

WESTERN ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENTS 2021

In 2021, communities across our region faced serious challenges on multiple fronts. While pockets still remain in drought, large parts of the region experienced severe storms and widespread flooding, while we also had to deal with recurring COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns. However, in the face of adversity, I am proud of the way our communities, landholders, stakeholders and staff stood up during these difficult times. Despite the uncertainty and disruption to everyday life, we continued to deliver crucial on-ground services, such as providing veterinary assistance, coordinating wide-scale pest animal control programs and working directly with landholders to improve sustainable agricultural production. On a personal note, I took great pride in the opening of two brand new offices in Broken Hill and Cobar. This report shows some great examples of this work and the incredible outcomes we achieved in 2021 by working collaboratively with landholders across the entire region.



Magnus Aitken – Chair, Western Local Land Services

We protected

67,978 ha

of land against regional priority weeds

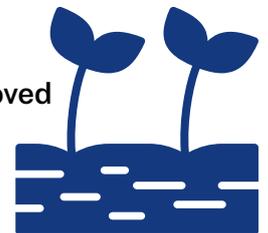


24,419 ha

of land was managed for improved agricultural production and

13,072 ha

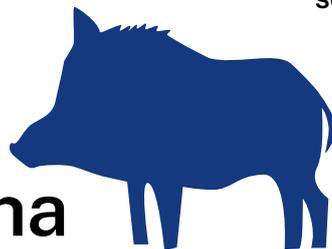
of land was managed for improved soil condition



We protected

11,316,939 ha

of land against pest animals through coordinated control programs



We issued

25

permits on TSRs



We conducted

4,270

one-on-one landholder advice consultations

22,906 ha

of significant species and endangered ecological communities were enhanced, rehabilitated and protected





We helped protect
51,896 ha
of native vegetation
through rehabilitation and
enhancement

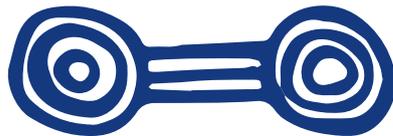
We connected with
1,537 participants

through **251** community
training, awareness raising
and capacity building events



We undertook projects to protect
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage or
Traditional Ecological Knowledge
on

2,022 ha
of land



Our staff helped grow and
protect

12 km

of rivers and streams
through rehabilitation,
enhancement and
protection



Our vets conducted

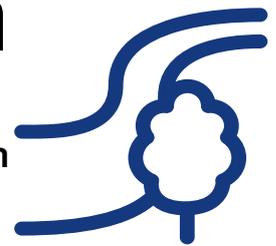
67

on farm animal disease
investigations



220 ha

of wetlands was
protected through
rehabilitation and
enhancement



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN ACTION

The Willandra Lakes is a truly unique landscape in our region, which unfortunately has been impacted by rabbits for many years. Historically, previous control attempts lacked coordinated action to combat re-infestations. To address this issue, throughout 2021 we have been working with Traditional Knowledge Owners to carry out a collaborative large-scale rabbit control program, while integrating techniques that do not disturb culturally significant sites.

Since this program began in 2018, we have worked with landholders, Traditional Knowledge Owners and National Parks and Wildlife Service to control rabbits over 25,249 hectares of land, discovering and preserving more than 500 new sites of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in the process. The program has reduced rabbit abundance in the area by 80 per cent since 2018, far exceeding the three-year target of a 50 per cent reduction. We will continue this work, which is a great example of a collaborative control program preserving history and championing world heritage values. This project is supported by Local Land Services through funding by the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

