

2023 local annual achievement report

North West region

The North West Local Land Services team continued to deliver big wins for landholders in 2023.

After a winter feed gap was followed by dry conditions last year, we supported our producers with drought advice and workshops across the region.

Significant progress was made in pest animal control, including controlling feral pigs, deer and goats over 86,000 hectares through the Foot and Mouth Disease Prevention and Preparedness Program in Berrigal Creek and Pine Ridge. Aerial shooting and ground control of feral pigs between Moree and Collarenebri continues under the NSW Feral Pig Program.

Our invasive species team tackled the Hudson Pear cactus, carrying out biological control and chemical spraying over 150,000 hectares in Lightning Ridge and Walgett.

Over 300 participants joined events under our Small Farms Network following its inception, improving biosecurity outcomes on small blocks.

We have an optimistic outlook for the year ahead with seasonal conditions improving and look forward to supporting landholders through any new challenges.

Richard Clark

Chair, North West Board



584,058 ha

of vertebrate pest control



5,501

1:1 advice consultations



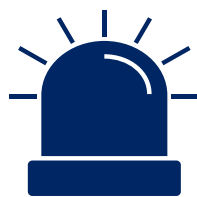
10,022

participants at awareness raising/capacity building events



292

animal disease surveillance investigations



52%

of staff trained for an emergency response

After the 6,300 hectares of land known as the 'Waratah Project' was acquired from the Shenhua Energy Company Limited in January 2022, North West Local Land Services continued work in 2023 to increase the biodiversity and support threatened species at these sites.

To date, 24,500 native trees and shrubs have been planted to support koala habitat and other biodiversity outcomes. Other works include the control of pest animals such as feral pigs, cats and foxes, treating the sites for weeds, replacing boundary fencing and working with 23 neighbouring landholders to manage weeds and pest animals on the properties surrounding the Waratah Project sites.

Several research and development initiatives have been undertaken on the sites in partnership with the University of Sydney and the Department of Planning and Environment such as monitoring for koala populations, sampling of new Spinifex grass species and weed control trials on boxthorn and African Olive.



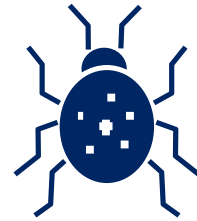
32,857

weed inspections



2,522

permits issued for TSRs



254

investigations for plant
pests/diseases



152 ha

of wetlands enhanced,
rehabilitated or protected



5

emergency management
preparatory exercises