Foreword

This report has been prepared by the State Operations Major Programs Unit of Local Land Services for the Office of Environment and Heritage.

The obligation to produce this plan was assigned to Local Land Services under the Catchment Action NSW Funding Agreement 2014 (the agreement).

This report details the achievements and expenditure of the Catchment Action NSW programs and projects completed during the 2016-17 financial year.

In the development of this report the eleven regions of Local Land Services were consulted and provided input for direct inclusion in the report.
Introduction

Background

Catchment Action NSW (CA NSW) is the NSW Government’s project funding provided to address the state natural resource management priorities.

The funding is provided to Local Land Services under an agreement with the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) using funds collected from the waste and environment levy.

These funds are distributed to the 11 regions of Local Land Services using the decision matrix detailed by the Natural Resource Commission in the Review of CA NSW funding allocation to Local Land Services – 2015-16 and 2016-17.

The funds are to be invested in projects that meet the strategic investment priorities of OEH. The CA NSW Funding Agreement approves a total of $112 million to be provided to Local Land Services over a period of four years, this includes funds to be used for NRC auditing and insurance. The investment priorities outlined in the agreement indicate four funding themes; these are:

- Native vegetation – 40 per cent
- Biodiversity conservation – 30 per cent
- Threatened species – 20 per cent
- Aboriginal cultural heritage – 10 per cent.

Purpose and scope

The purpose of this report is to detail the outputs and outcomes achieved through the implementation of CA NSW programs and projects as well as to report the total expenditure of each program and project against the investment priorities detailed above.

The annual report enables reporting against the performance of the program and individual projects in line with the requirements of the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and facilitates the tracking of the program performance against the requirements of the MoU, including detail of value added to each of the funding themes.

This report is developed to give confidence to OEH, the public and other interested stakeholders that the investment in natural resource management is producing an outcome that is cost effective, protects and improves high value natural resource assets and maximises benefits through programs and projects that contribute to integrated outcomes for all regions.

The report includes details of outcomes of key program and project milestones and itemised expenditure against the details provided in the CA NSW Annual Business Plan for 2016-17.

This report is produced by the State Operations Major Programs Unit of Local Land Services and covers all of the eleven Local Land Services regions and the associated programs and projects that have been implemented using funding provided under the CA NSW funding agreement.

Developing the Catchment Action NSW 2016-17 programs and projects

The programs and projects delivered under the CA NSW funding agreement have been developed and implemented to meet the investment priorities as outlined in the funding agreement. For details on the program planning logic and monitoring and reporting requirements of the programs and projects refer to the Catchment Action NSW Annual Business Plan 2016-17 and the Catchment Action NSW Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan 2014-2017.

Catchment Action NSW program evaluation

An independent Catchment Action NSW program evaluation (and project auditing) is being undertaken by the NSW Natural Resources Commission. The program evaluation includes addressing of the key evaluation questions in the Catchment Action NSW Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan 2014-2017. The key evaluation questions will assess the effectiveness, efficiency, appropriateness and sustainability of the program. The program evaluation (scheduled for completion in December 2017) will provide assessment of the overall program and lessons learned for future grant programs.
Budget and expenditure
### Table 1: Statewide budget and expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Direct project delivery costs (55 % of gross total) $</th>
<th>Labour costs (35 % of gross total)* $</th>
<th>Administration/overhead (10 % of gross total) $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funding $</th>
<th>Direct project delivery costs $</th>
<th>Labour costs $</th>
<th>Administration $</th>
<th>Overhead costs $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funding $</th>
<th>Over / (underspend) $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Tablelands</td>
<td>944,004</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,544,004</td>
<td>963,529</td>
<td>639,107</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,602,636</td>
<td>58,632</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central West</td>
<td>1,221,000</td>
<td>932,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,153,000</td>
<td>1,254,280</td>
<td>927,585</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,181,865</td>
<td>28,865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Sydney</td>
<td>1,028,000</td>
<td>873,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,901,000</td>
<td>1,017,171</td>
<td>884,992</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,902,163</td>
<td>1,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter</td>
<td>1,369,000</td>
<td>802,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,171,000</td>
<td>1,506,933</td>
<td>664,201</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,171,134</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murray</td>
<td>1,127,000</td>
<td>689,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,816,000</td>
<td>1,152,238</td>
<td>678,300</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,830,538</td>
<td>14,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Coast</td>
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<td>1,021,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,297,000</td>
<td>1,412,384</td>
<td>881,015</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,293,399</td>
<td>(3,601)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>1,146,996</td>
<td>713,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,859,996</td>
<td>1,153,288</td>
<td>723,332</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,876,620</td>
<td>16,624</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Tablelands</td>
<td>1,145,000</td>
<td>898,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,043,000</td>
<td>1,500,462</td>
<td>542,608</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,043,070</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverina</td>
<td>1,396,000</td>
<td>647,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,043,000</td>
<td>1,226,949</td>
<td>816,051</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,043,000</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>2,079,000</td>
<td>743,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,822,000</td>
<td>2,212,633</td>
<td>869,558</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3,082,191</td>
<td>260,191</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western</td>
<td>1,050,000</td>
<td>800,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,850,000</td>
<td>982,045</td>
<td>800,743</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,782,788</td>
<td>(67,212)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regions total</td>
<td>13,782,000</td>
<td>8,718,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>22,500,000</td>
<td>14,381,912</td>
<td>8,427,492</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,809,405</td>
<td>309,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin/overheads</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding total</td>
<td>13,782,000</td>
<td>8,718,000</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>25,000,000</td>
<td>14,381,912</td>
<td>8,427,492</td>
<td>2,500,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25,309,405</td>
<td>309,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage*</td>
<td>55 %</td>
<td>35 %</td>
<td>10 %</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>57 %</td>
<td>33 %</td>
<td>10 %</td>
<td>0 %</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notation: * Percentage totals against key project delivery components are expressed against the total finding provided under the CA NSW funding agreement, including 10% attributed to administration and overhead costs provided under clause 3.4 of the CA NSW funding agreement.
Program and project results

The following regional summaries and tables detail the programs and projects that were planned for each region against the actual achieved outputs and outcomes.
### Table 4: Central Tablelands budget and expenditure by project and funding theme programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Total investors</th>
<th>Total budget $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>Total expenditure $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>% of Total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Funding theme split of total CA NSW expenditure</th>
<th>Over / (underspend)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landcare driving landscape change</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>285,566</td>
<td>32,519</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>352,390</td>
<td>82,249</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>Biodiversity conservation $</td>
<td>(49,730)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government taking action to protect ecosystems</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>207,281</td>
<td>122,981</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>204,798</td>
<td>75,397</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>Threatened species $</td>
<td>75,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal cultural landscape management</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>197,614</td>
<td>154,400</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>249,264</td>
<td>144,950</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>Aboriginal cultural heritage $</td>
<td>144,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targeted Ecosystems</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>642,711</td>
<td>308,801</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>879,554</td>
<td>419,475</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>Biodiversity conservation $</td>
<td>(110,674)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecosystem Improvement</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>1,270,016</td>
<td>621,668</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>1,219,612</td>
<td>639,609</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>Threatened species $</td>
<td>236,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced &amp; Protected Native Grasslands</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, LLS revenue</td>
<td>882,064</td>
<td>250,713</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>741,178</td>
<td>186,693</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Aboriginal cultural heritage $</td>
<td>186,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Veg Planning</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>52,922</td>
<td>52,922</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>54,263</td>
<td>54,263</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>Native vegetation $</td>
<td>54,263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,538,174</td>
<td>1,544,004</td>
<td>463,201</td>
<td>3,704,782</td>
<td>1,602,636</td>
<td>485,203</td>
<td>144,950</td>
<td>553,008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Table 5: Central Tablelands programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aboriginal Cultural Landscape Management</strong></td>
<td>The Central Tablelands Aboriginal Cultural Landscape Management project will implement traditional land management practices, including on-ground application of fire, in areas that link with the improvement of significant species and ecological communities across the region. The project will work with Aboriginal communities to develop capacity and skills to implement fire, and to plan and implement practices that protect and enhance Aboriginal lands and places. Activities will include the funding and support of the development of Aboriginal site management plans, designed to identify and protect significant sites, areas and artefacts, to implement environmental restoration works and build capacity of Aboriginal people. Awareness and connection of community to cultural ecological knowledge and traditional practices will be facilitated through formal training and by working in direct partnership with the five main Aboriginal community groups in the region. We will facilitate the application of traditional knowledge and practices on-ground for landscape restoration, cultural revival and sharing of new techniques.</td>
<td>Application of cultural fire methodologies for land restoration, ecological community and threatened species management across 50 ha. Improved management of cultural sites through development of planning instruments. Aboriginal people and communities with improved connections to culture and Country with knowledge sharing between generations. Application of culture and knowledge to Country for natural resource management, agriculture, and cultural biosecurity. The delivery, promotion and celebration of cultures and specific activities that engage Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people for increased connection to Country and facilitation of Aboriginal input and cultural consideration.</td>
<td>50 ha of vegetation rehabilitated/restored through the application of traditional ecological practices (traditional fire). Two Aboriginal sites managed for cultural protection and enhanced natural resource management. Five awareness raising events with Aboriginal communities. Two training events to improve the capacity of Aboriginal communities for natural resource management.</td>
<td>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.</td>
<td>A management plan was developed for Aboriginal properties at Shadforth (Orange Local Aboriginal Land Council) and Mudgee. Six sites were managed over 151 ha with 22 Indigenous people participating. Working with Neville Landcare and indigenous communities we increased the knowledge of cultural values and in knowledge sharing.</td>
<td>25 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated. Two awareness raising events, such as demonstrations, field days or study tours, were conducted with 22 participants in attendance. One training session, workshop, seminar or other skills and training event was conducted with 20 participants in attendance. 151 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated. Engaged 17 Indigenous participants. Two ha of land was managed for Aboriginal cultural values.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Targeted Ecosystems</strong></td>
<td>This project will maintain and enhance the condition of existing habitat of significant threatened species or targeted sites within the Central Tablelands region. Where populations are known and the threatening processes identified, investment projects including on-ground works will be developed to address the threats and monitor the populations for recovery. Outcomes will be achieved through the implementation of financial incentives, formal and structured capacity building events and specific one on one engagement between skilled Local Land Services staff and land managers, supporting the undertaking of on-ground management activities. Where on-ground actions are funded through the provision of financial incentive, a service agreement will be developed with the landowner for management of the site over a 10 year period. Central Tablelands Local Land Services staff will work closely with OEH Threatened Species Officers where the monitoring of threatened species recovery will be undertaken.</td>
<td>Outcomes of the project will be: Improvements in the habitat condition and/or extent of priority threatened species including but not limited to: Purple copper butterfly Paralucia spinifera – listed as endangered (NSW). Black gum eucalyptus aggregata community – listed as vulnerable (NSW). Blue Mountains swamps in the Sydney Basin bioregion – listed as vulnerable (NSW). Reduction in the number and impact of threatening processes on regional threatened species populations and habitats. Improvements in the awareness, capacity and skills of empowered land managers and community groups to undertake natural resource management activities.</td>
<td>Two training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events conducted. One community groups or projects assisted. Three targeted advisory/capacity building actions. 1,300 native tubestock/plants planted. Four awareness raising events with Aboriginal communities. Four ha of land was managed for cultural heritage. Two ha of land was managed for cultural heritage. Two ha of land was managed for cultural heritage.</td>
<td>Threatened Species</td>
<td>Three skills training events: One purple copper butterfly monitoring event, one koala community awareness event, one purple copper butterfly cool burn event. One Community group or project assisted: Watershed Landcare (protection and monitoring of the Tarengo leek orchid) Three targeted advisory/capacity building actions: Purple copper butterfly larvae monitoring, two threatened species information days, Swainsona recta information day. 1,300 Native tubestock/plants planted. Four awareness raising events, such as demonstrations, field days or workshops or skills training events were conducted attracting 107 participants.</td>
<td>Four written products produced. Seven training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events were held attracting 66 participants. Two community groups or projects were assisted. 2,000 native tubestock/plants were planted. 2,399 ha of land was managed through voluntary agreements negotiated. Eight ha of riparian native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated. 10 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated. 15 ha of native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated. 10 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated. 25 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated. 2,391 ha managed for pest animal control.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Project title

**Ecosystem Improvement**

### Project overview

This project will target key native vegetation and biodiversity assets in identified priority areas of the Central Tablelands region. These priority assets include areas of endangered ecological communities, threatened species, and significantly native vegetation/biodiversity corridors.

The project will continue to protect, enhance, and connect biodiversity hotspots and high quality ecosystems primarily through the engagement of private and public land managers, working with support, guidance and improved capacity provided by Central Tablelands Local Land Services.

The project will focus on a range of restoration and threat mitigation activities, prioritising works that protect and restore state listed threatened species, ecologically endangered communities, and regionally significant vegetation and habitat values on private and public land including high value travelling stock reserves (not under lease or permit).

**Delivery outcomes of this project will be achieved through the implementation of financial incentives, formal and structured capacity building events and specific one-on-one engagement between skilled Local Land Services staff and land managers.**

The goals of this project not only include physical improvement in the condition and extent of native vegetation and biodiversity values in the immediate term, but also to encourage land managers to undertake on-ground works and implement land management practice to reduce threats to biodiversity, significant threatened species and vegetation communities in the long term. Where on-ground actions are funded through an incentive grant, a service agreement will be developed with the landowner for management of the site over a 10 year period.

### Project intended outcomes

Outcomes of the project will be:

- Improvement in the extent and condition of vegetation to enhance biodiversity and threatened species habitat through targeted revegetation, pest plant control, fencing and animal impact mitigation.
- Delivery of on-ground investment and capacity building programs designed to establish and/or enhance regionally significant vegetation corridors, riparian areas and aquatic ecosystems for biodiversity connectivity, function and as native wildlife corridors.
- Improvements in the awareness, capacity and skills of empowered land managers and community groups to undertake natural resource management activities.
- Improvement in the condition and ecological values of priority high value travelling stock reserves (TSR) (not under lease or grazing permit) through targeted pest weed control and mitigation of environmental threatening processes. Environmental beneficiaries of works on TSR lands include but are not limited to native and derived grasslands and grassy box gum woodlands (white box, yellow box, Blakely’s red gum).

### Project intended outputs

- 40 ha native vegetation protected by fencing.
- 40 ha protected under voluntary conservation agreement.
- 325 ha of planted vegetation that are local natives.
- 1,000 ha of pest control measures implemented.
- 200 ha of pest plan control measures implemented on (including on TSR).
- Three alternative watering sites installed.
- Five km of riparian vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.
- One awareness raising event such as demonstrations, field days or study tours conducted.
- One training session, workshops, seminars or skills training event conducted.

### Funding theme/s

**Biodiversity Native Vegetation**

### Project delivered outcomes

The Ecosystem Improvement project funded a total of 14 projects covering a range of landholder projects including themes of remnant protection, corridor plantings, riparian protection, pest management and awareness and training events.

These projects were ranked using an environmental services ratio by staff during site visits that also increased the capacity of landholders to manage these projects ensuring improved ecological outcomes.

Areas were revegetated using local endemic species with recommendations of plantings developed with the landholder and case officer.

While completing these projects, 11 km of stream was protected with 11 alternative water points installed to reduce stock impacts on creeks and rivers. Initial and ongoing pest management work was implemented by community and participants over 2,000 ha to ensure reduced pest numbers continue, having a positive effect on project areas.

Riparian education and awareness was conducted increasing knowledge and understanding of riparian issues and understanding of improved water quality.

#### Biodiversity Native Vegetation

- One awareness raising event such as demonstrations, field days or study tours was conducted.
- One training session, workshop, seminar or skills training event was conducted.
- 14 voluntary conservation agreements were negotiated protecting 170 ha.
- 11 alternate water sites were installed protecting 11 km of stream bank.
- 78 ha of riparian vegetation was protected by 1 km of fencing.
- 84 ha terrestrial native vegetation was protected by fencing.
- 78 ha riparian vegetation was enhanced through 11 km of fencing.
- 84 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was protected.
- 33 ha of locally native riparian vegetation was planted.
- Six ha of locally native terrestrial was vegetation planted.
- Five ha was protected for significant species/ ecological community.
- 167 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.
- 2,285 ha pest animal control measures were implemented.
- One site was treated for erosion control.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Enhanced and Protected Native Grasslands** | This project will improve the extent and condition of native grasslands, derived native grasslands and the ecologically endangered communities listed white box, yellow box, Blakely's red gum woodland across the region. This project aims to provide structured training, capacity and awareness to landholders in key priority locations with a view to enhancing native vegetation. The focus of this training will be to address threatening processes including mitigation of grazing impacts, weed management and value adding of areas of high environmental values. Delivery outcomes of this project will be achieved through the implementation of financial incentives, formal and structured capacity building events and specific one-on-one engagement between skilled Local Land Services staff and land managers. On-ground incentives will be offered to landholders to fence off or subdivide areas of native grassland, derived native grassland and ecologically endangered community woodlands to facilitate improved impact minimisation strategies that allow appropriate native plant regeneration and growth. Outcomes of the project will be:  
  - Improvements in the condition and extent of key threatened species and ecologically endangered communities across the Central Tablelands.  
  - Landholders with increased capacity adopting practice change for the improved management of derived native grasslands and woodlands.  
  - Improvements in the design of grazing regimes adopted on key priority native grassland, derived native grasslands and box gum grassy woodlands to enhance/improve condition of native vegetation and habitat values. | 400 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated. | Native Vegetation | There has been an improvement in the grazing regime of priority native grasslands which will lead to the improvement in the condition and extent of endangered ecological communities through the development of six private landholder agreements which total 883 ha of derived native grasslands and grassy box gum grassy woodlands. This has been achieved through the erection of 14.8 km of permanent stock proof fencing and the addition of 12 new alternate stock water points. 113 landholders participated in three native paddock plant identification training days and one native grasslands management seminar/field day which has lead to an increase in their knowledge and capacity in managing native grasslands/woodlands. | |
| **Landcare Driving Landscape Change** | This project will engage the Landcare community in the implementation of on-ground works and capacity improvements leading to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity assets across the Central Tablelands region. Investment on-ground will be made in partnership with local communities, building on the existing community capital and capacity to focus on priority corridors linking areas of native vegetation or threatened species habitat. Delivery outcomes of this project will be achieved through the implementation of financial incentives, formal and structured capacity building events and specific one-on-one engagement between skilled Local Land Services staff and land managers, supporting the undertaking of on-ground management activities. Priority corridors will be identified in conjunction with Landcare community priorities, the Central Tablelands Local Land Services Investment Priority Plan and other available prioritisation tools. These priorities will be the focus of on-ground investment. | Lineal corridors established linking isolated patches of native vegetation. Biodiversity values of this native vegetation increased through the creation of corridors.  
  - Threatened species habitat enhanced through the creation of wildlife corridors.  
  - Regional Landcare networks empowered through support and collaboration on cross regional projects.  
  - Community of Practice enhanced. | 500 Native tube stock/plants planted. | Biodiversity | Established corridors linking isolated patches of native vegetation increasing biodiversity values and enhancing threatened species habitat through the enhancement and rehabilitation of 79.5 ha and planting 600 native trees and shrubs. Empowering and enhanced regional landcare networks through support and collaboration on cross regional projects. | |

Comment: The number of hectares was exceeded due to the number of large scale projects that were developed. The project assessment and ranking process was designed to score larger projects higher, leading to improved environmental outcomes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
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<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Taking Action to Protect Ecosystems</td>
<td>This project is focused on the improvement of habitat quality and extent of native vegetation across the Central Tablelands by partnering with local government bodies. On-ground investment will focus on the improved management, condition and extent of native vegetation across many high priority areas of the Central Tablelands region. Much of the focus areas include riparian vegetation zones on major waterways of the Macquarie, Lachlan, Bell, and Cudgegong rivers and many of their tributary streams. In addition to a riparian focus, investment on-ground in partnership with Councils will take place on a number of high priority terrestrial lands. The actions of the project will support direct actions to mitigate key threatening processes including pest plant impacts (willow, invasive grasses etc.), land use practices, corridor connectivity and water quality impacts. In support of mitigation actions, the project will incorporate native plantings including terrestrial, wetland and riparian species. Improved capacity to plan, manage and implement these works with targeted and specific skills will be a supporting activity of the project. The project will implement actions to mitigate key threatening processes and the improvement of linkages, condition and extent of riparian habitat for native riparian and wetland vegetation and management of impacting environmental weeds by utilising existing planning tools. This project will include a component of community engagement and interaction.</td>
<td>Outcomes of the project will be:  - Delivery of on-ground incentive investment leading to improvement in the extent and condition of native vegetation through the delivery of on-ground works guided and prioritised by the application of local and regional planning tools.  - The delivery of targeted awareness and capacity improvements in Councils aimed at improving their capacity to deliver on-ground works and mitigate threatening processes.  - Reduction of urban and peri-urban impacts on key native vegetation corridors.  - Control of terrestrial and riparian weeds leading to enhanced condition of native vegetation linkages.  - Empowerment through local government, local communities otherwise not traditionally empowered through active participation in project delivery, leading to the on-going management of native vegetation values. Including urban, peri-urban and rural communities.</td>
<td>10 ha area of riparian native vegetation enhanced /rehabilitated.  - 500 native tube stock/plants planted.  - 10 ha area of pest plant control measures implemented.  - Five community groups engaged.  - Four awareness raising events.</td>
<td>Native Vegetation</td>
<td>The Local Government Taking Action to Protect Ecosystems project has continued to provide support to councils within the Central Tablelands region, ensuring that they understand their environmental responsibilities and have the skills and knowledge to implement successful projects. Highlights from this project included the continuation of the Superb Parrot habitat project where work has continued to install hollows in standing trees using the hollow augmentation technique. Adding further value has been the ability of councils involved in the project to engage local schools and the broader community for a range of community planting day events to provide future habitat for these threatened species. This project was launched on Threatened Species Day in 2016 by the then Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Paul Toole. The project has received broad media attention including an article in European bird keeping magazine. Managing Bushland for Wildlife training allowed for participants to learn new skills and concepts to apply to the various projects funded through this project. On-ground works largely featured local waterways with works being successfully completed on the Bell, Fish, Macquarie and Cudgegong rivers. All of these projects included weed control and revegetation with the Recovery of the Mac project demonstrating the value of councils to engage with other project partners. This project involved Bathurst Regional Council working with the Central Acclimatisation Society to control weeds and conduct revegetation works on the Macquarie River in Bathurst, with additional funds being sourced from Fish Habitat Action grants to complement the project by removing barriers to fish passage and installing in-stream habitat features.</td>
<td>Five community awareness raising events were held attracting 93 participants.  - The project received extensive media coverage from the development of three media releases.  - Three training sessions were held to 51 participants.  - 24 projects were supported over the project period.  - 600 native tube stock/plants were planted.  - Two partnerships were formed coving six ha.  - 31 ha of riparian native vegetation was enhanced or rehabilitated.  - Two ha of locally native riparian vegetation planted.  - Two km of stream bank was protected.  - 24 superb parrot habitat hollows were created.  - Two ha of plant control measures were implemented.  - 30 ha pest animal control measures were implemented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation Protection through Property Vegetation Plans</td>
<td>This project facilitates formal protection of vegetation through the development and support of property vegetation plans (PVPs) and increase pro-active extension services associated with areas of high demand for PVPs, associated with the Native Vegetation Act 2003. The aim of this project is to ensure the long term protection of native vegetation on sites across the Central Tablelands region through the development of legally binding agreements ensuring consideration of current land management and comply with existing agreement conditions. The project will be implemented through actions including employment of a specific officer to develop PVPs.</td>
<td>Outcomes of the project will be:  - Landscape scale species and biodiversity protection through the implementation of Native Vegetation Act 2003 through the assessment of sites for vegetation management outcomes.  - Increased capacity of landholders to improve their management of native vegetation.  - Permanent protection of retained vegetation.  - Specific agreements negotiated to protect remnant vegetation.  - Compliance to investment PVP conditions.</td>
<td>99 property specific advice on Codes and PVP  - Three native vegetation awareness events held.  - 36 audits of investment PVPs protected vegetation areas.  - Four PVPs approved.</td>
<td>Native Vegetation</td>
<td>Completed outstanding PVPs and provided awareness of codes and proposed new arrangements. Sites visited. Provided advice on site and at other events. Provided clients with four approved PVPs (three conservation PVPs and one continuing use PVP). Monitoring / audits of existing PVPs (including incentive PVPs).</td>
<td>Three written products were developed and advice provided to 175 landholders.  - 58 sites were monitored.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 6: Central West budget and expenditure by project and funding theme programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Total investors</th>
<th>Total budget $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>Funding theme split</th>
<th>Total expenditure $</th>
<th>% of Total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Funding theme split of total CA NSW expenditure</th>
<th>Over / (underspend)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Protection and Preservation</strong></td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, LLS</td>
<td>494,535</td>
<td>215,300</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>215,300</td>
<td>261,709</td>
<td>154,298</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>154,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Native Vegetation Management</strong></td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, NSW BRF, LLS</td>
<td>1,202,415</td>
<td>411,715</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>411,715</td>
<td>715,587</td>
<td>715,587</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>715,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RAMSAR &amp; Significant Wetland Enhancement</strong></td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, LLS</td>
<td>364,965</td>
<td>126,785</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>126,785</td>
<td>96,522</td>
<td>96,522</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>96,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TSR Environmental Enhancement</strong></td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, LLS</td>
<td>440,235</td>
<td>186,245</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>186,245</td>
<td>745,405</td>
<td>352,649</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>352,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Connected Landscapes</strong></td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, LLS</td>
<td>1,450,710</td>
<td>644,555</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>167,300</td>
<td>265,600</td>
<td>919,313</td>
<td>261,026</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conserving Our Habitats</strong></td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, LLS</td>
<td>1,207,825</td>
<td>568,400</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>165,570</td>
<td>165,000</td>
<td>237,830</td>
<td>1,260,070</td>
<td>601,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>5,160,685</td>
<td>2,153,000</td>
<td>430,600</td>
<td>645,900</td>
<td>215,300</td>
<td>3,998,606</td>
<td>2,181,865</td>
<td>631,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project title</td>
<td>Project overview</td>
<td>Project intended outcomes</td>
<td>Project intended outputs</td>
<td>Funding theme/s</td>
<td>Project delivered outcomes</td>
<td>Project delivered outputs</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Protection and Preservation | The project will build on previous investment and build Aboriginal capacity surrounding traditional land management while implementing on ground works and traditional practices to achieve cultural and environmental outcomes. Practices will include bush regeneration, fire management (traditional burning) and site identification and protection (in consultation with the Heritage Division of NSW OEH, and local Aboriginal communities). Central West communities and staff will work across boundaries with other Local Land Services regions, OEH officers, and Rural Fire Service personnel to address the identification and protection of cultural heritage. Works will be conducted on private land and travelling stock reserves (TSRs). Capacity of Aboriginal people in natural resource planning will be enhanced including capacity in identification and mapping of significant cultural landscapes. Local community members who have site identification training will assist Local Land Services officers to work with interested landholders to undertake cultural heritage assessments and subsequent protection on private lands. A good working relationship with archaeologist Phil Purcell (OEH) has been extremely helpful in assisting in the development of principles and protocols for working with private property owners in relation to cultural heritage. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Increased use and sharing of traditional ecological knowledge  
- Increased awareness and management of culturally significant sites  
- Management of culturally significant flora and fauna  
- Increase in Aboriginal engagement in environment protection and natural resource management through collaboration with OEH and community  
- Development of management plans for protection of sites on private property in conjunction with OEH, local Aboriginal communities and landholders.  
- Completion of a desktop survey of potential Cultural Heritage values within TSRs undertaken in conjunction with OEH and community  
- Increase of traditional burns on TSRs.  
- Increase in number of culturally significant sites managed. | Six Aboriginal sites maintained.  
20 ha Aboriginal cultural values managed.  
200 Indigenous people participating in the project/activity (not a delivery partner or employed on the project/activity)  
Five Indigenous people on-country visits.  
Four cultural heritage surveys completed.  
One management plan developed or updated with Indigenous input and/or involvement. | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage  
Native Vegetation | A significant heritage site was identified on a TSR in the Dubbo region in 2016. A cultural assessment of the site was undertaken to gain an understanding of its extent. As part of the project, Aboriginal community members were consulted and an archaeological dating process is underway. At another TSR site in the Dubbo area, Troy/Talbragar, protection of known Aboriginal sites is underway. The TSR was previously a mission and at times was home to the core of the local Aboriginal community of approximately 500 people. A number of AHIMS records exist for this TSR. Over the last 12 months the community has been involved in traditional burning practices to encourage regeneration of bush foods, assist with hazard reduction and protect known EEC species. A fire management plan will be developed for the site, as a precursor to a more detailed management plan. In collaboration with the Tubba-Gah people on Jinchilla, 18 ha is being managed for of Aboriginal cultural values. An archaeological survey was completed as well as on and the adjacent Terramungerie site. A number of AHIMS records already exist for this area. Recommendations have been made to assist the community to undertake activities such as weed control and it is planned to undertake a low intensity fire on site. As part of the 2016 NAIDOC celebrations, Central West Local Land Services worked with the local Wellington Aboriginal Community and the Wellington Public School to launch the Yarning Circle which had been constructed in the 2015 year. This site is a gathering place for community and school children and over 700 people attended the celebrations to mark this event. Approximately 160 Aboriginal community members attended on the day. Work has also been undertaken with landholders with the assistance of Aboriginal community members, in the identification of Aboriginal sites with protective measures undertaken for the preservation of cultural values identified. Site assessments were also undertaken, with the assistance of the local Tubba-Gah community at Western Plains Taronga Zoo (Dubbo) prior to construction of new animal enclosures. Fifteen site assessments were conducted during the reporting period, together with another five walk and talk activities to increase landholder knowledge of Aboriginal culture across the Central West Local Land Services region. A number of these site assessments involved full archaeological reports of the sites, along with recommendations for site protection and ongoing management. These reports will be used to prepare comprehensive management plans. Sites such as Bunglegumbie TSR and Troy/Talbragar TSR and Reserve involve multiple stakeholders and varied usage requirements, including recreation. | Six Aboriginal sites maintained.  
30 Aboriginal community members consulted and involved in the heritage identification project.  
59 ha of Aboriginal cultural values managed.  
195 Indigenous people participated in a project/activity (not a delivery partner or employed on the project/activity)  
Six Indigenous people participated in on-country visits  
15 cultural heritage surveys have been completed. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
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<th>Funding theme/s</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Ramsar and Significant Wetland Enhancement | This project will focus on the improvement of native vegetation for communities such as common reed tall grassland, water couch grassland and lignum shrubland with a particular focus on the Lake Cowal regionally significant wetland and the Ramsar site, Macquarie Marshes. These semi-permanent vegetation communities provide vital habitat for breeding water birds but are degraded considerably through the impacts of feral pigs. Rooting behaviour of feral pigs causes disturbance to the water’s edge leading to the removal of vegetation, anoxic conditions and sediment mobility affecting water quality. Erosion is also a result of this rooting behaviour. Project works will include pest and weed management activities and site protection actions such as strategic fencing and planting, prioritised to sites on private land which facilitate connectivity between areas of native vegetation and prioritised threatened species habitat. This will also involve collaboration with OEH to ensure the activities align with the long term environmental watering plan for the Macquarie Marshes. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Improved stability, condition and connectivity of water assets.  
- Rehabilitated and enhanced riparian and floodplain habitat.  
- Threats reduced at priority sites.  
- Increased land manager capacity (awareness and skills) (neighbours to significant wetland).  | 2,500 ha wetland native vegetation enhanced/ rehabilitated.  
Two significant species: ecological community protected.  
One training session, workshop, seminar or other event conducted. | Threatened species  
Native vegetation | Central-West Local Land Services partnered with a private landholder to implement a feral pig baiting and trapping program that focused on reducing the population of feral pigs that were destroying nesting waterbirds and Lignum swamp area on the private property 'Wilgara' over 2,754 ha.  
A camera was installed at each trap site to identify and record what is not entering the trap and identify other species which use the trail to give an estimate of the abundance and distribution of vertebrate pest species in Lignum communities, such as this one, following the flooding. This data been used to target control methods for Autumn and Winter activities.  
Central-West Local Land Services partnered with NSW DPI Focal (Harry Rose) to deliver a wetland identification and management field day to landholders in the Macquarie Marshes adjacent to and including RAMSAR sites.  
The training aimed to build land managers awareness of the complexities of wetland vegetation and how to manage it under different flooding regimes for both conservation and production benefits.  
Land managers were provided with reference material to assist in managing and making decisions on their respective properties. A copy of “Floodplain Wetland Biota in the Murray Darling Basin” was provided as reference to assist in management decisions surrounding vegetation management under changing flow regimes. | • 2,754 ha of integrated pest management and vertebrate pest monitoring on ‘Wilgara’.  
• Two nesting water birds within Lignum swamp sites were protected at ‘Wilgara’.  
• Conducted a wetland plant identification and management field day. |
| Conserving our Habitats | This project will increase the area and condition of regionally significant species and threatened ecological communities whilst increasing landholder participation and understanding of on-farm biodiversity.  
850 hectares of private land will be managed for connectivity in vegetation communities such as red stringybark, mugga ironbark, box-gum grassy woodlands, fuzzy box grassy woodland and inland grey box woodland.  
These communities are habitat for assisting movements of known koala and bat populations within the Central West, and landscape species including superb parrot, swift parrot, regent honeyeater and red-tailed black cockatoo. Actions delivered will include revegetation, conservation fencing and threat abatement to reduce impacts on landscape scale threatened species.  
Additional works will focus on minimising impacts of pest vertebrate predators (foxes) on iconic species, (malleefowl) through the engagement of landholders surrounding the Goonoo forest covering an area of 40,000 ha. This program will support the intent of the fox abatement plan for the Goonoo, which has a primary focus of protecting malleefowl. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Increase in habitat protection through formal management agreements.  
- Threats reduced or eliminated for priority species/sites.  
- Increased land manager capacity (awareness and skills).  
- Increased community awareness and understanding.  
- Improved extent, condition and connectivity of native vegetation.  | 850 ha terrestrial native vegetation protected by fencing.  
850 ha terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/ rehabilitated.  
40,000 ha pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented.  
Pest plant control measures implemented.  
Six voluntary conservation agreements negotiated. | Threatened Species  
Native Vegetation | Seven voluntary conservation agreements were negotiated with private landholders to revegetate and/or conserve bushland through fencing and pest plant and animal control activities to reduce impacts on landscape scale threatened species.  
Five agreements were completed and covered 118.62 ha. Unfortunately one landholder (40 ha), withdrew from their agreement and another landholder (670 ha), needed an extension of time to complete their on ground activities and is now due to be completed by December 2017.  
Fox baiting control methods were implemented over 69,902 ha of private land surrounding the Goonoo State Forest to support the intent of the Fox Abatement Plan for the Goonoo to protect malleefowl.  
LIDAR data was analysed to establish if there was any active malleefowl mounds in the Goonoo area. Private landholders and community across Central-West Local Land Services were informed about what Malleefowl are, their status and the work being done to conserve them and their habitat in the Goonoo. Landholders provided information on any Malleefowl sightings and to help ground truth the potential location of mounds. | • Revegetation, conservation fencing and threat abatement to reduce impacts on landscape scale threatened species carried out on 118.62 ha.  
• Pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented across 69,902 ha.  
• Seven voluntary conservation agreements negotiated. Five completed. One withdrawn, one to be completed December 2017. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Connected Landscapes | This project will be developed in partnership with OEH and focus on implementing on-ground actions in accordance with Saving our Species and agreed biodiversity priorities. Central West Local Land Services has invested in riparian habitat mapping for the region which identified specific physical riverine features relating to river health along identified reaches of the regulated Lachlan river and defines priorities for investment, protection and enhancement. The mapping provides natural resource managers within Central West Local Land Services with a guide for rehabilitation, protection and enhancement measures along the river, including immediate and emerging threats to priority reaches within the region. Central West Local Land Services will utilise this mapping in conjunction with OEH mapping to identify priority locations and actions for investment. Priority areas of investment will include - implementation of agreed on ground activities to support the Saving our Species program intent, increase of condition and extent of native vegetation within priority landscapes and protection and enhancement of priority riparian reaches. This project will be implemented utilising the extensive stakeholder network of Central West Local Land Services including implementation on private lands and will include actions such as strategic plantings for improved habitat connectivity, strategic fencing to enhance riparian habitat restoration and regeneration and community monitoring programs to encourage community ownership and contribution towards long term outcomes. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Increase in species (targeted) condition and abundance.  
- Increase in extent and condition of native vegetation species.  
- Reduced impact of weeds on priority riparian reaches.  
- Landholders actively managing on farm biodiversity.  
- Increase in habitat protection through formal and informal conservation agreements. | Two iconic species projects:  
- Malleefowl and koala  
- One awareness raising event.  
- 20 ha of native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
- One landscape species: Glossy Black Cockatoo.  
- One awareness raising event  
- 25 ha of native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
- One site specific species: green hooded orchid  
- One awareness raising event  
- 10 ha of fencing specifically for significant species. | Threatened species  
Native Vegetation  
Biodiversity  
Conservation  
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage | Central West Local Land Services contributed to the Glossy Black Cockatoo Working Group, where experts and other agency staff shared knowledge about Glossy Black Cockatoo ecology and likely habitat requirements. As a result, maps were distributed across Local Land Services staff who were asked to contribute to the knowledge of stands of casuarina species across our region. This information has been fed back to OEH staff. Central West Local Land Services worked with a number of agencies and community organisations across the Dubbo and Wellington regions to host an awareness raising event for the purple pea Swainsona recta at the Mount Arthur Reserve. Group meetings were held prior to the day, and events on the day included a “walk and talk”, demonstrations on biological control of tiger pear and techniques for weed removal. Community members attended the event.  
A survey into the presence of the green hooded orchid was undertaken on Little Mount TSR, involving Central West Local Land Services staff, OEH staff and community members. The survey results, including GPS locations of Pterostylis cobarensis found within monitoring site and survey of whole site for Pterostylis cobarensis and Diuris tricolor at Little Mount TSR is available. A strategic livestock grazing management plan protecting and monitoring an area of 38 ha was developed for Little Mount TSR as a result of this project. Projects were undertaken in support of the barking owl to protect and rehabilitate the native woodland ecosystem and wildlife habitat for the barking owl and koala populations.  
38 ha was monitored and protected for the green hooded orchid, Pterostylis cobarensis, through implementation of a grazing management plan at Little Mount TSR.  
35.53 ha of remnant vegetation was managed to protect and rehabilitate the native woodland ecosystem and wildlife habitat for the barking owl and koala populations.  
27 ha of fencing was installed to protect significant species. |  
- 10 awareness raising events were undertaken:  
- six malleefowl  
- one Swainsona recta  
- one glossy black cockatoo  
- two green hooded orchid  
- 38 ha was monitored and protected for the green hooded orchid, Pterostylis cobarensis, through implementation of a grazing management plan at Little Mount TSR.  
- 35.53 ha of remnant vegetation was managed to protect and rehabilitate the native woodland ecosystem and wildlife habitat for the barking owl and koala populations.  
- 27 ha of fencing was installed to protect significant species. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
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<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Native Vegetation Management                      | The Central West region has had a high demand for clearing approvals due to much of the landscape being largely undeveloped for agricultural purposes, and with large areas of invasive native scrub. The region has been under resourced in relation to this demand for a number of years leading to an extensive list of landholders waiting for periods of up to three years for approval through the property vegetation plan (PVP) process. As of 31 March 2016, Central West Local Land Services had 77 PVP expressions of interest in various stages of assessment. In the Central West Local Land Services there are highly skilled and experienced staff assessing and negotiating PVPs as well as other staff being mentored in these functions. These staff are funded from recurrent, Biodiversity funds as well as CA NSW. Though 29 approved PVPs were finalised in 2015, Central West Local Land Services has not effectively been able to reduce the waiting list to an acceptable level due to the continued high inquiry rate. In addition to the historical high PVP workload, the introduction of the self-assessable codes in November 2014 has increased the number of inquiries and requests for site visits and assistance. To the end of March 2016, the Central West region received 178 notifications and in excess of 200 enquiries regarding the self-assessable codes. These numbers equate to 50 per cent of all notifications submitted across the state. To the end of March 2016, the Central West region received 178 notifications and in excess of 200 enquiries regarding the self-assessable codes. These numbers equate to 50 per cent of all notifications submitted across the state. | Project outcomes will be:  
  • Improved extent, condition and connectivity of native vegetation.  
  • 8,000 ha - total number of ha of the project assessed.  
  • 100 people/enterprises will be engaged via demonstrations and field days.  
 | Native Vegetation                                    | Through this project, landholders were given specialist advice on native vegetation management. These landholders were primarily interested in changes in native vegetation management on farm. Central West Local Land Services staff visited landholder properties and offered alternatives and solutions under the Native Vegetation Act 2003, Native Vegetation Regulations 2013. Outcomes were delivered in PVPs or by landholders accessing self-assessable codes. Though the codes are able to be self assessed, Central West Local Land Services experience was that most landholders requested the advice and assistance of our staff. | 16,943.8 ha was assessed and includes:  
  - 3.62 ha remnant clearing  
  - 14.03 ha thinning  
  - 432.88 ha paddock tree  
  - 13,420.77 ha invasive native scrub  
  - 3,072.5 ha public register / continuing use  
  - 116 people/enterprises were engaged at demonstrations and field days. |                                                                                                               |                                                                                                               |                                                                                                               |                                                                                                               |
Central West project map
## Table 8: Greater Sydney budget and expenditure by project and funding theme programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Total investors</th>
<th>Total budget $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>Funding theme split</th>
<th>Total expenditure $</th>
<th>% of Total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>% of Total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Funding theme split of total CA NSW expenditure</th>
<th>Over / (underspend)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protecting priority coastal habitats in Greater Sydney</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>171,090</td>
<td>171,090</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>171,090</td>
<td>171,575</td>
<td>171,575</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>171,575</td>
<td>(485)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting priority waterways and wetlands in Greater Sydney</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>399,210</td>
<td>399,210</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>399,210</td>
<td>400,227</td>
<td>400,227</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>400,227</td>
<td>(1,017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovering priority threatened species and communities in Greater Sydney</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>380,200</td>
<td>380,200</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>380,200</td>
<td>381,367</td>
<td>381,367</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>381,367</td>
<td>(1,167)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving native vegetation in Greater Sydney</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>760,400</td>
<td>760,400</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>760,400</td>
<td>760,735</td>
<td>760,735</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>760,735</td>
<td>(335)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecting Aboriginal people to Country</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>190,100</td>
<td>190,100</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>190,100</td>
<td>188,259</td>
<td>188,259</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>188,259</td>
<td>1,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,901,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,901,000</strong></td>
<td>570,300</td>
<td>380,200</td>
<td>190,100</td>
<td>1,902,163</td>
<td>1,902,163</td>
<td>571,802</td>
<td>381,367</td>
<td>(1,163)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 9: Greater Sydney Programs and Projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
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<th>Funding theme/s</th>
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</table>
| **Protecting Priority Coastal Habitats in Greater Sydney** | This Program will increase the extent and improve the condition of coastal habitats in Greater Sydney through the protection and enhancement of priority estuarine and coastal habitats. Program priorities will be consistent with the recommendations of the relevant Coastal Zone Management Plans, Estuary Management Plans and Water Quality Improvement Plans that cover the Greater Sydney region. Consistent themes for priorities in these plans include protection and enhancement of aquatic and coastal habitats including coastal wetlands, lakes and lagoons; water quality improvement; foreshore management; aquatic and terrestrial weed management; beach dune protection and restoration; protection of key native fauna, and management of recreational impacts on aquatic habitats. Activities will include on-ground actions such as foreshore stabilisation and revegetation, rehabilitation of estuarine and foreshore plant communities and water sensitive urban design initiatives to improve water quality for receiving habitats. | Program outcomes will be:  
- Improved condition of coastal and estuarine habitats for the benefit of native biodiversity.  
- Managing urban storm water quality and rates of discharge to improve estuarine water quality for fish habitat and coastal saltmarsh.  
- Supporting threatened migratory birds including little terns and pied oystercatchers.  
- Enhanced condition and resilience of endangered ecological communities in the coastal and estuarine zone.  
- Coastal and estuarine habitats protected, by reducing the environmental impact of recreational activities. | • 12 ha of coastal habitats improved.  
• Four published items to promote adoption of Water Sensitive Urban Design practices in urban estuarine catchments.  
• Two capacity building events to promote best practice management of coastal communities. | Biodiversity  
Conservation | A number of coastal restoration projects were undertaken including:  
- The riparian zone of Greendale Creek and Curl Curl Lagoon.  
- Coastal vegetation on sand dune adjoining Cockronie Lagoon and the front dunes of Macmasters Beach.  
- An endangered swamp oak forest located on the Saint Josephs Church site at South Kincumber.  
- Restoration of coastal saltmarsh EEC and swamp oak floodplain forest EEC at Gentlemans Halt (a peninsula surrounded by mangroves on the Hawksbury River opposite Spencer).  
- Singleton Rd, Marramarra National Park.  
- The Ku-ring-gai Council, Coups Creek Stormwater Mitigation project is a multi-partner project, which involved the installation of three sediment basins to reduce stormwater impacts from Comenarra Parkway on Coups Creek, a major feeder of the Lane Cove River catchment. Two newsletters, a TAFE report and a video was published promoting the adoption of Water Sensitive Urban Design practices in urban catchments.  
Capacity building events were conducted at:  
- Curl Curl Lagoon Friends - two tree planting days, plus bush regeneration training and working bee support.  
- Sydney Harbour National Park - two corporate days aimed at improving native vegetation extent, connectivity and habitat value on Shark, Clark, Goat and Rodd Islands.  
- The OceanWatch program included the engagement of Landcare groups and will work through the Paramatta River Catchment Group to engage oyster farmers in shell treatment to meet biosecurity requirement.  
One bushcare day and one clean up day event was held at Gentlemans Halt and Singleton Rd, Marramarra National Park.  
The OceanWatch program included the engagement of Landcare groups and will work through the Paramatta River Catchment Group to engage oyster farmers in shell treatment to meet biosecurity requirement.  
One bushcare day and one clean up day event was held at Gentlemans Halt and Singleton Rd, Marramarra National Park.  
One bushcare day and one clean up day event was held at Gentlemans Halt and Singleton Rd, Marramarra National Park.  
One bushcare day and one clean up day event was held at Gentlemans Halt and Singleton Rd, Marramarra National Park.  
One bushcare day and one clean up day event was held at Gentlemans Halt and Singleton Rd, Marramarra National Park.  
One bushcare day and one clean up day event was held at Gentlemans Halt and Singleton Rd, Marramarra National Park. | • 18.21 ha of coastal habitats improved.  
• Four items published to promote adoption of Water Sensitive Urban Design practices in urban estuarine catchments.  
• More than nine capacity building events to promote best practice management of coastal communities. |
| **Protecting priority wetways and wetlands in Greater Sydney** | This Program will increase the extent and improve the condition of native vegetation in Greater Sydney through the rehabilitation of vegetation on priority wetways and wetlands. Activities will include on-ground actions such as bush regeneration and revegetation. Construction of artificial wetlands to improve the quality of urban run off before entering riparian zones and wetlands may also be undertaken. Where appropriate, community awareness and/or education initiatives that support delivery of the program outcomes and secure legacy values will also be undertaken. Outcomes will be secured through contracts with landholders and land managers. | Program outcomes will be:  
- A reduction in the impact of key threats and an improvement in the condition of EEC vegetation and associated habitats.  
- An increase in connectivity of riparian vegetation along priority river systems.  
- An improvement in the condition of wetlands associated with priority river systems.  
- An improvement in the condition of EEC Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone, hanging swamps or Groundwater dependent ecosystems. | • 30 ha of riparian and wetland native vegetation improved.  
• Three capacity building events to promote best practice among landholders. | Biodiversity  
Conservation | Restoration activities to restore a number of significant vegetation communities along the Macdonald and Colo rivers was undertaken.  
Protection of riparian vegetation at Dooralong was carried out by fencing an area along the creek to exclude stock.  
Weed control along Wyong Creek is helping to restore habitats for native wildlife.  
Bushcare training was provided across three events to group attendees as part of the Ku-ring-gai Council Coups Creek Stormwater mitigation project.  
Four events were developed as part of the Sutherland Shire Council’s weed and pest animals extension program. | • 47.34 ha of riparian and wetland native vegetation was improved.  
• Seven capacity building events were held to promote best practice among landholders. |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recovering priority threatened species and communities in Greater Sydney</td>
<td>This Program will assist the recovery of priority threatened species, populations and ecological communities and their habitats in Greater Sydney. Program priorities and activities will be consistent with Saving our Species priorities and priority action statements. Program delivery will involve community engagement and participation in capacity building and on-ground actions. Including: 1. Re-instating habitat for threatened ground dwelling mammals and micro bats. 2. Habitat augmentation for threatened birds and other threatened arboreal species. 3. Re-establishing linkages between fragmented bushland including in urban areas, with regard to the OEH BIO Map priorities where available. 4. Improving the condition of the EEC Cumberland Plain Woodland, by seeking opportunities to complement outcomes resulting from AG investment, in consultation with OEH and the AG. 5. Investigating opportunities to value add to other current SoS projects, in consultation with OEH.</td>
<td>Program outcomes will be: • Provision of additional habitat for a range of threatened species by active augmentation, including greater gliders and microbats. • Increasing the resilience of populations of threatened species by linking fragmented habitats. • Improving the condition of vegetation communities that support threatened species, including threatened Cumberland Plain Woodland fauna.</td>
<td>• 28 ha of habitat that supports threatened species improved. • Four ha of connecting and buffering vegetation established or enhanced. • 10 threatened species, populations or ecological communities and their habitats to benefit. • 40 habitat elements installed. • Three capacity building events to promote best practice. • One written product (guidelines) developed. • One monitoring program established. • 90 ha of native vegetation improved. • 10 ha of connecting and buffering vegetation established or enhanced. • Six capacity building events to promote best practice among landholders and land managers.</td>
<td>Threatened Species</td>
<td>More than 20 projects were carried out to improve the condition of vegetation communities that support threatened species, populations and ecological communities including threatened Cumberland Plain Woodland fauna. Greater Sydney Local Land Services coordinated field surveys for additional populations of threatened species including Solanum amaroense on both sides of the Wollondilly River in the Burragorang valley. Weed control around four known populations and a germination trial of Acacia pubescens, Solanum amaroense and Persoonia nutans. An artificial nesting platform for osprey (including the vulnerable Eastern osprey) was installed at Riley’s Island Nature Reserve. NPWS will undertake monitoring of the next platform. OceanRwatch is diverting waste oyster shells from landfill to coir bags for use in Sydney estuaries where erosion of river banks is occurring. A partnership with Sydney University addressed four key threatening processes that have a significant effect on four threatened species and numerous Endangered Ecological Communities located on the Kurnell Peninsula and surrounding areas. Threatened species monitored and protected included: green and golden bell frog, wallum froglet, little tern, pied oystercatcher. Endangered ecological communities monitored and enhanced include: Coastal saltmarsh, Kurnell Dune Forest, Sydney freshwater wetlands, swamp oak floodplain forest, littoral rainforest, swamp sclerophyll forest on coastal floodplains. Who’s living on my land? workshop for Central Coast Land Managers run by Greater Sydney Local Land Services in partnership with National Parks Association. Campbelltown City Council – Simmos Beach – Environmental Rehabilitation Association. By Council staff, Georges River Environmental Education Centre (GREEC) and Community Greening’s Indigenous Education Officer.</td>
<td>• 66 ha of habitat that supports threatened species improved. • 34 ha of connecting and buffering vegetation established or enhanced. • 11 threatened species, populations or ecological communities and their habitats to benefit. • More than 40 habitat elements are being installed including an osprey nesting platform and bagged oyster shell habitat. • Seven capacity building events were conducted to promote best practice. • One monitoring program was established – monitoring the Osprey nesting platform; flora surveys of the Burragorang Valley. • A written product was developed Assessing the utility of using eDNA to detect rare and cryptic amphibians’ – Dr M Greenlees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving native vegetation in Greater Sydney</td>
<td>This Program will increase the extent and improve the condition of native vegetation in Greater Sydney. Priority for funding will be given to improving the condition of biodiversity, urban bushland remnants, and revegetation to increase connectivity and provide buffers to existing remnants. Where appropriate, community awareness and/or education initiatives that promote the Program outcomes into the future will be undertaken. Outcomes will be secured through contracts with landholders. Where possible management actions and landholder commitments will be secured by long term conservation PVPs or equivalent.</td>
<td>Program outcomes will be: • A reduction in the impact of key threats such as weed invasion in native vegetation. • An improvement in the condition and resilience of vegetation communities supporting threatened species, including threatened Cumberland Plain Woodland fauna. • An improvement in the condition of urban bushland remnants. • An increase in connectivity between, and buffering of vegetation remnants based on Priority Investment Areas in BIO Map where available.</td>
<td>• 90 ha of native vegetation improved. • 10 ha of connecting and buffering vegetation established or enhanced. • Six capacity building events to promote best practice among landholders and land managers.</td>
<td>Native Vegetation</td>
<td>Improvements to native vegetation has occurred across multiple sites in the region with almost 100 ha of native vegetation improved and at least 16 ha of vegetation enhanced within connecting or buffering areas, or remnant or existing vegetation. Capacity building events included field days to raise awareness of natural resource management issues as well as training in techniques such as weed control, revegetation and propagation and included: • Enhancing Cumberland Plain Woodland at Glibulla, Menangle. • ‘The Dickson’ Little Bay eastern suburbs banksia scrub restoration. • Seed harvesting Walkabout Park on the Central Coast to propagate local provenance plants for re-vegetation. • The Dural Scout and Girl Guide groups aim to improve the land surrounding their hall by reducing understory weeds that can be managed without poison by the youth members.</td>
<td>• 98 ha of native vegetation was improved. • 16 hectares of connecting and buffering vegetation was established or enhanced. • 12 capacity building events were held to promote best practice among landholders and land managers.</td>
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<td>Project delivered outcomes</td>
<td>Project delivered outputs</td>
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| Connecting Aboriginal people to Country | This Program aims to conserve Aboriginal cultural heritage and provide opportunity for the continuation of cultural practice through environmental and cultural heritage related activities. Activities will include building the capacity of Aboriginal people in natural resource management through training and implementation of projects such as cultural heritage site protection works, bush regeneration, cultural fire management, pest animal control and other land management skills. Opportunities to value add to other current Aboriginal cultural heritage projects will also be explored in consultation with OEH | Project outcomes will be:  
  - Increase the capacity of Aboriginal people to undertake natural resource management works on lands owned or managed by Aboriginal organisations, and by Aboriginal Landcare groups and Aboriginal enterprises.  
  - Plan and implement natural resource management works to improve the condition of native vegetation and habitats on sites of significance to local communities.  
  - Plan and implement on-ground works to manage threats to Cultural Heritage sites by local communities, in consultation with OEH. | 80 Aboriginal participants trained in natural resource management.  
  - 50 participants involved in transfer of shared cultural knowledge.  
  - 20 ha managed for environmental and cultural heritage outcomes  
  - 10 Aboriginal cultural heritage sites protected. | Central Cultural Heritage project has seen the following outcomes:  
  - More than 80 Aboriginal participants have been trained in natural resource management through programs such as the Aboriginal Environment and Cultural Education Program, Oceanwatch – Habitat in Bag, Firesticks and the Yellowmunde Aboriginal Bushcare Group.  
  - Ten Aboriginal cultural heritage projects saw more than 300 participants attend workshops, training and field days.  
  - The Greater Sydney Aboriginal Advisory Group meets four times each year and discusses Aboriginal cultural heritage projects and proposals across the region. More than 300 participants were involved in the transfer of shared cultural knowledge across the projects. Some examples include:  
    - Bushcare with Care field guide, local council workshops - involved groups being educated on current legislation surrounding the protection of Aboriginal sites and objects in NSW, as well as learning to identify different Aboriginal sites in a bushland setting. An important outcome of these workshops was the ability for many staff and volunteers to protect Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and manage the land in which they are found.  
    - Just over 25 ha has been managed for cultural and environmental outcomes where at least 12 sites have been protected with works carried out under special conditions or cultural methods used such as the cultural burn at Mulgoa. |
### Table 10: Hunter budget and expenditure by project and funding theme programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Total investors</th>
<th>Total budget $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>Biodiversity conservation $</th>
<th>Threatened species $</th>
<th>Aboriginal cultural heritage $</th>
<th>Native vegetation $</th>
<th>Total expenditure $</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Funding theme split of total CA NSW expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity - Riparian</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, HCC, Landholders</td>
<td>916,923</td>
<td>195,706</td>
<td>21 %</td>
<td>195,706</td>
<td>824,098</td>
<td>260,622</td>
<td>32 %</td>
<td>260,622</td>
<td>(64,916)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Land Management</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, HCC, Landholders</td>
<td>1,091,516</td>
<td>162,825</td>
<td>15 %</td>
<td>162,825</td>
<td>831,210</td>
<td>226,649</td>
<td>27 %</td>
<td>226,649</td>
<td>(63,824)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estuary and Marine</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, HCC, Landholders, LG</td>
<td>778,699</td>
<td>139,063</td>
<td>18 %</td>
<td>139,063</td>
<td>586,443</td>
<td>123,940</td>
<td>21 %</td>
<td>123,940</td>
<td>15,123</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>TSR</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, HCC, LLS rates</td>
<td>208,012</td>
<td>153,706</td>
<td>74 %</td>
<td>153,706</td>
<td>444,730</td>
<td>121,431</td>
<td>27 %</td>
<td>121,431</td>
<td>32,275</td>
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<tr>
<td>Threatened Species</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, HCC, LLS rates, LG, Landholders</td>
<td>674,447</td>
<td>434,200</td>
<td>64 %</td>
<td>434,200</td>
<td>872,090</td>
<td>434,376</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>434,376</td>
<td>(176)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, HCC, NSW Govt, Aboriginal Land Councils and land management organisations</td>
<td>882,259</td>
<td>217,100</td>
<td>25 %</td>
<td>217,100</td>
<td>827,119</td>
<td>216,097</td>
<td>26 %</td>
<td>216,097</td>
<td>1,003</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Vegetation Services</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, Australian Government Biodiversity Fund, HCC, NSW Govt, Landholders</td>
<td>1,728,024</td>
<td>868,400</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>868,400</td>
<td>1,918,569</td>
<td>788,019</td>
<td>41 %</td>
<td>788,019</td>
<td>80,381</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,279,880</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,171,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>651,300</strong></td>
<td><strong>434,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>217,100</strong></td>
<td><strong>868,400</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,304,259</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,171,134</strong></td>
<td><strong>732,642</strong></td>
<td><strong>434,376</strong></td>
<td><strong>216,097</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Project title</td>
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| Hunter Threatened Species Program | This Program will deliver outcomes for threatened species, populations and Endangered Ecological Communities (EEC) consistent with the NSW Saving Our Species (SoS) program. Specific priorities will be further refined with the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH).  
In the Upper Hunter, conserving and enhancing habitat for landscape managed threatened woodland bird species will occur through delivering the Community Recovery of Woodland Birds SoS partnership between OEH, Local Land Services, Hunter Bird Observers and Birdlife Australia.  
In the Lower Hunter, the Cessnock Biodiversity Management Plan will be implemented in partnership with OEH and private and public land managers.  
In the Manning Great Lakes district, the Barrington Tops to Myall Lake biodiversity corridor is a focus for sustaining regional habitat connectivity identified in the draft Hunter Regional Plan. Multi-species actions will be implemented, to complement other conservation initiatives targeting this area.  
Identification and planning of other potential priority threatened species projects will continue in liaison with OEH and NPWS. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Improve priority habitat and recovery of hooded robin, speckled warbler, brown treecreeper and regent honeyeater, in the Upper Hunter woodland bird recovery project focus area.  
- Improve priority habitat and recovery of Lower Hunter dry rainforest, Quambulong scribbly gum, eucalyptus largeana and regent honeyeater, in landscape conservation corridors between Mount View and Mount Vincent.  
- Improve priority habitat and recovery of eucalyptus largeana, lowland rainforest, subtropical coastal floodplain forest, red-legged pademelon and eastern chestnut mouse, in the Barrington Tops to Myall Lake biodiversity corridor. |  
- 189 ha protected under voluntary conservation agreement.  
- 189 ha terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/ rehabilitated.  
- 189 ha pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented. | Threatened Species | Improved conservation of known threatened species habitat through PVPs, and associated management actions, on grazing properties adjacent to national parks and World Heritage Areas in the Upper Hunter.  
Improved priority habitat and recovery of hooded robin, speckled warbler, brown treecreeper and regent honeyeater, in the Upper Hunter woodland bird recovery project focus area.  
Improved priority habitat and recovery of eucalyptus largeana, lowland rainforest, subtropical coastal floodplain forest, red-legged pademelon and eastern chestnut mouse, in the Barrington Tops to Myall Lake biodiversity corridor.  
Improved priority habitat and recovery of Lower Hunter dry rainforest. | 1,467 ha was protected under conservation agreements.  
1,467 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
1,339 ha of vertebrate pest animal control measures were implemented. |
| Hunter Travelling Stock Reserve Program | Travelling Stock Reserves (TSR) identified for potential SoS delivery in the Hunter region by OEH will be considered for protection and enhancement of biodiversity.  
Other priority TSRs for protection and enhancement will be identified based on regional biodiversity corridors; habitat for threatened species, populations or endangered ecological communities; and site condition and management. A previous report assessing biodiversity and optimal management in TSR in the Hunter valley will be considered.  
Planning is currently underway to identify priority TSRs for this program, with biodiversity conservation to occur in a minimum of three reserves.  
Management actions will be applied to these TSRs including fencing, weed control and pest animal control, to improve native vegetation condition, increase species diversity and promote natural regeneration. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Protect and improve the condition of medium to high conservation value native vegetation on TSRs in the Hunter region.  
- Identification of medium to high conservation value native vegetation on TSRs in the Hunter region.  
- Enhanced consideration of native vegetation protection and enhancement in the Hunter Region TSR Plan of Management. |  
- 70 ha protected under management plan.  
- 70 ha terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/ rehabilitated.  
- 70 ha pest animal control (vertebrate) measures implemented.  
- Spatial data identifying medium to high conservation value TSRs in the Hunter region. | Biodiversity Conservation | Improved protection, plus improved native vegetation condition, increased species diversity and promotion of natural regeneration has occurred on five medium to high conservation value travelling stock reserves in the Hunter region, covering 190 ha.  
This was achieved through the establishment of boundary fencing to exclude stock access, and through weed and pest animal control. | 190 ha was protected under management plan.  
112 ha was terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
97.2 ha of pest animal control measures were implemented. |
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<tr>
<td>Hunter Riparian Program</td>
<td>This program will protect and improve the management of riparian vegetation with recovery potential, in priority riparian corridors of the Paterson, Allyn, Williams, Karuah, Myall and Walls Lakes river systems. These riparian systems form major biodiversity connectivity corridors and deliver ecosystem functions, as identified in the Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Action Plan and the Australian Government funded Landscape Connectivity and Biodiversity Program in the Hunter. On-ground investment will exclude or restrict stock grazing; to facilitate revegetation through natural regeneration and planting where appropriate, while weeds and pest animals will be controlled. Implementation will be supported by landholder engagement and capacity building activities and technical support in riparian native vegetation management.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:</td>
<td>• 15 ha protected under voluntary conservation agreement.</td>
<td>Biodiversity Conservation</td>
<td>Improved condition and connectivity of riparian vegetation in the Williams River and Walls Lake tributaries, while improving downstream water quality and estuarine habitats.</td>
<td>• 131 ha was protected under voluntary conservation agreement.</td>
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<td>Hunter Estuary and Marine Program</td>
<td>This program will protect and enhance the condition of wetlands and estuarine habitats in the internationally and nationally important Myall Lakes, Hunter Estuary, Myall River, Port Stephens, Lake Macquarie and Karuah River. Actions will protect wetland and estuarine foreshore vegetation in the Karuah River from threats through fencing, stock exclusion and weed control. This will occur in partnership with Great Lakes Council who developed the catchment plan with landholders and Local Land Services. This program will enhance recovery of the coastal saltmarsh, swamp oak floodplain forest and freshwater wetlands on coastal floodplains endangered ecological communities, in addition to black bitttern, Australasian bittern and common blossom-bat. Foxes will be controlled in the Hunter estuary through a coordinated management program to reduce predation of migratory and threatened shorebirds including the little tern, pied oystercatcher and beach stone curlew. Spiny rush (Juncus acutus) will be controlled in the Hunter estuary to protect coastal saltmarsh, as it is recognised as the most serious weed threat. This will also protect habitat for Australasian bittern and white-fronted chat. Community groups in Lake Macquarie and the Lower Hunter were supported to build community capacity and increase engagement in implementing on-ground and in-water activities to address the key threatening process of entanglement in or ingestion of marine and estuarine debris. This will benefit many threatened species including Little Tern and Pied Oystercatcher.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:</td>
<td>• 7 ha protected under voluntary conservation agreement.</td>
<td>Biodiversity Conservation</td>
<td>Estuarine habitats improved in the Hunter Estuary through a coordinated program of 821 ha of pest animal control (foaxes) to reduce predation of migratory and threatened shorebirds and spiny rush control over 14.3 ha to protect coastal saltmarsh. Community groups in Lake Macquarie and the Lower Hunter were supported to build community capacity and increase engagement in implementing on-ground and in-water activities to address the key threatening process of entanglement in or ingestion of marine and estuarine debris – benefitting many threatened species including Little Tern and Pied Oystercatcher.</td>
<td>• 14.8 ha of wetland native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 15 ha of wetland native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.</td>
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<td>• 821 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures were implemented.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 80 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 14.8 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 15 ha pest plant control measures implemented.</td>
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<td>• 17 community groups or projects were assisted.</td>
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<td>• Five awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours conducted.</td>
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<td>• 47 awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours were conducted with 2,905 participants attending.</td>
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<td>• 150 participants who attend in person at field days demonstrations or study tours.</td>
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<td>• 17 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.</td>
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</table>

Comment: Additional Juncus acutus weed control in the Hunter Estuary area is contracted for delivery by end-October 2017, to ensure timing for most effective treatment. The intended output of 17 ha of wetland and estuarine foreshore vegetation protected under voluntary conservation agreement in the Karuah River was not achieved in 2016-17. There were at least 4 landholders initially interested, however these outputs were not able to be contracted during the period.
### Hunter Sustainable Land Management Program

This program is an integrated program funded by NLP, CA NSW, HCC and NSW recurrent. Hunter Local Land Services will deliver targeted biodiversity outcomes using CA NSW funds, as a component of whole of property land management practice change projects.

Riparian areas will be targeted for exclusion or restriction of stock grazing, to facilitate natural regeneration and where necessary, replanting, with weeds and pest animals controlled.

Riparian management actions will improve downstream water quality and riparian and estuarine habitats.

White box, yellow box, Blakely’s red gum woodland EEC in the Upper Hunter intersects with priority regional biodiversity corridors and investment areas identified with OEH, including the threatened woodland bird recovery project area. This vegetation will be targeted for strategic grazing management practice change for biodiversity outcomes that enhances regeneration, condition and species diversity, consistent with the recovery plan for this community.

Through this program CA NSW will co-fund a proportion of integrated strategic grazing management practice change projects that enhance box-gum woodland. CA NSW co-funding will be proportional and limited to biodiversity outcomes.

On-ground actions will be underpinned by landholder engagement and capacity building activities and technical support.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Hunter Sustainable Land Management Program | This program is an integrated program funded by NLP, CA NSW, HCC and NSW recurrent. Hunter Local Land Services will deliver targeted biodiversity outcomes using CA NSW funds, as a component of whole of property land management practice change projects. Riparian areas will be targeted for exclusion or restriction of stock grazing, to facilitate natural regeneration and where necessary, replanting, with weeds and pest animals controlled. Riparian management actions will improve downstream water quality and riparian and estuarine habitats. White box, yellow box, Blakely’s red gum woodland EEC in the Upper Hunter intersects with priority regional biodiversity corridors and investment areas identified with OEH, including the threatened woodland bird recovery project area. This vegetation will be targeted for strategic grazing management practice change for biodiversity outcomes that enhances regeneration, condition and species diversity, consistent with the recovery plan for this community. Through this program CA NSW will co-fund a proportion of integrated strategic grazing management practice change projects that enhance box-gum woodland. CA NSW co-funding will be proportional and limited to biodiversity outcomes. On-ground actions will be underpinned by landholder engagement and capacity building activities and technical support. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Improve the condition and connectivity of riparian vegetation in the Paterson, Allyn, Williams, Karuah and Manning Rivers, and Myall and Wallis Lakes tributaries.  
- Improve the condition and species diversity of Box Gum Woodland EEC in the Upper Hunter. |  
- 53 ha protected under voluntary conservation agreement.  
- 15 ha of riparian native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
- 38 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
Improved condition and species diversity of Box Gum Woodland EEC across two properties (38.13 ha) in the Upper Hunter through reduced grazing pressure and weed control. |  
- 472.8 ha was protected under a voluntary conservation agreement.  
- 84.64 ha of riparian native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
- 38.13 ha of terrestrial native vegetation Box Gum Woodland EEC in the Upper Hunter was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
- 82.8 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented. |
Hunter LLS

- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
- Threatened Species
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Native Vegetation
### Table 12: Murray budget and expenditure by project and funding theme programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Total investors</th>
<th>Total budget $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>% of Total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>Funding theme split</th>
<th>Total expenditure $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>% of Total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Funding Theme Split of Total CA NSW Expenditure</th>
<th>Over / (underspend)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ramsar and Buffer Zones Project</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>160,006</td>
<td>66,317</td>
<td>41 %</td>
<td>29,928</td>
<td>36,389</td>
<td>200,125</td>
<td>56,427</td>
<td>28 %</td>
<td>42,681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSR Enhancement and Management</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, Federal Government Biodiversity program</td>
<td>679,376</td>
<td>191,854</td>
<td>28 %</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>191,854</td>
<td>286,783</td>
<td>208,328</td>
<td>72 %</td>
<td>208,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward-Wakool System Project</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, LLS</td>
<td>448,887</td>
<td>155,300</td>
<td>35 %</td>
<td>126,586</td>
<td>28,714</td>
<td>312,532</td>
<td>142,423</td>
<td>46 %</td>
<td>12,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billabong-Yanco System Project</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, LLS</td>
<td>357,641</td>
<td>150,440</td>
<td>42 %</td>
<td>150,440</td>
<td>204,770</td>
<td>129,087</td>
<td>53,181</td>
<td>44,359</td>
<td>17,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Murray Region Project</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>406,606</td>
<td>249,129</td>
<td>61 %</td>
<td>139,818</td>
<td>330,489</td>
<td>204,770</td>
<td>62 %</td>
<td>129,087</td>
<td>22,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Connectivity Program</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, LLS</td>
<td>973,182</td>
<td>480,777</td>
<td>49 %</td>
<td>55,643</td>
<td>382,613</td>
<td>1,260,579</td>
<td>559,762</td>
<td>44 %</td>
<td>501,849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threatened and Iconic Species Program</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, LLS</td>
<td>529,731</td>
<td>382,888</td>
<td>72 %</td>
<td>337,602</td>
<td>45,286</td>
<td>341,056</td>
<td>21,321</td>
<td>41,832</td>
<td>45,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal Services</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, LLS</td>
<td>618,557</td>
<td>100,446</td>
<td>16 %</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100,446</td>
<td>251,749</td>
<td>126,122</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>126,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dustwatch</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>158,454</td>
<td>38,849</td>
<td>25 %</td>
<td>38,849</td>
<td>89,170</td>
<td>59,053</td>
<td>66 %</td>
<td>59,053</td>
<td>20,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,332,440</td>
<td>1,816,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>541,264</td>
<td>380,123</td>
<td>714,336</td>
<td>3,571,120</td>
<td>1,830,538</td>
<td>(14,538)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Murray 2016-17 program summary**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Ramsar and Buffer Zones Project   | This project builds on a long history of partnership between land managers, traditional custodians, state and federal agencies and community to enhance the ecological character of high conservation value inland riverine forests linked to the Murray region’s Ramsar-listed wetlands. This project adds value to federally-funded work conducted on the Ramsar sites themselves, with CA NSW investment focusing on native vegetation enhancement and threat reduction in the buffer zones of these important sites. Activities include:  
  * Implementing integrated pest and weed control in partnership with site managers and adjacent landholders.  
  * Raising community awareness and building community connection to natural assets, including recognition of cultural and social values.  
  * Reducing threats to and providing refuges for landscape-managed threatened species linked to inland riverine forests.  
  * Providing support and opportunity for Aboriginal people to manage Country. | Project outcomes will be:  
  * Maintenance of the ecological character of high conservation value inland riverine forests (River Red Gum dominated) adjacent to the NSW Central Murray Forests Ramsar wetlands (Murray Valley National and Regional Parks; Pericoota, Koondrook and Campbells Island State Forest; Weni Forests).  
  * Increased community awareness, involvement with and connection to high conservation value inland riverine forests.  
  * Engagement of Aboriginal people in site management and cultural connectivity.  
  * 1,000 ha wetland and floodplain vegetation actively managed on private land.  
  * Pest plant management measures implemented over 500 ha of private land.  
  * Pest animal management measures implemented over 500 ha of private land.  
  * One communication product.  
  * One awareness raising event.  
  * One Aboriginal awareness raising event. | Biodiversity Conservation  
  Aboriginal Cultural Heritage | The ecological character of the areas of high conservation inland Riverine Forests has been improved through a reduction in key threats impacting on these areas from the adjacent Ramsar wetland areas. The main threats include introduced pests such as pigs and weeds such as boxthorn. Community awareness and involvement in the value of wetlands and local significant native species has been achieved through awareness raising activities such as field days and communication materials. Engagement of Indigenous communities in project activities has continued and they have improved their skills and capacity to deliver various natural resource management focused activities | • 112.8 ha of wetlands actively managed for pests and weeds by Moama LALC.  
  • One Aboriginal engagement activity conducted.  
  • 3,900 ha of wetlands actively managed for feral pigs and deer through collaboration with NSW NPWS.  
  • 500 ha pig control on private land adjoining Millewa Forest undertaken.  
  • 25.4 ha of pest plant control implemented.  
  • Two field days were conducted.  
  • Two newspaper articles were produced on Ramsar activities.  
  • One article featured in Riverspace.  
  • Two web page articles were developed. |
| Travelling Stock Reserve Enhancement and Management | Murray Local Land Services manages more than 50,000 ha of Travelling Stock Reserves (TSR) the majority of which are medium to high conservation value. The project will provide biodiversity conservation benefits for medium to high conservation value TSR by using a mix of active management (e.g. timing of strategic grazing) and on-ground (e.g. pest control, weed control, fencing, revegetation, alternate watering points) activities. The project will allow Murray Local Land Services to continue to conservatively manage TSR using short term strategic grazing permits and traveling stock rather than long term grazing permits. | Project outcomes will be:  
  * This project will maintain and/or enhance native vegetation management and biodiversity conservation outcomes on medium to high conservation value TSRs that are not associated with a long term grazing permits.  
  * The majority of these sites include endangered ecological communities that are predominantly box gum grassy woodlands, sandhill pine woodlands or myall woodland.  
  * Up to 15,000 ha of medium to high conservation value TSRs managed to maintain and/or enhance native vegetation and biodiversity outcomes.  
  * Note: Some Aboriginal Services (e.g. sites managed on TSRs) will be delivered in other projects. | Biodiversity Conservation  
  Native Vegetation | The TSR enhancement and management project maintained and enhanced biodiversity outcomes on medium to high conservation value TSRs in the Murray region. This was achieved by the identification of Endangered Ecological Communities and medium to high conservation values TSRs via the Murray Local Land Services GIS system.  
  All on ground works were mapped from GPS locations obtained from the spraying contractor and internal staff.  
  Since 2008, the Murray Local Land Services has undertaken vegetation condition monitoring within TSRs.  
  The aim of this monitoring was to determine whether active management such as reduced grazing and weed control resulted in improved vegetation condition.  
  Within the 32 TSRs selected, 110 plots representative of the sites were monitored in 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2015.  
  We found the number of native plant species on Local Land Services TSR was significantly higher than compared to other management treatments. There was an increase in BioMetric (vegetation condition) score on 75 per cent of Local Land Services TSR in 2015. | • Strategic grazing management was implemented over approximately 4,558 ha of medium to high conservation value TSRs during 2016-17, ensuring that the ecological character of these sites was maintained and conservation outcomes were achieved.  
  • 11,967 ha of weed spraying activities concentrated on medium to high conservation value TSRs were completed.  
  • An Aboriginal cultural heritage study was conducted on a high conservation value TSR. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Edward-Wakool System Project         | This project will improve the condition and resilience of the Edward-Wakool River system to enhance its ongoing provision of ecosystem services to local communities. This project adds value to federally-funded work supporting sustainable agriculture and community engagement in natural resource management in the area, with CA NSW investment focusing on enhancing the streams, wetlands and riparian zones of the creek system itself, plus native vegetation of the surrounding areas. Activities include:  
  - Improving the condition and connectivity of native terrestrial, riparian and aquatic vegetation (protection of remnants, revegetation where appropriate, improved management including pest and weed control and strategic grazing).  
  - Exploring alternative usage and sustainable management of local vegetation and faunal resources.  
  - Supporting community to engage in environmental decision-making and building capacity for on-going active management of natural assets.  
  - Implementing robust benchmarking, monitoring and knowledge generation activities to support adaptive management. | Project outcomes will be:  
  - Improvements in the condition and resilience of the natural assets of the Edward-Wakool River system to enhance their ongoing provision of ecosystem services to surrounding communities, with natural assets including:  
    - inland floodplain woodlands (black box)  
    - riverine chenopod shrublands  
    - riverine plain grasslands  
    - inland floodplain shrublands  
    - riverine plain woodlands  
    - native fauna (e.g., Eel-tailed Catfish, Trout Cod, Murray Cod, Golden Perch).  
| 500 ha riparian and aquatic native vegetation enhanced (through direct action and improved flows).  
  - Two communication products.  
  - Two awareness raising activities.  
  - One regional riparian and aquatic health monitoring program implemented (partly delivered under Billabong-Yanco Project). | Biodiversity Conservation  
  Native Vegetation | The condition of inland floodplain woodlands and riverine plain woodlands has been improved with on-ground riparian vegetation management projects. In addition, inland floodplain woodlands, shrublands and riverine plain woodlands have improved in condition due to improved management of water flows in the system.  
  Survival of populations of native fish including Murray cod were demonstrated from collaboration to improve delivery of environmental water during hypoxic events.  
  Continued investment in monitoring of vegetation and fish populations will allow for future assessment of improvements in the condition of these assets.  
  The capacity of local communities to effectively manage these natural assets, and improve their condition into the future was increased through awareness raising events and communication products covering water quality, fish movement and community capacity building.  
  The project continues to provide forums and opportunities for community input into water management in the system.  
  Strategic activities have provided additional information for community and agencies for the long term preservation of native fish populations in the Edward-Wakool. | 107.8 ha of riparian was zone managed to reduce grazing and improve condition.  
  150 ha of riparian and aquatic vegetation on the Colligen Creek was managed through support of environmental flow delivery. Vegetation monitoring was established at four sites on the creek to measure resultant changes in vegetation condition.  
  Effects of hypoxic blackwater was mitigated at five sites through support for community aeration initiative and collaboration with key water management agencies. 20 community participants were involved in the initiative.  
  Three awareness raising events were held.  
  One community capacity building program was undertaken.  
  Two communication products were developed. |

Comment: Community capacity building activities have assisted in the building of confidence, leadership capacity and viability of local rural communities.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Billabong-Yanco System Project| This project will improve the condition and resilience of the Billabong-Yanco Creek system to enhance its ongoing provision of ecosystem services to local communities.  
The project adds value to federally-funded work supporting sustainable agriculture and community engagement in natural resource management in the area, with CA NSW investment focusing on enhancing the streams, wetlands and riparian zones of the creek system itself, plus native vegetation of the surrounding areas.  
Activities include:  
• Supporting improved flow management in the Billabong, Yanco, Colombo and Forest Creeks, and associated wetlands (e.g. Wanganella Swamp).  
• Improving the condition and connectivity of native terrestrial, riparian and aquatic vegetation (protection of remnants, revegetation where appropriate, improved management including pest and weed control and strategic grazing).  
• Exploring alternative usage and sustainable management of local vegetation and faunal resources.  
• Implementing robust benchmarking, monitoring and knowledge generation activities to support adaptive management. | Project outcomes will be:  
• Improvements in the condition and resilience of natural assets of the Billabong-Yanco Creek system to enhance their ongoing provision of ecosystem services to surrounding communities, with natural assets including:  
  - inland floodplain woodlands (black box)  
  - riverine chenopod shrublands  
  - riverine plain grasslands  
  - inland floodplain shrublands  
  - riverine plain woodlands  
  - native fauna (e.g. eel-tailed catfish, trout cod, Murray cod, golden perch, kangaroos, plains wanderer).  
• 500 ha riparian and aquatic native vegetation enhanced (through direct action and improved flows).  
• 25 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.  
• Measures implemented over 25 ha to manage total grazing pressure (including management of pest animals and native fauna).  
• Two communication products.  
• Two awareness raising activities.  
• One regional riparian and aquatic health monitoring program implemented (partly delivered under Edward-Wakool Project). | Biodiversity  
Conservation  
Native Vegetation | Baseline measurement of vegetation condition along the Billabong, Yanco and Colombo Creeks has been completed.  
Baseline fish monitoring along the Billabong, Yanco and Colombo Creeks has been completed.  
A detailed study of trout cod populations in the Yanco and Colombo creeks has been partly completed, with a recruitment study to be completed in 2018.  
Baseline monitoring of 15 wetlands within the region including fish, frogs, vegetation and carbon stores will be completed in 2018.  
The above information will allow us to assess improvements in the condition of the natural assets in the region in the future. | Interim outcomes achieved include:  
• Improved capacity to better target environmental flows to enhance floodplain wetlands and riparian vegetation into the future.  
• Increased awareness in the community of the region’s native vegetation.  
• Increased community understanding of flow management (objectives, operations and constraints) and impacts of different flow regimes on different values and ecosystem services delivered by local creeks and wetlands.  
• Increased awareness of the impact of key priority weeds.  
• Increased awareness of best practice and innovative methods to control weeds such as African boxthorn.  
• Improved ability to apply new technology to protect sensitive riparian vegetation from damage from stock.  
Developed a study into breeding and recruitment of trout cod to guide environmental watering to support breeding.  
Hosted stakeholder workshops to provide local and current information to target environmental flows and management of the system by water managers.  
Developed and began a study of wetlands in the system to allow targeting of environmental flows to be completed in 2018.  
Developed an integrated flow plan for the Billabong-Yanco.  
Grazing pressure was reduced on 17.7 ha through a trial of virtual fencing technology to investigate options for management of riparian vegetation.  
One riparian and aquatic health monitoring program was implemented.  
Six communication products were developed including fact sheets, website content and e-newsletter articles.  
Seven communication products were developed to promote the results of the virtual fencing trial including newspaper articles, social media and online videos.  
Three awareness raising activities were held including riparian vegetation field day, boxthorn control field day and weed workshop. |
### Upper Murray Region Project

**Project overview:**
This project will improve the condition and resilience of natural systems of the Upper Murray region to enhance their ongoing provision of ecosystem services to local communities.

The project adds value to federally-funded work supporting sustainable agriculture and community engagement in natural resource management in the area, with CA NSW investment focusing on enhancing stream condition, riparian vegetation, native terrestrial vegetation and threatened species and communities.

**Activities include:**
- Improving the condition and connectivity of native terrestrial, riparian and aquatic vegetation (protection of remnants, revegetation where appropriate, improved management including pest and weed control and strategic grazing).
- Acknowledging, protecting and celebrating Aboriginal cultural values and connections to Country.
- Sharing information and supporting community groups for on-going active management of natural assets.
- Reducing threats to, improving habitat for and raising awareness of, local threatened species.

**Project outcomes will be:**
- Improvements in the condition and resilience of natural assets of the Upper Murray region to enhance their ongoing provision of ecosystem services to surrounding communities, with natural assets including:
  - alpine bogs and fens
  - montane wet sclerophyll forests
  - alpine herbfields
  - subalpine woodlands
  - southern tableland dry sclerophyll forests
  - southern tableland wet sclerophyll forests
  - western slopes grassy woodlands
  - native fauna (e.g. Macquarie perch, Eastern pygmy-possum, spotted-tailed quoll, brush-tailed phascogale, Southern myotis, squirrel glider, regent honeyeater, superb parrot, painted honeyeater, powerful owl).

**Project intended outcomes:**
- 50 ha native vegetation enhanced.
- 50 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.
- 200 ha of pest animal control measures implemented.
- Two communication products.
- Two awareness raising activities.
- Two Aboriginal engagement programs.

**Project intended outputs:**
- 50 ha native vegetation enhanced.
- 50 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.
- 200 ha of pest animal control measures implemented.
- Two communication products.
- Two awareness raising activities.
- Two Aboriginal engagement programs.

**Funding theme/s:**
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Native Vegetation

**Project delivered outcomes:**
Improvements in the condition of natural assets in the Upper Murray Region were achieved by reducing the impact of key threats such as grazing, pest animals and plants.

Preventing the spread of weeds such as hawkweed and wheel cactus will significantly improve the condition of native vegetation in the Upper Murray.

Populations of Macquarie perch will be improved through ongoing work to survey and identify actions required to improve habitat for this species.

Awareness of local Aboriginal cultural heritage was increased through the development of communication materials.

**Project delivered outputs:**
- Five ha of native vegetation protected and enhanced in a project that involves collaboration with Holbrook Landcare Network.
- Two km of fencing erected along the western edge of Mannus Lake will protect six ha of riparian land and allow enhancement of the area with locally native species.
- 15 wind monitoring devices were installed to assist the NSW Hawkweed program. These devices detail location specific wind speed and direction data that is collected in areas where Hawkweed currently or historically resided. The monitoring using these devices takes in an area of approximately 15,000 ha and allows DEI and NPWS staff to better focus their surveillance and control activities.
- Three ha of wheel cactus treated with hand injection of pesticide and release of the Cochineal bug.
- Two awareness raising activities have been undertaken; a follow up to a successful wheel cactus information day was held, and an environmental photography workshop covered vegetation monitoring, specimen photography and landscape assessment.
- One research paper detailing an Aboriginal place name, was finalised and local Aboriginal groups were engaged in reviewing the information.
- One video was developed on aboriginal cultural heritage activities and shared with local school groups.
- Two surveys for threatened Macquarie perch have been undertaken on the Mannus Creek, as part of a project developed in collaboration with DPI-Fisheries.

**Comment:** Activities completed under this project show a significant degree of variance from those initially detailed in the CA NSW Business Plan. Upon review of changes to the landscape and community context early in the year, the project Steering Committee identified emerging issues of greater urgency for action than those originally proposed. Broadly, activities implemented by the project were more related to capacity building, cultural heritage and threatened aquatic fauna than the pest plant, animal and terrestrial vegetation on-ground works originally proposed. These activities are still expected to achieve the project outcome of improvements in the condition of natural assets in the Upper Murray region.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
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<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Connectivity Program</td>
<td>The program aims to improve landscape-scale vegetation cover and connectivity in Murray Region by enhancing the extent, condition and connectivity of native vegetation in priority over-cleared landscapes. The program consists of the Connected Corridors project, operation of our Seed Services unit, partnership in Holbrook Landcare’s Bushlinks and BushConnect projects, and membership of the Slopes to Summit partnership for the Great Eastern Ranges initiative. The program uses a range of delivery mechanisms and partnerships including: • protecting and enhancing remnant vegetation on private land, including EPBC-listed communities • restoring vegetation in priority areas • support for native seed collection • supporting on-going active management of native vegetation • implementation of robust monitoring programs to facilitate adaptive management.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be: • Increase in the extent, condition and connectivity of over-cleared native vegetation of priority types, such as: - riverine sandhill woodlands - riverine plain grasslands - riverine chenopod shrublands - western slopes grassy woodlands - inland floodplain shrublands - riverine plain woodlands. • Increase native faunal biodiversity at the site and landscape scale. • Increase community knowledge and skills in relation to biodiversity values of native vegetation and landscape connectivity.</td>
<td>150 ha of terrestrial native vegetation actively managed for biodiversity outcomes. • 50 ha of pest plant control measures implemented (site prep prior to revegetation and/or treatment to enhance native vegetation condition). • 50 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented (treatment to reduce impacts on revegetated areas and/or enhance native vegetation condition). • Four communication products. • Four awareness raising activities. • One regional biodiversity monitoring program. • Data contribution to OEH Native Vegetation Report Card.</td>
<td>Native Vegetation The project worked with private landholders and community groups to increase their knowledge and skills in relation to biodiversity values of native vegetation and landscape connectivity. The project involved six landholders and two community groups and all have improved their native vegetation biodiversity knowledge and skills. Projects with these landholders and community groups focused on improving the extent, condition and connectivity of over-cleared native vegetation of endangered ecological community woodlands, namely: grey box grassy woodlands, natural grasslands, weeping myall woodlands, and white box, yellow box, Blakely’s red gum woodland. Improvements in wildlife habitat condition, extent and connectivity will result from increased native faunal biodiversity at the sites and landscape scale. Biodiversity MERI undertaken by staff from the Australian National University in the Murray Local Land Services region has shown: investment by the government (interventions like those in the Landscape Connectivity program) has allowed: fencing, reduced grazing, weed and pest control, and re-establishment of understorey of remnant native vegetation. This intervention has been providing positive vegetation condition impacts for native plant species richness, mid-storey cover, groundcover - shrubs and grasses, and over-storey regeneration when compared with sites ‘grazed as usual’. Correspondingly these improving vegetation condition attributes are driving a positive response for bird diversity including birds of concern.</td>
<td>• 202.5 ha native vegetation planted/ enhanced in priority areas for habitat management on private property and local government managed roadsides. • 202.5 ha pest plant control measures implemented (102.5 ha site preparation for revegetation and 99.5 ha weed control in high conservation value remnant). • 102.5 ha of pest animal control measures implemented to reduce impacts on revegetated areas. • Four communication products (project guidelines, regional newspaper article, two e-newsletter articles). • Seven awareness raising activities including field visits and landholder engagement. • One regional biodiversity monitoring program carrying out long-term monitoring of birds, reptiles, arboreal marsupials, small mammals, vegetation extent and condition. • Seed Services unit maintained including maintenance enhancement of seed production areas; collection, treatment and storage of native seed; maintenance of business systems to support operations.</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Project title</td>
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<td>Threatened and Iconic Species Program</td>
<td>This program will enhance the viability of key populations of threatened and iconic species of the Murray region by delivering activities aligned with threatened species recovery plans and priority action statements such as: • protecting and enhancing existing habitat areas • restoring habitat in priority areas • reducing impacts of priority threats on key populations • promoting and supporting on-going active management of project sites • facilitating adaptive management of habitat areas, threats and the populations themselves • where relevant for particular species, updating SOS database. The program includes projects to support plains wanderer, bush stone-curlew, squirrel glider, southern pygmy perch and endangered frogs. Our involvement in SOS-funded projects for threatened orchids and booroolong frogs also falls under this program. The program will be delivered using a range of mechanisms including direct contracting of on-ground works, provision of grants, partnerships with community, agency and Aboriginal stakeholders, provision of technical advice and integration of resource condition data to facilitate adaptive management.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be: • Securing the long term viability of priority regional threatened and iconic species populations including the squirrel glider; southern pygmy perch and bush stone curlew. • Increasing community capacity to implement threatened species activities on private land.</td>
<td>• Four voluntary conservation agreements negotiated. • 30 ha protected by fencing specifically for significant species/ ecological community protection. • 20 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/ rehabilitated. • 10 ha of pest plant control measures implemented. • One biophysical study completed. • Two community groups/ projects supported. • Four threatened and iconic species populations supported. • Four communication products developed. • Four awareness raising activities conducted.</td>
<td>Threatened Species</td>
<td>During this period the project has: • increased key habitat areas for threatened species including southern pygmy perch and squirrel gliders • increased awareness of the impact of key priority weeds • increased landholder awareness of species requirements (e.g, aquatic vegetation, corridors, weed control) • increased community capacity to implement activities to conserve threatened species including brolga, bush stone-curlews, squirrel gliders, plains-wanderer and southern pygmy perch • surveys (research and citizen science programs) of bush stone-curlews, squirrel gliders and southern pygmy perch populations have been used to track population densities which shows some populations have increased which may be as a result of land management and threat mitigation.</td>
<td>• Four voluntary agreements entered into for squirrel glider conservation. • 32 ha was protected by fencing for significant species. • 34 ha was revegated for southern pygmy perch and squirrel gliders. • 11 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented. • One biophysical study and report was completed into bush stone-curlews in the region. • Four community groups / projects supported for bush stone-curlew, squirrel glider and brolga conservation. • Seven threatened species were supported (squirrel gliders, southern pygmy perch, bush stone-curlew, plains-wanderer, corroboree frog, flat headed galaxias and brolga). • Four communication products were produced including radio interviews, community surveys, social media posts, website updates and annual report article. • Four awareness raising activities (Rosewood Fish tank launch, Brolga workshop, Wirraminna Open Day, Wirraminna Flower Show, TSR Day, Wirraminna Wodonga School Event) were conducted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project title</td>
<td>Project overview</td>
<td>Project intended outcomes</td>
<td>Project intended outputs</td>
<td>Funding theme/s</td>
<td>Project delivered outcomes</td>
<td>Project delivered outputs</td>
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</table>
| Aboriginal Services | This project aims to engage Aboriginal people and major stakeholders (e.g. OEH), in the delivery of Aboriginal services within the Murray Local Land Services region. It will contribute to the regions whole of government approach in regard to Aboriginal cultural heritage management. It will prioritise the utilisation of the Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves (TSR) estate as the default land resource base and the other regional on ground projects to undertake and integrate the associated cultural heritage services. | Project outcomes will be:  
- To build the capacity of Local Land Services and service providers in identification, description and recording of Aboriginal sites and objects.  
- To build the capacity of Local Land Services and service providers in the protection of sites and objects associated with CA NSW funded on-ground works.  
- To provide for the protection of Aboriginal sites and objects on TSRs and/or expand the identification, description and recording of Aboriginal sites and Aboriginal objects consistent with the National Parks and Wildlife Services Act and AHMNS.  
- To support Aboriginal people to undertake natural resource management services, including training and implementation of projects such as bush regeneration, fire management, and other land management skills.  
- To build the capacity of Aboriginal people through Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALC) in natural resource planning, including identification and mapping of significant cultural landscapes, and assessment of environmental and cultural values, and input to spatial and other databases.  
- To explore opportunities to partner with other Local Land Services regions (e.g. Riverina Local Land Services) and OEH Heritage Division to co-deliver project outcomes (e.g. training in identification and mapping of significant cultural landscapes, and assessment of environmental and cultural values, and input to spatial and other databases). | Four community groups assisted to undertake cultural heritage services (e.g. training, land management, site assessments) Note: Some of the Aboriginal Sites Managed are likely to be on TSRs and co-delivered in partnership with other projects.  
- four communication products (e.g. brochures, newsletters, posters or factsheets) developed.  
- One awareness raising activity (e.g. workshops, demonstrations or field days) conducted. Note: Additional Aboriginal engagement activities will be delivered in partnership with other projects. | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage  
Biodiversity  
Conservation  
Native Vegetation  
Threatened Species  
*NOTE – the other themes will be co-contributing to the outcomes associated with this project | Murray Local Land Services partnered with Moama LALC, Albury LALC and OEH to develop a tool which identifies Aboriginal values on TSRs. This project is a pilot with the pre-assessment tool and project recommendations now needing to be considered by Murray Local Land Services to potentially inform future management of TSRs.  
Murray Local Land Services partnered with Moama LALC and the Office of Environment and Heritage to protect and care for Aboriginal cultural heritage sites for future generations. The project involves the revegetation of damaged sandhills to protect Ancestral remains and Aboriginal artefacts at the Burley Sand Mine in Berrigan.  
Murray Local Land Services provided extensive Aboriginal staff time support to a range of Aboriginal organisations within its region to promote and manage Local Land Services grants and support the capacity of the groups themselves to enable them to participate with Local Land Services activities. | Two community groups were assisted to undertake cultural heritage services (Moama and Albury LALC)  
One communication products (e.g. brochures, newsletters, posters or factsheets) developed.  
Nine awareness raising activities, workshops, demonstrations or field days were conducted. |

Comment: During the 2016-17 financial year the Aboriginal Services program at Murray Local Land Services was disrupted by a number of external and internal factors including the resignation of both the Team Leader and Manager of the Communities team reducing the internal support for the program, the lack of a functioning Aboriginal Community Advisory group (ACAG) formally known as the Murray Aboriginal Technical Working Group, recruitment of a new CEO for Moama LALC and governance issues for Albury LALC with an administrator appointed during implementation of the TSR tool project. It has also become apparent that there has been some potential cost assignment issues where planned CA outcomes during 2016-17 have been funded by NLP instead of CA. This is particularly relevant for training in the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and objects. Moving forward planning is underway to re-invigorate the program for F18 and beyond with a revised ACAG being launched during the 2nd Qtr of F18 and a partnership approach with LALCS being currently tested for support with the Aboriginal Community.
### DustWatch Project

The DustWatch project has been a major project conducted by OEH in association with four Local Land Services regions over the past seven years. It supports adaptive management (e.g. groundcover) in over-cleared landscapes, with additional benefits to soil condition. It will monitor and report on the extent and severity of wind-caused soil erosion and feed this back into prioritisation processes for revegetation projects and building landholder capacity.

This project supports our CA NSW-funded Landscape Connectivity Program and adds value to federally-funded work on sustainable Agriculture.

**Activities include:**
- dust monitoring
- field-based groundcover vegetation assessments
- management history
- remote imagery interpolation
- development of communications resources and provision of extension advice to support land managers to implement positive practice change.

**Project outcomes will be:**
- The intent of this project is to increase groundcover in priority areas of over-cleared landscapes of the following vegetation classes:
  - riverine plain grasslands
  - riverine chenopod shrublands
  - inland floodplain shrublands
  - riverine plain woodlands
- Target for improvement is 80 per cent of priority areas achieving at least 50 per cent groundcover.
- Improved soil condition in the Murray region to support restoration of critical habitat areas.
- Improved landholder awareness of links between land management practice, ground cover retention and wind erosion.

**Project outcomes will be:**
- This project is delivered in direct partnership with OEH.
- Maintenance of three DustWatch nodes by OEH and community members.
- Two roadside surveys per year comprising of 260 observation sites per survey.
- Monthly interpolation of remote imagery (12 written products).
- Provision of CSIRO fractional groundcover data collected monthly (satellite groundcover map and time series data) to be converted into a spatial product for regional farmers (12 communication products).
- Four awareness raising initiatives such as article in production advice, maps of groundcover on the Local Land Services website.
- One meeting between Local Land Services and OEH to hone strategies to achieve on-ground change.
- One awareness raising event.

**Funding theme/s**

**Biodiversity Conservation**

This project is enhancing condition of the soil resource by building land managers capacity to manage the soil for soil health and landscape outcomes.

The two components in 2016-17 were:
- DustWatch (OEH and Murray Local Land Services) identified trends in dust, groundcover and soil condition across representative agricultural land uses.
- Delivered information to support decision making for improved groundcover and soil condition outcomes. Also allowed for improved targeting of landholder capacity building activities in those areas where groundcover is not being well maintained.

At the three DustWatch sites dust was reduced relative to targets:
- at the western site (Kyalite) a total of 18 hours (target of 50 hours)
- at the central site (Deniliquin) a total of six hours (target of 40 hours)
- at the eastern site (Rand) a total of five hours (target of 30 hours).

The Summer and Autumn roadside groundcover surveys found:
- achievement of the groundcover target (ie. 90 per cent of sites above 50 per cent groundcover target)
- a slight increase in the amount of tillage observed. In the irrigation areas of the central Munr Local Land Services area, and also in the extensive cropping areas in the west.

CSIRO satellite data indicates that over the last 12 month period, we have seen 100 per cent of the Murray Local Land Services region with greater than 50 per cent ground cover. Resulting in low levels of dust recorded during the 2016-17 period.

In addition, a Nutrient Management Project was undertaken. The project increased the understanding of soil nutrient levels spatially on farm, enabling the farm manager to target nutrients to where they are needed in the landscape. (Improved management of soil health and fertiliser usage).

The Nutrient Management Project has increased landholder awareness and understanding around the importance of managing soil fertility and began building skills to interpret soil tests and plan nutrient inputs according to the outcomes they want to achieve.

Participant feedback demonstrated the greatest uptake of knowledge occurred in the use and methodology of lime in the amelioration of soil acidity.

Surveys at similar nutrient management workshops have resulted in 100 per cent of the participants more strategically applying fertiliser to optimise productive use and minimise nutrient loss.

**Project delivered outcomes**

- Maintained three citizen scientist sites, where the dust watch equipment is housed and maintained.
- Conducted a Summer (2016) and Autumn (2017) roadside surveys of 260 sites (72 properties).
- Training of staff member on interpolation of DustWatch data.
- DustWatch data interpolation conducted for the 12 month period by Local Land Services staff using OEH data.
- Training and data analysis with OEH to further develop product outputs and to enable best use of these outputs.
- 12 months of dust data supplied by OEH to support the interpretation of the CSIRO fractional groundcover data.
- Three awareness raising initiatives:
  - Awareness raising with OEH and Rice Growers Association (RGA) on development of information/best management.
  - Sending of DustWatch data including smoke data to RGA to assist in their smoke alert communiques. Practice advice on issues associated with smoke from agricultural practices (stubble burning).
  - Publication of one DustWatch article in Production Advice sent to 2,400 landholders in the region.
- A Stakeholder meeting to ensure alignment of the project with usable and effective outputs. Resulting in incorporation of DustWatch extension messages into Munr Local Land Services e newsletter — Production Advice.
- Awareness raising at three days during Henty Machinery Field Day 2016. A flyer and information on an interactive map at each of the DustWatch node locations.
- 103 participants took part in the Nutrient Management Program over a two years.
Murray project map
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Total investors</th>
<th>Total budget $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>Biodiversity conservation $</th>
<th>Threatened species $</th>
<th>Aboriginal cultural heritage $</th>
<th>Native vegetation $</th>
<th>Total expenditure $</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Funding theme split of total CA NSW expenditure</th>
<th>Over / (underspend)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Targeted capacity building and advanced MERI</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>504,680</td>
<td>275,640</td>
<td>55 %</td>
<td>137,820</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>137,820</td>
<td>857,579</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Corridor Connections</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>366,043</td>
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<td>90 %</td>
<td>165,556</td>
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<td></td>
<td>165,556</td>
<td>348,730</td>
<td>311,122</td>
<td>89 %</td>
<td>155,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration of EECs in Southern SEL</td>
<td>CA NSW, NSW ET, OEH</td>
<td>163,852</td>
<td>51,852</td>
<td>32 %</td>
<td>25,926</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25,926</td>
<td>55,133</td>
<td>47,262</td>
<td>86 %</td>
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<td>Riparian restoration and water protection of the Nambucca River</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>55,300</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>90 %</td>
<td>50,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>126,554</td>
<td>116,970</td>
<td>92 %</td>
<td>116,970</td>
<td>(66,970)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riparian restoration and rehabilitation of the Orana and Nymboida Rivers</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>384,611</td>
<td>305,556</td>
<td>79 %</td>
<td>91,111</td>
<td>122,778</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>91,667</td>
<td>661,992</td>
<td>348,995</td>
<td>53 %</td>
<td>104,699</td>
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<td>Restoration of the Richmond, Macleay (Collombatti-Clybucca) and Clarence River floodplains</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>336,100</td>
<td>311,111</td>
<td>93 %</td>
<td>174,074</td>
<td>27,407</td>
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<td></td>
<td>109,630</td>
<td>337,292</td>
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<td>Protecting riparian vegetation in Tweed, Kyogle, Lismore and Richmond Valley shires</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>120,370</td>
<td>120,370</td>
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<td>118,369</td>
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<td>112,689</td>
<td>112,689</td>
<td>95 %</td>
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<td>7,681</td>
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<td>Littoral Rainforest and riparian vegetation protection in Nambucca and Kempsey shires</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>222,222</td>
<td>222,222</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>44,444</td>
<td>177,778</td>
<td>220,005</td>
<td>206,325</td>
<td>177,778</td>
<td>206,325</td>
<td>94 %</td>
<td>165,060</td>
<td>15,897</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project title</td>
<td>Total investors</td>
<td>Total budget $</td>
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<td>% of total CA NSW funds contributed</td>
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<td>Threatened species $</td>
<td>Aboriginal cultural heritage $</td>
<td>Native vegetation $</td>
<td>Total expenditure $</td>
<td>% of total CA NSW funds expended</td>
<td>Biodiversity conservation $</td>
<td>Threatened Species $</td>
<td>Aboriginal cultural heritage $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhancing high conservation value vegetation communities in the Upper Clarence</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>88,480</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>90 %</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>87,027</td>
<td>73,578</td>
<td>85 %</td>
<td>36,789</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhancing the recovery of threatened species populations through better understanding of how to control peri-urban vertebrate pests</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>73,733</td>
<td>66,667</td>
<td>90 %</td>
<td>53,333</td>
<td>13,333</td>
<td>57,252</td>
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<td>70 %</td>
<td>32,037</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintaining and improving high conservation value aquatic ecosystems on the Clarence floodplain through cane toad control</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>55,556</td>
<td>55,556</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>55,556</td>
<td>89,561</td>
<td>85,199</td>
<td>95 %</td>
<td>85,199</td>
<td>(29,643)</td>
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<td>(29,643)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovering threatened species and ecological communities in the Port Macquarie Hastings area through deer control</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>44,444</td>
<td>44,444</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>22,222</td>
<td>22,222</td>
<td>40,046</td>
<td>40,518</td>
<td>92 %</td>
<td>20,259</td>
<td>20,259</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working on Country to protect and manage vegetation, threatened species habitats, and aboriginal sites and objects</td>
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<td>463,899</td>
<td>262,100</td>
<td>56 %</td>
<td>46,762</td>
<td>215,338</td>
<td>707,791</td>
<td>309,885</td>
<td>44 %</td>
<td>61,977</td>
<td>247,908</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protection and restoration of biodiversity values within TSAs</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>120,370</td>
<td>120,370</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>120,370</td>
<td>58,968</td>
<td>58,968</td>
<td>58,968</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>61,402</td>
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<td>2,297,000</td>
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<td>461,666</td>
<td>228,671</td>
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<td>2,293,399</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project title</td>
<td>Project overview</td>
<td>Project intended outcomes</td>
<td>Project delivered outcomes</td>
<td>Funding theme/s</td>
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</table>
| Targeted capacity building and advanced MERI to support delivery of CA NSW strategic priorities | This foundational, co-funded project consists of three components:  
1. expand existing community support services to provide advanced and complementary capacity building activities for CA NSW-funded projects  
2. continued evaluation of and refinement of North Coast Local Land Services’ biodiversity conservation prioritisation practices to maximise alignment to CA NSW Strategic Priorities  
3. continued implementation of three monitoring programs to measure the impact of CA NSW-funded interventions on threatened species and vegetation communities.  
The project stands alone as per OEH advice and contains legitimate foundational activities as expressed/identified in OEH Strategic Priority documents. | Project outcomes will be:  
• Increase the community’s capacity to participate in native vegetation, threatened species and biodiversity conservation projects.  
• Monitor and improve our biodiversity conservation prioritisation practices to ensure they align with OEH’s Priority Investment Area mapping and maximise delivery of CA NSW strategic priorities.  
• Increase our understanding of the preferred nesting habitat and vegetation structure of the eastern bristlebird in the grassy woodlands of the border ranges biodiversity corridor.  
• Increase our understanding of the populations of small mammals such as the eastern chestnut mouse and hastings river mouse in the grassy woodlands of the border ranges biodiversity corridor and their responses to targeted weed control and fire management.  
• Increase our understanding of the native species and threatened ecological communities (e.g. coastal lowlands, floodplain vegetation) that are displaced by topical soda apple invasion and identify management actions that mitigate its impact and spread. | The project delivered increased community capacity to participate in native vegetation, threatened species and biodiversity conservation projects.  
The project held capacity building events to promote methods to increase native vegetation extent and condition, revegetation, native plant species selection, weed and pest animal control techniques.  
The project improved understanding of the habitat requirements of eastern bristlebirds and the population dynamics of hastings river mouse and eastern chestnut mouse, including responses to fire and weed management, through monitoring at management sites and through educating landholders about threatened species management requirements. | Native Vegetation Biodiversity Conservation | • 200 people contributed to capacity building outcomes.  
• 20 community groups assisted with native vegetation, biodiversity conservation and threatened species projects.  
• 11 capacity building events were held.  
• 50 people participated in capacity building events.  
• 44 items were published.  
• 100 people received published items.  
• Seven monitoring projects were implemented across 27 sites.  
• One research report was completed and one biophysical study was completed. |
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Northern Corridor Connections | This co-funded project will implement landscape connectivity management actions and improve resource condition in three key corridors - central border ranges, mid-Tweed River - Cudgen coast and the Ballina estuary and coast. Project partners including local government, DEH, NPWS and LALCs will work across multiple tenures to implement recovery actions and improve habitats for up to six threatened species. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Improve the condition of native vegetation in the central border ranges, mid-Tweed and Cudgen and Richmond river catchments.  
- Undertake ecological restoration to improve connectivity in the central border ranges, mid-Tweed and Cudgen and Richmond river catchments, consistent with recovery actions in threatened species recovery plans and the Northern Rivers Biodiversity Management Plan. |  
- 16 ha native vegetation increased in condition.  
- 16 ha native vegetation with connectivity restored.  
- 16 ha native vegetation managed for pest plant impacts.  
- 37 ha native vegetation managed for pest plant animal impacts.  
- Eight voluntary landholder agreements.  
- 40 ha of land under agreement.  
- Two site-managed protecting threatened species (long-nosed potoroo and eastern chestnut mouse)  
- Three landscape threatened species protected (spotted-tailed quoll, hastings river mouse and black bittern)  
- One iconic threatened species protected (Koolga).  
- Four NSW key threatening processes abated (predation and hybridisation of feral dogs (Canis lupus familiaris), predation by the European red fox (Vulpes vulpes), predation by the feral cat (Felis catus) and invasion and establishment of exotic vines and scramblers). | Threatened Species  
Native Vegetation | The condition of native vegetation was improved in the northern corridors project area, promoting the recovery of site-managed, landscape-managed and iconic threatened species. This was achieved by managing key threats such as pest animals (key threatening process abatement) and by managing environmental weeds and fire. |  
- 100 ha of native vegetation condition was increased.  
- Six ha of native vegetation connectivity was restored.  
- 75 ha of native vegetation was managed for pest plant impacts.  
- 118 ha of native vegetation was managed for pest animal impacts.  
- Nine voluntary landholder agreements were established over 70 ha of land area.  
- Two site-managed species protected.  
- 12 Landscape-managed species protected.  
- Two iconic species protected.  
- Four NSW key threatening processes abated. |
| Restoration of Endangered Ecological Communities in the Southern Socio-ecological Landscape. | This project (with contribution from the NSW Environmental Trust Program) will support and partner with Kempsey, Nambucca and Port Macquarie Hastings councils to restore three threatened ecological communities, improve estuarine water quality and restore riparian habitat connectivity and condition. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Increase the condition of three threatened ecological communities in the Nambucca and Lower Macleay catchments:  
  - coastal saltmarsh in the NSW North Coast, Sydney basin  
  - Themeda grassland on seacliffs, coastal headlands in the NSW North Coast, Sydney basin and South East corner bioregions  
  - subtropical coastal floodplain forest of the NSW North Coast bioregion  
- Undertake ecological restoration to protect the endangered population of glycine clandestina (broad leaf form) in Nambucca local government area, a recognised recovery action in its scientific determination. |  
- 15 ha of coastal and estuarine habitat with connectivity restored.  
- 15 ha of coastal and estuarine vegetation improved in condition.  
- 15 ha of coastal and estuarine systems managed for pest plant impacts.  
- Three capacity building events.  
- 20 participants at capacity building events.  
- One threatened population (glycine clandestina) protected from pest plant impacts.  
- Three ha of a threatened population (glycine clandestina) protected from pest plant impacts. | Threatened Species  
Biodiversity Conservation | The project resulted in improved condition of threatened ecological communities on the North Coast through the management of pest plants, and improved the capacity of the community to contribute to recovery actions. |  
- 88 ha of coastal and estuarine habitat connectivity restored.  
- 206 ha of coastal and estuarine vegetation condition improved.  
- 69 ha of coastal and estuarine systems managed for pest plant impacts.  
- 13 capacity building events held with 126 participants.  
- One threatened plant population protected from pest plant impacts over three ha of land area. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
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<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Riparian Restoration and Water Protection of the Nambucca River | This co-funded project represents stage two and will implement priority riparian protection actions identified in the North Arm Reach Plan. The project will protect and restore stream bed and stream-bank structure and complexity and enhance at least two threatened ecological communities along a 40 km^2 reach of the Nambucca River. * 40 km reach is a 10 year project goal. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Increase stream bank and stream bed stability along four kilometres of the Nambucca River.  
- Increase the condition of riparian vegetation along four kilometres of the Nambucca River.  
- Reduce sedimentation and improve water quality in the Nambucca River.  
- Undertake ecological restoration to protect two endangered ecological communities (lowland rainforest on floodplain in the NSW North Coast and Sydney basin bioregion and freshwater wetlands on coastal floodplains of the NSW North Coast, Sydney basin and south east corner bioregions) and their inherent threatened species in three priority sub catchments, a key recovery action identified in their scientific determinations and recovery action statements. | • 800 m of riparian native vegetation protected by fencing.  
• Three off stream watering points installed  
• Six ha of riparian vegetation enhanced and rehabilitated  
• 500 m of stream bank stabilised  
• Number of stream bed structures to be funded in 2016-17 still to be determined  
• Three voluntary landholder agreements  
• Three ha area under landholder agreement  
• Two endangered ecological communities (lowland rainforest on floodplain in the NSW North Coast and Sydney basin bioregion and freshwater wetlands on coastal floodplains of the NSW North Coast, Sydney basin and south east corner bioregions) increased in condition. | Biodiversity Conservation | The project protected stream bank and river bed stability and improved the condition of riparian vegetation along the Nambucca River, including threatened ecological communities. The key actions were fencing, installation of off-stream watering points, and engineering works to stabilise stream beds. | *573 m of riparian vegetation protected by fencing.  
• Two off-stream watering points installed.  
• Three ha of riparian vegetation enhanced and rehabilitated.  
• 573 m of stream bank stabilised.  
• Two stream bed structures installed.  
• 15 voluntary landholder agreements over 31 ha of land area established. |
| Riparian Restoration and Rehabilitation of the Orara and Nymboida Rivers | This co-funded project will undertake riparian restoration and rehabilitation (weed control, fencing and off-stream water) to protect and enhance subtidal rainforest and the habitats of 12 threatened species. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Increase the condition of riparian vegetation along 11 kilometres of the Orara and Nymboida rivers by implementing key recovery actions for 12 threatened species (see output column for list of species).  
- Reduce sedimentation and improve water quality in the Orara and Nymboida rivers, consistent with the recovery plan for the eastern freshwater cod.  
- Undertake riparian zone ecological restoration to protect two threatened ecological communities (lowland rainforest in the NSW North Coast and Sydney basin bioregions and lowland rainforest on floodplain in the NSW North Coast and Sydney basin bioregion) and the habitats of 12 threatened species in the Orara and Nymboida catchments (as per actions identified in their scientific determinations and OEH recovery action statements). | • Seven voluntary landholder agreements.  
• 15 ha under landholder agreement.  
• 11 ha and 11 km of riparian native vegetation enhanced and rehabilitated.  
• 1.5 km riparian vegetation fenced.  
• Two off stream water points installed.  
• 20 ha riparian vegetation (including endangered ecological communities) managed for pest plant impacts.  
• 12 threatened species habitats enhanced (eastern freshwater cod, wompoo pigeon, rose-crowned fruit dove, bush hen, giant barred frog, triplarina imbricata, phylanthus microcladus, rufous bettong, black necked stork, masked owl, brush tailed rock wallaby and stuttering frog). | Biodiversity Conservation Native Vegetation Threatened Species | The project restored riparian vegetation on the North Coast, including threatened ecological communities and threatened species habitats, through control of pest plants, fencing and off-stream water point installation. | *Six voluntary landholder agreements established over 704 ha of land area.  
• 375 ha of riparian native vegetation enhanced and rehabilitated (including threatened ecological communities).  
• 56 km of riparian zone protected.  
• 5.8 km of riparian vegetation fenced.  
• Five off-stream water points installed.  
• 667 ha of riparian vegetation managed for pest plant impacts.  
• Seven threatened species habitats enhanced. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Restoration of the Richmond, Macleay (Collombatti-Clybucca) and Clarence River Floodplains | This co-funded project will implement priority management actions identified in the Coastal Zone Management Plans (CZMP) for the Richmond River, Macleay River (Collombatti-Clybucca) and Clarence estuary and will protect the habitats of three threatened bird species and three endangered ecological communities. The project also includes activities to protect the endangered Lagunaria Swamp Forest on Lord Howe Island. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Increase the condition of wetland and estuarine vegetation on the Richmond River, Collombatti –Clybucca and Clarence Estuary floodplains and the lowlands of Lord Howe Island (Lagunaria Swamp Forest).  
- Undertake ecological restoration in riparian and wetland habitats on the Richmond River Richmond River, Collombatti –Clybucca and Clarence Estuary floodplains to decrease erosion rates in the estuaries and protect the habitat of the jacana and black bittern, key actions in their threatened species recovery statements.  
- Improve hydrological and grazing regimes on the Richmond River, Collombatti –Clybucca and Clarence estuary, consistent with the recovery action statement for the black-necked stork and the Macleay River estuary CZMP. | 20 ha of wetlands increased in condition.  
Six ha wetlands with connectivity reinstated.  
30 ha estuary, wetland and riparian vegetation managed for pest plant impacts.  
Eight voluntary landholder agreements  
30 ha under landholder agreement  
Three threatened species habitats enhanced (black-necked stork, jacana, black bittern). | Biodiversity Conservation Native Vegetation Threatened Species | The project delivered improved condition of coastal zone wetlands, estuaries and riparian areas on the North Coast and Lord Howe Island, including threatened ecological communities and threatened species habitats by enhancing connectivity and managing pest plant impacts. | 115 ha of wetland condition increased.  
Eight ha of wetland connectivity reinstated.  
76 ha of wetland and riparian vegetation managed for pest plant impacts.  
Seven voluntary landholder agreements established over 172 ha.  
Three threatened species habitats enhanced.  
Three threatened ecological communities increased condition. |
| Protecting Riparian Vegetation in Tweed, Kyogle, Lismore and Richmond Valley Shires | This collaborative project will improve the condition and extent of three endangered ecological communities as well as habitat for threatened plant species including arthraxon hispidus (hairy-joint grass) and diospyros mabacea (red-fruited ebony) through weed control activities. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Increase the condition of 10 km of riparian vegetation in three priority sub catchments: upper Tweed River – Byll Creek  
- upper Clarence River – Peacock  
- upper Richmond River – Gradys Creek.  
- Undertake ecological restoration to protect three endangered ecological communities and their inherent threatened species in three priority sub catchments, a key recovery action identified in their scientific determinations and recovery action statements: white box yellow box Blakely’s red gum woodland  
- lowland rainforest on floodplain in the NSW North Coast and Sydney basin bioregion  
- grey box-grey gum wet sclerophyll forest in the NSW North Coast bioregion.  
- Implement key recovery actions for the site-managed threatened species red-fruited ebony, which include weed eradication. | 10 ha and 10 km of riparian native vegetation increased in condition.  
60 ha native vegetation (riparian, wetland and terrestrial) managed for pest plant impacts.  
One NSW key threatening process addressed (invasion and establishment of exotic vines and scramblers).  
Two site-managed threatened species protected (Diospyros mabacea and Owenia cepidora).  
One keep watch species protected (Arthraxon hispidus).  
Three endangered ecological communities increased in condition (white box yellow box Blakely’s red gum woodland, lowland rainforest on floodplain in the NSW North Coast and Sydney basin bioregion and grey box-grey gum wet sclerophyll forest in the NSW North Coast bioregion). | Native Vegetation | The project improved the condition of native vegetation in terrestrial, wetland and riparian environments on the North Coast, including threatened ecological communities and threatened species habitats.  
Pest plant management primary targeted exotic vines and scramblers (a key threatening process in NSW). | One NSW key threatening process addressed.  
Two site-managed species protected.  
One keep watch species protected.  
Three threatened ecological communities increased condition. |
<table>
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| Littoral Rainforest and Riparian Vegetation Protection in Nambucca and Kempsey Shires | This multi-tenure project will implement priority actions to protect and enhance littoral rainforest and scented acronychia populations in the Nambucca Shire and will consolidate previous investment to protect healthy riparian vegetation in Kempsey Shire from further weed incursions. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Undertake ecological restoration to protect littoral rainforest in the NSW North Coast, Sydney basin and south east corner bioregions and multiple tenures in the upper Clarence area, a key recovery action identified in its recovery action statement.  
- Increase the condition of coastal vegetation in Nambucca Shire.  
- Increase the condition of riparian vegetation in Kempsey Shire. |  
- 15 ha of coastal vegetation increased in condition.  
- 10 ha of wetland vegetation increased in condition.  
- 150 ha of riparian vegetation increased in condition.  
- 170 ha of native vegetation managed for pest plant impacts.  
- One NSW key threatening process abated (invasion of native plant communities by Chrysanthemoides monilifera (bitou bush and boneseed).  
- Two capacity building events.  
- 48 participants at capacity building events.  
- One site-managed (Acronychia littoralis) threatened species protected from pest plant impacts. | Native Vegetation Threatened Species | The project improved the condition of coastal, wetland and riparian vegetation on the North Coast, including a site-managed threatened species, by managing pest plants in the area. Control of bitou bush and boneseed (a NSW key threatening process) was a primary focus. |  
- Five ha of coastal vegetation increased condition.  
- Five ha of wetland increased condition.  
- 74 ha of native vegetation managed for pest plant impacts.  
- One NSW key threatening process abated.  
- Three capacity building events with 37 participants.  
- One site-managed threatened species protected. |
| Enhancing High Conservation Value Vegetation Communities in the Upper Clarence | This co-funded project will promote the recovery of three threatened species and two ecological communities by implementing a cross-tenure feral pig and weed management program and assist with achieving Aboriginal working on Country outcomes by providing training and employment opportunities. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Reduce vertebrate pest animal predation on three threatened species (three-toed snake-tooth skink, acronychia populations in the upper Clarence area, a key recovery action in these species recovery action statements.  
- Increase the condition of native vegetation in the upper Clarence area.  
- Undertake ecological restoration to protect two endangered ecological communities (lowland rainforest in the NSW North Coast and Sydney basin bioregions and white gum moist forest in the NSW North Coast bioregion and two threatened species (Cynanchum elegans and Mixophyes iterates) in the upper Clarence, key recovery actions identified in their recovery action statements.  
- Provide Aboriginal training and employment opportunities that lead to enhanced protection of cultural values on Country. |  
- Eight ha of riparian vegetation managed for pest plant impacts.  
- 100 ha of land managed for pest animal impacts.  
- Three voluntary landholder agreements.  
- 16 ha under landholder agreement.  
- Two Aboriginal people employed.  
- One capacity building event.  
- 10 participants at capacity building event.  
- One NSW key threatening process abated (predation, transmission by feral pigs (Sus scrofa)).  
- Two site-managed (three-toed snake-tooth skink (Coenoscincus reticulatus) and long-nosed potaroo (Peronos tridactylus)) threatened species protected from pest plant impacts.  
- One landscape threatened species protected from pest animal impacts. (squirrel glider Mixophyes iteratus). | Native Vegetation Biodiversity Conservation Aboriginal Cultural Heritage | The project recovered threatened species and threatened ecological communities through pest animal (feral pig) control and pest plant management in the upper Clarence River valley. |  
- Six ha of riparian vegetation managed for pest plant impacts.  
- 2,665 ha of land managed for pest animal impacts.  
- Three voluntary landholder agreements established over 21 ha of land area.  
- 12 Aboriginal people employed.  
- Two capacity building events with 30 participants.  
- One NSW key threatening process (feral pig) abated.  
- Two site-managed species protected from pest plant impacts.  
- One landscape-managed species protected from pest animal impacts. |
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| Enhancing the Recovery of Threatened Species Populations Through Better Understanding of How to Control Peri-urban Vertebrate Pests | This co-funded, multi tenure project will increase ecological knowledge of peri-urban vertebrate pests to better inform control programs implemented to protect threatened koala and small mammal populations. The project will continue to support Aboriginal working on Country outcomes by providing training and employment opportunities. | Project outcomes will be:  
• Reduce vertebrate pest predation and build knowledge to inform effective control programs across 50 ha of land in the peri-urban Coffs Harbour, consistent with the recovery actions in the recovery action statements for the Koala, Rufous bettong, spotted-tailed quoll and brush-tailed phascogale.  
• Provide Aboriginal training and employment opportunities that lead to enhanced protection of cultural values on Country. | Eight Aboriginal people participating.  
Three Aboriginal people employed.  
Two Aboriginal organisations engaged.  
One biophysical study across 50 ha study area and one research report prepared with Aboriginal input.  
One capacity building event.  
Seven participants at capacity building event.  
Three NSW key threatening processes abated (predation and hybridisation of feral dogs (Canis lupus familiaris), predation by the feral cat (Felis catus) and predation by the European red fox (Vulpes vulpes). | Threatened Species  
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage | The project built knowledge of vertebrate pests (NSW key threatening processes – feral dog, feral cat and red fox) and trained Aboriginal people to improve pest management outcomes for threatened species in the North Coast project area. | 22 Aboriginal people participating.  
Seven Aboriginal people employed.  
One Aboriginal organisation engaged.  
One capacity building event with 23 participants.  
Three NSW key threatening processes abated. |

| Maintaining and Improving High Conservation Value Aquatic Ecosystems on the Clarence Floodplain through Cane Toad Control | This project will build on an established, collaborative 2015-16 project which involved containment, collection and surveillance of cane toads in the lower Clarence to minimise and prevent the spread of toads into the adjacent high conservation value aquatic ecosystems wetland complexes and national park estate. | Project outcomes will be:  
• Protect 120 ha of the high conservation value aquatic ecosystems on the Clarence floodplain from the impacts of cane toads.  
• Reduce predation of native species and competition from cane toads by implementing a community-based, multi-tenure control program, consistent with actions identified in the invasion and establishment of the cane toad key threatening process. | 120 ha of land subjected to pest animal control.  
5,000 cane toads destroyed.  
One NSW key threatening process abated (invasion and establishment of the cane toad, Bufo marinus).  
50 ha of threatened species habitat protected from cane toad invasion (wallum froglet (Crinia tinnula), green and golden bell frog (Litoria aurea). | Native Vegetation | The project implemented cane toad control (a NSW key threatening process) to reduce predation pressure on native species on the Clarence River floodplain. | 188 ha of land subjected to pest control.  
8,995 cane toads destroyed.  
One NSW key threatening process abated.  
1 threatened species habitat protected from cane toad invasion. |
<table>
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</table>
| Recovering Threatened Species and Ecological Communities in the Port Macquarie Hastings Area through Deer Control | This project will assist with the recovery of at least six threatened species and two ecological communities in the Port Macquarie Hastings area by implementing a community-based, multi-tenure deer management program. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Improve the condition of native vegetation across 100 hectares of land in the Port Macquarie Hastings area.  
- Reduce herbivory and degradation of native vegetation across 100 ha of land in the Port Macquarie Hastings area by implementing a community-based, multi-tenure control program, consistent with actions identified in the herbivory and degradation by feral deer key threatening process. | - 100 ha of native vegetation managed for pest animal impacts / control.  
- One NSW key threatening process abated (herbivory and degradation by feral deer).  
- Two site-managed threatened species protected from pest animal impacts (metaleuca bicornixa and allocasuarina defungens).  
- 50 ha site-managed threatened species habitat protected from pest animal impacts.  
- Four landscape threatened species protected from pest animal impacts (wallum froglet, eastern grass owl, grey-headed flying fox, black-necked stork).  
- 50 ha landscape threatened species protected from pest animal impacts.  
- Two endangered ecological communities managed for pest animal impacts (littoral rainforest in the NSW North Coast, Sydney basin and south east corner bioregions and freshwater wetlands on coastal floodplains of the NSW North Coast, Sydney basin and south east corner bioregions). | Native Vegetation Threatened Species | The project improved vegetation condition on the North Coast by reducing grazing pressure from feral deer (a NSW key threatening process) to protect threatened species and threatened ecological communities. |  
- 683 ha of native vegetation managed for pest animal impacts.  
- One NSW key threatening process abated.  
- Two site-managed species protected from pest animal impacts across 50 ha of habitat area.  
- Four landscape-managed species protected from pest animal impacts across 50 ha of land area.  
- Two threatened ecological communities managed for pest animal impacts.  

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| Working on Country to Protect and Manage Vegetation, Threatened Species Habitats, and Aboriginal Sites and Objects | This co-funded, multi-tenure project will build the capacity of Aboriginal people to plan for and implement natural resource management on Country. The project will employ Aboriginal people and support new and established Green Teams to work on Country to protect and manage vegetation, threatened species habitats, aboriginal sites and objects. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Increase Aboriginal engagement, capacity participation and employment in working on Country.  
- Increase the condition of native vegetation on Aboriginal lands across the North Coast Local Land Services region.  
- Undertake ecological restoration of littoral rainforest in the NSW North Coast, Sydney basin and south east corner bioregions and its inherent threatened species habitats, consistent with recovery actions listed in their recovery action statements.  
- Increase the protection and recording of Aboriginal sites and objects consistent with the National Parks and Wildlife Service Act and Aboriginal heritage information management system. |  
- 35 Aboriginal people participating.  
- Eight Aboriginal people employed.  
- Four Aboriginal organisations engaged.  
- Four capacity building events.  
- 40 participants at capacity building events.  
- Three voluntary landholder agreements.  
- 20 ha under landholder agreement.  
- 20 ha of native vegetation (mix of coastal, riparian and terrestrial) increased in condition.  
- 20 ha of native vegetation (mix of coastal, riparian and terrestrial) protected from pest plant impacts).  
- Eight ha of threatened ecological communities protected and restored (littoral rainforest in the NSW North Coast, Sydney basin and south east corner bioregions).  
- Three ha of threatened species habitat protected and restored (spotted-tailed quoll).  
- One landscape threatened species protected (spotted-tailed quoll). | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Biodiversity Conservation | The project implemented natural resource management on Country on the North Coast to protect native vegetation, threatened species habitats and culturally important Aboriginal sites and objects. |  
- 50 Aboriginal people participating.  
- 10 Aboriginal people employed.  
- Two Aboriginal organisations engaged.  
- Two capacity building events with 29 participants.  
- Two voluntary landholder agreements covering 27 ha of land area.  
- 14 ha of native vegetation increased condition.  
- 49 ha of native vegetation protected from pest plant impacts.  
- 28 ha of threatened ecological communities protected.  
- Three ha of threatened species habitat protected and restored.  
- 1 landscape-managed species projected. |
| Protection and Restoration of Biodiversity Values within Travelling Stock Reserves (TSR) | This project will identify un-leased TSRs in the North Coast region and implement on ground work activities to protect and restore their biodiversity and native vegetation values and assets. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Identify and increase our understanding of TSRs in our region and their inherent biodiversity and native vegetation values and assets.  
- Prioritise our investment to ensure the values of the TSRs are maintained.  
- Undertake ecological restoration on TSRs to maintain and improve their identified biodiversity and native vegetation values and assets. |  
- 10 ha of native vegetation (mix of coastal, riparian, wetland and terrestrial) increased in condition and managed for pest plant impacts.  
- Five ha of native vegetation fenced to protect native vegetation. | Biodiversity Conservation | The project has implemented ecological restoration in key areas of North Coast TSRs. |  
- 137 ha of native vegetation increased in condition.  
- 137 ha of native vegetation protected from pest plant impacts.  
- 28 ha of native vegetation protected by fencing. |
### Table 16: North West budget and expenditure by project and funding theme programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Total investors</th>
<th>Total budget $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>Funding theme split</th>
<th>Total expenditure $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Funding theme split of Total CA NSW expenditure</th>
<th>Over / (under)spend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gomeroi Site protection and knowledge keeping project</td>
<td>CA NSW, LLS (not including NLP)</td>
<td>332,527</td>
<td>250,610</td>
<td>75 %</td>
<td>Biodiversity conservation $</td>
<td>250,610</td>
<td>214,039</td>
<td>214,039</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>214,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targeted Threatened Species program</td>
<td>CA NSW, LLS (not including NLP)</td>
<td>442,288</td>
<td>289,478</td>
<td>65 %</td>
<td>Threatened species $</td>
<td>289,478</td>
<td>289,478</td>
<td>289,478</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>289,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rangeland Groundcover Program</td>
<td>CA NSW, LLS (not including NLP)</td>
<td>378,103</td>
<td>312,493</td>
<td>83 %</td>
<td>Aboriginal cultural heritage $</td>
<td>312,493</td>
<td>311,543</td>
<td>311,543</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>311,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Regional Vegetation Communities managed for improved condition</td>
<td>CA NSW, LLS (not including NLP)</td>
<td>424,678</td>
<td>336,788</td>
<td>79 %</td>
<td>Native vegetation $</td>
<td>336,788</td>
<td>373,398</td>
<td>373,398</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>373,398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prioritisation for Biodiversity values and Native Vegetation investment</td>
<td>CA NSW, LLS (not including NLP)</td>
<td>265,289</td>
<td>193,635</td>
<td>73 %</td>
<td>Biodiversity conservation $</td>
<td>193,635</td>
<td>193,635</td>
<td>193,635</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>193,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting high and/or medium conservation value TSRs from biodiversity decline</td>
<td>CA NSW, LLS (not including NLP)</td>
<td>378,600</td>
<td>306,100</td>
<td>81 %</td>
<td>Threatened species $</td>
<td>306,100</td>
<td>307,080</td>
<td>307,080</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>307,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Riverine Program</td>
<td>CA NSW, LLS (not including NLP)</td>
<td>341,000</td>
<td>260,000</td>
<td>76 %</td>
<td>Aboriginal cultural heritage $</td>
<td>260,000</td>
<td>260,000</td>
<td>260,000</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>260,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity and Landuse Education Program</td>
<td>CA NSW, LLS (not including NLP)</td>
<td>167,792</td>
<td>93,896</td>
<td>56 %</td>
<td>Native vegetation $</td>
<td>93,896</td>
<td>93,896</td>
<td>93,896</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>93,896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2,730,277</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,043,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>659,996</strong></td>
<td><strong>289,478</strong></td>
<td><strong>250,610</strong></td>
<td><strong>842,916</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,043,070</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,043,070</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comment: $316,610 was authorised to be taken from the Gomeroi Program under the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage theme and moved to the Priority Regional Vegetation Communities Program under the Native Vegetation theme. Total CA NSW funding amount for 2016-17 for North West LLS was $2,270,000 - 90 % of $2,043,000 as above was put to on ground programs and 10 % of $227,000 was administration component - this was overspent by $3,105.24. Total overspend for North West LLS was $3,175.47 (on ground $70 / Admin $3,105).
### Table 17: North West Programs and Projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity and Landuse Education Program</td>
<td>10 biodiversity education activities completed.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:</td>
<td>• 10 biodiversity and landuse activities.</td>
<td>Biodiversity Conservation</td>
<td>Evidence demonstrates almost all target audience participants have an improved understanding of environmental services and methods to identify, maintain and improve biodiversity. Evidence also shows a significant increase in willingness to undertake these improvements. Activities brought individuals many of whom were isolated, and those who do not normally mix together to exchange ideas, debate and inspire one another, strengthening social and environmental outcomes. Resultant networks were established and understanding of biodiversity improved. Groups and individuals have then gone on to undertake protection of remnant vegetation areas. Aboriginal cultural site protection work, on-going cultural knowledge sharing activities, and exchange of information beyond the 350 target audience which participated. These subsequent activities and consequences have resulted in improved landscape management and ongoing improvements in biodiversity protection.</td>
<td>• 11 activities were undertaken which resulted in 11 print or TV media outputs, more than 1,300 were reached on social media and 350 target audience participated. The 11 activities consisted of: • Two on water riverine activities: Peel Safari, Quipoly Safari. • Three special place packs -local icon areas field days: Black Jack, Terry Hie Hie, Mosquito Creek. • One multi schools field day near Boggabri, five subsequent two hour tutorials (Tamworth, Manilla, Gunnedah, Narrabri, Wee Waa), one Judging (Gunnedah) and one ceremony (Tamworth). • Two environmental monitoring and native vegetation identification field days. Bingara and Hanging Rock. • Two catchment function field days (Wee Waa and Walgett).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gomeroi Site Protection and Knowledge Keeping</td>
<td>10 Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage sites protected. 20 on country knowledge keeping activities (min 75 participants).</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:</td>
<td>• Number of participants to be at least 75 Aboriginal people participating in sustainable natural resource management and site protection. • 10 Aboriginal cultural sites of significance protected. • 20 awareness raising events. • Four media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or other media.</td>
<td>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage</td>
<td>There has been an increase in interest in protection of cultural sites through on-country visits and other activities. There has been increased interest and understanding of Aboriginal culture by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community members through sharing activities presented by Local Aboriginal Land Council in appropriate ways. There has been increased participation of Aboriginal people participating in making decisions and working to protect sites of cultural heritage significance. Because knowledge is being shared and sites protected, the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community have an improved understanding of culture and an on-going will to continue to re-discover and protect sites, interrogate cultural practices, knowledge and traditions. At least four newspaper stories resulting from the program were published.</td>
<td>• More than 200 Aboriginal people participated in knowledge transfer events, community consultation, protection planning, decision making and on-ground site protection works. • 10 Aboriginal cultural sites of significance were protected. - three sites at Maree/Terry Hie Hie - three sites at Narrabri - two sites at Walhallow - two sites at Tamworth. • 20 knowledge transfer activities were undertaken. • Four media releases were published (Boundary Rock, Angledool, Terri Hie Hie and Dungaleer).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project title</td>
<td>Project overview</td>
<td>Project intended outcomes</td>
<td>Project intended outputs</td>
<td>Funding theme/s</td>
<td>Project delivered outcomes</td>
<td>Project delivered outputs</td>
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</table>
| Prioritisation for Biodiversity Values and Native Vegetation Investment | Two strategic native vegetation knowledge products developed. | Project outcomes will be: | Deliver two strategic knowledge products related to native vegetation distribution across the North West region. | Native Vegetation | The regional vegetation communities (RVC) data that was compiled in 2014 has been used as a key biodiversity asset as well as a basis for identifying other biodiversity values such as local habitat links, landscape corridors, endangered ecological communities and threatened species. | • Revisited previous monitoring transects targeting objectives from the National Recovery Plan including:  
  - Determine whether the booroolong frog is continuing to decline across its range.  
  - Determine the ability for booroolong frog populations to recover from stream drying.  
  - Determine the booroolong frog population and habitat response to riparian protection and restoration.  
  - Determine the species distribution in areas that have not been the focus of targeted surveys.  
  - North Pilliga Site for koala, barking owl, glossy black cockatoo and Pilliga outwash wetlands  
  - 1,23 ha of habitat was improved including terrestrial and riparian habitat along creeks as well as some shelter/shade and food plantings.  
  - Activities targeted to improve vegetation condition, groundcover retention, and invasive pest and weed management.  
  - Activities have contributed to the enhancement of habitat and reduced the number and impact of threatening processes of the named threatened species to contribute to the population viability for the next 100 years.  
  - Engagement activities included: the North Pilliga workshop, The North West Plains Sustainability Group field day, Gunnedah Koala Plan information session and Cuttabri weeds and threatened species information session have improved awareness, capacity and skills of empowered land managers and community groups to undertake natural resource management activities. |
| Targeted Threatened Species Program | This project will target up to three save our species unfunded projects within the site managed. Species will be prioritised and identified by an OEH and North West Local Land Services working group. Site and species include:  
  - Gunnedah socio-ecological landscape for koala  
  - Cockburn River site for booroolong frog  
  - North Pilliga site for koala, barking owl, glossy black cockatoo and Pilliga outwash wetlands. Key threats to the prioritised species will be addressed using an integrated approach of monitoring, protection, management and restoration activities. Activities will be targeted according to proposed save our species management actions for identified sites and species. | Project outcomes will be: | To enhance/rehabilitate the habitat of the named threatened species to contribute to the population viability for the next 100 years.  
  - Reduction in the number and impact of threatening processes on regional threatened species populations and habitats.  
  - Improvements in the awareness, capacity and skills of empowered land managers and community groups to undertake natural resource management activities. | | • 50 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced or rehabilitated.  
  - Five ha of riparian native vegetation enhanced or rehabilitated.  
  - Five ha protected by fencing specifically for significant species/ecological community protection.  
  - Three media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.  
  - One training session, workshop, seminar or skills training event conducted.  
  - 10 participants attending the training session, workshop, seminar or skills training event. | • 70 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced or rehabilitated.  
  - 117 ha of riparian native vegetation was enhanced or rehabilitated.  
  - 64 ha was protected by fencing specifically for significant species/ecological community protection.  
  - Three media opportunities resulted in articles in newspapers or on radio or television.  
  - Four training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events were conducted at North Pilliga, Walgett, Gunnedah and Cuttabri.  
  - 80 participants attended the training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Rangeland Groundcover Program                     | This on-ground program will improve the condition and protect regionally prioritised threatened or endangered ecological communities within the Darling Riverine plains and Brigalow belt south bioregions by addressing key threats including grazing by herbivores. This program will deliver installation of total grazing pressure fencing to manage total grazing pressure and reduce threats via competition, particularly of unmanaged goats. By using fencing to restrict unmanaged systems and controlling the numbers of all large grazing animals, landholders can control pressure on grass, herbs and other plants, such as edible shrubs. Excluding all grazing animals for rest periods will also improve native vegetation regeneration, promoting the maintenance and recovery of native species and ecological communities that are affected by competition and land degradation. | - Protect and improve native vegetation by managing landscapes in the Darling Riverine plains bioregion.  
- Prevent unmanaged goats occupying new areas and eradicating unmanaged goats from high conservation areas of prioritised threatened or endangered ecological communities.  
- Improved condition of ecological communities affected by competition and land degradation by all large grazing animals. | Native Vegetation  
5,000 ha of terrestrial native vegetation protected by fencing.  
5,000 ha of pest animal (vertebrates) control measures implemented.  
One awareness raising event such as a demonstration, field day or study tour conducted.  
15 participants who attend the awareness raising event.  
Two media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created. |  
- 5,392 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was protected by fencing.  
- 5,392 ha of pest animal (vertebrates) control measures were implemented.  
- One awareness raising event was held at Wee Warra.  
- 15 participated the awareness raising event at Wee Warra.  
- Two media opportunities resulted in articles in newspapers or on radio or television. |
| Priority Regional Vegetation Communities Managed for Improved Condition | The program will improve the condition of Priority regional vegetation communities identified as threatened or endangered ecological communities within the North West Local Land Services region by reducing the impact of non-declared key emerging and high priority widespread invasive species through invasive weed control as identified in the North West Local Land Services Invasive Species Prioritisation Report 2015. This will be achieved through on-ground interventions including:  
- On-ground control programs for key emerging and high priority widespread invasive species where interventions are technically and economically feasible.  
- Installation of fencing to manage strategic livestock grazing to increase species richness and diversity and to encourage regeneration to improve condition, species diversity and connectivity.  
- Installing additional watering points to control grazing by livestock, herbivores and pest animals.  
- Opportunity costs met for grazing exclusion periods. This program will also aim at increasing the awareness and capacity of stakeholders to value native vegetation and the key threatening processes such as key emerging and high priority widespread invasive species impacting on priority biodiversity assets. | Project outcomes will be:  
- To improve the condition of priority vegetation communities by reducing the impact of non-declared key emerging and priority widespread invasive species on threatened and endangered ecological communities in North West Local Land Services region. | Native Vegetation  
500 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
One awareness raising event such as demonstration, field day or study tour conducted.  
15 participants who attended the awareness raising event such as demonstration, field day or study tour.  
Two media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created. |  
- 3,466 ha of priority vegetation communities including:  
  - snow gum – black sally grassy woodlands  
  - New England peppermint grassy woodlands  
  - box – gum grassy woodlands  
  - white box grassy woodland  
  - weeping myall woodland  
  - coolibah – poplar box – belah woodlands on floodplains  
  - Brigalow – belah woodland  
  - And some intergrade with Blakely’s Red gum. By reducing the impact of non-declared key emerging and priority widespread invasive species and other threatening processes on threatened and endangered ecological communities in North West Local Land Services region. Improved condition of 30 ha of priority vegetation communities including box – gum grassy woodlands and white box grassy woodlands through revegetation of threatened and endangered ecological communities in the North West Local Land Services region. Partnership with Friends of Moree Regional Botanic Gardens for threatened ecological communities event in Moree with 15 participants raised awareness and knowledge to establish threatened ecological communities. Supported the North West tree give away which promoted the benefits of native vegetation by offering free native plants to 50 community members/landholders living in the north-west or northern slopes of NSW and educated participants on best methods for establishment and maintenance of plants to maximise survivability and retention in the landscape. |  
- 3,466 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
- 30 ha was planted to terrestrial native species.  
- Two awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours were conducted at the Moree Botanic Garden Group and through the North West tree give away.  
- 65 participants who attended the awareness raising events.  
- Two media opportunities resulted in articles in newspapers or on radio or television. |
<table>
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<tr>
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</table>
| Protecting High and Medium Conservation Value Travelling Stock Reserves from Biodiversity Decline | Many of the TSRs in the North West Local Land Services region contain the last remaining regionally significant connective remnants of endangered ecological communities in the region. Ecological surveys conducted on TSRs have revealed the quality and structural complexity of the vegetation communities (medium ranked TSR) have been impacted by previous management decisions. This program will look at addressing these issues through works and improved management regimes. The program will also support high quality TSRs which need specific management to support environmental outcomes. The TSRs supported through this program will not be subjected to long term grazing leases for the 2016-17 funding year. | Project outcomes will be:  
• To enhance/rehabilitate TSRs of high and/or medium conservation as identified in the North West Local Land Services TSR Ecological Assessment and Prioritisation Report 2015, through the management of livestock grazing and invasive species. | 450 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• Two media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.  
• 450 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented. | Biodiversity Conservation | Seven TSRs, covering 1,899 ha considered to have high conservation value and located at important strategic locations for biodiversity were identified and included into a memorandum of understanding to cover the future direction, responsibilities and activities to be undertaken to achieve the following outcomes:  
• improved connectivity between remnant vegetation through revegetation.  
• improved condition of threatened species habitat.  
• improved condition of threatened ecological communities.  
• invasive weeds and pests controlled to reduce impact upon threatened species, threatened ecological communities.  
Outcomes have been achieved through the delivery of activities including:  
• Revegetation involving direct seeding, planting seedlings and installation of signage and monitoring equipment.  
• Livestock exclusion or strategic grazing and installation off-stream watering involving fencing, pumps, piping, tanks, troughs, non-issuance of grazing permits and installation of signage and monitoring equipment.  
• Weed control involving chemical application, manual removal of weeds, distribution of bio-control agents and installation of signage.  
• Pest animal control, flora and fauna monitoring involving spotlighting, wildlife cameras, ecological surveys, trapping and other wildlife recordings methods.  
• Installation of nest boxes involving constructing boxes in trees for threatened species including the little lorikeet, turquoise parrot and brown tree creeper and installation of other forms of habitat such as dead and fallen timber, and monitoring fauna residence. | 1,899 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• Two media opportunities resulted in articles in newspapers or on radio or television.  
1,899 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures were implemented. |
| Priority Riverine Program | This program will continue the investment into the priority riparian values of the North West. The aim of the program is to enhance/rehabilitate priority riparian vegetation in the North West Local Land Services region as identified in the North West Local Land Services Biodiversity Prioritisation Plan 2015. This will be achieved through 10 year voluntary agreements with private landholders to implement eligible on-ground works. We expect to contract a minimum of six landholders to achieve a minimum 16 km river reach (32 km stream bank length) target. The on-ground works that will be funded to enhance/rehabilitate priority riverine vegetation will include:  
• On-ground control programs for key invasive species where interventions are technically and economically feasible.  
• Installation of fencing to manage strategic livestock grazing to increase species richness and diversity and to encourage regeneration to improve condition, species diversity and connectivity.  
• Installing additional watering points to control grazing by livestock, herbivores and pest animals.  
Management of fallen and dead timber and installation of habitat boxes (bird, bat etc.) where appropriate. | Project outcomes will be:  
• To enhance/rehabilitate 16 km of priority riparian reach through 10 year voluntary agreements with private landholders to implement eligible on-ground works. | 32 km of stream bank length of riparian vegetation enhanced rehabilitated.  
• One awareness raising event such as a demonstration, field day or study tour conducted.  
• 15 participants attending the awareness raising event.  
• Two media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created. | Biodiversity Conservation | The project resulted in the enhancement and rehabilitation of 24 km of priority riparian reach through 10 year voluntary agreements with private landholders to install fencing to manage livestock access and grazing and to encourage regeneration to improve condition, species diversity and connectivity. The project supported the changing face of the peel project which included research and interpreting stories with accompanying artworks based on historical legends and histories of the Peel River. This collaborative process partnered artists, including indigenous artists with historians and storytellers to produce high-quality artistic outcomes and education opportunities. This project was successful in raising awareness and education of river management. Gomeroi Galli (Peel River) and Walgett Kayak Adventure educated community members about culture and country and river health with 34 participants involved in the events. | 48 km of stream bank length of riparian vegetation was enhanced or rehabilitated.  
• Three awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours were conducted.  
• 34 participants attended the three awareness raising events.  
• Two media opportunities resulted in articles in newspapers or on radio or television. |
North West project map

REFERENCE

NORTH WEST LLS REGION

On ground activity:
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Protected
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Native Vegetation
- Threatened Species

Capacity building activity:
- Gomeroi On Country Knowledge Keeping
- Biodiversity and Landuse Education

Map created by: Rajendra Shilpakar - NW LLS, Date: July 2017
Purpose: CANSW Annual Reporting 2016/2017

Limitation: This map can be used as a reference only. It is not suitable for actual measurement of project features as a polygon area or width of line features, as they are exaggerated for display purpose.
### Table 18: Northern Tablelands budget and expenditure by project and funding theme programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Total investors</th>
<th>Total budget $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>% of Total CA NSW Funds contributed</th>
<th>Total expenditure $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Funding theme split of total CA NSW expenditure</th>
<th>Over / (underspend)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal, culture and environment</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP (recurrent)</td>
<td>482,752</td>
<td>190,786</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>190,786</td>
<td>366,944</td>
<td>190,829</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>190,829</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trees on farms</td>
<td>CA NSW Cat 3 - Biolinks, NLP (recurrent)</td>
<td>1,018,908</td>
<td>420,241</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>420,241</td>
<td>1041,404</td>
<td>419,943</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>419,943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New England and Northwest Seedbank</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>95,090</td>
<td>95,090</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>95,090</td>
<td>94,455</td>
<td>94,455</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>94,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Tablelands Turtle Watch</td>
<td>CA NSW Cat 3 - Turtles Forever</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>161,051</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Tablelands Koala habitat project</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>27,326</td>
<td>27,326</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>27,326</td>
<td>33,000</td>
<td>33,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>33,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threatened species partnerships</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>309,988</td>
<td>284,445</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>284,445</td>
<td>340,524</td>
<td>288,012</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>288,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Tablelands land of prey project</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>17,900</td>
<td>17,900</td>
<td>149%</td>
<td>17,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection of upland wetlands of the drainage divide of the New England Tablelands bioregion</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP (recurrent)</td>
<td>88,953</td>
<td>63,316</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>63,316</td>
<td>88,000</td>
<td>63,000</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>63,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating, protecting and maintaining riparian corridors</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP (recurrent)</td>
<td>483,242</td>
<td>304,861</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>304,861</td>
<td>521,788</td>
<td>305,128</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>305,128</td>
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<tr>
<td>Granite Borders community driven biodiversity enhancement project</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>81,977</td>
<td>81,977</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>40,989</td>
<td>40,989</td>
<td>86,578</td>
<td>86,578</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native vegetation awareness and legislation extension</td>
<td>CA NSW (recurrent)</td>
<td>334,297</td>
<td>61,473</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>61,473</td>
<td>225,557</td>
<td>60,697</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>60,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting native vegetation and biodiversity – partnership project</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP (recurrent)</td>
<td>161,466</td>
<td>102,471</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>102,471</td>
<td>237,376</td>
<td>102,150</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>102,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSR High conservation value vegetation management</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, TSR revenue</td>
<td>527,974</td>
<td>161,239</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>141,239</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>497,320</td>
<td>161,217</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSR weeds program</td>
<td>CA NSW, NSW Weeds Action Program, TSR revenue</td>
<td>154,400</td>
<td>42,771</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>42,771</td>
<td>189,344</td>
<td>41,711</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>41,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,800,373</td>
<td>1,859,996</td>
<td>550,405</td>
<td>378,542</td>
<td>190,786</td>
<td>740,264</td>
<td>3,895,343</td>
<td>1,876,620</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 19: Northern Tablelands programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal, Culture and Environment</td>
<td>Increasing the capacity of Aboriginal people to manage their own land and disseminate traditional ecological knowledge is the focus of this program. Catchment Action funding will be used for the following projects with the starting point a partnership between Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and OEH. The ARAG will meet four times a year to provide guidance on environmental and Aboriginal cultural practices affecting Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people across the region. This will include training in natural resource management and Aboriginal site assessment. ARAG represents the Local Aboriginal Lands Councils (LALC’s) within the region, and are an effective conduit for achieving positive environmental and Aboriginal cultural outcomes on Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal owned land. The ARAG will develop six fact sheets on traditional ecological knowledge that can be used by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to achieve environmental outcomes. At least three training programs will be run in natural resource management and Aboriginal site assessments. Training in natural resource management will be delivered by a staff member from Northern Tablelands Local Land Services funded through Catchment Action. This project will also provide financial incentives to implement actions on at least 1,000 hectares of Aboriginal owned land, achieving positive environmental outcomes and protection of Aboriginal sites. Local Aboriginal people will be able to undertake Aboriginal site assessments on their own land in addition to working with Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and OEH in assessing and protecting Aboriginal cultural values on travelling stock reserves (TSRs). Project outcomes will be:</td>
<td>Four awareness raising events.</td>
<td>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage</td>
<td>This project has built on the work that has been undertaken by Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and the regional Aboriginal community over the past three years. The focus for the past 12 months has been on increasing the skills of Aboriginal people through training that focused on the identification of Aboriginal sites along with modern and traditional methods of natural resource management. The Aboriginal Reference Advisory Group acted as a conduit to the Aboriginal community as well as providing advice to the Board and developed the following fact sheets: Looking Aboriginal our Aboriginal Cultural Heritage; the Aboriginal Reference Advisory group; Aboriginal Totems and what they mean to Aboriginal people (NRMA); Collection of Publications promoting Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and NRMA Aboriginal Traditional Fire Burns and how this tool can be used across the Northern Tablelands and Inglebauley Territory (Amaroo LALC) – Promoting the property from a cultural heritage and NRMA perspective. These fact sheets are available across the region. Importantly this year marked the tenth anniversary of the Aboriginal Reference Advisory Group. The coming year will see a more strategic approach to ARAG. It is important that this group continues to grow and contribute both to the Aboriginal community and Northern Tablelands Local Land Services. Fourteen Aboriginal people successfully completed Certificate III Aboriginal site management. This course was delivered over seven months involving a three day workshop every month. Participants were required to complete practical and theoretical work. This qualification provides a group of Aboriginal people that NT Local Land Services and other organisations can use to undertake site assessments. Aboriginal people are also being provided with training in traditional burning methods along with farm planning. Glen Innes Local Aboriginal Lands Council will implement the work from farm plan training on a property known as The Willows. This will deliver over 2,000 ha that is managed for an improvement in environmental condition. An Aboriginal site assessment, along with fauna and flora surveys, will guide the development and implementation of agricultural enterprises that will provide an income along while still maintaining the natural environment. Training in traditional burning techniques has given Aboriginal people across the region opportunities to participate in and implement one of the oldest and most well known traditional methods of improving landscape health. Traditional markers or landscape changes are used to identify the most effective time to burn to assist in weed control and promote the regeneration of native species.</td>
<td>• Eight awareness raising events occurred, which included ARAG meetings along with training and consultation with the Aboriginal community. • 183 participants attended the eight awareness raising events. • Six fact sheets were developed by the ARAG. • Two media opportunities resulted in articles in newspapers or on radio or television. • 23 workshops were conducted involving 111 participants. • 2,416 ha was managed for improved terrestrial native vegetation. • 300 ha of Aboriginal cultural values was managed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project title</td>
<td>Project overview</td>
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<td>Project intended outputs</td>
<td>Funding theme/s</td>
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| Trees on Farms | This program follows on from the successful 2015-16 Trees on Farms project which enabled private action for public benefit. It targets the protection and enhancement of existing vegetation and revegetation on farm to increase native vegetation extent and improve biodiversity. Priority areas have been identified using native vegetation benefit mapping. The establishment of corridors and stepping stones between remnants will help a range of fauna species move throughout the landscape by improving connectivity. Catchment Action funding will be used to manage existing vegetation, through the use of livestock exclusion and to encourage the uptake of tree planting across productive farmland. Shade and shelter benefits of native vegetation will also be promoted in this important beef and wool growing region. | Project outcomes will be:  
- To protect and enhance 90 ha of land to increase native vegetation extent and biodiversity conservation on farms in the Northern Tablelands.  
- Revegetate 10 ha of land using local provenance seed to increase native vegetation extent and condition on farms and provide habitat and corridors for threatened species on the Northern Tablelands.  
- Hold at least four field days or awareness raising events in key habitat locations with at least 60 participants to demonstrate the importance of native vegetation and habitat provision to maintain biodiversity. | • Four awareness raising events.  
• 60 participants attending the four awareness events.  
• 90 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• 10 ha planted to terrestrial native species using local occurring native species. | Native vegetation | This project continues to achieve and exceed its expected outputs and outcomes.  
- Innovative marketing, using a series of cartoons encouraged over 200 landholders to submit expressions of interest. Follow-up visits with landholders developed projects which were then assessed using a criteria that considered environmental benefits and in-kind contributions along with locations in the landscape. In total 24 projects proceeded to contract.  
- Landholders implemented a range of techniques to improve the condition and extent of native vegetation. Priority locations included those with threatened species such as New England peppermint and grassy box woodland.  
- Native vegetation was established and protected using a combination of techniques. The technique selected reflected the type of vegetation, landholder preference and funds available.  
- Revegetation of 244 ha was completed using a combination of direct seeding and tube stock.  
- Assisted natural regeneration was used on sites where the community was well established however weeds and feral animals might be making natural regeneration difficult.  
- Field days focused on small holdings of less than 200 hectares. People are increasingly moving to small holdings. The field days promoted the benefits of native vegetation along with highlight some of the problems that could exist such as weeds and feral animals. | • Five field days held on the benefits of trees on small farms attracting 100 participants.  
• 444 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• 244 ha was planted to terrestrial native species. |
| New England and Northwest Seedbank | This project will continue to maintain, collect and store seed in the seedbank maintained by Northern Tablelands Local Land Services. Local provenance seed from the seedbank will be used in revegetation works through direct seeding or nursery production within both the Northern Tablelands and North West Local Land Services regions. Access to on ground incentive projects to implement planned activities such as bush restoration, revegetation and actions to increase biodiversity will be delivered through both Creating and Maintaining Riparian Corridors or the Trees on Farms projects. Workshops and awareness raising events will be held for stakeholders and landholders on the benefits of locally provenance seed. This will increase their skills and interest in collecting local seed. This project will also develop a business plan for the seedbank. It is important to ensure that the seedbank is well recognised and a viable regional resource. | Locally provenance seed will be used in revegetation works enhancing locally endangered flora and maintaining habitat for fauna.  
Additionally this project will deliver an increase in community awareness of the benefits of using local seed.  
Vegetation communities to benefit will include, but are not limited to:  
- white box yellow box Blackbutt’s red gum woodland  
- ribbon gum - mountain gum -snow gum grassy forest woodland on the New England Tableland region  
- New England peppermint (Eucalyptus nova anglica) woodland on basalts and sediments in the New England Tableland region  
- ‘McKies stringybark/blackbutt open forest in the Nandewar and New England Tablelands bioregions’  
- Myall woodland in the Darling Riverine plains, Brigalow belt south, Cabar peneplain, Murray Darling depression, Riverina and NSW South Western Slopes bioregions  
- upland wetlands of the drainage divide of the New England Tablelands bioregion  
- howell shrublands in the New England Tablelands and Nandewar bioregions  
The location and identity of the communities or species targeted will be dependent on uptake of projects by landholders and stakeholders. | • Develop one seed bank.  
• Conduct two awareness raising events.  
• 20 participants attending two awareness raising events.  
• Conduct one workshop.  
• Six participants attending the workshop.  
• Complete one resource management plan. | Native vegetation | The seedbank project has effectively supported revegetation projects delivered directly or via partnerships. It provides endemic seed to facilitate revegetation activities that utilise (where possible) the correct species in the appropriate location and landform. It also builds regional capacity for endemic seed collection, preparation, storage and utilisation.  
- The Northern Tablelands Local Land Services Seedbank Management Plan now governs the operation of the seedbank.  
- Seed collecting was undertaken with the Aboriginal Inverell Men’s Group. Seed was collected from the Bolivia wattle a rare and threatened plant that is likely to be impacted by road widening. Some of this seed has been stored locally and some sent to the Royal Botanic Gardens in Sydney for use and storage.  
- One event in May involved six people in a workshop that considered the use of seed in direct seeding events. Two additional events will be held for around 30 people that will consider seed type and formation and how it can inform plant identification.  
- More broadly, Northern Tablelands Local Land Service staff take opportunities to promote the seedbank at events they attend. A recent cross-border project with the Oxley Creek Catchment Association in Queensland that used the direct seeder also involved discussions around the establishment and use of the seedbank. The seedbank has been promoted through the media as well as soils field days at Bundarra and similar events. | • One seedbank was developed and maintained.  
• Two events were held that used seed characteristics to identify plants with 30 participants attending.  
• One workshop was held attracting six participants.  
• One management plan was completed - The Northern Tablelands Local Land Services Seedbank Management Plan. |
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| Northern Tablelands Turtle Watch | The project aims to secure the entire population of bell's turtle (also known as the western saw-shelled turtle, *Myuchelys bellii*). The project proposes to bring together a consortium of partners with expertise in land-management, turtle conservation and research, to monitor and protect key sites in each of the four main bell's turtle populations in NSW. The project will secure turtle populations at these sites by providing incentive funding to land managers to protect and restore stream side habitats, to eliminate trampling and erosion caused by livestock, and to manage and suppress feral predators – foxes and pigs, especially during the turtle egg-laying season. Although the focus of the project is bell's turtle, a number of other threatened animal and fish species will also benefit from the habitat restoration and protection works and the feral predator abatement programs included in this project. | Project outcomes will be:  
  - Conduct at least three awareness raising events involving at least 15 participants to increase community awareness of the plight of the bell's turtle.  
  - Turtle Watch will initiate capacity building activities that are complimentary to the "Turtles Forever" project and will:  
    - Facilitate governance structures and networks established through implementation of the "Turtles Forever" project.  
    - Deliver events aimed at raising awareness of turtle fauna, ecology and habitat, key threats and management actions to address threats on farm.  
    - Deliver three targeted workshops to enable farm manager self assessment.  
    - Leverage on going support for the "Turtles Forever" Project.  | Three awareness raising events.  
  - 15 participants attending the awareness raising events.  
  - One new monitoring program established.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Threatened Species | This project achieved its intended outcome through a combination of engagement events along with the establishment of a scientific monitoring program. Three events were held that involved landholders traversing stretches of river that are the known habitat for bell's turtle. At each event an expert ecologist provided information on the habitat, threats and morphology of bell's turtle. The ecologist also described the physical changes of the Bellinger River Virus (BRV) on Myuchelys georgesi in 2015. Participants were encouraged to monitor their populations of bell's turtle to look for any changes and report them immediately. Feedback from the participants indicated that the events had been a great success. The majority of participants were unaware that bell's turtle was threatened, how they could help protect it and the potential threat of disease. At the same time Northern Tablelands Local Land Services contracted the animal virology section of NSW Department of Primary Industry to assess if the BRV will impact on the bell's turtle or if it is species specific. This work supports the project 'Turtles Forever: Securing Australia's wild populations of bell’s turtle’ funded by the Environmental Trust. | Three awareness raising events were held attracting 97 participants.  
  - One new monitoring program was established - Turtle Virus Susceptibility and Transmission Research.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Northern Tablelands Koala Habitat Project | The Northern Tablelands Koala Recovery Strategy was initiated in the 2015-16 by Northern Tablelands Local Land Services in consultation with OEH and other regional experts. The strategy documents priority actions, recommendations and identifies priority geographic areas for on ground improvement of koala populations across the whole of the Northern Tablelands region. The Northern Tablelands Koala Habitat Project 2016-17 will deliver:  
  - Ground truthing of the quality and reliability of a subset of the priority areas identified in the Northern Tablelands Koala Recovery Strategy, leading to better investment outcomes associated with delivering related on ground native vegetation, biodiversity and threatened species projects.  
  - Increased community engagement (based on participating private and public landholders) to support targeted future investment outcomes for threatened species and communities.  
  - A community monitoring initiative across the Northern Tablelands.  | Project outcomes will be:  
  - An improvement in the extent and condition of at least 100 ha of koala habitat in the Northern Tablelands.  
  - It will be achieved through implementing one community monitoring program along with a survey of 100 ha of priority koala habitat.  
  - Two community engagement events will be held to raise awareness of koala habitat, populations and monitoring.  | Two awareness raising events held.  
  - 20 participants attending the two awareness raising events.  
  - One new monitoring program established.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Threatened species | Citizen-based contributions to mainstream science are becoming increasingly important as we seek to engage and provide local people with the knowledge and capacity to implement actions that improve the environment. This project has taken significant steps to engage local people in koala monitoring. Participants indicated this project increased their knowledge and capacity to understand the threats to koalas along with actions to improve their Koala habitat.  
  - The project delivered:  
    - 76 days of survey effort  
    - 178 vegetation surveys  
    - 406 koala scat surveys  
  
  - Across five population areas on the Northern Tablelands (Ashford, Delungra, Armidale, Walcha and Nowendoc). Sites included TSR, National Park, State Forest and 68 private land holdings. At a minimum, the 68 land holdings represent at least 6,000 ha with improved management practices.  
  - Survey findings directly informed koala management plans for each of the five local areas and the project reports will inform communications and extension materials (under development for distribution in 2017-18). These include the tree species list, case studies and the executive summary.  
  - The project identified target areas for on ground habitat protection and revegetation activities.  
  - All survey data has been shared with OEH to assist with development of the Save our Species Iconic Koala Species project and NSW Koala Strategy. | Five awareness raising events were held attracting 476 participants.  
  - Eight training sessions were conducted involving 137 participants.  
  - Two recovery or management plans for threatened species or ecological communities were developed.  
  - Two new monitoring programs were established.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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<td>Threatened Species Partnerships</td>
<td>This project is utilising local networks, specifically the New England North West Biodiversity Supergroup, to engage the community in threatened species conservation through addressing key threatening processes through on ground interventions. This project will build partnerships with research organisations, local councils, key collaborators and not-for-profit community based groups to raise awareness of the region’s threatened species and key threatening processes. The intent of the project is to increase community awareness, commitment to addressing threatening processes, and resourcing on ground actions for threatened species on the Northern Tablelands. The project will utilise networks and ratetapper base to engage people in threatened species conservation across all land tenures. Landholder engagement will occur in meaningful and deliberate ways to break down barriers relating to threatened species management.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be: 1. At least three awareness raising events involving 30 participants to deliver an increase in community understanding of the impact of key threatening process on threatened species. 2. Participation in workshops will provide information on the processes and their impacts. Landholders will be able to apply for incentives to mitigate the impact of the process. 3. Three partnerships with public/private land managers and/or research organisations and/ or community groups and/or other partners. 4. Three awareness raising events with 30 participants attending. 5. Media opportunities to promote events and funding opportunities. 6. 60 ha of critical threatened species habitat protected/restored/revegetated.</td>
<td>• Three awareness raising events. • 30 participants attending awareness raising events. • Three collaborative arrangements. • 40 ha protected for significant species/ecological community protection.</td>
<td>Biodiversity Conservation Threatened Species</td>
<td>This project delivered a number of outcomes. Importantly it has reinvigorated the New England North West Biodiversity Supergroup now known as the New England North West Biodiversity Alliance Incorporated. Members of this group comprise Northern Tablelands and North West Local Land Services, OEH, University of New England, the Armidale Tree Group, the Envirofactor and Armidale Regional Council. This collaborative arrangement has been used to facilitate the implementation of projects that seek to protect threatened species and communities across the region. New England North West Biodiversity Alliance Incorporated has used this first year to promote its existence through a number of events and engage the community. Events were held at Dangar and Thomas lagoons near Armidale. These lagoons are in fact upland wetlands that are threatened through overgazing, weeds and feral animals. Upland wetlands, like most threatened communities provide ecosystem services to the surrounding agricultural land. Engaging the community in understanding these threats promoted their protection. Additionally agreed actions have resulted in the protection of 69 ha of regent honeyeater breeding ground at Roumali Creek.</td>
<td>• Three awareness raising events were held attracting 42 participants. • Three collaborative arrangements were established. • 69 ha was protected for significant species/ecological community protection.</td>
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<td>Northern Tablelands Birds of Prey Project</td>
<td>This project will focus on three apex predators. These apex predators were selected to act as a hook to engage land managers as an easily identifiable landscape species. The associated action toolbox actions broadly benefit a range of site/landscape/iconic threatened species on the Northern Tablelands, and the role apex predators play as indicators of broader ecosystem health form a trophic structure perspective. Extension events will be used to raise awareness of the species as well as actions that retain habitat. These events will be held with regional ecologists as well as biosecurity staff from Northern Tablelands Local Land Services. The events will also cover processes that might threaten these birds like secondary poisoning from rabbits.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be: 1. To improve the management of three landscape managed threatened species (the square-tailed kite, little eagle and the spotted harrier) at specific locations on the Northern Tablelands through improving the condition and extent of at least 40 ha. 2. These outcomes will be achieved via the delivery of the following outputs: • three awareness raising events attended by 30 people • three media opportunities to promote events and funding opportunities. • 40 ha of critical habitat protect and restored • one new monitoring program established.</td>
<td>Three awareness raising events. • 30 participants attending awareness raising events. • Three media opportunities resulting in newspaper articles. • 40 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated. • One new monitoring program established.</td>
<td>Threatened Species</td>
<td>Northern Tablelands Local Land Services has chosen iconic species that operate at a landscape scale. This then encourages our community to think more broadly about their actions rather than focus on one location in a landscape. Realistically these species and communities, along with many others, can only be maintained into the future through this type of approach. The Birds of Prey Monitoring program has again focused on citizen science to engage the community. New England North West Biodiversity Alliance Incorporated extension events have been used to gather baseline data for the following populations: • little eagle (Hieraaetus morphnoides); • square-tailed kite (Lophotria inus); and • sea eagle (Haliaeetus leucogaster). Monitoring is focused in OEH predicted distribution areas within the region, which: • Established baseline population information for three threatened raptor species across the Northern Tablelands. • Assessed threats to population on site. • Raised awareness of the project at three extension events. • Reported outcomes of field work and analysis to enable improved management of habitat for the three species in the future. A number of private land managers have volunteered to host the researcher on farm for the duration of the monitoring program.</td>
<td>• Three awareness raising events were conducted attracting 54 participants. • One new monitoring program was established. • Three media releases, each delivered a newspaper article. • 40 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced.</td>
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<td>Protection of Upland Wetlands of the Drainage Divide of the New England Tablelands Bioregion</td>
<td>This project aims to raise awareness of upland wetlands as well as contribute to improvements in their condition and long term viability. Catchment action will fund the delivery of 10 ha of on ground outcomes. Land managers in priority catchments will be targeted to develop on ground project proposals and deliver extension activities, including: - Fencing areas to exclude stock and provide alternative watering points. Fencing will be accompanied by weed control. - Reducing total grazing pressure to allow natural regeneration by controlling rabbits and avoiding prolonged or heavy grazing by domestic stock. - Liaising with landowners and promote community programs that assist with the conservation of the community. - Developing sustainable management guidelines and technical material to assist landowners. This will include measures to address inappropriate fertilizer application, sedimentation, stock management, runoff control and spray drift. Upland wetlands typically exist on highly productive basalt soils. They also offer green pick for cattle and sheep in dry times. Convincing landholders to protect these areas as well as the type of fencing involved general necessitates payment of a higher rate per hectare than other vegetation types. As awareness of these areas and the ecosystems services they provide grows it is likely less funds will be required for their protection.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be: - Ecological character of a minimum of 10 ha of upland wetlands will be improved or maintained in the New England bioregion. - On-ground actions will align with the management objectives outlined in the OEH action statement for upland wetlands of the drainage divide of the New England Tablelands bioregion. - At least one awareness raising event will be held to promote the unique characteristics of upland wetlands.</td>
<td>One awareness raising event will be held. Six participants to attend the awareness raising event. 10 hectares of wetland native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.</td>
<td>Biodiversity Conservation</td>
<td>The project has an emphasis on protecting upland wetlands and wetlands of regional significance (carex sedgelands and montane peat swamps). CA NSW funding achieved protection of 35 ha of montane peat swamp near Glen Innes. Awareness was also raised through a series of field days. Media releases also promoted the project and the ecosystems services delivered by wetlands. Northern Tablelands Local Land Services used a market based incentive to seek expressions of interest from landholders to implement management actions that protect the wetlands. Each expression of interest was assessed using a criteria that considered value for money, potential impact on the wetland and the in-kind contribution of the landholder. In total, five land managers were successful in obtaining grant funding to protect 520 ha of upland wetlands, carex sedgelands and montane peat swamps from key threatening processes. This was funded through a combination of state and federal funding. On ground activities included fencing, grazing management, and weed and pest management.</td>
<td>Two awareness raising events were conducted which attracted 45 participants. Two media opportunities were held. 35 ha of wetland native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.</td>
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Creating, Protecting and Maintaining Riparian Corridors | This program aims to improve the condition and quality of riparian areas. Priority locations will be targeted for improvements in riparian vegetation condition and connectivity. The River Condition Index (RCI) and native vegetation management benefits mapping (NVBM) have been used to identify priority reaches. The RCI is a spatial model that incorporates numerous datasets including riparian vegetation condition. NVBM identifies areas where investment is most likely to improve condition, extent and connectivity of vegetation classes that will have the highest benefit for terrestrial biodiversity. Catchment Action funding will be used for market based incentives to develop landholder and regional partnership agreements to deliver the following activities in prioritised areas: - Riparian restoration, revegetation and protection. - Livestock exclusion via fencing and alternate water provision to facilitate the above outcomes. - Pest and weed control within riparian areas, above and beyond the landholder’s statutory obligations. - Activities that improve in-stream habitat (e.g. re-snagging, exotic weed and pest control, and removal of fish-passage constraints). | Project outcomes will be: - An improvement in riparian condition in 20 km of priority reaches while increasing native habitat extent and heterogeneity for increased connectivity. - 100 ha of land that influences the condition of priority reaches and catchments will have improved management. - Outcomes will be achieved through exclusion of livestock, weed management and revegetation. | 100 hectares of riparian native vegetation protected by fencing. 20 kilometres of riparian vegetation protected. 100 hectares of riparian native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated. | Biodiversity Conservation | Overall the project exceeded expectations in terms of the hectares and kilometres delivered as well as the engagement with local people. Expressions of interest were sought from landholders to implement works that protect riparian areas. Project officers then followed-up with the landholders to complete project assessments. Each project was assessed for its environmental benefit, consistency with priority locations, in-kind contributions and public versus private benefits. Twelve contracts proceeded with landholders providing in-kind contributions through erecting fences as well as ongoing maintenance that includes management of feral pests and weeds. Landholders that participated in the project considered that improving the management of waterways was a key factor in improving landscape health. | 183 ha of riparian native vegetation was protected by fencing. 30 km of stream bank riparian vegetation was protected. 183 ha of riparian native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated. 30 km of stream bank vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated. |
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<td>Granite Borders Community Driven Biodiversity Enhancement Project</td>
<td>This program will promote the development and implementation of plans that focus on positive biodiversity outcomes on private land. Landholders will be encouraged to learn from each other; the best mechanisms for identifying biodiversity issues on their land, and how best to address them. Groups of landholders will develop plans that identify environmental issues to be addressed in their own area. Groups may be based on location, industry or an issue. Partnerships will be established with community groups including conservation groups to undertake projects, events and activities. Partnerships with the University of New England and OEH will support research and monitoring of threatened plant species and training. Market based incentives will then be provided and contracted for activities that address the issue. This will include: • revegetation • restoration and management • fencing to control total grazing pressure.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be: • Three community action plans will deliver at least 30 ha of improvements in the condition and extent of threatened species. This may include, but is not limited to: - gibraltar grevillea grevillea rhizomatosa - eastern false pipistrelle - giant barred frog - grey-crowned babbler (eastern subspecies) - montane peatlands and swamps of the New England tableland - New England peppermint (eucalyptus nova-anglica) woodland on basalts and sediments in the New England tableland bioregion - ribbon gum-mountain gum-snow gum grassy forest/woodland of the New England tableland bioregion - white box yellow box Blakely's red gum woodland - The species and communities protected will be dependent on the uptake of incentives within priority areas.</td>
<td>• Three resource management plans completed. • 30 hectares of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/ rehabilitated.</td>
<td>Native Vegetation Biodiversity Conservation Threatened Species</td>
<td>The outcome of this project has been the completion of seven community action plans by the Scrub Road, Kooraleah, Rivettree, Rocky River, Vinegar Hill, Deepwater and Mingoola Landcare groups. Each plan identifies actions that the group will undertake to improve biodiversity. Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and Granite Border Landcare combined to hold awareness raising events, workshops and meetings. Granite Border Landcare also developed flyers and fact sheets, distributed newsletters, developed promotional posters and media releases. The collective focus of the workshops was actions that promoted and protected biodiversity. They included wild dog trapping, seed collection and propagation, native vegetation identification, native bee workshop, weed identification and removal, and riparian health. Granite Border Landcare and Northern Tablelands Local Land Services attended local shows to promote biodiversity and raise awareness of the project. Five new groups were then formed: Rivertree, Rocky River, Vinegar Hill, Deepwater North and Mingoola. These groups are within the priority areas identified by the Northern Tablelands Investment Plan 2025. The groups worked through nine stages to develop community action plans. The stages involved developing a goal, identifying actions, agreeing on priorities and location for work. Additionally participants had opportunities to consider the work they could reasonably undertake over the time frame of the plan. From this the Rocky River group was successful in obtaining funds to remove cat's claw creeper. Removing this weed assisted in improving the riparian ecosystem that supports threatened species, communities and ecosystems in particular the montane peatlands and swamps of the New England Tablelands. The collective focus of the workshops was actions that promoted and protected biodiversity. They included wild dog trapping, seed collection and propagation, native vegetation identification, native bee workshop, weed identification and removal, and riparian health.</td>
<td>• 525 written products such as brochures, newsletters, posters or fact sheets were developed. • 39 training sessions workshops conducted. • 772 people attended training courses and events. • 12 activities were undertaken to help groups involving 442 participants. • Seven sub-catchment plans were completed. • Five groups were assisted. • 428 ha of riparian vegetation was enhanced and improved.</td>
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<td>Native Vegetation Awareness and Legislation Extension</td>
<td>This project aims to increase pro-active extension services associated with areas of high demand for Property Vegetation Plans (PVP), hot-spots of compliance activities associated with the Native Vegetation Act 2003, and support the service level agreement with OEH. The project is funded entirely from Catchment Action. The aim of the extension events will be to detail landholder obligations under the Native Vegetation Act 2003 and also to provide information on upcoming reforms to native vegetation legislation, where available.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be: • To increase the capacity of at least 40 landholders through four extension events to improve their management of native vegetation. • To ensure landholders gain a greater appreciation of the ecosystems services provided by native vegetation.</td>
<td>• 40 land managers with increased knowledge and skills related to native vegetation management. • Four awareness raising events. • 48 participants attending awareness raising events.</td>
<td>Native Vegetation</td>
<td>Northern Tablelands Local Land Services staff delivered and participated in a series of events that delivered information about the current and then potential changes to native vegetation legislation. In addition, information was provided to landholders regarding the opportunities that could be achieved through bio banking. Northern Tablelands Local Land Services staff attended a number of events in Guyana. These included a breakfast, farm planning course and Country Women's Association meeting. Northern Tablelands Local Land Services staff attended farm planning courses in Ashford and Tenterfield. In Armidale, information was provided to a group of earth moving contractors. Participants found the presentations informative and gained new knowledge. While the recently established Sustainable Land Management unit will move into this type of work Northern Tablelands Local Land Services will continue to inform the community of changes to relevant legislation as these occur.</td>
<td>• Six awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours were conducted. • 125 participants attended the six awareness raising events. • 68 land managers increased knowledge and skills related to native vegetation management.</td>
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<td>Protecting Native Vegetation and Biodiversity – Partnership Project</td>
<td>The intent of this project is to improve the habitat for threatened flora and fauna. Landholders and community groups will be involved in this program to contain and where possible eradicate tropical soda apple. New England Weeds Authority will lead the project in partnership with local control authorities, to build on previous control work aimed at controlling this high priority weed in the Macleay Valley. The project will involve on ground eradication on private land and community engagement and education. It is totally funded from Catchment Action.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:</td>
<td>• 6,000 hectares of riparian native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.</td>
<td>Native vegetation</td>
<td>• 6,901 ha of riparian native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.</td>
<td>• 6,901 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.</td>
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<td>• 6,000 hectares of pest plant control measures implemented.</td>
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<td>Travelling Stock Reserve High Conservation Value Vegetation Management</td>
<td>This project will protect threatened species and ecological communities from threatening processes across the region, with a specific focus on retaining and improving the environmental values of the Northern Tablelands TSR network. It is funded entirely from Catchment Action. Focusing on TSRs that were identified as having moderate to high value conservation, this project aims to:</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:</td>
<td>• At least 120 ha of high conservation vegetation will be protected, enhanced or connected. This may include, but is not limited to:</td>
<td>Biodiversity Conservation Threatened Species Native Vegetation</td>
<td>This project has improved the condition on 254 ha of high conservation value native vegetation on TSRs. Key threatening processes to threatened species and communities includes habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation. This project addressed weeds as a key driver of habitat degradation on TSRs. A shortlist of priority TSRs was identified based on best available evidence and desk top assessment. Site assessments were undertaken at these TSRs. On ground weed management measures were applied at TSRs that support high conservation value communities. Adjacent land managers and TSR permit holders were invited to undertake weed management actions to achieve better landscape outcomes. The work occurred on the following TSRs:</td>
<td>• 254 hectares of weed control was implemented.</td>
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<td>• Change areas of high conservation value vegetation on TSRs from being managed under long-term grazing permits to conservation stewardship agreements.</td>
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<td>- New England peppermint (eucalyptus nova-anglica) woodland on basaltis and sediments in the New England tableland bioregion - ribbon gum-mountain gum-snow gum grassy forest/woodland of the New England tableland bioregion - white box yellow box, Blakelys red gum woodland.</td>
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<td>• Improve management of land to increase or maintain the area of regionally significant species habitat and threatened ecological communities.</td>
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<td>- Information that will guide future management of TSRs to ensure conservation values are maintained or improved will be gathered within this project.</td>
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<td>• Identify key geographic target areas for this and future projects where practice change would provide long term improvement in threatened species habitat and condition.</td>
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<td>• Facilitate practice change with landholders on private land adjacent to TSRs to connect vegetation to high conservation value TSRs so that native vegetation is managed to prevent extinction of threatened species and communities.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The conservation value of TSRs has been initially identified through a report by Ecological Australia. This project will build on this report through ground truthing and improved mapping of high conservation vegetation. No activities on TSRs under short or long term lease will be funded from this project.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project title</td>
<td>Project overview</td>
<td>Project intended outcomes</td>
<td>Project intended outputs</td>
<td>Funding theme/s</td>
<td>Project delivered outcomes</td>
<td>Project delivered outputs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
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<td>---------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelling Stock Reserve Weeds Program</td>
<td>This project will link with the Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR) High Conservation Value Vegetation Management project to identify priority areas for weed management. It is entirely funded from Catchment Action and will: • Promote and seek out broadscale, co-operative, integrated and coordinated weed control partnership programs with neighbouring landholders and land managers. • Engage neighbouring landholders/land managers and TSR lessees in weed management through community extension events. • Implement a program of weed control of both declared and environmental weeds. • Implement a monitoring program to ensure it is achieving its objectives.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be: • Reduced impact of weeds on at least 300 ha of threatened ecological communities and threatened species. • Communities and species protected will include, but is not limited to: - regent honeyeater and its habitat - white box yellow box Blakely’s red gum woodland.</td>
<td>• 300 hectares of pest plant control measures implemented.</td>
<td>Threatened Species</td>
<td>Travelling Stock Reserves (TSRs) are a valuable resources as they preserve a range of threatened species and ecological communities that deliver ecosystems services. This project was delivered in conjunction with the High Conservation Value Vegetation Management project. A shortlist of priority TSRs was identified based on best available evidence and desk top assessment. Site assessments were undertaken at these TSRs. On ground weed management measures were applied at TSRs that support high conservation value communities. Northern Tablelands Local Land Services worked with contractors and field staff to undertake weed control on 780 ha. Weeds controlled included blackberry, sweet briar, St Johns wort, nodding thistle, serrated tussock and, chilean needle grass. Through this work the threatened ecological communities and species have a greater chance to regenerate naturally, and increase in extent and condition. Particular focus has been on restoring the ground layer in these endangered ecological communities. Within the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services area, it is common to have an over story in good condition, but with the ground layer compromised by invasive weeds. Work was undertaken at the following TSRs: Kings Plains (311 ha) Bald Knob (260 ha) Tindal’s (123 ha) Pedlow’s (81 ha) Pedlow’s Pup (5 ha).</td>
<td>• 780 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Northern Tablelands project map
## Table 20: Riverina budget and expenditure by project and funding theme programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Total investors</th>
<th>Total budget $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>% of Total CA NSW Funds contributed</th>
<th>Total expenditure $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Over / (underspend)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Native Vegetation Management / Threatened Species</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP, Goldenfields Water Council</td>
<td>782,089</td>
<td>336,819</td>
<td>43 %</td>
<td>111,756</td>
<td>21,730</td>
<td>203,333</td>
<td>418,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverine Rangelands Paddock Restoration</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>177,342</td>
<td>116,412</td>
<td>66 %</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>98,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing key threatening processes in Endangered Ecological Communities on Riverina TSR</td>
<td>CA NSW, Riverina LLS ratepayer source</td>
<td>271,754</td>
<td>221,754</td>
<td>82 %</td>
<td>221,754</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>222,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandhill Pine Woodland Restoration Project</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>219,414</td>
<td>219,414</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>219,414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverina Community Grants 2016-17</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>466,968</td>
<td>263,868</td>
<td>57 %</td>
<td>62,087</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>297,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turquoise Parrot Project - Bringing back the birds</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>31,043</td>
<td>31,043</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15,522</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>29,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malleefowl Protection</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>170,738</td>
<td>170,738</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>77,411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant Wetlands in the Riverina</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>186,260</td>
<td>186,260</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>174,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Values on Country – engaging and sharing knowledge</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>154,060</td>
<td>93,130</td>
<td>60 %</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>93,130</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>129,778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Burning – Finding the balance</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>7,761</td>
<td>7,761</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7,761</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muttama Creek Restoration Project</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>194,020</td>
<td>194,020</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>206,281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjungbilly Creek Project</td>
<td>CA NSW, Riverina Highlands Landcare Network (SOS Funding)</td>
<td>112,087</td>
<td>62,087</td>
<td>55 %</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>62,087</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>55,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swift Parrot and Woodland Bird Saving our Species Habitat Project - Tarcutta Creek</td>
<td>CA NSW</td>
<td>62,087</td>
<td>62,087</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>31,043</td>
<td>31,043</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mates Gully Riparian zone Biodiversity Protection and Enhancement</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>181,189</td>
<td>77,608</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>77,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>3,016,812</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,043,001</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>612,900</strong></td>
<td><strong>408,601</strong></td>
<td><strong>204,302</strong></td>
<td><strong>817,199</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** The Over / (underspend) amounts are calculated by subtracting the total expenditure from the total budget.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Sandhill Pine Woodland Restoration Project | This project will enhance and protect the NSW listed endangered ecological community, sandhill pine woodland by addressing key threats through a comprehensive and integrated program of complimentary on ground works, educational workshops and awareness raising activities. Management actions will focus on the targeted control of pest animal and plant species, reintroduction of native vegetation, protection from livestock, pest animal control and improved management. The project will engage local land managers through the application of on-ground works as well as improve the skills, knowledge and capacity of the broader community in terms of sandhill pine woodland management enhancing biodiversity conservation, threatened species, cultural heritage and native vegetation outcomes. Cultural heritage of the revegetation areas will be assessed and documented following the Riverina Local Land Services due diligence process. This is a co-funded project with a 13.92% contribution from the National Landcare Programme. | Project outcomes will be:  
• Improvement in the condition of the NSW listed endangered ecological community sandhill pine woodland  
• Focus on pest animal and weed management, partnership building, on farm learning, improved groundcover and floristic structure. | • One media opportunity resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.  
• One training session, workshop, seminar or skills training event conducted.  
• 20 participants attending a training session, workshop, seminar or skills training event.  
• Eight voluntary conservation agreements.  
• 120 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• 120 ha protected by fencing specifically for significant species(ecological community protection.  
• 120 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.  
• 120 ha of initial pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented.  
• 120 ha of Aboriginal cultural values managed. | Native Vegetation Threatened Species Aboriginal Cultural Heritage | This project has addressed key threats and enhanced and protected 108 ha of the NSW listed endangered ecological community, sandhill pine woodland by partnering with landholders through four management agreements to undertake on-ground works. Management actions have focused on the targeted control of pest animal and plant species, reintroduction of native vegetation, protection from livestock, pest animal control and improved management. A sandhill paddock walk at ‘Zara’, Wanganella NSW, was delivered by Riverina Local Land Services in partnership with the Australian Network for Plant Conservation with the aim of improving the skills, knowledge and capacity of the broader community regarding sandhill pine woodland management. This workshop was attended by 25 local land managers. | • Media coverage was provided for the Sandhill Pine Woodland Restoration Project training day at ‘Zara’.  
• One workshop was conducted - Sandhill paddock walk attracting 25 participants.  
• Four voluntary conservation agreements were established.  
• 108 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• 108 ha was protected by fencing.  
• 108 ha of pest plant control measures was implemented.  
• 108 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures was implemented.  
• 0 ha of Aboriginal cultural values managed (see comments). |

Comment: OG15.1 – Area (ha) of Aboriginal cultural values managed. NOTE: An Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment was conducted for all site visits under this project, however no Aboriginal cultural heritage sites were identified. Therefore, no outputs were recorded for this output.
## Riverine Rangelands Paddock Restoration

**Project title:** Landscape degradation is an ongoing issue on the riverine plain. There are large areas with a very low quantity of existing tree cover and shrub layer, and groundcover is often dominated by exotic annual pasture weed species. This project aims to help farmers restore the productivity of the land through re-vegetation with indigenous perennial species and sustainable grazing practices. Management actions will focus on targeted pest control, reintroduction of native vegetation, protection from livestock, weed control and improved management. Priority will also be given to sites, which include a listed endangered ecological community, or links to existing native vegetation. Farmers will build capacity in plant identification and sustainable land management through workshops held with local specialists. Key endangered ecological communities and derived grasslands within the project extent include:
- *Acacia melvillei* shrubland
- *Allocasuarina luehmannii* woodlands
- inland grey box *Gossypium* woodland
- sandhill pine woodland
- weeping myall woodlands.

This is a co-funded project with a 28.57 per cent contribution from the National Landcare Programme.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Riverine Rangelands Paddock Restoration | Landscape degradation is an ongoing issue on the riverine plain. There are large areas with a very low quantity of existing tree cover and shrub layer, and groundcover is often dominated by exotic annual pasture weed species. This project aims to help farmers restore the productivity of the land through re-vegetation with indigenous perennial species and sustainable grazing practices. Management actions will focus on targeted pest control, reintroduction of native vegetation, protection from livestock, weed control and improved management. Priority will also be given to sites, which include a listed endangered ecological community, or links to existing native vegetation. Farmers will build capacity in plant identification and sustainable land management through workshops held with local specialists. Key endangered ecological communities and derived grasslands within the project extent include:  
- *Acacia melvillei* shrubland  
- *Allocasuarina luehmannii* woodlands  
- inland grey box *Gossypium* woodland  
- sandhill pine woodland  
- weeping myall woodlands.  
  
This is a co-funded project with a 28.57 per cent contribution from the National Landcare Programme. | Project outcomes will be:  
• Improvement in the soil condition, biodiversity and functionality of agricultural land in the rangelands through revegetation, stock management and effective biosecurity practices.  
• Offering landholders effective management options and information and planning resources by which they build on their knowledge of sustainable land management. | One training session, workshop, seminar or skills training event conducted.  
• 20 participants attending a training session, workshop, seminar or skills training event.  
• Three media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.  
• Six voluntary conservation agreements.  
• 100 ha of terrestrial native vegetation protected by fencing.  
• 100 ha of planted vegetation that are local natives – terrestrial.  
• 100 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.  
• 100 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented.  
• 2,000 ha of land managed for sustainable grazing. | Native Vegetation | This project assisted five land managers to restore the productivity of the land through re-vegetation with indigenous perennial species and sustainable grazing practices across a total of 939 ha. Management actions have focused on targeted pest control, reintroduction of native vegetation, protection from livestock, weed control and improved management to improve soil condition, biodiversity and functionality of agricultural land in the rangelands. A short film clip was made of a rangelands paddock walk as a media opportunity. The film clip was made available on YouTube, the Riverina Local Land Services’ Facebook page and advertised in the Western Newsletter. This project was well received by land managers, all of whom were very interested in discussing the variety of native vegetation on their properties. | Six voluntary conservation agreements (5 landholders – 1 landholder had 2 management agreements) were entered into.  
939 ha in total was managed under this project.  
36 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was protected by fencing.  
36 ha of planted vegetation that are local natives (terrestrial) was carried out.  
36 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.  
36 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures were implemented.  
902 ha of land was managed for sustainable grazing. |

Comments: The outputs below were funded by the National Landcare Programme and were erroneously included in the Catchment Action NSW Business Plan for 2016-17. Therefore, they are not able to be reported against for Catchment Action NSW. The number of training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events conducted and the number of participants in person days.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
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<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Vegetation Management and Threatened Species</td>
<td>The Integrated Vegetation Management and Threatened Species project is a Riverina wide incentive scheme developed to strategically restore remnant vegetation, create landscape connectivity and protect threatened species. Significant habitat in remnant native vegetation and riparian systems will be protected through enhanced linkages using new native vegetation corridors, exclusion from livestock, pest animal control and improved natural resource management. Riparian systems are valued due to connective landscape traits and abilities to improve broader ecosystems. Key remnant landscapes found in the Riverina district include endangered ecological communities such as: • acacia melvillei shrubland • allocasuarina luehmannii woodlands • coolac-tumut serpentinite shrubby woodland • inland grey box grassy woodland • weeping myall woodland • white box yellow box Blakely’s red gum grassy woodland. Key threatened species that will be targeted are: • bush stone curlew (Burhinus grallarius) • glossy black cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus lathami). This is a co-funded project with a 54.93 per cent contribution from the National Landcare Programme and Goldenfields Water County Council.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be: • Deliver a range of integrated information and planning resources, training and incentives that improve landholder capacity to protect, enhance and connect priority ecological systems across the Riverina. • Promote practices to connect, protect, enhance and reinstate native vegetation and riparian/wetland systems. • Provide incentive opportunities through targeted on-ground restoration and conservation works to improve the management of natural resources within the Riverina Local Land Services region. • Provide a linkage to various natural resource management projects operating across the region. • Form partnerships with and increase the capacity of land managers and other stakeholders. The objectives of the targeted Bush Stone Curlew and Glossy Black Cockatoo program will be to engage with landholders that have populations on their properties, provide funding to protect/ enhance habitat, sustain/increase population numbers and to educate landholders and members of the public on the following: • reduce habitat loss • reduce grazing pressures that impact populations • reduce predation • promote bush stone-curlew and glossy black cockatoo friendly agricultural practices.</td>
<td>• Six awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours conducted. • 90 participants attending awareness raising events. • Six written products such as brochures, newsletters, posters or fact sheets developed. • Seven media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created. • 40 voluntary conservation agreements negotiated. • 10 ha of riparian native vegetation protected by fencing. • 150 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated. • 150 ha of planted to terrestrial native species. • 160 ha protected by fencing specifically for significant species or ecological community protection. • 160 ha of pest plant control measures implemented. • 160 ha of pest animal control measures implemented (vertebrates). • Four off-stream (alternative) watering sites installed.</td>
<td>Native Vegetation Biodiversity Conservation Threatened Species</td>
<td>This project was very well received as it offered activities that landholders want to implement on their farms. In excess of 150 expressions of interest were received with 20 landholders partnering with Riverina Local Land Services to restore remnant native vegetation, create landscape connectivity and protect threatened species across 903 ha. Two awareness raising events improved the capacity of 137 land managers to protect and enhance priority ecological systems across the Riverina region. This project delivered significant benefits to the following endangered ecological communities within the Riverina Local Land Services region: • acacia melvillei shrubland • allocasuarina luehmannii woodlands • coolac-tumut serpentinite shrubby woodland • inland grey box grassy woodland • weeping myall woodland • white box yellow box Blakely’s red gum grassy woodland.</td>
<td>Five awareness raising events were held involving 137 participants.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Riverina Community Grants Program 2016-17

The 2016-17 Riverina Local Land Services Community Grants program is aimed at supporting community groups to carry out various activities including on-ground works, capacity building, education and other activities with a natural resource management focus. Approximately 30 per cent of the total project budget will be used to support foundational activities and will be targeted specifically at Landcare Groups and will be championed by the NSW Government funded Landcare Coordinator network within the Riverina.

The remaining budget will be used to target groups such as Local Aboriginal Land Councils, local government, specialist industry groups and community groups. All groups receiving funds must deliver on-ground works relevant to the respective CA NSW funding themes. Activities will include revegetation, remnant protection, pest animal and pest plant control.

This project is co-funded with a 37.04 per cent co-contribution by the National Landcare Programme.

Project outcomes will be:
- To increase engagement with community and industry groups and increase capacity for natural resource management activities, through funding of specific on-ground works. By undertaking such works, capacity and skills to further apply natural resource management activities will increase. By building capacity and awareness of natural resource management issues in the broader community as well as in industry partners, Riverina Local Land Services improves its capacity to deliver on investor goals and priorities.

Project outcomes will be:
- 10 awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours conducted.
- 100 participants attending awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours.
- Two written products such as brochures, newsletters, posters or fact sheets developed.
- Three media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.
- 10 training sessions, workshops seminars and other skills and training events conducted.
- 20 participants attending training sessions, workshops seminars and other skills and training events conducted.
- 10 community groups or projects assisted.
- 10 voluntary conservation agreements negotiated.
- 15 ha of terrestrial native vegetation protected by fencing.
- 15 ha planted to terrestrial native species.
- 15 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.
- 15 ha of pest animal control measures implemented (vertebrates).
- Five ha of Aboriginal cultural values managed.

Native Vegetation Biodiversity Conservation Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

The 2016-17 Riverina Local Land Services Community Grants program supported community groups to carry out various activities including on-ground works, capacity building, education and other activities with a natural resource management focus.

Nine community groups were assisted under this project:
- Society of Precision Agriculture Australia Inc.
- Ricegrowers Association of Australia Inc.
- Dairy NSW Limited
- Harden Murrumburrah Landcare Group
- Murrumbidgee Landcare Association Inc (2 projects)
- Bland Shire Council
- Coolamon Landcare Group
- Wagga Wagga City Council
- The Wired Lab

Nine awareness raising events were held attracting 130 participants.
- 10 written products were produced being distributed to 2,150 recipients.
- Three media opportunities resulted in articles in newspapers or on radio or television.
- 11 training sessions, workshops seminars and other skills and training events were conducted attended by 185 participants.
- 10 community groups were assisted.
- 10 voluntary conservation agreements were negotiated.
- 144 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was protected by fencing.
- 144 ha was planted to terrestrial native species.
- 105 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.
- 105 ha of pest animal control measures were implemented (vertebrates).
- Five ha of Aboriginal cultural values was managed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
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<th>Project intended outputs</th>
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<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turquoise Parrot Project — Bringing Back the Birds</td>
<td>The Turquoise Parrot is listed as vulnerable in NSW. This project aims to partner with Tiritendi Inaburra Cultural and Development Centre to create breeding habitat for turquoise parrots. This will be carried out through the construction, implementation and monitoring of nesting boxes in the Binya State Forest. A specialist will select the sites and all project works will be carried out in consultation with OEH threatened species officer and National parks and Wildlife. A community event will be held to learn about the turquoise parrot and a fact sheet developed for community distribution. This project will build momentum around the turquoise parrot and help to build interest in a potential on ground works project including nesting boxes, fencing and revegetation on private land.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:  1. To identify sites where tree hollows are limiting and develop and implement a nest box strategy that has clear objectives and includes monitoring, maintenance, and evaluation of success.  2. To increase public awareness on what actions can be carried out to help the turquoise parrot.</td>
<td>3. Three awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours conducted.  4. 45 participants who attended awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours.  3. Three written products such as brochures, newsletters, posters or fact sheets developed.  3. Three media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.  1. One training session, workshop, seminar or other skill and training event conducted.  28 participants attending the training session, workshop, seminar or other skill and training event.  One community group or project assisted.</td>
<td>Threatened Species  Aboriginal Cultural Heritage</td>
<td>Milestones were delivered as planned and ahead of schedule with ongoing partnership relations established to expand the pilot project. This was a pilot project regarding landholder uptake, support and interest, with the result far greater than expected. Coordination with external stakeholders, e.g. government and non-government organisations, and input from these organisations was valued and the result was a high profile team project that was well attended and received by all participants. Social outcomes: The newly formed Barellan Men’s Shed were engaged to assemble hollow log nesting boxes. This was their very first project that proved that social connection, in this case, eco-social projects, can increase general and mental well-being of participants. Economic injection to community by Riverina Local Land Services supporting The Binya Hall committee. This is a team of dedicated and hard working women who volunteer their time. Ecological conservation outcomes: Very few landholders knew of the turquoise parrot in their area. All have embraced this bird’s presence in the district passionately, proudly and protectively. The timing was ideal as it was through the school holidays and attracted many school kids.</td>
<td>1. One awareness raising event which attracted 23 participants.  3. Three written products produced being distributed to 3,000 recipients.  3. Three media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television.  2. Two community groups assisted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malleefowl Protection</td>
<td>This Project is a follow up on previous work carried out to educate landholders about how foxes move around malleefowl mounds and the best baits/methods to control foxes in malleefowl habitat. It will also assist Riverina Local Land Services to expand on current knowledge of populations of malleefowl within the Riverina and undertake on-ground actions that will secure these populations into the future. This includes the use of monitoring cameras around active mounds to determine fox and cat numbers, trapping and collaring foxes and analysing collar data to improve baiting methods.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:  To determine number of foxes and cats in targeted malleefowl hotspots in the Riverina area by collaring foxes and tracking their movements by GPS trackers. Landholders that have malleefowl on their properties will receive technical support and a funding to protect/enhance malleefowl habitat, sustain/increase malleefowl numbers and to educate Landholders and members of the public on the following:  number of foxes in target areas  understanding how foxes/cats move around malleefowl mounds and habitat  the best baits/methods required for a successful baiting program  reduce predation  promote malleefowl friendly agricultural practices.</td>
<td>2. Two written products such as brochures, newsletters, posters or fact sheets developed.  1. One media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.  2. Two training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events conducted.  20 participants attending training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events.  Two voluntary conservation agreements negotiated.  10 ha protected by fencing specifically for significant species or ecological community protection.  10,000 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented.</td>
<td>Threatened Species</td>
<td>Two community groups assisted.  10,000 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented.</td>
<td>Species</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Significant Wetlands in the Riverina

The purpose of this project is to restore and recover significant wetlands in the Riverina region with a focus on Mid-Murrumbidgee Wetlands (between Wagga Wagga and Canowindra). The Mid-Murrumbidgee wetlands are important habitat for a range of aquatic and terrestrial species including frogs, fish and water birds. They also support vegetation communities including river-red gum forests and woodlands and black box woodlands.

**Project outcomes will be:**
- To improve and protect significant wetlands located in the Riverina region including the significant Mid-Murrumbidgee wetlands.
- Working with stakeholders as well as landholders to improve the management of private land for the ecological benefit of significant wetlands in the Riverina region.

**Project intended outcomes**
- One awareness raising event such as demonstration, field day or study tour conducted.
- 20 participants attending the awareness raising event.
- One community group or project assisted.
- Four voluntary conservation agreements negotiated.
- 40 ha of riparian native vegetation protected by fencing.
- 40 ha of wetland native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.
- 40 ha of wetlands with connectivity reinstated.
- 40 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.
- 40 ha of pest animal control measures implemented (vertebrates).
- Four off stream (alternative) watering sites installed.

**Funding theme/s**
Biodiversity Conservation

**Project delivered outcomes**
- Under this project, three landholders have partnered with Riverina Local Land Services to restore and recover 63 ha of significant wetlands in the Riverina Local Land Services region through the protection of riparian native vegetation. The landholders were active in negotiating the management agreements to ensure that the on ground works would deliver both environmental outcomes and work within their farming systems. The project design was sound, with a focus on providing opportunities for wetland areas to regenerate while also allowing the landholders to continue their farming practices.
- Some adjustments were required regarding project delivery due to heavy rainfall and broad-scale flooding across parts of the Riverina Local Land Services region.

*Comment: Some of the above project delivered outputs were incorrectly included in the Catchment Action NSW Business Plan for 2016-17 as this project focused on individual landholder engagement, rather than community awareness and group assistance.*

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### Cultural Values on Country – Engaging and Sharing Knowledge

This project will provide landholders across Local Land Services Riverina with a better understanding of Aboriginal cultural values on their land.

Trained and respected Aboriginal community members and Riverina Local Land Services staff will help landholders to understand how Aboriginal people historically used the landscape, identify areas of significance through a cultural heritage assessment and manage values that remain. Incentives will be offered to help landholders manage cultural values that are present on their property. This project is co-funded with a 33.33 per cent co-contribution by the National Landcare Programme.

**Project outcomes will be:**
- To identify cultural values.
- To protect cultural values.
- To assist with developing relationships with the Aboriginal community and land managers.
- To assist landowners and managers to meet their legislative obligations.
- To assist with the sharing of cultural knowledge.
- To raise awareness of Aboriginal cultural heritage.

This project will utilise trained Aboriginal participants to provide cultural assessment services to landholders in the Riverina Local Land Services. Subsequent AHIMS site recording will be conducted by a Riverina Local Land Services staff member following confirmation of the presence of a site, place or artefact.

At the completion of this project, landholders will have a greater capacity to understand the importance of cultural values on their land and comply with the Due Diligence Code of Practice.

**Project intended outcomes**
- 20 ha of Aboriginal cultural values managed.

**Funding theme/s**
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

**Project delivered outcomes**
- As a result of this project, nine sites across 32 ha of land was managed for Aboriginal cultural values.

*Trained and respected Aboriginal community members and Riverina Local Land Services staff have assisted land managers involved in this project to develop a greater capacity to understand the importance of cultural values on their land, manage their land for Aboriginal cultural values and comply with the Due Diligence Code of Practice.*

- Three voluntary conservation agreements were negotiated.
- 63 ha of riparian native vegetation was protected by fencing.
- 44 ha of wetland native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.
- 49 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.
- Six off stream (alternative) watering sites were installed.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Overview</th>
<th>Intended outcomes</th>
<th>Intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme</th>
<th>Delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Cultural Burning — Finding the Balance | This project will engage Indigenous people to participate in natural resource management and cultural burning on identified priority sites. The project will also increase the knowledge and skills of non-Aboriginal volunteers of the Rural Fire Service in regards to the conservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage. | Project outcomes will be:  
- The implementation of cultural burns on a number of priority sites throughout the Riverina region.  
- The improved knowledge of the Rural Fire Service in regards to the conservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage during routine hazard reduction programs. | Two training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events conducted.  
40 participants attending training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events.  
20 ha of Aboriginal cultural values managed. | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage | Activities and outputs were delivered as planned with cultural burns undertaken on both Tooyal Hall and Morangorell TSRs. A total of 27 ha was managed using cultural burning techniques to reduce fuel load and manage weed incursions. The engagement of Aboriginal community members worked well. There is a real passion in the community for preserving cultural knowledge such as burning techniques. The project has a good core team of Aboriginal community members that are keen to assist with cultural burning activities. An additional outcome of this project has been the increased knowledge and skills of Aboriginal cultural heritage of the non-Aboriginal volunteers of the Rural Fire Service, all of whom are local landholders. | Two training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events with nine participants attending.  
27 ha was managed for Aboriginal cultural values. |

| Muttama Creek Restoration Project | This project will provide landholders adjoining the Muttama Creek the opportunity to protect, enhance and connect vegetation along this riparian system. The Muttama Creek flows from just north of Cootamundra and joins the Murrumbidgee River near the town of Gundagai meandering through areas of remnant white box yellow box Blakely’s red gum grassy woodland. | Project outcomes will be:  
- To create interest among landholders along the Muttama Creek by protecting and restoring the vegetation corridor along the main riparian creek channel.  
- To protect and establish riparian vegetation  
- To provide habitat corridors  
- To create linkage to remnant endangered ecological communities  
- To reduce sedimentation and increase water quality by the exclusion of stock  
- To build to capacity of landholders | Two awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours conducted.  
15 participants attending awareness raising events.  
Two written products such as brochures, newsletters, posters or fact sheets developed.  
Two media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.  
12 voluntary conservation agreements negotiated.  
50 ha of riparian native vegetation protected by fencing.  
50 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.  
50 ha of pest animal control measures implemented (vertebrates).  
Six of off-stream (alternative) watering sites installed. | Native Vegetation | The Muttama Creek sub-catchment is a major linkage corridor within the Murrumbidgee catchment and comprises of remnant white box yellow box Blakely’s red gum grassy woodland. The primary objective of this project was to strategically restore and recover the resilience and functionality of the remnant vegetation within the Muttama Creek catchment. Under this project, five landholders have protected, enhanced and connected 183 ha of native vegetation along the riparian zone of Muttama Creek. These outcomes have been achieved through targeted on-ground restoration and conservation works that harness best management practice, develop community capacity and support Indigenous ecological knowledge. | One fact sheet developed and distributed to 180 recipients.  
One media release developed on the launch of the project.
Five voluntary conservation agreements negotiated.
117 ha of riparian native vegetation was protected by fencing.
183 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.
183 ha of pest animal control measures were implemented (vertebrates). |

Comments: This project was proceeding as planned; however the project manager suddenly left the organisation before all intended outputs were achieved. Therefore, the following outputs were not achieved under this project for 2016-17. Two awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours conducted; 15 participants attending awareness raising events; and six off stream watering sites installed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Threatened Species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adjungbilly Creek Project</td>
<td>The aim of this project is to work with a diverse range of stakeholders and producers to implement targeted on-ground works to connect, protect, enhance and reinstate native vegetation and riparian systems in the Adjungbilly Creek and coolac-tumut serpentinite range. The Adjungbilly Creek catchment and the coolac-serpentinite geology range are two unique zones within the upper Riverina Local Land Services upper district, due to their populations of a number of endangered plants and animals and their unique assemblages of flora and fauna. These include:</td>
<td>• Improved land management practices contributing to improvements in aquatic and terrestrial environments and habitats for the endangered species and communities listed in the project overview.</td>
<td>• One awareness raising event such as a demonstration, field day or study tour conducted.</td>
<td>Threatened Species</td>
<td>Under this project, three landholders have partnered with Riverina Local Land Services to undertake targeted on-ground works across 11 ha of land to connect, protect, enhance and reinstate native vegetation and riparian systems in the Adjungbilly Creek and coolac-tumut serpentinite range. These on-ground works have resulted in improved land management practices contributing to improvements in aquatic and terrestrial environments and habitats for a number of endangered species and communities, including:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Targeted on-ground restoration and conservation works will utilise best management practices, develop community capacity and support indigenous ecological knowledge.</td>
<td>• 15 participants attending the awareness raising event.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• booroolong frog (Liroria booroolongensis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• To work with individuals, local communities and groups such as Landcare and Indigenous groups, to facilitate change and build capacity to enhance and protect our landscapes.</td>
<td>• Two written products such as brochures, newsletters, posters or fact sheets developed.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Macquarie perch (Macquaria australasica)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Two media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• coolac-tumut serpentinite shrubby woodland endangered ecological community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Two voluntary conservation agreements negotiated.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• white box-yellow box Blakely’s red gum endangered ecological community.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 40 ha of riparian native vegetation protected by fencing.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• One awareness raising event was conducted attracting 11 participants.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 40 ha protected by fencing specifically for significant species or ecological community protection.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Two written products were developed (fact sheet and targeted Expression of Interest form), which were distributed to 300 recipients.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 40 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Two media opportunities were conducted including the project launch on National Threatened Species Day and advertising via print media.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 40 ha of pest animal control measures were implemented.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Three voluntary conservation agreements were negotiated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 11 ha of riparian native vegetation was protected by fencing.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 11 ha of riparian native vegetation was protected by fencing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 7 ha was protected by fencing specifically for significant species or ecological community protection.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Seven ha was protected by fencing specifically for significant species or ecological community protection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 11 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 11 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 11 ha of pest animal control measures were implemented (vertebrates).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 11 ha of pest animal control measures were implemented (vertebrates).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project title</td>
<td>Project overview</td>
<td>Project intended outcomes</td>
<td>Project intended outputs</td>
<td>Funding theme/s</td>
<td>Project delivered outcomes</td>
<td>Project delivered outputs</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Managing Key Threatening Processes in Endangered Ecological Communities on Riverina Travelling Stock Reserves | This project will focus on addressing key threatening processes that impact on Riverina travelling stock reserves (TSR). The primary key threatening process that will be addressed is competition and grazing by the feral European rabbit Oryctolagus cuniculus. Priority locations have been selected through aerial surveying and ground truthing on TSR’s and private land across the Riverina where land degradation through rabbit infestation is apparent. Grazing and burrowing by rabbits can cause massive erosion problems, reduce recruitment and survival of native plants, and alter entire landscapes. Rabbits also threaten the survival of a number of native animal species by altering habitat, reducing native food sources, displacing small animals from burrows and attracting introduced predators such as foxes. In addition, rabbits may have significant impacts on Aboriginal and historic cultural heritage by exposing culturally significant sites such as Aboriginal burial grounds. Funding will include provisions to undertake biological control by releasing the rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus in priority locations, with follow up using traditional pest control methods then rehabilitating areas with supplementary planting of native species, weed control and fencing. This project is co-funded with a 15.96 per cent contribution from Riverina Local Land Services ratepayer source of funds. | Project outcomes will be:  
• To improve the condition of endangered ecological communities on 12 priority TSR’s and on private land within 3 km of the TSR.  
• To focus on coordinated pest animal control, weed management and post control rehabilitation through planting of native species. Endangered ecological communities are a priority however medium conservation value vegetation types will also be considered if key threatening processes have caused major land degradation. Endangered ecological communities include:  
  ▪ acacia melvillei shrubland  
  ▪ allocasuarina huehmannii woodland  
  ▪ coolac-tumut serpentinite shrubby woodland  
  ▪ inland grey box grassy woodland  
  ▪ sandhill pine woodland  
  ▪ weeping Myall woodland  
  ▪ white box yellow box Blakely’s red gum grassy woodland.  
• One awareness raising event such as a demonstration, field day or study tour conducted.  
• 30 participants attending the awareness raising event.  
• Five written products such as brochures, newsletters, posters or fact sheets developed.  
• Three media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.  
• Three training sessions, workshops, seminars and other skills and training events conducted.  
• 40 participants attending training sessions, workshops, seminars and other skills and training events.  
• Six community groups or projects assisted.  
• 12 voluntary conservation agreements negotiated.  
• 60 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• 12 ha planted to terrestrial native species.  
• 60 ha protected for by fencing specifically for significant species/ecological community protection.  
• 600 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.  
• 30,000 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented. | Biodiversity Conservation | See comments below. | • One awareness raising event was conducted which attracted 12 participants. |

Comment: This project has been delayed. Dry seasonal conditions post release of the Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus resulted in a delay to project implementation. Advice from DPI Local Land Services Biosecurity indicates that there is expected to be a spoke in the virus during Spring 2017. Therefore, on ground works are scheduled to occur at the end of September 2017.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Swift Parrot and Woodland Bird Saving our Species Habitat Project – Tarcutta Catchment</strong></td>
<td>The objective of this project is to improve long term viability of the nationally endangered swift parrot population in NSW, as well as a diversity of co-occurring threatened woodland species and endangered ecological communities. Key threats to be addressed will include:  - habitat loss and degradation  - reduced food resources during drought  - climate change impacts on habitat  - Poitacine beak and feather disease  - collision mortality  - management of key threats  - protect, restore and expand foraging habitat  - protect, restore and expand drought refuge habitat  - develop climate models to guide climate adaptation  - collect and analyse tissue samples from injured swift parrots.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:  - Two training sessions, workshops seminars or skills training events conducted.  - 10 participants attending training sessions, workshops seminars or skills training events.  - Two community groups or projects assisted.  - Four voluntary conservation agreements negotiated.  - 10 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/ rehabilitated.  - 10 ha planted to terrestrial native species.  - 20 ha protected by fencing specifically for significant species or ecological community protection.  - 20 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.  - 20 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented.</td>
<td>Biodiversity Conservation Threatened Species  - This project engaged with landholders that have known populations on their properties, and provided funding to protect/enhance habitat, sustain/increase population numbers and to educate landholders and members of the public on the following:  - reducing habitat loss  - reducing grazing pressures that impact populations  - reducing predation  - promoting agricultural practices that are conducive to sustainable managing and protecting populations. Under this project, two landholders partnered with Riverina Local Land Services to protect and enhance seven ha of habitat for the nationally endangered swift parrot population and co-occurring threatened woodland species and endangered ecological communities. A community bird survey, workshop and field day was delivered in May 2017 with 20 people attending. This event resulted in the distribution of a media release, e-news article, industry news and fact sheet.</td>
<td>Native Vegetation  - Under this project, four landholders partnered with Riverina Local Land Services to protect and enhance 37 ha of native vegetation through fencing, grazing management and strategic planting of native vegetation. These activities assisted in mitigating against mobile sediment entering the Mates Gully waterway, resulting in improved water quality, and protect and enhance habitat and corridor linkages for threatened species such as the swift parrot, regent honeyeater and squirrel glider. As this is a targeted project, engagement with the group from the outset of project development has resulted in good working relationships within the group and between the landholders and Riverina Local Land Services staff. The landholders have expressed that it has brought them together as a community and they have developed a sense of ownership and commitment to the project.</td>
<td>One workshop was conducted which attracted 20 participants.  - One community group was assisted.  - Two voluntary conservation agreements were negotiated.  - Seven ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  - Seven ha was planted to terrestrial native species.  - Seven ha was protected by fencing specifically for significant species or ecological community protection.  - Seven ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.  - Seven ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures were implemented.  - Two media opportunities including a media release and newsletter article were developed.  - One workshop was conducted attracting eight participants.  - Four voluntary conservation agreements were negotiated.  - Seven ha of terrestrial native vegetation was protected by fencing.  - Seven ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  - 27 ha was planted to riparian native species.  - Three ha was planted to terrestrial native species.  - 37 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.  - 37 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures were implemented.  - 37 ha of land was managed for sustainable grazing.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mates Gully Riparian Zone Biodiversity Protection and Enhancement</strong></td>
<td>This project aims to mitigate against mobile sediment that is impacting on the functionality of habitat for threatened species (OEH identified as a key threatening process) and is reducing water quality entering the Mates Gully waterway as a tributary to Tarcutta Creek and the Murrumbidgee River. This will be achieved by protecting and enhancing native vegetation using fencing, grazing controls and strategic planting of native vegetation. Important aspects of this project are:  - Priority sites occur on private land and adjacent Mates Gully travelling stock reserve (TSR), which is a highly researched and identified wildlife hotspot for threatened species.  - The proposed works will protect and enhance existing areas of similar native vegetation and habitat on adjoining properties and provide corridor linkages from the TSR to Tarcutta Creek/Murrumbidgee River.  - Mates’s Gully has been targeted as a priority area because a group of eight adjoining landholders were motivated to collaborate with Riverina Local Land Services and address the underlying issues that are threatening existing native vegetation communities in the Mates’s Gully sub-catchment. This project is co-funded with a 50.50 per cent contribution from Riverina Local Land Services ratepayer source of funds.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:  - To showcase community and agency collaboration to address a key threatening process (mobile sediment) in a sub-catchment that contributes to the degradation of native vegetation and stability of grade three waterways.  - Implement paddock and creek walks with local and invited landholders to effectively demonstrate how biodiversity and agriculture can address the decline of native vegetation and deterioration of waterways.  - To install three km of fencing and revegetate and enhance five ha in strategic prioritised sites.</td>
<td>Two media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.  - One training session, workshop, seminar or skills training event conducted.  - 10 participants attending the training session, workshop, seminar or skills training event.  - Five voluntary conservation agreements.  - 15 ha of terrestrial native vegetation rehabilitated.  - Five ha of terrestrial native vegetation protected by fencing.  - 10 ha planted to terrestrial native species.  - 10 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.  - 15 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) measures implemented.  - 15 ha of land managed for sustainable grazing.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Riverina project map
## Table 22: South East budget and expenditure by project and funding theme programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Total investors</th>
<th>Total budget $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW funds contributed</th>
<th>% of Total CA NSW Funds contributed</th>
<th>Funding theme split</th>
<th>Total expenditure $</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Funding theme split of total CA NSW expenditure</th>
<th>Over / (underspend)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal and Cultural Heritage Program</td>
<td>CA NSW, NSW Government, OEH, NSW Treasury (recurrent)</td>
<td>344,614</td>
<td>282,200</td>
<td>82 %</td>
<td>282,200</td>
<td>460,380</td>
<td>340,229</td>
<td>74 %</td>
<td>340,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting native vegetation and biodiversity values on Travelling Stock Routes</td>
<td>CA NSW, NSW Govt, OEH, LLS rates</td>
<td>416,091</td>
<td>282,200</td>
<td>68 %</td>
<td>46,024</td>
<td>34,562</td>
<td>50,646</td>
<td>40,517</td>
<td>236,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity conservation for wetlands on the tablelands</td>
<td>CA NSW, NSW Govt, OEH, NSW Treasury (recurrent)</td>
<td>240,565</td>
<td>215,600</td>
<td>90 %</td>
<td>57,604</td>
<td>86,406</td>
<td>36,801</td>
<td>55,202</td>
<td>46,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stepping stones for threatened woodland birds</td>
<td>CA NSW, NSW Govt, OEH, NSW Treasury (recurrent)</td>
<td>197,165</td>
<td>172,200</td>
<td>87 %</td>
<td>48,176</td>
<td>81,306</td>
<td>54,189</td>
<td>108,379</td>
<td>54,189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat restoration for the Superb Parrot</td>
<td>CA NSW, NSW Govt, OEH, NSW Treasury (recurrent)</td>
<td>215,996</td>
<td>172,200</td>
<td>80 %</td>
<td>48,176</td>
<td>95,707</td>
<td>62,953</td>
<td>146,891</td>
<td>41,969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targeted threatened fauna species program</td>
<td>CA NSW, NSW Govt, OEH, NSW Treasury (recurrent)</td>
<td>234,966</td>
<td>122,409</td>
<td>52 %</td>
<td>122,409</td>
<td>233,535</td>
<td>122,714</td>
<td>53 %</td>
<td>122,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting riparian and priority vegetation in the Shoalhaven, Wingecaribee and Wollemi Catchments</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLS, Water NSW, landholders</td>
<td>1,600,000</td>
<td>431,500</td>
<td>27 %</td>
<td>214,445</td>
<td>217,055</td>
<td>198,559</td>
<td>201,225</td>
<td>31,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escarpment to sea vegetation management program</td>
<td>CA NSW, NSW Govt, OEH, NSW Treasury (recurrent)</td>
<td>493,914</td>
<td>431,500</td>
<td>87 %</td>
<td>115,078</td>
<td>86,406</td>
<td>114,303</td>
<td>85,728</td>
<td>228,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Coastal Connection - improving priority estuaries, riverine and coastal areas in SE NSW</td>
<td>CA NSW, NSW Govt, OEH, NSW Treasury (recurrent)</td>
<td>493,914</td>
<td>431,500</td>
<td>87 %</td>
<td>201,484</td>
<td>57,604</td>
<td>268,106</td>
<td>76,602</td>
<td>228,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting priority riparian vegetation in the upper Lachlan and Murray catchments</td>
<td>CA NSW, NSW Govt, OEH, NSW Treasury (recurrent)</td>
<td>405,518</td>
<td>280,691</td>
<td>69 %</td>
<td>115,078</td>
<td>165,078</td>
<td>116,193</td>
<td>166,034</td>
<td>166,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,642,743</td>
<td>2,822,000</td>
<td>846,600</td>
<td>564,400</td>
<td>282,200</td>
<td>1,128,800</td>
<td>4,504,334</td>
<td>3,082,191</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Excludes admin expenditure, which was $288,233 in 2016-17.
Table 23: South East programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Aboriginal and Cultural Heritage Program | This project will build capacity of Aboriginal people to identify, describe and record Aboriginal sites and objects on travelling stock reserves (TSR) and Local Aboriginal Land Council owned land. It will also provide for the employment of Aboriginal people through cultural site assessments and funding of on-ground works projects that protect cultural sites and objects and protect/restore biodiversity values. Enterprise development that creates opportunities for Aboriginal community to work on country will also be supported. The project will celebrate and increase awareness of cultural values on public land through events and written materials. Development of this project will be undertaken in partnership with OEH Heritage Division. | Project outcomes will be:  
- To identify the cultural values of TSRs through on-site cultural assessments undertaken by accredited sites officers. Through this process information will be gathered on appropriate management of TSR cultural values to ensure these values are conserved.  
- To create employment opportunities for Aboriginal people through site assessment with opportunity for capacity building regarding accreditation to undertake cultural assessment and promotion of Aboriginal youth involvement in cultural awareness and assessment. | • 80 TSRs assessed for Aboriginal cultural heritage values.  
• 12 Local Aboriginal Land Councils supported.  
• 40 Aboriginal people participating.  
• Five Aboriginal community members employed.  
• Five people trained in cultural sites assessment. | Aboriginal Cultural Heritage  
Native Vegetation Biodiversity Conservation  
Threatened Species | This project has built the capacity of Aboriginal communities to build, protect, share, and celebrate cultural knowledge. Aboriginal youth involvement in cultural awareness and assessment was increased through work with schools and a cultural youth camp. Three cultural burning projects have nurtured a strong sense of cultural pride in implementing traditional practices. Social outcomes included confidence building, leadership and mentoring, finding a place in the wider community for shared knowledge and employment for those who have gained the skills. One Aboriginal Land Council neatly summed up the impact of their project in their progress report by stating: “This work marks the return of Aboriginal people to purposeful burning on Country after a gap of 150 years...As such this is a significant cultural milestone.” Indigenous work crews managed country, protected cultural heritage assets and improved the condition of threatened ecological communities (white box yellow box woodland, natural temperate grassland and montane peatlands and swamps). | • Five sites were assessed for Aboriginal cultural values.  
• Seven Local Aboriginal Land Councils were supported.  
• 208 Aboriginal people participating in project activities.  
• 15 Aboriginal people were employed to facilitate project activities.  
• Eight LALC members were trained in cultural assessment of burn sites (RFS basic training, site preparation, and cultural assessment).  
• 20 other skills development training events were held.  
• 15 awareness raising events with Aboriginal cultural element/focus were conducted with 878 people in attendance.  
• Four written products were developed including a report on on-site cultural values, local food resource, management plan and project video.  
• 39.5 ha of wetland and riparian vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• 28.5 ha of significant species habitat was protected.  
• 109 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented. |

| Protecting Native Vegetation and Biodiversity values on Travelling Stock Reserves | South East Local Land Services is currently undertaking assessments of TSR values and this project will provide additional resources to identify medium to high conservation value TSRs. Some TSRs in the South East region have been identified as having known and potential occurrence of threatened and endangered ecological communities, and populations of threatened flora and fauna including grassland earless dragon populations on the Monaro (Saving our Species site managed species). The project will involve on-ground works to protect and manage high conservation vegetation and manage threats to threatened flora and fauna including fenc ing along freehold boundaries, weed and pest control. Actions to provide benefits to NSW threatened species on Saving our Species managed sites will be in consultation with OEH. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Improvement in the resource condition of native vegetation in travelling stock reserves across the Tablelands area of the South East region.  
- Enhancement and protection of high conservation value native vegetation, and threatened flora and fauna populations (SOS managed sites). | • 408 TSRs assessed for native vegetation values.  
• 200 ha native vegetation assessed for potential threatened species.  
• 100 ha native vegetation protected by fencing.  
• 100 ha terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• 10 ha of pest plant control measures implemented. | Native Vegetation Biodiversity Conservation  
Threatened Species | This project has resulted in improvement in the condition and habitat value of travelling stock reserves with investment in high conservation sites with features such as tablelands snow gum woodland, lowland grassy woodland of the south east boregion and white box yellow box Blakely’s red gum woodland, and habitat for painted honeyeaters, superb parrots, brown tree-creeplers, hooded robins, diamond fire-tails, scarlet robins, golden sun moth, the mouse burr daisy, the hoary sunray and a Save our Species population of eucaliptus aggregata. This has been achieved through activities such as fenc ing to restrict stock access, weed control (e.g. fire weed, St. Johns wort, lantana, and blackberry), signage to discourage timber removal, and revegetation. | • 406 TSR sites were assessed for native vegetation condition.  
• 1,030 ha of native vegetation was assessed.  
• 379 ha of native vegetation was protected by fenc ing.  
• 395 ha of native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• 30 ha of wetland native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• Eight ha of riparian native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• 89 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.  
• 386 ha of significant species/ecological community were protected.  
• 21 ha was planted to terrestrial native species. |

Comments: Cultural assessment of TSRs was not able to be progressed due to South East Local Land Services staffing changes and TAFE NSW being unable to offer cultural assessment training. The majority of funds were therefore invested through a small grants program with NSW LALC and OEH staff assisting with the assessment of grant applications. Additional funding was committed to this project by South East Local Land Services to deliver additional project outcomes.

Comments: The method for TSR assessment was modified because a planned concurrent TSR project was delayed. CA NSW funding was invested in sites identified as having high natural values. Additional funding was committed to this project by South East Local Land Services to deliver additional project outcomes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
<th>Project intended outputs</th>
<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
<th>Project delivered outputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Biodiversity Conservation for Wetlands on the Tablelands | This project will target the protection of wetland biodiversity and threatened biota with the aim of reducing grazing pressure, nutrient input and weed invasion on wetlands, and wetland associated endangered ecological communities. Investment will be targeted towards conservation of montane peatlands and swamps, upland wetlands of the New England Tablelands and Monaro Plateau (Federal list) and alpine sphagnum bogs and fens, natural temperate grasslands, tablelands snowgum and black saffey grassy woodlands and species such as eucalyptus aggregata. The project will conserve habitat for migratory wetland birds and threatened wetland species such as Latham's snipe, the Australasian bittern and the Australian painted snipe, where the restoration of natural wetland habitat in the agricultural landscape is seen as an important conservation strategy. It will also create opportunity to identify additional habitat for species such as the giant dragonfly. Higher investment per hectare is required to secure outcomes as this is a new program being introduced with foundational work required to engage land managers to both understand wetland values and to participate in their protection. | Project outcomes will be:  
- A reduction in key threats to wetlands and their associated flora and fauna, specifically reducing grazing pressure, creating vegetated buffer strips to control and filter runoff, managing nutrient input and controlling weeds.  
- Increased awareness of wetland values and an understanding of the impacts of chemicals and nutrients. This is important in engaging landholders in wetland conservation in those parts of our region where there is limited knowledge of wetland values on private land.  
- Revegetation that facilitates reduced evaporation will be undertaken to increase habitat value and resilience to wetland drying predicted through climate change.  
- Delivering a number of awareness raising events to engage land managers and the community to be involved in the delivery of program, and to ensure implementation of best management practices of environmental assets. |  
- 30 ha of wetland native vegetation enhanced / rehabilitated.  
- Five ha planted to wetland native vegetation.  
- 15 ha of wetland native vegetation protected by fencing.  
- 10 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.  
- Three awareness raising events on wetland values. |  
Biodiversity Conservation Native Vegetation Threatened Species | Wetland management for habitat protection has been secured through 10 year management contracts with landholders. Key threats to wetlands and their associated flora and fauna have been reduced. Restricting stock access to wetlands has reduced grazing pressure, and revegetation to create vegetation buffer strips will improve habitat value. Additional threats acting on wetlands were identified, specifically slashing and removing shrubs from an upland bog. Land manager knowledge of the diversity of characteristics of wetlands will be increased through field days planned for Spring 2017. |  
- 34 ha of wetland native vegetation was enhanced / rehabilitated.  
- 4.7 ha was planted to wetland native vegetation.  
- 39 ha of wetland native vegetation was protected by fencing.  

Comments: This project is being delivered in partnership with Greening Australia. Additional outputs will be achieved in spring 2017 through landholder management agreements and wetland related events. Under expenditure this project is offset by over expenditure against the Habitat Restoration for the Superb Parrot project. This was due to a reassessment of outcomes as part of the partnership with Greening Australia.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
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| Stepping Stones for Threatened Woodland Birds | This project will focus on improving habitat connectivity and availability for threatened small woodland birds such as the scarlet robin. This project will target areas of land within the south east highlands bioregion (either at Braidwood, Burringurrah, Michelago or Delegate) with the aim of increasing landholder awareness of, and action towards, the protection, rehabilitation and enhancement of suitable woodland foraging and breeding habitat, actively managing these areas to reduce threats affecting the SoS landscape-scale species, scarlet robin. A range of associated woodland birds including flame robin, hooded robin, diamond firetail, speckled warbler, gang-gang cockatoo, brown tree creeper and glossy black cockatoo will also benefit. This project recognises that habitat loss for woodland birds is a key threat under the SoS Landscape Species Strategy and that a significant amount of woodland habitat is present within private land holdings. Landholder agreements will be secured within areas identified as strategic for the expansion and connectivity of suitable habitat. Financial incentives will be provided to landholders to assist them in fencing sites to manage grazing, revegetate areas with a diversity of local plant species, and manage grassy weeds to increase and enhance native groundcover, and increase remnant size. Also opportunities to protect and improve the condition of native vegetation within priority landscape corridors will also be supported by working in partnership with Kosciusko to Coast (K2C), Greening Australia and Landcare groups. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Improvement in the condition, extent and connectivity of remnant native vegetation.  
- Enhancement and protection of habitat for threatened fauna species.  
- Number of landholders signing a management agreement and undertaking sustainable land management practices. | 10 ha native vegetation surveyed for threatened plant species and communities.  
30 ha terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
Eight ha planted to terrestrial native species.  
11 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.  
11 ha of terrestrial native vegetation protected by fencing.  
Three awareness raising events. | Native Vegetation Conservation Threatened Species | Native vegetation will be enhanced and protected (including areas identified as suitable habitat for threatened (NSW) woodland birds, including the scarlet robin) through 10 year landholders management agreements. Landholder capacity to successfully regenerate and revegetate woodland areas will increase the quantity and quality of habitat for woodland birds. | 10 landholder management agreements were negotiated.  
Four awareness raising events were conducted.  
10 ha of significant species/ecological community was protected.  
12 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
9.4 ha was planted to riparian native species.  
21 ha was planted to terrestrial native species.  
Seven ha of pest plant control was implemented.  
12 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was protected by fencing. |

Comments: A need for improving landholder capacity to conduct revegetation works was identified and delivered through this project. Additional funding was committed to this project by South East Local Land Services to deliver additional project outcomes.

| Habitat Restoration for the Superb Parrot | This project will restore habitat of the vulnerable superb parrot in strategic locations close to known habitat and movement corridors of this species in the Yass, Boorowa and Upper Lachlan local government areas. Alteration of their habitat and land clearing has resulted in a loss of nesting and foraging habitats, including the loss of living and dead hollow bearing trees, thus threatening the long-term survival of this species in the wild. Financial incentives will be offered to landholders for biodiverse revegetation of key habitat areas, using appropriate local tree, shrub and ground cover species including wattles, hopbush, saltbush and native grasses to provide important foraging habitats. There will be also a focus on the retention of living and dead paddock trees, along with planting or direct seeding of appropriate local eucalypt species, particularly white box, yellow box, Blakely’s red gum and river red gum, to replace hollow bearing paddock trees in the long-term, and allow for future regeneration of nesting and food resources for the superb parrot. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Improvement in the condition, extent and connectivity of remnant native vegetation.  
- Improve the condition of significant riparian native vegetation.  
- Protect and enhance habitat condition for landscape managed vulnerable species - superb parrot.  
- Number of landholders signing a management agreement and undertaking sustainable land management practices. | 30 ha planted to terrestrial native species.  
40 ha protected by fencing specifically for significant species or ecological community protection.  
Three awareness raising events on wetland values. | Native Vegetation Conservation Threatened Species | This project has improved the extent and connectivity of remnant terrestrial and riparian native vegetation, and protected and enhanced the habitat condition of the superb parrot.  
249 ha was planted to terrestrial native species.  
93 ha of significant species/ ecological communities were protected by fencing.  
Two awareness raising events were held on topics of ‘Why remnant vegetation is valuable and how to manage or improve it’, and ‘Revegetation, remnants, habitat connectivity and birds’. |

Comments: Project activities have been delivered in partnership with Greening Australia. Over expenditure in this project is offset by under expenditure against the Biodiversity Conservation for Wetlands on the Tablelands project. This was due to a reassessment of outcomes as part of the partnership with Greening Australia.
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<tr>
<td>Targeted Threatened Fauna Species Program</td>
<td>This is a multi-targeted program to implement Saving our Species (SoS) management actions to benefit the long term survival of several threatened fauna species in the South East Local Land Services region. A targeted fox control project will be undertaken to protect three threatened fauna species listed under the Saving our Species program: brush-tailed rock wallabies at Kangaroo Valley and potoros and quolls adjoining Barren Grounds Nature Reserve and Budderoo National Park. Fox control will be coordinated with and value-add to existing NPWS activities and Friends of the Brush Tailed Rock Wallaby with a focus on engaging neighbouring private landholders to join in on fox control efforts. It will involve the installation of infra-red cameras, training for landholders in chemical baiting techniques, supply of manufactured baits and OEH assisting in a Bioblitz style activity to engage landholders in targeted areas. Secondly, this program will add support to the South Coast Shorebird Recovery program which aims to reduce the rate of decline of shorebirds (hooded plover, pied oystercatcher, and little tern) and recover populations by enhancing breeding success. In particular this project will support Shorebird Discovery Rangers and volunteer wardens to patrol high use beaches along the NSW south coast and coordinate events with surf clubs to raise public awareness of the conservation status, recovery efforts, habitat importance and the biology of threatened shorebirds. This program will be implemented in consultation with OEH.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:  • Improvement in resource condition for threatened species indicators.  • Enhancement of high conservation value native vegetation, and threatened fauna populations (SoS managed sites).  • The delivery of a number of awareness raising events to engage land managers and the community to be involved in the delivery of program, and to ensure implementation of best management practices of environmental assets.</td>
<td>• 5,000 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) implemented.  • 40 land managers supported.  • Eight awareness raising events.  • Two Shorebird Discovery Rangers supported.</td>
<td>Threatened Species</td>
<td>This project increased landholder engagement in landscape scale fox control benefiting brush-tailed rock-wallabies, long-nosed potoros and spotted-tailed quolls in collaboration with OEH. Community awareness of the threats and actions required to save threatened species was raised.</td>
<td>• 13,670 ha of pest animal control (vertebrates) implemented.  • 128 land managers were supported, including 84 landholders participating in fox control programs in target areas to protect native species.  • 65 awareness raising events were held covering school education programs, attendance at field days, Bioblitz days with targeted landholders and field days for the general public.  • Six Shorebird Discovery Rangers were supported.</td>
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<td>Protecting Riparian and Priority Native Vegetation in the Shoalhaven, Wingecaribee and Wollondilly Catchments</td>
<td>This project will protect and enhance riparian vegetation and priority native vegetation - with a focus on high risk soil landscapes and priority endangered ecological communities, such as Robertson basalt tall open-forest, Robertson rainforest, shale sandstone transition forest and Southern Highlands shale woodlands in sub-catchments within the Shoalhaven, Wingecaribee and Wollondilly river catchments. Landholders will be engaged to undertake on-ground protection and enhancement works with 10 year agreements put in place to secure outcomes. This project is a component of a larger partnership between Water NSW and South East Local Land Services for the protection and improvement of the water supply catchments of the Sydney region.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be:  • Improve the protection of riparian vegetation.  • Improve the condition of significant native vegetation.  • Increase the connectivity of native vegetation.  • Number of landholders signing a management agreement and undertaking sustainable land management practices.</td>
<td>• 30 ha of riparian native vegetation protected by fencing.  • 40 ha of riparian native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  • 20 km stream bank length of riparian vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  • 10 hectares planted to riparian native species.  • 1.5 km stream bank length of riparian vegetation planted to riparian native species.</td>
<td>Biodiversity Conservation Threatened Species Native Vegetation</td>
<td>The condition, protection and connectivity of significant riparian and priority native vegetation was enhanced through a wide range of on-ground activities secured through agreements with land managers on properties in the Southern Tablelands and Southern Highlands of south east NSW.</td>
<td>• 11 landholder management agreements were negotiated.  • 57 ha of riparian native vegetation was protected by fencing.  • 65 ha of riparian native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  • 19 km of stream bank length of riparian vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  • 24 ha was planted to riparian native species.  • 2.7 km of stream bank length of riparian vegetation was planted to riparian native species.  • Eight alternative watering sites were installed.  • 224 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was protected by fencing.  • 228 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  • 14 ha was planted to terrestrial native species.  • 12 ha of significant species/ecological community was protected.  • 32 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Project title</td>
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| **Escarpment to Sea Vegetation Management Program** | This project will improve the condition, resilience and connectivity of native vegetation in priority biodiversity corridors along the coast from Illawara to the far NSW south coast, linking high conservation coastal vegetation with those along the escarpment. The project will support the adoption of practices that maintain or improve the condition of priority native vegetation, including strategic revegetation and biodiverse plantings to link or expand on important remnants, and managing threats to biodiversity through weed control and fencing. In particular, opportunities to support land managers to maintain or improve the condition of endangered ecological communities (Milton/Ulladulla subtropical rainforest, Illawara subtropical rainforest, Illawara lowlands grassy woodland and swamp oak floodplain forest) or better protect threatened plants will also be explored. An expression of interest process will be run for private landholders with a focus on the above priorities, with ten year management agreements used to secure outcomes where investment is made. Higher unit costs per hectare are incurred for vegetation management along the coast as compared with the tablelands, for both weed control and fencing. Landholdings are smaller in size also contributing to higher costs in the engagement and participation of land managers in programs. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Improved condition of significant native vegetation.  
- Improved protection of significant native vegetation.  
- Increased connectivity of native vegetation, particularly biodiversity corridors.  
- Number of landholders signing a management agreement and undertaking sustainable land management practices.  
- Delivering a number of awareness raising events to engage land managers and the community to be involved in the delivery of program, and to ensure implementation of best management practices of environmental assets. | Biodiversity Conservation Threatened Species Native Vegetation | The condition and protection of significant priority native vegetation will be improved across tenures: on private properties, in National Parks and on council land, between the escarpment and the sea in south-east NSW through conservation agreements. Connectivity of biodiversity corridors has increased. Community awareness of bush care basics and native fauna increased. | • 14 landholder management agreements were negotiated.  
• 205 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• 162 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.  
• 121 ha was protected by fencing specifically for significant species or ecological community protection.  
• 5.7 ha was planted to coastal native species.  
• 4.4 ha was planted to wetland native species.  
• 8.7 ha was planted to riparian native species.  
• 14 ha was planted to terrestrial native species.  
• Four awareness raising events were held covering planting skills, fauna forum, site visit, and field day. |

| **The Coastal Connection - Improving Priority Estuaries, Riverine and Coastal Areas in South East NSW** | This program is aimed at improving the condition of coastal, estuarine and riparian environments through coastal floodplain eucalypt forest and Brogo wet vine forest. On-ground works include weed management in endangered ecological communities or threatened species habitat, vegetation enhancement and connectivity through biodiverse plantings, coastal vegetation protection through fencing, and activities to reduce sediment and nutrient sources entering estuaries and rivers. Out of the 102 estuaries in the South East Local Land Services region, 29 key estuaries have been prioritised for investment. Areas for investment must also be covered by a coastal zone management plan, estuary management plan, or river rehabilitation plan. Higher unit costs per hectare are incurred within coastal and estuarine environments to secure protection and enhancement of these environments. Landholdings are smaller in size and terrain can be steeper, contributing to higher costs both in engagement and on-ground costs such as weed control, fencing and biodiverse plantings. | Project outcomes will be:  
- Improved condition of significant coastal, estuarine and riparian native vegetation.  
- Increased connectivity of coastal, estuarine and riparian vegetation.  
- Number of landholders signing a management agreement and undertaking sustainable land and water management practices. | Biodiversity Conservation Threatened Species Native Vegetation | On the Far South Coast, this project improved the condition and connectivity of riparian and estuarine vegetation within the Bega, Bermobna, Candelo, and Brogo river sub-catchments, Nelsons and Middle lagoon, Dry River and Bermagui catchments. This included more than 30 ha of protection of significant species and endangered ecological communities including lowland grassy woodland, coastal floodplain eucalypt forest and Brogo wet vine forest. The capacity of landholders to manage soil erosion, biodiversity and riparian vegetation improved. On the South Coast, this project improved the condition and connectivity of riparian vegetation. Shoalhaven and Crookhaven communities collaborated to identify issues and priorities for their local estuaries. | • 22 landholder management agreements were negotiated.  
• 61 ha of coastal/wetland/riparian native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
• 37 ha was planted to terrestrial/estuarine/riparian native species.  
• 52.6 ha of wetland riparian native vegetation was protected by fencing.  
• 122 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.  
• Four awareness raising events were undertaken with Green Army and Barrabaroo Landcare covering soil erosion, biodiversity, and riparian vegetation. |

Comments: This project was delivered by the South Coast and Far South Coast local area teams. Additional funding was committed to this project by South East Local Land Services to deliver additional project outcomes.
<table>
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| Protecting Priority Riparian Vegetation in the Upper Lachlan and Murrumbidgee Sub-Catchments | This project will focus on the two significant riparian corridors of the Upper Lachlan and Murrumbidgee catchments. Private landholders will be offered incentives to undertake protection and enhancement works through an expression of interest process within the Upper Lachlan sub-catchments (Boorowa, Yass, and Crookwell areas) to protect, enhance and connect remnant riparian vegetation through protection from stock, managed grazing and supplementary planting. A combination of river priorities mapping (NSW Office of Water 2012) and vegetation connectivity mapping (OEH 2015) for this area will be used to establish finer scale investment priorities in the design of the expression of interest process. Landholder agreements will be used to secure outcomes at funded sites. The Upper Murrumbidgee River is a high value riverine ecosystem containing the critical aquatic habitats of several nationally listed threatened species (notably trout cod, Murray cod and Macquarie perch). There are a range of threats facing the health of the upper Murrumbidgee River’s natural assets, such as a reduced surface water flows and altered seasonal patterns, physical disturbances, loss of habitat, reduced habitat connectivity and complexity, and introduced animal and plant species. This part of the program seeks a collaborative approach to achieve environmental outcomes in the upper Murrumbidgee through habitat rehabilitation and protection works. | Project outcomes will be:  
• Increase the extent and improve the condition of native vegetation in priority areas.  
• Protect and improve the biodiversity values of riparian ecosystems.  
• Number of landholders signing a management agreement and undertaking sustainable land and water management practices. | 40 ha of riparian native vegetation protected by fencing.  
30 ha planted to riparian native species.  
Four km of stream bank length of riparian vegetation protected.  
Four off-stream (alternative) watering sites installed.  
Two awareness raising events. | Biodiversity Conservation Native Vegetation | The condition, protection and connectivity of significant riparian and priority native vegetation were enhanced through a wide range of on-ground activities. Riparian land was fenced to manage stock access, riparian native species were planted to protect stream banks, and off-stream watering sites were installed to reduce grazing pressure in priority areas.  
| 38 ha of riparian native vegetation was protected by fencing.  
46 ha was planted to riparian native species.  
10 km of stream bank length of riparian vegetation was protected.  
Two off-stream (alternative) watering sites were installed.  
38 ha of riparian native vegetation was protected by fencing.  
14 ha of stream bank length of riparian vegetation was planted to riparian native species.  
46 ha was planted to riparian native species.  
Two awareness raising events were conducted. | Comments: Project activities have been delivered in partnership with Greening Australia. |
### Western Region

**2016-17 program summary**

Table 24: Western budget and expenditure by project and funding theme programs and projects 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Total investors</th>
<th>Total budget $</th>
<th>Total CA NSW Funds contributed</th>
<th>% of Total CA NSW Funds contributed</th>
<th>Funding theme split</th>
<th>Total expenditure $</th>
<th>% of total CA NSW funds expended</th>
<th>Funding theme split of total CA NSW expenditure</th>
<th>Over / (underspend)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Western Region Native Veg Condition Program</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>1,260,583</td>
<td>518,000</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>518,000</td>
<td>1,220,434</td>
<td>505,894</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>505,894</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Region Native Veg Restoration Program</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>972,009</td>
<td>222,000</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>222,000</td>
<td>687,022</td>
<td>263,673</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>263,673</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Region Riparian Environments Program</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>818,211</td>
<td>555,000</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>555,000</td>
<td>1,123,059</td>
<td>528,893</td>
<td>47%</td>
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<td>Western Region Aboriginal Land Management Program</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>389,617</td>
<td>185,000</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>185,000</td>
<td>472,527</td>
<td>161,630</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>161,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Region Threatened species, communities and assets program</td>
<td>CA NSW, NLP</td>
<td>1,261,100</td>
<td>370,000</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>370,000</td>
<td>785,656</td>
<td>322,698</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>370,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,701,520</td>
<td>1,850,000</td>
<td>555,000</td>
<td>370,000</td>
<td>1,782,788</td>
<td>528,893</td>
<td>161,630</td>
<td>769,567</td>
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| Western Region Native Vegetation Condition Program | Western Region has the largest area of remnant native vegetation in NSW. However, while the region has high connectivity, habitat quality is jeopardised by poor vegetation condition. This project addresses the competition and habitat degradation by feral goats, a key threatening process. Unmanaged grazing by goats is a key threat impacting regional vegetation condition and presents a threat to plant communities given the large number of plant species that are palatable to them and their ability to browse and graze inaccessible areas as well as trees and dense thickets. Goats also compete with fauna and affect cultural heritage sites. Unmanaged goats have impact at a region-wide scale on biodiversity values and have potential to threaten a number of endangered species and endangered ecological communities. This program will reduce goat impact through implementing broad-scale exclusion fencing at sites across the region coupled with integrated and ongoing treatment such as appropriate grazing management, infrastructure and monitoring. Landholders will access cost-share incentives (landholders pay 50 per cent of the costs) to upgrade or construct total grazing pressure fencing through contracts linked to a 10-year groundcover management agreement. On-ground work will be supported by an integrated program of educational workshops and awareness raising activities. | Project outcomes will be:  
- To improve native vegetation condition and achieve healthier and more resilient landscapes at a landscape scale across the Western Local Land Services.  
- Improved species diversity; native ground cover and total biomass with commensurate improvements in biodiversity at treatment sites.  
- Protection and improvement in condition of threatened species habitat and endangered ecological communities.  
- Improvement in sustainable agricultural practices through restoration of native vegetation and management of threatening process.  
- The program will run region-wide but priority beneficiaries include the acacia loderi endangered ecological community, sandhill pine endangered ecological community, central mallee habitat of the mallee flor, the Paroo wetlands and habitat of the Barrier Ranges dragon and other OEH priority investment areas. All on-ground outcomes will be protected through management contracts. Funding will be leveraged through cost-share arrangements with participating landholders. Participation will be determined through a competitive application and assessment process. | 80,000 ha of terrestrial native vegetation protected by fencing.  
Two awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours conducted.  
38 participants attending awareness raising events.  
Two training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events conducted.  
20 participants attending training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events.  
Five media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created. | Native Vegetation | The sub-project underneath this program, the Groundcover Incentives Program, was delivered across the region targeting landholders with a 1:1 grant funding for the management of grazing pressure for increased native ground cover and improved species diversity on rangelands. The construction of total grazing pressure fencing to control of unmanaged rangeland goats was the main on-ground activity associated with this program. Total grazing pressure fencing is contracted in conjunction with a grazing management plan prepared by the landholder. These management agreements require the removal of unmanaged goats and maintenance of infrastructure and outcomes for a period of 10 years, including ongoing monitoring of resource condition in the individual project sites. Projects assessed in late 2015-16 were implemented in 2016-17. The process included an open call for applicants with a competitive assessment of applications by an independent expert panel. Funding recipients were given a 12-month period in which to carry out construction of fencing once contracts were signed. A total of 81 applications were received, of which only seven were funded out of CA NSW funding. Two more were funded out of National Landcare Programme allocations. Projects were distributed across a range of environments throughout the Western region including coolabah-black box, brigalow-gidgee woodland and cypress pine or bimble-box woodland. | 37,083 ha of terrestrial native vegetation was protected by fencing.  
Two training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events were conducted with 39 participants attending.  
Five media opportunities resulted in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created. |

Comments: Available funding was inadequate to achieve the target based on the proposals received. The application process for the 2017-18 incentive round focused solely on unfunded 2016-17 proposals. For this reason, no funding / awareness raising events were conducted in 2016-17 and engagement was focused on a case officer approach.
### Western Region Native Vegetation Restoration Program

This project involves the rehabilitation and restoration of remnant native vegetation communities across the region. The project includes the use of rangeland-appropriate techniques to re-establish native species on degraded areas such as clay pans. It targets the riparian zone of the Darling River and tributaries as well as ephemeral riparian systems, re-establishing native vegetation habitat and reducing sediment movement. At specific sites the techniques can be used to protect Aboriginal cultural sites. The approach involves specialist training to increase landholder capacity to both prevent and repair erosion impacts on native vegetation plus cost-share incentives for implementing on-ground works. (Landholders pay 50 per cent of the costs).

The program will also address significant weed threats to the condition of acacia loderi and coolibah-black box endangered ecological communities areas near Menindee through coordinating and enhancing landholder capacity to control of Weeds of National Significance and emergent exotic species (e.g. willow thus). The project recognises that the extensive spatial scale of management necessary to gain control of these issues precludes effective suppression by landholder input alone. Partnerships with local government will also be a key delivery mechanism.

**Project outcomes will be:**
- Restoration of native vegetation and reduction of soil loss to improve condition and cut sedimentation at key riparian sites.
- Restoration of native vegetation extent and condition in endangered ecological community areas through control of invasive exotic species.
- Actions will target coolibah-black box, acacia loderi and ephemeral riparian areas across the Western region.
- All on-ground outcomes will be protected through management contracts.
- Funding will be leveraged through cost-share arrangements with participating landholders.

**Project intended outcomes**
- 5,000 ha of land treated and/or protected from soil erosion by engineering works.
- 10 sites treated with soil erosion engineering works.
- Three awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours conducted.
- 30 participants attending awareness raising events.
- Two training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events conducted.
- 20 participants attending training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events.
- Five media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.
- 50,000 ha of pest plant control measures implemented.

**Funding theme/s**
- Native Vegetation

**Project delivered outcomes**
- 685 ha of land was treated and/or protected from soil erosion by engineering works.
- Six sites were treated with soil erosion engineering works.
- One training session, workshop, seminar or skills training event was conducted with 32 participants attending.
- One media opportunity resulted in articles in newspapers or on radio or television.
- 10,730 ha of pest plant control measures were implemented.

### Western Region Aboriginal Land Management Program

This project will build resource management capacity among the 13 per cent of regional population of Aboriginal descent. It will support Aboriginal people in the transfer of traditional knowledge, increase community awareness of Aboriginal land management practices and improve cultural site protection. Project scope includes engagement with the Aboriginal community and especially the managers of Aboriginal-owned land. The project will be delivered through both capacity building and on-ground activities and will focus on issues and topics of importance to the Aboriginal communities in the region, including:

- Support for Aboriginal people undertaking on-country events and managing traditional land.
- Targeted skills development in natural resource management for Aboriginal people managing land.
- Protection of sites of particular significance and/or cultural value (e.g. fencing Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and site protection works).

Where possible Aboriginal people will be engaged in planning the management of travelling stock reserve and stock watering places by recording and protecting Aboriginal sites and places.

**Project outcomes will be:**
- To assist and encourage Aboriginal communities to be involved and engaged in natural resource management projects covering water, soil, land, vegetation, biodiversity project and directly involved in the management and protection of cultural heritage sites and places.
- To promote traditional use on Country and support Aboriginal communities reconnect to country.
- To increase the capacity of Aboriginal people to participate and engage in natural resource management and manage traditional land and facilitate knowledge sharing, building and recording to ensure Aboriginal culture and knowledge is passed to future generations.

**Project intended outputs**
- 1,000 ha of Aboriginal cultural values managed.
- Five Aboriginal sites managed.
- Five media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created.
- Five community groups assisted.
- Four training sessions, workshops, seminars and skill training events conducted.
- 20 participants attending training sessions, workshops, seminars and skill training events conducted.

**Funding theme/s**
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

**Project delivered outcomes**
- Three ha of Aboriginal cultural values were managed.
- Three Aboriginal sites were managed.
- Five media opportunities resulted in articles in newspapers or on radio or television.
- Six community groups were assisted.
- Four training sessions, workshops, seminars and skill training events were conducted attracting 38 participants.

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**Comments:** The area treated was limited by type of projects implemented. New techniques addressing erosion in ephemeral riparian systems protect larger areas than estimated by current buffer calculations.

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### Catchment Action NSW Annual Report 2016-17

During 2016–17 two Aboriginal Communities Project Officers were partially (0.82 FTE) funded out of CA NSW. Staff supported Aboriginal land holders to complete four infrastructure projects through the Targeted Aboriginal Program, funded under other themes. Three cluster burial sites at Tempesttowe were protected with fencing and erosion control mesh. The improving Aboriginal Engagement Through Cultural Science Project progressed with three community workshops and 18 attendees from Muthli Muthli, Barkenji, Kurenji and Ngempa Aboriginal communities and the Mothers Ancestral Guardians Indigenous Corporation. The Through Our Eyes Film project was supported to engage 20 Aboriginal community members for three days of filming on-Country to record cultural knowledge and local Aboriginal history around Wellmiringile and Gooodoga.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project overview</th>
<th>Project intended outcomes</th>
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<th>Funding theme/s</th>
<th>Project delivered outcomes</th>
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| Western Region Riparian Environments Program | This project will improve the condition and management of significant riparian environments. Scope includes the Murray, Lachlan, Murrumbidgee, and Darling rivers as well as the Great Darling Anabranch, and targeting associated riparian environments and wetlands. These rivers and wetlands are important habitat for a range of significant aquatic species, many of which are of significance. They support extensive river red gum, lignum and black box-coolibah communities providing corridors of connectivity across a dry landscape. There are two RAMSAR-listed wetlands (Paroo River wetlands and Narran lakes), many wetlands of national significance. | Project outcomes will be:  
- To manage riverine environments specifically river frontage and wetlands to improve and maintain and/or protect riparian values including water quality, biodiversity, soil and vegetation and community values.  
- To build healthy and resilient riparian environments by improving riparian vegetation, soil and water condition, enhance connectivity of corridor vegetation and protect habitat for threatened species associated with rivers and wetlands.  
Benefits include:  
- Riparian environment of the major rivers and tributaries.  
- Ramsar wetland and wetland of national significance.  
- Living Murray Icon sites and priority environmental watering sites.  
- All on-ground outcomes will be protected through management contracts. Funding will be leveraged through cost-share arrangements with participating landholders. |  
- 10 off-stream watering sites installed.  
- 1,000 ha of wetland native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated.  
- 30 km of stream bank protected from stock.  
- Five awareness raising events such as demonstrations, field days or study tours conducted.  
- 50 participants attending awareness raising events.  
- Two training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events conducted.  
- 15 participants attending training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events.  
- Five media opportunities resulting in articles in newspapers or on radio or television created. | Biodiversity Conservation | In 2016-17 the second round of the Riparian Incentives Program was conducted as an open-call competitive grants process. A total of five projects were funded from CA NSW in this round across a range of significant environments including the Paroo River, the Darling River and tributaries and including protection of lignum and black-box coolibah communities. An endangered fish nursery project was developed and funded in partnership with DPI Fisheries to promote the development of nursery habitat and monitor the effectiveness of interventions for the protection of silver perch, golden perch and small bodied native fish species affected by competition with European carp. The project is located in wetlands along the southern Darling River. |  
- Six off-stream watering sites were installed.  
- 6,255 ha of wetland native vegetation was enhanced/rehabilitated.  
- 85 km of stream bank was protected from stock.  
- One awareness raising event was conducted attracting 61 participants.  
- Two training sessions, workshops, seminars or skills training events were conducted attracting 40 participants.  
- Five media opportunities resulted in articles in newspapers or on radio or television. |

Comments: Landholder preference was for fencing rather than installation of off-stream watering points.
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<td>Western Region Threatened Species, Communities and Assets Program</td>
<td>This program will target one iconic threatened species, one site managed species and five endangered ecological communities across the Western region. It will also benefit a suite of landscape and data deficient threatened species predicted or known to occur in Western Local Land Services. The program will strategically engage with landholders in key management areas and priority landscapes to protect threatened species and improve the condition and extent of endangered ecological communities. The primary threatened species targeted by this project are the iconic malleefowl and the site-managed grey grass-wren. The program aims to protect and conserve these species into the future by implementing on-ground management works that are delivered through voluntary management agreements with participating landholders. Management actions will also raise public awareness and promote the importance of these threatened species. For the iconic malleefowl this project aims to protect and enhance habitat, sustain and increase populations and promote landholder involvement in species protection. The key management sites include mallee environments of the Nymagee and Central Mallee areas. Activities include: reduce permanent habitat loss, reduce grazing pressure on malleefowl populations, reduce fire threats, reduce predation, promote malleefowl-friendly agricultural practices, reduce malleefowl mortality on roads. For the grey grass-wren located in the Narriearra site, conservation activities are required to ensure this species survives. The management actions will be to reduce and manage predation, grazing and habitat damage and encourage and promote landholder involvement in protection activities. This project will also assist locate and protect endangered ecological communities and implement actions to enhance biodiversity, improve condition and protect habitat for a suite of threatened species. The management actions will range from grazing control, pest and weed management and revegetation activities.</td>
<td>Project outcomes will be: To protect and conserve these species into the future by implementing on-ground management works that are delivered through voluntary management agreements with participating landholders. To raise public awareness and promote the importance of these threatened species. Targeted endangered ecological communities include: Acacia iodari shrublands; sandhill pine woodland in the Riverina, Murray-Darling Depression and NSW South Western Slopes bioregions. Acacia melvillei shrubland in the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression bioregions. Porcupine grass - red mallee - gum coolibah hummock grassland/low sparse woodland in the Broken Hill complex bioregion. Myall woodland in the Darling Riverine Plains, Brigalow Belt South, Cobar Peneplain, Murray-Darling Depression, Riverina and NSW South Western Slopes bioregions. All on-ground outcomes will be protected through management contracts.</td>
<td>Two voluntary conservation agreement negotiated. 1,000 ha protected under voluntary conservation agreement. 5,000 ha of pest animal control (vertebrate) measures implemented. 5,000 ha of initial pest animal control. 500 ha of pest plant control measures implemented. 200 ha of terrestrial native vegetation enhanced/rehabilitated. 1,000 ha of terrestrial native vegetation protected by fencing. 1,000 ha protected by fencing specifically for significant species / ecological community protection.</td>
<td>Threatened Species</td>
<td>Broadscale landscape management of threatening processes was addressed in the 2016-17 program with a pig management program conducted in the Cuttaburra Basin. A series of malleefowl workshops were conducted to address landholder capacity to identify and monitor malleefowl nesting sites and the latest information on malleefowl ecology. The lone-remaining population of swamp sheoak (Casuarina obesa) was protected on private land through a management agreement, infrastructure management and pest control in the project area. Reintroductions of endangered and threatened native fish species to wetlands of the lower Darling River supplemented an existing carp exclusion fencing project funded through the National Landcare Program in 2015-16. A targeted grey grass wren (SoS iconic threatened species) protection project was developed in this period, including site mapping of the Narriearra Site north of Broken Hill, to be funded in the 2017-18 financial year. 9,533 ha of grey grass wren habitat on Pindera Downs has been fenced to control access by unmanaged goats and cattle as well as improve grazing management. Similar projects involving the barrier range diogen and purple wood wattle have been developed for implementation in 2017-18.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Western project map

**Western LLS**

- Threatened Species
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Native Vegetation

Data has been extracted from digitized best endeavours. The State and its officers, agents or servants accept no responsibility for the result of any actions taken or the decisions made on the basis of the information, or for any inaccuracies or omissions contained in the map.

Map created by South East LLS. Geographic data supplied by ESRI and the © NSW Department of Planning and Services, Reference data ©/© 2016 Office of Environment and Heritage. Geographic Coordinate System: Geodetic Datum of Australia 1994. Copyright © NSW Government. All rights reserved. No part of this map may be reproduced without written permission.
CERTIFICATION STATEMENT BY GRANT RECIPIENT

Certificate by two authorised office bearers of the grant recipient organisation

We, David Witherdin and Natasha Collier certify that the information contained in the Statement of Expenditure of Grant, books, financial records and financial reports of Catchment Action NSW 2016/17 present the truth, fairness and accuracy of the accounts including the notes to the accounts of the organisation as at 26 October 2017.

We confirm that:

1. The total Grant of $25,000,000 has been fully expended. The records show and overspend of $309,405, which includes expenditure relating to the unexpended funds from 2015/16;

2. All funds were expended in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Funding Agreement dated 22 September 2014 with the State of New South Wales represented by the Local Land Services;

AND

A complete set of accounting and financial records relevant to the Project have been maintained.

Date: 26/10/2017

Signature: [Signature]

Name: David Witherdin

Position: Chief Executive Officer

Witness signature: [Signature]

Witness name: James Lawrence

Date: 26/10/2017

Signature: [Signature]

Name: Natasha Collier

Position: Chief Financial Officer

Witness signature: [Signature]

Witness name: James Lawrence