



Landcare
New South Wales

LANDCARE NSW ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20



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Little Bay
Greater Sydney Landcare Network
John McLoughlin



Saving our Species Koala Habitat Restoration Project (Gunnedah and Liverpool Plains)
Tamworth Regional Landcare
Ingrid Yeo

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“We acknowledge that the First Peoples are the traditional custodians of NSW and the first Landcarers, and pay our respects to Aboriginal Elders past, present and emerging. We also extend that respect to all Aboriginal people and celebrate the rich culture, diversity, strength and knowledge of caring for our land and sea country.”

OUR MISSION

TO SUPPORT NSW LANDCARERS IN CARING FOR OUR LAND, ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITIES.

OUR VISION

NSW LANDCARERS WILL HAVE THE LEADERSHIP, SKILLS & RESOURCES TO CARE FOR OUR LAND, ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITIES.

OUR VALUES

- COLLABORATION: WORKING IN GROUPS & BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS
- NON-PARTY POLITICAL REPRESENTATION
- FLEXIBILITY, ADAPTABILITY & INNOVATION
- RESPONSIVENESS TO DIFFERENT NEEDS & CULTURES
- CLARITY OF PURPOSE



Box Grassy Woodland Project
and ANU Fenner Institute workshop.
Mid Lachlan Landcare



Carroll Property After Bushfire
Tweed Landcare

WHO WE ARE

Landcare NSW is the peak representative body for community Landcare in NSW.

Landcare is a community-driven approach to sustainable natural resource management, with a focus on improving the resilience of the environment now and into the future.

With over 60,000 active Landcarers in NSW, Landcare NSW acts as the conduit between local Landcare communities and key decision makers, working to ensure that local Landcare communities are supported at every level by providing leadership, skills, resources and representation.

Most importantly, we want the Landcare movement to be recognised by government, corporates, philanthropists and the general community as the most effective, impactful and influential ‘go-to-vehicle’ for the management of our land, environment and communities in rural and urban areas.

We generate revenue from diverse streams to support our member Landcare groups and provide financial support for vital projects that bring together farmers, landowners, conservationists and nature lovers at a local level to address local issues.

We coordinate and facilitate the building of skills, capacity, strength, connections and partnerships at every level, from individual volunteers and groups to district networks and regional associations.

84 Landcare Coordinators work directly with Landcare groups across the state to help support the valuable work Landcare delivers in NSW. The coordinators are funded through the NSW Landcare Program, co-delivered by Local Land Services and Landcare NSW, and supported by the State Government.

WHERE WE WORK



HIGHLIGHTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

OUR PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS HAVE HELPED SUPPORT:



200+

WORKSHOPS TO SUPPORT LANDCARE WORK

6,000

PARTICIPANTS INVOLVED IN LANDCARE ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE STATE

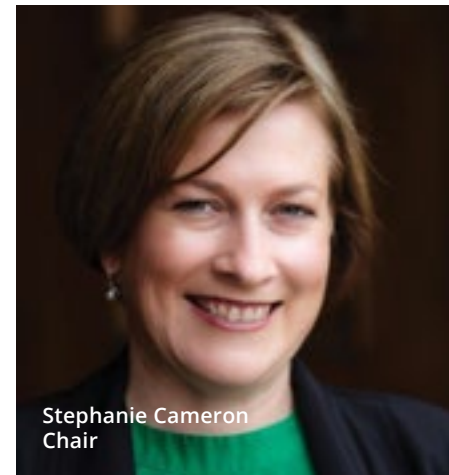
60

NEW FISH HABITATS IN INLAND AND COASTAL RIVER SYSTEMS



25 MENTIONS IN NSW PARLIAMENT

REPORT FROM CHAIR STEPHANIE CAMERON



Stephanie Cameron
Chair

“The past couple of years have been very tough for many of us in NSW with long term drought, disastrous bushfires and finally a global pandemic putting us all to the test. Throughout these disasters Landcare communities have supported each other and their fellow citizens through some of the most adverse conditions we have ever experienced.”

We should be very proud of the way we have come together as a Landcare community to help our people and landscapes who have been in dire need.

Further to our need to help each other through tough times, Landcare NSW has made a strong commitment to provide our full support to local Landcarers caring for our environment. We have encouraged and supported over 60,000 volunteers and their communities to:

- conserve and protect threatened species, landscapes and biodiversity,
- plan for sustainable farm productivity through drought and bushfire management, increased water efficiency and adoption of innovative farming practices,

- improve the health of our waterways, beaches and oceans and
- further strengthen our resilient Landcare communities to better cope with the current and future environmental challenges which face us

In 2020, I am particularly proud of Landcare NSW's focus on providing valuable services to our members by enabling Landcare groups to focus on getting work done in their local community. Valuable support is offered in many ways.

The NSW Landcare Program provides coordinator support for prepare grant applications, help with insurance and starting new groups, engaging volunteers and connecting groups to resources, networks and information.

The Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative program evaluation found that 87% of supported groups reported they now had the capacity to “do what they want to do”. We should especially celebrate our coordinators from 2020, at both the local and regional level, for doing an incredible job through trying circumstances and often with very limited resources.

Increased partnerships between Landcare and our key stakeholders is a firm priority of Landcare NSW. We have replicated the successful co-governance arrangements of the Joint Management Committee (JMC) with Local Land Services NSW to partner with the Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT), Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)

for the Creating Canopies in Greater Sydney project amongst many others. Our increased number of alliances and partnerships has crucially strengthened the work of Landcare resulting in an amplification and spread of the benefits of local Landcare across government, agencies, partners and the broader community.

A major risk to Landcare in NSW is volunteer burnout and to minimise the risk Landcare NSW has sought to secure consistent and stable funding streams from both government and the public sector. Landcare NSW has now embedded our recently received DGR status within our operations to allow us to receive donations on behalf of all Landcare groups. We have run our very first distribution of donated funds through the Natural Disaster Seed Fund which aimed to assist Landcare NSW Member groups in re-establishing projects that have been affected by drought and bushfires throughout 2019/2020. We look forward to developing more programs where we can give back to our members.

Finally, I would like to publicly thank the wonderful team at Landcare NSW. My fellow dedicated executive committee members Keith Hyde, Hunter White, Stuart Mosely, Marg Applebee, Bev Debrincat, Les Pearson and Chris Post and our staff team led by our committed and energetic CEO Adrian Zammit all of whom are devoted to achieving our vision for Landcare NSW.

The continuous development of our team is important to make sure we can deliver the objectives of the organisation and to this end we have completed governance

training and developed a code of principles, practices and shared values that underpin a healthy culture of consistently serving our grassroots Landcare community from the ground up.

I am looking forward to the coming year and working with you all to achieve a number of important objectives such as improved and sustainable governance for both our peak body and our member groups, strengthened representation of the regions at a state level, continued addition of value to member services, increasing membership and donations to Landcare NSW and consolidation of the many key partnerships we have developed in recent years.

A special thanks to all our members who have positively and passionately contributed to a brighter future for Landcare in NSW.

Stephanie Cameron
Chair



Woodland Overlooking Our Community
Tamworth Regional Landcare Association
Angelina Nelson

REPORT FROM CEO DR ADRIAN ZAMMIT



Dr. Adrian Zammit
Chief Executive Officer



Frenchmans Beach
John McLoughlin

Our farms, environment, and rural and regional communities are under ever-increasing and changing pressures. During this financial year (FY2019/2020), severe drought, unprecedented bushfires and the COVID-19 pandemic hit our communities hard. Our natural resources, and the communities and farms that depend on them, are being forced to adapt to a rapidly changing world.

Landcare is not immune and must therefore continue to be a strong and adaptable grassroots movement that is adept at leveraging its social capital and intimate knowledge of local landscapes to effectively respond to these challenges.

Likewise, as the peak body of the Landcare movement in NSW, Landcare NSW continues its journey of growth and development, while remaining adaptable, to ensure that it continues to serve and support the Landcare movement in NSW.

This Annual Report focuses on the achievements of the "State Body" but recognises that the purpose of Landcare NSW's work is to deliver what community Landcare needs in NSW. Make no mistake - everything that was achieved during this financial year was for the benefit of the Landcare community in NSW. Landcare NSW is a strategic enabler for Landcare groups in NSW to grow and prosper, acquiring the skills and resources they need to do the work on the ground.

By many measures FY20 was a successful year for Landcare NSW. We achieved 75% of our 32 operational priorities, with another 21% of these priorities considered as work in progress. Revenues generated from several diverse sources were increased by 45% year-on-year, exceeding our annual revenue target by 358%. Over the past two financial years, revenues for Landcare NSW grew by 260%.

Landcare NSW formed new Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) for partnerships with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), and Saving our Species (SoS). Landcare NSW's partnership with DPIE and the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT) will generate \$3.474 million in new funding for Landcare member groups over the next two years. As of June 30, 2020, Landcare NSW has partnership MoUs signed with Local Land Services, BCT, DPIE, SoS, OzFish Inc, Gotch4Life Foundation, Thread Together and Carbon8. Many more partnerships are in the pipeline.

The \$22.4 million NSW Landcare Program (2019-2023), a project co-designed, co-delivered and co-governed by Landcare NSW and Local Land Services, is now one year old and well under way to become even more successful than its predecessor, the Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative.

A new data collection app, nicknamed 'CAT', has also been developed which will provide much needed data that will unequivocally show Landcare's value to the community of NSW.

The current constitution only allows incorporated Landcare groups to become (voting) members of Landcare NSW, a situation that effectively excludes approximately 75% of all Landcare groups in NSW from becoming members. To address this anomaly, Landcare NSW undertook a major piece of work during FY2019/2020 to revamp Landcare NSW's membership program, that would enable the organisation to be truly representative of the Landcare movement in NSW.

This work, which is still underway and expected to be completed by the end of 2020, included extensive discussions and consultation with our Landcare community. The changes that have been agreed upon will allow unincorporated Landcare (including Bushcare, Coastcare, Dunecare etc.) groups to also become voting members of Landcare NSW, as well as the non-voting membership of local councils, private companies and individuals.

While the Landcare movement in NSW continues to deliver enormous value to the general community, it is facing significant challenges to attract funding in Australia's hyper-competitive Not-For-Profit (NFP) industry - the latest data indicates that there are about 54,000 NFP organisations registered with the ACNC, all competing for the same bucket of money from government, corporates and philanthropists. The economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic is only going to make an already difficult situation much worse.

Landcare NSW is very aware of the risks ahead to its and Landcare's ongoing funding, which is why we believe that Landcare needs to increasingly position and present itself as an integrated, co-operative, and collaborative grassroots movement so as to be regarded as Australia's most effective, impactful and influential "go-to-vehicle" for the management of our land, environment and communities in rural and urban areas.

Disappointingly, a massive opportunity to improve the well-being of the Landcare movement in NSW and Australia was forfeited with the failure of the merger between Landcare Australia and the National Landcare Network in March 2020.

Landcare NSW and its members believe that the current situation at the national level is untenable, which is why we are actively working with our Landcare member community and stakeholders to bring about the necessary change that will result in the formation of a single, representative, national peak body for Landcare that works through each of the State and Territory Landcare peak bodies. Landcare NSW will continue to pursue this goal as we believe that Landcare in NSW and Australia could be so much more, so much better funded, so much more recognised and valued by the general community, with an effective, well-led, single Landcare peak body at the national level.

Landcare is an incredible Australian grassroots movement. It is unique and I feel very privileged that I am part of the Landcare story. We at Landcare NSW will continue to work hard to make sure we are delivering real value to our members, to our partners and stakeholders, and to the general community. Lastly, I would like to heartfully thank the team, Executive Committee and Council for all their hard work and support during the 2019/2020 financial year.

I am really looking forward to working with you all in financial year 2020/21 as we continue to collectively make Landcare NSW and Landcare in NSW very compelling to all.

"Our natural resources, and the communities and farms that depend on them, are being forced to adapt to a rapidly changing world."

Dr. Adrian Zammit
Chief Executive Officer

OUR KEY PRIORITIES

THE FOLLOWING FIVE AREAS WERE IDENTIFIED AS CORE ORGANISATIONAL PRIORITIES IN OUR STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 – 2020.



REPRESENTATION

REALISING THE POWER AND POTENTIAL OF A PEAK BODY

Through our Council of Representatives, the views of grassroots Landcarers are conveyed to their elected representatives in order to inform policy discussions and raise awareness of what the Landcare NSW community needs to carry out its valuable work.



NATIONAL SUPPORT

STRENGTHENING LANDCARE NATIONALLY

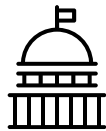
We support the need for cohesive leadership and will work to ensure there is an effective and equal national voice for Landcare and suitable structures that meet the Landcare community's needs.



GOVERNANCE

PUTTING LOCAL LANDCARE AT THE HEART OF THE GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

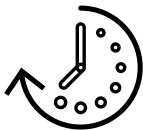
We work with the Landcare community to examine the importance of local, district and regional groups in our governance system, and ensure best-practice and support for all community Landcare structures.



MEMBERSHIP

INVITING MEMBERS FROM ACROSS THE MOVEMENT

With the goal of representing and supporting local Landcare and like-minded community groups throughout NSW, we are focused on increasing our outreach to a range of individuals and community groups to ensure that our NSW Landcare network is strengthened.



CAPACITY

BUILDING AN ORGANISATION TO LAST

Landcare NSW will focus on building sustainable and professional business operations through developing innovative and stronger partnerships with government and non-government stakeholders.

“Landcare is not just about planting trees, it’s about investing in your community and enabling your community to work towards their own solutions.

You cannot have one thing without the other. It is crucial to the longevity of Landcare in the local community to build stronger connections with your community and take valuable steps towards repairing and protecting their landscape.

You need to help build and support partnerships and enable the local community to be more educated and informed about the ongoing value of integrating biodiversity conservation with agricultural production. This is what we are always working towards and I’m proud to be part of this change.”

NERIDA CROKER

2019 Individual Landcarer Award Winner / Fullerton Hadley Landcare

‘Box Gum Grassy Woodland’
Mid Lachlan Landcare
Tracee Burke

GOVERNANCE

PUTTING LOCAL LANDCARE AT THE HEART OF THE GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

Landcare NSW is responsible for providing leadership, representing, supporting, strengthening and growing the community Landcare movement in NSW to improve the health of our natural and working landscapes.

Landcare NSW strategic direction is guided by the endorsed regional representatives from each Landcare region in NSW. The 2019 Landcare NSW Council is

made up of 19 Councillors from across NSW who are responsible for ensuring the views of groups in their region are represented faithfully at the state level.

Councillors act as the conduit between local Landcare groups and Landcare NSW, ensuring that the work and strategic direction of Landcare NSW are aligned with the needs of the NSW Landcare community.

MUSTER TOPICS DISCUSSED:

1. THE VALUE OF LANDCARE:

How do we measure the multiple benefits of Landcare?

2. FUNDING FOR YOUR LANDCARE GROUPS & ACTIVITIES:

Partnerships that deliver.

3. LANDCARE SUPPORT LOCAL & REGIONAL COORDINATORS:

Professionalising Landcare.

4. PARTNERSHIPS BUILDING NEW STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATION:

What makes or breaks a successful partnership?

5. LANDCARE MEMBERSHIP:

How does Landcare NSW support its members?

IN FOCUS: LANDCARE NSW MUSTER AND CONFERENCE

The NSW Landcare community is as diverse as the NSW landscape. From the arid plains of Western NSW, to the subtropical rainforests of the North Coast to the alpine regions of the Snowy Mountains the issues, challenges, and needs are different for every Landcare group.

As the state peak body for Landcare, it is imperative that Landcare NSW gives Landcarers an opportunity to provide input and feedback to shape the work and future direction of Landcare NSW and Landcare in New South Wales.

Since 2007, Landcare NSW has hosted a biennial muster to gather feedback from grassroots Landcarers about issues of importance to them and their Landcare communities.

The goals of the Muster included:

1. Provide an update to 2019 Muster attendees about Landcare NSW achievements since the 2017 Muster – “You Asked; We Delivered”
2. Gain feedback on Landcare NSW initiatives and other operational activities undertaken to achieve its strategic objectives
3. Identify, document and collect issues affecting Landcarers in NSW
4. Prioritise Key Focus Areas for Landcare NSW to implement in the next two years (2020-2021)

The 2019 NSW Landcare Muster was the 8th Muster and was held in Broken Hill on 22 October 2019 alongside the State NSW Landcare and Local Land Services Conference providing an opportunity for Landcarers to learn from each other, celebrate achievements, network and

discuss areas of concern and local priorities with other Landcarers throughout the State.

The 2019 Muster was attended by 212 Landcarers from across New South Wales. The forum was facilitated by Peter Pigott, Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator from the South East region. A feedback session was delivered on Thursday 25th October 2019, where the initial themes and priorities as determined at the Muster were shared back to participants.

The Landcare NSW Muster is an opportunity for the diverse Landcare community from across NSW to capture collective issues and consistent themes.

The guiding ethos, ‘Many Hands, One Voice’, defines and guides the actions and outcomes of the Landcare NSW Muster and the future directions of the organisation and allows our Landcare community to help define and guide the direction of Landcare at a state level.

Prior to the Landcare NSW Muster, groups and networks were provided information and a kit to enable them to host “mini-Musters” to capture information from their region. This served two purposes: to relay issues of significance from regions to Landcare NSW to better inform Muster planning; and to encourage groups/networks to host events, discuss priorities and capture information on behalf of their groups.

The information received by Landcare NSW was collated prior to the Landcare NSW Muster and considered in the design of the Muster agenda. Derived topics were then discussed in Sessions 1 and 2 of the Muster. Session 3 was an opportunity for participants to propose other topics of importance not covered in Sessions 1 and 2.

‘Kickin Up Dust’
Western Landcare Life and Light Competition
Lauren Byrne

CAPACITY BUILDING

BUILDING AN ORGANISATION TO LAST

As the peak representative body for the NSW Landcare community, Landcare NSW chooses partnerships with government, private and not-for-profit organisations whose values and strategic objectives align with those of the NSW Landcare community.

In 2019, Landcare NSW worked with nine state and national organisations to help deliver valuable services and opportunities to the Landcare NSW community.

These were the NSW Local Land Services (NSW Landcare Program), Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (Creating Canopies in Greater Sydney), Biodiversity

Conservation Trust (Partnering in Private Land Conservation), Gotcha4Life, OzFish Unlimited, Saving our Species and Exchange for Change (CDS), Thread Together, and Carbon8.

Our partnerships ensured the ongoing employment of staff and services across our state-wide network and enable our NSW Landcare community to deliver essential services and opportunities for their communities and the environment.

These partnerships and programs enable our Landcarers to have access to essential services and opportunities to help support our farms, communities and the environment.

7X MOUS **9X** JMCs
(LLLS NSW, BCT, DPIE)
 **3X** FUNDED AGREEMENTS



IN FOCUS: KYOGLE KOALA CORRIDORS

Along with so much of our wildlife, Koala populations on the North Coast suffered a very hard hit over the 2019/20 summer's fires making it more important than ever to get active on improving Koala habitat.

In order to support local koala populations, Landcare groups in the Kyogle Local Government Area (LGA) rallied together to take the lead in supporting Koala corridors and habitat improvement and took a coordinated approach to retaining and expanding vegetation corridors for Koalas.

A recent project supported by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment through the NSW Koala Strategy, enabled restoration actions in occupied Koala habitat, planting of Koala food trees and workshops to build community knowledge on conservation actions.

Once momentum was underway, additional support became available from the Saving our Species program and the Forestry Corporation, enabling a further 7000 Koala food trees for corridor plantings. These combined projects have reached 35 landholders and 6 Landcare groups across the Kyogle LGA.

Kyogle Koala Corridors
Border Ranges - Richmond Valley Landcare Network

PROJECTS

PARTNERING IN PRIVATE LAND CONSERVATION

The need to protect and manage biodiversity is a guiding ethos for Landcare NSW.

Across the state Landcarers have worked for many years in private land conservation, learning new techniques and networking with each other. Landcare NSW works with the NSW Landcare community to facilitate opportunities that build and support that history.

With a shared history in the protection and management of biodiversity, Landcare NSW partnered with the Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT) in 2019 to develop funding and opportunities to Landcarers across the state.

Developed in consultation with local Landcarers and Coordinators, the BCT Partnering in Private Land Conservation project has a commitment of two years of funding and a goal of a long-term partnership. The aim is to support the NSW Landcare community to collaborate and facilitate private land conservation.

A series of workshops, acknowledging regional needs and differences, will be held across the state to capture interest, ideas and areas that need to be addressed. These workshops will be used to develop a funded program that Landcare regions can participate in.

CREATING CANOPIES IN GREATER SYDNEY

Landcare has a diverse network with a significant skillset and expertise that is suitable for local environmental projects, benefiting the community and wildlife.

In recognition of this, an MoU was established in November 2019 between Landcare NSW and the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment enabling the establishment of a framework for collaboration and for the funding of \$2,029,500 to plant 100,000 trees in Greater Sydney.

This is part of the Premier's Priority Greening our City, by planting one million trees by 2022 to create a sustainable, liveable and cooler Greater Sydney. More trees mean more shade, cleaner air and more beautiful places to live. Landcare is an ideal partner bringing expertise in urban ecology and community collaboration.

Greater Sydney Landcare Network will coordinate on-ground activities through the Creating Canopies in Greater Sydney project and in partnership with Landcare NSW a total of 100,000 trees will be planted by June 2022.



The Magic Faraway Tree
Western Landcare
Zahli Finch

IN FOCUS: NSW LANDCARE PROGRAM

The NSW Landcare Program funded by the State Government, and co-delivered in partnership with Local Land Services, employs 12 Regional Landcare Coordinators and 72 Local Landcare Coordinators across NSW. These coordinators work directly with Landcare groups to improve their governance, communication, partnerships and ability to coordinate on-ground activities.

Hosted by Landcare NSW member organisations, the coordinators are a key resource that support local and regional Landcare communities.

The program is comprised of a number of components: Local and Regional Landcare Coordinators, A Community of Practice Component, People Development, Aboriginal Program and Program Management and Support.

Throughout 2020, the NSW Landcare Program has adapted to work with the restrictions COVID-19 has created for coordinators and their network, while also addressing the environmental and social challenges posed in a post-fire landscape.

Despite this, activity levels over the year have seen an escalation in the grants being applied for and the amount of opportunities created by online forums that provide support, information and training to the wider community.

In increasingly challenging times, the program's goals of supporting capacity, increasing opportunity for collaborations and boosting community participation have been achieved in the following ways:

REGIONAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

The Regional Landcare Coordinator (RLC) role is the key driver of the Regional Community of Practice (RCoP) forums.

Due to the limitations posed by COVID-19, the RLCs have had to adapt to a complex situation without the opportunity to join and work together face-to-face. Instead, they have had to transition to online platforms to connect and learn.

Despite the obvious challenges, the situation has created an opportunity to develop creative ways of thinking, sharing knowledge and providing support to the state-wide network.

In 2019/20 \$55,000 was disseminated to the RLCs across the State to assist in the delivery of RCoP events and numerous guest speakers attended the RLC meetings to give a great overview of Community of Practice in their respective organisations.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Locally Relevant Professional Development

Local and Regional Coordinators can apply for up to \$3,400 each to undertake professional development activities identified in collaboration with their Host Organisations as being a priority in order to better service their community.

Statewide Capacity Building

The Program coordinates, at the state level, a range of training initiatives recognised as being core-skills for community support and empowerment professionals. This includes project management, facilitation and strategic planning.

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

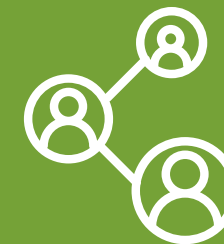
The Aboriginal Communities Engagement Program is a component of the NSW Landcare Program that aims to increase opportunities to consciously develop stronger connections and partnerships between Landcare groups and Aboriginal communities.

A full-time Aboriginal Communities Engagement Coordinator was employed in May 2020 to develop an action plan and work with a steering committee to identify the most effective approaches in supporting Aboriginal people to have a voice within Landcare, to connect them with local Landcare communities and to help share traditional land management approaches.

PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS:

\$55K

REGIONAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICES FUNDS PROVIDED TO THE REGIONS FROM THE PROGRAM



19K

LABOUR HOURS BEING CONTRIBUTED TO LANDCARE

84

COORDINATORS

50

TRAINING EVENTS (TO UP-SKILL) LANDCARE COMMUNITY



\$902K

IN ADDITIONAL FUNDING BEING APPLIED FOR

Central Tablelands Landcare
Geraldine Brown



Regional Leaders Meetings At GWYMAC
New England Landcare Network

REPRESENTATION

REALISING THE POWER AND POTENTIAL OF A PEAK BODY

As the voice of Landcare in NSW we have a responsibility to faithfully represent our members' views.

Members of the Landcare NSW Council are endorsed regional representatives from each Landcare region in NSW.

Councillors act as the conduit between local Landcare groups and Landcare NSW, ensuring that the work and strategic direction of Landcare NSW are aligned with the needs of the NSW Landcare community.

From regional representation through the Landcare NSW Council, to Landcare NSW CEO, Dr Adrian Zammit visiting each region and holding Regional Leaders Meetings, Landcare NSW aims to continuously consult with the Landcare community and ensure the views of grassroots Landcarers are conveyed to elected representatives to inform policy discussions and raise awareness of what Landcare needs in order to carry out its valuable work at the local level.



IN FOCUS: REGIONAL LEADERS MEETINGS IN THE NEW ENGLAND LANDCARE NETWORK

With the beginning of 2020 a challenging time for all communities, the opportunity to visit and consult all Landcare regions on a face-to-face level was a priority for Landcare NSW.

As part of the ongoing Landcare NSW Communications and Advocacy Project, Landcare NSW CEO, Dr Adrian Zammit has been visiting each Landcare region to meet face-to-face with local Landcarers.

In February 2020, Dr Adrian Zammit travelled to the New England region to meet with Landcarers and Landcare groups. Visiting four district Landcare networks, Adrian alongside New England Landcare NSW Council Representative, Steve Harvey and Regional Landcare Coordinator, Ameliaranne Michell sat down over kitchen tables and travelled to Landcare sites to learn about the successes and challenges that Landcarers face in their local communities.

"The power of a representative body lies in its ability to consult and engage with the elected representatives of each region and to connect with local Landcarers in order to understand how to best support and enable them to get on with the job. This is at the core of what we do.

"This summer's events were a reminder of the scale and complexity of the challenges that we face in protecting our environment, our productive and sustainable farms, and the well-being of all our communities. But by working with, and consulting, our Landcarers and NSW Landcare representatives we are always true to our mantra of "Many Hands, One Voice" and moving forward together."

NATIONAL SUPPORT

STRENGTHENING LANDCARE NATIONALLY

As one of Australia's largest Landcare organisations, Landcare NSW is committed to supporting the development of Landcare nationally.

Supportive policies, sufficient funding and institutions that are fit for purpose are essential for Landcare to fulfill its potential as a mass volunteer movement dealing with critical environmental challenges. Landcare NSW participates in the Board and Members Council of the National Landcare Network (NLN), the national peak body for Landcare.

Stephanie Cameron, Chair of Landcare NSW, sits on the NLN Board. Landcare NSW is represented on the NLN Members Council by Landcare NSW Executive Committee members Keith Hyde and Les Pearson.

A high priority is helping decision makers understand the value Landcare provides and its potential to help every community and landholder around Australia to manage land and natural resources.

Landcare's ability to speak with a clear, united voice is weakened by a historical legacy of two national bodies existing at the national level.

Landcare NSW has consistently argued for a refresh of institutional arrangements to create one strong national Landcare body to fulfil all functions necessary to ensure a strong and vibrant future for Landcare.

IN FOCUS: CELEBRATING LANDCARE'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

2019 marked the 30th anniversary of Landcare. Landcare began as a group of farmers sharing ideas and grew into an Australian institution that has been replicated around the world.

In 1989, the late Bob Hawke announced a Decade of Landcare backed by \$320m in federal funding: a generous allocation in that era.

With the support of all governments and strong national leadership, Landcare soon spread round the country. This resilient community movement has managed to keep going, keep growing and keep improving, despite the ebbs and flows of government funding.

Today Landcare works closely with governments while staying true to its grassroots style. Landcare provides an effective way to care for land, water, natural resources, stock, wildlife, plant life and of course the people who live in and look after these environments.

Landcare NSW marked the 30th anniversary by releasing a publication on our own history. Landcare NSW was formed in 2007 to convey the voice of community Landcare. It has become a professional peak body representing the views of Landcarers and providing them with the services they need.

'Caring for Land and People' was chosen as the title in recognition that Landcare is as much about people as it is about land.

'Something in the Wattles'
Weddin Landcare
Mikla Lewis

IN FOCUS: MEMBER BENEFIT CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME

The Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) is a project with a fee-for-service arrangement between the Scheme Coordinator, Exchange for Change (EFC) and Landcare NSW.

This scheme works with our Landcare networks to arrange inspections across regional NSW as required under the audit function in regional and metropolitan areas. Since 2018, Landcare NSW audited 240 collection points (Reverse Vending Machines and Over the Counter) every year.

Landcare NSW aims to provide additional fundraising opportunities for Landcarers. Landcare groups involved enter into a formal contract with Landcare NSW and receive payment after completion of audits by designated quarter end date.

Appointed auditor/s were encouraged to arrange the audits into their work schedule if possible, which has proven to be the most efficient way.

There is an additional fundraising opportunity for Landcare groups where the group can set up their own 'collection point' at local Landcare meetings and events. Smaller groups could use recycling bins, but larger groups may need a caged trailer.

The group can start collecting eligible containers, then take eligible collected items to a return point for a refund.

Furthermore, a local Landcare group may enter into an agreement with the Network Operator, TOMRA-Cleanaway to become a local donation partner and be featured as one of the four donation partners listed on a Reverse Vending Machine (RVM) in their local town, suburb, municipality or similar region.



MEMBERSHIP

INVITING MEMBERS FROM ACROSS THE MOVEMENT

Landcare NSW's focus is to effectively represent and support Landcare groups, individuals, and like-minded community entities across the state. We wish to strengthen and grow the Landcare movement in all its activities to make a real difference in environmental practice and natural resource management.

As the peak representative body for the Landcare movement in NSW, we recognise and support all local and regional Landcarers whilst celebrating their efforts and successes in the work they do.

With open and effective governance, the Landcare NSW Council encourages

all member groups to exercise the opportunity to have a voice and affect the future direction of the organisation.

Landcare NSW is committed to empowering Landcare groups, and values the grass-roots led, volunteer driven ethos of the Landcare movement.

A newly updated membership program, being launched in early 2021, is open to all Landcare groups, individuals, and like-minded organisations, offering a range of exclusive benefits and services designed to support Landcarers with their invaluable work.

MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

1. Access to the highly discounted Landcare NSW Insurance Group Program (including Public Liability and Voluntary Workers Insurance, Association Liability and Directors Liability insurance)
2. Exclusive members-only funding opportunities e.g. the NSW Landcare Program & Biodiversity Conservation Trust Program
3. Online resource portal with guidelines, policy templates, case studies and on-call support on how to effectively run and manage a Landcare group
4. Priority access to Landcare NSW service contracts with third party providers such as the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS)
5. Grant information and guidance
6. Networking and events, including webinars, site tours and policy forums
7. Access to regular Landcare NSW updates via Connection newsletter, as well as key issue bulletins, funding opportunities and updates

207
MEMBERS

100%
MEMBER
RETENTION RATE

39
LANDCARE ORGANISATIONS
USED CDS FOR FUNDRAISING
ACTIVITIES FOR THEIR
ORGANISATION

NSW PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDS OF LANDCARE

The NSW Parliamentary Friends of Landcare (PFL) is a cross-party group of NSW Members of Parliament who have a common interest in demonstrating support for the goals of Landcare.

The PFL provides an avenue for Members of Parliament to connect with and offer support to Landcare both at the state level and locally in suburbs, regional towns and farming communities

and ensures that Landcare is accurately represented and the views of members are heard and represented at a policy level.

Parliamentarians join with the NSW Landcare network and communities in events and opportunities and collectively aim to highlight the role community Landcare has in environmental and social works.

THE POSITION HOLDERS

DUGALD SAUNDERS	Chair – MP (Member for Dubbo)
THE HON MICK VEITCH	Deputy Chair – MLC
TAMARA SMITH	Secretary/Treasurer – MP (Member for Ballina)

GENERAL MEMBERS 2019

JUSTIN FIELD	MLC
GURMESH SINGH	MP (Member for Coffs Harbour)
KEVIN ANDERSON	MP (Member for Tamworth)
TIM CRAKANTHROP	MP (Member for Newcastle)
STEPHEN BROMHEAD	MP (Member for Myall Lakes)
JUSTIN CLANCY	MP (Member for Albury)
PHILIP DONATO	MP (Member for Orange)
YASMIN CATLEY	MP (Member for Swansea)
ROY BUTLER	MP (Member for Barwon)
DR JOE MCGIRR	MP (Member for Wagga Wagga)
GEOFF PROVEST	MP (Member for Tweed)
JODIE HARRISON	MP (Member for Charlestown)
JENNY AITCHISON	MP (Member for Maitland)
KATE WASHINGTON	MP (Member for Port Stephens)
JANELLE SAFFIN	MP (Member for Lismore)

TREES IN THE HOUSE

Held annually, Trees in the House is hosted by Landcare NSW and the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Landcare and is a chance for Members of Parliament to join with Landcarers from across the state and gain awareness about the vital work undertaken by Landcare.

This event is a demonstration of the unique relationship that Landcare

NSW has with key government stakeholders, demonstrated through the existence and ongoing support of the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Landcare group.

Over 80 people came together for Trees in the House to celebrate the achievements of Landcare in NSW and the relationship that Landcare NSW has with key government stakeholders and the wider Landcare community.

The 2019 event was also the formal announcement of the partnership

between the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment for the Creating Canopies in Greater Sydney as part of the NSW Premiers Priority to Green our City.

Throughout the course of the year, MPs spoke on the value Landcare provides in Legislative Assembly and local Landcare groups joined MP's at different events across the state to highlight the crucial role Landcare has in supporting our environment and communities.

FUNDING & SUPPORT FOR LANDCARE IN NSW

The diversification of revenue streams for Landcare NSW is a priority for the organisation and its ability to support the work Landcarers do across the state.

Our work with NSW Landcare Program (2019-2023) provided direct funding to support the Local and Regional Landcare Coordinators positions hosted by Local & District Landcare networks.

We secured funding and a partnership agreement through the Department of

Planning, Industry and Environment of \$2.1 million over 3 years and the Biodiversity Conservation Trust of \$1.3 million over 2 years to help support the work Landcarers do across the state through on-ground works and raising the awareness of biodiversity.

Sixty-two percent of our income this year has come from fee-for-service work and the private sector, an increase of 34% from last year and 87% of all project funding has provided direct support to

Landcarers to carry out Landcare activities in 2019-2020.

As a state peak body, Landcare NSW continues to deliver essential support and representation through the National Landcare Program. This funding helps support quarterly council meetings, events and training to ensure that the voice of grassroots Landcare is central to the program and policy designs being undertaken at a state and national level.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

\$2.1M
OVER 3 YRS
CREATING CANOPIES
IN GREATER SYDNEY

\$1.3M
OVER 2 YRS
PARTNERING IN PRIVATE LAND
CONSERVATION (BCT)

\$85K
NATIONAL LANDCARE
PROGRAM

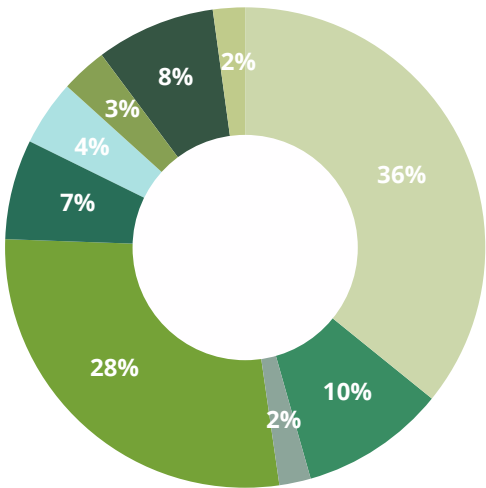


\$45K WWF
FIRE EFFECTED
COMMUNITIES

\$30K
FUNDRAISING



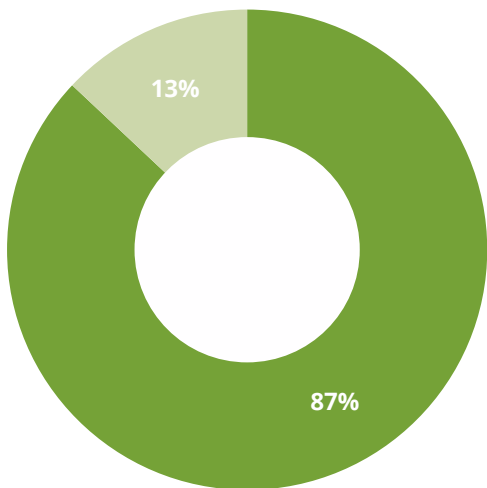
LANDCARE NSW
PROJECT INCOME



KEY:

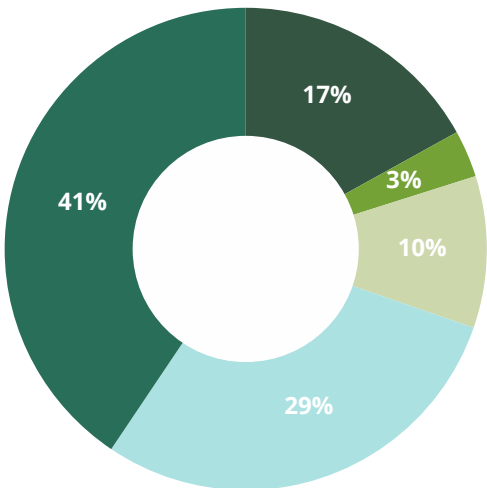
- NSW LANDCARE PROGRAM - 36%
- NSW LANDCARE PROGRAM (LLCI) - 10%
- BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION TRUST (BCT) - 2%
- 1 MILLION TREES (CREATING CANOPIES IN GREATER SYDNEY) - 28%
- CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME - 7%
- NATIONAL LANDCARE NETWORK - 4%
- REGIONAL LANDCARE COORDINATOR NORTHERN TABLELANDS - 3%
- DONATIONS - 8%
- NSW LANDCARE CONFERENCE - 2%

LANDCARE NSW
PROJECT EXPENSES



- ADMINISTRATION - 13%
- SUPPORTING LANDCARE - 87%

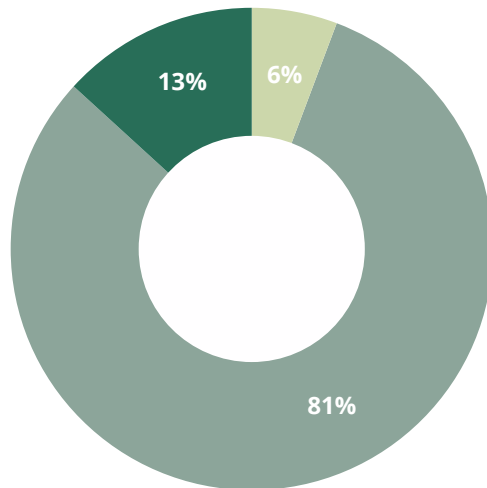
WHERE OUR
MONEY COMES FROM



KEY:

- OTHER INCOME - 17%
- NATIONAL LANDCARE NETWORK GRANTS - 3%
- PRIVATE SECTOR FEE-FOR-SERVICE - 10%
- GOVERNMENT FEE-FOR-SERVICE - 29%
- GOVERNMENT FUNDED PROGRAMS - 41%

WHERE OUR
MONEY GOES



- ADMINISTRATION - 6%
- LANDCARE PROJECTS - 81%
- RETAINED FUNDS - 13%

FEATURED PROJECT FROM SEED FUND: WEDDIN LANDCARE REVEGETATION PROJECT

Weddin Landcare applied for funding through the Landcare NSW Natural Disaster Seed Fund to help re-establish existing sites that had experienced large-scale dieback due to the drought.

The 2017-2020 drought had a devastating impact on their Landcare community revegetation projects.

Trees of all ages and sizes died during this period which was incredibly difficult, not only for the landholders who were just seeing the benefits of their project, but also for the native species that were relying on these corridors.

For Weddin Landcare's project, there were significant vegetation losses with up to 800 trees dying across the seven sites.

With the current season the best it has looked in years, the Fund will help purchase new trees to replace the ones lost as well as tree guards and stakes helping support the local economy and lift the spirits of project participants.

Looking south on Rosemont in the wattles with Weddin in background
Mikla Lewis

COMMUNICATIONS & FUNDRAISING

TELLING THE LANDCARE STORY AND SUPPORTING OUR NETWORK

Sharing the Landcare story and supporting our network is always at the forefront of our minds. Our Communications, Marketing and Fundraising team work to connect thousands of Landcarers with resources and support to get on with the job in their local communities whilst informing and educating them of the work done at a state and national level.

GIVING

Donations help Landcare NSW to support our Landcare community to deliver their work across the state.

This year was not without extreme challenges for the NSW Landcare community. A catastrophic drought and a destructive fire season hit our community and staff hard.

A fundraising campaign was launched in 2019 with the aim to support the work we do and our Landcarers on the ground. Of the funds raised over the course of the year, we developed the Landcare NSW Natural Disaster Seed Fund.

The Fund gave 100% back to our community to help renew, revive and re-establish 17 projects affected by natural disaster.



\$17K

FUNDRAISING SHARED
100% WITH LANDCARE
COMMUNITY



1478
SUBSCRIBERS

64

MEDIA
MENTIONS

42%

INCREASE IN SOCIAL
MEDIA FOLLOWERS
(*FACEBOOK & TWITTER)

LOOKING FORWARD

REJUVENATING LANDCARE

Since its establishment, the heart of Landcare NSW has always been about serving its member groups and the wider Landcare community in NSW. Although this fundamental purpose will never change, Landcare NSW needs to prepare and respond to a rapidly changing and unpredictable future.

Moving forward, Landcare NSW will focus not only on building its own resources and capabilities to better serve its members and the wider Landcare community, but will also show leadership by 'looking up' and staying vigilant to detect and appropriately respond to emerging threats to Landcare in NSW.

Landcare NSW and the Landcare community need to be nimble and adaptable to a rapidly changing operating and funding environment, that include shifts in government policy, priorities and perceptions. The Not-for-Profit sector today is a very competitive and crowded space in Australia, with over 54,000 registered charities all vying for attention and funding. Long gone are the hey-days of plentiful funding for Landcare, and there is no guarantee that Landcare's traditional funding sources will continue to exist into the future.

Funding from governments, corporates, philanthropists and the general community is competitive, and we now expect the COVID-19 pandemic to exacerbate this lack of funding even further over the next two to three years as a result of the massive economic shock.

Landcare NSW will continue building and positioning Landcare NSW and Landcare in NSW with our funders and stakeholders as a unique and compelling partner for the delivery of environmental, farming and community projects and programs on a local, regional and state level. While emerging threats will be ever-present, there are also many opportunities.

I believe that it is our collective responsibility that all Landcare groups, together with Landcare NSW, need to cooperate and collaborate more, intra- and inter-regionally, to do what is needed to make the Landcare movement in NSW resilient, adaptive and able to effectively compete for funding.

If we manage to take an integrated approach, I believe that the Landcare movement in NSW has a very bright future. Its history, heritage and track record of delivery, underpinned by a structure and culture of working together, will make the Landcare movement in NSW a very compelling partner of choice for governments, corporates and philanthropists.

GOING FORWARD OUR OBJECTIVES WILL BE:



STRENGTHEN OUR CAPABILITY

We will build the capacity of Landcare NSW and its member Landcare groups into a compelling, influential, financially sustainable and agile Landcare movement in NSW that continually delivers positive impact and value to funders, partners and ultimately our land, environment and communities through efficiencies, effectiveness and innovation.



POSITION, PROFILE, PRESENCE

We will represent and actively position Landcare NSW and Landcare in NSW with government, community and media, allowing the "Landcare story" to be told, ultimately maximising our profile, our influence and our impact, and the value of our members and the value of the entire Landcare movement.



MEMBER CENTRED

Everything we do will be for the betterment and the benefit of our members. We will reinforce our member centric approach by delivering member value, support, representation and by driving growth in membership and engagement.



WORKING BETTER TOGETHER

We will continue building a strong, sustainable, influential, impactful and integrated Landcare community that talks, respects each other and works, collaborates and cooperates together to achieve shared vision, values and goals.

Brewarrina Fish Traps Catchment
John McLoughlin

THE LANDCARE NSW COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

STEPHANIE CAMERON	Chair – Invited Member
KEITH HYDE	Deputy Chair and Representative of LachLandcare Inc
HUNTER WHITE	Treasurer
STUART MOSELY	Secretary and Representative of Western Landcare
BEV DEBRINCAT	Executive Committee and Representative of Greater Sydney region
MARG APPLEBEE	Executive Committee and Representative of Central West Natural Resource Management Working Group
LESLIE PEARSON	Executive Committee and Representative Hunter Region Landcare
CHRIS POST	Executive Committee and Representative of South East Landcare

COUNCIL MEMBERS

SUE SALVIN	Representative of North Coast Regional Landcare Network
CHRIS SCOTT	Representative of Mid Coast to Tops region
ADRIAN WELLS	Representative of Murray Region
STEVE HARVEY	Representative of New England-North West Landcare
NEIL MCLAREN	Representative of South East Landcare
CLAUDIA WYTHES	Representative of Central Tablelands
GARETH JOHNSTON	Representative of Murrumbidgee Landcare
FRANCES YOUNG	Representative of New England North West Region
ALAN MCGUFFICKE	Representative of LachLandcare Inc
HANNAH RICE-HAYES	Representative of North Coast Regional Landcare Network
LOUISE TURNER	Representative of Western Landcare NSW

LANDCARE NSW STAFF

Landcare NSW is overseen by the CEO, an eight-member Executive and a small, dedicated team of professional staff.



Landcare NSW Council Members

A BIG WELCOME TO OUR HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

In November 2019, David Walker was awarded an honorary life membership to Landcare NSW.

The membership recognised his contribution as founding Chair of Landcare NSW from 2007 – 2010 and being an instrumental component in the genesis and growth of Landcare, both in NSW and nationally.

David Walker, said he was pleased to have helped Landcare progress in NSW and to see Landcare NSW grow in its role as peak body for the community.

“Since 2007, when the organisation was formed, the need to represent Landcare and Landcarers has grown but I can look back with pride at what we have achieved.

There have been many changes, but one constant has been the strength, resilience and sense of community within Landcare in NSW.

The passion, intellectual firepower and dedication of Landcarers is incredibly rewarding and Landcare is made up of wonderful people and fantastic communities.”

DAVID WALKER

Life Member - Landcare NSW
Founding Chair of Landcare NSW 2007-2010



"The Burrumbuttock Squirrel Glider Local Area Management Plan (LAMP) project has been going for 20 years. Projects such as these are about supporting and developing biodiversity. It's not as simple as putting some trees in and waiting.

Squirrel gliders are hollow dependent but hollows only start forming when trees are over 100 years old and a nesting pair can use up to 30 hollows across their home range.

The trees we planted may be 80 years away from being homes for the gliders, but we are 20 years closer than if we had not started.

The support from our landholders is crucial in supporting the long-term viability of the project.

These projects are so important as we are not just supporting gliders. We are supporting trees, grasslands, lizards, birds, insects and the farmers themselves. It's all part of a much bigger picture."

PAULA SHEEHAN

Regional Landcare Coordinator
Murray Region
Excerpt from 'Biodiversity Development
Key Component for Environmental Projects'

Burrumbuttock LAMP Squirrel Gliders
Murray Regional Landcare Network
Peter Merrit

THANKS TO OUR LANDCARE NSW SUPPORTERS

Thanks all those who share our vision and invest in our future beside us, including governments, investors, businesses, philanthropists, volunteers, members, and delivery partners.



Landcare NSW is fortunate to receive in-kind and financial support from many businesses, individuals and partner organisations.

TSL Consulting	Silvershammy Cleaning
Think Insight and Advice	Hunt & Hunt

FUNDERS

We would like to recognise and thank our supporters whose donations to Landcare NSW have helped support the work we do across NSW.



Landcare Site At Yass Gorge
Yass Area Landcare Network
Sonya Duus



Landcare
New South Wales

TRANSFORMING OUR LANDSCAPE TOGETHER

WWW.LANDCARENSW.ORG.AU

LANDCARE NSW INCORPORATED

ABN 24 958 819 359

**FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**



Armidale Office
02 6774 8400

Narrabri Office
02 6792 9700

For Professional Advice Regarding
Business and Taxation Management
Self Managed Superannuation Funds
Audit & Advisory Services
Succession Planning
Financial Planning

Glen Innes Office
02 6739 7600

Tamworth Office
02 6768 1111

www.rm.net.au

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

Landcare NSW Incorporated
(an incorporated association)

ABN: 24 958 819 359

Financial report

For the year ended 30 June 2020

Contents to the financial report

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Statement of changes in equity	5
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Landcare NSW Incorporated
(an incorporated association)

Committees' report

Your committee members submit the financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020.

Committee

The names of committee members throughout the year ended 30 June 2020 and at the date of signing were:

Stephanie Cameron	Chairperson
Keith Hyde	Deputy Chairperson
Hunter White	Treasurer
Stuart Mosely	Secretary
Chris Post	Committee Member
Beverley Debrincat	Committee Member
Margaret Applebee	Committee Member
Leslie Pearson	Committee Member

Mr John McLoughlin holds the position of Public Officer.

Principal activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were to represent, promote and advocate on behalf of community-based landcare and community driven sustainable resource management in New South Wales.

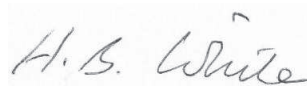
Results of operations

The net operating surplus of the association for the year ended 30 June 2020 was \$695,240 (2019 surplus: \$243,492).

In accordance with the resolution of committee by:



Chairperson – Stephanie Cameron



Treasurer – Hunter White

Dated: 13 November 2020

Auditor's declaration of independence

To the Committee of Landcare NSW Incorporated and in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of Section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*.

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2020 there have been no contraventions of:

- (i) the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*; or
- (ii) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Roberts & Morrow Audit Services Pty Ltd
Authorised Audit Company Number 517597



Michelle A Paul
Director
Armidale, NSW

Dated: 13 November 2020

Landcare NSW Incorporated

(an incorporated association)

Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020**Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income**

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Revenue			
Organisational revenue			
Grants received		-	95,000
Fee for service revenue		260,000	261,000
Activity generated revenue		4,968	11,928
Interest		1,533	31,768
Covid – 19 stimulus		114,368	-
Membership		31,357	1,325
Donations - auspiced		231,845	-
Donations - other		25,831	-
Other income		-	10,897
Total organisational revenue		669,902	410,593
Project revenue			
State Government revenue	3	2,659,874	2,004,651
Other project revenue	3	46,741	-
Total project revenue	3	2,706,615	2,004,651
Total income		3,376,517	2,415,244
Expenditure			
Organisational expenditure			
Administration		254,593	328,667
Donations		230,343	-
Employee costs		110,149	76,584
Other expenditure		-	3,357
Impairment of Asset		20,000	20,000
Total organisational expenditure		386,085	315,645
Project expenditure			
Project expenditure		1,401,685	757,359
Employee costs		893,507	1,098,748
Total project expenditure		2,295,192	1,856,107
Total expenditure		2,681,277	2,171,752
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		695,240	243,492

The statement of comprehensive income is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

Landcare NSW Incorporated

(an incorporated association)

Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020**Statement of financial position**

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,517,927	1,469,222
Trade and other receivables		36,500	38,500
Total current assets		1,554,427	1,507,722
Non-current assets			
Intangible asset – web-site		20,000	40,000
Right of use asset	5	366,673	-
Office Equipment		339	-
Bond receivable		17,050	-
Total non-current assets		404,062	40,000
Total assets		1,958,489	1,547,722
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	6	96,760	107,212
Unspent grants	3	-	841,295
Income received in advance		24,021	21,157
Contract liabilities	3	150,000	-
Money held in trust		69,183	-
Lease Liabilities		65,629	-
Employee leave provisions	7	79,728	94,732
Total current liabilities		485,321	1,064,396
Non-current liabilities			
Lease Liabilities		301,727	-
Employee leave provision	7	12,325	19,450
Total non-current liabilities		314,052	19,450
Total liabilities		799,373	1,083,846
Net assets		1,159,116	463,876
Retained equity		1,159,116	463,876

The statement of financial position is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

Landcare NSW Incorporated

(an incorporated association)

Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020**Statement of changes in equity**

	Retained earnings \$	General reserves \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2018	220,384	-	220,384
Surplus attributed for the year	243,492	-	243,492
Balance at 30 June 2019	463,876	-	463,876
Surplus attributed for the year	695,240	-	695,240
Balance at 30 June 2020	1,159,116	-	1,159,116

The statement of changes in equity is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

Landcare NSW Incorporated

(an incorporated association)

Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020**Statement of cash flows**

	Note	2020	2019
Cash flows from operating activities		\$	\$
Project funding		1,899,674	492,832
Other income		998,121	376,408
Interest received		1,533	31,768
Payment to suppliers and employees		(2,850,284)	(2,450,759)
Net cash provided by operating activities	8	49,044	(1,549,751)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from Investments		-	1,250,000
Payment for Plant & Equipment		(393)	
Net Cash flows from investing activities		(393)	1,250,000
Cash flows from financing activities		-	-
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		48,705	(299,751)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		1,469,222	1,768,973
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	4	1,517,927	1,469,222

The statement of cash flows is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

Landcare NSW Incorporated

(an incorporated association)

Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

1. Association information

The financial report covers Landcare NSW Incorporated (the “association”) for the year ended 30 June 2020 was authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the committee on 17 November 2020.

Landcare NSW Incorporated is a not-for-profit entity registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). The nature of the operations and principal activities of the association are described in the Committees’ Report on Page 1 of this report.

2. Statement of significant accounting policies and changes of financial year

(a) Basis of preparation

Landcare NSW Incorporated applies Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements as set out in AASB 1053: *Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards* and AASB 2010-2: *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements*.

The financial report, except for the cash flow information, has been prepared on an accrual basis and is based on historical costs. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been presented in Australian dollars and rounded to the nearest dollar.

Changes in Accounting Policies

Adoption of new and revised Accounting standards

AASB 16 replaces AASB 117

The Company has adopted the guidance for the recognition of leases for its office lease using the modified retrospective method from 1 July 2019 and therefore the comparative information for the year ended 30 June 2019 has not been restated and has been prepared in accordance with AASB 117 Leases. Note 4 highlights the balance sheet impact as at 30 June 2020 and given a move to the Mascot premises during the current year, no adjustment has been required to be made to opening retained earnings.

Adoption of AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities

The majority of project revenue fell under AASB 1058 and was recognised as revenue upon receipt. Under AASB 1058 and AASB 15, where an agreement contains sufficiently specific performance obligations, the revenue is either recognised over time as the work is performed or recognised at the point in time that the control of the services pass to the customer.

The adoption of these revenue standards has resulted in the Company recognising increased revenue of \$555,009, and a reduction in contract liabilities \$555,009 against what would have been recorded had there been no change in the accounting policy.

Landcare NSW Incorporated

(an incorporated association)

Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

Significant accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other various factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The key estimates and assumptions that may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities within the next annual reporting period are:

Significant accounting judgements

Provisions for employee benefits

Provisions for employee benefits payable after 12 months from the reporting date are based on future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. The amount of these provisions would change should any of these factors change in the next 12 months.

Lease term

The Committee have considered the extension option on the lease of the commercial office and have determined that it is probable that they will exercise the option and accordingly the lease option has been included in the lease liability.

(b) Revenue recognition

For Comparative year

Revenue is recognised either at a point in time or over time, when the association satisfies performance obligations by transferring the service to its customers or members.

Revenue from Contracts

Revenue received from contracts is recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income when the association obtains control of the grant, and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the entity and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

Where the association has received contract revenue and has an obligation to perform further services to enable them to adequately acquit a grant an unearned grant liability is raised until the service has been delivered.

Landcare NSW Incorporated

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Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

For current year

The core principle of AASB 15 is that revenue is recognised on a basis that reflects the transfer of promised goods or services to customers at an amount that reflects the consideration the Association expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services.

Revenue is recognised by applying a five-step model as follows:

1. Identify the contract with the customer;
2. Identify the performance obligations;
3. Determine the transaction price;
4. Allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations;
5. Recognise revenue as and when control of the performance obligations is transferred.

Generally, the timing of the payment for sale of goods and rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligations, however where there is a difference, it will result in the recognition of a receivable, contract asset or contract liability.

None of the revenue streams of the Association have any significant financing terms.

Contract revenue

Where contract revenue arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue is recognised when control of each performance obligations is satisfied.

The performance obligations are varied based on the agreement but may include grants for the purchase of specific equipment.

Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control and within contract agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract.

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

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Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

Contract revenue

Amounts arising from grants in the scope of AASB 1058 are recognised at the assets fair value when the asset is received. The association considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

Statement of financial position balances relating to revenue recognition

Contract assets and liabilities

Where the amounts invoiced are based on the achievement of various milestones established in the contract, the amounts recognised as revenue in a given period do not necessarily coincide with the amounts invoiced to or certified by the customer.

When a performance obligation is satisfied by transferring a promised good or service to the customer before the customer pays consideration or the before payment is due, the association presents the contract as a contract asset, unless the association's rights to that amount of consideration are unconditional, in which case the Association recognises a receivable.

When an amount of consideration is received from a customer prior to the entity transferring a good or service to the customer, the Association presents the contract as a contract liability.

Interest income

Investment income comprises interest. Interest income is recognised as it accrues, using the effective interest method.

Membership

The membership year runs from 1 April to 31 March. Membership income is recognised on an accruals basis. Membership/Blanket insurance income received for a future membership year is recorded as income in advance at balance date. The 2019 year was the first year where the accrual adjustment as made, actual cash receipts in the 2019 year were \$32,875.

(c) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular category they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

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Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

Project expenditure

Project expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Milestone payments to Project Partners are made in accordance with project agreements. Payments are made upon successful completion of milestones and acceptance of satisfactory milestone reporting.

Project management expenditure

Project management expenditure represents contractual payments for the management of individual projects.

(d) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position comprise cash at bank and in hand and short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less. For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and cash equivalents as defined above. Money held in trust relates to auspiced donations held on behalf of other Landcare entities

(e) Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables, which comprise amounts due from the provision of services, are recognised and carried at original invoice amount less any allowance for any uncollectable amounts.

An allowance for doubtful debts is made when there is objective evidence that the association will not be able to collect the debts. Bad debts are written off when identified.

(f) Trade and other payables

Trade creditors and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the association prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid. These amounts are usually settled in 30 days. The notional amount of the creditors and payables is deemed to reflect fair value.

(g) Unspent grant funds

Any project funding not spent during the 2019 year and which was required by individual project agreements to be spent in the proceeding financial year was recorded as a liability at balance date.

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Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

(h) Employee benefits

Employee benefits comprise wages and salaries, annual, non-accumulating sick and long service leave, and contributions to superannuation plans.

Liabilities for wages and salaries expected to be settled within 12 months of balance date are recognised in trade and other payables in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date. Liabilities for annual leave in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date which are expected to be settled within 12 months of balance date are recognised in the provision for annual leave. Both liabilities are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Provision is made for the association's obligation for long service leave benefits and annual leave benefits not expected to be settled within 12 months. These benefits are measured at the present value of expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on government bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations. Upon the measurement of obligations, the net change in the obligation is recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income under employee benefits expense.

The association's obligation for long term employee benefits are presented as non-current liabilities in the statement of financial position, except where the association does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after end of the reporting period, in which case the obligations are presented as current liabilities.

(i) Intangible assets – other than goodwill

These assets are website and software development costs to establish a portal to act as a data collection and communication hub for members. The committee have determined that the website and software development is now on hold for 2020 with uncertainty around when these developments will provide a future benefit. The Committee have agreed to assess the carrying value of this investment on an annual basis. The asset has been impaired by \$20,000 in the 2019/20 year in order to more correctly reflect its future benefit to the association.

(j) Income tax

The association is exempt from income tax and accordingly no provision has been made.

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Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

(k) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office, in which case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense.

Receivables and payables are recognised inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from or payable to the Australian Taxation Office is included as part of receivables or payables. Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from or payable to the Australian Taxation Office is classified as operating cash flows.

(l) Leases

For comparative year

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all of the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

For current year

At inception of a contract, the association assesses whether a lease exists - i.e. does the contract convey the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

This involves an assessment of whether:

- The contract involves the use of an identified asset - this may be explicitly or implicitly identified within the agreement. If the supplier has a substantive substitution right then there is no identified asset.
- The association has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from the use of the asset throughout the period of use.
- The association has the right to direct the use of the asset i.e. decision making rights in relation to changing how and for what purpose the asset is used.

The non-lease components included in the lease agreement have been separated and are recognised as an expense as incurred.

At the lease commencement, the association recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the association believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

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The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises of the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration less any lease incentives.

The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy. The estimated life of the right-of-use assets is based on those of property, plant and equipment. The right-of-use asset is subject to the impairment requirements and is assessed for impairment indicators at each reporting date.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the association's incremental borrowing rate is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is remeasured whether there is a lease modification, change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI) or a change in the association's assessment of lease term.

Where the lease liability is remeasured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the remeasurement or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

Exceptions to lease accounting

The association has elected to apply the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. The association recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

3. Reconciliation of grant income

	Unspent C/Fwd. 01/07/19	Project Revenue	Less Contract Liabilities at 30/06/20	Revenue Recognised
NSW State Government Grants	840,008	1,969,866	(150,000)	2,659,874
Other grants	1,287	45,454	-	46,741
	841,295	2,015,320	(150,000)	2,706,615

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Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements****4. Cash and cash equivalents**

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	1,505,661	1,455,271
Debit Card Balances	12,266	13,951
	1,517,927	1,469,222

5. Right of use asset

	2020
	\$
Office Lease – 7/56 Church St Mascot	400,007
Depreciation charge	(33,334)
	366,673

The maturity analysis of the lease liability based upon the contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the following table:

	< 1 year	1-5 years	>5 years	Undiscounted liability	Per Balance Sheet
2020	68,196	306,882	-	375,078	367,356

The amounts recognised in the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income and cash flow statement relating to leases where the company is a lessee are shown below;

	2020
	\$
Interest on lease liabilities	1,449
Total cash outflows for leases	34,098

6. Trade and other payables

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Trade payables	44,030	65,343
GST payable	3,562	(20,690)
Employee payables	49,168	62,559
	96,760	107,212

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Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements****7. Employee Provisions**

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Current		
Provision for annual leave	53,682	23,205
Provision for long service leave	-	23,366
Provision for personal leave	-	29,338
Provision for time in lieu	15,936	9,824
Oncost	10,110	8,999
	79,728	94,732
Non-current		
Provision for long service leave	12,326	19,450
	12,326	19,450
	92,053	114,182

It should be noted that in the past four years Landcare NSW Incorporated has held in trust long service leave on behalf of employees who have transferred in from other Landcare group entities. These balances were paid out in full during the year ended 30 June 2020. The association ceased providing for personal leave in the current year.

8. Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Surplus/(deficit) from operating activities	695,240	243,492
Intangible impairment	20,000	20,000
Depreciation – Right of Use Asset	33,334	-
Increase / (decrease) in liabilities		
Trade creditors	10,452	(143,939)
Unspent grants	(841,295)	(43,652)
Income in advance	2,864	(1,609,843)
Employee provisions	(22,129)	(45,938)
Contract liabilities	148,579	-
Decrease / (increase) in assets		
Trade debtors	2,000	30,129
Net cash provided by operating activities	49,044	(1,549,751)

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Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

9. Capital commitments

To the best of the committee's knowledge there are no capital commitments as at 30 June 2020.

10. Contingent assets and liabilities

To the best of the committees knowledge and belief there are no contingent assets or liabilities at balance date.

11. Events after the reporting period

There have been no significant events subsequent to balance date.

12. Covid-19 Pandemic

The World Health Organisation declared the Covid-19 virus a global pandemic on 11 March 2020. Throughout the pandemic, to date, the Company has seen the deferral of some on ground activities. The receipt of cash flow stimulus and Job Keeper payments has enabled other activities to continue as planned.

13. Related parties and related party transactions

Committee members

Committee members in office during the year are disclosed in the Committees' Report that accompanies these financial statements. No committee members were remunerated for their services to the association during the year, other than for the reimbursement of travel and administration on normal arm's length terms and conditions.

Some committee members are paid Honorariums for presentations at workshops run by the organisation throughout the prior year. Total related party payments to committee members for the year were \$Nil (FY19: \$Nil).

Key management personnel

Any person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any committee member of the entity is considered to be key management personnel. The association had four key management personnel during the year. The totals of remuneration paid to key management personnel of the association during the year was \$364,315 (2019: \$468,669).

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Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

Related party contributions and payments

Landcare NSW funds Landcare groups operating in NSW on a fee for service basis to hold workshops for funded projects, provide project assistance and undertake contract work for fee for service income. These transactions are on normal arm's length terms and conditions.

	2020
Payments received from related parties	\$
National Landcare Network Ltd	100,000
New England North West Landcare Chairs Inc	1,470
Southern New England Landcare Ltd	1,470
Greater Sydney Landcare Network Inc	6,666
Border Ranges- Richmond Valley Landcare Inc	686
TRLA	-
Total	110,292

	2020
Payments to related parties	\$
Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare Network Inc	693
Brunswick Valley Landcare Inc	3,500
Central West Lachlan Landcare	23,689
Clarence Landcare Incorporated	4,206
Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare Inc	561
Dunedoo Coolah Landcare	158
Eurobodalla Landcare Network Incorporated	142
Far South Coast Landcare Association	5,000
Glenrac Inc	30,861
Granite Borders Landcare Committee Inc	3,400
Greater Sydney Landcare Network Inc	539,750
Gunning District Landcare	5,150
Gwymac Inc.	1,200
Holbrook Landcare Network	18,274
Hunter Region Network Landcare Inc	5,000
Landcare Australia Ltd	4,659
Mid Lachlan Landcare	3,882
Mid Macquarie Landcare	605
Murrumbidgee Landcare Incorporated	33,040
Nambucca Valley Landcare	3,610
National Landcare Network Ltd	1,818
New England North West Landcare Chairs Inc	6,955
North Coast Regional Landcare Network	45,909
Northern Slopes Landcare Association Inc.	11,500
Shoalhaven Landcare Association Inc.	2,454
South East Landcare Inc.	7,000
Southern New England Landcare Ltd	4,712
Tamworth Regional Landcare Association	7,112

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Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements****Related party contributions and payments**

	2020 \$
Payments to related parties	
Tweed Landcare Incorporated	7,250
Upper Lachlan Landcare Inc	468
Watershed Landcare Incorporated	32,900
Western Landcare NSW Incorporated	31,311
Western Murray Land Improvement Group	7,370
	854,139

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Committees' declaration

In accordance with a resolution of the Committee of Landcare NSW Incorporated, the committee declare that in their opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Regulations 2013*, and:

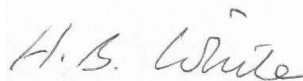
- (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements; and
- (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2020 and its performance and cash flows for the year ending on that date.

2. In the committee's opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that Landcare NSW Incorporated will be able to pay all of its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15 (2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013*.



Chairperson – Stephanie Cameron



Treasurer – Hunter White

Dated: 13 November 2020

Independent auditor's report

To the members of Landcare NSW Incorporated.

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, of Landcare NSW Incorporated (the association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies, and the declaration by those charged with governance.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2020 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements. Further, the financial report has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission Act 2012 and the requirements set out in the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission Regulations 2013.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) and the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission Act 2012 that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements, in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission Act 2012 and the requirements set out in the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission Regulations 2013, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

Our responsibilities

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, the auditor exercises professional judgement and maintains professional scepticism throughout the audit. The auditor also:

- Identifies and assesses the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, designs and performs audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtains audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for the auditor's opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtains an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluates the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by those charged with governance.
- Concludes on the appropriateness of those charged with governance's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If the auditor concludes that a material uncertainty exists, the auditor is required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the auditor's opinion. The auditor's conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluates the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures made by those charged with governance.

The auditor communicates with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that the auditor identifies during the audit.

Roberts & Morrow Audit Services Pty Ltd
Authorised Audit Company Number 517597

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed within an oval. The signature appears to read 'Michelle A Paull'.

Michelle A Paull
Director
137 Beardy Street
Armidale

Dated: 13 November 2020