

2023 local annual achievement report

Western region

Our landholders, stakeholders and communities were again required to be resilient throughout 2023.

The year began with many impacted by major flooding and ended with much of the region being drought affected. I'm very proud that our team was there to provide support, adapting our services for local conditions and priorities. We continued to deliver our extensive pest animal programs, projects and services.

Our district vets, agriculture, natural resource management, Aboriginal cultural heritage and land management teams continued their valuable work to enable landholders to improve their primary production and sustainable agricultural practices, while making improvements to the local environment.

Importantly, all this work is done with a focus on community engagement.

Behind this sits a hardworking and diligent team who work in customer service, administration, finance and other office-based roles.

This report provides a snapshot of the work delivered in 2023 and we look forward to continuing this work in 2024 and beyond.

Magnus Aitken

Chair, Western Board



17,865,186 ha

of vertebrate pest control



7,803

1:1 advice consultations



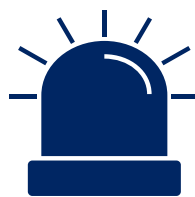
2,638

participants at awareness raising/capacity building events



58

animal disease surveillance investigations



32%

of staff trained for an emergency response

Landholders helping to restore Sandhill Pine Woodlands

In 2023 we joined forces with landholders in an ambitious project to protect and restore 134 hectares of the threatened Sandhill Pine Woodland community.

The Sandhill Pines Restoration Project is aiming to restore some of the community to a condition that offers habitat for birds and mammals, shade and forage for livestock, while also offering protection for important Aboriginal cultural sites.

Through the project, 80 kg of native seed was collected and direct seeded in the sandhills, which will restore 150 hectares of the ecologically endangered Sandhill Pine community.

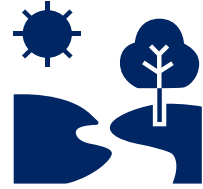
Monitoring points have been established at the project sites and will be monitored annually.

This project is possible thanks to the involvement of landholders and Down the Track, a youth organisation from Lake Cargelligo. This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust.



2,171 ha

of land managed for improved soil condition



18,266 ha

of native vegetation enhanced, rehabilitated or protected



13,017 ha

of threatened species, populations or ecological communities enhanced, rehabilitated, or protected



6,742 ha

of TSRs actively managed



10,699 ha

of weed management for improved biosecurity, agricultural productivity, and biodiversity