

## NSW Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative

# LLCI Update 10 – December 2017

## End of Year Reporting

A huge thank you to all of you who have submitted Report Card 1 (Update) Report Card 2 AND a great flurry of Case Studies has descended. It is becoming very apparent to me in my new role the value of this information as we come to compiling a Mid Term Review of the program and pitching for support from the government beyond 2019. I am also aware that many of you have found this sometimes an arduous task and I would like to be able to close the feedback communication loop to show you the value of demonstrating not only what you achieve but HOW you make it happen in a variety of data sets, one of which is the Case Studies.

Included with this update is just a very recent example of how we have used this information to provide a snapshot of what the program is achieving across the state to a Ministerial Briefing that occurred in Sydney just this month. The picture is slowly coming into view.

## 2017 NSW Landcare and Local Land Services Conference

The recent NSW State Conference held in Albury has been hailed as one of the most successful in terms of numbers attending and collaboration not to mention networking opportunities and showcasing the beautiful Murray Region.





There was a broad range of issues and topics discussed and workshopped at the conference however the three big issues to float to the top have been:

- Linking traditional Landcare with Aboriginal Landcare and traditional ecological knowledge and practices
- Communicating and ‘telling the story’ of Landcare from Dunecare, Rangecare to Bushcare and emphasising the connection to Sustainable Agriculture
- The partnership between Landcare and Local Land Services at local, regional and state scales

The Feedback survey has been finalised; comments were very positive about the relationship and how LLS and Landcare are working together (from Chris McCulloch). We are already making some progress toward some of the key messages from the Muster (pictured here).

## The Gateway Refresh and the Gateway Webinar

The Gateway webinar has had a major refresh and provides a statewide showcase of the what, who and how of Landcare in NSW.

However, we need groups, and in particular Regions and Districts to update their pages. This is an important 1 stop shop for the public supporters and investors to see what’s happening – so make sure your groups districts and networks take the time to visit Gateway and provide the information THEY want to describe their group. If you have an independent website, the Gateway provides an important pathway to direct people to it – so make sure your Gateway page is inviting and up to date – this will encourage people to head to your own website to learn more.

An important new feature is the ability to “nest” information on the regional and district home pages and to list the groups supported or linked to each regional and district scale network. Whilst we have provided this “in the background”, it will require the administrators of each region or district to make this information live – this is an important step as it allows regions or districts to ensure the information is correct before it is published.

A training webinar was held on 8 November 2017 to showcase the changes to the Gateway site and take participants through how to manage their pages.

The webinar comprised a series of individual videos designed to take the viewer through the various processes involved with navigating the gateway site - from registering as a user to managing the content of group pages. The individual videos are available via the HELP menu and can be found [here](#).

Something to note is the importance of Tag Lines for your Case Studies, because when people search for a particular topic like indigenous engagement or soil health, they will be able to find your work easily. Remember this platform is YOUR opportunity to promote your area/region so keep it up to date. In demonstrating our worth and the need to continue this program, the Gateway plays a critical role as our window to the world.

## Getting us back on the Minister's Agenda

Currently we are busily compiling a Mid Term Review of the Program with Chris McCulloch and have finalised a Sustaining Landcare Policy Statement to be presented to the Minister in time for budget considerations. Leigh McLaughlin has been working relentlessly on providing the government with the information they need to continue the support, with the key message:

*While excellent progress has been achieved, the job is not done. Landcare is still not on a stable footing and further work is needed to build the infrastructure to support the grassroots movement at all levels. Investment in this infrastructure will enable Landcare to focus on achieving on-ground outcomes. Staff and volunteers need continuity and certainty rather than constantly seeking funding and support (Sustaining Landcare-The Next Chapter, LNSW 2017)*

This message was assisted greatly by the Parliamentary Friends of Landcare Event held in November (see the Advocate) and the insightful presentations delivered by our Landcarers and just how critical your work is in addressing a myriad of not only environmental but social issues.

AND if you really want to start the move toward a self-sustaining Landcare....

## Shop online with the new Landcare NSW Supporter Program!

Register today to take advantage of everyday discounts and benefits EACH and EVERYTIME you shop from a list of leading brands and retailers. The program puts the power to save and donate in your hands! Not only do you get significant discounts, you also provide support for Landcare NSW to allow us to continue the work we do in support of community Landcare. The Landcare Trust Project is progressing well in building and enacting the necessary infrastructure needed to diversify our funding sources.

This is a great way to get Landcarers and non Landcares alike to support the work of Landcare - if we can get 10,000 people signed up (less than 0.15% of the shopping population of NSW) and they donate 25% of their SAVINGS to Landcare we can raise in the order of \$500, 000 a year , whilst the each save \$150 per year on their normal household shopping – a win win all round. Click here to find out how it all works and [to register today!](#) And importantly promote to family friends, workmates and others.

## Advertise your event for FREE!

This is a [great resource](#) from OurCommunity for community groups to help with promotion of your local events.

You've planned your event, the date is set and the next thing you need to do is tell people about it. Here are some tips - some obvious, some requiring a little bit of work - designed to help you to get more backsides on seats or people through the gate at your next function. Use these as a starting point and see how many other ideas you can add.

## NLP2- Landcare and Local Land Services Partnership

The upcoming NLP2 has provided a focus for Landcare at the regional level to work together to develop a regional investment bid that provides the overlap where the requirements of the NLP2 program, regional priorities and local needs are all considered.

Partnerships only work where both parties take an active role in sitting around the table in open and frank discussion. We encourage you to work with your groups to ensure they actively pursue this opportunity.

A Partnership Statement has been circulated by the Chairs of Landcare NSW and Local Land Services – to underpin the partnership approach at the regional scale. [Read here](#)

Chris McCulloch, Landcare program manager, Local Land Services, and Sonia Williams, State Landcare Facilitator are working with both Local Land Services and Landcare at the regional level to support the implementation of this statement.

## Christmas Break

Finally, we want to really wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and hope you get to enjoy a break with family and friends.

As was promised, 2017 was massive and we can all but guarantee that 2018 is going to be as big.

All of us here at the team really want to say that we are super proud of the LLCI and the wins you have all contributed to, it is a privilege to work with you all.

Over the season, we too will be taking a bit of time off, please see below for availability during this period.

Christmas close down

Natasha English – on leave 25 Dec - 2 Jan 2018

Chris McCulloch – on leave 21 Dec - 8 Jan 2018

Sonia Williams – on leave 18 Dec - 9 Jan 2018. For urgent matters please call Natasha English.

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