

## Hunter Region Landcare Network Strategic Plan

### Our Vision:

Growing resilient ecosystems from the mountains and valleys, to the sea.

### Our Mission:

To bring people together to care for our landscapes, and to provide leadership and support to Landcarers to improve our natural environments.

### Our Guiding Principles:

- Landcare is fun and enjoyable.
- Local Landcare groups and individuals have ownership of their issues and are supported to address them.
- Landcare happens across all landscapes, including rural, farming, urban, and natural environments.
- Landcare is about connecting people as well as restoring landscapes.
- Landcare is thinking about our future.

### Our Key Strategies:

- Support and connect our members, groups, and networks to reach their goals.
- Seek funding which is targeted to Landcare needs.
- Nurture trusted partnerships, including:
  - Between Landcare networks
  - Landcare NSW
  - First Nations communities and Elders
  - Local Councils
  - Hunter Local Land Services
  - Intrepid Landcare for Youth, and Junior Landcare
  - Involve local businesses in Landcare initiatives.

- Tell our story to broaden the reach and understanding of Landcare.
- Build and exchange skills and knowledge.
- Champion on-farm innovations and alternative approaches to natural resource management.
- Represent the needs of Landcarers in the Hunter region to local MPs and Parliamentary Friends of Landcare.

### Our Priorities:

- Maintain a consistent approach to project and operational planning across the Hunter.
- Regional cross networking and skill sharing among staff and volunteers.
- Support our existing partnerships and foster new collaborations as necessary to achieve the needs of our communities.
- Maintain a consistent and engaging communications strategy for Landcare across the region.
- Focus on Aboriginal partnerships across the region, and enable Aboriginal participation in Landcare and cultural land management practices.
- Youth in Landcare - enable greater youth engagement and fostering youth skills for better successional planning.

### Themes and Objectives:

The Hunter region covers an area of 33,000 square kilometres with a rich heritage and internationally significant natural landscapes, including Ramsar listed Hunter Estuary Wetlands, World Heritage sites of the Barrington Tops National Park Gondwana Rainforests.

To ensure Landcare contributes to a continual improvement and protection of these landscapes over time, our themes and objectives align with regional and local government strategic plans, as well as First Nations engagement in conservation and cultural land management practices.

Our commitment is to work closely with our partners and collaborators to achieve both regional planning and coordinated delivery of natural resource management activities across our landscapes.