



National Landcare Program

Five Year Overview 2013 - 2018



Australian Government

National
Landcare
Program



West Gippsland
Catchment Management Authority



Chair's Foreword

The landscape and waterways of West Gippsland are breathtaking and diverse. The challenge of protecting and managing our natural environment cannot be tackled in isolation by one organisation or group alone.

In many ways, the National Landcare Program (NLP) is a case-study of partnerships: government, agencies, peak bodies, networks, community groups and passionate individuals working together for a common goal.

Over the past four years, the Australian Government has invested \$1 billion in the National Landcare Program. Accessing funding through this program has enabled the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA) to protect vulnerable eco-systems, empower farmers, encourage biodiversity and sustainable agriculture and highlight the importance of natural resource management.

Without that government investment we would not have been able to do this vital work to rehabilitate and protect our landscape and environment. Without trusted partnerships, particularly our close and productive relationship with Landcare, it would not have been possible to reach the goals set out in these projects.

This brochure provides a snapshot of the eight key projects funded through the National Landcare Program, including the successes and challenges faced by the CMA and its partners over the past five years.

I am incredibly proud of the work that has been done. There have been some amazing successes, times when outcomes have far exceeded expectations and real stories of local people who have embraced the opportunity to make a difference to the world we live in.

In all the work we do, a constant feature of the WGCMA approach has been engaging energetic local people and organisations to take action to help ensure future

generations and the environment can prosper from our region's natural resources. Our commitment to this is reiterated in the delivery of these NLP projects.

A key aim of the National Landcare Program was to 'involve communities in caring for their community'. I am particularly proud of our achievements in this area. Each of the eight programs has successfully engaged and involved the community, either as partners or volunteers. In every case, the programs managed to exceed their participation targets, in some cases two and half times more than anticipated.

Five years on, thanks to the National Landcare Program and the spirit of cooperation between all involved, I am confident of the benefits to the region. As we continue to grapple with legacy issues and the impact of climate change and severe weather events, managing our natural resources and nurturing these partnerships will be more important than ever.

Peter Jennings OAM

Chair, West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority

Acknowledgement

The West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority would like to acknowledge and pay our respects to the Traditional Land Owners and other indigenous people within the catchment area: the Gunaikurnai, the Bunurong and Boon Wurrung, and the Wurundjeri peoples. We also recognise the contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and organisations in land and natural resource management.

*Pictured above: Corner Inlet catchment
Front cover: Wilsons Promontory*

Indigenous Partnerships Program

Our aim:

To build and strengthen partnerships with Traditional Owner groups, increasing their participation in the management of natural resources within our region. The development of Country Plans to be incorporated in the planning and roll-out of all projects. Building skills and knowledge within the Indigenous community and to further develop WGCMA organisational cultural competence.



Our partners

Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC). Bunurong Land Council (BLCAC). Boon Wurrung Foundation.

Case study

In 2018, 20 people including WGCMA staff and staff from partner organisations attended a Close the Gap day event at the Powlett River.

During the day, members of Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BLCAC) shared information and knowledge about their aspirations for country, traditional land use, identifying artefacts, stories from the past and the theory of cultural ecology.

It was an incredible opportunity to pay respect to BLCAC Ancestors and increase our understanding of cultural methods of river restoration. "I was really impressed how inclusive and ready to talk about a shared future for the natural area all the presenters brought to the day," said one participant.

"I have never felt more welcome on country."

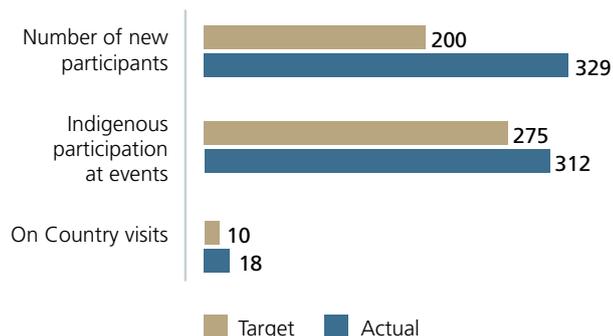
– Closing the Gap day participant

Dan Turnbull from BLCAC said Council members were humbled by the level of respect and interest and they look forward to doing similar events in the future.



Key statistics

Indigenous Participation



Our achievements and challenges

This program has delivered increased Traditional Owner participation in projects and activities, monthly work on country, and financial support of Traditional Owners to employ staff.

A Gunaikurnai Whole of Country plan has been developed, and an MoU with GLaWAC and draft MoU with Bunurong Land Council have been established. WGCMA developed an organisational cultural competency framework, with over 90% of staff participating in cultural heritage training. The CMA also provided training in cultural competence for over 80 people from external agencies.

A series of Traditional Ecological Knowledge sheets have been produced by GLaWAC to help improve understanding and knowledge of the Traditional Owners' role and history. Topics cover: Gunaikurnai country; creation story; customs; music, dance and ceremony; tools and technology; scarred trees and Native Title and Traditional Owner Recognition.

GLaWAC works crews have been employed on four of the eight NLP funded projects carrying out revegetation, fox control, protection of Cultural Heritage sites and weed management.

Pictured top: Closing the Gap Day, Powlett River 2017, above: Smoking ceremony, GLaWAC

Healthy Soils Sustainable Farms

Our aim:

To educate and assist farmers to improve their soil management, particularly in terms of nutrients, plants and grazing practices. Building awareness and improving understanding of soil health not only helps increase the yields and profitability of farms, but also reduces erosion, salinity and nutrient run-off, which impacts on the health of our waterways.



Our partners

Landcare. GippsDairy. Agriculture Victoria. Southern Farming Systems. Farm discussion groups. Private consultants.

What we did

We helped landholders develop and implement management plans for soil, nutrients, and grazing. Regular field days and events, as well as discussion groups and peer-to-peer mentoring opportunities were some of the methods we used to support best practice and encourage innovation. Demonstration sites were established so farmers could see different techniques in their own backyard.

Case study

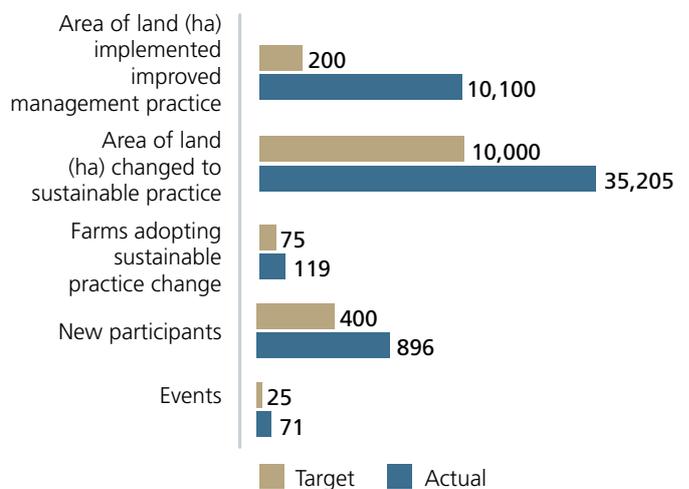
On their property at Perry Bridge, Jen Ribolli and David and Ruth Read are leading the way with their regenerative approach to pasture management. Through workshops and programs run by WGCMA and Landcare, they were able to refine their farming techniques by focusing on holistic management and soil health and reduce their reliance on fertilisers. "We learned about rotating the stock to allow the grass to recover and understanding the relationship between the health of our soil and the grass," explained Jen.

After attending a grazing management course, they increased the amount of perennial pasture on their property. They then divided the 25 paddocks into 88 smaller lots, with large mobs feeding in small areas, while the rest of the property recovered.

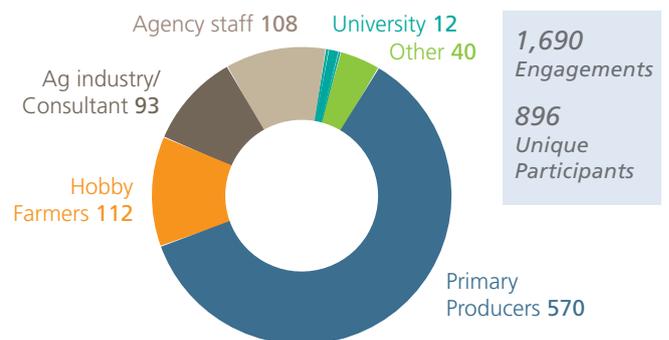
The results are clear to see. This year, despite an extremely dry summer, there is still plenty of feed for their stock and a solid cover of perennial grass. "When the rain comes, it will all soak in," said David. "There will be no loss of soil, no room for weeds to grow, the grass will take off and give us plenty of winter feed."



Key statistics



Engagement



Our achievements and challenges

A key challenge for the project is reaching the right people and then motivating them to change their behaviour. By effectively monitoring all our events and activities, we have a strong picture of who we have engaged with and how effective we've been in reaching the target audience. The high level of engagement with our local landholders and businesses has enabled us to exceed our program targets.

We have consistent feedback from participants that adopting these new practices has improved their bottom line and the health of their soil.

Pictured top: Photo by Craig Moodie, left: Ruth Read explains the regenerative grazing principles of their Perry Bridge farm.

Gippsland Nutrient Management Consortium

Our aim:

To coordinate the delivery of programs to inspire and assist dairy farmers to increase their profitability through better use and distribution of available on-farm nutrients. An equally important benefit is less nutrients impacting the environment.



Our partners

GippsDairy. Murray Goulburn. Fonterra. Burra Foods. Bega Cheese. Agriculture Victoria. Southern Rural Water. South Gippsland Water.

What we did

The project was delivered through the CORE 4 and Fert\$mart programs which involved a combination of workshops and field days. A key component was the development of Whole Farm Nutrient Management Plans for participants. High priority areas were identified to focus the effort of these programs including the Corner Inlet, Tarwin and Gippsland Lakes catchments.

Case study

With twenty-five years' experience and an agriculture degree, Ron Paynter knows a thing or two about farming, but the day-to-day pressures of running a farm stop him from implementing all the systems he'd like to. The Gippsland Nutrient Management Consortium offers farmers the chance to get advice and financial assistance for farm upgrades.

Through the CORE 4 project, Ron upgraded the cow-yard on his Ellinbank dairy farm and installed an effluent pit. The sloping design of the cow-yard walkway, plus a high-volume cleaning pump, directed the effluent into a pit and then into a series of ponds. "We used the ponds to provide water over the recent dry summers," said Ron. "The nutrient in the effluent is extremely valuable to us and complements our fertiliser program."

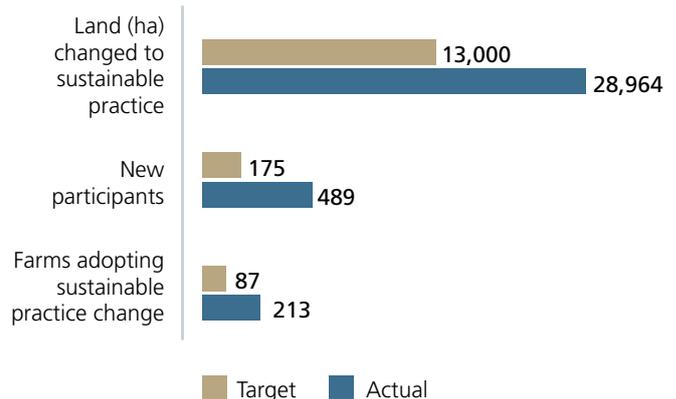
Capturing the run-off from the farm is not just a benefit to Ron. The rivers and creeks that ultimately make their way to the Gippsland Lakes also benefit. "Keeping the effluent on site can improve the water quality and health of our rivers and lakes, and that's important," said Ron.



"It's recognising that your farm has boundaries, but your activities don't. What happens here on the farm does have an impact on the rest of the environment."

- Ron Paynter

Key statistics



Program data showed that farmers who implemented their Fert\$mart Plan could save an average of 23 per cent a year on purchased fertiliser.

Our achievements and challenges

Over five years, 350 dairy farmers have taken part in the program. 75 per cent of Fert\$mart recipients have adapted their practices, while over 100 farm businesses have upgraded their effluent management and distribution systems through the CORE 4 program.

As farmers continue to battle with climate impacts and economic variations, it can be difficult for them to focus on farm improvements. Strong relationships and the success of programs such as CORE 4 (designed by farmers for farmers), give farmers the confidence to try new methods and accept new research to help improve their profitability.

Photos by Craig Moodie.

Corner Inlet Connections

Our aim:

To protect and enhance the health of this diverse and important catchment, valued for its marine and coastal parks, fishing and agricultural industries, tourism, Ramsar-listed wetlands and thriving local communities. The environment, productive industries and community values are key assets of this regional treasure. The strong relationships we have developed with other government agencies, community groups and industry bodies are essential for its protection.



Our partners

Landcare. Agriculture Victoria. Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation. Parks Victoria.

What we did

We worked with farmers, fishers, Traditional Owners and partner agencies to complete on-ground works to protect the internationally significant Corner Inlet. Works included fox control, cultural heritage protection, salt marsh rehabilitation and fencing and revegetation of waterways and gullies. Established partnerships and sound science underpinned our successes.

Case study: Fishermen and Farmers

Our partnerships are our strength. The Farmer-Fisher Day-out is an example of how partnerships are developed and nurtured through the Corner Inlet Connections project.

In July 2015, local farmers, fishermen and agency staff came together to share their experiences of living and working in the Corner Inlet catchment. The day involved a boat trip into the Inlet, a seafood lunch and a visit to a local dairy farm.

Foster dairy farmer, Brendan McGlead climbed on board with commercial fisherman Neville Clarke, who demonstrated low-impact 'haul seine' fishing techniques. For Brendan, the day was a way of learning more about how the Corner Inlet fishing industry worked, and to develop his understanding of how to reduce environmental impacts from his farm into the Inlet.

The Farmer-Fisher Day-out highlighted how closely connected the industries are ...

Brendan and wife Rachael's 300-acre dairy farm with 200 head of milking cows runs between Stockyard and Old Hat Creek at Foster and Corner Inlet to the south. "Nutrient



run-off is a big concern. I'm constantly looking at what we can do to improve, especially because our dairy shed is 800m from the Inlet and we border two creeks."

The Farmer-Fisher Day-out highlighted how closely connected the industries are and provided an insight into how both industries are operating and the methods they are using to be sustainable.

With farm stocking rates increasing fourfold in the last 20 years, reducing sediment run-off is critical to improve water quality in the Inlet. The run-off has a direct impact on the health of seagrass meadows, ecologically valuable marine pastures that are essential breeding and feeding grounds for many fish species.

Key statistics



Case study: River Restoration

Dan and Cindy Knee's Toora North farm is an example of our successful weed removal, fencing and revegetation programs - just one of many that helped us exceed our project targets.

The stretch of river on the Knee family farm represents the final link in a 25km long chain of revegetated riparian environment that runs along the Franklin River from the forest to the sea. Building on work done over a previous decade, in 2016 WGCMA worked with the Knees on a kilometre of river which runs through their property. A stand of basket willows was removed, then the area was fenced off and revegetated with native plants.

"It's a win for the environment ..."
- Dan Knee, farmer



“Revegetation work in the Franklin catchment is a win for the farms with productivity, shade, shelter and getting cattle out of the river, and it’s a win for the community with better water quality to protect downstream marine habitats,” said WGCMA’s Matt Bowler.

Dan Knee agrees that it’s a win for the environment, and good news for his bank balance. “It works with the business,” Dan said. “A happy cow is a cow that is going to make you money.”

Projects like the one on the Knee farm are helping to reverse the problems caused by widespread clearing in pioneer days and to protect the internationally significant habitat in Corner Inlet.



Our achievements and challenges

This is a large and extremely diverse project, with many individual components delivering outstanding results aimed at improving the ecological character of the Corner Inlet Ramsar Site.

The extremely strong partnerships between government agencies, community groups, landowners and the CMA are also a highlight of the project.

Other key achievements include: the benefits delivered to farmers and the support of landholders for the project; increased health of rivers due to revegetation and rehabilitation work; and reducing the sediment and nutrient loads entering Corner Inlet waters.

This highly successful program has provided several challenges, most notably, the logistics of dealing with a large geographical area and a diversity of habitats. The support for Corner Inlet Connections has also meant that the programs we offer are always over-subscribed.

Case study: Protecting Jack River

Gavin and Sue Egan’s Alberton West farm is located at the confluence of the Jack and Albert rivers. Fencing and revegetation has ensured that paddocks are surrounded by shelter belts and that the river bank is fenced-off, particularly where annual flood events caused erosion problems.

While the initial priority was to shelter stock and pasture from strong winds, it only took a flood or two for it to become apparent that stabilising the river bank was a necessary investment. “The priority was keeping soil on the farm instead of losing it down the river,” said Gavin. “It’s just common sense, you’ve got to make the most of all of your property’s assets.”

Gavin estimates that over the past 27 years 50,000 trees, most grown by Sue, have been planted on the property. This includes 6.5km of Albert River frontage and 17.5km of windbreak plantations.

“As time goes on, you learn more about your farm’s connection to the broader system. The work we’ve done on-farm benefits the health of the river as well as reduces the amount of nutrient and sediment that ends up in Corner Inlet.

“I’m really pleased there’s a big focus on the health of Corner Inlet these days, it’s an amazing asset to the region.”



Pictured top; Corner Inlet from Silcocks Hill. Far left: Neville Clarke and Brendan McGlead. Left: Dan Knee at the Franklin River. Above: Aerial view of Gavin and Sue Egan’s Alberton West farm.



Regional Community Grants

Our aim:

To fund on-ground work by landholders and community groups to protect, enhance and connect remnant vegetation in West Gippsland. The grants were delivered via the five local Landcare networks and focused on activities such as fencing (to protect remnant vegetation and revegetation work), weed control and planting native seeds and seedlings.



Our partners

The five local Landcare networks: Bass Coast, Latrobe Catchment, Maffra and Districts, South Gippsland, and Yarram Yarram.

What we did

Grants of up to \$20,000 were available for projects to protect and restore our land and environment. The applications were assessed by Landcare, who visited the sites and ranked each application in terms of the network's priorities. \$162,000 was available through each annual funding round.

Case study

When David Layton purchased his Yanakie property, just one percent of the land was covered with native vegetation.

"I wanted a farm with twenty to thirty percent native vegetation," said David. In 2007 he started planting a 12-acre section, to create a native vegetation corridor linking the spring ponds on the farm to the beachfront at the western side of Corner Inlet.

Several Landcare grants helped David achieve his vision, including one in 2015 to fund 365.6 metres of fencing and 750 plants to link to the revegetated corridor.

Although this funding was for a small portion of a much larger project, David said without the grants he probably wouldn't have been able to revegetate on such a large scale.

The original plan to create a 25-metre wide corridor has now been expanded to 50 metres. In total, 30-acres has been revegetated. "Without the grants, I would have only been able to do half of that."

While the David's investment, both in time and money, is significant, ten years down the track he is reaping the benefits. His approach to weed control is a perfect

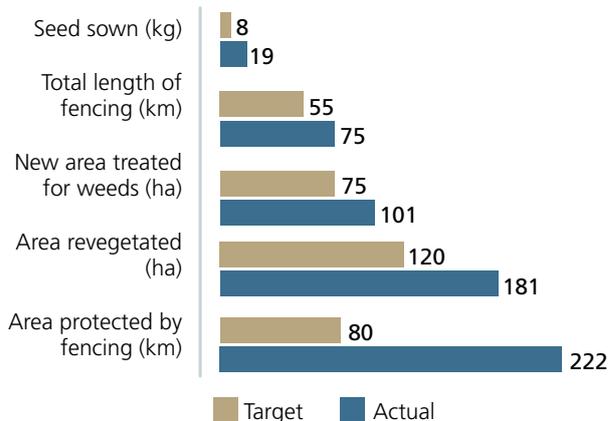


example. "Initially, I went the extra mile and removed environmental weeds like cape weed, exotic dock and kikuyu as well as noxious weeds.

"The first three years involved backpack spraying ten days a year. By year four, that had dropped down to two days. Now at year ten, I usually spend one hour a year weeding that area."

The vegetation corridor is home to a diverse range of rushes, reeds and ferns, adding to the area's biodiversity. It also helps protect the Corner Inlet from sediment run off and provides much needed shelter for stock.

Key statistics



146,257 plants were planted because of community grants

Our achievements and challenges

This highly successful program has directly supported local farmers and landowners to undertake revegetation and restoration work in the local environment. Over the life of the program, 97 projects were funded to a total value of \$648,000. The strength of the local Landcare Network relationships means there are many engaged and passionate individuals and groups and unfortunately, we always receive many more applications than can be funded. One of the biggest challenges is the administrative follow up required for grant acquittals and reporting. Weather is also a significant factor and can impact on the success of a project, or even stop one from going ahead.

Pictured top: Korumburra Landcare Network. Left: replanting on David Layton's Yanakie property.

Regional Landcare Facilitator

Our aim:

To promote the uptake of sustainable agriculture practices in West Gippsland. By supporting Landcare networks to raise awareness and knowledge of sustainable farming practices, we can help protect natural resources and improve farm profits.



Our partners

The five local Landcare networks: Bass Coast, Latrobe Catchment, Maffra and Districts, South Gippsland, and Yarram Yarram. Agricultural industry groups.

What we did

The focus of the program is supporting groups, organisations and individuals working on sustainable agriculture projects. This included providing funding and assistance for events organised by Landcare, as well as facilitating partnerships and sharing information. Field days, training sessions and workshops are examples of the type of events supported by the program.

Case study

Hosted by Grow Lightly and supported by the WGCMA, The Southern Gippsland Local Food Event attracted over 170 people, who were treated to an array of local produce while sharing their ideas and aspirations for the local food industry. Presentations covered a range of food enterprises, including horticulture, olive oil, milk, cheese, community gardens, meat products, fruit and bread-making. Bruce Pascoe, author of "Dark Emu, Black Seeds" enthralled the audience with details of traditional farming practices and the amazing history of indigenous agriculture.

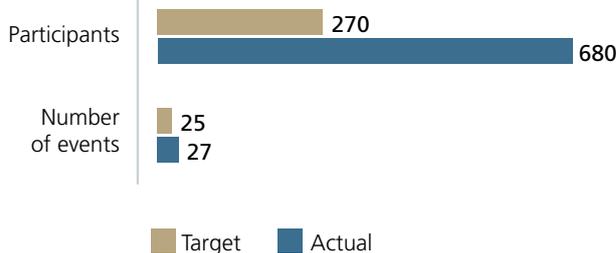
"We really are working towards Southern Gippsland feeding Southern Gippsland."

– Meredith Freeman, Grow Lightly

Meredith Freeman from Grow Lightly said people at the event took the opportunity to share their ideas about how local food could be made to work in the region. "It became clear that this was just the start of many more initiatives in local food. Working together we can bring truly nutritious and tasty food to all who live locally."



Key statistics



Our achievements and challenges

The Southern Gippsland Local Food Event and Rabbit Control Field Days were among our most successful and well attended events. Succession Planning workshops and Shade and Shelter field days were also well attended.

We held two meetings a year for the Gippsland Sustainable Agriculture Network. These forums provided an opportunity for people working in the sustainable agriculture space to network, share ideas and collaborate.

Our major challenge is quantifying the impact of the different projects, particularly given the wide scope of sustainable agriculture as a topic. We try and ensure the projects are targeted and relevant, but it is not easy to convince people that individual activities will help to make a difference in the 'big picture' of sustainable agriculture.

We have good attendance at events, but it is not always possible to ensure the right people are attending or if we are attracting new participants. Through feedback forms, we are able to measure the impact different activities have on changing awareness and knowledge. However it is difficult to directly attribute any change in practice to our programs, as change often does not occur immediately.

"These forums provided an opportunity for people ... to share ideas and collaborate."

Pictured top: Dick Richardson at Grazing Management field day, left: Fresh produce on display at The Southern Gippsland Local Food Event

Red Gum Grassy Woodlands

Our aim:

The Gippsland Red Gum Grassy Woodland is now listed as critically endangered. Protecting and restoring the remaining areas is vital to the region's biodiversity. This program works with landholders to reduce key threats – the pressures of grazing, weeds, feral animals and clearing – and improve the chances of long-term recovery by improving the condition of medium quality sites and maintaining the condition of high quality sites.



Our partners

Trust for Nature. Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. Arthur Rylah Institute. Country Fire Authority. Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation. Local landholders.

What we did

Fencing, pest control, revegetation and weed control are the key activities for protecting these fragile ecosystems. The work was undertaken in partnership with local landholders and public reserve managers. We also held workshops, provided training and prepared management agreements.

Case study

Today, Red Gum Grassy Woodland remnants occur on private land, roadsides and in public land reserves. These remnants vary considerably in size and shape, management history and therefore quality. Threats include weed invasion, infrastructure and maintenance works, and inappropriate fire, grazing and mowing regimes.

A three-year monitoring program by the Arthur Rylah Institute ran from 2015-2017, targeting the Stratford-Briagolong region.

Twelve sites were assessed and had management plans prepared. These plans outlined the actions that landholders agreed to undertake during the life of the project. The actions varied but the following six actions were required of all property owners:

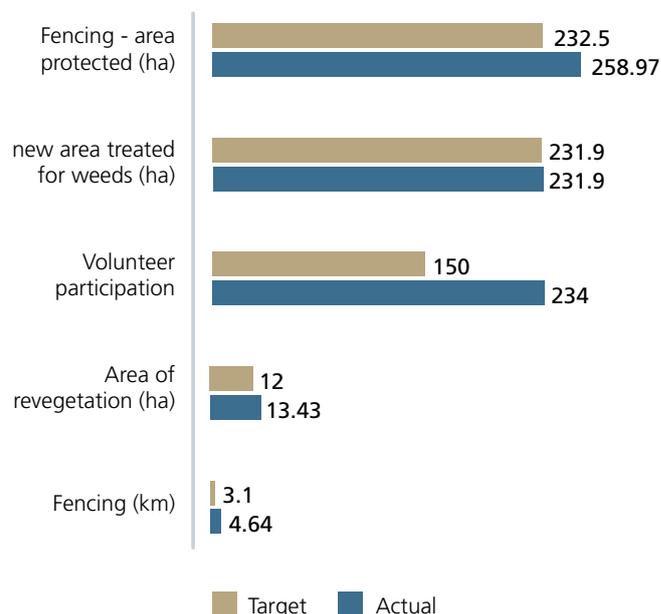
- exclude stock,
- ensure weed cover does not increase above current (2015) levels,
- retain all standing trees (dead or alive),
- retain all fallen timber/branches/leaf litter,
- eliminate high threat woody weeds, and
- control pest animals.

The monitoring program showed high-quality sites were maintained by the on-ground activities and one medium quality site was improved to high quality. It also highlights that the current management interventions are not having a negative impact.

The results emphasise the importance of ongoing monitoring and management activities.

To better understand how this vegetation is responding to our interventions, we need to monitor the areas over a longer time-frame. The study recommended monitoring at five and ten-year intervals to effectively determine the progress of change in site quality.

Key statistics



Our achievements and challenges

The Stratford-Briagolong area contains approximately 40 per cent of the Red Gum Grassy Woodlands across the whole region. We managed to protect a total of 411 hectares of this vegetation (close to 10 per cent within the WGCMA region) and 69 hectares received permanent protection under Trust for Nature covenants.

We developed an ethno-botanical report for the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation for Knob Reserve, a culturally significant site for the Traditional Owners.

The project used the INFFER system (Investment Framework for Environmental Resources) to test the public and private benefit of the project. We also contracted people with specialist knowledge of Red Gum Grassy Woodlands to ensure that the planned activities would improve the ecological condition of the sites.

It remains an ongoing challenge getting landowners to commit to ongoing protection of red gum grassy woodlands on their property.

Alpine Peatlands

Our aim:

To protect the endangered Alpine Peatlands which are the initial filters to our river system. Located in the uppermost headwaters, improving the health of this fragile and endangered ecological community is vital for maintaining water quality, helping to regulate waterflow in the region and making the peatlands less vulnerable to climate change.



Our partners

Parks Victoria. NECMA. EGCMA. GBCMA. GLaWAC. DELWP.

What we did

Project work included willow and weed removal and developing fire management plans. Information sessions targeted park user groups and an informal volunteer surveillance network was developed. Access to the area was improved through road and track management.

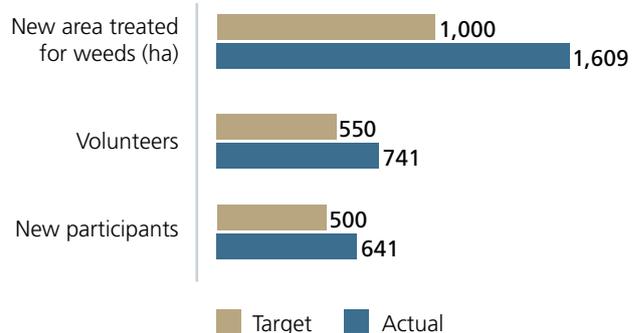
Case study

Located in inaccessible and rugged mountain areas, the Alpine Peatlands are in territory favoured by the 4-Wheel drive community. Finding a way to get this passionate group of enthusiasts to understand and protect peatlands was vital to its long-term survival. We engaged 4-Wheel Drive Victoria, through CEO Wayne Henney and organised a 'walk and talk' site inspection of Butcher Country Track in the Alpine National Park in October 2017. As the track had degraded over the years, drivers were making alternative tracks, creating more bogging areas and deep wheel tracks damaging the adjacent Alpine Peatlands. The visit was a chance for the group to see first-hand the impact vehicles were having and to find out how this was changing the normal pattern of water flowing to the fragile peatland plants.

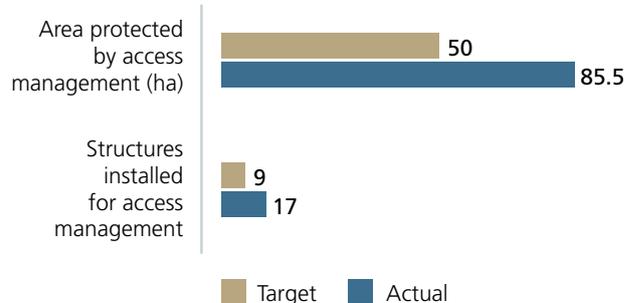
Instead of viewing the 4-wheel drive community as a threat to the peatland, by uniting over a common interest, a strong and cooperative partnership has been developed with 4-Wheel Drive Victoria. Their members are keen to find a way to preserve their access and ensure the peatland health and have helped put a new rock track through the area and continue to assist with ongoing volunteer work. Their CEO Wayne Henney has become a valuable champion for the preservation of the Alpine Peatlands and publicly supports the project work to members and in the media.



Key statistics



Access management results



Our achievements and challenges

With so many different agencies involved, it was vital to develop a governance structure and clear working arrangements and this was created through the Victorian Alpine Peatlands Coordinating Committee. This has ensured we've been able to work together strategically to achieve our project aims. An exciting outcome through the project has been the development of guidelines to ensure that peatlands are included in future fire-making decisions, such as including fighting fire-fronts to stop them reaching the peatlands, or not putting firebreaks through the peatlands.

Engaging with 4-Wheel Drive Victoria provided an excellent opportunity to educate their members on the importance of the peatlands. It ensured the group is now an active supporter, rather than seeing the project as one that is at odds with their own aims.

Snapshot

The West Gippsland region has 3.5% of Victoria's population and 7.7% of Victoria's total land area.

Our region supplies:

- 23% of Australia's milk
- approximately 60% of Melbourne's water
- the vast majority of Victoria's electricity and gas

Properly managing the natural resources is vital for the economic and social wellbeing of West Gippsland and Victoria. As a leader in natural resource management, we will inspire and facilitate partnerships and action to improve catchment health.



Our National Landcare Program projects and events have encouraged community participation, increased indigenous employment, changed farming and land management practices, removed weeds, rehabilitated land and waterways and increased native vegetation.



National Landcare Program



All projects outlined in this brochure have been delivered and supported by West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.



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