance.
A business plan including management structure and proposed financial sustainability.	*Considerations can include:* • A viable operational plan covering, at least, a five-year period. • Sound financial modeling to ensure accessibility and inclusivity for all users. • A proposed plan for securing funding for trail development and maintenance. • A clear understanding of the operational requirements within a managed forest (ForestrySA).
Community and stakeholder engagement plan.	*Considerations can include:* • Commitment to ongoing community and stakeholder engagement. • Collaboration with local businesses and suppliers. • Event development and management experience. • An engagement plan to foster positive relationships with key stakeholders. • A marketing and communications plan to enhance Fox Creek Bike Park's reputation as a premier national MTB destination.
An understanding of environmental and cultural impacts of managing a Bike Park.	*Considerations can include:* • A sound understanding of South Australian conservation, biodiversity, cultural and environmental management principles and regulations.

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

ForestrySA expects that all proponents, in submitting their proposal will:

1. Declare any actual or potential conflict of interest.
2. Comply with all South Australian laws applicable to the process.
3. Not attempt to influence the outcome of this process by offering any employment, payment or any other incentive to or in any way seek to improperly influence any person employed by ForestrySA.
4. Not make any news releases or responses to media enquiries and questions pertaining to this process or the subsequent selection process without ForestrySA's written approval. If any proponent acts contrary to these expectations, ForestrySA reserves the right to terminate negotiations or consideration of a proposal.
5. Meet all costs associated with preparing a proposal and participating in the process, unless agreed in writing.

PREPARATION AND LODGEMENT OF PROPOSALS

1. This document is provided to assist proponents in making their own appraisal of the opportunity presented, and in deciding whether to submit a proposal. The information provided is not intended to serve as the basis for an investment decision on the opportunity. Each proponent is expected to make such independent investigation and to obtain such independent advice, as they may deem necessary for such a decision.
2. All proposals must be lodged via forestrysa.com.au.
3. All proposals must be lodged by 5:00pm 31 January, 2025.
4. Any liability in connecting with the information contained here, by any interested party, is hereby disclaimed.
5. No responsibility will be accepted by ForestrySA, with respect to the accuracy and completeness of the information provided regard of the information provided regarding the opportunity.

EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

- ForestrySA will establish a panel to carefully consider how each proposal meets the assessment criteria.
- Alongside the Request for Proposal, ForestrySA will be operating a YourSAy consultation platform for the community to provide feedback on their expectations and needs in regard to future management of Fox Creek Bike Park.
- Feedback from yourSAy will be presented to the panel for consideration and discussion alongside the proposal.
- Proponent's may be invited to meet with the panel to further discuss their proposal and its viability.
- The panel will determine which proposals, if any, will proceed to stage 3 (direct negotiation).

FORESTRYSA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO:

1. Choose information that is to be disclosed. Nothing in this process obliges the disclosure of any information to the proponent or its subcontractors, representatives or external advisers.
2. Extend the closing date.
3. Amend the requirements at any time prior to the closing date.
4. Seek additional information from one or more of the proponents on any issue at any time and to continue discussions with one or more of the proponents.
5. Discontinue discussions at any time with any proponent.
6. Enter into discussions with any other person or company who is not a proponent.
7. Allow a proponent to change a proposal.
8. Withdraw opportunities from this process before or after the receipt of proposals.
9. Seek the advice of external consultants to assist in the evaluation or review of proposals.
10. Make enquiries of any person, company or organisation to ascertain information regarding the proponent and the proposal.
11. Consider an incomplete proposal.

ALL ENQUIRIES

Andrew Dundon

Manager, Strategic Implementation | ForestrySA

e. dundon.andrew@forestrysa.com.au

p. 0429 895 982

FOX CREEK BIKE PARK

Government of South Australia

ForestrySA

Responsible Wood

RW/1-21-4

SOUTH AUSTRALIA