

Local Land Services

Annual Report

2016–17





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Availability

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The Hon. Niall Blair MLC
Minister for Primary Industries
Minister for Lands and Water
52 Martin Place
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Minister Blair

Submission of Local Land Services 2016–17 Annual Report

In accordance with the *Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Act 1984* and the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*, and the Regulations under these Acts, I am pleased to submit to you the 2016–17 Annual Report of Local Land Services for presentation to the Parliament of NSW.

The annual report outlines the achievements for the 2016–17 financial year in the context of the organisation's strategic priorities and responsibilities.

These achievements were made possible by the expertise and commitment of our staff and the leadership and direction of our Boards.

Yours sincerely



Richard Bull

Acting Chair
Local Land Services Board of Chairs

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From our Chair

On behalf of our staff and board, I am pleased to present our 2016–17 Annual Report.

Delivering value

As you read this review of our 2016–17 year, you'll see many examples where we've made a difference.

We have helped landholders recover from bushfire and floods, manage pests and weeds, protect our markets, build a healthy and connected landscape and increase agricultural productivity.

Our board and staff have worked hard to build confidence in our organisation and deliver value for our customers and investors.

We are helping secure the future of agriculture and the environment for NSW communities.

Present in the paddock

There is no other independent organisation like us in NSW. Our staff are on the ground to build relationships with our customers and deliver on a personal level.

We have over 800 staff throughout the state to provide the advice, resources and support that land managers need.

Our staff work and live in the communities we serve.

Our summary of operations from page seven shows the breadth and depth of work our staff deliver.

Support during emergencies

The year brought challenges across NSW through bushfires and floods.

Our staff were present and active to support the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI)—the lead agency for animals and agriculture during emergencies.

Our staff helped animals in need, collated damage reports and advised the community on recovery.

Landholder feedback has been universally positive. We will continue to support communities as disasters hit.

My thanks to those who worked in these emergency responses, and to those who kept our business delivering in their absence.

Gearing up for sustainable land management and biosecurity reforms

Local Land Services is well placed to implement the NSW Government's land management and biosecurity reforms.



The 2016–17 financial year was a critical period in the reform process to build the capacity and resources to launch in August 2017.

Our sustainable land management team is embedded within our regions and are working closely with landholders to guide them through the new framework.

Our biosecurity staff are also trained and ready to support landholders on implementing their shared responsibilities under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

Accountability framework

During the year we have made solid progress to building an accountability framework into Local Land Services.

In response to Minister Blair's Charter Letter (see page 38), we have initiated action towards the all 19 outlined priorities. Five priorities are now complete and we continue to report to Minister Blair against remaining 14.

The Natural Resources Commission (NRC) has previously completed two audits into our communications and governance arrangements.

Audits such as these are an opportunity to improve our business performance and we are delivering against the audits' recommendations.

As at 30 June 2017, Local Land Services has responded and actioned the majority of these recommendations.

Of the remaining actions, all are in progress and are expected be completed in the 2017–18 financial year.

Leadership evolution

The reporting period saw changes in our senior leadership. Our statewide Chair Tim de Mestre stepped down from his position after leading a number of key reforms during his tenure.

Our inaugural Executive Manager, Tim Ferraro, also left our organisation during 2016–17.

He led Local Land Services as a one-stop shop for farmers and land managers. Our statewide governance structure and an aligned strategic direction are legacies to his work.

I thank both for their contributions to the success of Local Land Services.

David Witherdin was appointed as Executive Director.

David came to Local Land Services from the Soil Conservation Service where he held the position of General Manager.

New Board members

Our Boards saw a changing of the guard, with the appointment and election of new Board members.

I congratulate all of the candidates on joining our organisation and welcome their contribution over the coming years.

They have put up their hands to serve and provide regional leadership. These men and women will be a voice for the views of our customers and other stakeholders.

Thank you to our inaugural Boards members for their commitment over our first three years.

Improving land management through research and community grants

You will see in this report that our regions have partnered with universities and other research institutes to develop more than 87 research and development projects.

We also contributed more than \$10 million in funding to community groups across NSW. This gave 239 non-government community organisations the capacity to make real change in our landscape.

Virus release for rabbit control

Our biosecurity staff have supported the Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) and DPI in the national release of the rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus (RHDV1).

Local Land Services staff engaged landholders to release the virus in more than 200 control sites.

This role is possible through our close community connections and on ground knowledge.

Community consultation - travelling stock reserves and weeds

We worked with Crown Lands to engaged the community in the review of the travelling stock reserve (TSR) network.

This work will help the state better understand and manage crown land now and into the future.

We also consulted our communities on weed reform in the development of regional weed strategies.

Weeds are estimated to cost Australian agriculture \$2.5 billion in lost production and \$1.8 billion in control activities every year.

These regional strategies form a fundamental piece of weed management reform and the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

Our funding partners

The work of our staff and our many projects and programs would not be possible without the support of our funding partners.

The Australian government's National Landcare Program and the NSW Government's Catchment Action NSW program have enabled Local Land Services to make a difference to our communities and landscape.

During 2016–17 we also invested \$3 m of Australian government funding to help landholders manage for drought, pests and weeds

The work supported by our NSW rural ratepayers also continues to manage pests and diseases, and maintain market access for our agricultural products.

As we move into 2018, I am excited by our potential and the value that we can continue to deliver.

Please read our 2016–17 Annual Report as a summary of how we have served our community.



Richard Bull

Acting Chair
Local Land Services Board of Chairs
October 2017

Our work across NSW

The 2016–17 financial year again saw Local Land Services delivering value to our customers and investors across NSW. Following is a summary of our significant operations during this period.

Summary of significant statewide operations

Supporting communities during emergency

Emergency management continues to be a fundamental activity of Local Land Services.

During 2016–17 we responded to a number of major natural disaster incidents, including catastrophic bushfires in the Central Tablelands, North Coast, Hunter, South East and Central West, and flooding in the North Coast, Central West, Riverina and Murray.

We are a support agency to DPI during emergencies under the animals and agriculture services functional area.

Our staff play a fundamental role assisting communities affected by natural disasters by:

- coordinating animal assessment and destruction
- providing fodder and water to livestock as required
- establishing emergency animal shelters
- holding recovery workshops.

These and other key services aid the response for animals and agriculture.

Nearly 70 per cent of Local Land Services staff have received base-level biosecurity and emergency response training while 35 per cent of staff have been trained beyond this level.

Trained staff have supported the community in almost 40 emergency responses across NSW during the year.

We remain ready to respond to future events and support the NSW community.

Building momentum for sustainable land management

Our Sustainable Land Management unit was established during 2016–17 to implement the NSW Government's land management and biodiversity conservation reforms.

This is a monumental reform for the state of NSW and a new service for our business.

These reforms provide landholders with more options and greater flexibility to drive improved productivity



and increased flexibility and involvement in new solutions to create significant environmental benefits.

The 2016–17 financial year was a critical period in the reform process to build the capacity and resources to launch in August 2017.

The new unit has staff in place across NSW to deliver for our customers:

- advice on using the new code of practice and other tools
- timely assistance with approvals if required
- support to access incentives for conserving native plants and animals on your property
- information and assistance regarding requirements under other legislation.

The new teams are embedded within our 11 regions to deliver this service to our customers.

Preparing for Biosecurity reform

Our staff have been active in preparing for their role in the update of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

These reforms are an exciting time for biosecurity in NSW, allowing better management of biosecurity risks that impact on the \$14 billion primary industries economy, the environment and the community.

Overall, 268 Local Land Services staff have completed training so that they will be able to support our

customers understand how the legislation will impact on their activities.

Board members in place to lead

Early 2017 saw the recruitment and appointment by the Minister of 11 Chairs and 34 Board members to Local Land Services.

Following these appointments, the second Local Land Services election was run on 31 May, resulting in 34 board members elected to serve on Local Land Services regional boards.

Together, appointed and elected Board members will lead Local Land Services over the coming years and help us build even stronger connections with our customers.

Read more about the Board recruitment and election process on page 39.

Soil Conservation Service joins Local Land Services

In early 2017 two steering committees were set up to consider the possible transfer of the Soil Conservation Service and Wild Dog Destruction Board to Local Land Services.

Following this review, the Soil Conservation Service joined our organisation in September 2017.

The transfer allows for a better alignment of land-related services within the NSW Government. There will be no impact on the continuity of services.

However, the Wild Dog Destruction Board will not transfer to Local Land Services and remain a stand alone entity.

Regional strategic weed plans launched

The impact of weeds on Australian agriculture is estimated to cost \$2.5 billion in lost production and \$1.8 billion in control activities every year.

To safeguard the state against the threat of weeds, 11 regional strategic weed management plans were launched in June 2017.

For the first time in NSW, there are a set of agreed priorities and actions which apply across both public and private land.

These plans set the vision for weed management across the Local Land Services regions for 2017-22.

They outline actions, strategies and goals, with a focus on shared responsibility for weed management.

The plans were developed using a tenure neutral approach to weed management by 11 Regional Weed Committees. They support the implementation of the weeds components of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

The 11 regional strategic weed management plans were a direct response to this legislative reform.

The primary outcome of the weed reform process will be the integration of weed management efforts across the State.

Leadership change and strengthening core capacity

Tim de Mestre stepped down from the position of Local Land Service State Chair in early 2017. Richard Bull is currently acting in this role until it is filled on a permanent basis.

As part of the evolution of Local Land Services, the role of the Chair has transitioned to part-time. The responsibility for day-to-day operational matters has been delegated to our Executive Director.

2016–17 also saw our inaugural Executive Director Tim Ferraro move on from Local Land Services.

David Witherdin was appointed to the position following Tim's departure.

David was previously General Manager of the Soil Conservation Service.

He has an understanding of rural and regional NSW and has also held senior executive positions at Wyong Shire Council, Pacific National, the State Transit Authority and Hunter Water Corporation.

The period also saw a strengthening of our core capacity through the development of the following statewide teams:

- Major Projects
- Strategy, Governance and Performance
- Sustainable Land Management.

Staff in these teams work closely with our statewide Corporate Operations and Finance units, and 11 Local Land Services regions.

Travelling stock reserve consultation

Local Land Service took a lead role in community consultation for the NSW Government's review of the TSR network.

The information gathered will help create a comprehensive map of the 6,500 TSRs across the state. This will help NSW government better understand the current and future needs of the TSR network.

Submissions and feedback received will help inform future decisions on how to best protect and manage Crown land for its current and future use.

Rabbit virus release for farm productivity and landscape health

Landholders, Local Land Services and DPI worked together to release a new strain of the rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus (RHDV1) across more than two hundred control sites in NSW.

This new strain, known as RHDV1 K5, is not a new virus—it is a Korean strain of the existing RHDV1 virus already widespread in Australia. The new strain is expected to work better in the cool-wet regions of Australia where the current strain has not been as successful.

RHDV1 K5, like other RHDV1 variants, will not affect any other species except the European rabbit.

While it will assist in reducing rabbit population numbers, it is not the silver bullet for rabbit eradication in Australia. Our staff will continue to work with farmers to support their integrated pest management plans.

This work is part of a national project to reduce feral rabbit numbers—a damaging pest species estimated to reduce Australia's agricultural productivity by over \$200 million each year. Feral rabbits also have a direct impact on 304 threatened species nationally.

The national release of RHDV1 K5 has been delivered through the Invasive Animals CRC, with major financial and in kind resources provided by the Australian and NSW governments, CSIRO, Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), Australian Wool Innovation and Foundation for Rabbit Free Australia.

Supporting industry in new assurance requirements and Johne's disease transition

The work our staff have played across NSW to help landholder develop biosecurity plans has highlighted the role we play as a trusted and independent advisor to our customers.

Biosecurity farm plans are a new requirement of the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) scheme through MLA and also for the management of Johne's disease.

These new requirements, in line with the new *Biosecurity Act*, mean that LPA-accredited landholders need to have a biosecurity plan for their property.

This provides additional assurance for market access and quality assurance to improve how on farm risks are managed.

While these changes have been industry driven, Local Land Services staff across the state have done a phenomenal job reaching thousands of landholders.

They have fielded queries, hosted workshops and provided expertise to support industry-led forums, while also taking advantage of the opportunity to stress the new changes in biosecurity responsibility.

Statewide highlights

- Present and on the ground during emergency response
- Building momentum for sustainable land management reforms
- Preparing staff for role under *Biosecurity Act*
- Board elections and recruitment
- Regional strategic weed plans—consultation and launch
- Public consultation on travelling stock reserve network
- Facilitating release of RHDV1 virus across 200 NSW sites for rabbit control
- Bridging knowledge gaps during LPA changes and Johne's disease transition
- Administer commonwealth funding for weed and pest control
- Support NSW Landcare Program and Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative.

A number of Local Land Services workshops have had more than 200 people attending each session.

To date, we have reached more than 9,000 landholders across the state with the face-to-face workshops, with more still to come.

\$3 million to tackle pests and weeds in NSW

In September 2016, the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources Barnaby Joyce and NSW Minister for Primary Industries Niall Blair announced \$3 million of community funding to be delivered through Local Land Services.

This has helped equip landholders to manage pests and weeds across nine Local Land Services regions.

Local land Services administered funding to 23 projects across NSW. These included work such as cluster fencing, integrated pest control programs and targeted weed control programs.

Pest animals and weeds cost Australian farmers around \$4 billion annually in livestock losses, disease controls and weed management costs.

They damage our environment, reduce agricultural productivity and drive down the value of rural properties

The NSW Landcare Program and the Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative

The NSW Landcare Program, a major partner of Local Land Services, is charged with supporting and fostering the link between the NSW Government, Local Land Services and the Landcare communities of NSW.

The Landcare Program links with other major programs at a state level and all 11 regions of Local Land Services to truly foster a collaborative approach to achieving the goals of Local Land Services and Landcare.

The Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative commenced as a \$15 million, four-year project to renew the government - Landcare community relationship. This project invested in and unlocked the potential of the thousands of volunteers of the NSW Landcare movement. In 2016–17 the NSW Government boosted its investment by an additional \$1 million.

The initiative, jointly managed by Local Land Services and Landcare NSW, is designed to put resources back into Landcare.

The initiative has four primary components; Local Coordinators, a Community of Practice, the Sustaining Landcare Project and a joint management approach.

Over \$10.5 million of the program is invested directly into local community employment, a significant boost to many small communities.

The initiative currently supports 71 part-time local coordinators across 34 host Landcare organisations.

The Initiative has a critical link with the Australian Government funded Regional Landcare Facilitators (RLF), supporting their efforts to build the capacity of Landcare communities. Through the RLFs, the initiative has invested over \$70,000 into supporting regional communities of practice and training events. Two statewide collaboration events have taken place.

The initiative is jointly managed by Local Land Services and Landcare NSW and facilitated by the NRC.

Summary of significant Central Tablelands operations

Emergency response

On Thursday 9 February 2017, NSW experienced heatwave conditions and this culminated in large parts of the state being impacted with severe bushfires.

Local Land Services' response was coordinated between Central West, Central Tablelands and the Hunter regions.

Over the subsequent week, seven fire grounds developed, with 33 properties within the Central Tablelands Region affected by the fire to varying degrees.

Twenty Central Tablelands Local Land Services staff joined statewide colleagues in the massive response on ground, and in the Local Control Centre at Mudgee with Forward Command Posts established at Dunedoo and Merriwa.

The response took place over a period of three weeks with the Local Control Centre operating at Mudgee until 27 February 2017.

Mid-Western Regional Council, Upper Hunter Shire Council and Warrumbungle Shire Council were declared natural disasters areas on 11 February 2017.

Lithgow City Council was also affected.

The Sir Ivan fire was the primary focus due to the size, intensity and degree of damage.

Incentive funding to support community

Central Tablelands delivered \$1.7 million of incentive funding to landholders in the region during 2016–17. This support came from the Australian government through the National Landcare Program and Catchment Action NSW.

135 applications were received and delivered:

- land restoration programs
- bushland and stream protection
- improved land management practices
- protection of native plants and animals
- natural resource management
- sustainable land use
- increased land productivity
- threatened species management
- shared Wiradjuri cultural and ecological knowledge and practices
- native grassland management.



Significant community engagement

The Hollows for Habitat Superb Parrot project was launched in Orange on national threatened species day (7 September 2016).

This project is funded by Central Tablelands Local Land Services through Catchment Action NSW. The Central West Councils' Environment & Waterways Alliance in partnership with Bathurst, Blayney, Cabonne, Cowra and Orange Councils delivered the project.

More than 200 hollows have been created across the region, with over 2,000 native tubestock plants planted to create future habitat for superb parrots. Superb parrots are listed as a vulnerable threatened species with approximately 10,000 birds remaining in the wild.

Protecting the purple copper butterfly through cultural burning

Central Tablelands Local Land Services provided support to land managers and community to enhance the habitat of the threatened species the purple copper butterfly (*paralucia spinifera*).

The project was supported by the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH).

This tiny butterfly is one of Australia's rarest butterfly species, with its habitat restricted to elevations above 900 m. It feeds exclusively on a form of native Blackthorn (*Bursaria spinosa ss lasiophylla*).

Conserving the small areas of Blackthorn that remain is critical to saving the butterfly from extinction.

In May 2017, an experimental traditional Aboriginal cultural 'cool burn' was coordinated by Central Tablelands Local Land Services on a property at Mount David, south of Bathurst.

The burns promote new growth on the native Blackthorn. Ten trial burns were conducted over a 30 hectare area of property where native Blackthorn is present.

Post burn monitoring will now be undertaken on the trial sites to complement the regular caterpillar count monitoring during December.

Project shows where your cat travels at night

Central Tablelands Local Land Services, Orange City Council and Mid-Western Regional Council worked together in 2016–17 to track the movements of 32 domestic cats in and around Orange and Mudgee.

This saw staff fit GPS tracking devices to a harness on the cats' back to track every movement over an 11 day period.

The citizen science project was designed to raise awareness about how far domestic cats roam and was funded by the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

The results shocked some owners, who thought their cats generally keep close to home. One cat travelled up to three kilometres away.

The map highlighted that cats regularly roamed up to one or two blocks away, crossed major streets and visited different backyards.

The project highlighted that owners need to be more diligent in restricting the times they let their cats outside and keeping their cats indoors at night.

This will not only protect pets, but also minimise their impact on native wildlife.

Better understanding the disease risk from fallow deer

The Wilbertree North Wild Deer Management project provided an opportunity to sample culled fallow deer for disease surveillance.

This work assessed the biosecurity and disease risks posed by the feral deer population to livestock and humans (ie farm workers or recreational hunters).

To date, targeted surveillance of multiple diseases in feral deer has not been reported in Australia.

Central Tablelands highlights

- Supporting community during 2017 Sir Ivan bushfire and recovery
- Delivering \$1.7 million of incentive funding to support a healthy and connected landscape
- Delivering over 96,000 baits to landholders for feral animal control
- Over 200 hollows created and over 2,000 native trees and shrubs planted for superb parrot habitat
- Protecting the threatened purple copper butterfly through cultural burning
- Helping cat owners understand pet movements and reduce their impact on wildlife
- Researching biosecurity and disease risks posed by feral deer population to livestock and humans.

Around 75 animals were available for examination and necropsy, with a range of samples collected for laboratory testing.

No evidence of footrot or cattle tick was observed. Lab testing revealed no evidence of leptospirosis, Q Fever, or Johne's disease.

There was evidence of pestivirus exposure in some animals.

Overall, the work suggests the local fallow deer population is unlikely to act as a reservoir of leptospirosis, Q Fever, footrot, cattle tick, or Johne's Disease, but could act as a source of pestivirus, with the potential for spread to cattle.

Disease transmission at the interface of domestic animals, feral animals, and humans is an area of growing interest, with further research needed.

Baiting programs for farm productivity and landscape health

Our dog and fox baiting programs continued throughout the year to deliver over 96,000 baits to landholders over the region.

In addition we also worked with 52 landholders to bait pigs and put out 1,090 kg of baited carrots for rabbit control.

Summary of significant Central West operations

Flood and fire response

Late 2016 saw the region faced with widespread flooding.

These hard times continued in February 2017 with devastating fires affecting communities in the Leadville area.

Through both of these emergencies, Central West Local Land Services staff were on ground to work with affected landholders.

This involved interagency liaison and collaboration, compilation of damage assessment reports, aerial surveillance to locate and assess stranded animals, fodder drops, and where absolutely necessary, livestock destruction and disposal.

Our support did not end once the immediate threat had passed. We also worked closely once the task of recovery began.

Support during recovery

A Local Land Services cross boundaries series of 'Back on track' workshops were rolled out to fire-affected landholders.

These well-received events provided landholders with information and advice on re-establishing their farm businesses.

While these two events greatly impacted the region, on-ground activities continued.

Central West native vegetation staff transitioned across to the newly formed Sustainable Land Management unit in preparation for the implementation of amendments of the *Local Land Services Act 2013* whilst continuing to fulfil obligations under the then current native vegetation regulations.

Our partnerships and collaborations with landholders, Landcare, Aboriginal and producer groups, and state and federal government agencies continued to deliver great outcomes across our region.

Weed management

2016–17 saw development of regional strategic weed management plans in collaboration with Regional Weed Committees.

These regional plans support the implementation of the weeds components of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and safeguard the region against the threat of weeds.

In addition, pest plant control was conducted across 16,747 hectares of the region over this period.



Working with Landcare

Central West Local Land Services and Landcare signed a partnership memorandum of understanding (MoU).

This agreement was developed to support the partnership between Landcare and Local Land Services in the Central West region.

It also provides guidance on managing of the working relationship to ensure it is strong, effective and proactive.

Working with peri-urban landholders

We delivered a series of peri-urban landholder workshops in partnership with:

- local councils
- Landcare
- NSW Police
- NSW Rural Fire Service
- SafeWork NSW.

This work gave landholders information on their responsibilities as a small property owner and also advice on how to manage their land.

Cultural heritage and reconciliation

During the reporting period, we initiated development of the Central West Reconciliation Action Plan.

This process has now, under recommendation from Reconciliation Australia, grown into a State-wide Local Land Services process.

The reporting period also saw 51 hectares of known Aboriginal cultural values managed for preservation.

Controlling feral animals

Over 137,000 individual baits and 13 tonnes of baits were supplied to landholders to control feral animals across the Central West region.

This was delivered in tandem with feral animal control measures implemented over 273,000 hectares.

Supporting natural resource management

In 2016–17 we supported sustainable grazing over 118,501 hectares of land.

Collaboration with landholders saw over 450,000 hectares of land in the region associated with a natural resource management project or agreement.

This collaborative effort is underpinned by investment through the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, the NSW Government's Catchment Action Program and the willingness of landholders and community groups to invest time and money into natural resource management.

Central West highlights

- Supporting community during flooding and Sir Ivan bushfire recovery
- Strategic weed management plans
- Working closely with Landcare
- 137,000 individual baits and 13 tonnes of baits were supplied to landholders for feral animal control
- 273,000 ha of feral animal control
- 16,747 ha of pest plant control
- Initiated Reconciliation Action Plan
- 51 ha of known Aboriginal cultural values managed for preservation
- Sustainable grazing over 118,501 ha of land
- 450,000 ha with a natural resource management project or agreement
- Peri-urban landholder education.

Summary of significant Greater Sydney operations

Delivering for our customers

The 2016–17 financial year saw Greater Sydney Local Land Services continue to work closely with our ratepayers, customers, project partners, local communities and stakeholders to deliver across our region.

These services included:

- improving the productivity and sustainability of our agricultural industry
- reducing the impact of pests and diseases
- building capabilities in emergency management support
- protecting and enhancing the many and varied natural environments within our region.

We have developed a strong, customer-centric staff culture and deep commitment to meeting the many obligations of our multiple investors

In the past year, we have strengthened integration of our natural resource management, agricultural and biosecurity services.

We have delivered outcome-focused programs demonstrating the value of the Local Land Services model.

A priority over the past year has been to build on existing industry and community partnerships and secure new partnerships. These initiatives allow us to extend our services to meet new and emerging needs of industry and the community.

Success with compost trials and VegNET

Some of our key achievements during the past 12 months include the successful completion of our \$454,750 Next Generation Compost Trial in partnership with NSW Farmers, NSW EPA and the University of Technology, Sydney.

The two-year project explored the potential benefits of recycled organics in horticulture. This work saw more than 250 people engaged through a series of workshops and events.

The research showed that long-term use of compost made from recycled organics can improve soil structure, water holding capacity and increase crop productivity.

Our \$1 million VegNET NSW partnership with Hort Innovation continues to be a strong priority. Together, we held 30 events, attracting a further 399 growers and industry representatives.



These activities, along with other field days at our demonstration farm, attracted more than 1500 growers, producers, and industry representatives in the past financial year.

Biosecurity team delivers

Our team continues to work with landholders to deliver biosecurity and pest animal control campaigns across the Greater Sydney region.

Our recent work saw wild dog, fox and rabbit baiting programs rolled out in the Macarthur, Central Coast, Hawkesbury, Hills, North Sydney, Blue Mountains and Mulgoa regions.

More than 250 people took part in baiting, trapping and monitoring to minimise the impact of pest animals and their damage to the natural environment and agricultural production.

Other highlights include training 117 landholders in the legal use of Pindone and 60 swill feeding inspections.

A new deer control program has also just been established in the Camden and Wollondilly areas to reduce the numbers and impacts of feral deer in the area.

Working closely with Landcare and partners

Earlier this year we conducted a survey of our Landcare groups, local councils and national parks Bushcare program partners.

The Greater Sydney region is home to more than 900 Landcare and Bushcare groups.

The survey found more than 13,000 people volunteered their time as part of a Landcare or Bushcare program in the 2015–16 financial year

Together they contributed more than 178,000 hours of their time—equal to \$6.2 million in labour.

Ninety-eight percent of Bushcare coordinators and 100 percent of Landcare groups were satisfied or highly satisfied with the support they received from Greater Sydney Local Land Services.

To celebrate these achievements, we hosted 160 Landcare and Bushcare volunteers at an awards ceremony and regional forum in May 2017.

Fox control, peri-urban biosecurity and bushfire exercise

Collaborative campaigns were rolled out again over the past year, including the second stage of the Menangle Fox Control campaign, an innovative landscape approach to fox management.

A Greater Sydney peri-urban biosecurity handbook was also developed to guide basic best practice farm management.

We also completed an intensive emergency response bushfire exercise in partnership with the Rural Fire Service and NSW DPI. This work will further strengthen our emergency response capacity and partnerships.

Greater Sydney highlights

- Successful completion of \$454,750 Next Generation Compost Trial—250 people engaged through workshops and events
- \$1 million VegNET NSW partnership with Hort Innovation—30 events attracting a further 399 growers and industry representatives
- A collective 1,500 growers, producers and industry representatives at events
- Targeted wild dog, fox and rabbit baiting programs
- 250 people participating in pest animal baiting, trapping and monitoring
- Supporting Landcare and Bushcare groups
- Menangle fox control campaign
- Peri-urban biosecurity handbook
- Participated in intensive emergency response bushfire exercise.

Summary of significant Hunter operations

Bushfire response

Disaster unfortunately struck the Hunter again at the start of 2017, with the Sir Ivan bushfire in the Upper Hunter requiring an unprecedented response from our staff.

We helped the community deal with the catastrophic blaze and its devastating impacts on livestock, agricultural infrastructure and local families.

This fire event saw 35 homes lost, more than 2,000 head of livestock perished and more than 5,700 kilometres of fencing damaged or destroyed.

Repair and rebuilding work will continue for many months to come, with Local Land Services staff working with landholders to support their recovery.

Supporting our community

Aside from emergency management duties, Hunter Local Land Services continued to engage and work with landholders, local Aboriginal and community partners and a wide range of stakeholders including state and federal government agencies across the region. Together, we are improving agricultural productivity and natural resource management.

Continued investment from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, the NSW Government's Catchment Action program, the Hunter Catchment Contribution Fund and investment of time and money by landholders and community organisations has led to great outcomes being achieved across the region.

Spreading Indigenous fire knowledge

Our Hunter Local Land Services Aboriginal Community Advisory Group identified a gap in local knowledge on Indigenous fire management. This was highlighted as a priority for Local Land Services to address.

In response, 80 people participated in an Indigenous Fire workshop on Biraban Land at Morriset, including eight Local Aboriginal Land Council Land Management Team trainees.

The Advisory Group supported the eight trainees, accompanied by a local Elder, to attend the National Firesticks Conference in Cape York. Here they participated in a cultural burn.

It is important to Indigenous communities that fire knowledge is not lost from their culture. Our work will help Indigenous Fire Management be reinstated as a tool for landscape and wildfire management.



Dairy effluent project benefiting farmers and regional water supply

The end of 2016 saw the completion of a successful \$1.1 million program involving 13 dairies near Dungog. This work improves on-farm effluent management to industry best standards.

The three-year partnership between Hunter Water, Hunter Local Land Services and local dairy farmers was initiated to reduce dairy effluent risk to our region's drinking water supply, while also boosting farm productivity and environmental performance.

Upgrades of on-farm effluent systems were completed on each property. Nutrients were returned to pasture instead of going into the Williams River Catchment. The group were also trained in Dairy Australia's Fert\$mart program to better target their fertiliser use.

Grants for oyster growers

Hunter Local Land Services is continuing to work with our region's 97 oyster growers to boost the long-term sustainability, profitability and adaptability of the industry.

The industry produces more than worth of \$20 million gross product value across estuaries in Port Stephens, Wallis Lakes and the Manning.

To support our oyster industry, we invested \$50,000 of National Landcare Programme funding in grants for local growers.

This program offered grants up to \$5,000 to upgrade infrastructure and practices to more sustainable materials and production methods.

These improvements reduce the impacts of oyster production on our sensitive estuary environments and help support our nature-based tourism industry.

Tourism to the Hunter region was worth more than \$2.3 billion in 2016.

Our grants program was again oversubscribed, with huge demand from local growers.

Overall, 40 per cent of local farms have now completed an oyster farm profile that gives them a much clearer view of their business.

This tool helps farmers plan and adjust to changing management practices that reduce waste and environmental impacts.

Funded trapper pilot program

A funded trapper pilot program was coordinated by Hunter Local Land Services in partnership with the Hunter Valley Combined Wild Dog Association, proving to be a huge success.

This initial short-term trial involving one trapper saw 14 problem dogs controlled near Merriwa in April.

The program has since then been expanded, thanks to funding from the Australian government's Pest and Weed Drought Funding program and support from local mining companies.

Landholders can access the skills and support of professional controllers to target problem wild dogs, in addition to integrated control measures already underway in the region.

Flood readiness kit

The devastating 2015 April superstorms saw more than \$105 million worth of damage to primary industries in the Lower Hunter, with substantial loss of crops, farming infrastructure and livestock.

In response, Hunter Local Land Services has developed a Flood Readiness Kit.

The user-friendly resource is the first of its kind in the state, and is designed to help landholders make sure their property is flood ready.

The kit guides people to developing a flood plan and includes a flood readiness checklist.

The kit was developed in conjunction with landholders and has been praised with helping build resilience in local farming communities.

Hunter highlights

- Supported community during 2017 Sir Ivan bushfire and recovery
- 80 people participated in an Indigenous Fire workshop
- \$1.1 m program involving 13 dairies for best practice on-farm effluent management
- \$50,000 support for oyster industry
- Pilot program for funded wild dog trapper
- Flood readiness kit to help landholders prepare.

Summary of significant Murray operations

Flood response

It has been a challenging year for the Murray community, with the largest flood since the 1970s hitting the region in October 2016.

In response, Murray Local Land Services worked with affected landholders through:

- aerial surveillance for stranded stock
- delivering fodder drops
- collating damage assessments to support a declaration of an agricultural natural disaster.

Our staff also made over 650 phone calls to warn landholders about the coming flood.

Collaboration for natural resource and farming investment

Aside from our emergency management duties, we partnered and collaborated with landholders, universities, Landcare, Aboriginal and producer groups, and state and federal government agencies to deliver programs across our region.

These produced great outcomes and demonstrated the considerable value of sustained investment in our natural resource and farming systems.

This collaborative effort is underpinned by investment through the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, the NSW Government's Catchment Action Program and the willingness of landholders and community groups to invest time and money into natural resource management.

Quantifying the increase in vegetation cover in the South West Bioregion

A study of satellite imagery from 1990 to 2014 was undertaken to evaluate the outcomes from 25 years of investment in on-ground vegetation restoration projects.

In this study, 2,746 restoration sites over 23,634 ha were reviewed, with the following key outcomes:

- 87 per cent of sites recorded an average increase of 8 per cent in cover
- areas with strong partnerships with community-based groups showed greater gains in vegetation cover, compared with surrounding landscapes
- revegetation sites appeared to be more resilient during the millennium drought, maintaining greater vegetation cover compared with surrounding landscapes.

This information will be used to inform future vegetation restoration programs.



Group fox and wild dog baiting programs

More than 74,000 baits were supplied to landholders to control foxes and wild dogs across the region.

Establishment of demonstration sites in the west of the region

Investment in the Western Murray Land Improvement Group's Economically Viable Options for Retired Irrigation Land project has identified the best dryland pasture options for the western part of the Murray Local Land Services region.

These are now being adopted by landholders, and this work is being complemented by an evaluation of the benefit of planting highly palatable and digestible salt bush selections.

Emergency animal disease exercise

Representatives from the police, stock and station agents, Local Government, saleyard managers, livestock transporters, DPI and Murray and Riverina Local Land Services participated in an exercise to test our collective preparedness to respond to a major disease outbreak.

All participants found the Finley saleyards exercise to be highly realistic and very informative.

Completion of the travelling stock reserve biodiversity fund program

2017 saw the completion of the five-year, federally funded TSR biodiversity program.

This \$4.5 m Australian Government-funded project saw work completed on more than 240 travelling stock reserves.

It included:

- revegetation
- restoration
- weed and pest programs.

The program covered a variety of vegetation communities and land use areas.

A total of 1,347 kg of seed, including more than 50 native species, was sown in more than 2,300 km of seed trail.

Weeds were controlled over 49,000 ha and pests were controlled over 11,000 ha.

Trial of virtual fences

An innovative and ground-breaking on-farm virtual fencing trial was conducted in partnership with CSIRO, Goulburn-Broken CMA and Agersens.

This work successfully demonstrated that the revolutionary new technology can keep cattle out of riparian zones without the use of physical barriers.

Ultimately the technology leads to increased farm-gate profitability and improved environmental outcomes.

Installation of wild dog exclusion fences

With funding from the Australian Government, matched dollar-for-dollar by landholders, Murray Local Land Services coordinated the installation of 130 km of wild dog-proof fences across 34 properties in the upper Murray.

Landholders who participated in the program have reported a significant reduction in wild dog attacks, leading to increased farm-gate profitability.

Murray highlights

- Supported community during 2016 floods
- 74,000 baits supplied to landholders for fox and wild dog control
- Quantifying benefits of 25 years of revegetation restoration projects
- Demonstration sites for best dryland pasture options
- Participated in intensive emergency response exercise
- \$4.5 m investment in travelling stock reserve biodiversity program
- Trial of virtual fencing shows benefits for riparian areas
- Coordinated the installation of 130 km of wild dog-proof fences across 34 properties.

Summary of significant North Coast operations

The North Coast region is home to the third most biodiverse region in Australia.

Our region also supports a progressive, diverse and engaged community and agricultural industry, including beef, dairy, sugar cane, macadamias and blueberries just to name a few.

We have a reputation for clean, green environments that grow clean, green agricultural produce.

The North Coast Local Land Services area is located in north-eastern NSW, including Lord Howe Island, and covers an area of more than 32,000 km² and 568 km of coastline.

More than 500,000 people live on the North Coast and the major population centres include Tweed Heads, Lismore, Murwillumbah, Grafton, Coffs Harbour, Nambucca, Kempsey and Port Macquarie.

Acknowledgement of Country

North Coast Local Land Services works with an Aboriginal Community Advisory Group who provide an opportunity for us to engage with our North Coast Aboriginal communities.

Through our Working on Country funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, we have partnerships with a number of Aboriginal organisations that deliver employment, training and education programs in environmental conservation and land management.

North Coast Local Land Services acknowledges and recognises the traditional owners and custodians of Country in the North Coast region including:

- Githabul (Upper Clarence Valley)
- Bundjalung (Richmond, Tweed and Northern Clarence Valleys)
- Yaegl (Lower Clarence Valley)
- Gumbaynggirr (Nambucca, Bellinger and southern Clarence Valleys)
- Dunghutti (Macleay Valley)
- Biripi (Hastings Valley).

We acknowledge the rich diversity in Aboriginal communities including individuals and groups who share a responsibility to care for Country and culture, both now and into the future. We pay our respects to Elders, both past and present.



Our year in review

North Coast Local Land Services has strengthened relationships with ratepayers, landholders and communities in the past year and continued to deliver services and projects that meet the diverse needs of the region.

Our projects and partnerships grow farm productivity and healthy environments, but also play a vital role in helping to protect against pests, diseases and environmental threats.

North Coast Local Land Services is a locally run organisation, meaning we are well placed to deliver services that address the needs of the communities we work with.

This work is supported by the NSW Government Catchment Action Funding and the Commonwealth Government funded National Landcare Program.

Our response to meeting these diverse needs has been to develop an integrated approach to service delivery.

We partner with public and private organisations to achieve our goals and this collaborative approach best serves the needs of the region.

The team had a number of key achievements in 2017.

- increased the capacity of land managers to improve primary production and natural resource management and trained more than 2,000 customers at training events
- district veterinarians and biosecurity officers attended more than 900 general consultations and conducted a range of investigations to exclude emergency animal disease
- we provided education and training workshops to build the capacity of land managers to support and help coordinate group control programs — bringing landholders together to control wild dogs, foxes, pigs and deer
- we have allocated more than \$0.90 million dollars for the operation of local Landcare networks and the delivery of regional Landcare facilitator functions for the three-year period from 2015 to 2018.

Demonstrating the importance of the North Coast Local Land Services team supporting our communities when it matters, North Coast Local Land Services provided emergency response support for animal and agriculture services to communities following:

- a fire event at Pappinbarra in March 2017
- the Lismore major flood event of March 2017
- various storm events that resulted in significant damage to horticulture producers across the region.

North Coast highlights

- Supported community during Pappinbarra bushfires, Lismore floods and storm events
- More than 2,000 customers at training events
- District veterinarians and biosecurity officers attended more than 900 general consultations
- Provided education and training workshops to build capacity of land managers to control wild dogs, foxes, pigs and deer
- Nearly \$1 m invested in local Landcare network and regional Landcare facilitators for 2015 to 2018.

Summary of significant North West operations

Emergency management skills

Over the past year, North West Local Land Services staff were involved in responses to:

- fires in the Central West
- autumn floods
- prawn white spot disease (Queensland).

Our staff were also involved in recovery operations for Boggabri fires.

One hundred per cent of our staff have completed foundation emergency management training, which sees the North West ready to respond in a timely and effective way.

A local project was also developed in partnership with DPI to improve the North West regional logistics capability.

Relationships and linkages continue to be built through involvement with the local and regional emergency management committees.

Training days were held for staff, local emergency services and local veterinary practitioners to improve their skills in dealing with livestock transport vehicle incidents.

This training has given attendees skills to deal with livestock and their own safety in these situations.

Invasive species and plant health

Our staff continue to work with landholders to target wild dogs, foxes, feral pigs and rabbits.

Baiting for wild dog, fox and pig control

Our wild dog aerial baiting program was run in conjunction with adjoining Local Land Services regions and again very successful.

This program targets the steep inaccessible terrain where dogs live and breed.

In our region, nearly 15,000 meat baits were laid over a 372 km line. This work covered 84 properties.

Aerial baiting was well supported by ground baiting in more accessible areas. Overall, 30,216 baits were issued in 2016–17, covering 268 properties.

Our fox ground baiting campaign saw 19,894 baits issued over 414 properties.

Pig baiting, particularly in the crop growing areas, has again proved popular, with 31,126 kg of grain supplied to 202 properties.



Rabbit control

We maintained 10 release sites as part of the national release of the new Calicivirus RHDV1 K5 strain.

This involved spotlight monitoring and rabbit sampling to assess exposure levels.

Monitoring continues with varied results to date.

Landholder training and skill building

We continue to train landholders in chemical use (1080 specific) to enable them to meet their pest control obligations.

As with all chemical-user training, this qualification lasts for five years.

We also offer canid pest ejector training as another tool to support dog and fox control.

This year we have trained 66 landholders to control pests through five training events.

Team training to prevent foot and mouth

As part of our commitment to training and skills development, three of our district veterinarians visited Nepal.

Ted Irwin (Warrallda), Justine McNally (Moree) and Heidi Austin (Tamworth) received specialist training in foot and mouth disease detection and preparedness.

This is part of a national program funded by the Australian Government.

Pig tracking program to understand movements, habits and interactions

A large scale feral pig collaring and tracking program has commenced in the Terri Hie Hie area between Bingara and Moree.

This involves catching and attaching satellite tracking collars to specific classes of feral pigs and tracking their movements over a six-month period.

Landholders continue with usual management and control practices over this period.

This research will be a valuable tool for all landholders and pest management organisations—helping understand the pest animal's movements, habits and interactions.

As a partner organisation in this project, we have been heavily involved in landholder consultation and coordination, being a conduit between our clients and the funding body.

We also providing technical assistance with catching and sedating suitable pigs.

Animal biosecurity

There was an increase in customer interactions this year, with our staff having over 2,400 contacts with the community.

A number of cases of footrot were detected in the region due to increased surveillance and landholder notifications.

This has allowed our biosecurity team to contain the spread of this infectious disease within the North West region.

We have met the National Livestock Identification Scheme compliance target benchmark (8%).

Natural resource management

Highlights from successful National Landcare Program and Catchment Action NSW projects include the icon species research program—discovering and confirming an existing population of black stripe wallabies in our TSR that have not been sighted in the area since 1981.

Based on this exciting discovery we have embarked on an intensive fox control program for further protection and investment in landscape connectivity to allow for increased breeding opportunities for this iconic species.

Landholder interest, engagement and investment continue to grow in the protection of habitat for other threatened species including koala, quoll, Bell's turtle and Booroolong frog as a result of these programs.

North West highlights

- Supported community during fires, floods and prawn white spot disease responses
- Targeted control of wild dogs, foxes, feral pigs and rabbits
- 15,000 aerial meat baits were laid over a 372 km line for wild dog control
- 30,216 ground baits issued, covering 268 properties for wild dog control
- 19,894 fox baits issued over 414 properties
- 31,126 kg of grain supplied to 202 properties for feral pig control
- Staff having over 2,400 contacts with our community
- Staff receive specialist training in foot and mouth disease detection and preparedness
- Supporting large scale feral pig collaring and tracking research program
- Discovering and protecting existing population of black stripe wallabies on TSR
- Protecting threatened species habitat, including koala, quoll, Bell's turtle and Booroolong frog
- 3,455 ha of priority regional vegetation communities improved and 24 km of priority riparian reach protected
- Invested in protection of 14 sites of Aboriginal cultural significance.

Other successes include 3,455 ha of priority regional vegetation communities managed for improved condition. We also protected 24 km of priority riparian reach through contracts to encourage regeneration to improve the condition, species diversity, and connectivity.

Additionally, we have invested in the protection of 14 sites of Aboriginal cultural significance. We also and ran 25 knowledge sharing events, introducing these sites and traditional cultural practices to new generations to celebrate culture.

Summary of significant Northern Tablelands operations

Investing in our community

In 2016–17 Northern Tablelands Local Land Services invested more than \$930,000 to balance agricultural productivity and landscape health.

This work gave landholders and the community the skills and knowledge to make sound landscape management decisions.

This was supported by the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and the NSW Government's NSW Catchment Action funding.

The most rewarding aspect of this investment is the value that our landholder partners place on improving the natural resource base on their farms.

Participating landholders invested a total of over \$1,256,000 of their own funds to contribute to these outcomes.

This investment has enhanced and rehabilitated 1,295 hectares of land through activities such as protecting existing native vegetation and revegetation.

It has also protected 35 kilometres of waterways in the Northern Tablelands region through:

- fencing riparian areas for improved management
- installing off-stream watering points
- weed control
- protecting and enhancing riparian vegetation.

Completing the Nandewar Biolinks project

After five years of local partnerships and millions of dollars in investment, the Brigalow Nandewar Biolinks project was completed in June 2017.

This work strengthens the links between biodiversity and agricultural production.

The Biolinks project has pursued a bold vision to restore and enhance critical native vegetation corridors linking the northern tablelands, slopes and plains.

Up to the end of 2016, over 200,000 new native plants, including trees and shrubs, were planted as tubestock or through direct seeding, across more than 1,100 ha of land.

These new plantings are reconnecting areas of natural bushland. They allow native plant species to seed and spread, establishing new habitat for native animals to move into and increasing the potential for species survival.



Over the past five years, the Biolinks project has worked with hundreds of landholders. This includes:

- Landcare volunteers
- Aboriginal community representatives
- farmers from more than 500 separate properties.

This project has helped them to improve biodiversity in ways that will increase profitability as well as environmental sustainability.

School farm planning grows land managers

Northern Tablelands Local Land Services again delivered the School Property Planning Competition through National Landcare Program funding.

This annual competition attracted 120 students from eight regional schools.

High school agriculture students had a first-hand experience in investigating the practical challenges faced by farmers.

It provides an avenue for our region's youth to develop practical skills in agriculture and encourages students to pursue a career in agriculture.

Building landholder skills

Our Sustainable Agriculture project delivered 27 events to 780 participants keen to boost their knowledge and skills in:

- soil health
- pasture management
- mixed farming
- farm planning
- livestock health and production.

In 2016–17, soil, pasture and grazing management has improved across 16,771 ha of land on the Northern Tablelands.

Biggest wild dog aerial baiting program

Following increasing landholder and inter-agency support in recent years, the autumn 2017 wild dog aerial baiting campaign was the biggest ever undertaken through Northern Tablelands Local Land Services.

Almost 128,000 baits were injected with 1080 poison and dropped across the Northern Tablelands.

This work was supported by 450 dedicated local landholders wanting to control wild dogs.

Baits were dropped along more than 3,000 km of pre-determined aerial bait lines on both private property and country managed by government agencies.

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service distributed over 36,000 baits along 900 km of bait lines, while the NSW Forestry Corporation deployed over 16,000 baits along 400 km of bait lines.

In addition to the aerial baiting, more than 10,000 ground baits were distributed by landholders from 26 wild dog control groups.

Working with landholders, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and the NSW Forestry Corporation, our combined efforts in 2017 will make a real impact on the wild dog population that threatens both livestock and native fauna.

Northern Tablelands highlights

- Invested over \$930,000 in agricultural productivity and landscape health
- Enhanced and rehabilitated 1,295 ha of land
- Protected 35 km of waterways
- Brigalow Nandewar Biolinks project completed, with 200,000 new native plants over 1,100 ha
- School farm planning competition attracting 120 students from eight schools
- 27 sustainable agriculture events to 780 participant
- Autumn 2017 wild dog aerial baiting campaign biggest ever
- 128,000 aerial baits dropped across the Northern Tablelands, 10,000 ground baits distributed by landholders
- Manage more than 46,000 ha of TSRs.

Managing TSRs for benefit of community

Northern Tablelands Local Land Services manages more than 46,000 hectares of TSRs for the benefit of the whole community.

We promote a balance of TSR use for production, social, cultural and environmental outcomes. We continuously work to maintain and improve this resource.

In 2016–17, we desilted dams, installed new water infrastructure and repaired fences to ensure the 48,360 head of livestock using the TSR network's feed reserve were well-cared for.

In collaboration with local pest control groups, Northern Tablelands Local Land Services also participated in coordinated pest control programs on TSRs.

Northern Tablelands Local Land Services has been rewarded in 2016–17 by working with so many enthusiastic landholders equipping themselves with decision-making tools.

This will see people better managing their farms in their quest to leave the landscape in better health.

Summary of significant Riverina operations

Investing in our community

In 2016–17 Riverina Local Land Services invested more than \$3.3 million with landholders to assist with sustainable farming practices and sound environmental management. This work supported both on-ground projects, and skill and knowledge building.

This incentive program was supported by the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and the NSW Government's NSW Catchment Action funding.

This investment has rehabilitated over 5,000 ha of land through activities such as:

- managing and enhancing existing native vegetation
- protecting riparian areas
- strategic grazing management
- innovation in agriculture
- improving the habitat of threatened species of native animals and plants.

Community engagement

Riverina Local Land Services is committed to improving its engagement of stakeholders and the wider community through a variety of programs.

In 2016–17 these included:

- **Community grants** – nine small Landcare groups, local government and agricultural producer groups received a total of \$95,000 to undertake local solutions to local issues.
- **Henty Machinery Field Days and Riverina Field Days** – showcasing the services offered by Local Land Services and projects undertaken in partnership with industry, Landcare and other government agencies.
- **Bitterns in Rice** – a collaborative project with Ricegrowers Association of Australia to help conserve the threatened Australasian bittern that nests in rice bays.
- **Fivebough Wetlands** – a partnership with DPI-Crown Lands, Leeton Shire and Landcare to enhance this internationally significant breeding ground for migratory birds.
- **Cultural Burning** – engagement with local Aboriginal communities and the Rural Fire Service to undertake cultural burning on a TSR near Coolamon to show the environmental benefits of mosaic burning and bringing together community groups to foster understanding.



Feral pest control and baiting programs

Feral Fighters groups continued fox and wild dog baiting programs in autumn and spring. Feral Fighters were eligible to get a free canid pest injector kit—a new technology that effectively poisons feral pests while avoiding the risk of harming native species.

More than 20 ejectors were issued to farmers who have shown their commitment to feral pest control.

- 110,922 fox baits issued to 2,034 properties
- 11,571 wild dog baits issued to 147 properties.

New projects

Wild dog tracking project – a combined project with University of New England, DPI Invasive Pest Unit, Murray Local Land Services, landholders in wild dog management groups, National Parks & Wildlife Service and NSW Forestry Corporation.

This innovative project used GPS collars and satellite tracking of wild dogs to improve the effectiveness of aerial and ground baiting of wild dogs in the Riverina Highlands.

Aerial surveying of threatened weeping myall and Boree vegetation communities and rabbit warrens

This work used cameras on a helicopter to pinpoint and map the location of key vegetation communities and rabbit warrens that threaten them. Riverina Local Land Services was able to provide landholders in the Hay district with accurate maps of the extent and location of rabbit warrens.

This significantly improved the effectiveness of eradication and was welcomed by landholders. Aerial surveying achieved results in 10 days that would take six years on ground.

Western feral pig project – a collaboration of Riverina, Murray and Western Local Land Services with DPI Water and local landholders.

This project used infra-red cameras on helicopters to find and eradicate feral pigs in the lignum swamps of the Lower Bidgee wetlands.

This innovative approach is proving cost effective and receiving positive feedback from landholders adjacent to the wetlands.

Plains-wanderer stewardship program – a partnership between Riverina and Murray Local Land Services, and OEH. This program works with landholders who have primary habitat of the endangered iconic bird, the plains-wanderer.

The program is built from the ground up through developing management plans for each property around:

- grazing management
- feral pest control
- watering points
- other practical incentives to balance production and conservation.

Emergency management and biosecurity risks

Riverina Local Land Services supported DPI on a number of biosecurity threats and emergency management situations:

- Flooding of the Murrumbidgee River and tributaries in September 2016 involved surveillance of stranded stock, warnings to landholders and recovery assistance to affected landholders.
- Russian wheat aphid was found in the Riverina in June 2016. This saw Riverina Local Land Services advising growers of the threat, surveillance and response.
- Lupin anthracnose was found in the Riverina in February 2017 with staff working alongside DPI Biosecurity NSW in surveillance of crops and providing advice to growers.

Riverina highlights

- Emergency and biosecurity support—flooding, Russian wheat aphid and lupin anthracnose
- Invested more than \$3.3 m with landholders
- Nine community grants to Landcare groups totalling \$95,000
- Project to conserve threatened Australasian bittern that nests in rice bays
- Partnership to enhance Fivebough Wetlands—internationally significant breeding ground for migratory birds
- Cultural burning on TSR near Coolamon
- Feral Fighters program delivered 110,922 fox baits issued and 11,571 wild dog baits
- GPS collars and satellite tracking of wild dogs
- Innovative helicopter-mounted infra-red cameras to find and eradicate feral pigs
- Stewardship program to support landholders to protect endangered iconic plains-wanderer.

Summary of significant South East operations

The 2016–17 financial year was a successful one for South East Local Land Services.

The year saw the team continue the delivery of our signature programs, as well as implement incentive, community engagement, training and capacity building programs across our region.

The team also provided on-the-ground assistance and support during several emergencies and truck rollovers.

Feral Fighters

The Feral Fighters program continues to go from strength to strength across the South East. The program is active in 89 communities across our region.

The year saw 529 land managers trained to safely and efficiently use vertebrate pesticides over 46 training events.

Feral Fighters were involved in several group control programs:

- 158 farming entities participated in the coordinated release of RHDV using 574 kg of treated carrots across 25,665 hectares.
- 1,415 farming entities participated in the wild dog and fox control program. Together they laid 64,577 baits across 623,376 hectares during the spring and autumn campaigns.

Mountains to Sea

The Mountains to Sea program received 60 applications for the 2016–17 round of funding.

A review panel comprised of Local Land Services staff and one independent assessor awarded grant funding to 34 projects:

- \$156,547 was invested in 17 Escarpment to Sea projects. This included planting over 4,000 trees and installing 4.7 km of fencing. This work protected 91 hectares along 2.7 km of riparian corridors.
- \$153,660 was invested in 17 Coastal Connections projects. This included planting over 13,000 trees and installing 9.1 km of fencing. This work protected 64 hectares along 13.8 km of riparian corridors.



Ag 2030

The Ag2030 program carried out a combined 223 awareness raising and training events in 2016–17.

Around 6,000 people attended these events. The program supported 416 land managers and clients, 124 of them new.

In the year 246 land managers adopted sustainable practices and 28 community groups were assisted.

Significant community engagement

Local Leaders

Our Local Leaders program was run again in 2017, with 19 people graduating. The program cost \$60,000 (incl GST) plus in kind coordination time from our staff and Landcare.

This project was supported by National Landcare Program investment through South East Local Land Services and South East Landcare (\$44,000). Participants contributed a total of \$16,000.

Fauna workshop draws a crowd

The South Coast team ran a 'Learn about the locals' fauna presentation as part of the Mountains to Sea program. The event was attended by 70 local land managers.

Regional Weed Committee

The South East Regional Weed Committee was created to support the development of the South East Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan.

The consultation period represented an opportunity for stakeholders, organisations and interested community members to provide feedback on the management of weeds in the South East.

Women in Grazing

June saw 60 women from the Southern Tablelands attended the 'Women in Grazing' modern business support event.

The event covered agribusiness planning, accounting and the ever evolving role of women in agribusiness.

There were three meetings of the South East Community Advisory Groups.

Emergency responses

The South East team responded to three emergencies in the 2016–17 financial year.

- The Upper Lachlan flood event (July 2016)
- Tarago fire (January 2017)
- Carwoola fire (February 2017).

Our staff activity supported affected communities—making animal welfare assessments and fodder drops, coordinating response efforts and communicating with affected land managers.

South East Local Land Services staff attended several truck roll overs in 2016–17.

Staff roles at these events have included securing livestock, making animal welfare assessments and euthanasing injured livestock.

Key projects initiated or completed

Willow control

The Water for Rivers willow control program was completed in 2016–17.

This \$1.4 million, five-year program was funded by the Water for Rivers Group and Catchment Action NSW.

The project saw the removal of 95% of willows along 165 km of the Delegate, Little Plains and Coolumbooka river systems.

Regional Weeds Plan

The South East Regional Weed Management Plan was developed and delivered.

South East highlights

- \$1.8 m invested in community to improve our landscape
- Feral Fighters program active in 89 communities
- 529 managers trained in pest control
- 64,577 baits across 623,376 hectares for wild dog and fox control
- 34 projects funded to improve the landscape
- Ag2030 program carried out 223 training events for over 6,000 people
- Regional weed plan launched
- Responded to three emergency events and several truck roll overs
- \$2.2 million Biofund 'Weaving the Web' project was completed
- Improving superb parrot habitat
- Protected 10 km of priority streambank vegetation.

Weaving the Web

The six year, \$2.2 million Biofund 'Weaving the Web' project was completed.

This work improved connectivity across the southern Monaro landscape.

Incentive programs

Across our region, \$1,051,217 in National Landcare Program and \$745,967 in Catchment Action funding was invested in on-ground projects.

Supporting superb parrot

Work to restore the habitat of the superb parrot saw:

- 249 hectares planted to terrestrial native species
- 93 hectares protected by fencing specifically to protect significant species or ecological communities
- two events raising awareness of wetland values.

Protecting riparian areas

Work to protect priority riparian vegetation in the Upper Lachlan and Murrumbidgee project saw:

- 38 hectares of riparian native vegetation protected by fencing
- 46 hectares planted to riparian native species
- riparian vegetation protected along 9.9 kilometres of streambank
- two alternative watering sites installed.

Summary of significant Western operations

Supporting community after sunraysia storms

While much of the Western region enjoyed a good season in 2016, it wasn't without its challenges.

The sunraysia area in the south-west of the Western region was battered by a severe storm on 11 November.

A number of storm cells, featuring winds of up to 100 km per hour and golf-ball sized hail, caused widespread damage to crops, infrastructure and vehicles across the Western region.

Western Local Land Services, along with NSW Department of Primary Industries, were immediately on the ground to survey the damage and offer support to impacted landholders and community members.

The assessments were used to collate a damage report including maps of properties, percentage of damage, storm trajectory and financial losses. Losses in the Western region were estimated at \$36 m.

Following this and other reporting, Minister for Primary Industries, Niall Blair announced Agricultural Natural Disaster Relief for affected primary producers, helping them recover from their losses.

Packsaddle mock emergency event success

In March 2017, over 180 people were involved in an emergency simulation exercise at Packsaddle, about 200 km north of Broken Hill.

The mock disaster was nine months in the planning and involved members of:

- the Australian Defence Force
- State Emergency Service
- Rural Fire Service
- Royal Flying Doctor Service
- NSW Ambulance
- Broken Hill Emergency Response Team
- NSW Police
- NSW Department of Primary Industries
- Western Local Land Services.

The situation was a stock truck had 'crashed' into a tourist bus, with some passengers 'dead' on impact and others 'dying' from serious injuries.

Western Local Land Services were mainly responsible for assessing the injured and traumatised animals involved in the collision.



Our District Veterinarians and Biosecurity Officers decided which of the injured stock had to be 'euthanised' as they were unfit to load.

All Western Local Land Services staff involved in the exercise did a tremendous job and some valuable learning was taken away from it.

Autumn baiting to control wild dogs

Western Local Land Services, in partnership with 14 Landcare and pest animal control groups, coordinated another successful baiting program targeting wild dogs.

The program used both ground and aerial baiting and was carried out in May 2017.

Overall, 149,000 baits were issued across the Western region.

Much planning and coordination was required to carry out this work, with 246 properties involved in ground baiting and 87 properties were involved in aerial baiting.

This successful autumn baiting comes on the back of some great work in 2016

In the 2016 calendar year, wild dog baiting programs resulted in 419,179 baits being delivered on 808 properties, which covered a total of 16,834,494 hectares.

Of these baits, 51,763 were delivered through aerial baiting, which was a subsidised program with landholders.

The overall scale of this program highlights the time and resources that go into managing wild dogs and other pest animals in our region.

It was pleasing for Western Local Land Services to have significant participation from landholders and interested groups in adopting best practices for pest management.

Outside of baiting, Western Local Land Services encourages landholders to carry out a number of other management activities. This includes monitoring with motion sensor surveillance cameras.

This information is entered into the feral scan community website. We also encourage landholders to carry out trapping to manage the issue of wild dogs.

Pest animals on the outer in Gilgunnia

A major cluster fencing project started in November 2016 and resulted in immediate and significant relief for landholders from pest animals and grazing pressure.

The Gilgunnia Cluster Fencing project, which has seen 210 km of fencing enclose 177,000 hectares, has been positively received by all involved. It has resulted in several landholders committing to using cluster fencing throughout their properties to further control pest animals and restore groundcover.

In total, 16 landholders and 22 properties were involved in the project, which is due to be completed early in the second half of 2017.

Landholder Dave Worsnop of 'Yarambie' has been in the area for 21 years. He said the cluster fence is the best improvement made to his property and he looked forward to enjoying the benefits for years to come.

Along with Mr Worsnop, Glenn Turner of 'Penshurst' was also pleased with the impact the cluster fence was having and committed to erecting cluster fencing throughout his entire property within five years.

Mr Worsnop hoped to have this done within a year and a half.

The project was made possible through the Australian Government's 2016 Pest and Weed Drought Funding Program.

Western highlights

- On-the-ground support to storm-impacted landholders and community members
- Joined mock emergency exercise in Packsaddle to strengthen response capacity
- 149,000 baits were issued across the Western region for wild dog control
- 246 properties involved in ground baiting and 87 properties were involved in aerial baiting
- Major cluster fencing project started, with in immediate and significant landholders relief

Our funding partners and review of operations

The services we provide are funded in a variety of ways.

The NSW Government provides funding through a Treasury grant to fund our core functions and through the Catchment Action NSW program.

Catchment Action NSW funding is provided to Local Land Services by OEH. In 2016–17 this amount was \$25 million.

It offers regionally-delivered project funding to address state natural resource management priorities, including support for biodiversity, native vegetation, threatened species and Aboriginal cultural heritage outcomes.

The Australian Government is an important funding partner, primarily through the National Landcare Program.

The program helps drive sustainable agriculture, as well as supporting the protection, conservation and rehabilitation of Australia's natural environment.

In 2016–17 the National Landcare Program provided \$26.4 million to Local Land Services.

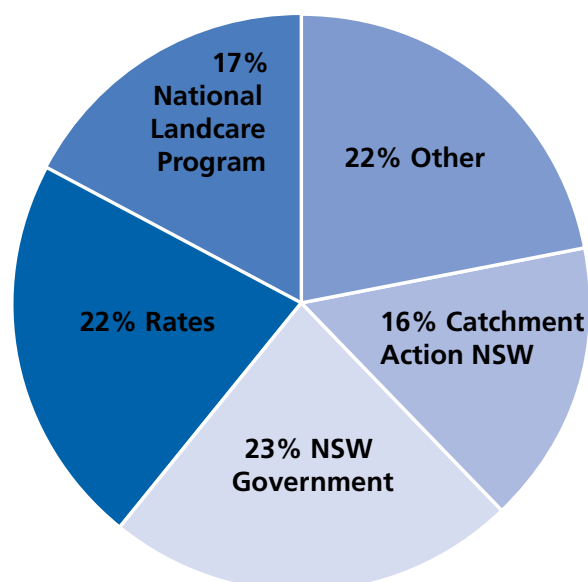
Ratepayers also contribute significantly to funding our biosecurity, livestock health and welfare services.

Market access and healthy and productive industries rely on these services. Private industry partnerships and investments also contribute to our work.

In 2016–17 Local Land Services received \$34.6 million in rates revenue.

This model ensures each group gains maximum value from their investment.

The following chart outlines our revenue by source.



Local Land Services funding structure 2016–17.

'Other' includes competitive grants from bodies outside the key programs (ie National Landcare Program and Catchment Action NSW), smaller commercial transactions and miscellaneous revenue from a range of minor activities.

Economic or other factors affecting the achievement of operational objectives

The nature of our funding base provides relative protection from the impact of general economic factors that affect the broader economy.

Although our operational activities have a higher exposure to impacts from climate events (for example, floods and bushfire), there were no events on the scale to affect achievement of operational objectives during 2016–17.

Our activities are continually subject to the varying seasonal conditions that occur throughout the state of NSW.

Achieving positive results

Measuring our performance against the state strategic plan

Meeting key challenges

Throughout the 2016–17 financial year, Local Land Services worked to achieve our vision of 'Resilient communities in productive healthy landscapes'.

Key challenges throughout the year included:

- supporting the community during major flooding and bushfire events, including the Sir Ivan bushfire and
- supporting major reform processes for biosecurity, biodiversity and Crown Lands management
- implementing the NSW Government's response to two NRC audits into communications and governance
- delivering a financially sustainable business model in the face of growing community expectation.

In addressing these challenges, Local Land Services made significant inroads against delivery of our four approved goals and twelve overarching strategies from the Local Land Services State Strategic Plan 2016-26 (see page 44).

Goal 1 – Resilient, self-reliant and prepared local communities

Our focus strategies for 2016–17

1. Provide data, information and knowledge that supports and enables land managers, customers and government improve decision making.
2. Provide products and services that support and enable customers, land managers and the community to prevent, prepare, respond and recover from biosecurity and natural disaster events.
3. Ensure local people participate in decision making.

Short-term outcomes for 2016–17

Supporting landholders through the sharing of data, information and knowledge

Local Land Services is committed to helping people make better decisions about the land that they manage.

In 2016–17 over 3,200 unique written products such as brochures, newsletters and fact sheets were tailored to meet local customer needs. Topics covered included weed and pest management, biodiversity conservation management and agricultural productivity.

Supporting landholders prevent, prepare, respond and recover from biosecurity and natural disaster events.

Emergency management continues to be a fundamental activity of Local Land Services.

We responded to a number of major natural disaster incidents, including catastrophic bushfires in the Central Tablelands, North Coast, Hunter, South East and Central West and flooding in the North Coast, Central West, Riverina and Murray.

We are a support agency to DPI during emergencies under the animals and agriculture services functional area.

Our staff play a fundamental role assisting communities affected by natural disasters by performing a number of tasks including:

- coordinating animal assessment and destruction
- providing fodder and water to livestock as required
- establishing emergency animal shelters
- holding recovery workshops among a number of other key services.
- to aid the response for animals and agriculture.

In 2016–17 Local Land Services developed a series of short films to help people during the recovery process and highlight the valuable role that Local Land Services plays.

These useful film resources are available on the intranet, YouTube and used regularly at community events.

Enabling local people to participate in decision making

Local people continue to be actively involved in decision making and shaping the business of Local Land Services.

Under the *Local Land Services Act (2013)* all regions are required to have community advisory groups.

The shape and approach of these groups is not defined under legislation, but rather, influenced by community needs.

There were 29 active community advisory groups in 2016–17 and 55% of these provided recommendations to Local Boards that were later adopted.

Local Land Services also ran a promotional campaign in 2016–17 to encourage more ratepayers to vote in local board elections.

Ten regions successfully increased their voting base, with five experiencing an increase of more than 25%.

Voting for representative local board members is an important democratic process in local decision making.

Goal 2 – Biosecure, profitable, productive and sustainable primary industries

Our focus strategies for 2016–17

1. Provide products and advisory services that support and enable customers to implement improved practices.
2. Collaborate with investors, stakeholders and external organizations to deliver improved products and services to customers.
3. Deliver consent and compliance services that educate and protect communities, landscapes and industries.

Short-term outcomes for 2016–17

Supporting landholders implement improved practices through the supply of products and services

Local Land Services supports customers to implement improved practices to achieve targeted agricultural, biosecurity and natural resource management outcomes.

In 2016–17, over 2,120 awareness raising events and 1,290 training events were delivered across the state.

These covered a diverse range of areas, for example pest animal control, emergency recovery, biosecurity planning, cultural burning, small landholding management, soil health, fauna/flora identification and erosion management.

Collaboration with stakeholders and investors

This year marked the second year of a five year partnership with Landcare NSW.

Through the NSW Government's \$15 million Local Landcare Coordinators Initiative, Local Land Services is seeing more grassroots projects developed in local communities that help meet community needs.

Funded by the NSW Government, the Local Landcare Initiative is built on three components:

1. Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative
2. Landcare Community of Practice
3. Landcare Trust.

Regional strategic weed management plans

Eleven regional strategic weed management plans were launched on 30 June 2017 to safeguard the state against the threat of weeds.

These plans set the vision for weed management across our regions for 2017-2022. They outline strategies and actions to achieve goals that focus on the shared responsibility for weed management, sustainable landscapes and collaborative leadership and innovation.

The plans were developed collaboratively with regional weed committees and Local Land Services.

They contain established strategies and actions to achieve goals that focus on shared responsibility for weed management, sustainable landscapes and collaborative leadership and innovation.

Importantly, they will guide future resource allocation and investment in each region and will provide a consistent basis for regional planning and delivery.

Excellence in consent and compliance services

2016–17 saw robust performance overall, driven largely by clear operational plans.

Essential services include bait distribution, land clearing approvals and animal biosecurity were consistently strong.

More than 870,000 sodium fluoroacetate (1080) baits were distributed to landholders to support management of feral pests, including wild dogs and foxes.

2016–17 was the last time that Local Land Services staff prepared Property Vegetation Plans (PVPs) under the *Native Vegetation Act 2003*.

The total area of native vegetation conserved as a result of a PVP increased as compared to 2015–16.

Similarly, the total number of hectares cleared with approval decreased.

Goal 3 – Healthy, diverse and connected natural environments

Our focus strategies for 2016–17

1. Collaborate with investors, stakeholders and external organisations to deliver improved products and services to customers.
2. Deliver services that support Aboriginal people to care for Country and share traditional land management knowledge.
3. Manage Crown land vested in Local Land Services for environmental, social and economic outcomes.

Short-term outcomes for 2016–17

Collaboration with stakeholders and investors

Local Land Services works towards our goal of healthy, diverse and connected natural environments through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and the NSW Government's Catchment Action NSW program.

Significantly, the combined efforts of Local Land Services and stakeholders saw more than 264,800 hectares of native vegetation enhanced, rehabilitated or protected by fencing in 2016–17.

Supporting Aboriginal people to care for Country

The ability of Aboriginal people to access and care for Country is largely determined by the amount of external investment Local Land Services is able to attract from the NSW and Australian Governments.

In 2016–17 over 2,700 hectares of land was managed to protect Aboriginal cultural values, including protection of almost 100 unique sites.

Managing Crown lands

Local Land Services is responsible for the managing TSRs in NSW.

Our objective is to manage these lands consistent with best practice through activities such as

- preparing plans of management
- weed and pest control
- biodiversity conservation.

A statewide review of the TSR commenced in 2017.

This will determine which TSRs are still used or required for the original purpose they were set aside for and to determine if they are important for other reasons.

This information will inform future decisions about how this land can be best reserved, managed and owned.

It will also be used to develop a comprehensive map of the TSR network in NSW:

- where they are
- what they are now used for
- who uses them and how often.

An average of 75% of all travelling stock reserves have now been assessed for their conservation values.

Goal 4 – Board members and staff who are collaborative, innovative and commercially focused

Our focus strategies for 2016–17

1. Develop engaged and accountable people with a strong customer and stakeholder focus.
2. Foster a values-based culture which emphasises collaboration, innovation and continual improvement.
3. Ensure a safe, efficient, effective and sustainable organisation.

Short-term outcomes for 2016–17

Minister's Charter Letter

In December 2016 the Minister issued Local Land Services with a Charter Letter outlining the government's expectations of our organisation.

The Charter Letter is used as the basis for performance agreements between the Chair of Local Land Services and the 11 regional Chairs.

It lists 19 priorities that Local Land Services must address to provide the Minister comfort that Local Land Services will remain sustainable well into the future.

Action has been taken to begin effectively implementing all 19 priorities in the Charter Letter.

Within six months of the letter being received 5 out of 19 recommendations have been addressed and reported to the Minister as completed.

Regular reporting updates have been and will continue to be provided to the Minister on the status of the priorities.

The Charter Letter is available on our website www.lls.nsw.gov.au

NRC Audits

The NRC has previously completed two audits into the communications and governance arrangements of Local Land Services.

Audits such as these are an opportunity to improve our business performance.

They demonstrate that Local Land Services is indeed applying the NRC's Performance Standard for Local Land Services.

Local Land Services is working cohesively with the NRC and values their role.

Governance audit

In December 2016 the Minister provided Local Land Services with the formal acceptance of the NRC Audit of Governance.

The NSW Government supported:

- three recommendations to Government
- three overarching recommendations to Local Land Services
- 26 supporting recommendations.

As at 30 June 2017, Local Land Services has responded and actioned the majority of these recommendations.

Of the remaining actions, all are in progress and will be completed in the 2017–18 financial year.

The progress of the audit is being reported to the Local Land Services' Audit Risk and Governance Committee and jointly with the NRC to the Minister on a six monthly basis.

One of the significant recommendations implemented in 2017 as a result of the Governance Audit was a review of the Local Land Services structure, the role of the Board of Chairs and the relationship between regional Boards and Chairs and the state Board of Chairs.

In 2017, it was agreed that the Chair of Local Land Services role would be changed to part-time and have a clear focus on strategic oversight.

Similarly, the focus of the Board of Chairs (comprised of the each of the chairs of the 11 regional boards) would be on steering Local Land Services on behalf of the Minister in relation to strategy, governance, risk and performance monitoring.

There continues to be a local board for each of our 11 regions, with the 80 board members either Ministerially-appointed or elected.

These board members provide a vital link between Local Land Services and the communities we serve.

The board members have legislated functions with four main focus areas:

- **strategy** - oversight of delivery of local strategic plan
- **community engagement** - linking communities and the organisation
- **advocacy** - promoting Local Land Services, our staff and the services we offer
- **advice** - providing advice to Local Land Services Board for their decision.

As part of a new governance framework for the organisation, Board committees have now been established to support and assist in the Board's accountabilities.

Five committees have been formed and are designed to provide a more focused approach to strategic areas of significance on behalf of the Local Land Services Board.

These are the:

- Audit, Risk and Governance Committee
- Finance and Asset Strategy Committee
- Customer Service Committee
- Sustainable Land Management Committee
- People, Safety and Performance Review Committee.

Each committee is comprised of local Board Chairs (as members of the Local Land Services Board), local board members and independent community representatives.

The committees will recommend matters for Local Land Services Board approval and strategically oversee the ongoing functions of the organisation.

A charter for each committee has been developed as well as a model for managing information flows from local Boards, local Board committees, Community Advisory Groups and regions.

These Charters have been approved by the Board and once finalised will be available on our website www.lls.nsw.gov.au.

At an operational level, the senior executive structure of Local Land Services has been changed to:

- better reflect the work of the organisation
- provide greater clarity and certainty
- comply with legislative requirements
- respond to recommendations from the Governance Audit.

Local Land Services has invested in a small Strategy, Performance and Governance team in State operations.

This team provides high level governance, strategy, performance and policy advice to support Local Land Services meet high standards of risk management, probity and assurance.

The team is charged with embedding auditable and transparent performance, strategy and governance frameworks, tools and metrics and works closely with and guides boards and chairs and senior executive at the state and local level.

NRC Communications audit

In April 2016 the NRC conducted an independent performance audit of Local Land Services communications at the request of the Minister.

The NSW Government supported 21 recommendations to be actioned by Local Land Services.

At 30 June 2017 Local Land Services has completed or commenced each recommendation.

We have instigated a reporting process that aligns to the NRC Governance Audit and requirements set down by the Local Land Services Board Audit Risk and Governance Committee.

We aim to have implemented all actions, or developed an ongoing plan for action by 30 June 2018.

Elections and Board succession

The *Local Land Services Act 2013* sets a three year limit on the terms of both Ministerially appointed and elected local board members.

As appointed board members' terms expired this year, Local Land Services engaged Watermark Search International to recruit and recommend a total of 11 Chairs and 34 Board members for appointment by the Minister.

The high level of interest in these roles was reflected in 402 applications received and over 100 interviews conducted.

This process resulted in successful applicants being appointed on 20 March this year. Eleven new regional boards are now in place to ensure strong governance and strategic direction for Local Land Services.

To complement the appointed board members, the second Local Land Services election was completed on 31 May, resulting in 34 Board members elected to serve on our 11 regional Boards.

Based on recommendations from the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee's review of the 2014 elections, there were two key initiatives implemented in this election—the use of an external contractor to conduct the election and the introduction of electronic voting to make the process simpler and more cost effective.

Overall, there were 101 nominations received with an electoral roll of 12,195 ratepayers.

Counting was completed on 2 June and successful candidates were notified on 5 June. We publicly announced results on 8 June.

Successful candidates for both the appointed and elected members include 44 board members returning for their second term as well as 20 women serving in both Chair and board member roles.

Together, this combination of experienced and new members has refreshed regional boards ensuring a balance of knowledge, energy and experience to guide the organisation strategically.

Engaged and accountable staff

In 2016 all Local Land Services staff were invited to complete the NSW public sector 'People Matter' survey.

The Local Land Services results showed that while we had many strengths as an organisation, there were clear areas for improvement.

In consultation with their staff, each region prepared an action plan for their area and our senior executive team discussed common issues and solutions. We submitted one consolidated Local Land Services Action Plan in March 2017.

The action plan identified seven key actions for Local Land Services relating to:

- establishing a clear governance structure
- creating strong, cohesive and cooperative executive leadership
- refining communication channels and enabling staff to contribute to Local Land Services' development
- better management of bullying and grievances
- improving management and leadership within Local Land Services business units
- improving communication to all staff.

Staff development

Notwithstanding these areas for development, 2016–17 saw a significant increase in the number of staff with an improved performance development plan.

Most regions have over 85% of staff who have completed plans.

Similarly, Local Land Services achieved excellent health and safety results in 2016-17, with no workplace fatalities.

There were 307 incidents reported for the year of which 95% were investigated within 72 hours.

Significantly, there was a 20% reduction in total reportable injuries and illnesses to insurers and a 38% reduction in injuries requiring medical treatment as compared to 2015–16.

Unfortunately, there were six lost time injuries in 2016–17, an increase from three in the previous year.

Local Land Services is striving to reduce this number by undertaking more than 100 workplace assessments and 10 risk assessments in this period.

A strong customer focus

The Local Land Services Customer Service Plan sets out our customer service standard, both in the office and in the field.

It includes key performance indicators we can track to measure our performance over time.

The plan is a starting point so that all regions have a consistent customer service standard across the organisation.

It can be used for staff inductions and as ongoing training for staff.

It is a document that has been produced by the cross regional customer focus team as part of their body of work to complement the complaints handling fact sheets, complaints handling policy and procedure and the Customer Service Charter.

The work of our staff matches our customer service values, with 91% reporting that staff treat customers with respect and 89% saying they strive for customer satisfaction (People Matter, 2016).

Our business

Local Land Services was formed in 2014 to deliver integrated services to landholders of NSW.

Our charter

Across NSW, 11 regions, 80 board members and some 800 staff work together to deliver the priorities of our investors—the NSW and Australian governments.

NSW rural ratepayers also contribute significantly to funding our biosecurity, livestock health and welfare services.

The organisation operates under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

Our aims and objectives

Local Land Services works with land managers and the community to improve primary production within healthy landscapes.

We also help rural and regional communities to be profitable and sustainable into the future.

We connect individuals with networks, information, support and funding to improve agricultural productivity and better manage our natural resources.

Local Land Services is one statewide organisation offering integrated services, delivered regionally and tailored for each community, industry and landscape.

Our organisation is governed by a Board of Chairs, with an independent Chair and 11 Chairs of regional Boards.

The Board of Chairs is accountable to the Minister for Primary Industries and is responsible for the oversight of Local Land Services' strategy and governance.

This includes ensuring Local Land Services is aligned with NSW Government priorities. Local regions provide our front line services.

We are uniquely placed to provide on-ground and face-to-face assistance to NSW land managers to help protect their land, business and way of life.

Each region has a local board that is responsible for communicating and engaging with their local communities.

They provide oversight of the following, in line with local and state priorities:

- corporate governance
- regionally appropriate programs
- local strategic plans
- budgets.

Regions vary in geographic and organisational size and approach their local priorities in different ways, which is why it is so important to be locally focused.

Local community advisory groups provide input into the development of plans, projects and services, and are an integral link between Local Land Services and the community we serve.

Our customers, stakeholders and investors

Our customers: any land manager within the state, irrespective of whether they are private or public land managers, ratepayers or non-ratepayers.

Our stakeholders: those organisations that collaborate and partner with Local Land Services directly to support customer service delivery.

Investors: those organisations and individuals who invest in Local Land Services and leverage outcomes from this investment.

Our vision

Resilient communities in productive, healthy landscapes.

Our mission

To be a customer-focused business that enables improved primary production and better management of natural resources.

Our values and behaviours

Following are our seven values and how we demonstrate these.

Accountability

- We accept that we are accountable for our actions and their consequences.
- In the workplace we are accountable for those we lead.
- We empower our people and then support them.

Collaboration

- We listen to the different points of view and create productive linkages.
- We constructively challenge established routines and processes.
- We bring people along with us and avoid surprises.

Innovation

- We actively seek out opportunities even outside the 'envelope'.
- We always look for continuous improvement and to remove waste, duplication and repetition.
- We find better solutions and identify unsatisfied needs.

Integrity

- We treat others in the manner we would wish to be treated.
- We communicate openly, honestly and timely.
- We do what we say we will do.

Performance

- We listen closely and provide constructive feedback.
- We overtly recognise a job well done, and capture learnings from all outcomes.
- We anticipate the needs of our customers.

Service

- We respond positively to new ideas and different views.
- We are helpful and try to 'delight' the customer.
- We recognise that proper process is important and so is effective and timely outcome.

Trust

- We initiate the sharing of knowledge, ideas and plans.
- We are honest and forthcoming at all times. We are consistent.
- We deliver on the promise.

Our strategic direction

Local Land Services' State Strategic Plan and 11 Local Strategic Plans set the vision and goals for the organisation.

The State Plan looks ahead 10 years, while local plans outline regional direction for the next five years.

Together, they outline the strategies which will achieve the organisation's goals.

The plans set priorities and outline the way services will be delivered.

Key performance indicators outline what success will look like and how investors and stakeholders can measure performance.

The strategy's foundations are built on the local focus of Local Land Services, underpinned by local decision making and accountability. Each of the 11 local regions is responsible for service delivery and local strategy.

As part of strategic planning, these functions include community engagement, setting and delivering local priorities, and determining how the priorities for Local Land Services are best achieved at a local level.

State strategic plan

The Local Land Services State Strategic Plan is consistent with the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

This Act requires the development of a state strategic plan which sets the vision, priorities and overarching strategy for Local Land Services, with a focus on appropriate economic, social and environmental outcomes.

The State Strategic Plan considers:

- any state priorities for Local Land Services
- provisions of any environmental planning instrument under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
- any other existing natural resource management plans
- sound evidence-based practices to support primary industries, resilient communities and healthy landscapes
- the need for engagement of the community, including the Aboriginal community.

Local strategic plans

The 11 Local Land Services regions have each developed local strategic plans aligned with the state strategic plan.

State and local alignment is an essential part of the Local Land Services model, where strong, highly-devolved local delivery is balanced with the benefits and resources of being part of a single larger organisation.

The state and local strategic plans also seek to draw out best-practice strategic planning and delivery.

This means the plans are simple, aspirational and evidence-based. The plans address investor preferences and the requirements of the performance standard for Local Land Services.

They put the customer at the centre of the organisation.

Consultation and endorsement

The Minister for Primary Industries endorsed the State Strategic Plan and 11 local strategic plans after a six-week consultation period in late 2015.

The community, our customers and key stakeholders were consulted in a variety of ways, including individual briefings, public meetings, community advisory groups and via the online engagement tool, Local Land Services Open.

More than 270 submissions were received regarding the 12 draft plans, with all feedback being recorded, prioritised and, where appropriate, incorporated into the final plans.

Our goals and strategies

GOAL 1: Resilient, self-reliant and prepared local communities.	GOAL 2: Biosecure, profitable, productive and sustainable primary industries.	GOAL 3: Healthy, diverse and connected natural environments.	GOAL 4: Board members and staff who are collaborative, innovative and commercially-focused.
STRATEGY 1: Provide data, information and knowledge that supports and enables land managers and customers to improve decision making.			STRATEGY 10: Develop engaged and accountable people with a strong customer and stakeholder focus.
STRATEGY 2: Provide products and advisory services that support and enable customers to implement improved practices.			
STRATEGY 3: Provide products and services that support and enable customers, land managers and the community to prevent, prepare, respond and recover from biosecurity and natural disaster events.			
STRATEGY 4: Collaborate with investors, stakeholders and external organisations to deliver improved products and services to customers.			
STRATEGY 5: Ensure local people participate in decision making.			
STRATEGY 6: Connect research and development with extension to address priority data, information and knowledge gaps and barriers to improved practice.			
STRATEGY 7: Deliver services that support Aboriginal people to care for Country and share traditional land management knowledge.			
STRATEGY 8: Deliver consent and compliance services that educate and protect communities and industries.			
STRATEGY 9: Manage Crown Land vested in Local Land Services for environmental, social, and economic outcomes.			
			STRATEGY 11: Foster a values-based culture which emphasises collaboration, innovation and continual improvement.
			STRATEGY 12: Ensure a safe, efficient, effective and sustainable organisation.

Our services

We provide integrated and coordinated services to achieve our three customer-focused goals.

1. Resilient, self-reliant and prepared local communities

Agricultural production

We assist our primary industries through advisory services and support to agriculture, including information on:

- farm management
- land capability
- cropping
- pastures
- mixed farming
- horticulture
- seasonal conditions.

Emergency management

In partnership with DPI, we help manage livestock and disease emergencies.

These include drought, bushfires and floods and biosecurity events involving plants, animals and pest insects.

We also work alongside other agencies to provide vital support in emergencies where agricultural industries are impacted, including natural disasters such as flood and bushfire.

We help to build landholders' capacity to plan, prepare, respond and recover from biosecurity emergencies and natural disasters.

Drought assistance and other natural disaster relief

We help people prepare for dry times and the impacts of climate change, and play a key role in producing regional seasonal conditions reports.

Aboriginal communities

We support Aboriginal people to care for Country, share traditional land management knowledge and help protect and strengthen Aboriginal cultural heritage.

2. Biosecure, profitable, productive and sustainable primary industries

Biosecurity

Biosecurity is the protection of the environment, economy and community from the impacts of pests and diseases.

We work with landholders, industry and the community to minimise biosecurity risks and their impacts on agricultural production, international market access or environmental health.

Livestock health

We deliver frontline livestock health and disease surveillance services in NSW.

Our district veterinarians and biosecurity officers deliver a range of national, state and local programs, all aimed at safeguarding market access and improving livestock productivity.

Our focus with livestock health is:

- emergency disease prevention
- preparedness and response
- advisory and diagnostic services
- disease surveillance and reporting
- residue investigation and management
- certification
- traceability systems such as the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS).

Stock movement and identification

We administer permits for moving and grazing stock on public roads and TSRs.

We also administer a variety of stock identification systems including property identification codes, branding, earmarking and advice on NLIS.

Maintaining TSRs

We manage approximately 500,000 hectares within the TSR network throughout NSW.

These networks of Crown land provide invaluable fodder reserves and provide important landscape and ecological functions, as well as being popular recreational areas.

TSRs can be especially beneficial in times of drought, bushfire or flood.

Protecting our agricultural industry

Our district veterinarians and biosecurity officers are empowered as stock inspectors in NSW.

Their role includes visiting saleyards to ensure compliance with the NLIS and educating producers about the importance of tracing livestock.

Good surveillance detects problems early and ensures the quality and safety of NSW livestock and livestock products and access to domestic and international markets.

Pest animal and insect control

Pest animals and insects cause serious economic losses to agricultural production, pose a risk of exotic disease, threaten the survival of many native species and cause environmental degradation.

We work with landholders to minimise the impact of pests on agricultural production and the environment.

We provide education, training and support and help coordinate group control programs—bringing landholders together to control wild dogs, rabbits, foxes, pigs, plague locusts and other pests.

3. Healthy, diverse and connected natural environments

Natural resource management

Healthy ecosystems underpin successful, productive primary producers and communities.

Through investment from the NSW and Australian governments, we support a healthy ecosystem across the landscapes of NSW.

We help landholders and communities improve the quality of our land, soil, vegetation and water, through:

- grants and funding for on-ground projects
- partnerships
- training and education.

Native vegetation

Native vegetation benefits both on-farm production and environmental health.

Healthy native vegetation can increase land values and productivity while reducing operating costs.

We work with land managers to develop native vegetation clearing consents.

Our people

Human resources

We implement the personnel and industrial relations policies and practices of the NSW Department of Industry in this area, as part of cluster arrangements.

Size of agency (head-count)	2014	2015	2016	2017	% change 2016 to 2017
Headcount at census date	797	770	801	797	-0.5
Non-casual headcount at census date	785	765	792	779	-1.6
Casual headcount at census date	12	5	9	18	200

Workforce diversity actual staff numbers (non-casual headcount at census date)

Remuneration Level of Substantive Position	Total Staff (Men, Women & Unspecified)	Respondents	Men	Women	Unspecified Gender	Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander People	People from Racial, Ethnic, Ethno-Religious Minority Groups	People whose Language First Spoken as a Child was not English	People with a Disability	People with a Disability Requiring Work-Related Adjustment
\$0 - \$45,800	3	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$45,800 - \$60,154	79	64	21	58	0	1	0	0	0	0
\$60,154 - \$67,248	26	16	16	10	0	1	0	0	0	0
\$67,248 - \$85,098	152	54	66	86	0	1	0	1	0	0
\$85,098 - \$110,046	390	159	185	205	0	6	4	18	1	1
\$110,046 - \$137,557	109	72	65	44	0	0	0	3	2	1
\$137,557 > (Non SES)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$137,557 > (SES)	20	3	14	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	779	370	367	412	0	9	4	22	3	2

Note 1: "Unspecified Gender" incorporates unknown, withdrawn, and indeterminatel/intersex values.

Workforce diversity

We are committed to actively developing initiatives to develop and maintain a diverse workforce which is free of discrimination and reflective of the NSW community.

We implement the workforce diversity policies and practices of the NSW Department of Industry in this area, as part of cluster arrangements.

Trends in the representation of workforce diversity groups

Workforce diversity group	Benchmark/ target	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17
Women	50%	51.5%	51.0%	52.0%	52.9
Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders	2.6%	1.1%	0.8%	0.8%	1.2
People whose first language spoken as a child was not English	19.0%	4.1%	3.7%	3.4%	2.8
People with a disability	N/A	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4
People with a disability requiring work-related adjustment	1.5%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3

Trends in the distribution of workforce diversity groups

Workforce diversity group	Benchmark/ target	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17
Women	100	89	90	90	92
Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders	100	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
People whose first language spoken as a child was not English	100	117	117	114	111
People with a disability	100	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
People with a disability requiring work-related adjustment	100	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note 1: A distribution index of 100 indicates that the centre of the distribution of the workforce diversity group across salary levels is equivalent to that of other staff. Values less than 100 mean that the workforce diversity group tends to be more concentrated at lower salary levels than is the case for other staff. The more pronounced this tendency is, the lower the index will be. In some cases the index may be more than 100, indicating that the workforce diversity group is less concentrated at lower salary levels.

Note 2: The distribution index is not calculated where workforce diversity group or non-workforce diversity group numbers are less than 20.

Multicultural policies and services program

We are governed by cluster arrangements that are committed to the community relations and principles of *Multiculturalism Act 2000* and the NSW Government's aims and objectives for multiculturalism as set out in the Community Relations Commission's multicultural policies and services program.

We implement the policies and practices of the NSW Department of Industry in this area, as part of cluster arrangements.

These policies and practices include:

- industrial relations
- equal employment opportunity
- disability plans
- ethnic affairs priorities statements
- work health and safety.

Agreements with Multicultural NSW

We are governed by cluster arrangements and abide by the policies and practices of the NSW Department of Industry in relation to any arrangements or agreements with Multicultural NSW.

Number and remuneration of senior executives

Level	Number		Salary range (\$)		Average (\$)		Male		Female	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
SES Band 1	15	18	192,000 - 235,000	187,610 - 234,096	209,369	207,204	13	12	2	6
SES Band 2	1	2	313,050	286,279 - 292,669	313,050	289,474	1	2	-	-
SES Band 3	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

** During 2016–17 the Chair of Chairs position was filled on a part-time basis during part of the reporting period. The average salary reflects this part-time position.*

There were no staff at the SES band three or four level during the reporting period.

The approximate percentage of total employee-related expenditure in the reporting period attributable to senior executives is 5.5%. In the above table, it should be noted remuneration range and average remuneration is expressed on an annual basis. Remuneration is inclusive of superannuation contributions.

Remuneration is inclusive of superannuation contributions.

Disability inclusion action plans

The NSW Department of Industry, Local Land Services' cluster agency for the reporting period, launched its Disability Inclusion Action Plan on the International Day of People with Disability in 2015 via a video.

The plan outlines practical steps the agency will take to contribute to the NSW State Disability Action Plan which will enable people with a disability to fulfil their potential as equal citizens.

We are committed to supporting the objectives and principles of improving the lives of people with disability to reaffirm the statewide focus on building a truly inclusive community.

Work health and safety

Below is our work health and safety performance during the reporting year.

This includes details of work-related injuries, illnesses and prosecutions under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*.

	2015–16	2016–17
Total incidents reported	302	307
Lost time injuries	3	6
Medical treatment only	21	13
Lost time injury frequency rate	2.40	4.85
Open workers compensations claims	10	12

Requirements arising from employment arrangements

The *Local Land Services Act 2013* does not allow Local Land Services to employ staff.

Under the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013*, Local Land Services arranges personnel services through the Local Land Services Staff Agency.

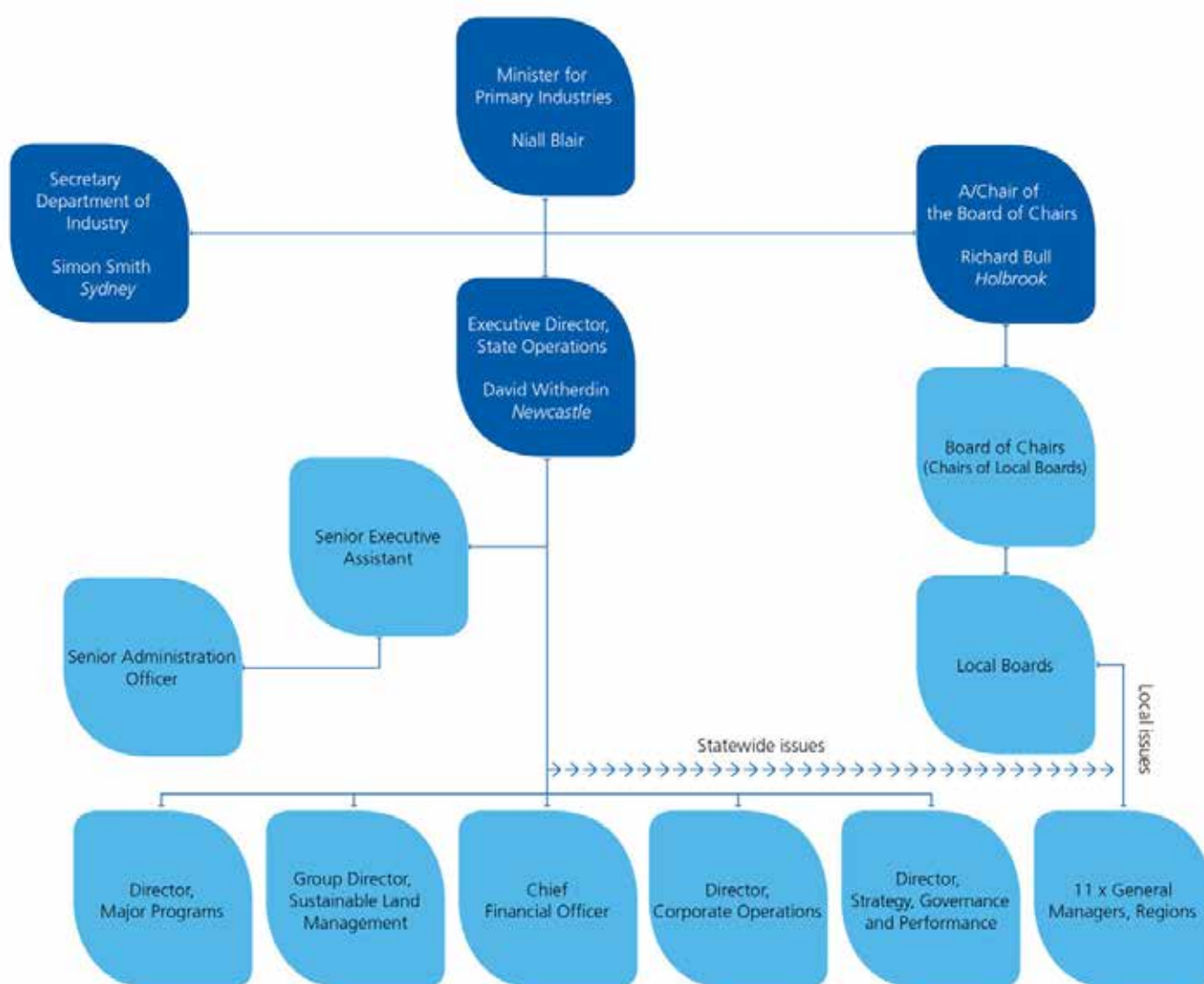
The Local Land Services Staff Agency is a controlled entity of Local Land Services and together the two entities form the economic entity reflected in these consolidated financial statements.

Our governance

Management and structure

The statewide Board of Chairs is accountable to the Minister for Primary Industries. The Board of Chairs is led by the Chair of the Board of Chairs, who is appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Industry and accountable to the Minister for Primary Industries.

The Chair is the division head of Local Land Services and is responsible for oversight of the day-to-day management of the affairs of Local Land Services.



Board members

We have a mix of board members: some appointed by the NSW Minister for Primary Industries and others elected by landholders from the region they serve.

Board members are appointed or elected for up to three years and paid remuneration and allowances set by the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Appointed members

The NSW Minister for Primary Industries appointed four board members to each region, including local Chairs. The second Local Land Services Board Member election took place on 31 May 2017.

Ratepayers elected 34 board members across the 11 regions. Three members were elected to each region, except for the Western region where four members were elected.

Our Board of Chairs

The statewide Local Land Services Board of Chairs comprises 11 local board chairs from 11 regions.

The Board of Chairs is responsible for the delivery of organisation-wide governance, strategy, priorities and policy and has an oversight role across the organisation.

Board of Chairs meetings were held:

- August 2016
- October 2016
- December 2016
- February 2017
- April 2017
- June 2017.

No meetings were held on September and November 2016, and January, March and May 2017.

Name of Board Member	Number of meetings attended	Comment
Tim de Mestre	4	Resigned Chair of Chairs 6 April 2017
Conrad Bolton	4	Appointed North West Chair from March 2017
Hans Hietbrink	6	Appointed Northern Tablelands Chair from March 2017
David Mitchell	6	Appointed South East Chair from March 2017
Susan Hooke	4	
John Lowe	1	Attended in Ian Rogan's absence
Terry Charlton	6	Appointed Greater Sydney Chair from March 2017
Richard Bull	6	Acting Chair of Chairs from 6 April 2017
Tom Gavel	4	
Mark Bulley	4	
Sam Archer	2	Resigned Riverina Chair effective 1.11.2016
Tom Hynes	4	
Ian Rogan	5	Acting Central Tablelands Chair from 12.02.2016 Appointed Central Tablelands Chair from March 2017
Susan Madden	3	Attended in Tom Gavel's absence Appointed Central West Chair March 2017
Julie Briggs	3	Acting Riverina Chair from 1.11.2016
Richard Clark	1	Attended in Conrad Bolton's absence
Lindy Hyam	2	Appointed Hunter Chair from March 2017
David Wolfenden	2	Acting Murray Chair from 6 April 2017
Barney Hyams	2	Appointed Riverina Chair from March 2017
Dr Bob Smith	2	Appointed North Coast Chair from March 2017
Ben Barlow	2	Appointed Western Chair from March 2017
Russell Webb	1	Attended in Conrad Bolton's absence

Board of Chairs members

State Chair (Acting), Richard Bull

Richard has an extensive background in farming and government and is a sheep producer from the Holbrook region while also operating his own agricultural consultancy business.

He spent more than 16 years on the NSW Legislative Council and was acting Chair of the Murray Local Land Services Board.

Richard has an affinity with rural NSW having lived on the land his entire life. He moved from Narrandera nearly 30 years ago to the Murray region near Holbrook where he is part of a successful farming partnership which operates a prime lamb seed stock business.

Central Tablelands Chair, Ian Rogan

Ian is an advocate for rural NSW and the agricultural industry and is a highly-respected consultant with a strong understanding of agriculture.

He has a vision for the future to build confidence in ratepayers, investors and the community to deliver the best services possible.

Central West Chair, Susan Madden

Susan is committed to rural and regional communities and is recognised as a leader in agriculture, regional development and natural resource management from her extensive experience providing professional services in support of these sectors.

She has developed a wide network across rural and regional Australia, working with community, industry and government representatives.

Greater Sydney Chair, Terry Charlton

Terry is an experienced business professional who served as Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Snowy Hydro Ltd from 1999 to July 2013.

He has had a diverse working career, in Australia and abroad, which has seen him perform in a range of executive positions for Snowy Hydro Ltd and was the inaugural Chair for the Greater Sydney Local Land Services Board.

Hunter Chair, Lindy Hyam

Lindy has more than 20 years of leadership experience at board and chief executive officer levels in the private and public sectors across regional and urban Australia and internationally.

She has worked with a diverse range of organisations of all sizes and governance structures, across three levels of government and from large corporates to not-for-profit.

Murray Chair (Acting), David Wolfenden

David is a farmer from Rand and a former committee member of Riverine Plains cropping group. He is the former Chair of the Wool Council of Australia and former southern panel member of the Grains Research Development Corporation.

North Coast Chair, Robert Smith

Bob is an experienced manager and adviser in the sustainable management, protection and profitable use of natural resources to support livelihoods and wellbeing in communities.

He has held a number of senior roles in government agencies, working at national, state and local levels, and has applied his skills to improving the livelihood of communities in Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and indigenous communities in Northern Australia.

North West Chair, Conrad Bolton

Conrad has a high level of community involvement in the North West region and has an appreciation of the difficulties facing rural communities.

He brings a practical, social and environmental perspective from his experience on Narrabri Shire Council, which included the role of Mayor. He was Chair of the inaugural Board of North West Local Land Services.

Northern Tablelands Chair, Hans Hietbrink

Hans is a high level strategic manager with the ability to facilitate, motivate and achieve results by harnessing the abilities of different stakeholders through collaborative input.

He has a solid background in corporate management as well as local government and a keen interest in natural resource management. He was a former Chair of a regional Catchment Management Authority and was the inaugural Chair of the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services Board.

Riverina Chair, Barney Hyams

Barney has more than 30 years of involvement with both agriculture and horticulture, from a jackaroo on the Liverpool Plains through to a managing director of a horticultural enterprise in the Riverina Highlands.

He was also an inaugural Ministerially-appointed member of the Riverina Local Land Services Board.

Barney has served as a Director of Summerfruit Australia and as a state representative for the Australian apple and pear industry.

South East Chair, David Mitchell

David is an experienced leader and change manager with close connections to his regional community through years of involvement across a number of organisations.

He has vast experience with a strong understanding of productive agriculture, biosecurity, natural resource management and the issues facing rural and regional NSW.

Western Chair, Ben Barlow

Ben is an experienced farmer and grazier from Corowa, with a background in finance and agribusiness.

He is also an experienced board member of government and statutory entities serving as a specialist director for private and high-net-worth organisations. Ben was an inaugural member of the Western Local Land Services Board.

Our structure and senior officers at 30 June 2017

State Operations Executive Director

Our Executive Director of State Operations provides direction to all Local Land Services executives on statewide initiatives and programs, ensuring that we have consistency in our approach, as appropriate, across the state.

Executive Director - David Witherdin

B. Eng (Civil). Location - Newcastle.

Major Programs Unit

This team leads strategic projects and operations which contribute to the Local Land Services State Strategic Plan and broader Department of Industry and NSW Government objectives.

Areas of high priority include biosecurity management reform, emergency management, Aboriginal programs, public land management, agricultural advisory services and the NSW Landcare Coordinators Initiative.

Director - Shenal Basnayake

B. Bus. Admin; Master of International Studies; Master of Environment; Professional Qualifying Exams - Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers; Certificate of Achievement in Agriculture Director, Major Programs. Location - Parramatta.

Sustainable Land Management Unit

The Sustainable Land Management unit is responsible for implementing the biodiversity reforms, which came into effect in August 2017.

The *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and amended *Local Land Services Act 2013* take advantage of the best available science and data and deliver a modern approach to land management and biodiversity conservation in NSW.

The changes will enable continued protection of the natural environment and ongoing support for a sustainable and productive agricultural sector.

Director - Kristian Holz

B. App. Sci. (Biology) LLB, Grad.Dip (LegalPrac) Group Director, Sustainable Land Management. Location - Sydney.

Director - Nick Savage

LLB, LLM, accredited Mediator. Location - Parramatta.

Finance Unit

The finance team provides strategic and operational financial management advice, analysis and services to ensure Local Land Services achieves its organisational goals while complying with relevant standards, NSW Government financial management and accounting policies, and statutory and NSW Treasury Department reporting requirements.

Chief Financial Officer - Natasha Collier

B. Com., CA. Location - Orange.

Business Partner, Regional Support - Andrew Ellington

Grad. Dip., Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, B. Bus. (Accounting), B. Art. (Psychology). Location - Orange.

Corporate Operations Unit

The Corporate Operations team is responsible for coordinating and maintaining quality and standards of our internal and external communication, including government, stakeholder, investor and industry relations, corporate communications, media, branding and issues management.

People and Performance are also part of this team, supporting best practice people management across Local Land Services.

Corporate Operations supports high quality front line customer service and provides expert advice and support to senior executive, chairs and the Minister's Office to manage key stakeholder relationships.

Acting Director - Carolyn Raine

M. EnvM, B. Sci (Hons). Location - Newcastle.

Manager, People & Performance - Shelley John

Dip. Food & Nutrition-Teaching (Scotland), Master of Public Policy - with Merit, Grad. Dip. Public Administration, Grad. Dip. Industrial Relations and B. Sci. (Psych) partly completed. MAICD. Location - Sydney

Strategy, Performance and Governance Unit

This business unit provides high level governance, strategy, performance and policy advice to ensure we meet the highest standards in governance, risk management and probity.

It embeds auditable and transparent performance, strategy development and governance frameworks, tools and metrics and works closely with and guides boards and chairs, and senior executive at state and local level.

Director - Lisa Coletta

Masters of Management (MBA), Post Graduate of Applied Corporate Governance, AICD Company Directors Course, Compliance Institute Certified, Certified ISO 9000 Quality Assurance Auditor. AICD and Governance Institute Membership Director, Strategy, Performance & Governance. Location - Parramatta.

Local Land Services Regions

General managers lead their staff to deliver locally relevant, on-ground results. They drive cross regional collaboration, and customer and investor focused services.

They plan, guide and oversee regional operational functions which are consistent with Local Land Services state and regional strategic objectives.

They promote Local Land Services and engage with local communities and stakeholders, building productive partnerships to deliver our objectives, programs and projects.

All regional general managers have a functional reporting arrangement to our Executive Director of State Operations.

They work with local board members, stakeholders, investors and community groups to deliver locally tailored and relevant programs.

General managers, as well as all executive management, are responsible for the safety and well being of their staff with the strategic objective of 'every person home safe and well every day'.

Central Tablelands General Manager - Chris Cumming

B.Sci (Hons). Location - Bathurst.

Western General Manager - Erlina Compton

PhD (Rural Sociology), B. App. Sci. (Protected Area Management). Location - Dubbo.

Riverina General Manager - Rob Kelly

B. Sci. (Hons), GAICD. Location - Wagga Wagga

Greater Sydney General Manager - David Hogan

Dip. Bus. (Organisational Leadership), Dip. Bus., Adv. Cert. Bus. (Management and Marketing). Location - Penrith.

Northern Tablelands General Manager - Paul Hutchings

B. Sci., Grad. Dip. Nat. Res. Location - Inverell

North West General Manager - James Hutchinson-Smith

B. App. Sci. Ag. Location - Tamworth.

Hunter General Manager - Brett Miners

B. Sci. NRM. Location - Paterson.

South East General Manager - Anthony Marshall

B. Com & Elec. Eng. Location - Goulburn

Central West General Manager - Andrew Mulligan

Adv. Dip. Emergency Management (Public Safety), Dip. Conservation Land Management. Location - Wellington.

North Coast General Manager - Louise Orr

B. Env. Man. (Hons Class 1); Dip. App. Sci. Location - Coffs Harbour.

Murray General Manager - Gary Rodda

B. For. Sci. (Hons). Location - Deniliquin.

Consumer response

Complaint process

If a customer wants to lodge a complaint or give feedback about Local Land Services, they may

- visit or phone their regional office
- speak to our staff
- using the feedback assist tool on Local Land Services' websites.

Local Land Services has been trialling the Salesforce customer record management system for several months as part of Department of Industry's Complaints Handling Improvement Project (CHIP) to record and report complaints data.

There is a dedicated policy and procedure for complaints management. Local land Services is rolling out as part of the Customer Service Strategy.

It is based on the Complaints Handling Policy and Procedure developed by CHIP.

Until then, formal complaints (those unresolved by frontline staff) are lodged in writing, maintained on a regional complaints register and reported to regional management and Boards. They are tabled below.

Formal customer complaints since inception

Year	Complaints
2013–14	78
2014–15	68
2015–16	68
2016–17	61

Key areas of complaint concerns

- Rate notices and statements being received after payment has been made
- TSR management
- Annual Return of Land and Stock online lodgement and Animal Health and Meat Industry levy being charged
- No pensioner discounts available
- Wild dog management

Services improved or changed in response to complaints and suggestions

Local Land Services responds to service-related complaints by assessing their service delivery and business processes to identify areas of improvement and make necessary changes.

Roadside grazing permit process

Hunter Local Land Services has improved roadside grazing permit processes to enable efficient and timely customer service.

TSR infrastructure and management

North West Local Land Services has implemented an extensive TSR infrastructure program.

The region has also met with a Local Aboriginal Lands Council in response to complaints about TSR management.

Rates concerns

To address customers' rates concerns, Local Land Services has increased customer education through local and statewide communications strategies.

Improving stakeholder relationships

Improved communications between stock agents and resolving administration issues in the Hunter region has improved stakeholder relationships.

Rate and Annual Returns of Land and Stock

Local Land Services is currently reviewing business processes associated with rates notices and Annual Returns of Land and Stock.

Community Advisory Groups

Changes have been made to the structure of the Community Advisory Groups in the Hunter region in consultation with members.

Aerial baiting concerns

In response to possible death of dogs from aerial baiting, Hunter region immediately suspended baiting activities to investigate the complaint.

Local landholders were retrained in 1080 baiting with an emphasis on record keeping.

When landholders inform the region that they are baiting with 1080, proof of notification and random checks of this notification will be conducted across all programs implemented throughout the Hunter.

The benefits of using different bait-types between aerial and ground baiting are now reinforced, as it enabled aerial baiting to be excluded as a cause in this instance.

These outcomes have been discussed with the complainant.

During the 2016–17 reporting period, Local Land Services received five *Government Access (Public Access) Act 2009* (GIPA) applications.

Of these:

- one was withdrawn by the applicant
- one was transferred to another agency as the information being sought more closely related to the functions of that other agency
- one had decision pending on 30 June 2017 and will be included in the 2017–18 report.

During 2016–17 one application that was received in the 2015-16 reporting period was finalised.

A summary follows of the two accepted and finalised applications:

- March 2017 - Personal Information - Employment - (not aware if publicly available)
- April 2017 - Member of Parliament - Harden-Murrumburrah Landcare Group meeting 10/03/2017 - (not aware if publicly available)

Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Number of applications by type of application and outcome

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/ deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Invalid applications

Nil

Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 to Act

Nil

Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of Act

Nil

Timeliness

	Number of applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	2
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0
Total	2

Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)

Nil

Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

Nil

Applications transferred to other agencies under Division 2 of Part 4 of the Act (by type of transfer)

	Number of applications
Agency-initiated transfers	1
Applicant-initiated transfers	0

Promotion and overseas travel

Nepal foot and mouth disease training exercise

In 2016 three Local Land Services veterinarians (Dr Justine McNally, Dr Heidi Austin and Dr Ted Irwin) travelled to Nepal to participate in foot and mouth disease (FMD) training to strengthen Australia's capacity to prevent FMD and manage any outbreaks.

The training was funded by the Australian Government's Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and coordinated in conjunction with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and the Nepalese Government.

As part of the exercise, the three staff received intensive training to recognise and sample animals for FMD and visited Nepalese farms to investigate potential cases of infection.

The exercise was delivered by the European Commission for the Control of Foot and Mouth Disease.

Australia has not had an FMD outbreak since 1872, but the disease is considered one of the country's biggest biosecurity risks.

Australian Rural Leadership Program

In May 2017 Local Land Services staff Annabel Sides and Kristian Holz travelled to Indonesia as part of the Australian Rural Leadership Program.

Annabel was sponsored by Local Land Services. Kristian was sponsored by NSW DPI, as he was employed by DPI on selection in the program.

Risk management and insurance activities

During 2016–17 we implemented a risk management framework to govern and embed risk management throughout the organisation.

Our risk management framework was developed in compliance with the NSW Treasury Internal Audit and Risk Management Policy for NSW Public Sector (TPP 15-03) and is also based on the international risk management standard (AS/NZS 31000).

We have adapted the general framework from our cluster principal department (the Department of Industry, Skills and Regional Development) and tailored it to our needs under the guidance of the NSW Risk Management Toolkit for Public Sector Agencies (v1).

During the fiscal year, Local Land Services undertook a comprehensive review of strategic risks across the business to further develop a culture of risk management at both a state and regional scale.

Our Board of Chairs is responsible for setting the risk management mandate and is committed to implementing, operating, maintaining and continually improving the Local Land Services risk management framework.

At the strategic level, our Board of Chairs is responsible for managing those high level risks that may critically impact on our ability to achieve our corporate objectives.

At the operational level, our senior executive team is responsible for managing operational risks across the organisation and for advising our Board of Chairs on risk and risk exposures generally.

Both our Board of Chairs and senior executive team are committed to developing a risk management culture—one that is underpinned by the framework that facilitates the use of a consistent process to manage risk whenever decisions are made.

As risk management is part of and not separate to all practices and processes, our approach to managing risks is being progressively embedded in:

- planning processes
- decision making structures
- operational procedures.

In addition, risk management is already embedded in a number of our specific operational processes such as:

- workplace health and safety programs
- biosecurity and emergency management delivery
- natural resource management services.

Our risk management approach is supported by insurance through the Treasury Managed Fund, a self insurance scheme of the NSW Government, administered by major insurers GIO and Allianz.

Internal Audit and Risk Management Attestation Statement for the 2016–17 Financial Year for Local Land Services

I, Richard Bull am of the opinion that Local Land Services has internal audit and risk management processes in operation that are, excluding the exceptions or transitional arrangements described below, compliant with the eight (8) core requirements set out in the Internal Audit and Risk Management Policy for the NSW Public Sector, specifically:

Core Requirements

Risk Management Framework

1.1 The agency head is ultimately responsible and accountable for risk management in the agency	Compliant
1.2 A risk management framework that is appropriate to the agency has been established and maintained and the framework is consistent with AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009	Compliant

Internal Audit Function

2.1 An internal audit function has been established and maintained	Compliant
2.2 The operation of the internal audit function is consistent with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing	Compliant
2.3 The agency has an Internal Audit Charter that is consistent with the content of the 'model charter'	Compliant

Audit and Risk Committee

3.1 An independent Audit and Risk Committee with appropriate expertise has been established	Compliant
3.2 The Audit and Risk Committee is an advisory committee providing assistance to the agency head on the agency's governance processes, risk management and control frameworks, and its external accountability obligations	Compliant
3.3 The Audit and Risk Committee has a Charter that is consistent with the content of the 'model charter'	Compliant

Membership

The Chair and Members of the Audit and Risk Committee at 30 June 2017 were:

- Chair, Warren Stretton
- Member, Susan Hooke
- Member, Stephen Patterson
- Member, Barney Hyams
- Member, Hans Hietbrink



Richard Bull

Acting Chair
Local Land Services Board of Chairs
October 2017

Local Land Services contact officer

Sally Laws (T: 02 6391 3102 E: sally.laws@lls.nsw.gov.au)

Public interest disclosures

Following is a summary of public interest disclosures received by Local Land Services during the 2016–17 reporting period.

	Made by public officials performing their day to day functions	Under a statutory or other legal obligation	All other PIDs
Number of public officials who have made a disclosure to the Agency	1	0	0
Number of public interest disclosures received by the Agency	1	0	0
Of public interest disclosures received, how many were primarily about:	0	0	0
» corrupt conduct	1	0	0
» maladministration	0	0	0
» serious and substantial waste	0	0	0
» government information contravention	0	0	0
Number of public interest disclosures (received since 1 January 2012) that have been finalised in this reporting period.	0	0	0

We apply the NSW Department of Industry Public Interest Disclosure Reporting Policy which was developed in accordance with the requirements of the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994* and effective 18/08/2016.

The policy is publicly available on NSW Industry's website as Open Access Information under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*.

We are compliant with s6E(1)(b) of the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994*.

Credit card certification

We adhere to the policies and procedures of the Department of Industry, which outline conditions for eligibility, usage and management of Visa cards.

As required by Treasurer's Direction 205.01, the Chair of Chairs of Local Land Services certifies that credit card usage was in accordance with the relevant government policy, Premier's Memoranda and Treasurer's Directions.

Digital information security policy ration

We are governed by a service level agreement in relation to the provision of digital and information system security.

This service level agreement is with the NSW Department of Industry.

Digital Information Security Annual Attestation Statement for the 2016–17 Financial Year for Local Land Services

I, Richard Bull, am of the opinion that Local Land Services had an Information Security Management System in place during the 2016–17 financial year that is consistent with the core requirements set out in the NSW Government Digital Information Security Policy.

The controls in place to mitigate identified risks to the digital information and digital information systems of Local Land Services are adequate.

There is no agency under the control of Local Land Services which is required to develop an independent ISMS in accordance with the NSW Government Digital Information Security Policy.



Richard Bull

Acting Chair
Local Land Services Board of Chairs
October 2017

Additional matters

Privacy and personal information

We are governed by cluster arrangements that cover the requirements of the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*.

We adhere to relevant policies in this regard.

No reviews were conducted in 2016–17 by or on behalf of Local Land Services under Part 5 of the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*.

Production cost

Premier's Memorandum 2013-09 requires that departments minimise production costs for this report by:

- limiting content to recording performance and meeting statutory obligations
- printing hard copies in black and white and compiling reports using existing desktop equipment in house
- eliminating unnecessary use of photographs or illustrations
- eliminating all external production costs such as copy writing, design and printing.

This report has been prepared in line with this memorandum.

Access online

The 2016–17 Local Land Services Annual Report is available online at:

- <http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/resource-hub/publications>

Areas not reported

The following annual report requirements listed on the [NSW Treasury annual report compliance checklist](#) (September 2017) were not applicable for Local Land Services for the reporting period:

- investment reporting
- legal change
- liability management
- price determination
- time for payment of accounts
- unaudited financial statements.

Financial reporting structure

The audited financial statements contained in the annual report are the consolidated accounts of the Local Land Services group, comprising Local Land Services (the Parent) and its controlled entity, the Local Land Services Staff Agency.

The *Local Land Services Act 2013* is unclear in relation to the status of local Boards and whether they are separate reporting entities. Management considers the intent of the *Local Land Services Act 2013*, as indicated by Section 3, was to create one entity; however Section 28 of the *Local Land Services Act 2013* refers to local Boards as NSW Government agencies.

The consequence of this ambiguity is that each local board may require separate financial statements prepared and audited as required by the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*.

The financial reporting structure has been referred to as a significant matter by the Audit Office of New South Wales in their Statutory Audit Report for the year ended 30 June 2017.

Local Land Services will continue to pursue a resolution to the matter with a view to having the ambiguity clarified within relevant legislation.

Readers of the financial statements should be aware that any activities associated with the operation of the local Boards are included in the consolidated financial statements, and no omission of financial activity or misstatement arises from the ambiguity surrounding the reporting status of the local Boards.

Payment of accounts

All suppliers

Quarter	Current within date	Less than 30 days overdue	Between 30 and 60 days overdue	Between 60 and 90 days overdue	Greater than 90 days overdue
September 2016	\$27,608,449	\$775,876	\$52,132	\$120	\$36,413
December 2016	\$22,765,853	\$498,881	\$401,062	\$313,991	\$9,683
March 2017	\$21,537,160	\$1,092,775	\$129,996	\$45,051	\$31,744
June 2017	\$44,279,812	\$1,428,664	\$63,442	\$2,843	\$37,380
Total all suppliers	\$116,191,274	\$3,796,196	\$646,631	\$362,006	\$115,220

All small business

Quarter	Current within date	Less than 30 days overdue	Between 30 and 60 days overdue	Between 60 and 90 days overdue	Greater than 90 days overdue
September 2016	\$160,788		\$0	\$0	\$0
December 2016	\$102,254	\$6,778	\$0	\$0	\$0
March 2017	\$50,400	\$15,243	\$0	\$0	\$0
June 2017	\$175,117		\$0	\$0	\$0
Total small business	\$488,560	\$22,021	—	—	—

All suppliers

Measure	September 2016	December 2016	March 2017	June 2017	Full Year
Invoices due for payment (number)	3,635	3,444	3,288	4,200	14,567
Invoice paid on time (number)	3,516	3,347	3,144	4,079	14,086
Percentage paid on time	96.7%	97.2%	95.6%	97.1%	96.7%
Amount due for payment	\$28,472,990	\$23,989,470	\$22,836,727	\$45,812,140	\$121,111,328
Amount paid on time	\$27,608,449	\$22,765,853	\$21,537,160	\$44,279,812	\$116,191,274
Percentage paid on time	97.0%	94.9%	94.3%	96.7%	95.9%
Number of payments of interest on overdue accounts	0	0	0	0	0
Interest paid on late accounts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0

Overdue: Nil

Interest on overdue: Nil

All small business

Measure	September 2016	December 2016	March 2017	June 2017	Full Year
Invoices due for payment (number)	34	28	14	31	107
Invoice paid on time (number)	34	26	11	31	102
Percentage paid on time	100.0%	92.9%	78.6%	100.0%	95.3%
Amount due for payment	\$160,788	\$109,032	\$65,643	\$175,117	\$510,581
Amount paid on time	\$160,788	\$102,254	\$50,400	\$175,117	\$488,560
Percentage paid on time	100.0%	93.8%	76.8%	100.0%	95.7%
Number of payments of interest on overdue accounts	0	0	1	0	1
Interest paid on late accounts	\$0	\$0	\$32	\$0	32

Overdue: Nil

Interest on overdue: Nil

Note: Small business must be registered to be able to be reported on for the payment of account statistics.

Appendix

Disclosure of Controlled Entities and Subsidiaries

Local Land Services Staff Agency is a controlled entity of Local Land Services.

Local Land Services Staff Agency is an agency of the NSW Public Service, established pursuant to Part 2 of Schedule 1 of the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013* to provide personnel services to Local Land Services.

The operations of Local Land Services Staff Agency are consolidated as part of the Local Land Services financial statements included in this report.

Local Land Services does not have any subsidiaries.

Land disposal

During the 2016–17 year, a number of freehold land and buildings held by Local Land Services were vested to Property NSW in accordance with the *Property NSW Act 2006*.

The value of the properties vested was determined by an independent valuation, and the transfer recognised by Local Land Services in the financial statements as an equity transfer.

In the event any of the vested properties are sold by Property NSW, proceeds are to be passed to Local Land Services. At the date of this report, Local Land Services has received no proceeds from the sale of vested properties since none have been sold by Property NSW.

Access to documents relating to the vesting of these properties can be obtained under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*.

Address of property	Location	Vested value (\$)
126-130 Taylor Street	Armidale	900,000
82 Market Street	Balranald	85,000
134 Boynton St	Balranald	62,000
34 Auckland Street	Bega	800,000
106 Maybe St	Bombala	160,000
27 Mitchell Street	Bourke	180,000
36 Mitchell Street	Bourke	90,000
9 Short St	Bourke	55,000
13 Bathurst St	Brewarrina	65,000
24 Bathurst Street	Brewarrina	100,000
724 Barrier Highway	Broken Hill	120,000
147 Barker Street	Casino	300,000
18 Barton Street	Cobar	270,000
30-32 Bathurst Street	Condobolin	150,000
29 Galari Cct	Condobolin	155,000

Address of property	Location	Vested value (\$)
5 Dawson Street	Cooma	300,000
89 John Street	Coonabarabran	199,200
Lot 9 Gardener St	Coonabarabran	300,000
12 Buckley Drive (Lot 2)	Coonamble	220,000
74 Short Street	Corowa	190,000
392-394 Hay Street	Deniliquin	350,000
96 Victoria Street	Dubbo	790,000
40-48 Sheriff Street	Forbes	780,000
1 Greenaway St	Glen Innes	595,000
179-181 Bourke Street	Goulburn	300,000
24-26 Mulgi Drive	Grafton (South)	730,000
87 Sheridan Street	Gundagai	270,000
56 Lachlan Street	Hay	150,000
225 Lachlan St	Hay	85,000
42 Byron St	Hillston	75,000
180 High Street	Hillston	56,000
74 Albury Street	Holbrook	250,000
2 Hay St	Holbrook	80,000
8 Evans Street	Inverell	285,000
31 Mahonga Street	Jerilderie	55,000
6 Jerilderie Street	Jerilderie	140,000
6 Kennedy Street	Jerilderie	50,000
83 Belgrave St	Kempsey	475,000
464 Wagga Road	Lavington	390,000
79 Conway Street	Lismore	750,000
53 New England Highway	Maitland/Rutherford	815,000
181 Bettington Street	Merriwa	190,000
36 Bank Street	Molong	330,000
203 Balo Street	Moree	627,500
34 Sainsbery Street	Moulamein	60,000

Address of property	Location	Vested value (\$)
112 Market Street	Mudgee	645,000
101 Barwan Street	Narrabri	475,550
51 Charles Street, cnr of Bolton St (No.8)	Narrandera	200,000
58 Cobar Street	Nyngan	175,000
66 Corporation Ave	Robin Hill (Bathurst)	1,100,000
98 John Street	Singleton	600,000
33 Gunnedah Rd	Taminda	776,225
1 Clifton Street	Tenterfield	110,000
142 High Street	Tenterfield	185,000
15-17 Trail Street	Wagga Wagga	880,000
11-13 Hope Street	Walgett	71,750
75 Fox Street	Walgett	95,325
Vicary Street	Wanaaring	70,000
19 Stephen Street	Warialda	135,350
19 Crane Street	Warialda	159,000
48 Geddes St	Warialda	127,100
43 Woore Street	Wilcannia	80,000
15 Isabella Street	Wingham	325,000
12 Mitchell Street	Yass	550,000
93-93A Main Street	Young	390,000
TOTAL		20,530,000

Consultants

Consultancies equal to or more than \$50,000

Consultant	Title/nature	Amount (\$)
Deloitte Financial Advisory Trust	Development of business case	88,000
Deloitte Risk Advisory Trust	Business planning advice	134,192
Deloitte Risk Advisory Trust	Development of implementation roadmap	55,880
Deloitte Financial Advisory Trust	Development of business case	102,980
Cardno (NSW/ACT) Pty Ltd	Environmental modelling	83,500
Total		464,552

Consultancies less than \$50,000

Purpose of consultancy	Number of consultancies	Cost (\$)
Engineering	0	—
Environmental	0	—
Finance and accounting	2	85,000
Governance	1	15,355
Human Resources	1	15,243
Information technology	0	—
Legal	0	—
Management services	2	65,302
Organisational review	2	49,430
Total	8	230,330

Funds granted to non-government community organisations

This appendix lists details of funds we granted to non-government community organisations during 2016-17.

There were 363 grants in total, administered to 239 non-government community organisations across all 11 Local Land Services regions. The total value of these grants was \$10,568,347, with an average value of \$29,939.

Guide to references

Clean Energy Fund (CEF)

National Landcare Programme (NLP)

Catchment Action NSW (CA NSW)

NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Environmental Research Trust (ERT)

Region	Name of recipient organisation	Amount of grant (\$)	Source of funds	Nature and purpose of project	Target client
Central Tablelands	Bathurst RSL Club	1,500	CA NSW	Support to allow Bathurst RSL Fishing Club to promote and stage the 2016 Bathurst Carp Blitz, including the Carp Catching Champions Schools Competition. Approximately 300 people participated and the competition and blitz helped raise awareness of carp and their impact on local waterways.	Fishing community and school children
Central Tablelands	Central Tablelands Landcare	27,000	NLP	The Central Tablelands Landcare network received two grants: 1. \$17,000 to achieve on-ground sustainable agriculture and capacity building outcomes which aim to improve community capacity and the natural resource base. 2. \$10,000 for their Landcare Coordinator to support the Landcare community to assist in the delivery of landscape change across the region and to take action to protect and enhance the natural resource base.	Landcare

Region	Name of recipient organisation	Amount of grant (\$)	Source of funds	Nature and purpose of project	Target client
Central Tablelands	Dargan Creek Reserves Trust	19,215	NLP and CA NSW	<p>Trust volunteers managed this project to enhance the condition of 4.7 ha of endangered Newnes Plateau Shrub Swamp by blocking a 4WD access track at Dargan's Creek Reserve and rehabilitating the area, which is part of an endangered ecological community. The track was creating erosion issues and altering swamp hydrology. Alternative access is now available to users of the reserve using managed vehicle tracks.</p> <p>Volunteers of the Trust planted and are providing ongoing care to hundreds of native, locally-occurring shrubs and other plants. They continue to monitor and manage public access through regular site inspections.</p>	4WD users of Dargan's Creek Reserve
Central Tablelands	Cowra Nature Based Adventure Playground	1,446	CA NSW	<p>The playground is being developed as a nature-based play space for children and families. It involves the local Men's Shed & Cowra Nature Based Adventure Playground Junior Committee in making bird boxes that will be installed by the local council to attract and support native birds to the area.</p> <p>100 native tube stock were planted to enhance the remnant bushland within the project area.</p> <p>The project builds on the work Landcare has been doing in this area, targeting wood ducks, red rump parrots and micro bats. It was a community collaboration, designed to teach local youth about the natural ecosystems of the area.</p>	Local children and families
Central Tablelands	Goolma Public School	1,452	CA NSW	School children planted 100 native tube stock sourced locally with tree guards and stakes and installed three bird baths with solar pumps to help restore a degraded grassland and encourage birds and other wildlife to seek shelter and food on 0.5ha of the school grounds.	Goolma school children
Central Tablelands	Kangaroooby Catchment Landcare Group	1,880	CA NSW	This project built capacity within the local area to collect, grow and plant local species that are not readily found in nurseries. It included a workshop on seed collection on a local property and a second workshop to propagate these seeds with the community and Gooloogong Public School. As part of this project a capacity building trip to the botanic gardens was organised to inspire members. The aim of the project was to collect, grow and plant 400 new trees/shrubs within the Gooloogong local area.	Gooloogong local community, including children and landholders

Region	Name of recipient organisation	Amount of grant (\$)	Source of funds	Nature and purpose of project	Target client
Central Tablelands	Lithgow & District Community Nursery	1,600	NLP	This group held a seed collecting workshop that provided landowners and interested community members with skills for collecting seed from local plant species. The workshop aimed to help the nursery increase its seed bank for growing plants of the Lithgow region. Longer-term outcomes will be trees and plants propagated from local provenance to assist rehabilitation of riparian zones, plant corridors, shelter belts and general revegetation activities.	Landowners and community members
Central Tablelands	Lithgow & Oberon Landcare	27,000	NLP	There were two components to this funding: 1. \$17,000 to achieve on-ground sustainable agriculture and capacity building outcomes which aim to improve community capacity and the natural resource base. 2. \$10,000 for their Landcare Coordinator to support the Landcare community to assist in the delivery of landscape change across the region and to take action to protect and enhance the natural resource base.	Landcare
Central Tablelands	Lithgow & Oberon Landcare	24,700	Aust Government Category 3	This project enhanced the condition of approximately 20 ha of native vegetation along the Lithgow footslopes that provides habitat for the endangered purple copper butterfly. Work occurred at three sites: 1. Lithgow Tip to Community Nursery 2. Macaulay Street 3. Pottery Estate. The project addressed key threats to the species through weed control and in-fill planting, while also raising community awareness to assist in the species' recovery. A Green Army team ran concurrently with this project and provided in-kind and complementary works in the region.	Local community

Region	Name of recipient organisation	Amount of grant (\$)	Source of funds	Nature and purpose of project	Target client
Central Tablelands	Little River Landcare	27,000	NLP	<p>There were two components to this funding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$17,000 to achieve on-ground sustainable agriculture and capacity building outcomes which aim to improve community capacity and the natural resource base. 2. \$10,000 for their Landcare Coordinator to support the Landcare community to assist in the delivery of landscape change across the region and to take action to protect and enhance the natural resource base. 	Landcare
Central Tablelands	Mid Lachlan Landcare t/a Cowra District Landcare	27,000	NLP	<p>There were two components to this funding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$17,000 to achieve on-ground sustainable agriculture and capacity building outcomes which aim to improve community capacity and the natural resource base. 2. \$10,000 for their Landcare Coordinator to support the Landcare community to assist in the delivery of landscape change across the region and to take action to protect and enhance the natural resource base. 	Community groups and Landcare
Central Tablelands	Mingaan Aboriginal Corporation	5,000	CA NSW	The Maiyngu Marragu Aboriginal Place reserve is a significant cultural site that is being degraded by off-track vehicle use. This grant contributed to the restoration of habitat features for cultural values, the protection of a significant Aboriginal site, and the opportunity for Aboriginal lands to be managed by the local Aboriginal community.	Aboriginal community
Central Tablelands	Napoleon Reef Landcare	1,358	NLP	Napoleon Reef Landcare held a Habitat and Hollows Community Information day to increase the local community awareness of the importance of protecting and enhancing habitat for native wildlife and biodiversity. It included a demonstration of creating artificial hollows into existing vegetation through augmentation by a qualified arborist.	Community members

Region	Name of recipient organisation	Amount of grant (\$)	Source of funds	Nature and purpose of project	Target client
Central Tablelands	Neville and Region Landcare	15,000	NLP	This project will focus on rehabilitating a headcut downstream from the endangered ecological community, Hanging Swamp in Neville State Forest. The aim of protecting this swamp is to ensure the integrity of this system, as well as providing stability for the creek downstream as losing the swamp would substantially increase water volume and velocity during rain events leading to gully erosion downstream. Funds will be used to engage a contractor to construct two erosion control structures to remedy headcuts in the creek below hanging swamp. The group will hold a field day event in partnership with Environment & Waterways Alliance focusing on the remediation works and local waterway issues.	Community members
Central Tablelands	Neville and Region Landcare	10,000	CA NSW	In partnership with the Orange Local Aboriginal Land Council, Neville and Region Landcare, Central Tablelands Local Land Services, OEH, Blayney Shire Council and La Trobe University, this project will investigate and protect a unique Aboriginal Heritage site in Neville, which comprises a dead Aboriginal scarred tree with a stone artefact embedded in the scar. This project aims to investigate what the physical features of the Aboriginal scarred tree and stone artefact can tell us about how Aboriginal people extracted bark from the tree, and to take measures that will protect the tree from harm. It will also lay the foundation for students and the broader community to learn from and directly engage with Aboriginal cultural heritage.	Aboriginal community, students, partner agencies and broader community
Central Tablelands	Orange Local Aboriginal Land Council	10,000	Aust Government Category 3	This project funded the enhancement of 5.55 ha along Captain Kings Creek through weed control and revegetation activities using 3,300 native tubestock. Its aim was to improve habitat for the threatened Booroolong frog.	Aboriginal community
Central Tablelands	Orange Local Aboriginal Land Council	11,000	CA NSW	This investment in on-ground works was to support the goals and management activities identified in the Aboriginal Land Management Plan for the Orange Local Aboriginal Lands Council. It included weed control to enhance, construction of habitat features (such as nest boxes) for native animals and re-vegetation to improve habitat condition, with a focus on culturally important species and food species for locally native animals.	Aboriginal community

Region	Name of recipient organisation	Amount of grant (\$)	Source of funds	Nature and purpose of project	Target client
Central Tablelands	Summer Hill Creekcure	5,092	CA NSW	Summer Hill Creekcure worked with landholders on a riparian protection project across approximately six hectares of native vegetation to enhance landscape connectivity and wildlife habitat. They installed fencing to protect the site and planted 800 native tubestock.	Community groups
Central Tablelands	Upper Lachlan Landcare Coordinating Committee	500	NLP	This grant allowed a local community member to travel to and attend the National Landcare Conference in Melbourne to build their capacity and knowledge of Landcare and undertake networking with other groups and community members.	Landcare
Central Tablelands	Watershed Landcare	27,000	NLP	There were two components to this funding: 1. \$17,000 to achieve on-ground sustainable agriculture and capacity building outcomes which aim to improve community capacity and the natural resource base. 2. \$10,000 for their Landcare Coordinator to support the Landcare community to assist in the delivery of landscape change across the region and to take action to protect and enhance the natural resource base.	Landcare
Central Tablelands	Watershed Landcare	5,000	CA NSW	Support for the Green Day event held for approximately 600 local school students to attend to learn about sustainability and the environment.	Students
Central Tablelands	Watershed Landcare	2,500	NLP	This project was a continuation of the work to survey, protect and manage the threatened Tarengo leek orchid (<i>Prasophyllum petilum</i>) in the Ilford cemetery. Mid-Western Regional Council was also involved in implementation of management activities to ensure plant survival and enhancement, including altered slashing.	Community and environment groups
Central Tablelands	Zig Zag Railway Co Op	43,500	Aust Government Category 3	This project is for the construction and maintenance of a sediment basin at the culvert adjacent to the Zig Zag Railway carpark entrance and the top of Browns Swamp. The basin will reduce sediment deposition into the swamp and enhance and protect 1.6 ha of endangered Newnes Plateau Shrub Swamp vegetation. It will also mitigate threats to the Blue Mountains Water Skink and Giant Dragonfly, threatened species that rely on the swamp.	Community and environment groups

Region	Name of recipient organisation	Amount of grant (\$)	Source of funds	Nature and purpose of project	Target client
Central West	Little River Landcare	2,895	NLP	Adoption of innovation and technology in agriculture for sustainable practice change. This project involves the purchase of a drone and mapping software to assist with groundcover, erosion, pest and weed surveys, mapping and modelling. The purchase of this technology will improve management decisions and result in more sustainable land management practices being implemented on 3,329Ha within the Little River Landcare Group area.	Community Groups
Central West	Central West Lachlan Landcare	368,718	NLP	Central West Local Land Services works with Central West Lachlan Landcare to deliver a collaborative partnership delivery project called Rebalancing A Vegetative Landscape, across the Central West region	Landcare
Central West	Coonamble Neighbourhood Centre	130,000	Aust Government Category 3	<p>Coonamble Neighbourhood centre has been funded to coordinate the Coonamble Neighbourhood Centre Pest and Weed Drought Funding Project. The project will cover a total of 33,159 ha and has three components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An integrated pest and weed program targeting foxes and African boxthorn over seven properties on the Carinda road. 2. A cluster program aimed at controlling African boxthorn on six properties in an area close to Gulargumbone known as The Gums. 3. An integrated pest and weed program over seven properties in the Collie district, targeting African boxthorn, foxes and rabbits. 	Affected landholders in target areas of Coonamble, Gulargumbone and Collie
Central West	Warrumbungle Landcare	27,008	Aust Government Category 3	The Warrumbungle Landcare Feral Pig Control project involves aerial shooting, baiting and trapping of feral pigs over 12,123 ha within the Warrumbungle Landcare group project area, in conjunction with Central West Local Land Services and National Parks and Wildlife Service.	Landcare
Greater Sydney	Palm Grove/ Ourimbah Creek Landcare	16,400	NLP	Wetland filter for Central Coast Water	Community groups
Greater Sydney	The Friends of Knudsen Reserve Landcare Group	17,640	NLP	The Last Stretch coming of age	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Bangalley Head Landcare Group	30,800	NLP	Bangalley Headland Bush Regeneration	Environment groups

Region	Name of recipient organisation	Amount of grant (\$)	Source of funds	Nature and purpose of project	Target client
Greater Sydney	Fairfield Indigenous Flora Park Group	3,375	NLP	Restoration of the Indigenous Flora Park, Fairfield	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Friends of Lane Cove National Park	17,180	NLP	Restoration of an endangered ecological community at Dalrymple Hay Nature Reserve	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Southside Stringybark Creek Bushcare Group	13,608	NLP	Lower Stringybark Creek Catchment Bushcare group's saving ecologically endangered communities project	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Still Creek Landcare	8,360	NLP	Carrs Bush Restoration: Stage 1	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Brookvale Curl Curl Scout Group	10,080	NLP	Revitalising Greendale Creek	Community groups
Greater Sydney	De-Vine Duck River Bushcare Group	2,000	NLP	Building community awareness, knowledge and participation in biodiversity conservation in the Auburn local government area	Auburn community
Greater Sydney	National Parks Association of NSW	3,300	NLP	Bush Mates project	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Umina Community Group	20,000	NLP	Rehabilitation of Umina/Ocean Beach Sand Dunes through weed control, revegetation, rubbish removal and community education	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Campbelltown Golf Course Bushcare Group	17,750	NLP	Community stewardship to restore Cumberland Plain Woodland and significant waterways within urban vegetation corridors at Campbelltown Golf Course	Community groups and golfers
Greater Sydney	Copacabana Dunecare	10,500	NLP	Gosford City Council and Copacabana Dunecare working on a Copacabana bush regeneration project	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Wianamatta Bushcare Group	27,000	Australian Government Biofund	Control of woodland passionfruit to restore riverflat eucalypt forest at South Creek and contain infestation from surrounding regions	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Camden Airport	30,000	Australian Government Biofund	Bush regeneration to restore riverflat eucalypt forest and recover endangered eucalyptus benthamii and pomaderris brunnea at Camden Airport: Stage 3	Producer groups and industry
Greater Sydney	Nangarin Landcare Group	21,300	NLP	Bush regeneration to restore Cumberland Plain woodland at Nangarin Estate at Picton	Environment groups and local residents

Region	Name of recipient organisation	Amount of grant (\$)	Source of funds	Nature and purpose of project	Target client
Greater Sydney	Macdonald Valley Association.	60,000	Australian Government Biofund	Eradicating arundo donax from the Macdonald River - Stage 2	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Strata Plan 81878 C/- Dynamic Property Services	17,615	CA NSW	Dickson Little Bay Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub restoration	Community groups
Greater Sydney	MacMasters Beach Bushcare Group	15,000	CA NSW	Weed removal project at MacMasters Beach	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Pittwater Natural Heritage Association	23,868	NLP	Control of vine weeds at Careel Creek, Avalon	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Hawkesbury Environment Network	23,100	NLP	Scheyville Community Group African olive eradication project	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Catholic Parish of Frenchs Forest	12,923	NLP	Kierans Creek rehabilitation and forest revegetation	Environment groups and local residents
Greater Sydney	Sartor Bushcare Group	22,619	NLP	Restoration of critically endangered woodland at Sartor Crescent, Bossley Park	Environment groups and local residents
Greater Sydney	Greater Sydney Landcare Network	29,817	NLP	Cumberland Plain Landcare Program	Landcare
Greater Sydney	Narara Bushcare	5,400	NLP	Selective removal of camphor laurel trees by Central Coast Council and Narara Creek Bushcare	Environment Groups
Greater Sydney	Parramatta River Catchment Group	27,250	NLP	River Aware Program	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Friends of Ropes Creek	30,000	NLP	Project to protect two endangered ecological communities	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Leura Falls Creek Catchment Working Group	18,715	NLP	Leura Creek Catchment willow project	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Greendale Bushcare Group	16,065	NLP	Enhancement of Coastal Escarpment Littoral Rainforest at Lane Cove	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Kentlyn Bushcare Group	24,768	NLP	Reducing weed infestations impacting on the Georges River at Kentlyn	Environment groups

Region	Name of recipient organisation	Amount of grant (\$)	Source of funds	Nature and purpose of project	Target client
Greater Sydney	Duffys Forest Residents Association	15,000	NLP	Bush regeneration in Waterfall Gully, Duffys Forest	Community groups
Greater Sydney	Ngurra Guril Aboriginal Group	24,633	CA NSW	Aboriginal environment and cultural education program	Aboriginal community
Greater Sydney	Take 3 Inc	1,500	NLP	Turning the tide on marine plastic pollution – a green sea turtle protection program with Garawa Gudumang Dreaming	Environment and Aboriginal community groups
Greater Sydney	OceanWatch Australia	25,000	CA NSW	Stage 2 of the Habitat in a Bag project	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	The Happy Hens Social Enterprise	1,250	NLP	Bedlam Bay Community Garden	Community groups
Greater Sydney	RNP Cabin Communities Landcare Group	7,878	NLP	Protection of a Designated Aboriginal Place, North Era Beach, Royal National Park	Aboriginal community and Landcare
Greater Sydney	Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council	29,585	CA NSW and NLP	Supporting Indigenous education in Aboriginal heritage, conservation and land management	Aboriginal community
Greater Sydney	Muru Mittigar Limited	27,300	CA NSW and NLP	Parramatta Park flying-fox restoration project	Aboriginal community
Greater Sydney	Greater Toukley Vision	1,500	NLP	Whale Dreamers Festival 2017	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	International Environmental Weed Foundation	1,297	NLP	Habitat connections project	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Blue Mountains Conservation Society	1,500	NLP	Blue Mountains Bat Night	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Hawkesbury Landcare Network	4,817	NLP	Soil health training in the Kurrajong area	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Oatley Flora and Fauna Conservation Society.	1,498	NLP	Printing and distribution of Oatley Flora and Fauna Conservation brochure "Birds of Oatley Park and Lime Kiln Bay Wetland"	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	BMCC Gully Traditional Owners	11,160	CA NSW and NLP	Restoring riparian corridors in the lower portion of the Aboriginal Place "The Gully", South Katoomba	Aboriginal community

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Greater Sydney	Putland Education and Training Unit	14,922	CA NSW and NLP	Putland/Cobham Cultural Learning Circle	Aboriginal community
Greater Sydney	Merana Aboriginal Community Association	11,893	CA NSW	Yellomundee Aboriginal Bush Care Group	Aboriginal community
Greater Sydney	Community Environment Network Inc	1,500	NLP	Mooney Mooney Creek Catchment Crawl	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Conservation Volunteers Australia	1,395	NLP	Londonderry Woodlands Morning Chorus	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Clean4Shore	8,180	Local Government and Landcare Australia	Floating Landcare on the Central Coast 2017 Clean4shore activities for Bushcare participants and litter education and marine debris clean ups in the Hawkesbury estuary for Hornsby local area school groups	Environment groups and students
Greater Sydney	Ngurra Guril Aboriginal Corporation	1,485	NLP	Ngurra Nuril Aboriginal Corporation start-up and equipment grant	Aboriginal community
Greater Sydney	The Mulgoa Valley Landcare Group	15,500	NLP	Installation of a wildlife overpass at Surveyors Creek Wildlife Corridor (Glenmore Park) to improve connectivity of the Cumberland Plain Woodlands	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Kariong Eco Garden	1,480	NLP	Going Bush project	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Ngurra Guril Aboriginal Corporation	1,486	NLP	Member skill & knowledge capacity development	Aboriginal
Greater Sydney	Friends of Bungan	8,860	CA NSW	Completion of removal of Transformer weeds in Bungan and Betty Morrison Reserve	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Friends of Lane Cove National Park	795	NLP	Direct marketing of bushcare and Friends of Lane Cove National Park to the park visitors	Environment groups
Greater Sydney	Central Coast Farmers NSW Farmers Association	1,500	NLP	Compost trial workshops	Producer groups and industry
Greater Sydney	Hawkesbury Landcare Network	10,900	NLP	Hawkesbury community fox trapping program on small blocks (Feral Landcare Pilot Program)	Environment groups

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Greater Sydney	Greater Sydney Landcare Network	10,900	NLP	Greater Sydney Landcare Network Wollondilly Weeds project	Environment groups
Hunter	Australian Trust For Conservation Volunteers T/A Conservatio	1,000	NLP	Two World Wetlands Day workshops	Community education
Hunter	Bahtabah Local Aboriginal Land Council	17,670	NLP	Stage 2 of Serpent Trail project, which aims to build the capacity of the Land Management Team including training in landscaping through Tocal College; developing a Learning Circle Program for area schools; and establishing an Aboriginal All Weather Learning Circle	Aboriginal community and students
Hunter	Belmont Neighbourhood Centre	1,000	NLP	Installation of interpretive signage at Belmont Neighbourhood Centre	Community
Hunter	Biraban Local Aboriginal Land Council	36,438	NLP	Seed collection and propagation for use in future revegetation work in the Biraban LALC area, with aims including Aboriginal employment	Aboriginal community
Hunter	Broke/Bulga Landcare	15,000	Hunter Catchment Contribution	Removal and treatment of African olive and other woody weeds at McNamara, McTaggarts and Henry Parks in Broke Village	Landcare
Hunter	Coal Point Progress Association	1,000	NLP	Landcare community support, training, capacity building and promotion	Landcare
Hunter	Coal Point Progress Association	850	NLP	Production of a video documenting the transformation of Stansfield Reserve at Coal Point, after the medium-high intensity environmental burn in 2016	Community education
Hunter	Eastlakes Community Child Care Centre	943	NLP	Pre-school excursion to Shortland Wetland Centre to further educate the children about ecosystems and make them aware of threatened flora and fauna communities in their region	Pre-school children
Hunter	Hallidays Point Landcare Group	1,100	NLP	Weed eradication and education of adjoining residents on appropriate garden vegetation species along the Black Head Flora Reserve	Landcare
Hunter	Hastings Landcare	4,000	NLP	Partnership with Manning Landcare to deliver workshops on: riparian vegetation management; weeds and pest animal control; a farm gate tour; and small farm planning workshops	Landcare

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Hunter	Hastings Landcare	1,500	NLP	Update the Riparian Restoration Guide for the greater Hastings area. The guide is a key focus area for landholders and for community engagement to assist local native species distribution and revegetation of rivers.	Landholders and community education
Hunter	Hunter Bird Observers Club	1,000	NLP	Publication of "The Whistler" to encourage and further the study and conservation of Australian birds and their habitat and to encourage bird observing as a leisure-time activity	Community education
Hunter	Hunter Region Botanic Gardens	1,000	NLP	Provide video equipment to deliver the Bush Safety Awareness training program, which will consist of several videos simulating emergency situations to train volunteers, and an awareness-raising event at Children's Day in July, with 950 participants	Volunteers and community education
Hunter	Hunter Region Landcare Network	56,000	NLP	Deliver activities specified in business plan to engage landholders and to support and encourage Landcare groups and members in the Lower Hunter District	Landcare
Hunter	Hunter Wetlands Centre Australia	9,091	CA NSW	Funding to support purchase of an interactive computer to facilitate education on the Hexham Swamp Rehabilitation Project and wider Hunter Estuary at the Hunter Wetlands Centre	Community education
Hunter	Hunter Wildlife Rescue Native Animal Trust Fund	998	NLP	Wildlife Rehabilitation Education Program	Community education
Hunter	Karuah & Great Lakes Landcare	11,000	NLP	Partnership with Landcare to deliver community needs and Karuah Great Lakes Landcare's Strategic Plan, including workshops and field days	Landcare
Hunter	Karuah & Great Lakes Landcare	1,500	NLP	To establish a Great Lakes Soil Health Group with the aim of improving the knowledge and capability to manage soil health in the community and preventing erosion and degradation	Landcare
Hunter	Lake Macquarie Landcare	650	NLP	Three Super Saturday sessions: "Creatures Great and Small", " Breakfast with Belmont Birds" and "Fungi Forage"	Landcare
Hunter	Lake Macquarie Landcare	4,000	NLP	Landcare community support, training, capacity building and promotion	Landcare
Hunter	Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance	1,000	NLP	Warners Bay Area Sustainable Neighbourhood Group's bush play adventure nature play experience	Young families in Warners Bay area

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Hunter	Manning Landcare	14,000	NLP	Partnership with Manning Landcare to deliver a series of workshops covering riparian vegetation management, weeds and pest animal control, farm gate tour and small farm planning	Landcare
Hunter	Martindale Creek Catchment Landcare	3,508	NLP	Capacity building project with native grasses field day tour; pest animal and threatened native animal species trail camera workshop and monitoring and reporting program; and Intrepid Landcare youth program tour.	Landcare
Hunter	Merriwa Landcare Group	7,000	NLP	Merriwa Landcare Box Gum Grassy Woodland Revegetation Project through promotion of native remnant vegetation as integral element of sustainable farming system, including capacity building workshops, native seed collection, native bees, sugar bag honey and bird ID	Landcare
Hunter	Merriwa Landcare Group	12,990	Hunter Catchment Contribution	Revegetation project supporting fire-affected farmers arranging contract local provenance native seed collection and propagation of tubestock for re-planting in Cassilis area of Sir Ivan fireground	Landcare
Hunter	Merriwa PAH&I Association	1,500	NLP	Interschool Challenge Program - Merriwa Community Farm Safety Day - a community partnership program supporting sustainable farming, safety, mental health and biosecurity initiatives for Upper Hunter primary and high school students and the farming community	School students and farming community
Hunter	Mindaribba Local Aboriginal Land Council	1,000	NLP	Installation of a sign that acknowledges the traditional owners of the land and provides visitors with significant cultural information of the area	Aboriginal community
Hunter	Murra Country	5,000	NLP	Pages River Riparian Rehabilitation Project, which aims to address weed control and revegetation of the riparian area with native long stem tubestock as an urban example of best practice land and resource management	Community groups
Hunter	Muscle Creek Landcare	1,000	NLP	Landcare community support, training, capacity building and promotion	Landcare
Hunter	Ocean & Coastal Care Initiatives	3,000	CA NSW	Installation of four new T'Angler Bins at Hawks Nest, including ongoing maintenance and volunteer training, plus maintenance and volunteer training for existing bins. These bins are integral in reducing the impacts of fishing.	Fishing community

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Hunter	Salamander Bay Child Care Centre	1,000	NLP	Purchase of Aboriginal Education kits produced by Speaking in Colour to incorporate Aboriginal education into the centre's programming	Child care centre students
Hunter	Scone Landcare	1,500	NLP	Native tube stock planting project to improve: groundcover and soil; farm practices, land and waterways. Also native bee workshop to increase community knowledge on native bees habitat and provide education and resources within communities.	Community education
Hunter	Singleton Shire Landcare Network	5,000	Hunter Catchment Contribution	Finalisation of soil carbon research project and development of Col Fisher Park through weed control and management into a promotional hub and location for local Landcare activities.	Landcare
Hunter	Taree Indigenous Development & Employment	1,000	CA NSW	The project will provide short-term employment and training for members of the Karuah Aboriginal community in identification and control of invasive weed species on Karuah LALC owned and other lands	Aboriginal community
Hunter	Taree Indigenous Development & Employment	55,338	NLP	Project to develop and expand the group's spatial capacity using imaging, 3D mapping and multispectral imaging from a drone platform to assist in the implementation of Caring for Country Projects	Aboriginal community
Hunter	Taree Indigenous Development & Employment	12,034	CA NSW	Taree Indigenous Development and Employment Ltd ("TIDE") as the host organisation will co-ordinate the delivery of the Indigenous Fire Knowledge Workshop (3-days) and associated preliminary planning workshops (6 - days).	Aboriginal community
Hunter	Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council	6,720	NLP	In partnership with NPWS, the project will undertake a second year of fox and feral dog control program within Hexham and Tomago areas of the Hunter Wetlands Ramsar site. This will allow ongoing training and employment opportunities for the Worimi Green Team.	Aboriginal community
Hunter	Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council	47,854	Hunter Catchment Contribution	Demolition and removal of derelict buildings, removal of relic fencing and removal and management of noxious and priority weeds	Aboriginal community
Murray	Central Murray Ag Group	3,500	NLP	The aim of this series of events is to increase community participation and knowledge of the Bunnaloo and surrounding districts community in natural resource management and sustainable agriculture	Producer groups and industry

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Murray	Central Murray Ag Group	5,000	NLP	This grant supported the establishment of a beef discussion group within the Mathoura region, hosting four meetings over a 12 month period, predominantly on farm. The aim is to build the knowledge and skills of beef producers and to increase the diversity, productivity and sustainability of primary industries.	Beef producer groups and industry
Murray	Central Murray Ag Group	3,000	NLP	This supports the 2017 Mixed Farming Information Event, which aims to increase the knowledge of group members of sustainable agriculture practices.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Central Murray Ag Group	9,650	NLP	This grant is designed to fast-track herbicide resistance control methods adopted in the region by taking 12 local leading growers to see key growers who have adopted these practices in the Esperance region in Western Australia.	Leading growers and industry
Murray	Corowa Community Garden	9,500	NLP	The community gardens project aimed to increase participation and knowledge in natural resource management within the Corowa community through a series of events focussed on growing and managing fruit and vegetable crops.	Landcare, growers and students
Murray	Corowa District Landcare	2,000	NLP	Sharing Our Local History is an engagement program with the local and Aboriginal community that encourages people to share their stories about local Aboriginal history that have been passed down through generations.	Aboriginal community
Murray	Corowa District Landcare	12,500	NLP	Through a series of four workshops, Landcare aims to increase knowledge and build community resilience to the effects of climate change stress factors that face the Murray Region.	Community groups
Murray	Corowa District Landcare	10,500	NLP	Through this series of four workshops, Landcare aims to encourage local communities to engage further in Landcare group activities that focus on sustainable land management.	Landcare
Murray	Corowa District Landcare	95,000	NLP	This represents two funding deeds with Corowa District Landcare Group: \$70,000 to support the delivery of regional capacity building and engagement of groups working in natural resource management and sustainable agriculture; and \$25,000 to develop projects that deliver on NLP targets.	Landcare

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Murray	Corowa District Landcare	79,545	CA NSW	The Connected Corridors Partnership Project aims to improve native vegetation connectivity by providing revegetation and infrastructure services and support to landholders to actively manage and establish native vegetation on their properties.	Landholders
Murray	Corowa District Landcare	3,000	NLP	This sheep producer information evening and dinner aimed to raise awareness of the group's new direction in supporting the productivity and sustainability of local primary producers.	Primary producers
Murray	Corowa District Landcare	7,500	NLP	This was a trial project, using a producer-initiated Sheep Business Skills Group that would focus on understanding business financial skills to make on-ground changes.	Sheep producers
Murray	Cummeragunja Local Aboriginal Land Council	13,000	NLP	This project aims to build connection to Country through a native garden and walking track at the Old School	Aboriginal community and students
Murray	Deniliquin Local Aboriginal Land Council	10,000	NLP	Moonahcullah Aboriginal Cemetery revegetation and fencing project	Aboriginal community
Murray	Deniliquin Local Aboriginal Land Council	9,497	NLP	The Werai freshwater turtle project will survey the turtle populations in the Werai forest and develop protection and management options.	Aboriginal community
Murray	Holbrook Landcare	12,500	NLP	The Soils in Depth events program aims to increase participation and knowledge in sustainable agriculture within the region.	Landcare
Murray	Holbrook Landcare	12,500	NLP	The aim of this hay and silage recycling project is to reduce farm waste by engaging a recycling company to distribute silage wrap and twine liner collection bags and collect materials at a designated drop off location.	Primary producers
Murray	Holbrook Landcare	68,000	NLP, CA NSW	The Nutrient Management Program continued the earlier work to engage landholders to plan for land capability and manage fertilizer inputs for efficient production and environmental outcomes.	Landcare

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Murray	Holbrook Landcare	95,000	NLP	<p>This funding deed supports the delivery of regional capacity building and engagement of groups working in natural resource management and sustainable agriculture. This represents two funding deeds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$70,000 to support the delivery of regional capacity building and engagement of groups working in natural resource management and sustainable agriculture 2. \$25,000 to develop projects that deliver on NLP targets. 	Landcare
Murray	Holbrook Landcare	105,000	NLP, Fee for service income	Connected Corridors funding deed for on-ground works to improve native vegetation connectivity by providing revegetation and infrastructure services and supporting to landholders to actively manage and establish native vegetation on their properties.	Landcare
Murray	Holbrook Landcare	140,000	NLP	This funding is to engage the Regional Landcare Facilitator	Landcare
Murray	Holbrook Landcare	30,000	NLP	This contract allowed Holbrook Landcare to manage the expenses of organising the 2017 NSW Landcare and Local Land Services Conference in Albury.	Landcare
Murray	Holbrook Landcare	6,018	CA NSW	On-ground rehabilitation work at "Koora" to support the southern pygmy perch recovery.	Community groups
Murray	Holbrook Landcare	5,000	NLP	On-ground rehabilitation work in the Holbrook area to support the southern pygmy perch recovery.	Community Groups
Murray	Holbrook Landcare	26,600	NLP	This project was to assess the regional effectiveness of subterranean clover to produce its own nitrogen, starting with a sub clover survey of 30 sites in the high rainfall zone.	Landcare
Murray	Holbrook Landcare	19,850	NLP, CA NSW	Additional sites were funded under the Bushlinks project, which aims to strengthen the connectivity, health and resilience of multiple ecosystems within the Murray catchment.	Landcare
Murray	Irrigated Cropping Council	3,000	NLP	Funding allowed for the spring sowing of a winter habitat canola trial.	Irrigators groups and primary producers

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Murray	Irrigated Cropping Council	3,000	NLP	This trial compared mid-row banding of nitrogen against traditional top dressing of irrigated wheat in low fertility situations.	Irrigators groups and primary producers
Murray	Irrigated Cropping Council	7,000	NLP	This project extended the existing sub-soil manuring project to determine the viability and benefits of soil amelioration on irrigated summer cropping in the Berriquin Irrigation District.	Irrigators groups and primary producers
Murray	Moama Local Aboriginal Land Council	10,000	NLP	The aim of this project is to increase the resilience of Aboriginal communities in the Moama area through increasing knowledge and capacity and building and maintaining a strong network that will engage, inform, promote and consult effectively with Local Land Services.	Moama Aboriginal community
Murray	Moama Local Aboriginal Land Council	12,000	CA NSW	This allows a cultural heritage desktop audit of designated travelling stock reserves within the Moama LALC boundaries as a pilot project with the aim of protecting Aboriginal sites and/or objects.	Aboriginal community
Murray	Moama Local Aboriginal Land Council	12,000	CA NSW	Revegetation project to protect ancestral remains	Aboriginal community
Murray	Moama Local Aboriginal Land Council	11,069	NLP	Koondrook-Perricoota Forest pest and weed control and turtle protection program.	Aboriginal community
Murray	Moama Local Aboriginal Land Council	61,408	NLP, Forestry Corporation and National Parks and Wildlife Service	Pest and weed control and turtle protection programs.	Aboriginal community
Murray	Mullengandra Landcare	2,000	NLP	The Mully Landcare Group Creekline Erosion Control and Remediation Project aimed to restore, rehabilitate and protect natural resource assets in Mullengandra.	Landcare
Murray	Murray Dairy	2,500	NLP	The Flexible Feeding Systems for all seasons project included a desktop review of transitioning between lower input pasture based systems into higher input ration feeding systems. This is in response to the assumption that perennials are not returning value per megalitre over the summer period in the Murray Dairy region due to the change in climate, and reduced water availability.	Dairy industry

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Murray	Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group	25,000	Aust Gov-ernment Category 3 - Biofund	This funded project management services for the Murray Wetland Carbon Storage Project.	Environment Groups
Murray	Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group	158,750	Aust Government Category 3 - Biofund	This funding deed represented a partnership in the "Murray Wetland Carbon Storage" project 2014-17 that aims to rehabilitate wetlands on private property in the Murray Catchment to act as biodiverse carbon stores.	Enviro groups
Murray	Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations	12,500	NLP	Building a Murray River Islands Stewards Network to increase the skills and capacity of the local Aboriginal community in bushland restoration, specifically on riparian land between Lake Hume and Wonga Wetlands near Albury.	Aboriginal community
Murray	Parklands Albury Wodonga	12,500	NLP	Building a Murray River Islands Stewards Network to increase the skills and capacity of the local Aboriginal community in bushland restoration, specifically on riparian land between Lake Hume and Wonga Wetlands near Albury.	Aboriginal community
Murray	Parklands Albury Wodonga	11,000	NLP	The aim of this project to improve monitoring of changed vegetation conditions and to record new and emerging issues in the Albury and Greater Hume local government areas. This will be achieved through adapting the "Fulcrum App" and hosting a series of training field days to develop the skills of community volunteers and staff.	Community groups
Murray	Petaurus Education Group	100,000	NLP	This is the funding deed for the Murray Region Community Education Program, which aims to increase participation, skills and engagement in sustainable agriculture and natural resource management through education and awareness programs.	Community members
Murray	Petaurus Education Group	12,500	NLP	The aim of this project is for West Hume Landcare to re-engage with local land managers and increase the land management capacity of the community through a series of events focussed on sustainable agriculture and natural resource management.	Landcare
Murray	Petaurus Education Group	6,500	NLP	This project aims to increase participation and knowledge in natural resource management within the West Hume Landcare region through a series of events focussed on primary aged children and young adults.	Primary school children and young adults

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Murray	Petaurus Education Group	12,500	NLP	The aim of this project is for West Hume Landcare to establish events to build capacity in sustainable land management through local producer groups.	Producer groups
Murray	Petaurus Education Group	5,000	CA NSW	West Hume Landcare Drone Field	Community groups
Murray	Petaurus Education Group	7,000	CA NSW	Funds were provided to raise awareness about threatened species to students and community members through National Threatened Species Day events and developing education materials.	Students and community members
Murray	Petaurus Education Group	14,750	NLP	Petaurus is responsible for the first stages of an on-ground investment program as part of the Squirrel Glider Local Area Management Plan to extend and improve habitat for threatened squirrel gliders.	Community Groups
Murray	Petaurus Education Group	182,000	CA NSW	State funding was for the second phase of the Squirrel Glider Local Area Management Plan.	Community Groups
Murray	Petaurus Education Group	8,400	NLP, CA NSW	Promotion of Indigenous Culture in the Upper Murray RM8 Record VF16/343#07 (Funding Deed) - Funded	Community Groups
Murray	Petaurus Education Group	6,830	Aust Government Category 3 - Biofund	CCK Wetland Champion booklets - Production of four (4) booklets for the MWCSF: profiling three landholders who have participated in the project and one community group (Friends of Jindera Wetlands). Funds are for facilitation and workshops with local schools, design and printing, and events to launch the books. Community Small Grant Contract - Funded.	Community Groups
Murray	Ricegrowers Association Of Australia	5,000	CA NSW	Murakool area bitterns and snipe survey, which aimed to increase participation and knowledge in natural resource management and sustainable agriculture in the Western Murray Valley. The survey will estimate the populations of Australasian bitterns and Australian painted snipe using habitat provided by rice crops.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Ricegrowers Association Of Australia	12,500	NLP	The Think Big – Rural Women Program aims to increase participation and knowledge in natural resource management and agriculture, and resilience of communities to respond to challenges facing the agricultural industry.	Agricultural women in the Deniliquin area
Murray	Ricegrowers Association Of Australia	7,500	NLP	Funding to support the Ricegrowers Association Annual Conference.	Producer groups and industry

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Murray	Ricegrowers Association Of Australia	115,000	NLP	Three capacity building funding deeds (or part payments) to support the delivery of regional capacity-building and engagement of groups working in natural resource management and sustainable agriculture.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Ricegrowers Association Of Australia	2,000	NLP	A project to establish a Deniliquin Beef Group that aims to build the knowledge and skills of beef producers and, using a combination of theory and practical demonstrations, contribute to increasing the diversity, productivity and sustainability of primary industries.	Beef producers
Murray	Riverine Plains	14,000	NLP	This project aims to improve the understanding and gain a local perspective on nutrient movement in the soil profile at seven weather stations by undertaking soil testing throughout the season.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Riverine Plains	3,000	NLP	The 2016 Gerogery National Variety Trial field day featured presentations from notable industry professionals including soil pit analysis looking at sustainable techniques for cropping and grazing soils.	Growers
Murray	Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-Operative	5,000	NLP	The Coming Together and Sharing Day brought Aboriginal elders with a connection to the region together along the Billabong Creek.	Aboriginal community
Murray	Southern Growers	12,500	NLP	The Southern Grower Seminar Series aims to increase participation and knowledge in natural resource management and agriculture in Finley.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Southern Growers	15,000	NLP	A regional capacity building program to improve the capacity of groups to deliver natural resource management and sustainable agriculture outcomes.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Southern Growers	6,000	NLP	This funding enabled Southern Growers to install and monitor soil moisture monitoring equipment at selected sites.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Southern Riverina Irrigators	8,500	NLP	Under the Birds and Farms Partners for Life project, West Berriquin Irrigators will design, build and install nesting boxes and relocate dead hollow trees that were removed as part of the irrigation works in order to improve available habitat.	Irrigators

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Murray	Southern Riverina Irrigators	13,000	NLP	The Reconciliation Ecology Regional Workshop was for National Agricultural Productivity and Reconciliation Ecology Centre to build its profile as a new organisation, develop relationships with relevant stakeholders and increase community collaboration, participation and knowledge in natural resource management and agriculture in the Murray Valley region.	Aboriginal community with producers
Murray	St Johns Lutheran School Jindera	2,000	Aust Government Category 3 - Biofund	The Jindera Wetland Community Grant aimed to enhance the biodiversity and carbon storage values of Jindera Wetland and support community appreciation of, and interaction with, this important wetland.	School students
Murray	The Woolshed Landcare	12,500	NLP	Native Plants for Urban Yards aims to increase participation and knowledge through native plant education.	Landcare
Murray	The Woolshed Landcare	12,500	NLP	Revegetation of Woolshed Creek for Wildlife aims to increase the resilience of the Thurgoona-Wirilinga-Table Top landscape to adapt and recover to climate stressors by restoring an area of degraded remnant floodplain woodland adjacent to Woolshed Creek.	Landcare
Murray	The Woolshed Landcare	12,500	NLP	Funding allowed Woolshed Thurgoona Landcare Group to employ a Landcare support officer to deliver a range of capacity building initiatives.	Landcare
Murray	Wakool Landholders Association	12,500	NLP	The Water Trailer is a model irrigation farm on a trailer to help support farm planning and the management of water in a sustainable way for both environmental and productive outcomes.	Schools and community groups
Murray	Walla Walla P&C	4,000	NLP	A series of events will be held at Gum Swamp Reserve in Walla Walla to give local students and community members a greater understanding and appreciation of wetlands and sustainable land practices.	Students and community members
Murray	Wamba Wamba Local Aboriginal Land Council	12,500	NLP	The Connection to Country story-telling and giant mural will raise awareness of cultural heritage.	Aboriginal community
Murray	Western Murray Land Improvement Group	5,000	NLP	A promotional pocket notebook will help the group increase participation and knowledge in natural resource management and agriculture.	Producer groups and industry

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Murray	Western Murray Land Improvement Group	8,000	NLP	This project included two workshops with key community group representatives to develop strategies to identify opportunities for adaptation and future investment opportunities.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Western Murray Land Improvement Group	9,692	NLP	With Wakool Rivers Association, the group produced a multi-media educational package on the Edward -Wakool system.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Western Murray Land Improvement Group	9,040	NLP	This project supported community efforts in mitigating the detrimental environmental effects of hypoxic black water in 2016, with a focus on the provision, installation and running of mechanical aerators.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Western Murray Land Improvement Group	30,000	NLP	This funding deed supports the delivery of regional capacity building and engagement of groups working in natural resource management and sustainable agriculture.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Western Murray Land Improvement Group	65,000	NLP	This funding allows the group to continue to act as a key service partner in the region, enabling sustainable behaviours by increasing the knowledge and skills development of the community.	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Western Murray Land Improvement Group	120,000	NLP	This project investigates a range of pasture species and production options for retired irrigation lands in the Wakool district. It aims to address community concerns over the impact water regime changes are having on community viability.	Producer groups and irrigation industry
Murray	Western Murray Land Improvement Group	5,000	NLP	The annual sheep information night at Wakool focused on working smarter not harder, encouraging landholders to be more productive, more profitable and enjoy life even more.	Sheep producers
Murray	Western Murray Land Improvement Group	2,500	NLP	Bred Well - Fed Well Workshop	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Western Murray Land Improvement Group	6,007	CA NSW	Protection, enhancement and maintenance of remnant sand hill vegetation on Haigs Reserve	Producer groups and industry
Murray	Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre	9,500	NLP	The Seed Production for Biodiversity project will increase the resilience of vegetation in the local landscape to adapt and recover to climate stressors by establishing additional species in a native seed production.	Community members

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Murray	Yarkuwa Indigenous Knowledge Centre Aboriginal Corporation	2,000	NLP	This project provided an artefact and cultural material display area at the Yarkuwa Centre to engage community members and increase natural resource management knowledge and participation by showcasing items relating to local culture and community history.	Aboriginal community
Murray	Yarkuwa Indigenous Knowledge Centre Aboriginal Corporation	2,000	NLP	15/16 Yarkuwa Indigenous Knowledge Centre Aboriginal Corporation - Deniliquin Fish Park signage. The aim of the project is to design, create and install a series of information panels located at the Deniliquin Fish Park to engage community members and increase knowledge in relation to different fish species, their habitats and to exchange Traditional Ecological Knowledge to improve participation and social and environmental outcomes. The Deniliquin Fish Park is located at the Brown Park Lagoon on Hardinge and Whitelock Streets in Deniliquin.	Aboriginal community
Murray	Young Country Networkers	9,500	NLP	The Riverina Collective - Bringing Real Stories to life project.	Young people in agriculture
Murray	Young Country Networkers	1,000	NLP	The Cultivate Ball is a major networking event for young farmers to support personal development, innovation and foster a culture of support and positivity.	Young people in agriculture
North Coast	Australian Conservation Volunteers (formerly Wetlandcare Australia)	45,000	CA NSW, NLP	Richmond Floodplain project focusing on floodplain infrastructure management to improve soil hydrology. The works aim to achieve sustainable and productive agriculture, improved water quality and enhance native pastures and wetland systems.	Landholders
North Coast	Australian Conservation Volunteers	182,000	CA NSW, NLP	Northern Corridors Connections project that implements landscape connectivity management actions in the key corridors of central Border Ranges, mid Tweed River-Cudgen Coast and Ballina estuary and coast. Project outputs will address environmental weed control, vertebrate pest species control, threatened species recovery and fire management.	Community and enviro groups
North Coast	Bellinger Landcare	45,000	National Biodiversity Fund	The Jaliigirr Project aims to restore, manage and enhance biodiversity conservation by reconnecting and rehabilitating fragmented and degraded corridors through protection and enhancement of native vegetation and managing biodiversity threats.	Landcare

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North Coast	Bowraville Local Aboriginal Land Council	53,140	CA NSW, NLP	Working on Country project to deliver planning, training and on-ground works at Local Aboriginal Land Council sites in Burrupine.	Aboriginal community
North Coast	Brunswick Valley Landcare	3,400	NLP	The Wild About Birds School Education Program explores the role that birds have in local ecosystems, the impact of introduced pests and human interaction and their importance to the Indigenous people of northern NSW.	School students
North Coast	Bushland Restoration Services	45,000	NSW Environmental Trust	Beating Byron's Bitou Bush: Stage 3 extension of a national northern containment zone. The project aims to reduce bitou bush density, enhance coastal native vegetation and assist recovery of several threatened species and communities along the Byron Shire coastline.	Community and enviro groups
North Coast	Clarence Landcare	110,000	CA NSW, NLP	This project was for the strategic control of highly invasive weeds and mid-Nymboida riparian rehabilitation. It included fencing for stock management, beef workshops and on-ground works in weed control and revegetation to enforce containment lines of identified priority high invasive weeds and improve water quality.	Landcare and landholders
North Coast	Clarence Landcare	68,565	NLP	This funding is for targeted engagement with partners and the wider community to plan and deliver priority natural resource management and agricultural productivity on-ground works and activities at the local scale.	Landcare
North Coast	Coffs Harbour and District Local Aboriginal Land Council	17,383	NLP	Working with Aboriginal Green Teams to increase understanding of peri-urban vertebrate pest control by implementing wild dog control programs to enhance the recovery of threatened species populations.	Aboriginal community and primary producers
North Coast	Coffs Harbour & District Local Aboriginal Land Council	42,000	CA NSW, NLP	Develop and endorse a Land and Sea Country Management Plan and host capacity-building cultural workshops and events for knowledge seeking and awareness.	Aboriginal community
North Coast	Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare	30,000	NLP	Industry engagement, land management planning and workshops to lift the capacity of the blueberry industry to mitigate impacts of production	Blueberry industry
North Coast	Dorrigo Plateau Aboriginal Land Council	21,011	NLP	This was a partnership to undertake environmental and aboriginal cultural heritage assessments and on-ground works at travelling stock reserves on the Dorrigo Plateau.	Aboriginal community

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North Coast	Envite	37,000	National Biodiversity Fund	The Jaliigirr Project is a partnership with the Jaliigirr Biodiversity Alliance and the Never Never Catchment Group that aims to restore, manage and enhance biodiversity conservation by reconnecting and rehabilitating fragmented and degraded corridors through protection and enhancement of native vegetation and managing biodiversity threats.	Landcare
North Coast	Far North Coast Dairy Industry Group	2,000	NLP	Final component of field validation of kikuyu genotypes for resistance to the fungal disease kikuyu yellows, improved digestibility and tolerance to low temperature.	Industry groups
North Coast	Grafton Ngerrie Local Aboriginal Land Council	61,500	NLP	Working on Country Cultural and Natural Area Planning and Management project for restoration of significant cultural and biodiversity values through training and on-ground works by indigenous workers in natural resource management.	Aboriginal community
North Coast	Hastings Landcare	68,565	NLP	Targeted Landcare engagement with partners and the wider community to plan and deliver priority natural resource management and agricultural productivity on-ground works and activities at the local scale.	Landcare
North Coast	Jaliigirr Biodiversity Alliance	36,000	National Biodiversity Fund	The Jaliigirr Project is a partnership with Envite and the Never Never Catchment Group that aims to restore, manage and enhance biodiversity conservation by reconnecting and rehabilitating fragmented and degraded corridors through protection and enhancement of native vegetation and managing biodiversity threats.	Landcare
North Coast	Kempsey Local Aboriginal Land Council	2,000	CA NSW	Protection and regeneration of coastal endangered ecological community at Shark Island to improve condition and mitigate threat to saltmarsh and surrounding littoral rainforest areas.	Aboriginal community
North Coast	Madhima Gulgan Community Association	67,676	CA NSW	Funding to develop a five-year land and sea country management plan, including on-ground restoration works across three land tenures to protect threatened and endangered plants and animals.	Aboriginal community
North Coast	Nambucca Landcare Coordinating Committee	64,000	CA NSW, NLP	Nambucca River Function and Water Protection project to implement outcomes of the North Arm River Plan to address environmental issues identified in scientific and academic studies.	Landcare

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North Coast	Never Never Catchment Group	45,000	National Biodiversity Fund	The Jaliigirr Project is a partnership with Envite and the Jaliigirr Biodiversity Alliance that aims to restore, manage and enhance biodiversity conservation by reconnecting and rehabilitating fragmented and degraded corridors through protection and enhancement of native vegetation and managing biodiversity threats.	Landcare
North Coast	Ngurrula Aboriginal Corporation	40,000	CA NSW, NLP	Provide support and capacity to Aboriginal Green Teams in the southern socio-ecological landscape and assist active Aboriginal bush regeneration and environmental working groups to undertake projects on Country.	Aboriginal community
North Coast	North Coast Regional Landcare Network	268,000	CA NSW, NLP	Support Landcare networks in each of the socio-ecological landscapes to build community awareness, knowledge and skills and collaborate across regional programs.	Landcare
North Coast	North Coast Regional Landcare Network	120,000	NLP	Implement Regional Landcare Facilitator program to support and develop Landcare in the region. The project will implement the regional Landcare Partnership agreement and facilitate alignment of Landcare and Local Land Services activities to support adoption of sustainable management practices.	Landcare
North Coast	Northern Landcare Support Services	68,565	NLP	Targeted Landcare engagement with partners and the wider community to plan and deliver priority natural resource management and agricultural productivity on-ground works and activities at the local scale.	Landcare
North Coast	Northern Rivers Fire and Biodiversity Consortium	96,090	NLP	This is a partnership with the Local Aboriginal Land Council and bush regenerators to implement riparian and forest environmental weed control on travelling stock reserve lands at Busbys Flat. The team will support cultural and wildlife asset assessments and prescribed burning on Aboriginal land, increasing capacity and project management skills.	Aboriginal community
North Coast	Ocean Watch Australia	10,900	NLP	This funding allows development of an estuary-wide environmental management system for oyster farmers in the Tweed Estuaries to improve water quality, implement risk management strategies and provide best practice guidelines for land users adjacent to riparian areas.	Oyster farmers

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North Coast	South West Rocks DuneCare	10,000	CA NSW, NLP	Regeneration of coastal endangered ecological communities through weed control and ongoing maintenance works at South West Rocks Creek.	Landcare
North Coast	Upper Clarence Combined Landcare	30,000	CA NSW, NLP	Engaging local indigenous people through weed and pest animal management and ecological restoration to achieve Aboriginal Working on Country outcomes in the Upper Clarence area.	Aboriginal community
North West	Upper Gwydir Landcare Association	4,000	CEF	Brigalow Nandewar Biolinks - brush turkey survival	Landcare
North West	Tamworth Regional Landcare Association	222,377	NLP	Funding to deliver the Small Grants Program and to engage a Regional Landcare Facilitator	Landcare
North West	Northern Slopes Landcare	222,377	NLP	Funding to deliver the Small Grants Program and to engage a Regional Landcare Facilitator	Landcare
North West	Northern Slopes Landcare	27,720	NLP	Invasive species management	Landcare
North West	Waggonamba Landcare	270,850	Aust Government Pest and Weed Funding	The Waggonamba Landcare Harrisia Cactus project involved 22 private landholders encompassing an area of 55,000 ha of prime agricultural land within the Whalan Creek area. It aimed to reduce the environmental threat by reducing the impacts of cactus on high density areas in shade lines, along riparian areas and in native grasslands - minimising the injury to livestock, damage to farm infrastructure and increasing.	Whalan Creek landholders
North West	Walhallow Local Aboriginal Land Council	25,000	CA NSW	On-ground actions to protect and enhance Aboriginal Lands	Aboriginal community
North West	Peel High School t/as Peel Wetlands Landcare Group	9,621	CA NSW	Healthy streams project - Timbumburi Revitalisation	Landcare Groups
North West	Narrabri Local Aboriginal Land Council	25,750	CA NSW	On-ground actions to protect and enhance Aboriginal lands	Aboriginal community
North West	Friends of Moree Regional Botanic Gardens	5,419	CA NSW	Education and awareness about threatened ecological communities	Local community and visitors to gardens

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North West	Moree Local Aboriginal Land Council	20,000	CA NSW	On-ground actions to protect and enhance Aboriginal lands	Aboriginal community
North West	Bubbogullion 100 Landcare	28,064	NLP	Rehabilitation of native vegetation	Landcare
North West	Wee Waa Local Aboriginal Land Council	35,000	CA NSW	On-ground actions to protect and enhance Aboriginal Lands	Aboriginal community
North West	Hunter Land Management	22,423	CA NSW	Revegetation works on travelling stock reserves	Enviro Groups
North West	North West Plains Sustainability Group	3,000	CA NSW	Weed Management on travelling stock reserves	Enviro Groups
North West	Tamworth Local Aboriginal Land Council	48,300	CA NSW	On-ground actions to protect and enhance Aboriginal Lands	Aboriginal community
North West	Tamworth Regional Landcare	45,015	CA NSW	Weed management on reserves	Landcare
North West	Waggamba Landcare	50,000	NLP	Weed control - Whalan Creek area	Landcare
North West	Merimborough Landcare	22,000	NLP	Improved management practices - Merimborough and Yarrie Lake	Landcare
Northern Tablelands	Bald Nob Skeleton Creek Dingo Association	3,100	NLP	Developing and Implementing a Wild Dog Management Plan	Landholders
Northern Tablelands	Banbai Enterprise Development Aboriginal Corporation	32,000	CA NSW	The Northern Tablelands Aboriginal Fire Management Project trained Banbai rangers to work with the community of Jubullum Local Aboriginal Land Council to implement a traditional fire burn project within the Drake area.	Aboriginal community
Northern Tablelands	Dundee Glen Elgin Wild Dog Association	3,625	NLP	Developing and implementing a wild dog management plan	Landholders and primary producers
Northern Tablelands	Enmore Blue Knobby Wild Dog Association	3,684	NLP	Developing and implementing a wild dog management plan	Landholders and primary producers

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Northern Tablelands	Glen Innes Local Aboriginal Land Council	20,000	CA NSW	Funding for an Aboriginal Cultural and Heritage survey along 2.5 km of Arrawatta Creek and surrounding area with TAFE students in Certificate III - Aboriginal Sites Work. The project also includes flora and fauna surveys and an updated property management plan. The aim is to develop an effective five-year management tool.	Aboriginal community and students
Northern Tablelands	Glenrac	51,000	CA NSW	Trees on small farms partnership project	Landcare networks/ landholders
Northern Tablelands	Granite Borders Landcare	8,000	CA NSW	Undertake control of minimum of 50 ha of cats claw creeper	Landholders and contractors
Northern Tablelands	Granite Borders Landcare	51,000	CA NSW	Trees on small farms partnership project	Landcare
Northern Tablelands	Granite Borders Landcare	65,077	CA NSW	This is baseline regional Landcare support to deliver regional and local Landcare functions, facilitate community action planning and provide foundational support to Landcare networks in the region.	Landcare
Northern Tablelands	Gwymac	19,821	Aust Government Category 3	Funding allowed 10 members of South West Inverell Landcare to undertake a coordinated pest control project across more than 4,000 ha to reduce stock losses from predation by pest animals, which will in-turn reduce drought affectedness through the management of these species that include pigs, wild dogs and foxes.	South West Inverell cluster of landholders
Northern Tablelands	Gwymac	49,710	CA NSW	Trees on small farms partnership project - 10,000 seedlings planted	Landcare
Northern Tablelands	Gwymac	4,000	NLP	Developing and implementing a wild dog management plan	Landholders and primary producers
Northern Tablelands	Jubullum Local Aboriginal Land Council	20,000	NLP	Funding for a waste management project to improve water quality, native vegetation and reduce the risk to cattle of lead poisoning. This is the first stage in implementing a property management plan at Jubullum, aimed at improving the condition of 102 hectares of land and three kilometres of riparian area.	Aboriginal community
Northern Tablelands	New England North West Landcare Network Chairs	35,000	NLP	National Landcare Programme Small Community Grants 2016-17 Project – delivering a round of small community grants to community groups, organisations and individuals with the aim of supporting events, training or capacity building activities that increase community resilience	Community groups, orgs and individuals

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Northern Tablelands	New England North West Landcare Network Chairs	110,000	NLP	National Landcare Programme Small Community Grants 2017-18 Project – delivering a round of small community grants to community groups, organisations and individuals with the aim of supporting events, training or capacity building activities that increase community resilience	Landcare and community members
Northern Tablelands	Niangala Wild Dog Association	4,000	NLP	Developing and implementing a wild dog management plan	Landholders and primary producers
Northern Tablelands	Red Range Pinkett Wild Dog Control Association	6,525	NLP	Developing and implementing a wild dog management plan	Landholders and primary producers
Northern Tablelands	Southern New England Landcare	51,000	CA NSW	Trees on small farms partnership project	Landcare
Northern Tablelands	Tenterfield Wild Dog Control Group	26,775	NLP	Developing and implementing a wild dog management plan	Landholders and primary producers
Northern Tablelands	Wongwibinda Cluster Association	549,834	Aust Government Category 3	Pest and weed drought program 2015-16: construct 60 km exclusion fence to reduce pest animals	Landholders and primary producers
Northern Tablelands	Wongwibinda Wild Dog Control Association	14,310	NLP	Developing and implementing a wild dog management plan	Landholders and primary producers
Northern Tablelands	Yarrowitch - Tia Wild Dog Association	4,061	NLP	Developing and implementing a wild dog management plan	Landholders and primary producers
Riverina	Coolamon Landcare	15,010	CA NSW	The key objectives of this project are to implement direct on-ground action to improve native vegetation corridor networks between the Kindra State Forest and the Coolamon travelling stock reserve wetland to improve the condition of aquatic environments, which provide feeding, breeding and nesting opportunities for waterbirds, frogs and fish increase flora and fauna diversity and interactions.	Landcare
Riverina	Dairy NSW Ltd	20,000	NLP	This is a natural resource management project aimed at building the capacity of dairy farmers and their local agronomists to best manage nutrients (fertiliser and effluent) to maximise on-farm nutrient use efficiency and deliver catchment-scale benefits and off-farm outcomes.	Dairy farmers

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Riverina	Harden Murrumburrah Landcare	20,000	NLP	This project will establish a number of yield prophet sites throughout Harden, Galong, Young and Cootamundra areas on different soil types to provide farmers and consultants with real-time information about their crops, providing integrated production risk advice and monitoring decision support relevant to farm management.	Farmers and agricultural advisors
Riverina	Murrumbidgee Landcare	19,388	CA NSW	This project aims to regenerate valuable ecological communities by undertaking revegetation of native trees and shrubs local to the site, accompanied by noxious and environmental weed control and exclusion fencing to protect the area.	Landcare
Riverina	Murrumbidgee Landcare	18,700	CA NSW	Approximately 46 species of animals and 81 species of birds need hollows for shelter or breeding in NSW. This project aims to raise awareness of the value of natural hollows for biodiversity and to facilitate a coordinated approach so Landcare groups can work together to achieve landscape-scale outcomes and increase the adoption of sustainable practices to conserve and protect remnant trees and hollows.	Landcare
Riverina	Ricegrowers Association of Australia	14,500	3-NLP	The Showcasing Innovation project will follow on from two previous successful partnerships. It aims to improve the awareness, skills and capacity of irrigators to better manage their irrigation water resource and help ensure the long-term environmental and business sustainability for irrigators in the Riverina.	Irrigators
Riverina	Southern Precision Agriculture Association	6,000	NLP	The Precision Agriculture Expo will bring farmers and advisors together to learn about the practical applications of precision agriculture technologies on-farm. It aims to support on-farm stewardship and soil health through improved land management practices.	Farmers and advisors
Riverina	The Wired Lab	20,000	CA NSW	This skills development and knowledge-sharing project covers the Wiradjuri use of native grasses for weaving. It has been developed in consultation with the Wiradjuri community, particularly women involved in cultural rejuvenation practices of weaving and fibre arts and aims to support the planting, production and harvesting of native grasses to weave cultural objects in a bid to raise awareness of cultural heritage.	Aboriginal community

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South East	Batemans Bay Local Aboriginal Land Council	21,070	CA NSW	To deliver and facilitate Batemans Bay cultural burns community workshops	Aboriginal community
South East	Batemans Bay Local Aboriginal Land Council	20,219	CA NSW	Works to protect and enhance endangered ecological communities, including weed control and revegetation in the Eurobodalla.	Aboriginal community
South East	Bega Local Aboriginal Land Council	95,000	National Biodiversity Fund	To undertake maintenance of revegetation sites, weed control projects and other land management works associated with the Foundations for River Recovery and return of koalas to the Bega Valley and Wangaali (Potoroo) and Gumbaawar (Koala) Habitat Restoration and Cultural Connections in the Gulaga-Biamanga landscape projects.	Aboriginal Community
South East	Bega Local Aboriginal Land Council	30,000	CA NSW	Project to revive traditional land management practices and re-connect Aboriginal people with their Country and culture through cultural burning on Aboriginal lands at Tathra and Wallagoot.	Aboriginal Community
South East	Bega Local Aboriginal Land Council	95,000	NLP	Employment of work crew to undertake natural resource management activities on a variety of project sites across the Bega Valley, aiming to increase local Aboriginal participation in caring for Country.	Aboriginal Community
South East	Boorowa Community Landcare	75,000	NLP	To implement the Building the Momentum project to focus on increasing farm profitability, increasing biodiversity and enhancing our local environment through improving soil health and improving ground cover.	Landcare
South East	Corrowong-Wallendibby Landcare	4,650	NLP	Integrated Weed Management project to boost production and biodiversity.	Landcare
South East	Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council	6,464	NLP	Pacific Oyster Control project at Pambula Lake.	Landcare
South East	Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council	2,123	Local Council	To undertake rehabilitation works at Pambula Lake.	Aboriginal Community
South East	Far South Coast Dairy Development Group	10,000	Dairy Australia	Improving the nitrogen use efficiency of high input coastal dairy pasture systems project support.	Dairy farmers
South East	Far South Coast Landcare	37,763	National Biodiversity Fund	Support for the Far South Coast Community Seedbank and Far South Coast Conservation Management network.	Landcare

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South East	Far South Coast Landcare	81,020	National Biodiversity Fund and CA NSW	To implement revegetation projects to improve the extent and quality of land managed for biodiversity through vegetation planting in fenced management areas within the Bega Valley Shire.	Landcare
South East	Far South Coast Landcare	2,200	National Biodiversity Fund	To increase community awareness of habitat for waterbirds and flying foxes as well as the ecological value of wetlands on the Bega floodplain	Landcare
South East	Far South Coast Landcare	75,000	NLP	Support for the Far South Coast Farmers' Network, which aims to increase adoption and knowledge of sustainable grazing practices.	South Coast farmers
South East	Foxground Landcare	19,920	NLP	Integrated management of Madeira Vine in the high value conservation area of Foxground	Landcare
South East	Greening Australia NSW	5,000	NLP	To support the local Landcare community to deliver natural resource management outcomes and protect priority natural resource assets by removing woody weeds, planting native understory plants and enabling a program of ongoing community activity along the Windecarrabee River.	Landcare
South East	Greening Australia Capital Region	538,980	CA NSW	Funding to deliver a range of Environmental Incentive Projects with natural resource management outcome targets.	Landcare
South East	Gunning District Landcare	75,000	NLP	Support to establish a new Landcare association for the entire Gunning district that aims to restore the health and happiness of endangered wildlife, habitat and farmers.	Landcare
South East	Gunning District Landcare	1,000	ERT	Event to support the preservation of the yellow spotted bell frog.	Landcare
South East	Jerrinja Local Aboriginal Land Council	24,400	CA NSW	To develop a management plan for Red Rock, a parcel of land owned and managed by Jerrinja Local Aboriginal Land Council.	Aboriginal Community
South East	K2C (Kosciuszko to Coast)	10,000	ERT	To enhance communication amongst landholders associated with the Save Our Scarlet Robin program. This project will deliver community awareness raising events within the Michelago and Delegate target areas.	Community Group
South East	K2C	49,100	NLP	To support land and water managers to make well informed decisions about the use, care and stewardship of natural resources within the Great Eastern Ranges partnership areas.	Landcare

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South East	Landcare Illawarra	50,000	NLP	To provide greater connectivity amongst the Illawarra network by engaging members and landholders through surveys to understand and identify their needs.	Landcare
South East	Michelago & District Landcare	30,000	CA NSW	Support for the Save Our Scarlet Robin Project by engaging landholders in the Michelago valley in revegetation activities to improve connectivity.	Landcare
South East	Mogo Aboriginal Land Council	36,800	National Biodiversity Fund	To restore degraded coastal wetlands and implement management initiatives to protect wetland areas from threats or drivers of change that may be acting to reduce ecological function and resilience.	Aboriginal Community
South East	Mogo Aboriginal Land Council	48,560	NLP	To compile Aboriginal cultural information from the marine environment and control marine pests from the Clyde and Tomaga River systems.	Aboriginal Community
South East	Mogo Aboriginal Land Council	30,000	CA NSW	To implement a number of high priority land management activities identified following ecological surveys conducted on Mogo Local Aboriginal Land Council's Western property holdings.	Aboriginal Community
South East	Molonglo Catchment	5,000	ERT	To enhance communication amongst landholders associated with the Save Our Scarlet Robin program. This project will deliver community awareness raising events within the Burra target areas.	Community Group
South East	Mt Piper Landcare	17,800	NLP	To enable the construction of fences to enclose important areas of sensitive vegetation, tree planting to provide corridors for birds and wildlife, disrupt the movement of weeds, and to provide shelter for livestock.	Landcare
South East	Ngambri Local Aboriginal Land Council	31,298	CA NSW	To deliver a cultural camp for the Aboriginal community on Ngambri land which will provide an avenue for cultural and other knowledge to be passed between community members and build a safe, healthy and proud community.	Aboriginal community
South East	Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council	20,000	CA NSW	Mudjingaalbaraga Men's Group will use a traditional cool burn in a strategic approach to control local weed species, reduce fire fuels, reconstruct traditional Aboriginal landscapes, and restore native vegetation. The aim is to improve biodiversity outcomes on Aboriginal community lands that have been exposed to the impacts of mistreatment and lack of recognition of traditional land management practices.	Aboriginal community

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South East	Ocean Watch Australia	12,760	NLP	Provide support opportunities for South Coast Professional Fishing Industry participants to improve knowledge, skills and stewardship for professional fishers endorsed in NSW Estuary General, Ocean Haul and Ocean Trawl Fisheries.	Professional fishing industry
South East	Pambula Wetlands & Heritage Project	66,638	NLP	Effective co-ordination of Panboola wetland volunteer workforce and building community awareness and engagement.	Wetland volunteers and wider community
South East	Pambula Wetlands & Heritage Project	5,000	National Bio Fund	To enhance and maintain the well-established conservation values of Panboola, including coordinating volunteers, directing on-ground works and support activities aimed at increasing the knowledge and skills of community volunteers and committee members	Wetlands volunteers and committee members
South East	Sapphire Coast Producers T/A Sustain Online	75,000	NLP	This project will provide practical information and demonstrations to improve soil health, retain water in the landscape and enhance biodiversity through the use of sustainable farming methods. It aims to address the problem of degrading farm lands across a broad area of the Far South Coast, Monaro and Palerang.	Sapphire Coast producers
South East	Shoalhaven Landcare	7,632	NLP	Funding to broaden the Shoalhaven Landcare network by engaging landholders in activities that teach them sustainable land use techniques.	Landcare
South East	South Coast & Highlands Dairy Industry Group	35,220	NLP	The industry group plans to engage, inform and educate dairy farmers and service providers about improving farm management practices. Their aim is to reduce environmental threats and pressures affecting the South Coast and Highlands areas.	Dairy farmers
South East	South East Landcare	16,500	NLP	This funding will help build on Landcare connections, communications, collaborations and participation in the South East region.	Landcare
South East	South East Landcare	50,000	NLP	Funds were provided for a range of support and capacity building activities with the committee and its member networks.	Landcare
South East	Towamba Valley Landcare	31,125	NLP	Funds are aimed at continuing the downward trend in invasive species whilst also improving the sustainability to productive agricultural systems and the natural diversity of the native pastures that underpin the Towamba Valley.	Landcare

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South East	Upper Kangaroo Valley Landcare	7,000	NLP	This project aims to reduce the infestation of Chilean jasmine, <i>Mandevilla laxa</i> , in the Kangaroo Valley region.	Landcare
South East	Upper Lachlan Landcare	32,000	NLP	This project addresses the strategic Landcare objectives of reducing invasive pest and weeds, erosion, soil health, biodiversity loss, water quality and native vegetation decline.	Landcare
South East	Upper Murrumbidgee Landcare	65,084	NLP	These funds will support the delivery of natural resource management outcomes in collaboration with Landcare groups and support and grow the network in the Upper Murrumbidgee.	Landcare
South East	Upper Shoalhaven Landcare Council	5,000	ERT	This project will deliver community awareness raising events within the Braidwood target area by enhancing communication amongst landholders associated with the Save Our Scarlet Robin program.	Landcare
South East	Upper Shoalhaven Landcare Council	84,800	NLP	Ongoing funding to support and sustain Landcare groups in the Upper Shoalhaven River Catchment to deliver natural resource management projects.	Landcare
South East	Upper Snowy Landcare	45,964	NLP	Maintaining support for the Landcare network in the Upper Snowy Region will allow them to deliver natural resource management and sustainable agricultural outcomes.	Landcare
South East	Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council	60,000	Biodiversity Fund	This project aims to protect the coastal ecosystems and Aboriginal community lands in Wreck Bay.	Aboriginal community
Western	Bohda Pastoral Aboriginal Corporation	22,638	CA NSW	Upgrade the North West boundary to total grazing pressure fencing to improve native vegetation.	Aboriginal community
Western	Bourke's Ain't Caught Nuffin' Fishing Club	4,980	NLP	A three-day fishing competition promoted the importance of the health of the Darling River. It promoted the catch and release of native fish and aimed to remove carp from the waterway.	Fishing community
Western	Broken Hill Landcare	2,849	NLP	Funding allowed two Broken Hill Landcare members to attend the National Landcare Conference.	Community Groups
Western	Lower Anabranh Sporting and Landcare Group	3,563	NLP	Session on the Economics of Cluster Fencing presented by Jon Grant of Grant Consulting to be held on 13th October 2016 in the Anabranh region.	Community Groups

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Western	Lower Lachlan Landcare Group	40,538	NLP	The two-year regulated pig distribution program is a coordinated and structured partnership between Local Land Services and Lower Lachlan Landcare Group. The aim is to empower and encourage practice change and to ensure landholders plan for structured regional pig management.	Primary producers
Western	Mallee Sustainable Farming	44,400	NLP	This three-year cooperative project includes a number of break crops and planting demonstration trials with the aim of improved soil health.	Landholders
Western	Mothers Ancestral Guardians Indigenous Corporation	2,050	NLP	Funding allowed a four-day educational field trip to Rick Farley Reserve in May 2017 for teachers and students undertaking studies in Conservation and Land Management and Indigenous Studies at Sunraysia TAFE. The aim was for the participants to gain experience being on Country and a better understanding of cultural protocols and traditional land management practices.	Sunraysia TAFE teachers and students
Western	Mutawintji Local Aboriginal Land Council	71,163	NLP	This is a habitat restoration project at White Cliffs that will exclude grazing animals and control predators from a fenced area of more than 400 ha. The aim is to allow native vegetation to recover and to reintroduce locally extinct native species.	Aboriginal community
Western	Southern Precision Agriculture Association	4,000	NLP	Two workshops with Western NSW Grain Growers will demonstrate precision agriculture tools and a survey will help determine the ongoing and follow-up support and capacity building needed in this area.	Grain growers
Western	The Trustee for Byrock Rock Holes Reserve Trust	2,535	NLP	Funding was provided to develop a plan of management for the Byrock Rock Holes to guide future management decisions.	Community Groups
Western	Western Landcare NSW	4,500	NLP	This was a National Tree Day program to engage local primary school groups and educate them about Landcare principles and the benefits of native trees.	Landcare and primary school students
Western	Western Landcare NSW	8,000	NLP	A partnered photo competition delivered through web-based platforms.	Photographers
Western	Western Landcare NSW	1,023	NLP	Tickets were provided for three Landcare coordinators to attend the National Landcare Conference.	Community Groups

Region	Name of recipient organisation	Amount of grant (\$)	Source of funds	Nature and purpose of project	Target client
Western	Western Landcare NSW	18,750	NLP	The Western Landcare Schools Network will run a four-month program to provide students with access to training and mentorship that will allow them to explore a future in agriculture and/or natural resource management. The network will provide a platform for students to connect with each other and share ideas around solving local environmental issues.	Far west students in Years 10, 11 and 12
Western	Western Landcare NSW	44,913	NLP	Funding for Western Landcare to deliver capacity building programs.	Landcare
Western	Western Landcare NSW	9,390	NLP	This project is to undertake research, consultation and writing of strategic plans for Western Landcare NSW, including a business plan, risk management plan, marketing plan and succession plan.	Landcare
Western	Western Landcare NSW	8,990	NLP	This two-day residential course will offer an introduction to the science of landscape processes as it applies to land management in non-cropping areas of drylands. It aims to allow participants to apply the processes to their own country.	Landcare
Western	White Leeds Arid Wetlands	5,000	CA NSW	Funding allows the treatment of mesquite at White Leads Station using chemical spray.	White Leads Station
Western	Wilcannia Local Aboriginal Land Council	13,588	NLP	Funds allow an upgrade to total grazing pressure standard fencing on the southern side of the property and improved internal fences to enclose an area of 4,300 ha to improve native vegetation.	Aboriginal Community
Western	Yatama Ngurra Land Enterprises Limited	8,255	CA NSW	Building 12 km of internal TGP fencing to divide Compton Downs western side and enable strategic grazing	Community Groups

Research and development

Completed and continuing research and developmental activities including resources allocated in 2016–17 are as follows.

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Central Tablelands	University of Technology Sydney and the Environment & Waterways Alliance	Creating Superb Homes for Parrots	Study to assess whether man made augmented hollows are actually used by Superb Parrots and other species. Some additional research is being done comparing thermal properties of augmented hollows vs natural hollows vs nest boxes.	Norman Wettenhall Foundation provided \$5,000 as a direct contribution to the study; and CT LLS contributed \$5,000 to research.	Ongoing
Central Tablelands	Not applicable	Wilbertree North wild deer project	To establish the prevalence of diseases which pose a biosecurity or zoonotic threat in a feral deer population	\$10,000	Completed other than reporting
Central Tablelands	University of Sydney and Game Licensing Unit	Targeted surveillance of Brucella suis in at-risk dogs	To establish the prevalence and therefore risk posed by Brucella suis in at-risk but asymptomatic dogs	Provided by Game Licensing Unit	Ongoing
Central Tablelands	University of Sydney, Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute	Q-fever surveillance in the Central Tablelands	To determine if there is an association between the sero-prevalence of Coxiella burnetii and abortions in livestock in the Central Tablelands	\$30,000	Ongoing
Central Tablelands	MLA - Producer Demonstration site funding	Mandurama Young Farmer's Group Improve Winter Feed Availability	Increase carrying capacity for Sheep and Cattle in Central Tablelands HRZ	\$30,000	Ongoing
Central Tablelands	Central Tablelands LLS	Native legume survey	To ascertain information on native pasture legumes and to increase landholder knowledge on the importance of these legumes. Increase producers skill in recognising these species in regards to production, sustainability and diversity.	Central Tablelands LLS Innovation Funds and Landholder In Kind	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
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Central Tablelands	N/A	Wilbertree North wild deer project	To establish the prevalence of diseases which pose a biosecurity or zoonotic threat in a feral deer population	\$10,000	Completed other than reporting
Central Tablelands	University of Sydney, Game Licensing Unit	Targeted surveillance of Brucella suis in at-risk dogs	To establish the prevalence and therefore risk posed by Brucella suis in at-risk but asymptomatic dogs	Provided by Game Licensing Unit	Ongoing
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Central Tablelands	MLA - Producer Demonstration site funding	Mandurama Young Farmer's Group Improve Winter Feed Availability	Increase carrying capacity for Sheep and Cattle in Central Tablelands HRZ	\$30,000	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Central Tablelands	Central Tablelands LLS (Central West LLS, Riverina LLS, South East LLS, Graham Centre for Agricultural Innovation CSU, NSW DPI, Murdoch University, MALDIID, Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia)	<p>1. On ground survey of producers legumes, nodulation and rhizobia status. 30 properties were sampled in the Bathurst – Oberon area</p> <p>2. Extend current research and findings. Three field days and seminars to producers. Papers presented at Grassland Society of NSW Conference July 2017 and The Australian Agronomy Conference September 2017. To increase producer capacity in understanding the importance of legumes. This was via media releases and the field days</p> <p>To increase producer capacity in understanding the importance of legumes. This was via media releases and the field days</p>	Central Tablelands LLS Investment Priority Funding, landholder In Kind		Ongoing
Central Tablelands	Central Tablelands LLS	Native legume survey	To ascertain information on native pasture legumes and to increase landholder knowledge on the importance of these legumes. Increase producers skill in recognising these species in regards to production, sustainability and diversity.	Central Tablelands LLS Innovation Funds and Landholder In Kind	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Greater Sydney	Institute for Sustainable Futures	NextGen Compost	Social research to identify push/pull factors impacting on vegetable growers' use of compost.	<p>Institute for Sustainable Futures component \$88,084</p> <p>This project was supported by NSW Environment Protection Authority as part of the Waste Less, Recycle More initiative, funded from the waste levy</p>	Complete
Greater Sydney	Cresswell Horticultural Services Pty Ltd	NextGen Compost	Research on vegetable production comparing compost, inorganic fertilisers and chicken manure	<p>Compost, crop establishment and other inputs \$37,833</p> <p>Scientific monitoring and evaluation of results \$16,500</p> <p>This project was supported by NSW Environment Protection Authority as part of the Waste Less, Recycle More initiative, funded from the waste levy</p>	Complete
Greater Sydney	Hort Innovation	Regional capacity building to grow vegetable businesses - NSW	Extend research and development to vegetable producers	<p>\$455,392 2016-17</p> <p>This project is supported by Hort Innovation using funds from the vegetable levy and the Australian Government"</p>	On-going (three year project)

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Greater Sydney	Cresswell Horticultural Services Pty Ltd	NextGen Compost	Research on vegetable production comparing compost, inorganic fertilisers and chicken manure	Compost, crop establishment and other inputs \$37,833 Scientific monitoring and evaluation of results \$16,500 This project was supported by NSW Environment Protection Authority as part of the Waste Less, Recycle More initiative, funded from the waste levy	Complete
Greater Sydney	Hort Innovation	Regional capacity building to grow vegetable businesses - NSW	Extend research and development to vegetable producers	\$455,392 2016/17 This project is supported by Hort Innovation using funds from the vegetable levy and the Australian Government	On-going (three year project)

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Hunter	Acil Allen	Economic evaluation of the Wild Dog Control Program in the Hunter Valley	Four-year initiative with the primary objective of supporting health landscapes as well as ensuring that the growth and diversity of agricultural enterprises engaged in animal production is not impeded by wild dogs. Monitoring and evaluation of the Program and its economic outcomes will be embedded into the Program design.	\$50,000	Ongoing
Hunter	Acil Allen	Developing a Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement Strategy and Plan	Development of a Hunter LLS MERI Strategy and Plan to enable Hunter LLS to monitor, evaluate, report on and implement improvements to its business - at both strategic and operational scales. The strategy will assist Hunter LLS to: 1. identify opportunities for improvement and innovation 2. demonstrate the impact of the organisation within the region 3. ensure that we have strong accountability and governance structures in place.	\$77,270	Ongoing
Hunter	Griffith University	LiDAR acquisition, analysis & prioritisation of 650 sq km of Hunter catchment-	Use of LiDAR in priority riparian catchments to undertake elevation and flood modelling	\$148,000	Ongoing
Hunter	Griffith University	Hunter River Prioritisation	Undertake prioritisation process for whole of non - tidal Hunter catchment using imagery and field checking	\$111,459	Ongoing
Hunter	Sky Land Management P/L	Giant Reed trial using drone technology	Trial of Giant reed control on private property at Murrurundi	\$17,234	Complete

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Hunter	Clydesdale Family Trust	Legume Variety Trial - Autumn 2017	Following on from the success of a previous trial where the trial was sown, established and monitored throughout the 2016 growing season, a follow up monitoring occur in autumn 2017 to evaluate persistence, germination percentages and overall establishment of all 18 varieties of annual legumes.	\$2,450	Complete
Murray	Goulburn-Broken Catchment Management Authority (Vic), Agersens, CSIRO	Virtual Fencing	Trial prototype virtual fencing technology	\$40,000	Completed
Murray	DPI Biosecurity Invasive Plants and Animals Branch	Wild dog movement and population dynamics	Monitoring of wild dog movement and investigation of population structure through DNA analysis to inform management	\$67,700	Ongoing
Murray	Arthur Rylah Institute, Moama LALC	Ramsar turtle nest survey	Locate and identify threats to iconic turtle species found in Ramsar site	\$31,656	Completed
Murray	Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation, Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (Vic)	Ramsar weed biocontrol	Contribution to larger study investigating biocontrols for Sagittaria	\$15,000	Ongoing
Murray	Barham Angling Club	EW catfish genetics	Understand genetic structure of a localised catfish population to inform re-introduction efforts	\$5,600	Completed
Murray	NSW DPI Fisheries	EW Blackwater restocking study	Determine the relative contribution of stocked fish to natural recovery at stocking sites within the E-W system. Funded in previous years but final report provided last year.	\$38,000	Completed

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Murray	Charles Sturt University	EW Colligen Creek veg monitoring	<p>1. Undertake a three year monitoring program to evaluate aquatic and riverbank vegetation response to environmental watering in the Colligen Creek in response to EWSC Adaptive management recommendations</p> <p>2. Undertake inundation modelling for a period of one year to determine relationship between discharge, flow heights and area of inundation to inform future environmental water delivery decision making.</p>	\$70,000	Ongoing
Murray	NSW DPI Fisheries	EW fish movement monitoring	Value-adding to acoustic monitoring of fish movement to support aquatic ecosystem management	\$10,000	Ongoing
Murray	Charles Sturt University	BY socio-economics study	Social baselining to support implementation of the Billabong Yanco Creek System Project	\$19,000	Completed
Murray	Yanco and Colombo Creeks and Tributaries Advisory Group	BY boxthorn control trials	Identifying and promoting best practice, innovative techniques for boxthorn management.	\$40,000	Completed
Murray	CPS Environmental	BY trout cod recruitment study	Study the spawning and recruitment of trout cod in the Yanco and Colombo Creeks to inform aquatic ecosystem management	\$85,860	Ongoing
Murray	Ecological Associates	BY integrated flows study	Knowledge collation and gap analysis to develop an integrated hydrological operations plan for the Billabong, Yanco and Colombo Creeks	\$59,500	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Murray	Tumbarumba Historical Society	UM Heritage and history research	Collection, collation and celebration of information gathered about Aboriginal and European cultural heritage in the Upper Murray region to support activities to increase community cohesion	\$40,000	Ongoing
Murray	Snowy Valleys Shire Council, Tarrangower Cactus Control Group	UM Wheel cactus control trials	Trial different methods of control of Wheel Cactus in the Upper Murray region	\$2,652	Completed
Murray	NSW DPI Fisheries	UM Macquarie Perch surveys	1) Assess Mannus Creek for suitable habitat and refuge for Macquarie Perch 2) Identify habitat deficiencies and expand on suitable habitat within the reach 3) Develop a long term management plan for the Mannus Creek system 4) Attempt to establish a self-sustaining population of Macquarie Perch through a restocking program 5) Assess the Macquarie Perch abundance and distribution response.	\$120,000	Ongoing
Murray	Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group, Murray-Darling Freshwater Research Centre	Wetland Carbon literature review	Knowledge collation and gap analysis to inform development and implementation of on-ground wetland rehabilitation program and on-going management of wetlands for carbon storage outcomes	NIL - staff time	Completed

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Murray	Deakin University, Southern Cross University	Wetland Carbon monitoring/ research	Monitoring and research on wetland carbon dynamics to evaluate rehabilitation outcomes and inform on-going wetland management for carbon storage outcomes	\$120,000	Ongoing
Murray	Eco Logical Australia	Peatlands Spatial Action Plan	Knowledge collation and gap analysis to inform development of a Spatial Action Plan (SAP) for the endangered ecological community (EEC) of Montane peatlands	\$68,000	Completed
Murray	Arthur Rylah Institute	Riparian and Aquatic Health Monitoring Program	Five year monitoring and research program investigating the influences of riparian rehabilitation on stream condition	\$520,000	Ongoing
Murray	Lite PC	SWS Revegetation audit and evaluation	Evaluate outcomes from 30 years of vegetation restoration across the South West Slopes bioregion	\$60,000	Completed
Murray	Australian National University	Terrestrial biodiversity monitoring	Five year monitoring and research program investigating how biota responds to spatial and temporal change in farm-scale and landscape-scale vegetation cover in agricultural environments.	\$550,000	Ongoing
Murray	Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria	Wild orchids pollinator studies	Conduct surveys and organise analyses to identify pollinators for three species of threatened orchid to inform site selection for reintroduction activities	\$42,500	Ongoing
Murray	Gordon Gibson	SBNF barrier investigation	Study to develop detailed designs for an in-stream barrier to exclude pest fish from threatened fish habitat areas	\$29,000	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Murray	NSW DPI Fisheries	SBNF Fish and habitat surveys	<p>Collation of evidence to inform management to achieve viable populations of these endangered native fish species in the Murray Region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • detailed fish assemblage sampling and habitat surveys along Coppabella Creek, a stream known to support a population of Southern Pygmy Perch • targeted fish surveys across the Murray Region to determine if any previously-known populations of Southern Pygmy Perch are persisting and if there are any additional populations that have yet to be discovered • targeted fish surveys to determine the current distribution and abundance of Flat-headed galaxias across the Murray Region. 	\$52,000	Ongoing
Murray	Murray-Darling Freshwater Research Centre	SBNF habitat preferences research	Research to increase our understanding of the behavioural traits of Southern Pygmy Perch in the presence and absence of a predator with regards to habitat structural complexity.	\$58,890	Completed
Murray	Chris Tzaros	Bush Stone Curlew surveys - field and community	Mail-out and field surveys of populations of bush stone-curlew in the Barham, Moulamein and Lowesdale areas.	\$20,875	Completed

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Murray	Western Murray Land Improvement Group Inc.	Economically viable options for retired irrigation land.	The Economically Viable Options for Retired Irrigation Land project investigates a range of pasture species and production options for retired irrigation lands in the Wakool district. In doing so the project will provide economically viable grazing options for retired irrigation land. This project aims to address community concerns over the impact water regime changes are having on community viability.	\$120,000	Ongoing
Murray	DPI	Climate change impacts in irrigated agriculture (water market implements) in the Murray Valley.	Fill research gaps from previous biophysical and economic impact assessments in the Murray Valley. Specifically the work will focus on; 1. Model development to enable a sensitivity assessment of two rice case study sites referred to as 'Eastern Rice and Western Rice' to lower water allocation sowing thresholds. 2. Further development of the 'Western Rice' case study economic model to enable increased scale of operation and dilution of associated overhead, plant and equipment costs to be evaluated. 3. Further model development to enable an integrated assessment of both temporary and carry over water (on a deterministic basis) across the existing three case study sites.	\$35,000	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
North Coast	David Fell Environmental P/L	MERI Border Ranges Biodiversity Monitoring	Flora and Fauna monitoring and evaluation in the Border Ranges biodiversity corridor to provide baseline data for onground management works and detailed information on Eastern Bristlebird habitat conditions.	\$25,960	Completed
North Coast	Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd	Tropical Soda Apple monitoring (glasshouse trial)	Field-based monitoring to develop a better understanding of tropical soda apple logy and ecology under Australian field conditions.	\$11,000	Completed
North Coast	Far North Coast Dairy Industry Group	Field validation of kikuyu genotypes for resistance to the fungal disease kikuyu yellows, improved digestibility and tolerance to low temperature.	Conduct scientific field validation studies on the resistance of Kikuyu to fungal diseases to guide dairy farmers and beef producers across the North Coast Region using kikuyu as a pasture base.	\$2,000	Completed
North Coast	IPSOS Public Affairs P/L	Customer Satisfaction and Community Capacity Survey	Social research and survey of the regions communities and stakeholders for sataisfaction with NC LLS services and capacity to implement best practices across LLS functions of agriculture, natural resource, biosecurity and emergency management.	\$64,000	Completed

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
North West	The University of New South Wales	Monitoring invasive species using multi-temporal satellite remote sensing techniques	<p>The aim of this research project is to explore potential application of remote sensing technique for monitoring of invasive weed species across the North West region. The specific objectives of current pilot project include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To have an in-depth understanding of current remote sensing data and tools suitable for mapping water hyacinth in North West region. • To create a current extent map of water hyacinth around Gwydir Wetlands. • To conduct a two days training workshop for transferring the remote sensing based mapping technique to technique developed under this project to relevant practitioners of North West region. 	\$25,000.00	Completed
North West	Inland Weed Control NSW DPI	Chemical control options for mother of millions	Treatment of mother of millions in threatened ecological communities along the Newell Highway at Narrabri using chemicals which will not affect brigalow and other sensitive native plants.	\$54,000, via CEF and CA NSW	Ongoing
North West	North West Weeds	Harrisia control trials	40 plots containing 10 herbicide combinations replicated over four seasons (autumn, winter, spring, summer) to compare application timing results.	\$8,000 via CA NSW funding	Completed

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
North West	NSW DPI	Hudson pear Bio control	First type of the cochineal scale insect, <i>dactylopius tomentosus</i> , which testing showed is effective on boxing glove or coral cactus (<i>cylindropuntia fulgida</i> var. <i>mamillata</i>) but not Hudson pear, first released at Longreach in late March, 2016. The next group of four types, which includes the type effective on Hudson pear from the Grawin Glengarry area and the type effective on Hudson pear.	\$20,000 via Australian Government Funding	Ongoing
North West	Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation Rural Research and Development for Profit Program	Mother of millions Bio control	A collaboration between North West Local Land Services, NSW DPI and Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. Recollecting the stem-boring weevil (<i>osphilia tenuipes</i>) in Madagascar; conducting supplemental host range tests on the agent in quarantine; applying for permission to release the agent; and finally releasing it at 10 sites in threatened ecological communities.	\$30,000 via CA NSW funding	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Northern Tablelands	Stephen Austin Canines for Conservation	Saving Our Species Partnerships Turtles Forever - Securing the NSW population of Bells Turtles	Secure the entire population of Bell's turtle (also known as the Western Saw-shelled turtle, <i>Myuchelys bellii</i>). This unique short-necked freshwater turtle is restricted to upland streams in the Namoi, Gwydir and Border Rivers catchments. This project brings together a consortium of partners with expertise in land-management, turtle conservation and research, to manage, protect and monitor key sites in each of the four main Bell's turtle populations in NSW. The project will secure turtle populations at these sites by providing incentive funding to land managers to protect and restore streamside habitats, to eliminate trampling and erosion caused by livestock, and to manage and suppress feral predators – foxes and pigs, especially during the turtle egg-laying season.	\$162,112.50	Ongoing
Northern Tablelands	Darren Fielder - Redleaf Environmental	Saving Our Species Partnerships Turtles Forever - Securing the NSW population of Bells Turtles		57976	Ongoing
Northern Tablelands	Bruce Chessman - Chessman Ecology	Saving Our Species Partnerships Turtles Forever - Securing the NSW population of Bells Turtles		54349	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Northern Tablelands	Philip Spark - North West Ecological Services	Saving Our Species Partnerships Turtles Forever - Securing the NSW population of Bells Turtles		52349	Ongoing
Northern Tablelands	Department of Primary Industries	Turtle Virus Susceptibility and Transmission Research 2016/2017		121429	Ongoing
Northern Tablelands	University of New England (Tim Collins)	2016/2017 New England North West Biodiversity Alliance SOS Action - Eucalyptus magnificata project	The project is a partnership between OEH, NT LLS and the New England North West Biodiversity Alliance to deliver extension events and establish baseline data for Eucalyptus magnificata populations within the Northern Tablelands. The researcher was engaged to support delivery of this partnership project.	8300	Complete
Northern Tablelands	Stephen Debus Zoological	2016/2017 New England North West Biodiversity Alliance - Birds of Prey Monitoring	The Birds of Prey Monitoring 2016/2017 project is a partnership between OEH, NT LLS and the New England North West Biodiversity Alliance to deliver extension events and establish baseline data for populations of the Little Eagle, Square tailed Kite and White Bellied Sea Eagle within the Northern Tablelands. The researcher was engaged to support delivery of this partnership project.	\$66,250	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Northern Tablelands	David Carr - Stringybark Ecological	Cool Country Koala Project (South) 2016	The "Cool Country Koala Project (South) 2016" project delivered systematic field based surveys in priority areas as identified in the Northern Tablelands Koala Recovery Strategy (NT KRS). The researcher was engaged to support delivery of this partnership project in Armidale, Walcha and Nowendoc.	\$110,000	Complete
Northern Tablelands	University of New England (Assoc Prof Karl Vernes)	Peer Review of: Stringybark Ecological (2017). 'Cool Country Koala Project (South)'. Final Project Report and Koala Management Plan – Armidale/Uralla, Walcha, and Nowendoc'	For quality assurance purposes, Assoc Prof Karl Vernes was engaged to peer review the final report of the Cool Country Koala project.	\$1,500	Complete
Northern Tablelands	University of Sunshine Coast	Cool Country Koala Project (North) 2016	Systematic field based surveys in priority areas as identified in the Northern Tablelands Koala Recovery Strategy (NT KRS). The researcher was engaged to support delivery of this partnership project in Ashford and Delungra.	\$115,466	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Northern Tablelands	John Hunter TTF Hunter Family Discretionary Trust	2016/2017 New England North West Biodiversity Alliance SOS Action - <i>Eucalyptus rubida subsp barbigerorum</i> and <i>Eucalyptus scoparia</i> project	The 'SOS Action 2016/2017 – <i>Eucalyptus rubida subsp barbigerorum</i> and <i>Eucalyptus scoparia</i> ' project is a partnership between OEH, NT LLS and the New England North West Biodiversity Alliance to deliver extension events and establish baseline data for <i>Eucalyptus spp</i> populations within the Northern Tablelands. The researcher was engaged to support delivery of this partnership project.	37000	Ongoing
Northern Tablelands	Melaleuca Enterprises	Aboriginal Culture & Lands - Two-way Knowledge sharing for Better Natural Resource Management.	Activities include collaborative action research, on-ground fire management, ecological monitoring of flora and fauna before and after fire, media coverage, workshop and conference presentations, scientific paper publication and production of a 'fire and seasons' calendar.	\$15,048	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Northern Tablelands	University of New England	An Evaluation of the Investment Methodology	Improve the effectiveness of the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services to target its investment. The results of the survey of ratepayers, known as Defining and Managing Community Expectations for the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services, was combined with data from the FARMS database to analyse ratepayers within our area. The analyses identified distinct differences based on the size of the holding, percentage of off farm income and whether the property is their primary or secondary residence. Research (Gill et al 2010) also indicates that the changing rural landscape, along with landholder priorities, is having a significant influence on methods of land management.	\$13,664	Completed
Riverina	Arthur Rylah Institute	Riparian and Aquatic Health Monitoring Program	Five year monitoring and research program investigating the influences of riparian rehabilitation on stream condition	\$30,000	Ongoing
Riverina	Australian National University	Terrestrial biodiversity monitoring	Five year monitoring and research program investigating how biota responds to spatial and temporal change in farm-scale and landscape-scale vegetation cover in agricultural environments.	\$20,000	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
Riverina	OEH	DustWatch in the Riverina Local Land Services Region	Annual monitoring and research program which provides a tool for monitoring NRM outcomes relating to soil and vegetation groundcover and provides a greater understanding of how climate and land management interact in the Riverina Local Land Services area.	\$65,000	Field component completed Report due 31 October 2017
Riverina	University of Canberra	Socio-economic benefits from NRM activities	To research and determine additional benefits to landholders and the community from NRM projects and activities, with a particular focus on social wellbeing (including physical and mental health) and economic sustainability.	\$40,000	Completed
South East	Monaro Farming Systems, Central West Local Land Services and Riverina Local Land Services	Legume Health Survey	Investigate the reasons for poor legume health in Monaro pastures. Survey involves sampling clover roots in spring and testing for rhizobia health. Results are presented back to wider farming community with management options to correct the current situation.	\$5,000	Ongoing
South East	Snowy Monaro Regional Council	Serrated Tussock Herbicide Resistance Survey	Resistance to flupropanate was identified on some populations of serrated tussock on the Monaro in 2017. Working with Council and landholders, priority based sampling will occur to determine the extent of herbicide resistant populations. Results will be extended to inform weed management to Monaro producers	\$7,000	Ongoing

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
South East	Binalong Landcare and NSW DPI	Native Pasture and Alternative Fertilizer Project	To investigate the effects of alternative and conventional fertilizers on pasture productivity, soil fertility and soil microbial status when compared to a nil control and cost effectiveness of the alternative fertilizers as compared to the conventional product, single superphosphate.	\$1,000	Ongoing
South East	University of Wollongong	Impacts of Rusa deer on the regeneration of indigenous rainforest vegetation	Support a forth year Environmental Science student to study the impact of deer browsing pressure on rainforest bush regeneration works.	\$1,500	Ongoing
South East	Water NSW, Western Sydney University, Dairy Australia, DPI	Increasing Dairy Farm Productivity through Stormwater Harvesting	To assess the effectiveness of a modified dairy shed waste management system in minimising fertiliser inputs to the farm and associated loss of nutrients into the natural water streams. To inform an approach to integrating effluent nutrient loads from the modified systems and other types of systems, into broader farm nutrient budgeting	\$40,000	Ongoing
South East	University of Wollongong	Impact of vehicles at specific saltmarsh sites on the NSW South Coast	To investigate the off-road vehicle usage on south coast saltmarsh communities, the damage and hinderance on saltmarsh vegetation communities and make recommendations for natural restoration	\$1,818	Completed

Region	Partner organisation	Project name	Purpose	Resources allocated	Ongoing or complete
South East	Tablelands Farming Systems, Monaro Farming Systems	Innovation to support on-farm decision making	To set up a network of soil moisture probes in the Southern Tablelands region, providing real-time measurement of soil moisture levels. Soil moisture information will increase producer confidence in making decisions at critical points in the season.	\$46,750	Ongoing
South East	Local Farming Community	Laggan Grazing Demonstration	<p>The aim of the project and on farm demonstration is to investigate the level of pasture and animal production that can be sustainably achieved on a native-based pasture in the Crookwell region. Specifically, the project is investigating the effect of applying fertiliser (single superphosphate) and lime on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - stocking rates and overall farm profitability (using a fully-costed economic analysis) - soil fertility and pH - pasture composition - soil carbon levels 	\$1,500	Ongoing

Acronyms

NRC - Natural Resources Commission

IPART - Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal

TSR - Travelling stock reserve

WHS - Work health and safety

NLIS - National Livestock Identification System

DPI - NSW Department of Primary Industries

PID - Public Interest Disclosure

NLP - National Landcare Programme

CA NSW - Catchment Action NSW

EPA - Environment Protection Authority

CEF - Clean Energy Future

GIS - geographic information system

CSIRO - Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation

Local Land Services Financial Statements

For the year ending 30 June 2017

Local Land Services

Financial Statements

For the period ended 30 June 2017

Local Land Services

STATEMENT BY BOARD MEMBERS

Certificate under Section 41C (1B) and (1C) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*

Pursuant to the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*, we declare that in our opinion:

- (a) The accompanying consolidated financial statements exhibit a true and fair view of the financial position of Local Land Services and its controlled entity Local Land Services Staff Agency as at 30 June 2017, and their financial performance for the twelve month period then ended.
- (b) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:
 - The applicable Australian Accounting Standards, which include Australian Accounting Interpretations and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
 - The requirements of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*, the *Public Finance and Audit Regulation 2015* and the Treasurer's Directions.
- (c) There are no circumstances which would render any particulars included in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

For and on behalf of the Board of Chairs



.....
Richard Bull
Acting Chair
Local Land Services Board of Chairs

Dated: 28 September 2017



.....
Barnett Hyams
Board Member
Local Land Services Board of Chairs

Dated: 28 September 2017



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Local Land Services

To Members of the New South Wales Parliament

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Local Land Services, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information. The consolidated entity comprises Local Land Services and the entities it controlled at the year's end or from time to time during the financial year.

In my opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of Local Land Services and the consolidated entity as at 30 June 2017, and of their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards
- are in accordance with section 41B of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983* (PF&A Act) and the Public Finance and Audit Regulation 2015.

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of my report.

I am independent of Local Land Services and the consolidated entity in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants' (APES 110).

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of public sector agencies
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

I believe the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

The Local Land Services Board of Chairs Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The members of the Local Land Services Board of Chairs are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the PF&A, and for such internal control as the members of the Board of Chairs determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the members of the Board of Chairs must assess the ability of the Local Land Services and the consolidated entity to continue as a going concern except where operations will be dissolved by an Act of Parliament or otherwise cease. The assessment must disclose, as applicable, matters related to going concern and the appropriateness of using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the financial statements.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

My opinion does *not* provide assurance:

- that the Local Land Services and the consolidated entity carried out their activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- about the assumptions used in formulating the budget figures disclosed in the financial statements
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial statements on any website where they may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial statements.



C J Giumelli
Director, Financial Audit Services

3 October 2017
SYDNEY

LOCAL LAND SERVICES
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

		Consolidated			Parent	
	Notes	Actual 2017 \$'000	Budget 2017 \$'000	Actual 2016 \$'000	Actual 2017 \$'000	Actual 2016 \$'000
Expenses excluding losses						
Operating expenses						
Employee related	2(a)	84,205	80,666	81,594	-	-
Personnel services	2(b)	-	-	-	77,875	82,403
Other operating expenses	2(c)	49,792	36,451	51,658	49,792	51,658
Depreciation and amortisation	2(d)	2,247	2,227	2,813	2,247	2,813
Grants and subsidies	2(e)	40,566	40,078	36,074	40,566	36,074
Total expenses excluding losses		176,810	159,422	172,139	170,480	172,948
Revenue						
Sale of goods and services	3(a)	7,158	7,814	6,222	7,158	6,222
Investment revenue	3(b)	1,063	600	652	1,063	652
Grants and contributions	3(c)	102,311	44,025	77,306	105,835	80,715
Acceptance by the Crown Entity of employee benefits and other liabilities	3(d)	3,524	2,900	3,409	-	-
Other revenue	3(e)	9,249	41,290	9,248	9,249	9,248
Rates	3(f)	34,640	39,958	32,592	34,640	32,592
Total revenue		157,945	136,587	129,429	157,945	129,429
Gain / (loss) on disposal	4(a)	573	-	511	573	511
Other gains / (losses)	4(b)	3	-	5	3	5
Net result		(18,289)	(22,835)	(42,194)	(11,959)	(43,003)
Other comprehensive income						
Items that will not be reclassified to net result						
Net increase / (decrease) in property, plant and equipment asset revaluation reserve		90,934	-	20,002	90,934	20,002
Total other comprehensive income		90,934	-	20,002	90,934	20,002
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		72,645	(22,835)	(22,192)	78,975	(23,001)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

LOCAL LAND SERVICES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

		Consolidated		Parent		
	Notes	Actual 2017 \$'000	Budget 2017 \$'000	Actual 2016 \$'000	Actual 2017 \$'000	Actual 2016 \$'000
ASSETS						
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	5	51,297	57,725	64,849	51,297	64,849
Receivables	6	9,752	11,850	10,869	9,658	10,732
Inventories	7	1,776	1,300	1,594	1,776	1,594
Biological assets	8	46	-	40	46	40
Assets held for sale	9	-	-	199	-	199
Total current assets		62,871	70,875	77,551	62,777	77,414
Non-current assets						
Property, plant and equipment	10					
- Land and buildings		551,011	442,002	481,896	551,011	481,896
- Plant and equipment		3,167	2,900	4,199	3,167	4,199
- Infrastructure systems		23,391	24,918	24,112	23,391	24,112
- Work in progress		44	-	-	44	-
Total inventory and property, plant and equipment		577,613	469,820	510,207	577,613	510,207
Intangible assets						
- Intangible assets		833	1,015	987	833	987
Total intangible assets	11	833	1,015	987	833	987
Total non-current assets		578,446	470,835	511,194	578,446	511,194
Total assets		641,317	541,710	588,745	641,223	588,608
LIABILITIES						
Current liabilities						
Payables	13	29,908	20,440	28,700	39,333	44,476
Provisions	14(a)(b)	9,885	14,503	15,693	752	709
Other	15	1,286	1,500	1,980	1,286	1,980
Total current liabilities		41,079	36,443	46,373	41,371	47,165
Non-current liabilities						
Provisions	14(c)	386	3,624	929	-	-
Other	15	844	700	880	844	880
Total non-current liabilities		1,230	4,324	1,809	844	880
Total liabilities		42,309	40,767	48,182	42,215	48,045
Net assets		599,008	500,943	540,563	599,008	540,563
EQUITY						
Reserves		111,994	1,058	21,060	111,994	21,060
Accumulated funds		487,014	499,885	519,503	487,014	519,503
Total equity		599,008	500,943	540,563	599,008	540,563

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

LOCAL LAND SERVICES
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

Consolidated Entity	Accumulated Funds	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Total Equity
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at 1 July 2016	519,503	21,060	540,563
Net result for the period	(18,289)	-	(18,289)
Other comprehensive income:			
Net increase / (decrease) in property, plant and equipment	-	90,934	90,934
Total other comprehensive income	-	90,934	90,934
Total comprehensive income for the period	(18,289)	90,934	72,645
Transfers to / (from) reserves	-	-	-
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners			
Increase / (decrease) in net assets due to transfer of employee benefits to Crown Entity	6,330	-	6,330
Increase / (decrease) in net assets due to transfer of freehold land and buildings to Property NSW	(20,530)	-	(20,530)
Total transactions with owners in their capacity as owners	(14,200)	-	(14,200)
Balance at 30 June 2017	487,014	111,994	599,008
Balance at 1 July 2015	562,506	1,058	563,564
Net result for the period	(42,194)	-	(42,194)
Other comprehensive income:			
Net increase / (decrease) in property, plant and equipment	-	20,002	20,002
Total other comprehensive income	-	20,002	20,002
Total comprehensive income for the period	(42,194)	20,002	(22,192)
Transfers to / (from) reserves	-	-	0
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners			
Increase / (decrease) in net assets due to transfer of prepaid superannuation to Crown Entity	(2,785)	-	(2,785)
Increase / (decrease) in net assets due to transfer of unfunded superannuation to Crown Entity	1,976	-	1,976
Total transactions with owners in their capacity as owners	(809)	-	(809)
Balance at 30 June 2016	519,503	21,060	540,563

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

LOCAL LAND SERVICES
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

Parent Entity	Accumulated Funds	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Total Equity
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at 1 July 2016	519,503	21,060	540,563
Net result for the period	(11,959)	-	(11,959)
Other comprehensive income:			
Net increase / (decrease) in property, plant and equipment	-	90,934	90,934
Total other comprehensive income	-	90,934	90,934
Total comprehensive income for the period	(11,959)	90,934	78,975
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners			
Increase / (decrease) in net assets due to transfer of freehold land and buildings to Property NSW	(20,530)	-	(20,530)
Total transactions with owners in their capacity as owners	(20,530)	-	(20,530)
Balance at 30 June 2017	487,014	111,994	599,008
Balance at 1 July 2015	562,506	1,058	563,564
Net result for the period	(43,003)	-	(43,003)
Other comprehensive income:			
Net increase / (decrease) in property, plant and equipment	-	20,002	20,002
Total other comprehensive income	-	20,002	20,002
Total comprehensive income for the year	(43,003)	20,002	(23,001)
Transfers to / (from) reserves	-	-	-
Total transactions with owners in their capacity as owners	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2016	519,503	21,060	540,563

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

LOCAL LAND SERVICES
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Notes	Consolidated			Parent	
		Actual	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual
		2017	2017	2016	2017	2016
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Employee related		(80,664)	(76,907)	(78,368)	-	-
Personnel services expense		-	-	-	(80,664)	(78,368)
Grants and subsidies		(40,566)	(40,078)	(36,074)	(40,566)	(36,074)
Other supplier payments		(48,664)	(40,028)	(47,001)	(48,664)	(47,001)
GST paid on purchases		(6,807)	-	(6,700)	(6,807)	(6,700)
Total payments		(176,701)	(157,013)	(168,143)	(176,701)	(168,143)
Receipts						
Sale of goods and services		7,158	7,814	6,222	7,158	6,222
Interest received		662	600	208	662	208
Rates		39,134	39,958	34,097	39,134	34,097
Grants and contributions		101,811	44,025	77,306	101,811	77,306
Other customer receipts		11,306	49,066	21,263	11,306	21,263
GST received on amounts received		1,399	-	1,012	1,399	1,012
Total receipts		161,470	141,463	140,108	161,470	140,108
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	19	(15,231)	(15,550)	(28,035)	(15,231)	(28,035)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
Proceeds from sale of land and buildings, plant and equipment and infrastructure systems		2,458	18,827	1,426	2,458	1,426
Purchases of land and buildings, plant and equipment and infrastructure systems		(779)	(299)	(1,172)	(779)	(1,172)
NET CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		1,679	18,528	254	1,679	254
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
NET CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		-	-	-	-	-
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH		(13,552)	2,978	(27,781)	(13,552)	(27,781)
Opening cash and cash equivalents		64,849	54,747	92,630	64,849	92,630
CLOSING CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	5	51,297	57,725	64,849	51,297	64,849

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Reporting entity

Local Land Services (LLS) is a statutory body, established pursuant to the *Local Land Services Act 2013* (the LLS Act) which commenced on 1 January 2014.

LLS is a NSW Government agency and is charged with the responsibility for delivering local land services in the social, economic and environmental interests of the State. LLS has responsibilities in the areas of biosecurity, natural resource management, agricultural advisory and emergency management. Functions are exercised in each of these key areas with a focus on regional delivery and alignment with State objectives.

The LLS Act does not allow LLS to employ staff. Under the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013*, LLS arranges personnel services through the Local Land Services Staff Agency (LLSSA). LLSSA is a controlled entity of LLS and together the two entities form the economic entity reflected in these consolidated financial statements.

In the process of preparing the consolidated financial statements for the economic entity, consisting of the controlling and controlled entities, all inter-entity transactions and balances have been eliminated. The reporting entity is consolidated as part of the NSW Total State Sector Accounts.

LLS is a not-for-profit entity (as profit is not its principle objective) and does not have a cash generating unit.

These financial statements represent the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017. The comparative figures are for the year between 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

These financial statements have been authorised for issue by the Chair of the Board of the Chairs on 28 September 2017.

(b) Basis of preparation

LLS's financial statements are general purpose financial statements which, subject to note 1(a), have been prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with:

- applicable Australian Accounting Standards (which include Australian Accounting Interpretations)
- the requirements of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*, The Public Finance and Audit Regulation 2015.

Property, plant and equipment, assets (or disposal groups) held for sale and financial assets at 'fair value through profit and loss' and available for sale are measured at fair value. Other financial statement items are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

Any judgements, key assumptions or estimates management has made are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

All amounts are rounded to the nearest one thousand dollars and are expressed in Australian currency.

(c) Statement of compliance

The financial statements and notes comply with Australian Accounting Standards, which include Australian Accounting Interpretations.

(d) Significant accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

(i) Significant accounting judgement

In the preparation of the financial statements, management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may vary from these estimates.

(ii) Significant accounting estimates and assumptions

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. Judgements made by management in the application of the Australian Accounting Standards that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates, with a significant risk of material adjustments in the next year are disclosed, where applicable, in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

(e) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are recognised as expenses in the period in which they are incurred, in accordance with Treasury's mandate to not-for-profit general government sector agencies.

(f) Insurance

LLS insurance activities are conducted through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund scheme of self-insurance for government agencies. The expense (premium) is determined by the fund manager based on past experience and the insurance coverage is reviewed periodically to ensure that it is adequate.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(g) Accounting for the Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except that:

- the amount of GST incurred by LLS as a purchaser that is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense; and
- receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. However, the GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the Australian Tax Office are classified as operating cash flows.

(h) Income recognition

Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration or contribution received or receivable. Additional comments regarding the accounting policies for the recognition of income are discussed below.

(i) Grants or contributions

Grants or contributions from government and other bodies are generally recognised as income when LLS obtains control or the right to receive the contributions. Control over a grant or contribution is normally obtained upon the receipt of cash. In other cases recognition may be based on the achievement of milestones which would allow the control of the funds to pass to LLS.

(ii) Sale of goods and services

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised as revenue when LLS transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the assets and the amount of revenue is reliably measured.

Revenue for the rendering of services is recognised when the service provided or by reference to the stage of completion.

(iii) Rates and charges

Rates are levied annually for the calendar year. Interest is charged on overdue rates, the rates are set at the Commonwealth Bank overdraft index rate as at 1 January of the rating year plus 2%. For 2017 the interest rates on overdue rates are 11.31% (2016 - 11.46%).

(iv) Investment revenue

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method as set out in AASB 139 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*.

(i) Assets

(i) Acquisition of assets

The cost method of accounting is used for the initial recording of all acquisitions of assets controlled by LLS. Cost is the amount of cash or cash equivalents paid or the fair value of the other consideration given to acquire the asset at the time of its acquisition or construction or, where applicable, the amount attributed to that asset when initially recognised in accordance with the specific requirements of other Australian Accounting Standards.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised at their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Where payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal credit terms, its cost is the cash price equivalent, i.e. the deferred payment amount is effectively discounted at an asset-specific rate.

(ii) Capitalisation thresholds

Property, plant and equipment and intangible assets costing \$5,000 and above individually (or forming part of a network costing more than \$5,000) are capitalised. All amounts below \$5,000 are expensed to profit and loss as incurred.

(iii) Revaluation of property, plant and equipment

Physical non-current assets are valued in accordance with the "Valuation of Physical Non-Current Assets at Fair Value" Policy and Guidelines Paper (TPP 14-01). This policy adopts fair value in accordance with AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* and AASB 116 *Property, Plant and Equipment* and AASB 140 *Investment Property*.

Property, plant and equipment is measured at the highest and best use by market participants that is physically possible, legally permissible and financially feasible. The highest and best use must be available at a period that is not remote and take into account the characteristics of the asset being measured, including any socio-political restrictions imposed by government. In most cases, after taking into consideration, the highest and best use is the existing use. In limited circumstances, the highest and best use may be a feasible alternative use, where there are no restrictions on use or where there is a feasible higher restricted alternative use.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Fair value of property, plant and equipment is based on a market participants' perspective, using valuation techniques (market approach, cost approach, income approach) that maximise relevant observable inputs and minimise unobservable inputs. Also refer to Note 12 for further information regarding fair value.

LLS re-values each class of property, plant and equipment with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount of each asset in the class does not differ materially from its fair value at reporting date. A revaluation of the Travelling Stock Reserves (TSR's), as part of the Crown Land Estate, was completed by Opteon Property Group in March 2017 and was based on an independent assessment.

Revaluation increments are credited directly to revaluation surplus, except that, to the extent that an increment reverses a revaluation decrement in respect of that class of asset previously recognised as an expense in the net result, the increment is recognised immediately as revenue in the net result.

Revaluation decrements are recognised immediately as expenses in the net result, except that, to the extent that a credit balance exists in the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of assets, they are debited directly to the revaluation surplus.

Non-specialised assets with short useful lives are measured at depreciated historical cost as an approximation of fair value. LLS has assessed that any difference between fair value and depreciated historical cost is unlikely to be material.

LLS undertook a revaluation of freehold land and building assets in the previous year. Herron Todd White and Opteon Property Group were engaged and valuations conducted during May and June 2016. The values of freehold land and buildings were revalued in accordance with the valuations obtained.

The methods of revaluing the Crown land assets utilises a mass valuation technique as follows:

Travelling Stock Reserves and Stock Watering Places

The determination of global rates per hectare for a variety of land classifications for each local government area is considered the most appropriate approach to determine a value for Crown Land, and is also applied to the Travelling Stock Reserves (TSR's) and Stock Watering Places (SWP's). For the mass valuations, a valuation rate per hectare was provided for each land category type, within a local government area by Opteon Property Group on behalf of Department of Industry - Lands (formerly NSW Crown Lands). The TSR land vested to and under the effective control of LLS was valued at \$544,911,484 as at 30 June 2017.

(iv) Impairment of property, plant and equipment

LLS is a not-for-profit entity with no cash generating units, LLS is unlikely to be affected by AASB 136 *Impairment of Assets* and impairment testing. This is because AASB 136 modifies the recoverable amount test to the higher of fair value less costs to sell and depreciated replacement cost. This means that, for an asset already measured at fair value, impairment can only arise if selling costs are material. Selling costs are regarded as immaterial.

LLS transfers the carrying value of land for Aboriginal land claims which have been granted to Department of Industry - Lands. The amount, representing the fair value of land granted based on estimated size of the land, is expensed when granted. Until the land is surveyed, the precise area to be transferred is unknown.

(v) Contaminated land

When the Environmental Protection Authority identifies land as contaminated and provides an order, an impairment provision is raised for the land when the cost to remediate the land is quantifiable. In the event that cost of restoring the contaminated land exceeds the value of the land a liability is recognised.

(vi) Depreciation of property, plant and equipment

Depreciation is provided for on a straight line basis for all depreciable assets so as to write off the depreciable amount of each asset as it is consumed over its useful life to the entity. All material separately identifiable components of assets are depreciated over their shorter useful lives.

Land is not a depreciable asset.

The depreciation of buildings and infrastructure is calculated on a straight line basis. Due to the nature and location of its activities, a useful life guide of 40 years is used for buildings and 20 years for infrastructure.

Equipment and vehicles are depreciated on a straight line basis over the remaining life to scrap value (where applicable) so as to write off the depreciable amount of each asset as it is consumed over its useful life to the entity.

Each class of asset has a default life which may be varied as a result of management review either at acquisition or at any time during the asset life.

Default asset class lives are:

Buildings	20 - 60 years
Plant and equipment	2 - 20 years
Infrastructure	3 - 67 years
Intangibles	2 - 4 years

(vii) Major inspection costs

When each major inspection is performed, the labour cost of performing major inspections for faults is recognised in the carrying amount of an asset as a replacement of a part, if the recognition criteria are satisfied.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(viii) Restoration costs

The estimated cost of dismantling and removing an asset and restoring the site is included in the cost of an asset, to the extent it is recognised as a liability.

(ix) Maintenance

Day-to-day servicing costs or maintenance are charged as expenses as incurred, except where they relate to the replacement of a part or component of an asset, in which case the costs are capitalised and depreciated.

(x) Leased assets

A distinction is made between finance leases which effectively transfer from the lessor to the lessee substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of the leased assets, and operating leases under which the lessor effectively retains all such risks and benefits.

Where a non-current asset is acquired by means of a finance lease, the asset is recognised at its fair value at the commencement of the lease term. The corresponding liability is established at the same amount. Lease payments are allocated between the principal component and the interest expense.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(xi) Investment properties

LLS owns some properties which generate rental income. Investment properties are stated at fair value in the statement of financial position, using the valuation technique that maximises the use of relevant observable inputs. Gains or losses arising from changes in fair value are included in the net result for the year in the period in which they arise. No depreciation is charged on investment properties.

(xii) Intangible assets

LLS recognises intangible assets only if it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to LLS and the cost of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Where an asset is acquired at no or nominal cost, the cost is its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Acquired computer software licences are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software. These costs are amortised over their estimated useful lives.

Internally developed software costs that are directly associated with the production of identifiable and unique software products controlled by LLS and that will probably generate economic benefits exceeding costs beyond one year, are recognised as intangible assets. Direct costs include software development employee costs and an appropriate portion of relevant overheads. Costs associated with maintaining computer software are recognised as an expense as incurred.

All research costs are expensed. Development costs are only capitalised when certain criteria are met.

The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed to be finite.

Intangible assets are subsequently measured at fair value only if there is an active market. As there is no active market for LLS's intangible assets, the assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation.

LLS intangible assets are amortised using the straight line method over a period of 1 - 3 years.

Water licences have been valued at cost where there is no active market.

Intangible assets are tested for impairment where an indicator of impairment exists. If the recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount the carrying amount is reduced to recoverable amount and the reduction is recognised as an impairment loss.

(xiii) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. These financial assets are recognised initially at fair value, usually based on the transaction cost or face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less an allowance for any impairment of receivables. Any changes are recognised in the net result for the year when impaired, derecognised or through the amortisation process.

Short-term receivables with no stated interest rate are measured at the original invoice amount where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

(xiv) Other inventories

Inventories held for distribution are stated at cost, adjusted when applicable, for any loss of service potential. A loss of service potential is identified and measured based on the existence of a current replacement cost that is lower than the carrying amount. Inventories (other than those held for distribution) are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Other inventories are comprised of baits, ammunition, signs and chemicals that are used by LLS in the management of pests and weeds on the travelling stock routes. In some locations these inventories are available for sale to the public.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(xv) Inventories (Seed bank)

Inventories are comprised of processed and unprocessed local native seed which are used on revegetation projects carried out by LLS and other organisations.

Inventories are measured at actual cost reflecting the cost of collection and preparation. The cost is then attributed annually to the various seed lots collected and is then adjusted after viability testing.

Factors such as climate, weather events, available funding and landholder confidence all impact on the quantity and types of seed available for collection and planting.

(xvi) Biological assets

Biological assets are measured on initial recognition and at each reporting date at fair value less estimated point-of-sale costs, or reasonable estimates of the fair value less estimated point-of-sale costs.

A gain or loss arising on initial recognition of a biological asset at fair value less estimated point-of-sale costs and from a change in fair value less estimated point-of-sale costs of a biological asset is included in net result for the period in which it arises.

(xvii) Investments

Investments are initially recognised at fair value plus, in the case of investments not at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs. LLS determines the classification of its financial assets after initial recognition and, when allowed and appropriate, re-evaluates this at each financial year end.

(xviii) Impairment of financial assets

All financial assets, except those measured at fair value through profit and loss, are subject to an annual review for impairment. An allowance for impairment is established when there is objective evidence that the entity will not be able to collect all amounts due.

For financial assets carried at amortised cost, the amount of the allowance is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate. The amount of the impairment loss is recognised in the net result for the year.

When an available for sale financial asset is impaired, the amount of the revaluation is removed from equity and a loss recognised in the net result for the year, based on the difference between the acquisition cost (net of any principal repayment and amortisation) and current fair value, less any impairment loss previously recognised in the net result for the year.

Any reversals of impairment losses are reversed through the net result for the year, where there is objective evidence; however impairment losses on an investment in an equity instrument classified as "available for sale" must be made through the revaluation surplus. Reversals of impairment losses of financial assets carried at amortised cost cannot result in a carrying amount that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had there not been an impairment loss.

(xix) De-recognition of financial assets and financial liabilities

A financial asset is derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial assets expire; or if LLS transfers the financial asset:

- where substantially all the risks and rewards have been transferred; or
- where LLS has not transferred substantially all the risks and rewards, if the entity has not retained control

Where LLS has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards or transferred control, the asset is recognised to the extent of the entity's continuing involvement in the asset.

A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

(xx) Non-current assets (or disposal groups) held for sale

LLS has certain non-current assets (or disposal groups) classified as held for sale, where their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sales transaction, not through continuing use. Non-current assets (or disposal groups) held for sale is recognised at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell. These assets are not depreciated while they are classified as held for sale. Refer Note 9.

(xxi) Other assets

Other assets are recognised on a historic cost basis.

(j) Liabilities

(i) Payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to LLS and other amounts. Payables are recognised initially at fair value, usually based on the transaction cost or face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Short-term payables with no stated interest rate are measured at the original invoice amount where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(ii) Borrowings

Loans are not held for trading or designated at fair value through profit or loss and are recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Gains or losses are recognised in the net result for the year on derecognition.

Finance lease liabilities are determined in accordance with AASB 117 *Leases*.

(iii) Personnel services

LLS does not employ staff but utilises the personnel services of the LLSSA. The cost of personnel services in respect of wages and salaries, superannuation, annual leave, long service leave, and for personal leave are recognised when it is probable that settlement will be required.

(iv) Employee benefits and other provisions

(a) Salaries and wages, annual leave, sick leave and on-costs

Salaries and wages (including non-monetary benefits) and paid sick leave that are expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of period in which the employees render the service are recognised and measured at the undiscounted amounts of the benefits.

Annual leave is not expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service. As such, it is required to be measured at present value in accordance with AASB 119 *Employee Benefits* (although short-cut methods are permitted). Actuarial advice obtained by Treasury has confirmed that the use of a nominal approach plus the annual leave on annual leave liability (using 7.9% of the nominal value of annual leave) can be used to approximate the present value of the annual leave liability. LLS has assessed the actuarial advice based on the entity's circumstances and has determined that the effect of discounting is immaterial to annual leave.

Unused non-vesting sick leave does not give rise to a liability as it is not considered probable that sick leave taken in the future will be greater than the benefits accrued in the future.

(b) Long service leave

LLS's long service leave liability is assumed by the Crown Finance Entity (CFE). The entity accounts for the liability as having been extinguished, resulting in the amount assumed being shown as part of the non-monetary revenue item described as 'Acceptance by the CFE of employee benefits and other liabilities'. The prior year comparative includes a component of long service leave carried by LLSSA - this was transferred to the CFE during the year and is recognised in the Statement of Changes in Equity.

Long service leave is measured at present value in accordance with AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*, based on the application of procedures (specified in NSW Treasury Circular TC15/09) to employees with five or more years of service, using current rates of pay. Additional factors were applied based on an actuarial review to approximate present value.

(c) Superannuation

The CFE assumes the defined benefit superannuation liabilities for certain General Government Sector entities. This means on initial incurrence entities recognise a liability and expense and on assumption of the liability, a revenue equivalent to the liability assumed.

(d) Consequential on-costs

Consequential costs to employment are recognised as liabilities and expenses where the employee benefits to which they relate have been recognised. This includes outstanding amounts of payroll tax, worker's compensation insurance premiums and fringe benefits tax.

(e) Other provisions

Other provisions exist when LLS has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event; it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation; and a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

Any provision for restructuring is recognised only when an agency has a detailed formal plan and the agency has raised a valid expectation in those affected by the restructuring that it will carry out the restructuring by starting to implement the plan or announcing its main features to those affected.

If the effect of the time value of money is material, provisions are discounted at an appropriate percentage, which is a pre-tax rate that reflects the current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(k) Fair value hierarchy

A number of the LLS's accounting policies and disclosures require the measurement of fair values, for both financial and non-financial assets and liabilities. When measuring fair value, the valuation technique used maximises the use of relevant observable inputs and minimises the use of unobservable inputs. Under AASB 13, the entity categorises, for disclosure purposes, the valuation techniques based on the inputs used in the valuation techniques as follows:

- Level 1 - quoted prices in active markets for identical assets / liabilities that the LLS can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 - inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 - inputs that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

LLS recognises transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period during which the change has occurred.

Refer Note 12 and Note 20 for further disclosures regarding fair value measurements of financial and non-financial assets.

(l) Equity and reserves

(i) Asset revaluation reserve

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets. This accords with LLS's policy on the revaluation of property, plant and equipment as discussed in Note 1(i) (iii).

(ii) Accumulated funds

The category accumulated funds includes all current and prior period retained funds.

(iii) Separate reserve accounts are recognised in the financial statements only if such accounts are required by specific legislation or Australian Accounting Standards (e.g. revaluation surplus).

(m) Budgeted amounts

The budgeted amounts are drawn from the original budgeted financial statements presented to Parliament in respect of the reporting period. Subsequent amendments to the original budget are not reflected in the budgeted amounts. Major variances between the original budgeted and the actual amounts are disclosed in the primary financial statements in Note 18.

(n) New Australian Accounting Standards issued but not effective

In the current period the entity has adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the AASB that are relevant to the operations and effective for the current reporting period. Adoption of these new standards did not have a significant impact on the financial statements, beyond the disclosure relating to AASB 2015-6 *Related Party Disclosures* carried in Note 22.

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective have not been adopted for the financial year ended 30 June 2017. These are listed as follows:

- AASB 9 Financial Instruments
- AASB 15, AASB 2014-5, AASB 2015-8 and 2016-3 regarding Revenue from Contracts with Customers
- AASB 16 Leases
- AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-profit Entities
- AASB 2016-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Recognition of Deferred Tax Assets for Unrealised Losses
- AASB 2016-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 107
- AASB 2016-4 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Recoverable Amount of Non-Cash-Generating Specialised Assets of Not-for-Profit Entities
- AASB 2016-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification and Measurement of Sharebased Payment Transactions
- AASB 2016-6 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Applying AASB 9 with AASB 4 Insurance Contracts
- AASB 2016-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Deferral of AASB 15 for Not-for-Profit Entities
- AASB 2016-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Australian Implementation Guidance for Not-for-Profit Entities
- AASB 2017-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Transfer of investment Property, Annual Improvements 2014-2016 Cycle and Other Amendments
- AASB 2017-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Further Annual Improvements 2014-2016 Cycle
- Interpretation 22 Foreign Currency Transactions and Advance Consideration

LLS does not believe the adoption of the standards in future periods will materially impact the financial statements.

2. EXPENSES EXCLUDING LOSSES

	Consolidated		Parent	
	Actual 2017 \$'000	Actual 2016 \$'000	Actual 2017 \$'000	Actual 2016 \$'000
(a) Employee related expenses				
Salaries and wages (including recreation leave)	66,697	66,001	-	-
Superannuation – defined benefit plans	688	729	-	-
Superannuation – defined contribution plans	6,152	5,610	-	-
Long service leave	3,542	4,131	-	-
Workers compensation insurance	496	531	-	-
Payroll tax and fringe benefits tax	4,364	4,243	-	-
Redundancy payments	2,266	349	-	-
	84,205	81,594	-	-
(b) Personnel services	-	-	77,875	82,403
	-	-	77,875	82,403
(c) Other operating expenses include the following:				
Advertising and promotion	605	734	605	734
Auditor's remuneration – audit of financial reports	228	236	228	236
Bad and doubtful debts	145	(291)	145	(291)
Board remuneration	1,833	2,047	1,833	2,047
Cleaning	547	528	547	528
Computer software fees	983	734	983	734
Consultancy	695	525	695	525
Contractors and other fees	12,241	11,445	12,241	11,445
Cost of inventories held for distribution	2,539	2,816	2,539	2,816
Cost of sales	1,326	1,599	1,326	1,599
Courier and freight	38	37	38	37
Data/Internet	17	87	17	87
Electricity	483	611	483	611
Insurance	331	394	331	394
Corporate Services	3,307	3,201	3,307	3,201
Legal - Crown Solicitor's Office	8	5	8	5
Legal other	51	103	51	103
Levies	6,287	6,679	6,287	6,679
Maintenance	1,435	1,494	1,435	1,494
Motor vehicle	532	404	532	404
Operating lease rental – minimum lease payments	7,600	8,844	7,600	8,844
Other operating	3,280	3,046	3,280	3,046
Printing	814	999	814	999
Rates	53	232	53	232
Telecommunication	1,065	1,472	1,065	1,472
Training and staff development	898	976	898	976
Travel	2,451	2,701	2,451	2,701
	49,792	51,658	49,792	51,658
(d) Depreciation and amortisation expense				
Buildings	169	356	169	356
Infrastructure	831	880	831	880
Plant and equipment	1,093	1,456	1,093	1,456
Amortisation of intangible assets	154	121	154	121
	2,247	2,813	2,247	2,813
(e) Grants and subsidies				
Caring for Country / National Landcare Programme	13,396	13,303	13,396	13,303
Catchment Management NSW	11,573	9,323	11,573	9,323
Clean Energy	1,129	1,080	1,129	1,080
Hunter Catchment Contribution	1,857	2,723	1,857	2,723
Landcare Co-ordinators Initiative	4,210	2,954	4,210	2,954
Other	8,401	6,691	8,401	6,691
	40,566	36,074	40,566	36,074

3. REVENUES

	Consolidated		Parent	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
	2017	2016	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
(a) Sale of goods and services				
Sale of goods:				
Minor sales of goods and services	386	462	386	462
Rendering of services:				
Education	50	100	50	100
Fees for services rendered	1,331	1,172	1,331	1,172
Permit fees	4,549	4,287	4,549	4,287
Recovery of administrative costs	4	6	4	6
Other services	838	195	838	195
	7,158	6,222	7,158	6,222
(b) Investment revenue				
Interest	662	208	662	208
Rents	401	444	401	444
	1,063	652	1,063	652
(c) Grants and contributions				
Industry/private bodies	778	447	778	447
Commonwealth Government	33,619	32,554	33,619	32,554
NSW budget sector agencies	62,333	39,056	62,333	39,056
Personnel services received free of charge	-	-	3,524	3,409
Local and other state governments	5,581	5,249	5,581	5,249
	102,311	77,306	105,835	80,715
(d) Acceptance by the Crown Entity of employee benefits and other liabilities				
Superannuation	688	729	-	-
Long service leave	2,798	2,640	-	-
Payroll tax	38	40	-	-
	3,524	3,409	-	-
(e) Other revenue				
Levies	6,180	6,170	6,180	6,170
Other revenue	3,069	3,078	3,069	3,078
	9,249	9,248	9,249	9,248
(f) Rates				
Rates	34,640	32,592	34,640	32,592
	34,640	32,592	34,640	32,592

4. GAIN / (LOSS)

	Consolidated		Parent	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
	2,017	2,016	2,017	2,016
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
(a) Gain / (loss) on disposal				
Gain / (loss) on disposal of property, plant and equipment				
Proceeds from disposal	2,458	1,426	2,458	1,426
Written down value of assets disposed	(1,885)	(915)	(1,885)	(915)
Net gain / (loss) on disposal of property, plant and equipment	573	511	573	511
(b) Other gain/(loss)				
Gain on biological assets	3	5	3	5
Net other gains / (losses)	3	5	3	5

5. CURRENT ASSETS - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash at bank and on hand	51,297	64,849	51,297	64,849
	51,297	64,849	51,297	64,849

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank, cash on hand, and short term deposits.

Cash and cash equivalent assets recognised in the statement of financial position are reconciled at the end of the financial year to the statement of cash flows as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents (per statement of financial position)	51,297	64,849	51,297	64,849
Closing cash and cash equivalents (per statement of cash flows)	51,297	64,849	51,297	64,849

LLS carries an external restriction against funds held at year end. The restriction applies to the use of funds and arises from contractual and legislative obligations to other bodies. The aggregate of these restricted funds included in the cash and cash equivalent balance reported above is \$42 million (2016 \$13.160 million).

Refer Note 20 for details regarding credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk arising from financial instruments.

6. CURRENT / NON-CURRENT ASSETS - RECEIVABLES

CURRENT

Trade debtors	9,051	7,868	9,051	7,868
Miscellaneous	110	2,187	110	2,187
Less: Allowance for impairment	(1,021)	(895)	(1,021)	(895)
Interest receivable	263	176	263	176
Net GST	1,255	1,396	1,255	1,396
Trade receivables	9,658	10,732	9,658	10,732

Prepayments

Other	94	137	-	-
	94	137	-	-
Receivables	9,752	10,869	9,658	10,732

6. CURRENT / NON-CURRENT ASSETS - RECEIVABLES - (continued)

	Consolidated		Parent	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
	2017	2016	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Movement in the allowance for impairment				
Balance at beginning of period	895	1,201	895	1,201
Amounts written off during the period	(19)	(15)	(19)	(15)
Increase/(decrease) in allowance recognised in profit or loss	145	(291)	145	(291)
Balance at end of period	1,021	895	1,021	895
GST				
GST receivable	1,478	1,615	1,478	1,615
GST payable	(223)	(219)	(223)	(219)
NET GST	1,255	1,396	1,255	1,396

Refer Note 20 for details regarding credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk arising from financial instruments.

7. CURRENT / NON-CURRENT ASSETS - INVENTORIES

Seed inventory				
Opening balance of seed stock	413	434	413	434
Seed withdrawn from seed bank	(69)	(39)	(69)	(39)
Sale of seed stock	(45)	(45)	(45)	(45)
Value of seed collected	75	74	75	74
Adjustment to match seed bank				
Net gain/(loss) on value of seed stock	(1)	(11)	(1)	(11)
Closing balance	373	413	373	413
Other Inventory on hand				
Opening balance on hand at beginning of period	1,181	974	1,181	974
Increase/(decrease) in stock levels during period	222	207	222	207
Closing Balance	1,403	1,181	1,403	1,181
Total Inventory on hand at end of period	1,776	1,594	1,776	1,594

8. BIOLOGICAL ASSETS

Current	46	40	46	40
	46	40	46	40

9. ASSETS HELD FOR SALE

NON-CURRENT assets held for sale

Land and buildings	-	199	-	199
	-	199	-	199

10. PARENT & CONSOLIDATED - NON-CURRENT ASSETS – PROPERTY PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Land and Buildings \$'000	Leased PPE \$'000	Plant & Equipment \$'000	Infrastructure Systems \$'000	WIP PPE \$'000	Total \$'000
At 1 July 2016						
At fair value	482,837	-	7,124	26,383	-	516,344
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(941)	-	(2,925)	(2,271)	-	(6,137)
Net carrying amount	481,896	-	4,199	24,112	-	510,207
At 30 June 2017						
At fair value	551,209	-	6,187	26,463	44	583,903
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(198)	-	(3,020)	(3,072)	-	(6,290)
Net carrying amount	551,011	-	3,167	23,391	44	577,613

Reconciliation

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of each class of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current reporting period is set out below.

	Land and Buildings \$'000	Leased PPE \$'000	Plant & Equipment \$'000	Infrastructure Systems \$'000	WIP PPE \$'000	Total \$'000
Period ended 30 June 2017						
Net carrying amount at start of year	481,896	-	4,199	24,112	-	510,207
Additions	63	-	561	171	44	839
Disposals	(22,690)	-	(1,498)	(91)	-	(24,279)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	0
Net revaluation increment less revaluation decrements recognised in reserves	90,999	-	-	-	-	90,999
Depreciation expense	(169)	-	(1,093)	(831)	-	(2,093)
Write back on disposal	912	-	998	30	-	1,940
Net carrying amount at end of year	551,011	-	3,167	23,391	44	577,613

Reconciliation

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of each class of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the prior reporting period is set out below.

	Land and Buildings \$'000	Leased PPE \$'000	Plant & Equipment \$'000	Infrastructure Systems \$'000	WIP PPE \$'000	Total \$'000
Period ended 30 June 2016						
Net carrying amount at start of year	461,545	-	5,416	24,939	735	492,635
Additions	23	-	437	23	689	1,172
Disposals	(6)	-	(1,992)	(4)	-	(2,002)
Transfers	688	-	702	34	(1,424)	-
Net revaluation increment less revaluation decrements recognised in reserves	20,002	-	-	-	-	20,002
Depreciation expense	(356)	-	(1,456)	(880)	-	(2,692)
Write back on disposal	-	-	1,092	-	-	1,092
Net carrying amount at end of year	481,896	-	4,199	24,112	-	510,207

11. INTANGIBLE ASSETS - PARENT & CONSOLIDATED

	Total \$'000
At 30 June 2017	
Fair value	1,251
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(418)
Net carrying amount	833
Period ended 30 June 2017	
Net carrying amount at start of year	987
Amortisation (recognised in 'depreciation and amortisation')	(154)
Net carrying amount at end of year	833
	Total \$'000
At 30 June 2016	
Fair value	1,251
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(264)
Net carrying amount	987
Year ended 30 June 2016	
Net carrying amount at start of year	1,113
Disposals / transfers	(5)
Amortisation (recognised in 'depreciation and amortisation')	(121)
Net carrying amount at end of the year	987

The value of intangible assets include easements against land, irrigation water licences and capitalised software costs.

12. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT OF NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS - PARENT & CONSOLIDATED

The fair value of non-financial assets have been measured in accordance with AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement*. Under AASB13, fair value is defined as "the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date".

To increase consistency and comparability in fair value measurements and related disclosures, AASB 13 establishes a fair value hierarchy that categorises into three levels aligned to the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 inputs) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 inputs).

Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for asset or liability. Unobservable inputs shall be used to measure fair value to the extent that relevant observable inputs are not available, thereby allowing for situations in which there is little, if any, market activity for asset or liability at the measurement date. Where level 3 is adopted a sensitivity analysis shall be included in the assessment of value.

12. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT OF NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS - PARENT & CONSOLIDATED (continued)

(a) Fair value hierarchy

At 30 June 2017

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total Fair Value \$'000
Land and buildings (Note 10)	-	6,100	544,911	551,011
Biological assets (Note 8)	-	46	-	46
Infrastructure systems (Note 10)	-	-	23,391	23,391
Total	-	6,146	568,302	574,448

At 30 June 2016

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total Fair Value \$'000
Non-current assets held for sale (Note 9)	-	199	-	199
Land and buildings (Note 10)	-	481,896	-	481,896
Biological assets (Note 8)	-	40	-	40
Infrastructure systems (Note 10)	-	-	24,112	24,112
Total	-	482,135	24,112	506,247

There were no transfers between level 1 or 2 during the period.

The freehold land and buildings are stated at their revalued amounts, being the fair value at the date of revaluation, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses. The fair value of the freehold land and buildings was determined using the depreciated replacement costs approach by reference to the market value of the land in its existing use and market replacement cost of comparable properties on a price per square foot basis, adjusted for age, condition and functional obsolescence.

Opteon Property Group was engaged to value the TSR's and stock watering points as part of the Crown Land Estate, and used the same mass valuation methodology as it does with all other categories within the Crown portfolio which is a determination of a global rate per hectare for each category, within a local government area. The land is valued on the basis of the highest and best use taking into account zoning and other restrictions, access to services infrastructure and property market demand. These value elements are considered in a global way when formulating a value level to apply to a particular category type. The value attributed to TSR land has been transferred from level 2 to level 3 during the year due to a reduction in land categories and an increase in discounting across categories in the valuation methodology.

The plant and equipment is valued at depreciated replacement cost, which approximates the depreciated cost of the assets. The fair value of infrastructure systems was determined by an independent valuer based on the depreciated replacement cost that reflects the estimated current cost of replacing the asset with a similar asset.

(b) Reconciliation of recurring level 3 fair value measurements

At 30 June 2017

Recurring level 3 fair value measurements	Infrastructure Systems \$'000	Total Fair Value \$'000
Fair value as at 1 July 2016	24,112	24,112
Additions	171	171
Disposals	(91)	(91)
Depreciation	(831)	(831)
Writeback on disposal	30	30
Fair value as at 30 June 2017	23,391	23,391

At 30 June 2016

Recurring level 3 fair value measurements	Infrastructure Systems \$'000	Total Fair Value \$'000
Fair value as at 1 July 2015	24,939	24,939
Additions	23	23
Transfers	34	34
Disposals	(4)	(4)
Depreciation	(880)	(880)
Fair value as at 30 June 2016	24,112	24,112

There were no transfers between level 2 and level 3 of the fair value hierarchy during the year ended 30 June 2017.

Information about level 3 fair value measurements

Asset classification	Significant unobservable inputs	Valuation techniques	Sensitivity of significant unobservable inputs
Infrastructure	Estimated replacement costs of infrastructure taking into account of functional obsolescence condition and age of assets	Depreciated replacement cost approach	<p>An increase / decrease in the estimated replacement cost will result in increase / decrease in the fair value</p> <p>A decrease in the estimated remaining useful life will decrease the fair value.</p>

13. CURRENT LIABILITIES - PAYABLES

	Consolidated		Parent	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
	2017	2016	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT				
Accrued salaries, wages and on-costs	288	207	-	-
Other taxes payable	1,165	1,129	-	-
Personnel services payable	-	-	10,878	17,375
Creditors	28,455	27,364	28,455	27,101
	29,908	28,700	39,333	44,476

Details regarding credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk, including a maturity analysis of the above payables are disclosed in Note 20.

14. CURRENT- NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES - PROVISIONS

(a). CURRENT

Employee benefits and related on-costs

Recreation leave	6,637	7,348	-	-
Long service leave	1,548	6,745	-	-
Payroll tax	948	891	-	-
	9,133	14,984	-	-

(b). CURRENT

Restoration costs

	752	709	752	709
	752	709	752	709
Total current provisions	9,885	15,693	752	709

(c). NON-CURRENT

Employee benefits and related on-costs

Long service leave	154	338	-	-
Payroll tax	82	64	-	-
Other employee related provisions	150	527	-	-
Total non-current provisions	386	929	-	-

14. CURRENT- NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES - PROVISIONS (continued)

Recreation leave

The liability at 30 June was \$6.637m (2016 - \$7.348m). This is based on leave entitlements at 30 June 2017.

The value of recreational leave expected to be taken within 12 months is \$5.0m (2016 - \$4.3m) and \$1.7m (2016 - \$3.0m) after 12 months.

	Consolidated		Parent	
	Actual 2017 \$'000	Actual 2016 \$'000	Actual 2017 \$'000	Actual 2016 \$'000
Aggregate employee benefits and related on-costs				
Provisions – current	9,133	14,984	-	-
Provisions – non-current	386	929	-	-
Accrued salaries, wages and on-costs (Note 13)	288	207	-	-
	9,807	16,120	-	-

Movements in provisions (other than employee benefits)

Restoration costs

Carrying amount at beginning of financial year	709	914	709	914
Additional provisions recognised	93	0	93	0
Amounts used	(50)	(205)	(50)	(205)
Carrying amount at end of financial year	752	709	752	709

15. CURRENT / NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES - OTHER

CURRENT

Unearned income	474	1,168	474	1,168
Unspent grants	812	812	812	812
Total current liabilities - other	1,286	1,980	1,286	1,980

NON-CURRENT

Unspent grants	844	880	844	880
Total non-current liabilities - other	844	880	844	880

16. COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

(a) Operating lease commitments

Not later than one year	6,065	3,986	6,065	3,986
Later than one year and not later than five years	4,006	3,468	4,006	3,468
Later than five years	-	-	-	-
Total (including GST)	10,071	7,454	10,071	7,454

The commitments above include GST expected to be recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. Operating lease commitments include contracted amounts for various office equipment, photocopiers and computers and motor vehicles under operating lease contracts. Office leases vary from 1 to 5 years with, in some cases, options to extend. These leases have various escalation clauses. On renewal, the terms of the leases are renegotiated.

(b) Capital commitments

LLS has capital commitments of \$104,000 at year-end (2016 - \$Nil).

17. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

As at 30 June 2017 LLS had no contingent assets or liabilities.

18. BUDGET REVIEW

The budget process is finalised prior to the beginning of each financial year. Events may arise after that date that necessitates variations to the planned activities of LLS for that year. This in turn may cause variations to the financial activities. Major variations between the budget and actual amounts are outlined below.

Net Result

The net result of \$4.546 million was favourable compared to budget. This was due to items of grant revenue received during the year not being fully expended prior to year end.

Revenue of \$157.945 million was favourable compared to budget by \$21.358 million. This was due to additional funding received during the year not known at the time of budget preparation, including increased amounts assumed by the Crown Entity.

Expenditure of \$176.810 million was unfavourable compared to budget by \$17.388 million. Increased expenditure was due to expenditure relating to additional external funding received and items of related operating expenditure.

Assets and liabilities

Total assets was greater than budget by \$107.611 million in the main due to an increase in land value, mostly attributable to the valuation increment in travelling stock reserves.

Total liabilities was greater than budget by \$1.542 million, including a reduction in provisions of \$7.856 million and an increase of \$9.398 million in payables, due to timing of year-end payments.

Total equity was \$599.008 million. This was \$98.065 million greater than budget and in the main due to revaluation of land.

Cash flows

A net reduction in cash and cash equivalents of \$13.552 million resulted in a closing cash equivalent balance for the year of \$51.297 million. This result was \$6.428 million unfavourable to budget due to timing of payments at year-end and a greater than budgeted payables balance, and budgeted proceeds from freehold land and buildings vested to Property NSW not received by LLS.

19. RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO NET RESULT

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Net cash from operating activities	(15,231)	(28,035)	(15,231)	(28,035)
Depreciation and amortisation	(2,247)	(2,813)	(2,247)	(2,813)
Doubtful debts expense	(145)	291	(145)	291
Gain on sale of fixed assets	573	511	573	511
Increase/(decrease) in receivables	(929)	(7,279)	(929)	(7,254)
Increase/(decrease) in inventories and biological assets	188	185	188	185
Increase/(decrease) in prepayments	(43)	125	-	(12)
(Increase)/decrease in payables	(1,206)	(3,356)	5,145	(5,828)
(Increase)/decrease in provisions	21	(1,570)	(43)	205
(Increase)/decrease in other liabilities	730	(253)	730	(253)
Net result	(18,289)	(42,194)	(11,959)	(43,003)

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The principal financial instruments utilised by LLS are outlined below. These financial instruments arise directly from the entity's operations or are required to finance the entity's operations. The entity does not enter into or trade financial instruments, including derivative financial instruments, for speculative purposes.

The entity's main risks arising from financial instruments are outlined below, together with the entity's objectives, policies and processes for measuring and managing risk. Further quantitative and qualitative disclosures are included throughout these financial statements.

The LLS Board of Chairs has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of risk management and reviews and agrees policies for managing each of these risks. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the entity, to set risk limits and controls and to monitor risks. Compliance with policies is reviewed by the Board of Chairs on a continuous basis.

(a) Financial instrument categories

Financial Assets Class:	Note	Category	Consolidated		Parent	
			Carrying Amount	Carrying Amount	Carrying Amount	Carrying Amount
			2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	5	N/A	51,297	64,849	51,297	64,849
Receivables ¹	6	Receivables (at amortised cost)	8,403	9,336	8,403	9,336
			59,700	74,185	59,700	74,185
Payables ²	13	Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	28,455	27,364	39,333	44,476
			28,455	27,364	39,333	44,476

Notes

1. Excludes statutory receivables and prepayments (i.e. not within scope of AASB 7).
2. Excludes statutory payables and unearned revenue (i.e. not within scope of AASB 7).

(b) Credit risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of LLS's debtors defaulting on their contractual obligations, resulting in a financial loss to LLS. The maximum exposure to credit risk is generally represented by the carrying amount of the financial assets (net of any allowance for impairment).

Credit risk arises from the financial assets of LLS, including cash, receivables, authority deposits and advances receivable. No collateral is held by LLS. LLS has not granted any financial guarantees.

Credit risk associated with LLS's financial assets, other than receivables, is managed through the selection of counterparties and establishment of minimum credit rating standards.

Cash

Cash comprises cash on hand.

Receivables - trade debtors

All trade debtors are recognised as receivable amounts at balance date. The policy is to review collectability of trade debtors on an ongoing basis. Procedures as established in the Treasurer's Directions are followed to recover outstanding amounts, including letters of demand where necessary. Debts which are known to be uncollectable are written off. An allowance for impairment is raised when there is objective evidence that the entity will not be able to collect all amounts due. This evidence includes past experience, and current and expected changes in economic conditions and debtor credit ratings. No interest is earned on trade debtors except for rates as detailed in the summary of significant accounting policies, income recognition, rates and charges. Sales are made on 30 day terms.

The only financial assets that are past due or impaired are 'sales of goods and services' in the 'receivables' category of the balance sheet.

	Total \$'000	Past due but not impaired \$'000	Considered impaired \$'000
2017			
<3 months overdue	5,381	5,381	-
3 months - 6 months overdue	119	119	-
> 6 months overdue	1,845	824	1,021
2016			
<3 months overdue	578	578	-
3 months - 6 months overdue	3,405	3,405	-
> 6 months overdue	1,930	1,036	895

Notes

1. Each column in the table reports 'gross receivables'.
2. The ageing analysis excludes statutory receivables, as these are not within the scope of AASB 7 and excludes receivables that are not past due and not impaired. Therefore, the 'total' does not reconcile to the receivables total recognised in the statement of financial position.

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

(c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that LLS will be unable to meet its payment obligations when they fall due. LLS continuously manages risk through monitoring future cash flows and maturities planning to ensure adequate holding of high quality liquid assets. The objective is to maintain a balance between continuity of funding and flexibility through the use of loans and other advances.

During the current year and prior year, there were no defaults or breaches on any loans payable. No assets have been pledged as collateral. The exposure of LLS to liquidity risk is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

The liabilities are recognised for amounts due to be paid in the future for goods or services received, whether or not invoiced. Amounts owing to suppliers (which are unsecured) are settled in accordance with the policy set out in NSW Treasury Circular 11/12. For small business suppliers, where terms are not specified, payment is made not later than 30 days from date of receipt of a correctly rendered invoice. For other suppliers, if trade terms are not specified, payment is made no later than the end of the month following the month in which an invoice or a statement is received. For small business suppliers, where payment is not made within the specified period, simple interest must be paid automatically unless an existing contract specifies otherwise. For payments to other suppliers the Head of an authority (or a person appointed by the Head of an authority) may automatically pay the supplier simple interest. The rate of interest applied during the period was Nil% (30 June 2016 - Nil%).

The table below summarises the maturity profile of LLS's financial liabilities, together with the interest rate exposure.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS Consolidated								
Interest rate exposure						Maturity dates		
	Weighted Average Effective Int. Rate	Nominal Amount ¹	Fixed Int. Rate	Variable Int. Rate	Non-interest Bearing	< 1 yr	1 - 5 yrs	> 5 yrs
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000			
2017								
Payables	0.0%	28,455	-	-	28,455	-	-	-
		28,455	-	-	28,455	-	-	-
2016								
Payables	0.0%	27,364	-	-	27,364	-	-	-
		27,364	-	-	27,364	-	-	-

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS Parent								
Interest rate exposure						Maturity dates		
	Weighted Average Effective Int. Rate	Nominal Amount ¹	Fixed Int. Rate	Variable Int. Rate	Non-interest Bearing	< 1 yr	1 - 5 yrs	> 5 yrs
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000			
2017								
Payables	0.0%	39,333	-	-	39,333	-	-	-
		39,333	-	-	39,333	-	-	-
2016								
Payables	0.0%	44,476	-	-	44,476	-	-	-
		44,476	-	-	44,476	-	-	-

Notes:

- The amounts disclosed are the contractual undiscounted cash flows of each class of financial liabilities based on the earliest date on which LLS can be required to pay. The tables include both interest and principal cash flows and therefore will not reconcile to the statement of financial position.

(d) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. LLS's exposures to market risk are primarily through interest rate risk on borrowings. LLS has no exposure to foreign currency risk and does not enter into commodity contracts.

The effect on profit and equity due to a reasonably possible change in risk variable is outlined in the information below, for interest rate risk and other price risk. A reasonably possible change in risk variable has been determined after taking into account the economic environment in which LLS operates and the time frame for the assessment (i.e. until the end of the next annual reporting period). The sensitivity analysis is based on risk exposure in existence at the reporting date. The analysis assumes that all other variables remain constant.

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

Interest rate risk

As LLS has no interest bearing liabilities its exposure to interest rate risk is minimal. LLS does not account for any fixed rate financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss or as available for sale. Therefore, for these financial instruments a change in interest rates would not affect profit or loss or equity. A reasonably possible change of +/- 1% is used, consistent with current trends in interest rates. The basis will be reviewed annually and amended where there is a structural change in the level of interest rate volatility. LLS's exposure to interest rate risk is set out below.

Consolidated

	Carrying Amount \$'000	Result \$'000	Equity \$'000	Result \$'000	Equity \$'000
		-1%		+1%	
2017					
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	51,297	(513)	(513)	513	513
Receivables	8,403	(84)	(84)	84	84
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	28,455	(285)	(285)	285	285

2016					
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	64,849	(648)	(648)	648	648
Receivables	9,336	(93)	(93)	93	93
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	27,364	(274)	(274)	274	274

Parent

	Carrying Amount \$'000	Result \$'000	Equity \$'000	Result \$'000	Equity \$'000
		-1%		+1%	
2017					
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	51,297	(513)	(513)	513	513
Receivables	8,403	(84)	(84)	84	84
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	39,333	(393)	(393)	393	393

2016					
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	64,849	(648)	(648)	648	648
Receivables	9,336	(93)	(93)	93	93
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	44,476	(445)	(445)	445	445

(e) Other price risk

LLS holds no units in Hour-Glass investment trusts.

(f) Fair value recognised in the statement of financial position

Financial instruments are generally recognised at cost. The amortised cost of financial instruments recognised in the statement of financial position approximates the fair value because of the short-term nature of many of the financial instruments.

21. EQUITY TRANSFER

A number of freehold properties (land and buildings) were vested to Government Property NSW between 1 July 2016 and 1 October 2016. Effect of this transfer was provided by Government Property NSW Amendment (Transfer of Property) Order (no 8) 2016. Based on the values recorded by LLS at 30 June 2016, the aggregate value of these properties was \$20.530 million. The transfer of these properties has been recognised by LLS as an equity transfer, shown in the Statement of Changes in Equity. The value of the transfer has been agreed with Property NSW.

Long service leave liabilities were transferred to the Crown Entity during the year. The liabilities related to staff transitioned to LLS from the former Livestock Health and Pest Authorities upon the commencement of LLS, and amounted to \$6.330 million. The equity transfer is shown in the Statement of Changes in Equity.

22. RELATED PARTIES

(a) Key Management Personnel

Compensation was paid to key management personnel, in aggregate, during the year according to the following table

Type of compensation	\$'000
Short-term employee benefits	4,390
Non-monetary benefits	10
Post-employment benefits	302
Termination benefits	851
Total	5,553

During the year, the Local Land Services did not enter into transactions with key management personnel, their close family members and controlled or jointly controlled entities thereof.

(b) Related Parties

During the year, Local Land Services entered into transactions with other entities that are controlled/jointly controlled/significantly influenced by NSW Government. These transactions (incurred in the normal course of business) in aggregate are a significant portion of the entity's revenue and expenses, and the nature of these significant transactions are detailed below:

Entity/Fund	Nature of Transaction
Audit Office of New South Wales	Audit services
NSW Department of Industry	Grants received and corporate services
NSW Office of Environment and Heritage	Grants received
Property NSW	Rent and accommodation
NSW Self Insurance Corporation	Insurance premiums and claims receipts
Water NSW	Grants received
NSW Department of Education	Grants received
NSW Department of Planning and Environment	Grants received
Department of Environment and Energy (Commonwealth)	Grants received
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (Commonwealth)	Grants received
NSW Food Authority	Meat Industry Levy
Local Land Services Staff Agency	Personnel services
NSW Department of Finance Services and Innovation	Payroll tax

23. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Machinery of government changes will see the operations of the Soil Conservation Service transfer from the NSW Department of Industry to Local Land Services from 1 October 2017. This will involve the transfer of around 170 staff to the Local Land Services Staff Agency under an administrative arrangements order effective on that date. At the date of signing the financial statements, the financial impact of this change is unable to be estimated.

End of audited financial statements

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