



LachLandcare
Inc.

*Bland Creek Catchment Committee, Boorowa Community Landcare Group,
Central Tablelands Landcare, Central West Lachlan Landcare,
Condobolin & Districts Landcare, Mid Lachlan Landcare, Upper Lachlan Landcare,
Weddin Landcare, and Young District Landcare.*



Winter pasture assessment - Boorowa

LachLandcare Inc.

2012-2013

Annual Report

LachLandcare is the representative network of Landcare members and groups (landholders and community members) stretching across all areas of the Lachlan River catchment.

LachLandcare 2012-2013

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LachLandcare 2012-2013

Executive summary

The past 12 months has seen the development of substantial changes taking place in the Lachlan with the upgrade of the Catchment Action Plan (CAP) which demonstrated strong commitment and engagement between government and community with genuine consultation, resulting in an integrated plan balancing economic, social and environmental aspects. Following this was the announcement of the formation of Local Land Services (LLS) and subsequent destruction of the Lachlan catchment as a natural resource management region, being carved up into the five neighbouring regions. Strong collaborative partnerships will be required at the regional level between LachLandcare and Local Land Services boards to ensure the momentum of CAP consultation process is maintained with roles and responsibilities clarified, to alleviate any detrimental impact on the Lachlan based Landcare movement.

LachLandcare (LLi) as the representative network of Landcare groups in the Lachlan, has a vital role as a key delivery partner in the implementation and delivery of the upgraded CAP priorities as the Lachlan transitions to five new LLS regions. LachLandcare is working with the district groups to approach each of the LLS agencies and negotiate adequate funding support to secure community based support staff and resources, and to clarify Landcare's new roles and responsibilities in relation to achieving the targets of the Lachlan CAP.

At the same time LLi and the district groups undertook strategic planning activities to clarify direction and priorities for the next five years. In 2012-13 LLi on behalf of the districts has secured over \$345,000 of funds into the Landcare network through the Regional Landcare Facilitator program, the Landcare Support Officer (LSO) Contract, the Carbon Farming Initiative contract, and the Landcare Group Support Resources grant. In the past 12 months Landcare groups have leveraged an additional \$429,000 funding in partnership with community, industry, business and government through Landcare projects and people. In addition LLi successfully negotiated professional development training workshops on Work Health and Safety, and event evaluation strategies, as well as subsidizing costs for seven community representatives to attend the 2013 NSW Landcare and Catchment Management Forum, in Newcastle.

Again the LSOs and the district Landcare committees have continued to grow in capacity and demonstrated their proven capabilities in achieving significant outcomes in the past 12 months, nearly doubling the results attained in 2011-12. This could not have been possible without the LSO base funding from one of our main partners, the Lachlan Catchment Management Authority. The LCMA funding has been essential again this year in building capacity and delivering Landcare and catchment outcomes.

At the back of the report are event summaries showcasing a wide range of economic, social and environmental education and awareness raising activities focusing on sustainable agriculture and natural resource management. The event summaries demonstrate the ability of Landcare to address local issues, build relationships through collaboration with a wide range of partners and community groups, embrace social media to reach new audiences, and provides examples of many different topics of interest.

It is our continued belief that as partners of the Lachlan CMA and other regional organisations, we have a significant role to play in assisting everyone meet their regional targets, whilst fulfilling LachLandcare's purpose and vision.

LachLandcare 2012-2013

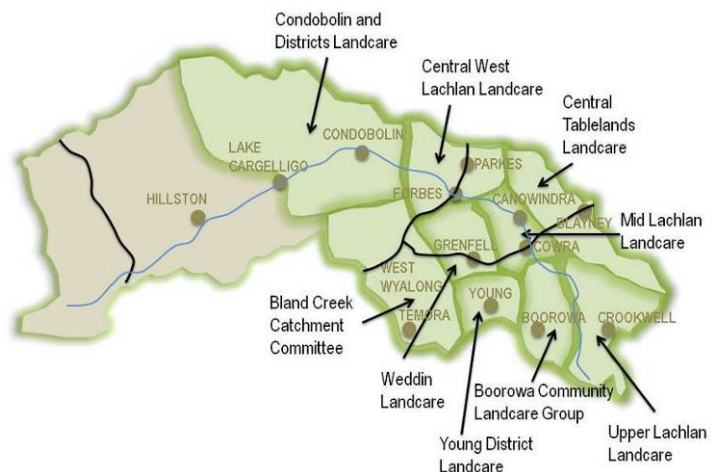
Statement of Purpose

LachLandcare (LLi) operates a Board of Community Landcare Delegates that provides governance, training and support for all our district Landcare networks.

LLi advocates, communicates and mentors the Landcare philosophy, action and outcomes in the Lachlan to create resilient landscapes and communities.

LLi facilitates and builds collaborative partnerships, and optimizes resource investments to enhance the health of communities and landscapes.

LLi has a proven track record of planning, resourcing and delivery of biodiversity, landscape services, productivity, community and financial outcomes.



Objectives

CREATE PARTNERSHIPS: Create partnerships with government and Non-Government (NGO) programs and business and corporate interests, to co-invest and provide technical support to Landcare projects, and record and present the results Landcare achieves (ROI). (Note: Aim for LLS-LLI specific partnership).

DEVELOP PROJECTS: Build and promote catchment-wide projects, ready for delivery by local Landcare groups, that fit local priorities and which align and influence regional, state and national NRM (e.g. Lachlan CAP) strategies.

ADVOCATE & PROMOTE: Advise and collaborate with investors, planners and policy makers on behalf of the Landcare community, and keep local Landcare up to date with policy development and co-investment opportunities.

SECURE FACILITATION: Secure a sustainable model for facilitation of expanding landcare community networks, and employ landcare support staff, for the long term.

INCREASE CAPACITY: Facilitate learning between landcarers and groups to build knowledge, expertise and capacity so that successful approaches are replicated across the catchment, and to proactively expand the landcare network.

LachLandcare 2012-2013

Chair's report

The last 12 months have been a very progressive and fulfilling for LachLandcare and its nine districts. Much has been achieved, relationships have been built and Landcare in the Lachlan catchment is certainly alive and well.

One of our highlights for the year was again the presentation to the board of the Lachlan Catchment Management Authority (LCMA) in Forbes on 25th July. The foundations built the previous year were certainly strengthened and there was a clear acknowledgement of the success and effectiveness of the work done by the Landcare network in the catchment to assist the LCMA achieve their targets and our own. The reporting system we now have in place was critical in demonstrating our achievements, and it continues to be an invaluable tool.

The strategic planning workshops carried out in the last 12 months I feel have stood the districts in good stead to venture into the new world of Local Land Services (LLS) with a sense of purpose and confidence, now with a clear picture of what they want Landcare in their districts to look like in the coming years. I must thank Jen Quealy for her commitment to that process and the great outcomes achieved.

A meeting with Minister Hodgkinson in Sydney on 1st August enabled us to put our case to the NSW government regarding future funding and certainly helped secure base funding for all LSOs in the catchment for the 13-14 year.

Possibly the biggest challenge that LachLandcare has faced since its creation, is the establishment of the new LLS areas, and with that the restructure of the funding sources and contract arrangements. I understand that most other CMAs in the state will be able to morph into the new LLS boundaries with relatively little disturbance to current RLF support staff arrangements. Unfortunately the Lachlan catchment is now split 5 ways into the new LLS regions, and with that goes the certainty of funding for an RLF position hosted by LachLandcare, as all other current RLFs will slip into new RLF roles within their newly created LLS areas.

Is LachLandcare relevant or needed anymore? Will our districts who find themselves in new multi-purposed and hopefully multi-serviced LLS areas be supported by the other existing regional Landcare networks? Given the meeting attended on 11th November, hosted by the South East Landcare network and Southern Rivers CMA, I have confidence that Landcare districts who find themselves in the South East LLS will be welcomed. I do however see a very strong continuing role for LachLandcare in maintaining its focus on the Lachlan catchment and progressing catchment wide initiatives for the benefit of all districts currently supported by us at the moment.

We have a number of meetings to organize and attend with the various Chairs and General Managers of the new LLS regions that our districts will now be associated with, and we will be inviting the appropriate district representatives to attend these meetings to negotiate our position.

In the perfect world we would retain the RLF position for the Lachlan catchment and continue the support given to Landcare in the region. This could be a separately funded position over and above the

LachLandcare 2012-2013

RLF positions associated with new LLS's, or funding may be able to be procured from each of the LLS regions to support a full time RLF position.

I must thank the chairs of the districts that we support in the Lachlan. The executive very much appreciate the time you commit to LachLandcare gatherings and events such as the AGM. I know your LSOs greatly appreciate your involvement and guidance, and your contributions at our quarterly meetings are invaluable in keeping LachLandcare relevant and supportive to your districts.

And thank you to the LSOs and their committee members who keep the district Landcare movement alive and ticking. You guys make it happen. We wouldn't be here without you. I trust the relationship we have with each other remains to be strong and productive.

Thanks again must go to my committee. You have all performed as one might expect of dedicated Landcarers, with diligence and commitment. Thank you Ruth as deputy chair, Mark as secretary, Margaret as Treasurer, Keith and Mary as Landcare NSW representatives. I understand Ruth may step down from her role on the executive, and I hope she decides to remain involved as a representative from Condobolin. And Margaret's role may change a little as treasurer, but remaining in an overseeing role.

Marita has done a fantastic job this past year in collating reports, guiding us through the world of social media and supporting Leanne in all things administration. And also a thank you to our other additional executive committee members Nerida Croker and Margot Jolly. The entire committee's involvement in all matters, from strategic to the mundane is always appreciated.

And a big thank you to Leanne of course, whose landcaring spirit has helped keep the good ship LachLandcare afloat. She always has the best interests of Landcare at heart in all that she sets out to do and has been integral in creating a very successful and strong landcare network not just within the Lachlan, but surrounding production, NRM and Landcare regions. It would be a shame to not build on these very secure foundations.

Thank you to all of you for being patient with the ups and downs of the past 12 months and for the support you have given when needed.

Cheers

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Charlie Arnott', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Charlie Arnott
Chairperson-LachLandcare Inc

LachLandcare 2012-2013

Treasurer's Report as at 30th June 2013

CLOSING BALANCE Working Account (BSB: 032-834, A/C: 178-442) = \$2,598.68.

CLOSING BALANCE Reserve Account (BSB: 032-834, A/C: 178-450) = \$161,097.12

- Minus \$27,201.05 starting funds from Lachlan Central West Landcare.
- Minus \$38,150.96 set aside to be returned to the federal government.
- Therefore the balance of the available funds = \$95,745.11 which is the remainder of the Regional Landcare Facilitator Contract.

Carbon Farming Initiative Communications Program funding has been completed, with the remainder of the outstanding funds \$18,104.21 (Including GST) is to be returned.

The three year Regional Landcare Facilitator Contract funding is been finalized and completed with third years funding of \$150,000.00 being spent.



Margaret Haddin.
Treasurer.

LachLandcare 2012-2013

LACHLANDCARE INC. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013

	2013	2012
INCOME		
Funding	242,929.97	-
Membership Fees	96.54	-
Reimbursement Conference Fees	2,000.00	-
TOTAL INCOME	\$245,026.51	-
EXPENDITURE		
Auditor's Remuneration	1,000.00	-
Bank Charges	196.30	-
Interest	3.12	-
Licensing Fees	75.00	-
Meetings and Workshops	21,805.78	-
Program Costs	344,753.02	-
Printing and Stationery	660.93	-
Travelling Costs	805.88	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$369,300.03	-
OPERATING LOSS BEFORE INCOME TAX	\$124,273.52	-
Retained Profits - Beginning of Year	212,186.10	-
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS AT 30TH JUNE 2013	\$87,912.58	-

LACHLANDCARE INC. SCHEDULE TO INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013

	2013	2012
INCOME		
Funding		
LSO Funding	29,417.00	-
RLF Funding	199,190.65	-
CFI Funding	14,322.32	-
	\$242,929.97	-
EXPENSES		
Program Costs		
Meri Plan	9,961.40	-
RLF Contract	144,201.66	-
LSO Payment	140,139.90	-
CFI Expenses	454.55	-
Landcare Support Resources	23,767.76	-
Reimbursements	14,149.93	-
	\$344,753.02	-

LachLandcare 2012-2013

LACHLANDCARE INC.
BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013

	2013	2012
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash at Bank - Reserve	121,097.12	-
Cash at Bank - Term Deposit	27,000.00	-
Trade and Other Receivables		
GST on Creditors	567.88	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>\$148,665.00</u>	<u>-</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and Other Payables		
Cash at Bank - Working	47,148.28	
Trade Creditors	6,246.78	-
GST Payable	3,401.00	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>\$56,796.06</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>\$56,796.06</u>	<u>-</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>\$91,868.94</u>	<u>-</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS		
Accumulated Surplus	91,868.94	-
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS	<u>\$91,868.94</u>	<u>-</u>

LachLandcare 2012-2013

Attachment A

Caring for our Country Financial Report for the Period:

01/07/2012 to 30/06/2013

Project Title: Regional Landcare Facilitator

LachLandcare

ALL FIGURES ARE GST EXCLUSIVE

Funding Source	Commonwealth to Pre-Fill		Approval		Previous Period Summary		Current Period				End of Financial Year	
	Total Original Approved Budget	Total Current Approved Budget	Total Funding Received (to beginning of current period)	Total Expended (to beginning of current period)	Adjustments to Prior Period Reported Expenditure	Opening Balance	Funding Received this Period	Funding Expended this Period	Closing Balance	Liabilities carried forward	Net Uncommitted funds held	
Caring for our Country	450,000.00	450,000.00	240,000.00	252,114.21	0.00	-12,114.21	199,190.65	187,038.18	38.26	0.00	38.26	
Activity Generated Income*	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Subtotal Commonwealth	450,000.00	450,000.00	240,000.00	252,114.21	0.00	-12,114.21	199,190.65	187,038.18	38.26	0.00	38.26	
Other Contribution (e-a-b)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Subtotal Other Contribution	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total	450,000.00	450,000.00	240,000.00	252,114.21	0.00	-12,114.21	199,190.65	187,038.18	38.26	0.00	38.26	

Commonwealth to Pre-Fill		Annual figures for the approved project	
		Expenses	Expense
Brief description of Activity's (per Funding Deed)		Activity 1	Activity 2
Base Salary (and number of hours a week)		75,264.14	74,899.48
On-costs (including employer contributions, insurance)		12,500.00	14,544.66
Office and service overheads		12,500.00	14,560.27
Travel (including access to vehicle and fuel)		13,000.00	12,000.00
Training and conference attendance		4,000.00	3,492.85
Host organisation administration costs		5,000.00	3,109.50
Other expenditure (insert rows below)		27,735.86	8,362.99
Landcare Support		9,306.77	
Strategic Action Plan		9,312.50	
Strategic Region Planning		272.72	
Other Contribution			
Total		150,000.00	149,961.74
Unspent fund from 2011-12		46,370.10	37,076.44
Activity Generated Income from 2011-12			
Total		46,370.10	37,076.44

Commonwealth to Pre-Fill		Annual figures for the approved project	
		Expenses	Expense
Brief description of Activity's (per Funding Deed)		Activity 1	Activity 2
Base Salary (and number of hours a week)		75,264.14	74,899.48
On-costs (including employer contributions, insurance)		12,500.00	14,544.66
Office and service overheads		12,500.00	14,560.27
Travel (including access to vehicle and fuel)		13,000.00	12,000.00
Training and conference attendance		4,000.00	3,492.85
Host organisation administration costs		5,000.00	3,109.50
Other expenditure (insert rows below)		27,735.86	8,362.99
Landcare Support		9,306.77	
Strategic Action Plan		9,312.50	
Strategic Region Planning		272.72	
Other Contribution			
Total		150,000.00	149,961.74
Unspent fund from 2011-12		46,370.10	37,076.44
Activity Generated Income from 2011-12			
Total		46,370.10	37,076.44

As authorised representatives of [insert proponent name] we hereby confirm that all expenses detailed above were incurred in achieving the objectives for which the funding was provided.

25/07/2013

MARGARET HADDIN TREASURER

25/07/2013

Full name & Position:

Full name & Position:

LachLandcare 2012-2013

Regional Landcare Facilitator's Report

2012-13 has proven to be a busy year with a wide range of activities and assistance provided to support the Landcare and sustainable production groups in the Lachlan. Funding from the Regional Landcare Facilitator (RLF) program supported a range of activities, from workshops on soil biology and the impact of different management practices, erosion control, research updates on grain and associated water requirements, and a lecture on Aboriginal land management techniques. The RLF assisted the district Landcare groups to undertake strategic planning workshops to identify priorities and provide direction in the next five years, including supporting the development of a Lachlan based Landcare strategic plan.

The RLF provided assistance to LachLandcare through facilitating the strategic planning workshops, supporting the delivery of the Landcare Support Officer contracts, negotiating funding to support professional development for Landcare representatives in Work Health and Safety, and Event Evaluation strategies to better inform decision making in Partnership with NSW Department of Primary Industries and Lachlan CMA. The RLF also supported district Landcare groups through advice on governance issues, workshop preparation, and representation at regional meetings with government department staff.

The targets of the three year RLF contract were exceeded, in partnership with the Landcare districts, as shown: 1. Assist at least 20 per cent of farmers within the region to increase their uptake of sustainable farm and land management practices that deliver improved ecosystem service (Target = 135, Outcome = 571); 2. Increase by 20 per cent the number of farmers within the region who adopt stewardship, covenanting, property management plan or other arrangements to improve the environment both on-farm and off-farm (Target = 72, Outcome = 115); 3. Improve the knowledge, skills and engagement of at least 20 per cent of land managers and farmers within the region in managing our natural resources and the environment (Target = 135, Outcome = 1236); 4. Improve by 20 per cent the access to knowledge and skills of people in urban and regional communities within the region in managing natural resources sustainably and helping to protect the environment (Target = 135, Outcome = 535); 5. Increase by 20 per cent the engagement and participation rates of people in urban and regional communities within the region in activities to manage natural resources and to help protect the environment (Target = 135, Outcome = 359).

The RLF continued to support the engagement and collaboration between Landcare and the Lachlan CMA through regular meetings with staff and attendance at strategic project planning meetings to ensure Landcare was represented. Relationships have also been established with representatives of the Lachlan Aboriginal Advisory Group to discuss the potential for collaboration on cultural and biodiversity projects of importance to Aboriginals, such as Aboriginal Landcare groups and working on Country. Meetings were held with RLFs from neighbouring CMA regions to commence discussions on the best ways for representatives of neighbouring Landcare networks to meet and discuss ways to engage with the Local Land Services regional boards.

LachLandcare was again successful in continuing to host the RLF contract for 2013-14 in conjunction with the LCMA, to assist the Landcare groups in the transition to the new LLS boundaries, and to continue to build relationships at a regional level with sustainable agriculture and production groups.

LachLandcare 2012-2013

LachLandcare hosted projects for 2012-2013

Lachlan Regional Landcare Facilitator

The Regional Landcare Facilitator position is hosted by LachLandcare and funded through the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry. The RLF role is to work with Landcare and sustainable production groups.

The role aims to: Assist at least 20 per cent of farmers within the region to increase their uptake of sustainable farm and land management practices that deliver improved ecosystem service; Increase by 20 per cent the number of farmers within the region who adopt stewardship, covenanting, property management plan or other arrangements to improve the environment both on-farm and off-farm; Improve the knowledge, skills and engagement of at least 20 per cent of land managers and farmers within the region in managing our natural resources and the environment; Improve by 20 per cent the access to knowledge and skills of people in urban and regional communities within the region in managing natural resources sustainably and helping to protect the environment; Increase by 20 per cent the engagement and participation rates of people in urban and regional communities within the region in activities to manage natural resources and to help protect the environment.

This was the final year of a three contract with the position managed by a steering committee of representative from regional organisations.

LachLandcare Group Support Resources grant

This funding assistance was made available under the auspices of the NSW Landcare Support program in from the NSW Department of Primary Industries in conjunction with the Lachlan CMA to the value of \$12,917. The objectives of this project was to develop and enhance Landcare and CMA networks through the provision of resource packages tailored to the needs of Landcare groups to build capacity and participation.

The funding was appreciated with Landcare groups making good use of the opportunity. A range of equipment and resources were purchased to support the activities of the district Landcare groups including: Promotion material for volunteers to use at events (vests, shirts, caps, calico bags, teardrop banners, banner stands, event marque); Training and education resources (first aid kits, flipcharts, data projector, microscopes); and Office and administrative resources (tablets, laptops).

Carbon Farming Initiative funding

The second year of Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) awareness raising was undertaken by the RLF. Information was made available at events to assist to raise awareness and encourage further exploration on relevance to land managers needs and goals, which gained considerable interest, although there still remains much reticence in proceeding any further at this stage. The usual questions arose in relation to concerns with permanence and additionality, the need to see examples of the expected returns on

LachLandcare 2012-2013

investment and cost benefit analysis to better inform decisions, and requests for updates or announcements on any development or release of soil sequestration methodology (particularly as the Lachlan was at the forefront of soil carbon research).

It was identified through communication with a wide range of farmers, and in discussions with Lachlan CMA staff, that there was an overwhelming need to see relevant examples of the CFI return on investment and a cost benefit analysis specific to the Lachlan. After a few planning meetings with LCMA staff we felt the best way to address the lack of information currently available for this region would be to document through the use of video and case studies using specific examples by early adopters and innovators to provide a range of models for what might be expected in different parts of the catchment. We felt this would provide a comprehensive overview as the Lachlan already had soil carbon data available to assist the process and the first methane project was a piggery at Young.

Discussions with the CFI team led us not to proceed as the information we wanted to provide would fall outside our role as information providers. We were very disappointed with the feedback as we believed we would have been able to develop good quality resources to assist the decision making process. Due to the ongoing hesitation by the majority of land managers, it was decided to return the outstanding funds.

LCMA Landcare Support Officer Support program

LachLandcare was contracted for a second year by the Lachlan Catchment Management Authority to coordinate the Lachlan Landcare Support Officer program in the 2012 – 2013 year. Under the program each of the nine Landcare districts within the Lachlan catchment were given financial support to employ a Landcare Support Officer for one day a week. The 2012 – 2013 year was another year of significant growth for Landcare in the Lachlan Catchment with remarkable achievements on such a limited budget.

This support funding has been instrumental in growing Landcare in the Lachlan catchment. It has allowed each of the nine Landcare districts:

- to build and strengthen their networks through regular meetings, newsletters, press articles and a presence on social media;
- to deliver a range of training events such as field days and workshops that have engaged a large and varied audience;
- to further support Landcare's involvement in delivering natural resource management activities into our local schools;
- to provide additional support to Lachlan CMA staff projects and activities; and
- to leverage additional funding of projects in the Lachlan through a wide range of grants.

More details of the achievements of the nine Landcare districts supported through LachLandcare are given in the table on the next page and through a selection of stories from events held across the Lachlan over the 2012 – 2013 year.

LachLandcare continues to support Landcare in the Lachlan to create resilient landscapes and communities and is actively developing partnerships to optimise the use of resources in the catchment.

LachLandcare 2012-2013

A snapshot of Landcare in the Lachlan 2012 -2013

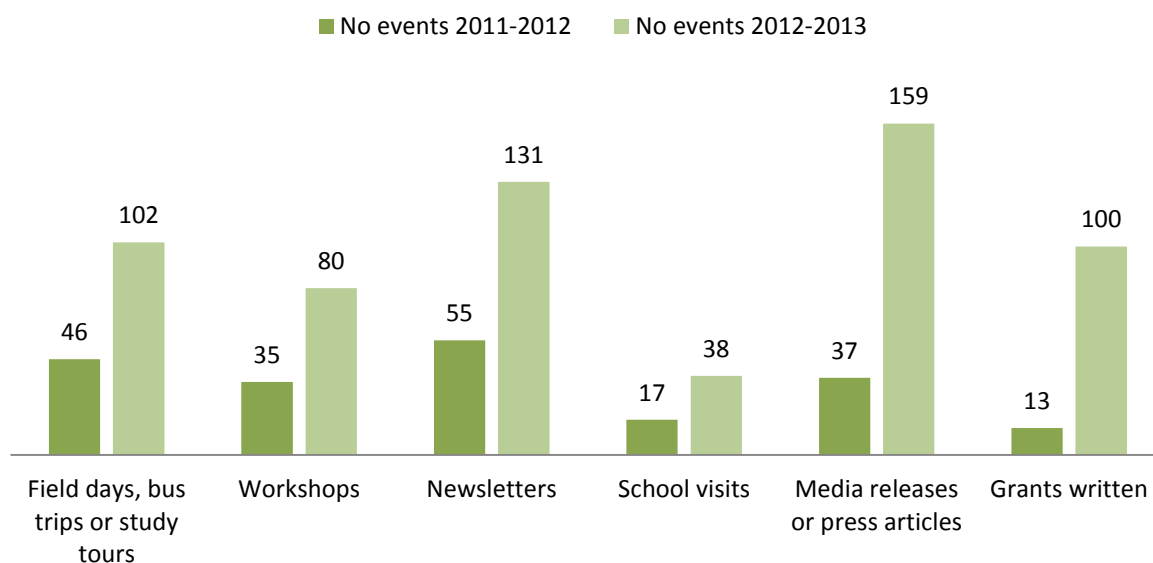
In 2012-2013 the LachLandcare executive collected information on the activities undertaken by the 9 key Landcare districts in the Lachlan as part of the Landcare Support Program monitoring – the information collected went broader than that required for the reporting for the Landcare Support Program and has provided a detailed summary of Landcare activity in the Lachlan over the 2012-2013 year. This information was supplemented with the results of a survey of all nine districts at the end of the year. The combined results of these are reported below as Snapshot of Landcare in the Lachlan catchment for the 2012 -2013 year.

Landcare continues to grow in the Lachlan

When comparing the summaries of the delivery of a wide range of events in the Lachlan catchment for the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 years in the graph below it is clear to see the massive increase in delivered events by the Landcare districts over those two years.

All events at least doubled in the number of times they were delivered in the catchment, with events such as media and grants written clearly increasing by 4 or 7 fold respectively.

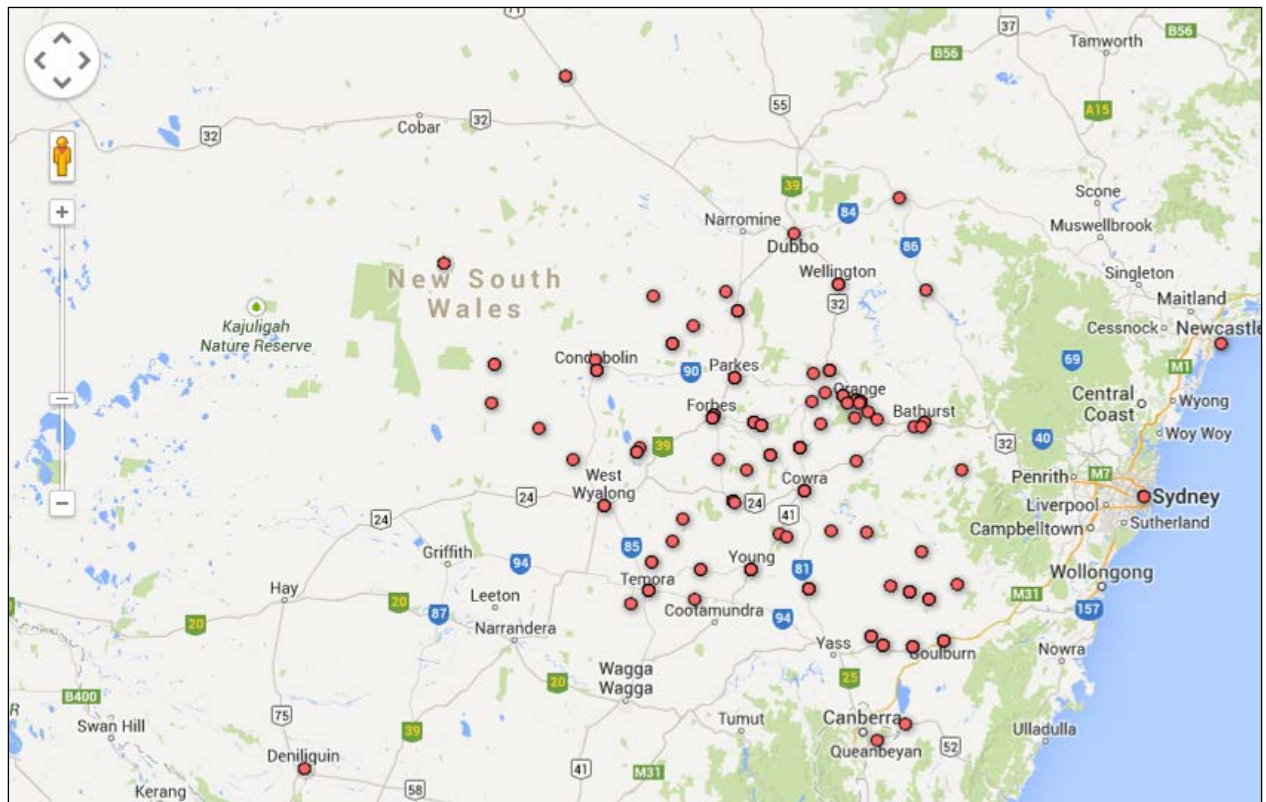
Number of events delivered by the Landcare districts of the Lachlan - comparison of 2011-2012 and 2012-2013



LachLandcare 2012-2013

Broad coverage of events across the Lachlan catchment

The map below shows the location of events conducted by the nine Landcare districts in the 2012-2013 reporting period. The map clearly demonstrates the broad coverage that these nine Landcare districts are achieving in the Lachlan catchment and beyond.



Parkes to Peak Hill Day

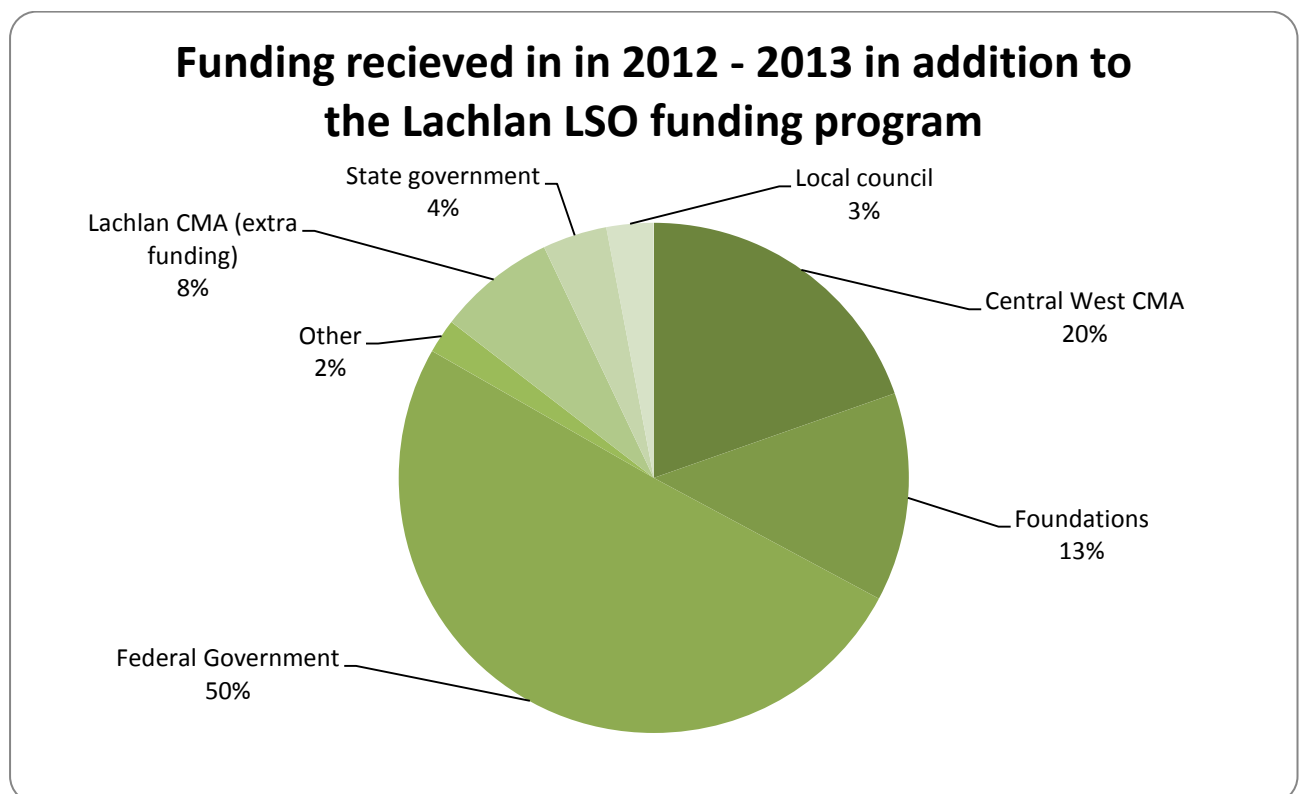


LachLandcare 2012-2013

Leveraging additional funding support in 2012 - 2013

In the 2012-2013 members of LachLandcare received an additional \$429,000 of funding into the Lachlan – this was in addition to the two large projects Lachlandcare administered over the 2012-2013 year (Project 1 being \$150,000 committed by the Lachlan CMA for the Landcare Support Officer program and Project 2 \$150,000 for the Lachlan RLF project). This additional funding came from a wide range of sources including Community Action Grants, additional support for specific projects through both the Lachlan and Central West Catchment Management Authorities, through sponsor organisations and Foundations, and also local, state and federal governments.

The proportion of support from the range of granting organisations/agencies is shown in the chart below.



It was also identified through the strategic planning process that Landcare **magnified a return on investment of nearly three times the funds provided** in the 2012-13 LSO contract through additional funds. **Volunteer in-kind contributions attributed an additional 4-fold ROI** when it is included into the equation.

Landcare Districts over the 2012 – 2013 year also **applied for an additional 100 grants** for funding support – many of which the funding outcomes are yet to be determined.

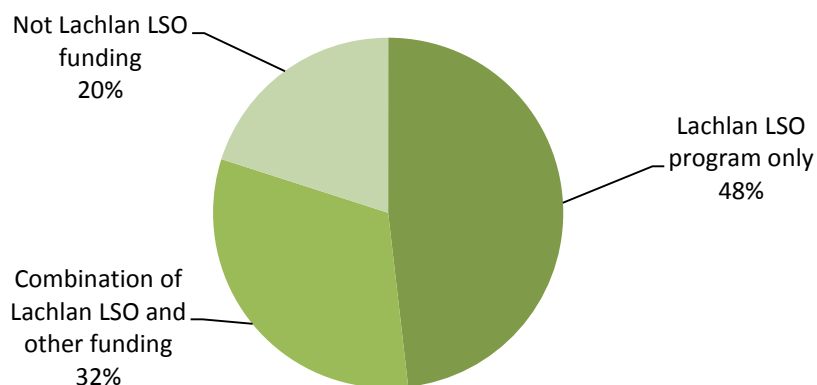
LachLandcare 2012-2013

Funding through the Lachlan LSO program is essential

Over three quarters of the activities reported by the nine districts in the Lachlan were reported to have used Lachlan LSO funding – either as the sole source of funding or in combination with additional funding. Close to half the activities reported to LachLandcare in the 2012-2013 period relied solely on Lachlan LSO funding for delivery.

The Lachlan LSO program has therefore been essential in the building and delivery of Landcare outcomes in the Lachlan catchment in the 2012 – 2013 year.

Lachlan LSO funding and other funding used to deliver Landcare activities in the Lachlan



Healthy Farm Dams day – Boorowa

LachLandcare 2012-2013

Landcare field days and workshops delivered for 2012 - 2013

In 2012 – 2013 the nine LachLandcare districts hosted a total of **102 field days with a total of 6,853 participants** attending. Field day topics were diverse and included:

- Assessing winter pasture
- North Sydney Bushcare Group visit
- Annual Narraburra Lodge Fisherama
- TAFE Landcare Certificate II and III native plant identification, seed collection, propagation and revegetation
- Tree planting and seed collecting days
- Integrated weed management using livestock
- Bird ecology and field surveys / monitoring
- Soil health days
- Carp days
- Healthy Landscapes Healthy People
- Aboriginal Cultural Tour
- Mulloon Institute bus trip



North Sydney Bushcare Group - Boorowa



Salinity tree planting day - Cudal

LachLandcare 2012-2013

An additional **80 workshops** were facilitated for **1,528 attendees**. Workshops topics were varied and included:

- stress free stock handling
- erosion control
- 1080 training and certification
- Healthy farm dams
- Household water efficiency
- Soil biology
- Funding research and development



Healthy Dams workshop and planting day - Molong



Introduction to soil biology - Boorowa



Erosion Control workshop - Breadalbane



Low Stress Stock Handling - Condobolin

LachLandcare 2012-2013

Landcare supporting local groups and community groups

Landcare in the Lachlan was active in supporting existing Landcare groups and community groups as well as forging new NRM partnerships in the 2012 – 2013 year.

A total of **84 activities with 1,802 participants were undertaken to support local groups** through plant identification days, support with funding applications, native seed collection workshops and through attending local Landcare group meetings.

A further **78 events with 1,957 participants were undertaken to assist local community groups** over the year. Community groups assisted included:

- Orange Field Naturalist and Conservation Society
- Hovell's Creek Landcare Group
- Central West Permaculture and Orange ELF Community Garden Group
- Central West Farming Systems
- Weddin Community Wildplant Nursery



Wattle Day – The Weddin Way

LachLandcare 2012-2013

Forming new NRM partnerships

Local Landcare district **established a total of 28 new NRM partnerships** over the 2012 – 2013 year with a range of projects developed with a diverse range of NRM partners. Some of the NRM partners Landcare worked with over the year include:

- Boorowa Shire Council – Red Hill Reserve
- West Wyalong Shire Council to establish an Environmental Liaison committee
- Australian National Field Day education subcommittee
- National Parkes Association
- AWI Woolclip event – with AWI and Condobolin Sheep Breeders Association
- Great Eastern Ranges – Kanangra Boyd to Wyangala Link (K2W) partnership.



Tzu Chi Foundation Volunteer tree planters - Boorowa 2013

LachLandcare 2012-2013

Engaging with Schools

School visits continue to be an important role of Landcare in the Lachlan catchment.

Over the 2012 – 2013 year Landcare **undertook 38 school visits – engaging some 3,010 students and teachers** in a range of NRM topics including:

- Soil biology
- Water watch test kits
- Eco Day at Central West Livestock Exchange
- Poster competition
- Salinity tour
- Native fauna and habitats



Educational tours – Mid Lachlan



Understanding the Nitrogen Cycle (School workshop) – Young



Schools Landcare Day Out – Crookwell and Laggan

LachLandcare 2012-2013

Sharing our stories

Landcare in the Lachlan continue to develop their capacity to spread the Landcare message across the Lachlan catchment. Over the last year we have seen a total of **131 electronic or hard copy newsletters go out – with our Landcare messages reaching a total of 19,727 letterboxes or inboxes over the year.**

On top of this, we have seen a **4-fold increase** on the previous year of the number of press articles or media releases developed with a **total of 159 media releases or press articles** being produced over the year.

We now have five out of the nine Landcare districts engaged actively in the use of websites and social media to promote Landcare in their local districts. LachLandcare also delivered training in the establishment of free access websites and Facebook pages to encourage all districts to go online.

14 GOULBURN POST ■ Wednesday December 12, 2012 **OUR COMMUNITY**

Bill Gammage addresses La

By MARY BONET
Landcare Support Officer,
Upper Lachlan Landcare.

UPPER Lachlan Landcare Inc hosted an evening with award-winning author and historian Bill Gammage at the Breadalbane Hall last week.

Over 80 people attended the event to hear the highly sought-after author give a lecture based on his latest book 'The Biggest Estate on Earth: How Aborigines Made Australia', which has claimed a bevy of prizes over the past year including the Prime Ministers Prize for history and the \$100,000 Victorian Prize for Literature to name just two.

Guests included Upper Lachlan Landcare Committee members, Landcare members from all over the catchment and beyond, bird specialist Tony Saunders, agronomist/native grassland specialist Paul Hodgkinson, and members from the Indigenous community including Ngambri Aboriginal Elder Shane Mortimer who gave a moving "Welcome to Country" before Mr Gammage's presentation.

Mr Mortimer said he felt privileged to be involved with Landcare and praised the Landcare community for all of

"Aboriginal people worked hard to make plants and animals abundant, convenient and predictable. By distributing plants and associating them in mosaics, then using these to lure and locate animals Aborigines made Australia as it was in 1788, when Europeans arrived.

"It was a tapestry of patterns. You had trees next to grass and grass broken up by clumps of trees, forest broken up by clearings and so on. It was a mosaic of different kinds of plant communities and that was true whether it was rainforest or spinifex."

Mr Gammage explained that "When Europeans first came to Australia; they assumed that what they saw was natural. They often described the landscape as 'parks, like the gentlemen's parks in England where you have grass and forest and so on."

"But it never occurred to them that the parks in Australia could have been made; it didn't occur to them that 'wandering savages' could have done such a thing," he said.

So their common assumption was that they were seeing a natural landscape.

Fire was the most important tool for shaping the landscape where it suited they worked with the country, accepting a



BIGGEST ESTATE ON EARTH: Author Bill Gammage (centre) with Paul Hodgkinson agronomist/native grassland specialist (left) and Ngambri Aboriginal Elder Shane Mortimer.



Article promoting local Landcare event – Upper Lachlan

LachLandcare 2012-2013

Building the capacity of our Landcare districts

LachLandcare secured an additional \$15,000 in funding from the Lachlan CMA in 2012-13 to support the activities of the Landcare network. A range of capacity building activities were undertaken to support the members, some of the initial planned training workshops were successfully funded by other sources. As a result LachLandcare was able to: provide a subsidy to seven Landcare representatives to attend the State Landcare Conference in September at Newcastle; contribute toward the Regional Landcare Facilitator Program funded strategic planning workshops across the Lachlan region; cover meeting costs; and provided reimbursements for committee members to attend meetings.

LachLandcare continued to facilitate the building of increased capacity of the nine Landcare districts over the year with the professional development of staff and volunteer Landcare group members in a range of topic areas.

This year we saw some **70 participants undertake training** in:

- Work Health and Safety (In Safe hands Workshops run by Conservation Volunteers Australia)
- Strategic Planning (district and LachLandcare level)
- Event evaluation



Strategic Planning Workshop – LachLandcare



Event Evaluation Workshop

LachLandcare 2012-2013

Case studies

Following is a selection of case studies or stories from a range of events hosted by the Landcare districts in the Lachlan over the 2012-2013 year. These case studies highlight the diversity of projects that Landcare is involved in, the grass roots connections that Landcare in the Lachlan achieves and the additional sponsorship and support that Landcare districts have been able to bring into Landcare in the Lachlan Catchment.

1. Bland Creek Catchment Committee – Sustainable Lifestyle Expo
2. Bland Creek Catchment Committee – Malleefowl Bus Trip
3. Bland Creek Catchment Committee – Environmental Education
4. Bland Creek Catchment Committee – Temora Fisherama
5. Boorowa Community Landcare Group – Coordinated Fox Baiting Program
6. Boorowa Community Landcare Group – North Sydney Bushcare Group
7. Boorowa Community Landcare Group – Tzu Chi Foundation
8. Central Tablelands Landcare – Landcare Support
9. Central Tablelands Landcare – Tree Planting in Salty Areas
10. Central Tablelands Landcare – Landcare is alive and well in Molong
11. Central Tablelands Landcare – At the Australian National Field Days
12. Central West Lachlan Landcare – Bulgandramine rehabilitation
13. Central West Lachlan Landcare – Sustainable Management Demonstration Site
14. Central West Lachlan Landcare – Parkes to Peak Hill Field Trip
15. Central West Lachlan Landcare – Harnessing Water in the Central West
16. Condobolin and Districts Landcare – Seeds for survival
17. Condobolin and Districts Landcare – Weed and Pest Management Program
18. Condobolin and Districts Landcare – Healthy Landscapes Healthy People
19. Mid Lachlan Landcare – Educational tours
20. Mid Lachlan Landcare – Grazing group field day
21. Mid Lachlan Landcare – Soil Salinity Tours
22. Upper Lachlan Landcare – Schools Landcare Day Out
23. Upper Lachlan Landcare – Bill Gammage Lecture
24. Upper Lachlan Landcare – Plant Id and Nutrition Day
25. Upper Lachlan Landcare – Erosion control workshop
26. Weddin Landcare – Grenfell Community Nursery gets a gong
27. Weddin Landcare – Local land Services Grenfell Consultation Session
28. Young District Landcare – Year of the Farmer – Understanding the Nitrogen Cycle
29. Young District Landcare – Assessing Landscape Restoration and Grazing Techniques
30. Young District Landcare – Paddock to Plate and a presentation on Native Bees