



LANDCARE LED BUSHFIRE RECOVERY GRANTS PROGRAM

MEDIA RELEASE

Large scale funding from Federal Government to support local bushfire recovery projects in regions impacted by Black Summer bushfires

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Eligible local Landcare groups, environment networks and community groups working on bushfire recovery projects can now access funding of approximately \$50,000 in a landmark new grants program funded by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.

Recently announced by Federal Environment Minister Sussan Ley, the \$14 million Landcare Led Bushfire Recovery Grants program is supporting recovery projects in seven government designated regions impacted by the Black Summer bushfires in Queensland, New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory, Victoria and South Australia.

The designated areas include: rainforests of South-East Queensland and NSW North Coast and Tablelands, NSW Greater Blue Mountains and World Heritage area, forests of the NSW South Coast, alpine environments across ACT, NSW and Victoria, forests and coastal ecosystems of East Gippsland and South Australia's Kangaroo Island.

In addition to funding of approximately \$50,000, landscape-scale partnerships working together on bushfire recovery projects can also access funding of approximately \$300,000.

An additional \$4million is targeted for projects benefitting forests and coastal ecosystems in the East Gippsland bushfire impacted region, with major projects eligible for funding of approximately \$500,000 to \$1million each, says National Landcare Network Chief Executive Officer, Jim Adams.

Mr Adams said that the \$14million bushfire grants program will be delivered by a ground-breaking alliance between the National Landcare Network, the Landcare peak bodies in Queensland, New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory, Victoria and South Australia, together with Landcare Australia.

"The Program will mobilise, build capacity, increase participation and support for landcare networks and groups, farmers and landowners, Traditional Owners, and other groups involved in community led environmental activities in the most vulnerable bushfire impacted regions.

"It's an opportunity to expand on eligible on-ground activities benefitting these habitats and landscapes, and a chance to share knowledge, network and learn together with experts, industry, and community members.

"From revegetation and regeneration projects to invasive species control, data collection and community engagement and more, the diversity of funding will ensure all bushfire impacted communities are supported," Mr Adams said.



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Dr Shane Norrish, Chief Executive Officer for Landcare Australia said the Landcare Led Bushfire Recovery Grants will benefit landscape restoration, improve biodiversity and support community resilience.

“Commencing along the east coast from South East Queensland and the NSW north and south coasts, to Australia’s alpine areas, East Gippsland and Kangaroo Island, the grants program will be co-delivered by all the Landcare organisations who will work together to support project applicants, coordinate a wide range of high-impact on-ground community and environmental projects over the next 12 months for community landcare. Most importantly, they will reinforce and drive the incredible efforts already undertaken by the work of dedicated and passionate volunteers.”

**Applications will remain open until June 16 with successful applicants notified late June.
To apply and for further information visit www.landcareledbushfiregrants.org.au**

Available for interview

Jim Adams, National Landcare Network Chief Executive Officer
Dr Shane Norrish, Chief Executive Officer for Landcare Australia

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Note: This grants program is jointly managed by Landcare Australia and the National Landcare Network, delivered in conjunction with Queensland Water and Land Carers, Landcare NSW, Landcare ACT, Landcare Victoria, and the Landcare Association of South Australia to mobilise, build capacity, increase participation and support Landcare and community groups, landowners, land managers and other partners for improved delivery of bushfire recovery actions.

The Program has been supported by the Australian Government’s Bushfire Recovery Program for Wildlife and their Habitat.



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