

Congratulations to Landcare on 25 Years of Achievement

The National Natural Resource Management (NRM) Regions' Working Group congratulates Landcare on their 25th Anniversary and welcomes the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) and the National Farmers' Federation (NFF) call for a new decade of action to tackle the challenges confronting Australia's land, water, wildlife and farmland.

The Chairs of Australia's 56 regional NRM bodies met in Launceston on 21 March 2014 to review and reconfirm their commitment to the Landcare Statement of Common Purpose and to continuing to work closely with the National Landcare Network and Landcare Australia Limited to identify new opportunities to support Landcare.

Pamela Green, Chair of the National NRM Regions' Working Group, said, "Regional NRM bodies have been proud to work with and support Landcare groups across the nation for more than 10 years. We look forward to continuing to build the partnership and to supporting the reinvigoration of Landcare networks. Working together helps produce the improvements in our natural resources needed to sustain our communities and our country into the future."

Looking after our land, waters and living things is a large and long term task and needs all hands, heads and hearts working together to make a difference. Landcare and regional NRM bodies have complementary strengths where Landcare's respected reputation helps to build local ownership and action. Their informal structure and networks provide a key to flexibility in adapting to change and their local knowledge supports innovation and sharing of new ideas. Landcare is a valued partner in delivery of priority activities to support profitable production of food and fibre and conservation of land, water and biodiversity.

Regional NRM bodies engage landowners, industry, all levels of government, nongovernment organisations, Aboriginal people, Landcare and other 'care' and volunteer groups in regional scale planning and prioritisation of action. They provide governance, accountability and technical underpinning of investment and deliver programs and projects under the regional plans. The regional NRM body network and regional plans encompass all of Australia and shares knowledge, examples and expertise.

"We are currently working with Landcare and others in contributing to the Australian Government's design of the new National Landcare Program and look forward to supporting its implementation over the next decade," Mrs Green said.

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