

## Landcare NSW Incorporated

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2 Sep 2016

Demian Koop

NSW Environmental Trust

Email: [Demian.Koop@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Demian.Koop@environment.nsw.gov.au)

*Many Hands, One Voice*  
*Winnai Hinnai? One Voice*

Dear Demian,

### **Re: Feedback on Research Priorities**

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss research priority areas for the Environmental Trust Research program.

As mentioned I have sought feedback from the Council members of Landcare NSW and the following areas are provided for consideration by the Trust. It was felt that with the Biodiversity reforms, and the emphasis on and investment into private native conservation programs, the following were seen as high priority research areas:

- The effect of governance arrangements for NRM programs on: the uptake of projects under the program, the extent of co-investment brought to the project, the ownership of outcomes of the project, and the on-going commitment to and long-term management of the project.
- The 'Integration of Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Broad-acre Agriculture Goals'
- Biodiversity and ecosystem health with regards to habitat corridors and connections, and consequences of climate change on fragmented landscapes (this was raised in the context of the concern that the draft Biodiversity Legislation and potentially as a result of these more fragmentation of ecosystems and loss of biodiversity)
- Utilising successful on-ground Landcare group projects to research the factors that made these a success, so that this can be replicated at both the project and program level.

- Understanding the importance of the strategic development of NRM on farms for outcomes that support environmental, economic, community and individual well-being - ie functional goals (biodiversity, biosecurity, water quality, shade and shelter for livestock), social goals (supporting community, farm families, mental health, education), economic goals (the survival/sustainability of the farm as a production unit), and aesthetic goals (the farm as a home and as an office).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonia Williams', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Sonia Williams** | State Landcare Coordinator

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