



Border Ranges Richmond Valley Landcare Network Inc.

Annual Report 2020-2021



people, biodiversity, land, agriculture, environment

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

Endorsed by the BRRVLN Committee
October 2021

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

2020-2021 BRRVLN Actions and Achievements

Providing entry level support to Community / Landcare

Over the 2020-21 financial year BRRVLN hosted the **Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative Project**.

This contract aims 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 holds an open door to the community on Tuesdays and Thursdays as supported by the Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative.

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, safety, 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.

The BRRVLN Landcare office receives diverse enquiries, through phone, email and direct at the office. While some enquires are resolved at the initial point (e.g. identifying a weed species) many develop into greater longer-term engagement and connection within the Landcare community.

Through 20-21 BRRVLN provided tailored support to our **16 member groups** extending across the Kyogle and Richmond Valley LGA's.

Providing learning opportunities through field days and events

Due to the impacts of Covid 19, the calendar for BRRVLN workshops and events experienced many challenges. However, surprisingly, a number of events were able to navigate the covid obstacles. During the 2020-21 period BRRVLN conducted 21 workshops with a total of 414 participants.



Celebrating native grasses and restoring an open forest ground layer

6th October
10am—2pm
Roseberry Creek

Refreshments provided / Registration essential

Learn about native grasses in forests, paddocks and gardens

Open Forest / Grassy understory habitat and fire
(Andy Baker SCU)

Native grass identification, propagation and use
(David Carr—Stringy Bark Ecological)

Making native grass seed balls for revegetation

Register online: <https://form.jotform.com/202707447685867>
or phone 0424 031 999 or email tamar.cohen@brrvln.org.au

This workshop is supported by North Coast Local Land Services through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

NSW Government Local Land Services

2020

- July Paddock walk and talk - Roseberry Creek and Back Creek -12 participants
- Aug Aboriginal fire practitioners managing EBB habitat - Collins Creek – 16 p.
- Oct Native grasses /restoring open forest – Roseberry Creek -19 p.
- Nov Nest box workshop - Terania Creek – 28 p.
Nest box workshop - Rappville – 18 p.

2021

- Jan Koala habitat workshop – Roseberry Creek 18 p.
Pasture and soils walk - Roseberry Creek – 8 p.
- Feb Pest animal camera trapping workshop – Busby's Flat -10 p.
Frog id event and acoustic survey training - Rappville 21 p.
Landscape rehydration fundamentals - Roseberry Creek - 21 p.
- Mar Community cane toad muster - Casino - 22 p.
Community cane toad muster - Rukenvale -19 p.
Cane toad information / induction event - Mulli Mulli – 9 p.
- Apr Cane toad presentation at Kyogle open day – 20 p. approx
Cane toad information day - Afterlee – 16 p.
Indian myna awareness event - Wiangaree - 6 p.
Pest Day (toads, mynas and deer) - Mummulgum - 10 p.
Community cane toad muster - Hogarth Range - 15 p.
- May Koala health and habitat workshop - Collins Creek – 24 p.
Postfire response and recovery - Rappville - 32 p.
- June Native grasses propagation - Gradys Creek – 14 p.
Soil is our National Capital - Doubtful Creek -52 p.
Rural adaptation to climate change seminar - Kyogle – 28 p.

Additionally, BRRVLN held a stall at the Kyogle Garden Show on 16-17 April 2020, the Bonalbo Show 30 April 2020 and PRIMEX 20-22 May 2020 and the Kyogle Bazaar 24 Oct 2020



Land for Wildlife

11 Land for Wildlife assessments were achieved in the 2020-21 financial year across the Kyogle LGA – Richmond Valley LGA's.

Grants and Projects

Throughout the 2020 - 2021 financial year BRRVLN was engaged to directly deliver 17 projects:

- **Upper Richmond Sustainable Agriculture project** LLS / CVA 2018-2023 \$671,634 over 5 years
- **Cane Toad control project** DPIE 2018-2021 \$109,420 over 2020-2021 period
- **Pest Animal Control - Cane Toad control project** LLS 2021 \$150,000
- **Pest Animal Control – Indian Myna control project** LLS 2021 \$100,000
- **Climate-ready revegetation project** DPIE 2019-2024 \$30,700 over 5 years
- **Kyogle and RV LGA's Koala Project** DPIE 2019-2020 \$15,000
- **Upper Richmond Old Grevillia Riverbank Erosion** DPI 2020 – 2021 \$14,350
- **W3 Weeds stakeholder partnership** LLS – 2020-2021 Chinese Tallow in the RV LGA \$20,185
- **Supporting recovery of arboreal mammals in fire affected Rappville and surrounds project** Landcare Australia / Wires - 2020-2021 \$19,992
- **Nest boxes post fire Rappville surrounds** WWF – 2020-2021 \$12,000
- **Nest boxes post fire Nightcap surrounds** WWF 2020-2021 \$10,500
- **Kates Leaf Tailed Gecko post fire** DAWE – 2020-2021 \$154,475
- **Targeted weed control** in the Border Ranges NPWS – 2020-2021 \$5,967
- **Eastern Bristlebird project** LLS 2020-2021 \$16,500
- **Bushfire Recovery in TEC's** LLS 2020-2021 \$200,000
- **Rappville Bushfire Recovery** DAWE 2020-2021 \$124,115
- **Kyogle Koala Corridors** NSW Environmental Trust 2020-2023 \$98,732



Employment

These above projects have offered significant opportunities to provide employment. Over the 2020-21 financial year BRRVLN facilitated direct employment of 26 people as BRRVLN staff with a collective total of 7853 hours. This was an increase from the previous financial year of 17 people and a collective of 4921 hours. BRRVLN is proud to be able to create employment opportunities for people in the natural resource management field.

Additional to this internal employment, BRRVLN engaged numerous contractors to deliver services within BRRVLN projects further supporting local employment.

Partnerships and relationships

Partnerships and relationships with other stakeholders and agencies have continued to improve with particular advancements with Kyogle Council, Richmond Valley Council, Local Land Services, NPWS, Macquarie University, Dept Planning Industry and Environment, Friends of the Koala, Biodiversity Conservation Trust, Gugin Guddaba Aboriginal Land Council, Landcare NSW and Landcare Australia, WWF.