

## 2023 NSW Regional Landcare

### Awards Categories:

- Coastcare Award
- Indigenous Land Management Award
- Individual Landcarer Award
- Junior Landcare Team Award
- Landcare Community Group Award
- Landcare Farming Award
- Partnerships for Landcare Award
- Young Landcare Leadership Award

### **Coastcare Award**

#### About the Category

The Coastcare Award acknowledges a community group or network that has contributed to the significant improvement of a coastal or marine environment. This may include estuaries, coastal and marine wetlands, river systems and salt marsh ecosystems. The Coastcare activities may include sand dune restoration, protection of threatened species, removing invasive species that are impacting on native flora, plastics and waste removal, education and volunteer engagement, and mitigating urban impact on marine environments like storm water pollution or the control of access to sensitive and vulnerable areas. Nominations are open to a community group or network, including Coastcare and Landcare groups/networks, Dunecare, Rivercare, Bushcare, 'Friends of' groups, youth groups and other community groups responding to local environmental issues.

#### Selection Criteria:

1. Describe who is being nominated. Please include how long they have been involved, why they got involved and the location of the project.
2. Describe what coastal or marine environmental issue the group/network is responding to and the cause and impact of the issue, describe any key challenges the nominee has faced and the strategies used to overcome them.
3. Describe how the project activities of the group/network have made an improvement to the coastal or marine management issue and the impact on the community; include examples of how the project activities have increased community awareness and engagement with coastal or marine environmental issues, include information about any partnerships formed (e.g. with local councils, businesses, schools, other community groups, academic institutions etc).
4. In 25 words (2-3 sentences), please summarise your nomination, highlighting the key messages that best describe why this group/network should be recognised for outstanding achievements to coastcare.

## **Indigenous Land Management Award**

### **About the Category**

The Indigenous Land Management Award acknowledges an outstanding Indigenous community group or individual that is working towards improving land use and/or enhancing or protecting an area on behalf of the community. Nominations are open to an individual and/or Indigenous community groups.

### **Selection Criteria:**

1. Describe the individual or group you are nominating. Please include how long they have been involved, why they got involved and the location of the project.
2. Describe how the nominee looks after Country, including land and/or sea, including some key examples of the type of work that has been undertaken; include information about if/how the individual or group uses Indigenous ecological knowledge, Traditional Land Management practices in their work; include any key challenges the nominee has faced and the strategies used to overcome them.
3. Describe what the impact has had in the community by the individual/group looking after Country (e.g. has the work created jobs for Indigenous people in the community, have young people learned new skills or had Indigenous ecological knowledge passed on to them?)
4. Explain how the group or individual has worked with others on the project (e.g. with community elders, landcare groups or networks, government, natural resource management organisations and others within the community); and how the group or individual has shared Traditional Land Management practices and techniques with the wider community
5. In 25 words (2-3 sentences), please summarise your nomination, highlighting the key messages that best describe why this individual or group should be recognised for outstanding achievements to landcare.

## **Individual Landcarer Award**

### **About the Category**

The Australian Government Individual Landcarer Award acknowledges the significant contribution made by an individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and commitment to landcare. There are many people who, through their actions, have had a positive impact on improving land management practices through practical on-ground activities, and/or by creating awareness of landcare in their local community. Nominations are open to an individual who may be a farmer, landowner, Landcare facilitator or coordinator, Traditional Owner, teacher, or a volunteer from or member of a Landcare group/network or any other environmental care group.

### **Selection Criteria:**

1. Describe who is being nominated. Please include how long they been involved, why they got involved and the location of the project.
2. Describe what the individual has done and why they should be recognised as an outstanding Landcarer, include any key challenges the nominee has faced and the strategies used to overcome them.
3. Describe how the individual has implemented landcare activities in their local area or region; include how they have encouraged others in the community to be involved (e.g. by speaking about landcare to schools, training, workshops, media promotions, creating partnerships with groups, councils, Indigenous land managers, local businesses and natural resource management organisations etc).
4. In 25 words (2-3 sentences), please summarise your nomination, highlighting the key messages that best describe why this individual should be recognised for outstanding achievements to landcare.

### **Junior Landcare Team Award**

#### About the Category

The Junior Landcare Team Award acknowledges a school, youth organisation or young community landcare team that contributes to raising awareness, sharing knowledge and promoting participation of landcare amongst young people. The award recognises Junior Landcare teams who implement landcare practices within the local community or school. Nominations are open to young people aged 18 or under, eligible groups include primary schools, secondary schools, Scouts, Girl Guides, youth organisations or young community landcare teams.

#### Selection Criteria:

1. Describe the school or youth group you are nominating. Please include information about the school, details of the program, how many students are involved, why they took the initiative to be involved.
2. Describe what natural resource management issue the school or youth group is responding to with their Junior Landcare project activities; include any key challenges the nominee has faced and the strategies used to overcome them.
3. Describe how the school or youth group's activities have led to an improved understanding among their team members and the community about landcare, the environment and natural resource management issues; include examples of how the project activities the team has implemented have inspired their school, group or community to extend their learning and skills-development into practical on-ground activity; include if the nominee created environmental resources or events to help increase participation in Junior Landcare in the community.

4. In 25 words (2-3 sentences), please summarise your nomination, highlighting the key messages that best describe why this nominee should be recognised for outstanding achievements to landcare.

### **Landcare Community Group Award**

#### About the Category

The Community Group Award acknowledges an outstanding community group that is improving sustainable land use and/or is undertaking on-ground action to protect, enhance or restore the natural values of an area on behalf of the wider community. Nominations are open to a group only. This includes environmental community groups that include Landcare groups, youth groups, Coastcare, Dunecare, Rivercare, Bushcare, 'Friends of' groups, youth groups and other environmental community groups.

#### Selection Criteria:

1. Describe the group you are nominating. Please include how long they have been involved, why they got involved and the location of the project.
2. Describe what natural resource management issue the group is responding to with their landcare project activities; describe any key challenges the nominee has faced and the strategies used to overcome them.
3. Describe how the group has repaired degraded land or environments, including the wider community/public benefit from on-ground project activities; include how the group has sought advice, worked with and involved the wider community, other landcare/community groups, government, local business, natural resource management agencies, schools and youth groups, and Indigenous land managers in the development and implementation of its plans and projects.
4. Provide examples of how the group has shared and communicated its ideas, plans, skills, and results to encourage others in the community to increase engagement and participation in landcare (e.g. field days, school visitation program, community education campaigns, training workshops, online or media promotions, creating partnerships).
5. In 25 words (2-3 sentences), please summarise your nomination, highlighting the key messages that best describe why this group should be recognised for outstanding achievements to landcare.

### **Landcare Farming Award**

#### About the Category

The Australian Government Landcare Farming Award acknowledges an individual, group, network or organisation that has demonstrated excellence and leadership in implementing sustainable and integrated land management practices on a farm property, or properties, that protect soils, water,

vegetation and biodiversity. The award also recognises practices that deliver improved natural resource management and farm productivity outcomes. Nominations are open to farmers, Landcare groups/networks, farming systems groups, primary producers and/or farming enterprises.

**Selection Criteria:**

1. Describe who is being nominated, please include how long they been involved, why they got involved, the location of the project.
2. Describe how the individual, group, network or organisation has demonstrated excellence and leadership in implementing integrated land management practices on a farm property or properties that protect soils, water, vegetation and/or biodiversity; include examples of improved productivity, commercial outcomes and natural resource management delivered through this practice. The following are examples of activities that could be used to demonstrate success:
  - 2.1. Activities that improve any of the following: soil condition, water quality, native vegetation, weed and pest management. Integrated projects such as increasing the growth of native grasses to reduce soil erosion, the loss of soil nutrients and improved productivity. For aquaculture, activities could include those targeting improvements in water quality and environmental health.
  - 2.2. Other activities could be used to demonstrate success: a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions; increased biodiversity; increased ground cover particularly during periodic seasonal feed gaps, reduced soil erosion, improved management and handling of livestock to provide both animal welfare and improved natural resource management outcomes.
3. Describe how the individual, group, network or organisation has gone beyond usual practice and demonstrated leadership and encouraged the involvement of others in sustainable and integrated land management practices that improved natural resource management and farm productivity outcomes (e.g. field demonstration days, radio interviews or blogs) and include any key challenges the nominee has faced and the strategies used to overcome them.
4. In 25 words (2-3 sentences), please summarise your nomination, highlighting the key messages that best describe why this individual, group, network, or organisation should be recognised for outstanding achievements to landcare.

## **Partnerships for Landcare Award**

### **About the Category**

The Australian Government Partnerships for Landcare Award acknowledges a partnership of individuals, groups, networks, or organisations that has demonstrated leadership and achievement in landcare-related activities as a result of the partnership. Nominations are open to partnerships that include Landcare groups/networks groups, natural resource management regional organisations, other government agencies, research organisations, local government, environmental groups, farmers, landowners, community groups, schools and youth groups.

**Selection Criteria:**

1. Describe who is involved in the landcare partnership that you are nominating; including how the partnership has involved other groups/networks or programs in landcare activities as a result of the partnership (e.g. these may include other agencies, businesses, organisations, neighbours, schools and community groups).
2. Describe why the partnership was formed, the issues it is addressing and what it has achieved; describe any key challenges the partnering nominees have faced and the strategies used to overcome them.
3. Describe how the partnership has led to outstanding natural resource management outcomes including the benefits to the community impacted by the landcare project; provide a maximum of three examples only of how the partners have worked together and provide simple supporting documents (e.g project plan, communications plan, community engagement strategy, environmental plan, media reports, testimonials and any other supporting documents that will support the submission); consider including a letter of support from a Landcare group/network that acknowledges how the partnership has involved them to improve capacity and increase participation in on-ground projects.
4. In 25 words (2-3 sentences), please summarise your nomination, highlighting the key messages that best describe why this partnership should be recognised for outstanding achievements to landcare.

## **Young Landcare Leadership Award**

### About the Category

The Young Landcare Leadership Award acknowledges an individual or a youth group\* between the ages of 15 - 35 years who promote excellence in landcare through on-ground projects and/or awareness raising activities. Nominations are open to an individual or youth group who can demonstrate their capacity to lead and encourage the wider community to engage and participate in managing the environment and natural resources in their local area.

### Selection Criteria:

1. Describe the individual or youth group that is being nominated. Please include how long they have been involved, why they got involved and the location of the project.
2. Describe how the individual or youth group has displayed leadership and excellence in landcare practices and how they have encouraged others (particularly their peers) in promoting or implementing activities that improve natural resource management outcomes; (e.g. school visitation programs, training workshops, media promotions, creating partnerships with groups, involving councils, working with landholders, Indigenous Land managers, local businesses and natural resource management organisations etc.)
3. Describe what the nominee has done to communicate environmental and natural resource management issues, or raised awareness about landcare to a wider audience (e.g. use of media and

social media, events, speeches or presentations, posters, letters etc.); include any key challenges the nominee has faced and the strategies used to overcome them.

4. In 25 words (2-3 sentences), please summarise your nomination, highlighting the key messages that best describe why this nominee should be recognised for outstanding achievements to landcare.

\*The majority of the group's membership must be between the 18-35-year age range.