

2015-19 NSW Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative

The NSW Government will provide \$15 million over four years to renew the government-community relationship and unlock the full potential of the thousands of volunteers in the Landcare network.

The program reflects the sentiment of the Memorandum of Understanding between Local Land Services and Landcare NSW. It has been designed to put Landcare on a more sustainable funding footing, with the majority of the funds going to community-based local coordinator positions.

It is a new commitment to support Regional Landcare Networks and local groups and will not be allocated for on-ground works.

The 2015-2019 NSW Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative will deliver the following inter-linked initiatives:

1. Local Landcare Coordinators

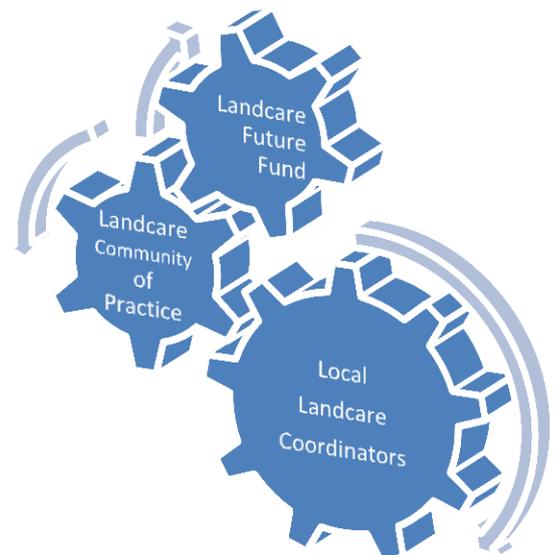
A network of locally-based coordinators will work with local Landcare groups and networks to deliver strategically-aligned programs, as well as providing support and guidance. Their goal will be to build capacity and connections within local communities to produce on-ground change.

2. Landcare Community of Practice Initiative

A centralised support team will increase the activity and effectiveness of the Landcare network by providing a consistent approach to building community capacity across the state. The Community of Practice will provide information, training and communication, as well as collecting and collating information.

3. Landcare Future Fund Initiative

The Future Fund will research and implement arrangements that facilitate the transition towards financial stability of the Landcare network, allowing the volunteer effort to be supported well into the future.



Landcare is a community-based approach to managing and restoring Australia's natural environment, improving the sustainability of agricultural activities, and building the resilience of communities. Landcare refers to any community-based group operating in the sphere of sustainable agriculture and natural resource management in NSW and includes but is not limited to groups that describe themselves as Landcare, Bushcare, Coastcare, Dunecare, friends of groups, producer groups

How will it work?

The program will be managed by a Joint Management Committee, co-chaired by the Chair of Local Land Services and the Chair of Landcare NSW and will report to the Minister for Primary Industries. It will link to existing support and opportunities from Local Land Services, Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Primary Industries and from local government.

Funding has also been allocated for a Landcare Support Program Manager, employed by Local Land Services and a State Landcare Coordinator, employed by Landcare NSW, to work closely together on developing and implementing the initiative.

The program will be monitored and evaluated against a comprehensive plan that is accountable to both government and the community. The NSW Natural Resources Commission will apply the outcomes in the Performance Standard for Local Land Services to audit the program.

This is a new commitment and is not for on-ground works

How will it be implemented?

During 2015, efforts will focus on establishing the network of local coordinators and maintaining support for programs carried over from the 2011-2015 Landcare Coordinator Initiative, including the Gateway website, database and member services support.

There will be further consultation with regional networks throughout the state on how the model will work and from January 2016 to June 2019 the program will be rolled out in full.

The \$15 million over four years is a new commitment and is additional to the support currently provided to Landcare through Local Land Services.

How did this model come about?

The program is an election commitment of the Baird Government. While it falls within the programs managed by Local Land Services, it will be designed and delivered collaboratively by Landcare NSW and Local Land Services.

The Natural Resources Commission held two roundtables to gain input from both parties and seek feedback from other key stakeholders in developing this model and making a recommendation to the Minister for Primary Industries.

A further two-day workshop was held to determine the governance and relationship requirements to collaboratively manage the program.



More information

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