



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Backing by Federal Government MP for Economic Stimulus Package**

**26/2/2021**

National Landcare Network (NLN) CEO, Jim Adams, welcomed the backing of Federal Member for Monash (Victoria), Russell Broadbent MP, today when he spoke in support of 'Working with Nature' Economic Stimulus Package in Federal Parliament.

The NLN is one of nearly 100 environmental and farming groups that signed a proposal to the Australian Government to create 24,000 jobs in land rehabilitation through a post-pandemic stimulus package.

Mr Broadbent spoke in favour of the initiative saying it would offer opportunities for safe, meaningful and socially beneficial work during the period of economic recovery.

The \$4 billion plan would apply the skills and infrastructure of the collective of environmental, community and agricultural organisations to the massive task of rebuilding the economy when the COVID-19 situation transitions from crisis to recovery.

Mr Adams said the backing from Federal and State Minister is crucial in bringing the nation-building proposal to fruition.

"The stimulus package would get the recently unemployed back into jobs where they would be engaged in meaningful work to help the land recover after the devastation of natural disasters and help communities and landscapes to recover from the economic impact of COVID 19 and the financial and social impacts of the recent natural disasters."

The stimulus package offers a huge opportunity to employ a workforce in improving the sustainability of our communities, environment and agricultural sectors," says Mr Adams.

The program would include funding for private land conservation by farmers and other land managers, tree-planting in urban and rural areas, coastal habitat restoration in partnership with communities and the fishing industry and marine plastics clean-up projects.