



Plans for a unified Landcare organisation move forward

8 October 2018: Landcare Australia and the National Landcare Network are enthusiastic about recent progress towards creating a single national organisation to support Australia's Landcare community. All eight of the State and Territory Landcare organisations have accepted the invitation to develop an MoU with Landcare Australia as the next step towards creating a unified Landcare organisation.

The Chairs of both Landcare Australia and the National Landcare Network recently met with senior representatives of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) to discuss plans for establishing one unified Landcare organisation through restructuring Landcare Australia.

DAWR was supportive about the benefits of a single national entity and the proposed membership model.

Landcare Australia and the National Landcare Network are working to formalise the required steps to invite State and Territory organisation members of the National Landcare Network to become members of a newly restructured Landcare Australia.

"This is a major step forward in the effort to provide one voice for Landcare," said Peter Bridgewater, Chair of the National Landcare Network. "We are working to ensure prompt completion of the process, for the benefit of the hardworking Landcare community."

When completed, the MoU will enable Landcare Australia and the State and Territory organisations to focus on developing the governance details for the new national organisation, so that it will be well equipped to represent and support Landcare nationally. Once details are finalised, each State and Territory organisation will be offered membership of the new organisation. Confirmation of their commitment to accept the offer will then trigger the necessary changes to Landcare Australia's current governance arrangements.

Chairman of Landcare Australia, Doug Humann, said, "We believe this initiative will build on the strengths of our respective organisations. Together, we can have the greatest impact and will be able to further extend our reach to support the vast Landcare community."

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About Landcare Australia and the National Landcare Network

The essence of Landcare is local communities tackling local environmental problems together over the long term. Australia has more than 5,400 Landcare and Coastcare groups who make up the Landcare movement. These groups undertake thousands of projects every year, with the support of Landcare Australia and the National Landcare Network.

Landcare Australia is a not-for-profit organisation with a vision of all Australians actively caring for the natural land and water resources that sustain us. For over 25 years, Landcare Australia has worked collaboratively with federal, state and local governments, corporate partners and sponsors, and individuals, to build capacity for the Landcare community to better manage Australia's crucial land and water assets.

The National Landcare Network (NLN) is the peak body for Landcare groups across Australia and works to provide a voice for Landcare at the national level. The NLN is made up of representatives from each State and Territory, who come together to share their successes, support one another in overcoming challenges, tell a collective story that reflects the shared experiences of Landcarers across Australia, and advocate for the Landcare movement to enable it to continue its essential work building resilient and productive landscapes, and protecting our natural environment.

www.landcareaustralia.org.au

<http://nlm.org.au/>