

STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-22 - HOVELLS CREEK LANDCARE GROUP (HCLG)

OUR MISSION: SUPPORTING ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT IN THE HCLG AREA

OBJECTIVES/PRIORITIES FOR 2020-22:

<p>1. ON-GROUND ACTIVITIES Deliver a range of on-ground activities - including tree planting; erosion control, pasture management, weed control; and native wildlife habitat management</p> <p>KEY INITIATIVES AND ACTION STRATEGIES:</p> <p>1.1 Promote Sound Environmental and Sustainable Land Management Identify and support actions and strategies to support sound environmental and sustainable land management in the HCLG area.</p> <p>1.2 Protection and General Enhancement of Habitat Care for rare and endangered birds, animals and vegetation communities. Promote fencing of environmentally important or sensitive areas such as soaks, dam edges and land with intact endemic herb and/or shrub layers. Enhance habitat quality through shrub and tree plantings, installation of nest boxes, removal of barb wire and other appropriate methods.</p> <p>1.3 Rehabilitating and protecting erosion prone land Improve water quality by promoting erosion control and the rehabilitation of eroded stream banks and gullies, and encourage fencing of areas prone to erosion to restore and enhance vegetation cover. Support projects that aim to stabilise stream banks and eroding gullies, including rehabilitation and revegetation activities.</p> <p>1.4 Paddock Trees and Tree and Shrub Plantings Undertake the planting of individual paddock trees within protective guards as well as cluster and strip plantings of endemic trees, shrubs and groundcover, to provide connectivity/habitat for birds, shade for stock, and other related objectives. We will also continue to seek member support and external funding for larger area plantings of 2-10ha.</p> <p>1.5 Noxious Weeds Foster the integrated control of weeds, through identifying appropriate weeds and their control methods and collecting and distributing appropriate control agents. Initial priority is serrated tussock.</p> <p>1.6 Feral Animal Control Support programs to reduce populations of foxes, rabbits, wild goats, pigs and wild cats. Periodically assess extent of feral cat problem and have cat traps which can be loaned to members.</p>	<p>2. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION Collect, develop and disseminate information about the natural environment, including climate, to engage, inspire and help members and others in the area to develop their skills, knowledge and capacity to better engage in Landcare-type activities. Engage with regional and other bodies to tap into their expertise.</p> <p>KEY INITIATIVES AND ACTION STRATEGIES:</p> <p>2.1 Guest Speakers, Workshops, Conferences and Other Events Identify topics of interest/importance and arrange guest speakers and/or workshops to present information on these topics. Provide information on conferences and other events of potential interest to members and help them attend activities outside the immediate region. Topics will range from those of local interest to the key issue of global warming.</p> <p>2.2 Field Days, Property and Project Walks Organise activities to facilitate the exchange and dissemination of information about on-ground management to enhance the natural environment and to increase knowledge and inspire understanding of it.</p> <p>2.3 Liaise with Broader Landcare Community and other Bodies Tap into the activities and experience of the broader Landcare community and local government and LLS. Represent members and local landholders on regional and State-organizations on sustainable agriculture and environmental issues, including supporting liaison and collaboration with other relevant bodies.</p> <p>2.4 Website Maintain a website containing information relevant to the activities of HCLG, including details of current and completed projects and new initiatives and providing links to other relevant sites and events.</p> <p>2.5 Technical Notes Develop/disseminate technical notes on issues relevant to the area. This includes notes on planting of trees and shrubs; weed control measures, including through biological control; and erosion control actions.</p> <p>2.6 Research Projects by Outside Organizations and Individuals HCLG to engage in and/or encourage members to engage in research projects which will have findings relevant to our area, group or community.</p> <p>2.7 Develop/Collect Resource Materials on the Local Area Record via personal interviews the recollections of the elders of the Hovells Creek community on aspects of the environment and history of farming and environmental action in the Hovells Creek area.</p>	<p>3. ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT MEMBERS AND HCLG Organise activities and facilities that support and encourage member interest and involvement in the work of HCLG and enhance their capacity to engage in Landcare-type activities</p> <p>KEY INITIATIVES AND ACTION STRATEGIES:</p> <p>3.1 Bi-Monthly General Meetings Hold bi-monthly meetings that encourage member participation by being interesting, relevant and well run. Executive Committee to handle detailed HCLG management matters and report on them at GMs.</p> <p>3.2 Management of HCLG Ensure HCLG is well managed and accountable to members/the community; manages well and makes prudent use of HCLG and grant funds from supporting organisations; and plans for executive succession</p> <p>3.3 Seek Project Funding and Manage Funded Projects Identify bodies which can fund and support Landcare activities in the HCLG area and submit funding proposals to them for HCLG projects at the property/cross-property/multi-property/regional levels. Undertake management of funded projects so as to fulfil project objectives.</p> <p>3.4 Landcare Support Officer (LSO) for FY2020-22 Employ an LSO to support the group's various activities, including monitoring/evaluating projects; and organising field days & project visits.</p> <p>3.5 Support A Greater Sense of Community Health and Welfare in the Area Through bi-monthly meetings and other activities, including an annual Xmas Party, encourage communication and community in the HCLG area, thus contributing to improved health and wellbeing of members.</p> <p>3.6 Help Members Develop and Manage Their Own Landcare Initiatives By providing access to funding and technical support, help members develop and manage their own Landcare initiatives.</p> <p>3.7 Resource Materials Provide a range of materials, including tree planters, sensor cameras, cat traps and books, that are available for member use</p> <p>3.8 Young Landcare Members Acknowledge the specific needs of any younger members and as appropriate support and encourage them to increase their knowledge and skills, and to support/help each other.</p> <p>3.9 Covid-19 Apply appropriate Landcare NSW Covid-19 protocols and strategies to planning and implementation of all activities</p>
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