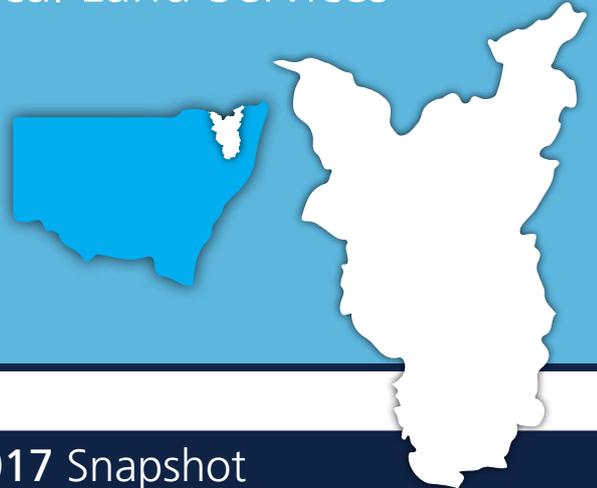


OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

Northern Tablelands Local Land Services



Northern Tablelands Local Land Services had an action-packed 2017. We matured as an organisation and our focus was squarely on our customers - understanding what their needs are and developing and delivering products and services to meet those needs.

In 2017 Northern Tablelands Local Land Services, with funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme and the NSW Government's NSW Catchment Action, invested more than \$1,216,000 in projects designed and delivered by our staff and partners to balance agricultural productivity and landscape health.

The most rewarding aspect of this investment is the value that our landholder partners place on improving the natural resource base on their farms. Participating landholders invested a total of \$1,335,000 worth of their own resources to contribute to these outcomes.

Our sustainable agriculture and threatened species projects delivered 96 workshops, field days and training courses to almost 1,200 participants keen to boost their knowledge and skills in soil health, pasture management, farm planning, livestock health and production, riparian health, threatened species and revegetation.

We balance Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR) use for production, social, cultural and environmental outcomes. We continuously work to maintain and improve the condition of this resource - 27,000 head of cattle and 17,500 sheep accessed the Northern Tablelands TSR network's feed reserve in 2017. Weed control was a focus with over 2,200 hours spent managing weeds on TSRs.

In recent years landholder and inter-agency support has gained momentum and 2017 was the biggest wild dog baiting program ever undertaken through Northern Tablelands Local Land Services. Almost 128,000 baits were dropped along more than 3,000 km of pre-determined aerial bait lines with cooperation from 450 dedicated local landholders who took part in the project.

Since early June 2017, 1,800 people attended and participated in Northern Tablelands Local Land Services workshops and events where farm biosecurity plan information was shared. Our offices received over 1,500 farm biosecurity plan-specific counter enquiries and calls and we distributed 1,300 biosecurity farm gate signs.

Hans Hietbrink,
Chair, Northern Tablelands Local Board

2017 Snapshot



We assisted **88 land managers** and **community groups** to enhance and protect the environment by providing **\$ 1.2 M** in incentive funding.



We're the **boots on the ground** to support agriculture and animals in an emergency and responded to **two emergencies** in 2017. More than **85 per cent** of staff have received emergency training. Half of staff have been trained beyond the base-level biosecurity and emergency response level.



We worked with land managers to establish **22 wild dog management plans** with **450 landholders** involved in baiting over an area of **408,667 ha** across the region.



We support Aboriginal people to care for Country, share traditional land management knowledge and help protect and strengthen Aboriginal cultural heritage. More than **1,050 ha** of land with Aboriginal cultural value was managed along with two Aboriginal sites.



We increased the capacity of land managers to improve primary production and natural resource management and trained more than **1,200 customers** at training events.



Our vets and biosecurity officers conducted **236 disease investigations** and issued **950 animal health certificates** to ensure our produce remains fit for export.



Local Land
Services

Our on ground achievements

We managed **46,000 ha** of TSR and issued **56** walking permits for stock movement.

We provided education and training workshops to build the capacity of **263** land managers to support and help coordinate group control programs — bringing landholders together to control wild dogs, foxes, pigs and rabbits.

We planted **92,190** native plants to help with regeneration.

We enhanced and rehabilitated **556 ha** of land and protected **1,184 ha** of vegetation through fencing.

We enhanced and rehabilitated **537 ha** of Carex sedgeland, upland wetland and montane peat swamp in the Upland Wetlands Incentives Project.

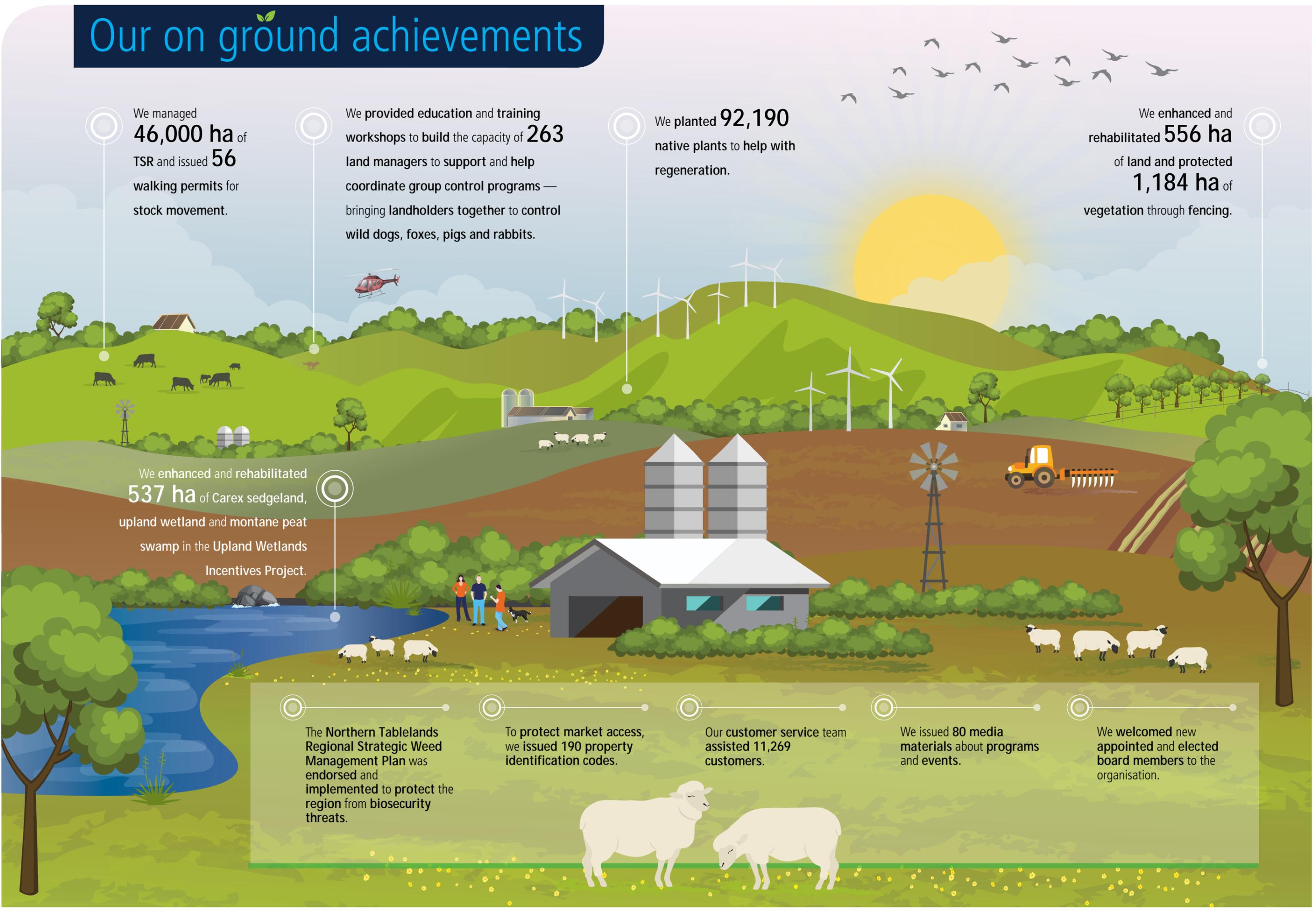
The Northern Tablelands Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan was endorsed and implemented to protect the region from biosecurity threats.

To protect market access, we issued 190 property identification codes.

Our customer service team assisted 11,269 customers.

We issued 80 media materials about programs and events.

We welcomed new appointed and elected board members to the organisation.

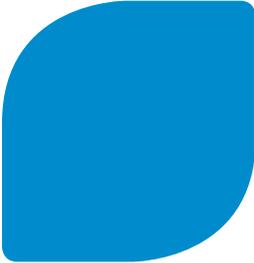


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