

2022 local annual achievement report

Hunter region

In 2022 we provided emergency responses and recovery support to flood-affected landholders, with substantial support for moderate to severe damage to rivers, creeks, crossings, and to manage livestock and recover pastures.

Our team also responded to increased risks from emergency animal diseases through supporting livestock managers in identifying and reporting signs of diseases and assisting them to improve on-farm biosecurity practices.

We delivered increased on-farm services in animal disease surveillance and coordinating significant pest animal control programs.

A highlight of 2022 was the development of a comprehensive Natural Resource Management Plan for the region, identifying the priorities for Local Land Services, landholders, local government and other agencies and stakeholders to support the Hunter region to sustain healthy, productive and profitable landscapes into the future. Also leading the regional consultation on the draft Statement of Intent on Natural Capital was an important step in developing a framework to better value and support management of the region's natural assets.



Tony Hegarty

Chair

Hunter Local Land Services



850

participants in Aboriginal community groups supported



192 ha

of land covered by 7 land management certificates



7,731 ha

land managed for improved soil condition



606

animal disease surveillance investigations



683,500 ha

of pest animal control

Delivering practice change in grazing and riparian management

Our Grow More Grass program for local livestock producers supported practice change via an extension approach which established the necessary practices are “adoptable”, rather than achieving them through grants or incentives.

Strategic grazing provides the adoptable practices which involve management of stock for pasture production and improvement of soil health, bushland and riparian condition and downstream water quality.

The program was highly successful with key achievements that include:

- 85% of program participants self-funding all infrastructure
- 14,469 hectares of on-ground practice change
- 23 km riparian fencing
- 65 graziers with strategic grazing skills
- a peer support network with local “champions”
- 9 case studies to support others adopt on-ground changes
- 6 graziers participating in a mentoring program
- new 5-year program funded by Hunter Water Corporation to protect drinking water quality based on this extension and practice change approach.



16,930

participants connected with through **450** community training, awareness raising and capacity building events



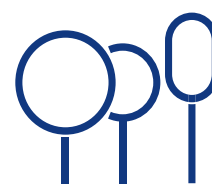
374

permits issued for travelling stock reserves



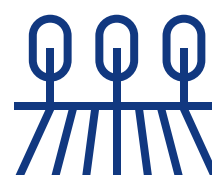
1,274 ha

weed management



1,991 ha

of native vegetation enhanced, rehabilitated or protected



6,362 ha

of land improved for agricultural production