



## Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare Network Inc.

Annual Report 2017-2018



**people, biodiversity, land, agriculture, environment**

From Border Ranges, Richmond Valley to Bungawalbin and Coast  
An alliance of community based Landcare, Farming and Natural  
Resource Groups.

**Mission:** *Support and work with groups and land managers towards effective and productive natural resource stewardship within a human setting*

Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare Network (BRRVLN) is a not-for-profit incorporated association whose members are groups (Landcare groups, Farming groups) interested in natural resource management issues. Individuals who do not have the opportunity to join a member group can join a sub-group known as Friends of BRRVLN.

Each member group has a seat on the committee and has one vote. The executive committee, being the office bearers, address the day to day affairs of the organisation.

BRRVLN is also seeking partners and associates who can provide technical and other resources.

BRRVLN hosts a Local Landcare Coordinator available to provide support for all member groups.

**BRRVLN Objectives:**

- a. To encourage land managers towards effective and productive natural resource stewardship within a human setting.
- b. To provide support towards ongoing health of the people, the land and its natural and agricultural resources.
- c. To assist with the identification of issues relating to land use, soil, water and vegetation resources
- d. To foster cooperation and collaboration between land managers (public and private)
- e. To act as a conduit between land managers and government
- f. To facilitate the implementation of best management practices which will support long-term, profitable primary production and ensure the integrity of soil, water and energy systems, as well as the conservation of native plant and animal communities;
- g. To assist Landcare groups, rural industry groups, individuals, land management agencies, research organisations and other community bodies to collaborate on issues of land management and associated social implications, including the promotion and resourcing of Landcare activity.
- h. To assist with the resourcing and management of projects that address these objectives
- i. As a local network be a member of North Coast Regional Landcare Network and Landcare NSW

### **Providing support to the community / Landcare enquiries**

Over the 2017-18 financial year BRRVLN hosted the **Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative Project** and the **Community Capacity Support Project**.

Both of these projects aimed to **support community interests** in Landcare and **build capacity** of landholders, Landcare groups and farming groups to undertake Landcare activities. This role supports both landholders that have an existing relationship with Landcare and landholder that are new to the conversation.

The BRRVLN Landcare office has held an open door to the community for 2 days a week (Tuesday and Thursday) across the year. An additional 1 day per week has supported other field based and desk-based functions.

The BRRVLN office receives a diverse range of enquires a snapshot of which is presented below.

weeds, soils, pest animals, restoration, water, native bees, feral cats, tree planting, water quality, indian mynas, fire, funding, riparian, pasture, fencing, nest boxes, habitat, farm planning, erosion, threatened species, soil fertility, partnerships, fish, frogs, corridors, trees, poisonous plants, monitoring, land for wildlife, grazing, foxes, resources, cane toads, bush regeneration, connections, governance, indigenous partnerships, community, species lists, project planning, organic weed control, bank stabilisation, fundraising, dung beetles, wetlands, volunteers, field days, knowledge sharing, conservation.

Between July 2017 and June 2018 the Landcare office supported:

- 107 phone enquiries,
- 76 email enquiries and
- 59 office enquiries

Some of these enquires were resolved at the initial point (e.g. identifying a weed species) however many developed into greater longer-term engagement and connection within the Landcare community.

BRRVLN hosted public information stalls at 3 events

- World Wetlands Day – Casino
- Primex – Casino
- Outdoor Leisure Show – Lismore

While stall visitation records were not detailed it is estimated these events achieved contact with over 180 people.

### **Providing learning opportunities through field days and events**

BRRVLN hosted 11 workshops with a total of 226 participants

- Nest box building - Casino
- Restoration principles and techniques – Kyogle
- Managing and enhancing habitat on farm – Jiggi
- Native bees – Rukenvale
- Restoration Techniques - Cougal
- Property planning for sustainable productions and healthy and resilient natural environments – Collins Creek
- Plant identification – Roseberry Creek
- Managing threats to riparian areas on dairy farms / Carp and Coral control – Tatham
- Nest box construction – Collins Creek
- Good Governance – Casino
- Supporting Hollow dependant fauna – Collins Creek

BRRVLN co-hosted:

- the National Fish Migration Day at Kyogle Fishway in partnership with Kyogle Council
- the National Tree Planting Day at the Jabiru Wetlands in Casino in partnership with Richmond Valley Council, Casino Environment Centre and Casino Scouts

BRRVLN supported the preparation of 18 grant applications within the following grant streams:

- Saving our Species (x 1) Not successful
- NSW Environment Trust Restoration and Rehabilitation (x 2) 1 Successful
- Smart Farms (x 2) not successful
- Public Reserve Management Fund (x 2) awaiting result
- DPI Habitat Action Grant (x 4) All successful
- Small Environmental Grants (x 2) Not successful
- Private Landholder Conservation Grants (x 2) both successful
- NSW Environment Trust Eco-Schools Grant (x 1) successful
- NSW Environment Trust Education Grant (x 1) successful
- NLP2 LLS / Upper Richmond (x 1) Successful

Total Outcome 10 successful / 6 not successful / 2 awaiting result