



# Annual Report 2017-2018



Bass Coast  
**Landcare**  
Network



*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners, the Bunurong and the Boonwurung, of the places in which we live, work and play. We recognise and respect the enduring relationship they have with their country, and we pay our respects to elders past, present and future.*





Proudly Supported by



## BCLN Board Executive

**The Chair** – Ric Oldham

**Deputy Chair** – Brian Enbom

**Treasurer** – Roger Lee

**Secretary** – Anna Gloria

## Portfolio Holders

**West Gippsland CMA** – Paul Spiers, Daryl Hook  
**Port Phillip and Western Port CMA** - Ric Oldham, Peter Mulherin

**Audit and Finance** – Don Creed, Jon Hauser, Roger Lee, Kellie Nichols, Abigail Yarranton

**Risk and Compliance** – Ric Oldham, Anna Gloria, Kellie Nichols

**HR Advisory Committee** – Daryl Hook, Brian Enbom, Kellie Nichols, Abigail Yarranton. Warren Thompson, Lisa Wangman

## Groups and Representatives

**Archies Creek** – Paul Speirs

**Bass Valley** – Lew Potter

**3 Creeks** – Ray Kirk

**Anderson Inlet** – Daryl Hook

**French Island** – Linda Bowden

**Kongwak** – Clare Stainsby

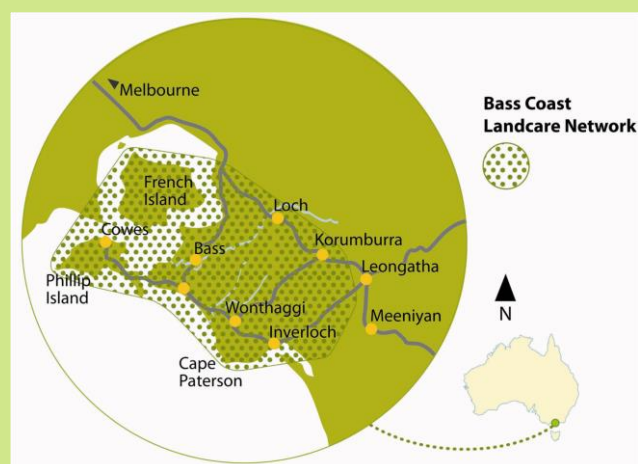
**Korumburra** – Don Creed

**Phillip Island** – Mike Cleeland

**Powlett Project** – Brian Enbom

**Wonthaggi Urban** – Carolyn Charles

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## Background and History

The Bass Coast Landcare Network (BCLN) was formed in 2003 as an affiliation of the Landcare Groups, enabling them to better position themselves for investment from government, local, state, federal and corporate programs. Sixty percent of the 1,400 rural properties in the Network area are involved in and supported by the BCLN.

Under the direction of each of the Groups and the Network, Landcare staff manages a variety of programs, including;

Partnerships in action – Engaging and delivering partnership in the corporate and agency sector;

Practical Sustainability in the peri-urban environment – Landcare for urban residents;

Restoring Our Fragmented Landscape – Remnant Vegetation Protection and Revegetation;

Pest Plant and Animals Know No Boundaries – Integrated Pest Plant and Animal Control;

Ecosystem Services Delivery – Valuing biodiversity and guaranteeing a Net Gain;

Bass Coast Greenhouse Challenge – Putting Targets into Action;

Land Stewardship – A pathway to Resilient and Profitable Farming

The Bass Coast Landcare Network falls in two Catchment Management Areas, West Gippsland and Port Phillip and Western Port. The top of the catchment is characterised by steep hills with slopes from 20 to 40 degrees whilst the lower catchment area is flat and prone to flooding and salinity. Within the catchment there are several small rural settlements surrounded by agricultural enterprises, such as dairying, beef cattle, sheep and vegetables, which support the majority of the population. Tourism, small rural allotments and extractive industries are other typical land uses within the catchment.

The Network has the twin focus of changing the understanding and the practices of landholders. In recent years the Network has conducted education and training programs for landholders and facilitated farmer discussion groups to highlight the issues of land management, best practice farming techniques and whole farm planning. In addition, the Network has been successful in gaining funds to support landholders and urban groups to complete works to improve their land. This includes re-vegetation, soil health, salinity control, sustainability, greenhouse reduction, wetland restoration, coastal rehabilitation, pest plant and animal control and improving water quality.





## Vision

Our vision is to be a community engaged in supporting a productive, biodiverse landscape incorporating sustainable agricultural practices and innovative environmental enterprises.

## Our Story

### Educate – Grow – Feed

## Mission statement

To collaborate with our groups, the community and partners and to enable the delivery of innovative land and environmental management practices to support healthy and resilient communities and ecosystems.

## Strategies

To achieve the mission statement, six key strategies and their objectives have been identified. These strategies and objectives will guide the selection and focus of the activities undertaken by the Network. How the activities are to be managed will be outlined in an annual Operational Plan, compiled and reviewed in November each year for the coming year.

Strengthen engagement with Landcare groups and the Bass Coast community.

Build and develop strong and resilient relationships with partners.

Strive to create a connected biodiverse landscape and an innovative sustainable agricultural community.

Develop and enhance the internal structure and function of BCLN management.

Conduct a comprehensive Landcare education and training program which promotes the land stewardship principles.

Expand environmental services to support Landcare.





## Governance and Planning

The BCLN Board has the ultimate responsibility for BCLN projects, funding and activities. It is assisted in fulfilling its responsibilities by the Network Coordinators and other Network managed staff. Specifically, its role is as follows:

### Broad Aims

Pursue core purpose, mission statement of the Bass Coast Landcare Network.  
Develop clear aims and objectives for the BCLN and provide leadership in their implementation.  
Provide support to all member groups.  
Coordinate the activities of member groups in relation to Network wide projects.

### Overall Operations

Approve the strategic plan for the Network.  
Delegate authority to staff and member groups appropriately.  
Demonstrate Leadership.  
Recommend the auditor's report be approved at the AGM.  
Ensure effective communication between Landcare Groups and other stakeholders.  
Establish ethical standards for the BCLN.

### Performance

Ensure the long-term viability of the BCLN.  
Oversee the implementation of the strategic plan.  
Ensure development of project proposals across the Network and seek funding in line with:

- Strategic directions and resources capabilities
- Member groups action plans, their needs and capacities to achieve stated outcomes
- Ensure proper disbursement of any funds received in line with funding agreements
- Monitor developments in the Landcare field and the operating environment

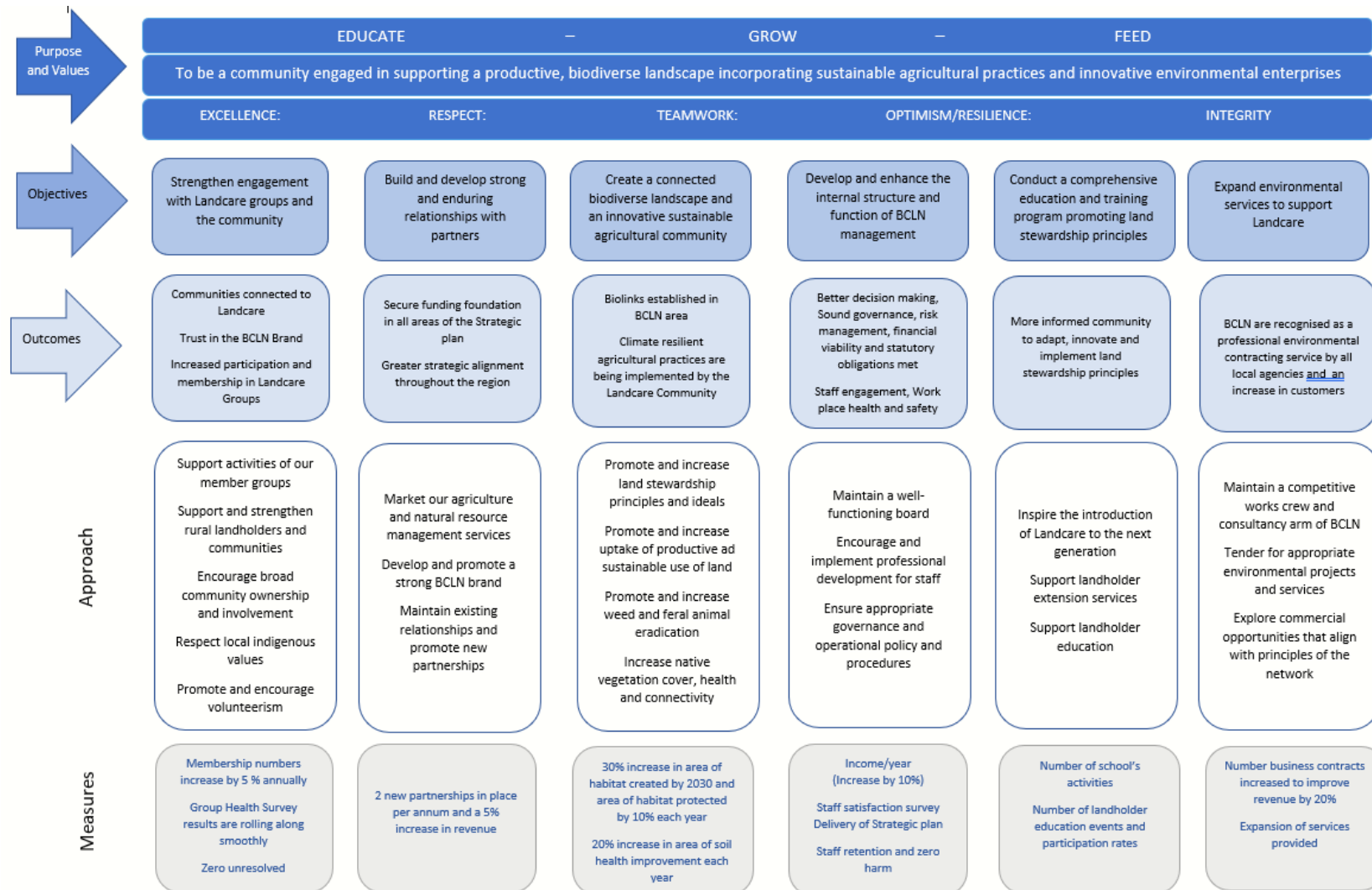
### Legal Conformance

Understand and protect the financial position of the BCLN.  
  
Require and monitor legal and regulatory compliance including adherence to the conditions of funding.  
  
Approve annual accounts, annual reports and other public / sensitive reports.

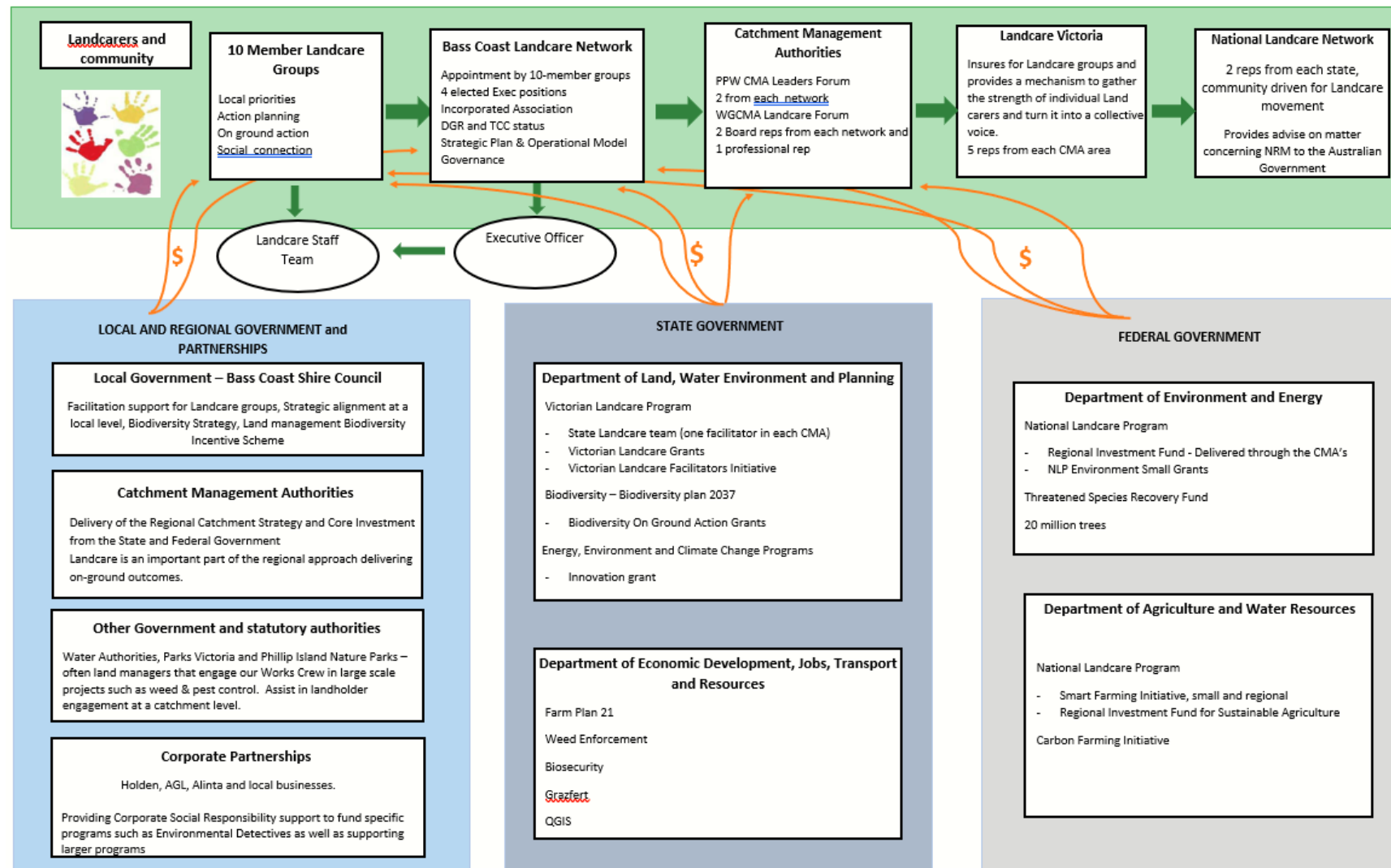




## BCLN Strategic Plan

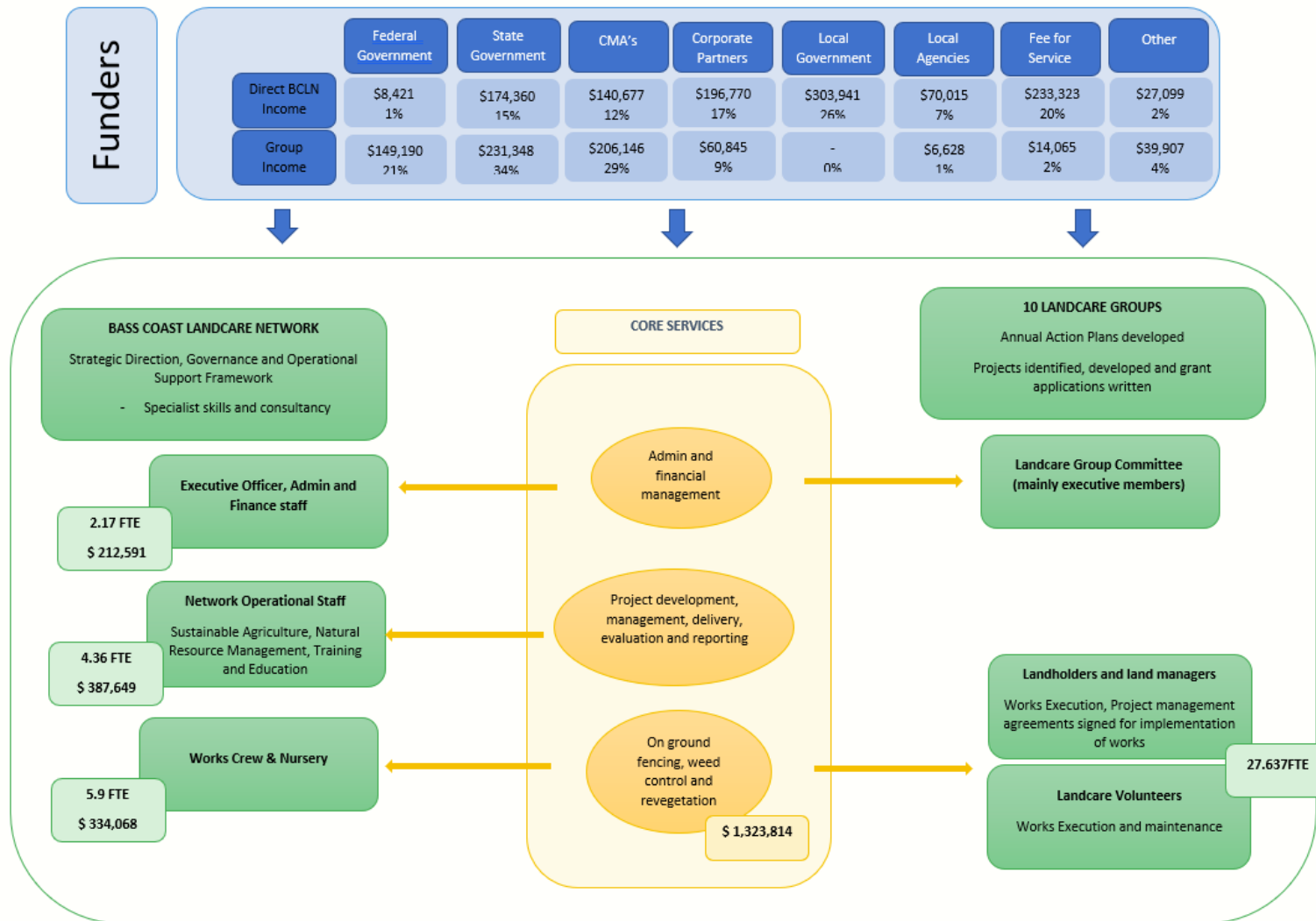


## Landcare Framework in Australia

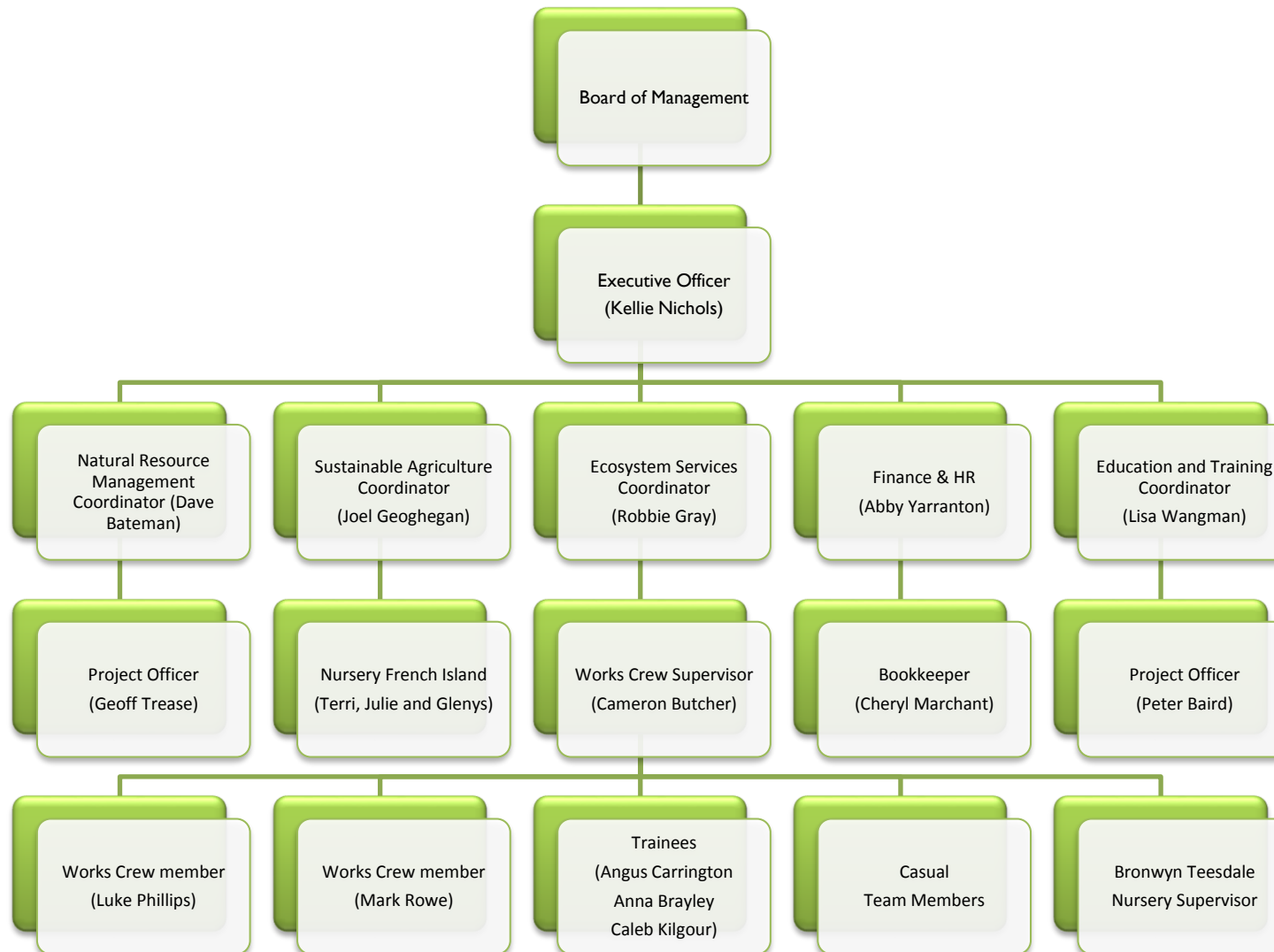




## Operating Framework



## Organisation Structure





## Chair's Report

### Ric Oldham

Our Network continues to be one of the most successful Landcare organisations in Australia and remains true to our core purpose **“Educate, Grow, Feed”**.

Our Bass Coast in what has always been, but now more widely acknowledged as a vital food bowl of Victoria and indeed Australia and Internationally and our efforts “Growing Southern Gippsland” have never been more important.



Staying grounded to our Landcare roots by ensuring we continue to take a leadership role in the sustainability of our regenerative agricultural sector whilst continuing to generate, maintain and protect our healthy biodiverse landscapes and waterways for generations to come is at the core of our reason for being.

Doing all this with the trust and respect of our connected community, involving protecting and showing the way to our children and young landcarers and within an operational environment of learning, good conduct and “zero harm” remain the enabling corner stones of our strategic intent.

The year has seen us deliver awesome on ground and educational outcomes, take further steps to better care for our young landcarers, increase our focus on managing critical risks whilst continuing to build upon the solid operational foundations already laid.

All of this has only been possible because of the exceptional efforts of our community lead group membership and network volunteer base, the leadership and skills of our top-class executive and operational teams and the enduring public and private sector financial support.

With diminishing federal government support our network stands resilient with a competent well respected internal environmental services works crew, and a skilful innovative executive management team capable of articulating an envisioned future and securing through grants and corporate partnerships an exceptional level of funding for truly worthwhile projects.

I thank our staff for their continued commitment and professional endeavours to advance the multitude of worthwhile Natural Resource, Sustainable Agriculture, Education and External Services projects as they prepare us to embrace the future opportunities and challenges.

I also thank the Board, the Executive Officers and associated Sub Committee's for their diligence and commitment to the governance of the BCLN. We are fortunate to have a blend of new and past serving Board members that provide stability, continuity and experience. I wish to particularly thank Anna Gloria (Secretary) and Roger Lee (Treasurer) for their tireless ongoing professional service and new Board Members Linda Bowden (French Island) and Clare Stainsby (Kongwak Hills) who bring to the Board a rich diverse contribution.

As we stand well placed and resilient to embrace the challenges and opportunities of the future we do so in the knowledge that our true engine room is in the power and leverage of our volunteers from the nursery into the Board Room.

Whilst this fundamental capability and capacity is supported by our professional executive management team and support staff and indeed our Local, State and Federal Government and Corporate Partners, our continued success remains in the way we all live the values of the network and ensure that we continue to enjoy the trust and respect of the communities in which we live and help make a better place.





## Executive Officer Report

Kellie Nichols

As we move into our 12<sup>th</sup> year as an independent Landcare Network, I am thrilled to report on another very successful year for the Network. Our passionate and active groups have been able to utilise the enthusiasm of their members and the volunteers who have all contributed to the overall positive result, both for projects undertaken and financially. This year saw a record number of plants, 262,982, being established across the Network under the banner of Bass Coast Biolinks as well as focus on expanding our Sustainable Agriculture Program to explore the challenges and potential solutions we are facing with a changing climate. Funding for new projects continues to be challenging but we are pleased with our overall success in gaining state and federal funding as well as both the maintenance and expansion of our partnership programs. All our staff are to be commended for their hard work in coordinating and delivering the work outlined in the BCLN Strategic Plan as well as ensuring the future of the Network with new and diverse funding opportunities.

Innovation is the key to the ongoing progress and success of the Network. Our staff continue to initiate new programs that transform our landscape. Project ideas are continuously shared by the team and placed onto an ongoing register for future, further development when a suitable opportunity arises. This year we celebrated 10 years of service for both David Bateman and Robbie Gray, a terrific milestone for the organisation.

Our ongoing partnerships with Bass Coast Shire Council, Westernport Water, West Gippsland CMA Port Phillip and Westernport CMA, South Gippsland Water continue to grow and be prosperous both for the network and the works we are undertaking together. These relationships are essential for our ongoing operations and our capacity to support the community and their desired outcomes.

Our monthly eNews is working to improve communication to groups, their members and our stakeholders. We would like to see an emphasis on community contributions to Network publications to promote local involvement. This has been strengthened by our ongoing involvement in social media via twitter and Facebook.

Our partnership with Engie has come to a conclusion and we have moved to a fee for service model for our Environmental Detectives Program whilst we continue to develop a new partnership. Our Holden partnership continues, with significant efforts going into enhancing the Proving Ground, with the conclusion of the predator proof fencing. On top of all our project work we have been very active in communications and community engagement as you will see from our events schedules.

Thanks, as always should go to all the Board and staff for their insights and contributions to the Networks' functionality and outcomes. We are a very active and dynamic group that contribute in many ways to ensure the Bass Coast Landcare Network remains a vibrant community organisation.



## Treasurer's Report

Roger Lee

I am pleased to present my Treasurers' report for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

Overall the Network's financial performance for the year exceeded expectations and the balance sheet remains in a very sound position.

- Income for the year was a considerable \$295,000 (23%) higher than the previous year and \$220,00 (22%) above budget for 2017-18.
- Expenses for the year were \$185,000 (18%) above the previous year and \$191,000 (19.5%) above budget for 2017-18.
- Whilst the resulting surplus for the year of \$93,000 is \$14,000 (60%) below the previous year it exceeded this year's budgeted surplus by \$740 (8.5%).

These figures indicate that the Network has been able to achieve substantial growth whilst maintaining firm control over the corresponding growth in expenses.

This positive financial performance is largely attributable to the excellent "fee for service" work undertaken by the Works Crew. It is also underpinned by skilful fostering of partnership arrangements, especially with Port Phillip & Westernport CMA, Bass Coast Shire and Vic Roads.

Salaries & Wages and related costs continue to be the major single expense item. Staffing levels will therefore require regular reassessment alongside funding sources.

The working capital ratio of current assets to current liabilities stands at 1.78 at 30 June 2018. This exceeds the benchmark for not for profit entities of 1.5.

Project balances in the Balance Sheet are well below the same time last year as several larger projects are completed. The most significant being the loss of Engie's funding of the Environmental Detectives program due to the sale of the LaTrobe power station.

The contractual reconciliation which followed the completion of the Vic Roads offset program resulted in a final revenue settlement that was significantly higher than expected.

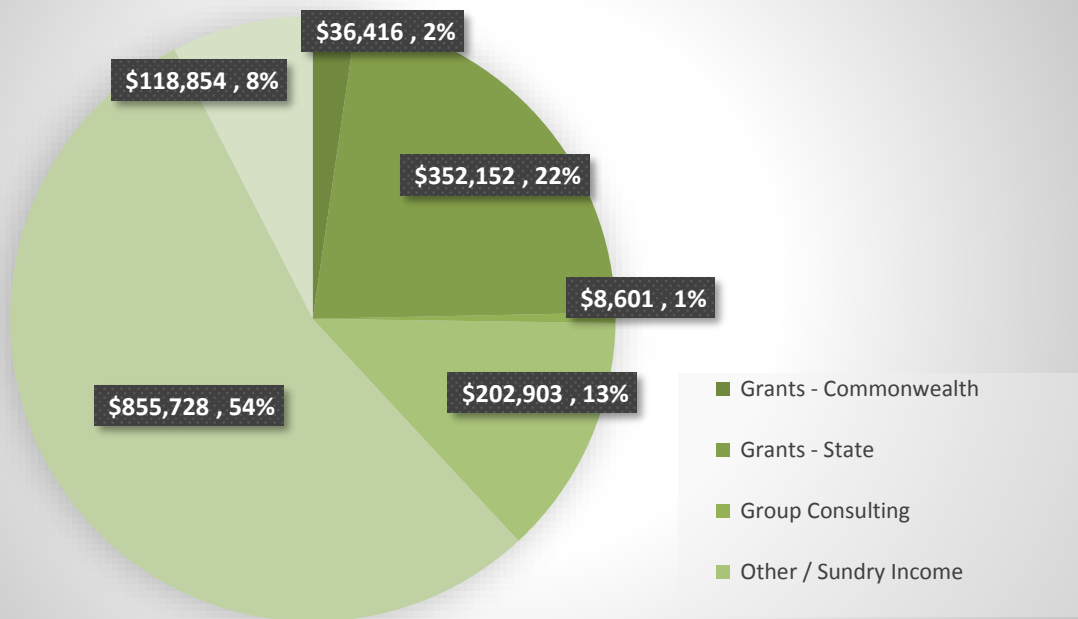
Funding of the Networks activities continues to be challenging, however, strengthening of partnerships, particularly with Bass Coast Shire Council and Melbourne Water has been and will be crucial to gaining additional works. At the time of writing is hoped that the State election may offer some funding opportunities for environmental works.

The Network's management and staff have another challenge ahead in 2018-19. On the back of the growth achieved in 2017-18 the Board has approved a budget that sets a revenue target 24% above what was achieved this year.

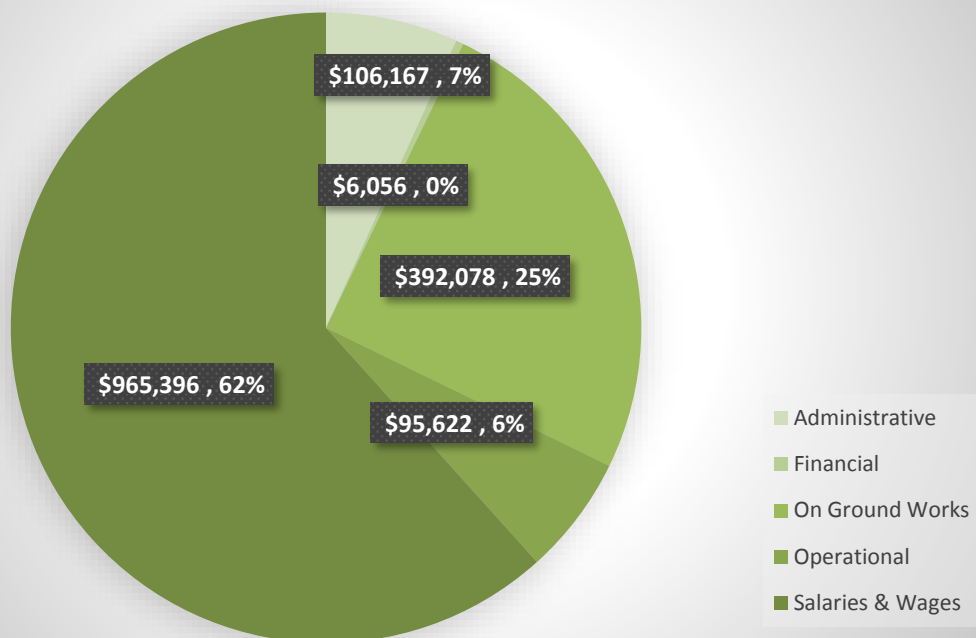
My thanks goes to my predecessor, Don Creed, for leaving the financial state of the network in such good order. I am equally grateful for the valuable support provided by Cheryl and Abby for managing the accounts and generating the financial reports. A big thankyou also to my colleagues on the Audit and Finance Committee. The knowledge and experience of Jon Hauser, Bret Dodd, Kellie Nichols, Abigail Yarranton and Don Creed has helped enormously in my first year as Treasurer.



## Total Income 2017/18



## Expenses 2017/18



# Human Resources Report

## Overall

It is the commitment of Human Resources sub-committee to support and uphold BCLN's goals by fostering a positive and engaging work environment while identifying and responding to the changing needs of our diverse community and organisation.

As always it has been a full year for BCLN and this is always reflected in the challenges presented. We said goodbye to some long-term staff and welcomed others, as increasingly we are adapting to the changing work / life commitments of staff to ensure we can retain as much local knowledge as possible. BCLN continues to meet its goals in attracting, developing and retaining talented staff with the appropriate capabilities and skills.

## Recruitment and Staff Turnover

The capable and skilled employees are vital to achieving the objectives of BCLN. As such we were sad to see Derek Snowden leave, who joined us in 2010 as a trainee and left us as a capable Works Crew Team Leader. We wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

Low staff turnover, losing only two staff this entire year, is further encouraged by ensuring all staff have adequate support and access to appropriate working arrangements such as time in lieu and changing work location or times. Additionally, with a focus on ensuring the important mental health and wellbeing of our staff we have expanded our employee assistance program to cover additional providers to ensure our staff members regardless of location has access to quality services. Further to this staff continue to be encouraged to take their leave as this provides a needed release from work activities and assists in ensuring our outstanding liability continue to decrease.

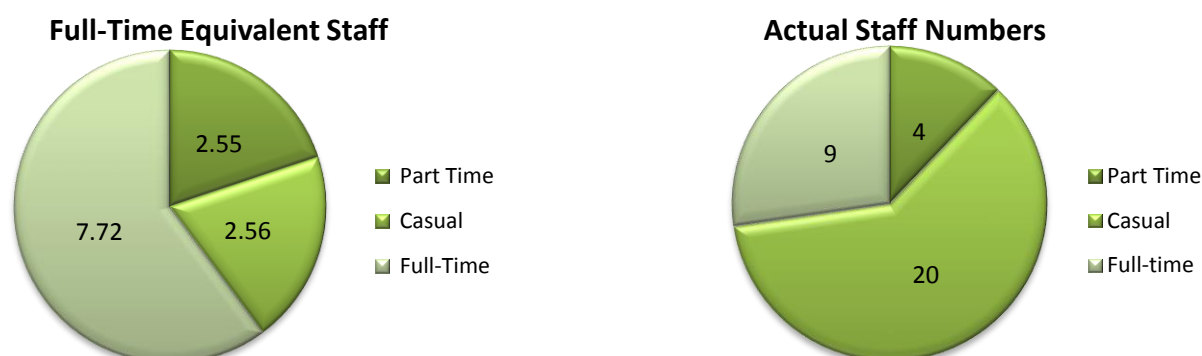
We were pleased to continue with our trainees' program in the works crew. We took on two new trainees this year, making a total of three trainees undertaking different programs. One trainee is due to graduate this year and two more in the next. We will be looking to take on new trainees as our existing one's graduate and continue this program that adds so much value to the Network and our community.

Further this year, after a review of the needs and activities of the works crew, we welcomed a new new Works Crew Coordinator, Cameron Butcher. He comes to us with a great deal of experience in volunteer heavy organisations and on ground works, as well as a degree in environmental science.

The significant number of casual staff in the works crew reflects the casualisation of this workforce, which continues to be a trend in Australia as a whole. This flexible workforce has a significant effect on the works crew and allowing for the crew to easily adapt on a seasonal or demand basis. It is anticipated that this trend will continue with only a small core permanent employee group, which will include fixed term our trainees.



Our volunteers continue to be an integral part of the BCLN activities, without whom we could not undertake all the works. These volunteers come from all areas of the community and a special thanks should go to the Nursey Group who have allowed us to develop the nursery and allow us to control the quality of our plants.



## Training and Development

BCLN continues its commitment to the ongoing improvement of staff both personally and professionally. BCLN has sponsored staff in informal, short and nationally recognised training during the year and anticipates positive outcomes into the future from this investment.

Kellie Nichols, our Executive Officer was invited to participate in the Gippsland Community Leadership Program, which has offered many unique networking, personal, and professional development opportunities that will continue to benefit the Network long after it is completed.

Staff have also been encouraged to undertake outside studies that improve their skills and what they bring to BCLN. This has resulted in staff undertaking or completing vocational, university, and post graduate studies, again furthering the knowledge base and experience at BCLN.

## Work Health and Safety Injury Management

BCLN continues to update and review our work health and safety policies, procedures and guidelines aim to identify, adopt and develop best practice in health and safety management to reduce the social and financial cost of occupational injuries and illnesses and improve overall performance. We have begun the process of developing a Quality Assured program to ensure we not only meet but exceed our expectations in this area.

BCLN had one Workcover claim during the year. This was provided a valuable training opportunity for the team to ensure that appropriate preventative actions are undertaken and maintained. This will assist BCLN to be claim free into the future.

## Conclusion

Special thanks goes to our volunteers and the members of the HR Advisory Committee for the dedicated work all year.



## Child Safety Statement

### Board of Management

Bass Coast Landcare Network is committed to the safety of children and young people who participate in our programs. BCLN is developing, in consultation, a thorough and clear policy that both define this commitment and the steps to be taken to ensure compliance.

BCLN will demonstrate its commitment to applying the seven standards and three principles of Child Safety Standards and outlines by having;

- a clear written commitment by the BCLN Board of Management to child safety
- a communicated policy of zero tolerance for child abuse
- actively working to listen to and empower children
- having system to protect children from abuse and takes allegations and concerns seriously
- actively promoting cultural safety for Aboriginal children and those of a culturally and / or linguistically diverse background or with a disability.
- actively ensuring all persons involved with BCLN have been trained in and subscribe to the BCLN child protection and safety policy and code of conduct.



## Public Fund

Ian James

The Public Fund was set up by the Bass Coast Landcare Network in order to raise funds to finance projects proposed by community groups aimed at assisting the environment through revegetation and development of sustainable agricultures. As a policy the Public Fund focuses on community projects on public land.

During the year funding was provided to the Bass Valley River Garden project which aims to engage the local community in developing sustainable agricultural practices including natural soil improvement, shelterbelt structure, non-chemical weed control, bushfoods and composting. The year also saw the completion of the rehabilitation of the Pioneer Reserve in Kongwak to which the Public Fund provided financial assistance.

The Public Fund 's activities in 2017/18 were constrained by a lack of funds. As a consequence, a considerable effort was put into developing a brochure aimed at tapping funds through wills and bequests. On completion this brochure will be distributed to relevant parties and in particular solicitor and accounting offices in Bass Coast and South Gippsland Shires.

In 2018/19, apart from seeking donations through wills and bequests, the Public Fund will also be looking at attracting funds from alternative sources and especially the corporate and business sectors. The trustees are hopeful of receiving some large-scale community based proposals for projects to capture the imagination of larger donors. These could then be used to canvas for funds to boost available money and assist the Public Fund in meeting its objectives.

Ian James (Chairperson)



## Project Statistics 2017-18

We have achieved:

- 48,608 Volunteer hours involved in Landcare activities
- 262,000 plants established over 153 ha
- 78 Individual Landholder projects
- 50 hectares of remnant protected
- 700 ha of weed control
- 14 community/Landcare group planting days
- 6 school planting days
- 250 km of roadside weed control
- 500 ha of weed control
- One soil health management plan over 8 hectares
- One dairy effluent management plan over 250 hectares
- 1 ongoing Healthy Soils Sustainable Farms acid root mat trial over 5 hectares
- 2 ongoing Demonstrating Sustainable Agriculture trials focusing on Hops Growing and Organic Horticulture



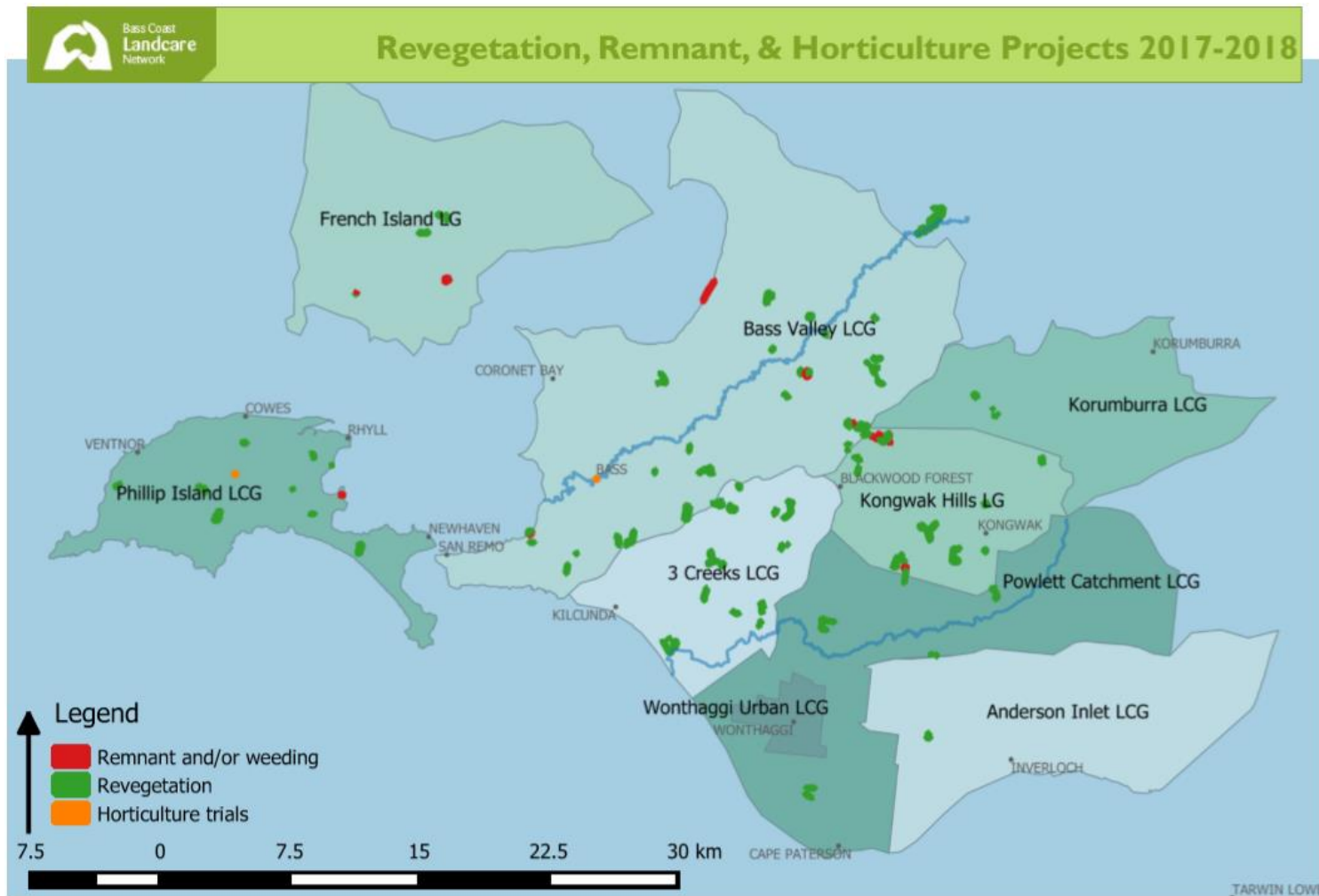


## Successful Grant Applications

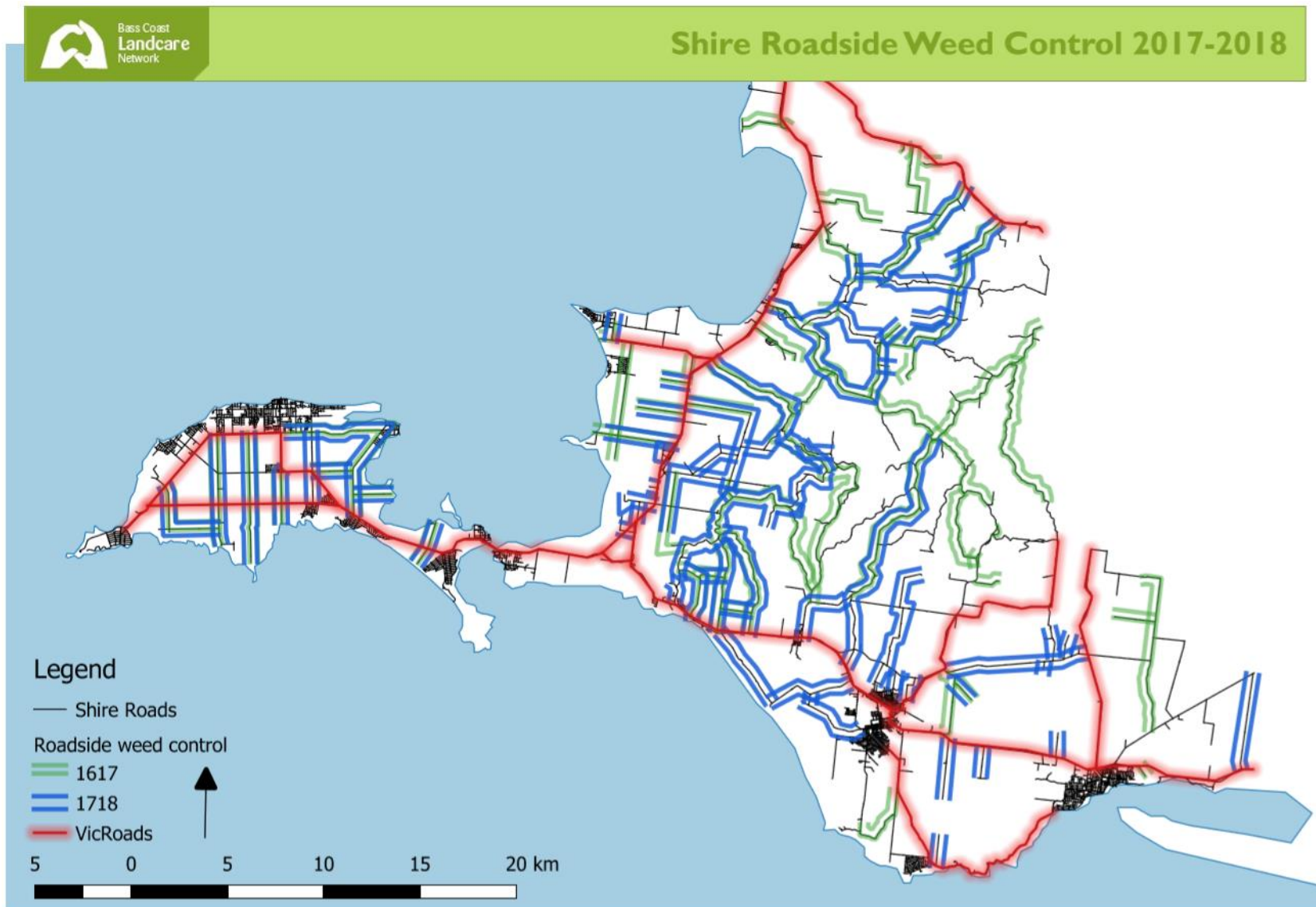
Funding Source	Amount	Grants Included
Fee for Service	\$189,524.56	Carbon Offsets, Memberships, contractor and consultancy
West Gippsland CMA	\$152,733.07	Victorian Landcare Grants and Regional community grants. Healthy Soils sustainable farms project, Group support grants Bird Monitoring Program
Westernport Landcare Network	\$57,220.00	Demonstarting Sustainable Agriculture Project
Bass Coast Shire Council	\$378,390.00	Biolinks Implementation, DELWP Biolinks grant, DEWLP Holden proving ground perimeter fence project, Core support and roadside weed spraying
Phillip Island Landcare Group	\$53,524.28	Phillip Island Nature Park Ops Plan implementation, Wildlife corridor projects, Barb Martin Bushbank plants and equipment grant
Melbourne Water	\$18,876.05	Stream Frontage contract
Port Phillip and Westernport CMA	\$45,149.00	Westernport RAMSAR project, Phillip Island Landcare Community grant, Group support grants
Bass Valley Landcare Group	\$35,697.31	Edge of us Project, Bass Valley Biolinks Project
Powlett Landcare Group	\$18,757.00	Engie Environmental detectives plants
Federal Government	\$64,150.00	20 Million trees farm to forest project and 20 Million trees Bass Coast Biolinks Project
Landcare Australia	\$1,814.20	One Tree per Child Project
Victorian Gorse Taskforce	\$11,700.00	Victorian Gorse taskforce
Department of Environment Land, Water and Planning	\$72,975.23	Holden Proving Ground Perimeter Fencing
Western Port Water	\$64,137.00	Implementation of the Operational Plan, and Fee for service works
French Island Landcare Group	\$44,464.65	DELWP community grant for Revegetation and remnant protection
South Gippsland Landcare Network	\$532.00	Contractor Services
3 Creeks Landcare Group	\$9,500.00	DELWP community grant for Revegetation and remnant protection
Wonthaggi Urban	\$1,060.50	
	\$1,220,204.85	

## Maps

### Revegetation, Remnant, and Horticulture Works



## Road Side Spraying Projects





## Activity Days

Date	Name	Location	Description	Attendance
<b>1<sup>st</sup> July</b>	3 Creeks Planting Day	Woolamai	Planting Day	16
<b>15<sup>th</sup> July</b>	3 Creeks Planting Day	Woolamai	Planting Day	15
<b>16<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Phillip Island planting Day	Ventnor	Planting Day	15
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	Kongwak Planting Day	Glen Alvie	Planting Day	21
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	Korumburra Planting Day	Jumbunna	Planting Day	10
<b>29<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Kongwak Planting Day	Glen Alvie	Planting Day	16
<b>30<sup>th</sup> July</b>	3 Creeks Planting Day	Kilcunda	Planting Day	18
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</b>	Bass Valley Planting Day	Glen Forbes	Planting Day	220
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Aug</b>	Bass Valley Planting Day	Glen Forbes	Planting Day	40
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Aug</b>	Grazfert Workshop 1	Bass	Workshop	13
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Aug</b>	Bass Valley Planting Day	The Gurdies	Planting Day	23
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Aug</b>	Kongwak Ellipak Group	Kernot	Discussion Group	16
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Aug</b>	Phillip Island Planting Day	Phillip Island	Planting Day	22
<b>19<sup>th</sup> Aug</b>	3 Creeks Planting Day	Dalyston	Planting Day	17
<b>26<sup>th</sup> Aug</b>	Phillip Island Planting Day	Phillip Island	Planting Day	18
<b>30<sup>th</sup> Aug</b>	Kongwak Planting Day	Kongwak	Planting Day	24
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sept</b>	Kongwak Planting Day	Kongwak	Planting Day	18
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sept</b>	3 Creeks Planting Day	Ryanston	Planting Day	21
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sept</b>	Korumburra Planting Day	Jumbunna	Planting Day	8
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	Grazfert Workshop 2	Bass	Workshop	15
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	Kongwak Ellipak Group	Bass	Discussion Group	51
<b>27<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	Innovation/Diversification discussion group.	Anderson	Farm Visit	17
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	Healthy Soils, Healthy Food, Healthy People.	Inverloch	Workshop	46
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	Phillip Island Discussion Group	Phillip Island	Discussion Group	11
<b>15<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	Kongwak Ellipak Group	Ryanston	Discussion Group	12
<b>16<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	Innovation/Diversification discussion group.	Fish Creek	Farm Visit	38
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>	Phillip Island Discussion Group	Phillip Island	Discussion Group	11
<b>17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Phillip Island Community Orchard Field Day	Phillip Island	Field Day	29
<b>19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Hops Bus Tour Field Day	Yellingbo	Field Day	20
<b>6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	A Day on the Farm at Bimbadeen	Phillip Island	Field Day	78
<b>12<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Kongwak Ellipak Group	Anderson	Discussion Group	8
<b>20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Master Tree Growers Day 1	Poowong	Course	20
<b>26<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Climate Change Resilience in Bass Coast	Woodleigh	Field Day	30

<b>27<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Master Tree Growers Day 2	Poowong	Course	20
<b>4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Master Tree Growers Day 3	Torwood	Course	21
<b>11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Master Tree Growers Day 4	Budgeree	Course	22
<b>18<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Master Tree Growers Day 5	Buln Buln	Course	20
<b>25<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Master Tree Growers Day 6	Ellinbank	Course	21
<b>28<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Grazfert Farm Walk	Bass & Almurta	Farm Walk	13
<b>1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	Master Tree Growers Day 7	Yarram	Course	21
<b>8<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Master Tree Growers Day 8	Neerim Junction	Course	22
<b>13<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Dairy Effluent Planning Field Day	Kongwak	Field Day	12
<b>15<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Master Tree Growers Day 9	Foster/Fish Creek	Course	22
<b>15<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Phillip Island Discussion Group	Phillip Island	Discussion Group	10
<b>16<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Kongwak Planting Day	Glen Alvie	Planting Day	23
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	Phillip Island Planting Day	Rhyll	Planting Day	20
<b>26<sup>th</sup> June</b>	3 Creeks Planting Day	Woolamai	Planting Day	65
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## Group President Reports

### Powlett Project – Paul Speirs

#### Group Focus:

The Powlett Project has had a busy year considering projects within the catchment. A total of 30 Project sites have been approved for funding in the 2017/18 financial year through 8 separate funding sources. The group has met 3 times throughout the year to look at proposed Landcare projects and give guidance on how they could be improved and managed.

#### Highlights:

The most significant highlight for our group has been the large number of large-scale projects that have been complete this year. Sam Walkers being the largest in the Powlett Catchment with 20000 plants being planted by our Green Army along a 2 km stretch of Lance creek just below the Reservoir. Also securing \$50,000 of funding through the Victorian State Governments Community Volunteer grants for two large projects on Archie's Creek.

Another highlight of the year was the RMIT planting and Willow removal project at Andrew Perry's property stage 2. WGCMA partnered with Kongwak Landcare group to plant 3,000 plants and remove a large section of Willows and poplars another large section of Foster Creek. The RMIT students did a fantastic job getting all the plants in the ground.

Another Highlight of the year was the RMIT planting and Willow removal project at Andrew Perry's property. WGCMA partnered with Kongwak Landcare group to plant 4,000 plants and remove a large section of Willows and Cyprus trees along a large section of Foster Creek. The RMIT students did a fantastic job getting all the plants in the ground.



*Green Army Team planting at Sam and Daniella Walker's property in Glen Alvie*



## Anderson Inlet – Daryl Hook

Our partnership with the conservation society has flourished this year. Together we are extending the Screw Creek walking track with boardwalk and a bridge. We have finished planting in the land along screw creek which was handed over to the public to offset the development of housing nearby.

Some of our members used their energies fighting for Nortons Bush. The motorbike club wants to use it for racing. Disappointingly the South Gippsland Shire Council approved the racing against the recommendation of their own Planning Officer. Now the matter is off to VCAT.

We attracted a small grant which allowed us to employ Dallas Wyatt to help us name and count birds. Landcarers know that bird accurately reflect the health of our environment. Dallas has extraordinary skill in finding birds by their calls and movements in undergrowth. We are counting birds on McFalanes, Muttons, Davis', Lyns, Connors and Hooks.

Dallas' generous nature meant he was the guest speaker when the Year 12 Agriculture students from Padma College visited Hook's farm. Outings for our Landcare Group are now timed with bird watching events.

A big thanks to all those members who supported us during the year. Especially the office bearers. Also, Dave Bateman who is our link with the Bass Coast Landcare Network.



## Bass Valley – Lew Potter

BVLG continues to grow and engage issues relative to our aims. Revegetation projects being our prime objective however Landcare promotion, partnership and membership development have been high on our agenda as well as social Interaction.

**Revegetation Projects** Along with remnant bush protection, these are our main Group activities. This year has been by far our most productive ever with 126000 plants in the ground on 70ha of revegetation land. 34ha of remnant bushland has been protected as well but of most significance is that these projects have occurred on 28 separate property owners land



**Landcare Promotion** It was significant that a neighbouring group approaches for some of its members to tag along on our coat tails and join our group. The merger did not happen, but it is a significant commendation that the approach was made by them. Involvement with large school groups on planting days has been a very positive form of exposure which will carry us into the future.

**Partnership Development** Holden and Holcim continue to be our two main corporate sponsors and our acceptance of them will ensure our commercial viability.

**Membership and Staff Support** Our membership has grown slightly during the year, but more importantly new landholders have engaged our services and joined in on plantings at other properties. Those members and landholders who have worked with the works crew and facilitating staff have surely encouraged our staff to respect the great workplace we foster.

**Social Interaction** Those members who have attended plantings as well as our popular meetings have enjoyed the experience and our meetings have been well attended.

**Future Direction** promoting our Brand to existing landholders remains our main challenge and will be our focus. Cultural awareness is one aspect that we will have to consider going into the future. Most staff and board members have taken the lead in this field.

Dave Bateman has continued to be our driving force Secretary Mez Oldham Has very capably kept us abreast of all activities. Graeme Wood our treasurer has reconciled our finances admirably Thanks to committee and members alike for your efforts. The output this year has set the bar a very high level, so I hope we can continue to do well next year. Thanks to all for your efforts and involvement.



## French Island – Judith Metcher

Another year has flown past and as usual it was a mix of highs and lows.

Perhaps one of the most exciting achievements for me personally was when French Island Landcare gained the use of the old CFA shed annexe as our new office. This was quite a while coming but worth the wait. With the help of a couple of small grants, one from the Bendigo Bank and the other from the Federal government via our local member Greg Hunt, as well as using our own saved resources we have been able to refurbish it into a very usable space. There is still some fine tuning happening, but we have now used it twice for our monthly meetings. I would like to thank Paul Henwood, a fantastic project manager, David Paonetti and Trevor Robotham for the great work that they have done.



We are also in the planning stage of considering whether we can build a community bush foods garden on the site beside the tennis court. More on that at a later date.

Unfortunately, a long-standing committee member, Nigel Wing, resigned from the committee and he has been greatly missed. As a result, though Linda Bowden took on the role as French Island Landcare's representative on the Bass Coast Landcare Network Board and has done a sterling job.

A very successful "Start Up" day was held in January at the Vallata's where we all brought our own pizzas to cook and share. It was a delight to sit around, share some really interesting pizzas and have a few quiet drinks and conversation. Many of us went home with serious "deck envy". Thank you again to Anne and Emilio.

Unfortunately, one of the most distressing things to happen was when the Easy's water cart was stolen from the tip. It was being used for the service of the community and to think that someone would deliberately take it was quite frankly disgusting. Unfortunately, whilst parts of it were found Landcare and F.I.CA. still had to find the money to recompense the owners.

For some time, the Bass Coast Landcare Network had been developing a child safety policy. This has been fully endorsed by French Island Landcare. Basically, it means that all committee members and employees of French Island Landcare and the Bass Coast Landcare Network must have a valid working with children check.





We have had two very successful planting days this year. The first one in June with F.O.F.I. and the second one just last Friday with workers from Esso/BHP. This day and the trees, fencing and weed work was financed with a grant from Esso.

We have been quite successful with the grants this year. We obtained two which are now in the process of finalizing and another which will be in operation fully later this year. Unfortunately, we had a second go at one to grow saltbush and failed again

We are also now in the second year of a three-year war against Cape Tulip. Unfortunately, many land owners are unaware of the gravity of the situation if they continue to ignore it. As we have finite funds we hope that next year we can apply for a grant so that we can continue to provide a subsidy for the eradication of this insidious, noxious weed.

A well-attended Chemical Users course was run this year. We wanted to ensure that all weed contractors who work under a French Island Landcare grant are properly trained and aware of all O.H.& S. requirements. Consequently, we now have a register of all qualified and insured weed contractors so that the landowner can make an informed decision on who they wish to employ.

Now its thank you time. As always, I would like to thank the Bass coast Landcare Network for the valuable advice and assistance that they have given us over the past year. Without them and their hard work it would be extremely doubtful that we would have gained the grants that we have done. They have also been invaluable in providing at times advice on some very sticky challenges. Thank you.

I would also like to thank the committee. They do an amazing job fitting in meetings between hay sheds being blown over, cows giving birth, cars getting bogged, breaking down, flat tyres, stuck off the island due to ferry cancellations, exams and sick kids. You could write a book on all the reasons we don't always have a full complement of committee members at our meetings. As ever Julie Trezise has done a brilliant job as treasurer and Glenys Ralph, our new secretary, has taken on the formidable task with her usual enthusiasm.



## Kongwak Hills – Les Cruikshank

The Kongwak Hills Landcare Group remains committed to working within our local community to protect and restore vegetation on the surrounding farming land linking these patches through a series of wildlife corridors. We seek to focus on striving to raise Kongwak's profile as an open and caring community.

It has been another successful year for Kongwak Hills Landcare. At present we have 31 memberships which gives us about 60 individual members. This season 17/18 under the Threatened Species Protection Initiative Community Action Grants program we were able to achieve 29200 plantings and 4.6 kilometres of protective fencing. On August 3rd we held a very successful community planting in the Pioneer Reserve with the Kongwak Primary School children. Peter Baird from BCLN spoke to the children about the types of trees being planting and explained the benefit to the environment. Teachers, some parents and KHL members also attended managing to plant about 250 plants with wallaby guards. Another planting was held with KHL members with 350 plants with guards were planted. Our thanks go to the South Gippsland Shire parks crew who planted the remaining 400 plants.



This year we adopted a Child Safe policy for the children in our club who help at our plantings, thanks to our members who compiled this policy.

We are thankful to be under the umbrella of the Bass Coast Landcare Network who a very helpful team namely Kellie Nichols and Dave Bateman. BCLN often advertise informative and interesting events, which are very worthwhile attending.

I would like to thank the hosts who invited us into their homes to hold our meetings. Our meetings are followed by a meal, thanks to everyone for bringing wonderful food to share which makes our meetings an enjoyable social event. Thanks also to all committee members, Sue Mooney, Susan Pryde and Clare Stainsby, with special thanks to Marg Hauser our secretary for all the work she does.



## Korumburra – Marie Creed

It was a lean planting season for Korumburra Landcare with just two community plantings at Victor Nanut's filling in his big gully which adjoins Brian Griffins. We had ten members at the first planting, with horrific winter conditions and eight members on the second planting to give Victor a hand. Victor also planted 1000 himself. Bill Irving planted 1,000 around a dam on his own. The works crew assisted the Outtrim Recreation Reserve in weeding its trees in wallaby guards and the removal of pittosporum.

We did however have some interesting social evenings and meetings. Colin Boyd and his wife came along to our AGM dinner evening to share tales of his epic bicycle journey along the silk road in China and Asia. Dallas Wyatt spent an informative evening outlining his bird monitoring program. Dallas's program was really well received by the group and has been rolled out across many members properties. As a group we continued our support of the Korumburra Show, with members manning the gates and Landcare Caravan.

A summary of planting in 2017/18 season was Victor Nanut 4,000 and Bill Irving 1,000. A reasonable effort considering limited funding available. Special thanks to Dave Bateman for all his efforts writing grants and co-ordinating projects for the group, we really appreciate what you do Dave – thanks!

Paid up member's remains at around 40, current executive President - Marie Creed, Secretary – Jenny Dowel, Treasurer - Don Creed, Vice President – Colin Dowel.





## Phillip Island – David Rooks

Our group enjoyed another fruitful year. Thanks to all committee members and general members for their input into our activities.

In May we organised a walk of our 'Wildlife Corridor'. The 'Wildlife Corridor' project, an idea of Jim McFee's, a Farmer at Rhyll began in 1997. It was the 21<sup>st</sup> year of celebration and 60 walkers travelled 11km of the corridor. They heard stories from landholders along the way and appreciated the thousands of volunteer hours that had gone into establishing the corridor.



Our Bunny Boiler followed in June and we had 130 attendees. Once again, the food was scrumptious, and the night filled with entertainment.

Our relationship with the Phillip Island Nature Park continues to grow. The Nature Park built a 30-year conservation plan during 2018. Our group and BCLN staff were active in its development. If you weren't aware the management of the Barb Martin Bushbank has been transferred to the Nature Park. We were successful in a grant application from the outgoing volunteer committee and plan to spend the funding on a new trailer and plants / guards for a few revegetation sites.

We completed 4 volunteer planting days as part of the 2017 / 18 Biodiversity On ground action Community and Volunteer grant. Geoff has again been successful in achieving this grant for 2018 / 19. Great work Geoff.

We've had difficulties with our planting successes of recent times. Wallabies are one of the major issues. We are establishing better processes to ensure our future plantings have a better success rate and look forward to introducing them in the Winter of 2019.

We established a new logo this year. We chose to align ourselves with the Australian Landcare Logo and have an additional Phillip Island image on our letter head that supports the logo. On that note, we love the 3 Creeks logo and their wine. We are in the process of ordering more wine from their group.

## Three Creeks – Nick Sibly

The 3 Creeks Landcare Group seeks to restore and protect the integrity and sustainability of the land, biodiversity and waterways in our precinct by encouraging assisting landowners to adopt sound land management practices. 2018 has been a busy year for the 3 Creeks Landcare Group.

I have been very proud of the commitment from our members to participate regularly in tree planting events and support the local land owners in their environmental work. It is no surprise that with such generosity we have increased our overall membership this year. To date we have received six new memberships this year. To sweeten the deal, Melaleuca nursery in Inverloch has continued to offer each new 3 Creeks Landcare member ten free trees of their choice from the nursery. A core of ten committee members as well as other members and local volunteers have ensured that the tree planting days have been well attended and that landowners have achieved their goals. Our merry band of planters have taken part in 8 tree planting events and have planted over 50,000 trees. Our group has assisted in three major tree plantings where students from Wonthaggi Secondary College have helped planted 30,000 trees. The biggest of these planting took place at the property of Karl and Rachel Russo where the students put 16,000 trees in the ground.



The equipment loan program has continued this year. Ben Maghanoy has kindly continued to coordinate this from his home on McDowell Road. This has allowed members to access equipment such as Indian Mynah bird traps and the 400L spray unit.

Our group has once again delved into the world of wine this year and have raised approximately \$600. The wine was purchased from Gippsland Winery in Loch. It is hoped that we will be able to repeat this fundraiser in 2019. A Christmas order has been organised for the end of this year.

The first planting along the Bridge Creek Biolink was completed in late August on the property of Stan Tirpcou. 9,000 trees were planted with the help of 3 Creeks volunteers, the Landcare works crew and about 100 Year 10 students from Wonthaggi Secondary College. The 5km Biolink follows Bridge Creek reserve between Hawkins Road in Woolamai and the Powlett River. It will provide a valuable link for wildlife and people to link the sea with the damp forests of the Strzeleckis. It is hoped that the next stage of the Biolink will be completed in the next year on the property downstream from Stan's. Funding for this project is a combination between WGCMA and the Bass Coast Shire. Once again, our volunteers will be called upon to help get the work done.

In September our group was invited to a farm walk on the property of Trevor Dennis on Kilcunda Ridge Road. It is an 80-acre property dedicated mostly to fattening steers. While on the tour, Trevor discussed some of the main issues related to developing and maintaining healthy pastures and the benefits of regular fertilising. We also had a chance to see his four-year-old planting which runs down the middle of the property.

In 2018, Members of 3 Creeks also took part in regular bird watching sessions run by Dallas Wyatt. Various sites around the 3 Creeks regions were monitored to help build a data base of local indigenous and introduced birds in significant sites. To date there are 7 properties that are regularly monitored. Members of the 3 Creeks Landcare group have been involved in the monitoring and are slowly learning the distinctive calls of some unusual birds which will hopefully become more widespread in the years to come.

We hope to continue to deepen our connection with the local community in 2019 and will hopefully attract more new memberships as local landowners discover the benefits of considering native flora and fauna in their whole farm plans.

## Wonthaggi Urban

### Group Focus:

Wonthaggi Urban Landcare Group continues to retain, restore and revegetate public land within the town area with a view to improving, biodiversity, water quality, and health and community wellbeing.

### Group Activities

We have had another successful year of on ground work and a continuing productive connection with Parks Vic, the Bass Coast Shire and the Bass Coast Landcare Network. We appreciate our Facilitator Rob Gray's support and expertise. None of



of our work would eventuate without our fantastic Committee and volunteers. Their willingness to support and persist with ongoing work is commendable and I would like to thank you all for your generous efforts.

We participated in the Bird Monitoring with Dallas White at multiple reserves surrounding Wonthaggi. Work and monitoring on various properties has continued.

- Watertower Hill. Monitored by Waterboard staff. Mixed quality vegetation. Needs intervention.
- Shaynes Bush. Mostly removal of Montpellier broom, weeding.
- White Road. Monitored, looking improved. Information Board to be made.
- Wonthaggi Wetlands. Monitoring, weeding large woody weeds and broom,
- Tank Hill. Planting, weeding.



## Partnerships

### Holden the Bass

#### Overview

The Holden the Bass project involves undertaking revegetation sites in the Bass River Catchment to protect waterways, and reduce sediment and nutrient run off into Westernport. These works also contribute towards the creation of wildlife corridors and biolinks within the catchment. The Holden funding enables the Bass Valley Landcare group to leverage funding from other sources to achieve fantastic NRM outcomes.

All the sites identified for revegetation were in the middle and upper reaches of the catchment, focusing on streams and gullies in the Strzelecki Ranges and the Gippsland Coastal Plains. Sites were accessed individually and wherever possible complimented works undertaken by Melbourne Waters Stream Frontage and Capital works programs in the major waterways of the Bass River and its tributaries. All of these were located on private land and landholders signed a 10-year land management agreement stipulating that the site would be maintained beyond the life of the project.



Dave Bateman and James Link from Landcare Australia Limited at the Holden Cares Day

### Partnership Highlights

The major highlight this year was the partnership planting day held at David and Marie Trigg's farm. The Holden staff did a great job planting 2000 plants at 2 sites on the Woodleigh farm on the Bass River.

### Partnership Outputs

1,100 Indigenous plants established and 2,530m of stock proof fencing which has created 11.58ha of new revegetation sites at 11 farms across the Bass River catchment

Representation at the Holden Cares day at GM headquarters in Melbourne. This day was a great opportunity for lifting the awareness of the partnership with Holden staff and to encourage the staff to come out and plant trees at the partnership planting day.



One Partnership planting day held at the David and Marie Trigg's farm 15 staff attended 2000 plants in the ground

## Bass Coast Shire Council

Bass Coast Landcare Network and the Bass Coast Shire Council have enjoyed a strong partnership since 1994. This has included the Bass Coast Shire Council providing significant financial and in-kind support for the Bass Coast Landcare Network.

Bass Coast Landcare Network and Bass Coast Shire Council aim to encourage sustainable land use and promote the conservation of biodiversity across the region. Both organisations support the adoption of environmental best management practices to reverse land and water quality decline through community action, knowledge and skills.

Shared goals of both organisations include:

- Protection of the natural resource base of the Bass Coast Shire
- Promotion and implementation of activities that protect biodiversity and encourage sustainable agriculture
- Create training opportunities based on environmental best management practices
- Provide incentive programs for land managers based on environmental best management practices
- Establish a strong and vibrant rural agricultural community comprising a range of diversified enterprises that is efficiently managed and ecologically sustainable.



### Partnership Highlights:

The year started with a tour of the Landcare Network area with the Councillors. This is a great opportunity to showcase the terrific work of the partnership and the diverse reach of the partnership.

The Bass Coast Shire Council Biolinks strategy was adopted this year. This document clearly establishes the targets for the creation of Biolinks throughout the Municipality. BCLN sees this plan as a major asset to our network which has drawn in future to establish the Biolinks on the ground. As a part of this plan



the BCSC committed \$50,000 towards Bio link projects. These funds were used to leverage several other grants as well as a submission into the State Governments Biodiversity Response planning and resulted in over 260,000 plants established, which is a record number for the Bass Coast Landcare Network.

## Project outputs

The annual deliverables of this partnership include:

- Executive support to the BCLN Board and facilitation of ten Landcare Groups to ensure alignment of Landcare Strategic Direction
- Partnership Planting day at Karl and Renae Russo's with 40 BCSC staff planting 4,000 plants
- Delivering programs to Create Healthy, Cohesive and connected communities
- Linkages with the Landcare Community to communicate and deliver on Council Initiatives, ie. Rural Land Use Strategy
- Support in the Delivery of the annual catchment health on ground works program, averaging 100 hectares of revegetation, 50 hectares of remnant vegetation protection, 200 ha soil health
- Annual delivery of 50 natural resource management activity days involving approximately 1,500 participants
- Assist in planning permit conditions and referrals.
- Coordination of partnership programs and funding applications
- Expert advice on the Native Vegetation Framework and net gain opportunities
- Delivery of the Bass Coast integrated pest plant and animal program including approximately 400 customer requests, 500 ha weed control, 20 Rural rate rebate inspections, pest plant and conduct of related forums and meetings
- Coordination of DCPD program including 7.6km of rabbit control and 195 km of weed control
- Delivery of approximately 900 km of roadside weed spraying.



## Westernport Water

### Overview

In 2017/18 the partnership again went from strength to strength, based on the fundamentals of good governance, trust, flexibility and a shared commitment to improving biodiversity in the Bass Coast region. With the signing of an updated 5-year MOU the previous year the focus again turned to on ground outcomes and further partnership development. A highlight of the year was the partnership planting day held at the property of Alister McBride's in August 2017. On a cold and wet winters day representatives from both partner organisations got together and planted 1000 tubestock along upper sections of the Tozer Creek, which forms part of the water catchment for the Candowie reservoir. A well-deserved BBQ lunch was enjoyed by everyone afterwards, the day a true celebration of a healthy partnership.



*BCLN Executive Officer, Kellie Nicholls (left) enjoying a rainy planting day with Westernport Water Managing Director, Peter Quigley*

More importantly, the annual operational plan for 2017-2019 was negotiated and endorsed, again focusing on two major components, Partnership contribution and Fee for Service Works. The total partnership totalled \$64,137.00 for 2017/18. The recently endorsed 2018/19 partnership totals \$74,546. These numbers express a consistency in approach that is supported by a healthy partnership between the two organisations.

The Partnership contribution component really allows the Bass Coast Landcare Network to develop a real presence in the community, particularly the focus areas of the Candowie Reservoir Catchment and Phillip Island. It also allows the Bass Coast Landcare Network to leverage support for Westernport Water through Melbourne Waters Stream Frontage Management Program. In 2017/18 funding was provided by this program for works along Saltwater Creek on Phillip Island and the Lower Reaches of Tenant Creek, downstream of the Candowie Reservoir. This successful 3-way partnership provided funding support for Westernport Water and contributed to the Fee for Service works being undertaken by the Bass Coast Landcare Networks works Crew.

Fee for service works were undertaken by the Bass Coast Landcare Networks Works Crew and included, Pest Plant and Animal Control works, revegetation works and Photopoint monitoring.

The Bass Coast Landcare Network and the Phillip Island Landcare Group are proud to be a partner with Westernport Water and look forward to a secure partnership into the future. Many thanks to the Westernport Water staff we worked with in 2017/18.



## Melbourne Water

The Bass Coast Landcare Network continues to provide contractor services for Melbourne Waters Stream Frontage Management Program. This contract provides valuable fee for service income for the Bass Coast Landcare Network and gives the network some income certainty in an era of contracting resources. In 2017/18 our income from this contract was \$24,896. We are expecting this to increase into the future.

The services provided include new stream frontage management program project assessments, ongoing project assessments, mid-term projects audits and final auditing

The Contract has been renewed for the 2018/19 financial year.



*Peter Toole looking down at Tennant Creek site, 20,000 plants to be planted*



## Programs / Projects Reports

### Education & Training Portfolio

#### Environmental Detectives Schools program – connecting kids with Nature

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2017 we were privileged to attend the Victorian Landcare Awards ceremony and receive a Commended award in the Junior Landcare Team Category for the Environmental Detectives Schools Program. Congratulations to all involved on a great achievement and recognition in a state-wide forum.

Our major sponsor ENGIE sold the Loy Yang B Power station to Alinta in early 2018, who sadly chose not to continue funding the program. As a result, we are now operating the program as of July 2018, Term 3, on a fee for service basis, which understandably has already seen a reduction in booked activities for this current term.



The following table shows the numbers of activities held and number of students involved both in Bass Coast and in the Latrobe Valley for 2017/18:

Environmental Detectives	Term 3/17	Term 4/17	Term 1/18	Term 2/18	Totals 2017/18	Previous 2016/17	Totals
Number of Schools	11	6	2	8	26	59	
Number of activities	59	33	6	40	138	138	
Number of teachers	105	57	6	57	225	248	
Number of children	1603	789	135	952	3479	2717	

Compared to the previous financial year the number of schools participating has decreased although more classes in each school have been involved, keeping the activity levels the same. Larger groups of students participating has seen around a 25% increase in student numbers. This is a pleasing result and reflects well on the quality of the program and its delivery.

As we are now unrestricted by working in a specific location attached to a funding source, we have been 'thinking big' about the future of this successful program and have developed a proposal to expand from Bass Coast and Latrobe Valley into South Gippsland. We have met with and garnered support from surrounding Landcare networks and are in the process of approaching sponsors and partners to be involved in a Gippsland wide program. Another exciting facet of this program proposal includes setting up Landcare Education hubs in each area with a shelter, dam and garden to facilitate activity delivery and

act as a community resource. Landcare staff in each area would also be trained to take activities in under this new proposal.



(L): Wonthaggi Primary School students planting at their school in September 2017

(R): Wonthaggi Secondary College Year 9 students planted 16,000 plants in the biggest planting of the year at Karl and Rachael Russo's in August 2018

We currently advertise 10 activities in this program, run at parks, reserves, farms or as incursions to schools, including: Aquatic Macro Invertebrates, testing physical and chemical features of Water, Bird watching and nest construction, Bug Bits, Little Big things, Soils Ain't Soils, Exploration trail nature walks, Seed collection & Propagation, Tree planting and A Coastal and Bush Pantry. We also have plans for new activities underway and help schools with designing gardens for veggies, bush food, indigenous plants, habitat or sensory gardens and tailor our activities to school needs. During this year we have updated our web page with descriptions of all activities on offer and a new booking form at <http://www.basscoastlandcare.org.au/education.html>

We also were successful this year in gaining \$20,000 funding from the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority for a new schools-based project 'Environmental Detectives help protect the Powlett catchment - Powlett Catchment Custodian kids' where local schools will be matched with landholders undertaking revegetation to help with planting and monitoring at expo style activity days. Planning for this project has commenced with activities likely to begin early next year and into the 2019 planting season. We will also be upskilling our Landcare members in some of the monitoring techniques used to help us pass on that knowledge to the next generation.

## Sustainable Farms use STEM – Pilot Secondary Schools Program

This new education program has a focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) and is funded as a pilot from AGL. This secondary level program looks at farm sustainability and shows how farmers use STEM in everyday operations. Adapting the method used in the Environmental Best Practice Management program of monitoring then taking steps to improve management of properties we look at planning, water, soils, biodiversity and pest plants/animals. A farm visit combined with enquiry-based

experiments and activities familiarise students with what's required to operate a healthy, sustainable farming business and introduces them to careers available in this sector.

The launch for this program on 31st of October 2018, attracted lots of media attention and even screened on Gippsland WIN News. We have taken 7 classes of year 7 and 8 students through the program and expect 9 class groups to have participated by the end of 2018. We hope to leverage further funding to expand this program to more schools in Latrobe Valley and Bass Coast.



*Students from Kurnai College and St Pauls at the launch day for 'Sustainable Farms using STEM' program held at Peter Devonshire's Agroforestry property in Boolara South in October 2017.*

## Sustainable Agriculture and Groups

Much of the activity involving Training for adults over 2017/18 has focussed on Sustainable Agriculture including Farmer Discussion Groups, Diversification group day trips, the 9-week Master Tree Growers Course, Healthy Soils Sustainable Farms - Nutrients on Dairy Farms Day, Healthy soils - Nutritional food - Healthy People day, the Day on the Farm series, Organic Horticulture Demonstration field day and Climate resilience day. These activities form part of the Sustainable Agriculture report. Other training related activities included Bird monitoring training and Fauna monitoring days for some of our Landcare Groups.

New funding of \$19,975 was also received from the Victorian Government Community skills development grants, to help our group members manage their groups more effectively including workshops on: Grant writing and fundraising, First Aid, Citizen Science training, and communications including, 'Setting up and Using Facebook for success' and 'Digital Workshop: Weebly and your business/Social Media for beginners'. These are soon to be rolled out across the network.

## River Garden

A great turn out of over 60 people officially launched the River Garden, a community garden, trials, innovation and education precinct on the banks of the Bass River on Saturday 9th of December 2018. It's an exciting time for our Groups, Members and Friends to have our own site with the potential to be involved in such an interesting range of learning opportunities.

From March to June 2019, a series of four hands on activity days were run focussing on preparation and planning, regenerative soil techniques, crop choices and growing methods. We gained an enormous amount of knowledge from Horticulturalist and permaculture guru Jarrod Ruch and benefited from



participants working to help develop the site. Funding from Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority helped run the workshops and establish infrastructure and plantings including swales, orchard, nuttury, berries, compost bays and a trial site. Updated maps and community plans were also generated with input from participants.

Work continues a business plan for the site including a range of volunteer opportunities, workshop and training events for the future. We will be reaching out into our communities and cultures of Bass Coast, drawing on generations of expertise and new innovations to create community generated projects.



*Participants at the River Garden Official Launch Day in December 2017.*

## Future Directions

We are currently working on analysing the training and education needs in our network and revamping our training offered to members, groups and the local community to align with your needs. We also have been working on a more formalised volunteer program, unifying the many ways people can volunteer with the Bass Coast Landcare network and the many benefits associated with this. We look forward to providing some great training and education related experiences for you next year!

### **Vision** of the Education and Training Portfolio

A community of knowledgeable land managers caring for a healthy, productive landscape, with the capacity to adapt to changing environmental, social and economic conditions into the future.

## Natural Resource Management Portfolio

### Description:

The NRM program covers all revegetation and remanent protection projects throughout the Bass Coast Landcare Network. The Bass Coast Landcare Network has been in operation for 12 years and we have planted on average 150,000 plants per year and have endeavoured to protect as much of the little remnant vegetation remaining in our Network. Funding for the NRM projects this year has come from a variety of sources. Including Local, State and Federal Government Grants and Corporate partnerships with Holden and Engie. Major projects for 2017/2018 include; Phillip Island Wildlife Corridor, Powlett Project, 20 Million Trees projects, DEWLP Biolinks project, Bass Coast Shire Council Biolinks projects, Melbourne Water and Volunteers action grants. This year has been the largest year in our history for planting with 262,982 plants in the ground. Geoff Trease has done a fantastic job engaging with the Phillip and French Island Group members and undertaken site visits and projects. Dave Bateman has been looking after the Bass Valley and the Powlett Catchments.

### Highlights:

2017/18 has been an exceptional year in the NRM Area. As a direct result of the Bass Coast Shire Councils Biolinks plan we have been able to draw in several large projects, which have all contributed to creating Biolinks within the Shire. The Biolinks projects have contributed over 150k of funding to the Network and have helped leverage many more dollars from Melbourne Water and other project partners. The major highlight of the year was the Karl and Rachael Russo project. The Russo project was a major focus for the BCLN staff team due to its large scale and visual and environmental impact on our landscape. Stage 1 of the project involved planting 25000 plants at one of the steepest gullies in our region. We were able to pull together funding from Melbourne Water and the Bass Coast Shire to make this happen. We held 3 planting days, which included our first Intrepid Landcare Planting 4000 plants, 200 Wonthaggi Secondary School year 9s lead by Nick Sibly planted a further 16000 plants and finally the Bass Coast Shire Council staff and Councillors helped plant the last 5000 plants. The BCLN works crew did a fantastic job doing all the site prep and our own Community nursery at Bass grew half of the plants for the project. Also, of note is the contribution from the Wonthaggi Rotary club who cooked 500 sausages and 250 hamburgers on the day to feed the hungry kids.

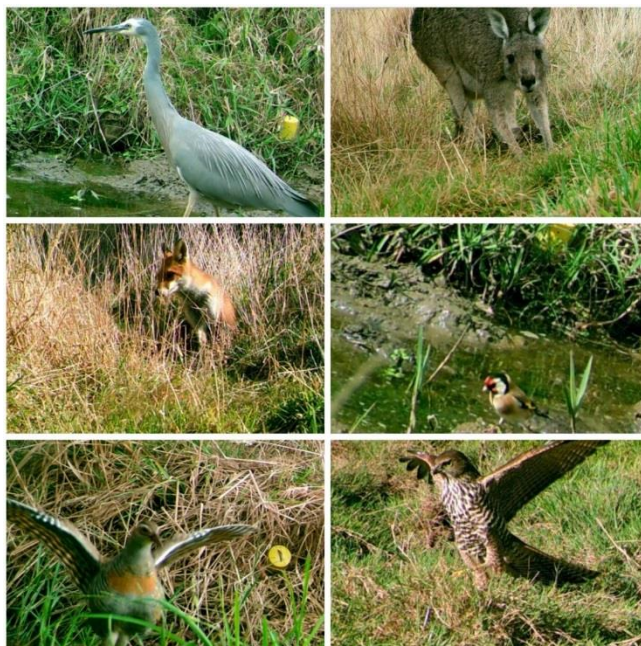


*Wonthaggi Secondary kids after planting 16000 plants at Russo's.*



## Wildlife Monitoring Cameras

BCLN now own 8 high quality infra- red wildlife monitoring cameras purchased through our DEWELP/ Bass Coast Shire Council Biolinks project. We have been deploying the new cameras at our planting sites before we have started NRM works on several of our large project sites. We have come across a few unwanted pests whilst camera trapping including Feral Pigs at Fin McRae's, Fallow deer at Spiden's and Foxes pretty much everywhere. We have also captured some great shots of some native wildlife including the Brown Goshawk, Black wallabies Grey Kangaroos and Wombats.



## Bird Monitoring Program Established

BCLN through support from the WGCMA Landcare support grants has established a bird monitoring program, which has involved our resident bird guru Dallas Wyatt. Dallas has done a fantastic job engaging with members from the Anderson Inlet, Korumburra, Wonthaggi Urban and 3 Creeks Landcare groups to teach Landcare group members how to monitor their birds on farms using the Birds Australia approved monitoring techniques. The program has breathed new life into our Landcare group members with a passion for birds and has also captured some valuable baseline data for Landcare revegetation sites throughout the network.



*Dallas Wyatt and the Anderson Inlet group bird monitoring at Jim Lyons Farm*



## Natural Resource Management Outputs:

### Overall on ground outputs

- 39,480m of fencing
- 262,982 indigenous plants in the ground
- 6.5kg of indigenous seed sown in direct seeding projects

### Outputs by each BCLN Landcare Group

- Three Creeks Landcare group planted 58,232 plants and established 4,105m of stock proof fence.
- Korumburra group members planted 4,000 plants.
- Powlett Project members planted 29,100 plants and established 4,400m of stock proof fence.
- Kongwak Landcare group planted 29,200 plants and established 4,600m of stock proof fence.
- Phillip Island Landcare group members planted 9,550 plants and established 2,150m of stock proof and wallaby proof fence.
- Bass Valley Landcare group members planted 126,200 plants and established 19,851m of stock proof fence.
- French Island Landcare group members planted 6,700 plants and established 3,370 metres of stock proof fence.

## Natural Resource Management Outcomes:

- 153.5 Ha of land revegetated through hiko plantings
- 3 Ha of land revegetated through direct seeding
- 49.2 Ha of Remnant Vegetation protected.
- EVCs re-established include Damp Forest, Wet Forest, Lowland Forest, Swamp Scrub, Damp Sands Herb Rich Woodland, Swampy Riparian Woodland, Coast Dune Scrub, Coastal Banksia Woodland and Riparian Forest
- 69 Management plans created through the DELWP catchment modelling tool EnSym for all revegetation and remnant protection projects
- Weeds of National Significance weeds controlled over 205 Ha.



*Night shots using our new cameras*

## Sustainable Agriculture Portfolio

### Description:

2017/18 proved to be a very successful year in the Sustainable Agriculture Program. It was the final year of NLP 1 where 5-year programs were finishing up and being reported on. It was also a year of new opportunities and partnerships.

The focus of the Bass Coast Landcare Networks Sustainable Agriculture program in 2017/18 was twofold.

- 1) Continue to work on the last year of the two major regional support programs;
  - The Demonstrating Sustainable Farm Practices project in the PPWCMA area; and,
  - The Healthy Soils, Sustainable Farms project in the WGCMA area.
- 2) Look to secure new and innovative project funding support and partnerships to sustain the program into 2018/19 and beyond.

The delivery of fields days, farm visits and training events was the focus and culminated in the delivery of a total of 26 events and engaged 619 people.



*Participants to the House on the Hill Olive Grove enjoying the sunshine as a part the Diversification and Innovation discussion group farm visit series*





*House on the Hill Olive Grove owner, Justin McCulloch, was in his element as he described the process of production, from picking through to the final product.*

The Demonstrating Sustainable Farm Practices project entered its final year in 2017/18 with momentum. Working with key partners the project has been consistently successful in demonstrating new and innovative practices throughout the region.

The two Bass Coast trials, Hops into Bass and the Phillip Island Community Orchard Horticulture project have progressed well and have both hosted multiple field day events. Both sites continue to act as relevant demonstration sites and will continue to host field days and events into the future, beyond the life of the project. A third successful field day was held at the community orchard in March 2018 with 29 attendees attending. Project manager Adrian James spoke about the successes and challenges he has faced in managing this project

and was supported by expert permaculturalist, Jarrod Ruche. The theme of the day was 'How much space do you need to grow enough food to feed yourself'. The feedback from the day was positive and provided the participants with valuable information on how to set up similar enterprises on their own properties.



*The successful Phillip Island Community Orchard Horticulture trial at Wimbleton Heights Phillip Island demonstrating various stages of vegetable production.*



Also, in March 2018, the project hosted the Hops Bus Tour to the Yellingbo Brewery and Hops Garden. 20 people attended this day which focused on Hops growing. The Hops into Bass Trial is seen as major catalyst for the growing interest in hops in Bass Coast and Southern Gippsland.

There were many more highlights as part of the Demonstrating Sustainable Farm Practices project in 2017/18. These include:

- A Healthy Soils, Healthy Food, Healthy People Workshop held in Inverloch in November attended by 46 people;
- An Innovation/Diversification Farm Visit to Amber Creek Farm in Fish Creek in February attended by 38 people;
- A Day on the Farm hosted by Phillip Islands Bimbadeen in April attended by 78 people;
- A Master Tree Growers course held over 9 weeks held in South and West Gippsland;
- A Climate Change Resilience in Bass Coast field day held in Woodleigh attended by 30 people;

The Master Tree Growers Course was extremely successful. Over 20 landowners and landcare support staff from West Gippsland participated in a 9-week Master Tree Growers program. The program proved to be an amazing opportunity for all participants to increase their knowledge, engage with other like-minded people *and develop ideas and actions for their own properties.*



*Participants of the successful Master Tree Growers Course enjoying a session at the property of Mark Walters in Poowong*

Facilitated by national and local leaders in tree growing on farms, participants visited a series of outstanding West Gippsland properties and enterprises that demonstrated ‘what can be done’ and inspired participants to create a vision for their properties and landscapes that includes trees for multiple purposes.

The Demonstrating Sustainable Farm Practices Project has been completed. Its legacy is secure as it continues to inform and inspire the agricultural community. We look forward to rolling out NLP 2 which has just been signed off. The new project is called 'Smart Farming in Westernport'.

The Healthy Soils Sustainable Farms project operating in the West Gippsland Catchment management area of the network was also very active in the 2017/18 year. Funded through NLP 1 this was the last year of the project.

The management planning component of the project continued with two more landowners engaged resulting in the development of one soil health management plan over 8 hectares and one dairy effluent management plan over 250 hectares.

The trial at Daryl and Margaret Hooks was completed with the development of a case study by the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority. Looking at the impacts of compost mixed with chicken litter the trial monitored soil chemistry and pasture species composition.

The project also supported several farmer discussion groups, namely the Kongwak Ellipak Discussion Group and the Dairy Discussion Group.

Final outcomes for the project over its 5 years is as follows:

- 12 management plans developed, 11 soil health management plans and 1 dairy effluent management plan;
- 1 trial at Daryl and Margaret Hooks, Pound Creek.
- 6 field day and farm walk events.

Specifically, for 2017/18 the project achieved the following:

- 2 management plans over 258 hectares
- Ongoing trial at Daryl and Margaret Hooks over 5 hectares
- One Dairy Effluent farm walk event at the Kongwak property of Andrew Perry attended by 12 people.

### Farmer Discussion Groups

Both the Healthy Soils Sustainable Farms project and the Demonstrating Sustainable Agriculture project support Bass Coast Landcare Networks Farmer Discussion Group program which is comprised of the following groups:

- The Kongwak Ellipak Discussion Group
- Phillip Island Better Beef group





- Dairy Discussion Group
- Innovation and Diversification discussion group.

Future priorities for all these groups include:

- Strategic planning to develop long term priorities
- Development and implementation of agricultural demonstration trials in partnership with industry and tertiary education institutions.
- Continue to showcase best practice examples of diversification and innovation from the region and beyond.
- Encourage increased participation in the discussion groups.
- Encourage the groups to become self-determining and self-governing.

Overall a total of 9 discussion group activities were coordinated in the 2017/18 financial year with a total attendance of 174 people.

## New projects and future opportunities

Finally, 2017/18 proved to be successful in the development of new project opportunities and partnership. The Climate Change Land Capacity and Capability project was announced as a successfully funded project in May 2017. The project will develop 12 key landscape agricultural property case studies providing detailed guidance on the landscapes capacity and capability to innovate and diversify as a response to climate change. These case studies will be further supported by a series of field days and other events designed to inform and guide the broader agricultural community through decisions around climate change.



*Climate Change Land Capacity and Capability Project*

The project will culminate in the development of a web-based decision-making portal allowing farmers and industry support organisations to make informed decisions about their response to climate change and sustainability. Project partners include Federation University Australia, RMIT University, Bass Coast Shire Council and South Gippsland Landcare Network. The project will run over two years and finish in June 2020.

We welcome our new partners to the landcare community, Federation University Australia and RMIT University.

Looking to the future there are many opportunities for collaboration, particularly with key industry groups such as Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA). The program will continue to generate new ideas and present opportunities for current and potential partners into the future.

Grazfert facilitator, John Bowman from the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources, imparting his expertise at a successful farm walk at Almurta and Grantville.



## Ecosystems Services Portfolio

### Works Crew

#### Description:

The Works Crew was developed by the Bass Coast Landcare Network in 2006 with the aim of assisting landholders with environmental and sustainable agriculture works, undertaking environmental works on public land, and to offer traineeships in the environmental field. Since then the Works Crew has taken on 12 trainees, and over the last year the team has consisted of 6 full time employees and at times, up to six casuals.

The Works Crew is currently based at Bass, and undertake work throughout the Bass Coast Shire, occasionally extending into South Gippsland Shire. They have an annual operating budget of over 500k, and work across a broad range of projects.



*Our Works Crew*

#### Outputs snapshot:

Network area	Ha	Tubes planted
Bass Valley and the Islands - remnant protection	284.25	-
Bass Valley and the Islands - revegetation and weeding	143.55	34750
Powlett - remnant protection	56	500
Powlett - revegetation and weeding	103.25	38700
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>587.05</b>	<b>73,950</b>

**Outcomes:** The Works Crew staffing structure has stabilised having a full-time crew base, using the casuals in higher work load times, to maximise the organisations effectiveness, allowing us to be a more flexible, adaptive unit, drawing upon the strengths of our employees.

Safety has been a big focus this year, further enhancing and improving our current processes and procedures. Incident rates were higher than in past years However, this is indicative of a higher work load and increased near miss reporting.

The other primary focus was on our environmental impact, we restructured our spraying and filling procedures to prevent runoff and off target dieback and have recently purchased a new safer spray trailer and mobile weather readers to allow us to assess spraying suitability. Furthermore, we have recently conducted a weed control trial to test the effectiveness of alternative control methods. To reduce our reliance on typical Schedule 6 & 7 herbicides.

This year saw a significant increase in workflow. Which resulted in more weeds controlled, a higher number of plants in the ground, and the addition of farm fencing to the works crew's capabilities. Some of the larger contracts of this year were:

- Holden proving ground fencing: Installing 12km of rabbit proof boundary fencing
- Holcim weed control: 14 days of weed control throughout 2 quarries in the Grantville district.
- Victorian Gorse Taskforce: 11 properties targeted with infestations of gorse.

The number of Bass Coast Shire Council roadsides covered this year has fallen from 253kms to 210.2 km, however we have had better coverage overall targeting 18 more roads in addition to re-targeting roadsides for weeds with different herbicide and at different times.

Roads sprayed	No	km
Phillip island	15	43km
Bass Coast mainland	65	167.2km
<b>Total</b>	80	210.2 km

Next financial year is shaping up to be a strong one as well, with some major projects already underway such as: the Kitty miller wetlands Offset planting; Holcim planting and weed control; Victorian Gorse Taskforce 18/19 season

### New Innovations:

Through the DEWLP/ Bass Coast Shire Council Biolinks project we were able to purchase a drone for vegetation monitoring and publicity. Cameron Butcher our works crew organiser and tech man selected the drone and became the BCLN Drone pilot. The drone has enabled BCLN to take some excellent before and after shots for planting sites, which are fantastic for publicity and reporting.

## River Garden

The River Garden is set on a 1Ha parcel of land on the banks of the Bass River behind the BCLN office. The vision for the River Garden Project is to be a:

- demonstration trial site for regenerative agriculture practices;
- outdoor living classroom hosting workshops, field days and training programs for the local community including school groups;
- community garden promoting community volunteerism and learning.
- regional hub for local food box distribution (with long established food network Grow Lightly)



River Garden launch day – great community turn out



Sheet mulching swale

### Outputs: -

- 60m of walking track developed
- Small dam and wetland excavated
- Bulk compost material bays installed
- Rabbit fence installed
- Hops divided, spread, and harvested
- 2 espelliar trellises installed, fruit trees planted and trained
- Orchard planted
- 1 pair of swale beds, small trials plot, and sweet potato bed established
- Maintenance of site
- Nuttury established with 46 trees
- Orchard planted
- Sub lease for organic vegetable seedling enterprise
- Wetland planted
- Running of 4 workshops



### Outcomes:

A new partnership has been established with Department of Justice, whereby a corrections team assists in maintaining and developing the site on a weekly basis, while learning about food production from site preparation and propagation, through to weeding and harvesting. The Education and Training team delivered four workshops over spring and summer and launched the river garden in December.



## Pest Plant and Animal Program

### Outputs

PPA agency meeting – quarterly meetings at Phillip Island Nature Parks (BCSC, PINP, BCLN) to coordinate pest plant and animal control. K5 calicivirus was released at a further two sites.

Bass Coast Shire Council – both sides of 210km of roadsides were sprayed, some sections twice – 58 roads across Phillip Island and the mainland. Weed and pest animal enquiries / complaints from the community increased by 24% from last year (71 lines of communication regarding feral animals, mainly rabbits, and 38 regarding weeds), and Rabbit bait delivery has greatly reduced.

Phillip Island Nature Parks –196Ha of land surveyed for rabbits (increase of 33%), harbour and warrens, then baited and ripped. Reduction in rabbit numbers from 271 to 60. Chilean Needle Grass controlled followed up with landholders, sprayed it on roadsides. Rabbit proof fence at Churchill Rd and Veterans Drive repaired.

Victorian Gorse Taskforce –Gorse checked and control on 11 properties (100Ha) on Phillip Island. PILG paid for a trial of the eco blade at Pacific Resorts – initial results are very promising. Another larger grant application was submitted.

Community Weeds Taskforce (CWT) – BCLN hosted every second meeting of the CWT and held the acting Secretary role for the first half of the financial year.

Holden the Ground – Funding through the states Biodiversity On-ground Action was secured to finish installing a wire skirt around the Holden Proving Ground (12km). BCLN also assisted GM Holden to apply for internationally recognised Wildlife Habitat Certification.



*Ecoblade in action at Pacific Resorts*



*Smoking warren to find all entrances before collapsing*

## Outcomes

PPA agency meeting – The working group is continuing to meet and work on issues such as aligning monitoring and baiting programs, prioritising assets for rabbit control, seeking further assistance to expand rabbit control in our network, and engage a much larger portion of our community which is essential for effective and long-lasting rabbit control.

Bass Coast Shire Council – we are proud of the low level of weed infestations in our network, and motivation is high to continue reducing weed cover, increase woody weeding, and control less targeted environmental weeds. Bass Coast Shire contributes a huge amount of funding towards roadside weeds compared to most other shires and should be congratulated for making weeds a priority. A similar number of roads were treated compared to last year, but slightly less distance (many sections were covered twice – winter and summer weeds). On behalf of the shire, BCLN continue fielding pest plant and animal enquiries and complaints from the public, ranging from weed identification and advice to handing out Rabbait. This year's complaints / enquiries were 24% greater than last year.

PINP - BCLN managed a large rabbit control program over 190Ha of land around Fishers Wetland (another 45Ha compared to last year), incorporating 7 landholders, in a bid to keep rabbits off Churchill Island and protect the newly released Eastern Barred Bandicoot (EBB). This is the third year, and numbers have dropped consistently by 75% or more. The number of EBB sightings has increased by a factor of 3.

Victorian Gorse Taskforce - Confirmation of application success received in July 2018.



*EBB joeys on private land opposite Fishers Wetland*



## Bass Coast Landcare Network Indigenous Plant Nursery

### Description

The continuing success and expansion of the nursery is thanks to the great volunteer group that has established; Ross Arestia, Liz Bernal, Ray Kirk, Linda Nichols, Louis Madge, Ben Maghanoy, Anna Spiden, Carol Timothy, Lyndall Wales, Donna Williams and a special thanks to Bevan who always brings a delicious morning tea! Bronwyn Teasdale, with her extensive knowledge and innovative ideas, is a great asset to the staff team.

Over 30 species were propagated, and the nursery produced 5000 more plants than last year. The change in potting media, use of micro fertiliser, and refined watering regimes increase plant health and vigour.

In addition to growing our own plants, the nursery allows BCLN to hold and maintain tens of thousands of plant orders until they go out to sites with a minimum of effort.

### Outputs

- Over 48 volunteer mornings attended by an average of 8 volunteers over the year
- Renovation of existing hardening off area and construction of a second
- Propagation of 35 000 seedlings
- Holding orders of a further 60 000 seedlings during planting season

### Outcomes

- Increased plant production, health and vigour
- Developed hardening off areas
- Site visit to French Island to look at the Landcare Group Nursery, a sustainable farm, and orchards. Also, a visit to Bili nursery (formerly SKINC) in Port Melbourne to see how they propagate and promote the spread and abundance of threatened species
- 16.5 Ha were planted out using the plants grown at the nursery



*Nursery group at the 2nd year celebration lunch, following a morning seed collecting for a PINP offset site*





## Audited Financial Statements

BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.

A0048273Z

FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30 JUNE 2018

BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.

A0048273Z

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	2018	2017
Revenues from ordinary activities	1,574,654	1,279,730
Employee expenses	(965,396)	(844,091)
Depreciation expense	(24,986)	(25,290)
Other expenses from ordinary activities	(568,880)	(379,908)
Interest expense	(6,056)	(6,815)
<b>Operating surplus</b>	<b>9,336</b>	<b>23,626</b>
Other comprehensive income	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to the members of the association</b>	<b>9,336</b>	<b>23,626</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.

A0048273Z

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

	NOTE	2018	2017
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit – BCLN Reserve		400,000	400,000
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit – Leave		151,838	168,026
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit - General		380,197	439,580
Bendigo Bank Cheque Account		110,819	204,229
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>1,042,854</b>	<b>1,211,835</b>
Accounts receivable		84,220	132,870
Less provision for doubtful debts		(992)	-
<b>Total accounts receivable</b>		<b>83,228</b>	<b>132,870</b>
Accrued interest		3,279	3,196
Prepayments		5,930	12,515
Sundry debtors		160	167
<b>Total other current assets</b>		<b>9,369</b>	<b>15,878</b>
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>1,135,451</b>	<b>1,360,583</b>
Plant & equipment	3	209,773	223,572
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>209,773</b>	<b>223,572</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>1,345,224</b>	<b>1,584,155</b>
Accounts payable & accrued expenses		121,243	40,400
Bendigo Bank BCLN Mastercard		2,317	1,930
Project balances carried forward	5	248,096	588,473
Deferred project income		60,744	7,195
Employee entitlements		162,451	161,886
BAS payable		16,129	38,854
Finance lease liabilities (current)	4	29,097	21,044
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>640,077</b>	<b>859,782</b>
Finance lease liabilities (non-current)	4	35,036	63,598
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>35,036</b>	<b>63,598</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>675,113</b>	<b>923,380</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>670,111</b>	<b>660,775</b>
BCLN reserve		400,000	400,000
Retained surplus		260,775	237,149
Current year surplus		9,336	23,626
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>670,111</b>	<b>660,775</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



**BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.**

**A0048273Z**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

	<b>Retained Surplus</b>	<b>Reserves</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2016</b>	<b>237,149</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>637,149</b>
Surplus attributable to members	23,626	-	23,626
<b>Balance at 30 June 2017</b>	<b>260,775</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>660,775</b>
Surplus attributable to members	9,336	-	9,336
<b>Balance at 30 June 2018</b>	<b>270,111</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>670,111</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.

A0048273Z

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	NOTE	2018	2017
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from customers and funding bodies		1,443,406	1,554,070
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,599,840)	(1,414,688)
Interest received		25,205	26,195
<b>Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>(131,229)</b>	<b>165,577</b>
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(11,187)	(101,491)
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(11,187)</b>	<b>(101,491)</b>
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Transfers to term deposits (net)		75,571	(42,537)
Proceeds provided by new finance leases		-	66,376
Lease repayments		(26,565)	(45,360)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities</b>		<b>49,006</b>	<b>(21,521)</b>
<b>Net cash increase/(decrease) for period</b>		<b>(93,410)</b>	<b>42,565</b>
Cash at beginning of period		204,229	161,664
<b>Cash at end of period</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>110,819</b>	<b>204,229</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.

A0048273Z

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

**NOTE 1: RECONCILIATION OF CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS** **2018** **2017**

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes:

1) Cash on hand and in at-call deposits with banks or financial Institutions:

Cash at bank	110,819	204,229
Cash on hand	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>110,879</b>	<b>204,229</b>

**NOTE 2: RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS WITH OPERATING SURPLUS**

Net operating surplus	9,336	23,626
Non-cash flows in operating surplus:		
Depreciation & amortisation	24,986	25,290
Interest expense in lease repayments	6,056	6,815
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) / decrease in receivables & accrued income	56,151	64,646
(Increase) / decrease in inventory	-	3,070
Increase / (decrease) in tax payable	(9,699)	(435)
Increase / (decrease) in income in advance	(286,828)	91,518
Increase / (decrease) in trade creditors & accruals	68,204	(32,126)
Increase / (decrease) in employee leave entitlements	565	(16,827)
<b>Net cash &amp; cash equivalents provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(131,229)</b>	<b>165,577</b>



BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.

A0048273Z

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

**NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements cover Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc. as an individual entity. Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc. is an association incorporated in Victoria under the *Associations Incorporations Reform Act (Vic) 2012*. Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc. is also registered as a charity under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

The financial report was authorised to issue on 9 October 2018.

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2013* ("ACNC Regulation"). The association is a not for profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

**a. Income tax**

The association is exempt from income tax.

**b. Goods and services tax**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

**c. Property, plant and equipment**

The association does not own any land and buildings. Leasehold improvements related to the building utilised by the association are capitalised and amortised on a straight-line basis over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses. The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the Board to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets.

BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.

A0048273Z

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

**Depreciation**

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements. The depreciation rates used range from 2.5% to 30% dependent upon the nature of the asset.

**d. Employee benefits**

Provisions for employee leave entitlements have been calculated on the basis of the expected amount to be paid arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Contributions are made by the association to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

**e. Leases**

Leases of fixed assets where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not the legal ownership of the asset, are transferred to the association are classified as finance leases.

Finance leases are capitalised by recording an asset and liability at the lower of the amount equal to the fair value of the leased property or the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives where it is likely that the association will obtain ownership of the asset or ownership over the lease term. Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

**f. Revenue**

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised upon the delivery of goods to customers. Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon delivery of the services to the customers.

Grant revenue is recognised in the income statement when the entity obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the entity and the amount of the grant can be reliably measured. If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.

A0048273Z

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

**g. Accounts receivable**

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due to from residents and other parties for services provided in the ordinary course of business. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Accounts receivable as initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at the estimate recoverable amount taking into account any provision for impairment.

**h. Accounts payable**

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

**i. Comparative figures**

Where required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

**j. Critical Accounting Estimate and Judgments**

The Board evaluate estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information.

**Key Estimates — Project Balances**

The Board have estimated the value of project income received to 30 June 2018 that has not yet been expended in accordance with the relevant funding deeds and the balance has been recorded as a current liability.

**Key Judgments — Doubtful Debts Provision**

The Board have estimated the value of debt which may not be recoverable and determined an appropriate provision for doubtful debts at 30 June 2018.

NOTE 2: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Members of the Board act in an honorary capacity and do not receive any payments for performing this role. Members of the Board do not receive any benefit other than those available to any member of the association. Where a Board member provides services to the association in a professional capacity, any payment is approved by the Board.



BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.

A0048273Z

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 3: PLANT & EQUIPMENT	2018	2017
Leasehold improvements	80,473	79,447
Accumulated depreciation	(30,246)	(30,172)
<b>Written down value</b>	<b>50,227</b>	<b>49,275</b>
Plant & equipment	104,520	103,858
Accumulated depreciation	(71,173)	(62,778)
<b>Written down value</b>	<b>33,347</b>	<b>41,080</b>
Office furniture & equipment	35,879	26,381
Accumulated depreciation	(16,337)	(13,145)
<b>Written down value</b>	<b>19,542</b>	<b>13,236</b>
Financed leased vehicles	141,202	141,202
Accumulated amortisation	(34,545)	(21,221)
<b>Written down value</b>	<b>106,657</b>	<b>119,981</b>
<b>Total plant &amp; equipment at written down value</b>	<b>209,773</b>	<b>223,572</b>

**Movements in carrying amounts**

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial reporting period.

	Leasehold Improvements	Plant & Equipment	Office Furniture	Leased Vehicles	Total
Balance at start	49,275	41,080	13,236	119,981	223,572
Additions	1,026	663	9,498	-	11,187
Depreciation	(74)	(8,396)	(3,192)	(13,324)	(24,986)
Disposals (net)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance at end</b>	<b>50,227</b>	<b>33,347</b>	<b>19,542</b>	<b>106,657</b>	<b>209,773</b>

NOTE 4: FINANCE LEASE LIABILITIES

Finance Leases	2018	2017
Payable - Not later than 1 year	33,169	27,245
- Between 1 year and 2 years	38,189	70,823
- Between 2 years and 5 years	-	-
	<b>71,358</b>	<b>98,068</b>
Less future finance charges	(71,358)	(13,426)
<b>Present value of minimum lease payments</b>	<b>(7,225)</b>	<b>84,642</b>
	<b>64,133</b>	
<b>Represented in the financial report by:</b>		
Current lease liability	29,097	21,044
Non-current lease liability	35,036	63,598
<b>Total lease liability</b>	<b>64,133</b>	<b>84,642</b>

BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.

A0048273Z

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

NOTE 5: PROJECT BALANCES

Opening project balances	588,473	455,205
Income received into project accounts	764,849	932,326
Funds transferred to Bass Coast Landcare Network	(754,984)	(572,935)
Expenses paid out from projects (recognised as income)	(350,242)	(226,123)
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>248,096</b>	<b>588,473</b>

NOTE 6: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Following the end of the financial year, a 10-year project with VicRoads for vegetation offsets was completed. At the completion of the project the total vegetation offsets were calculated by VicRoads and found to be significantly in excess of the contracted amount that had been paid annually over the term of the project. As a result, Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc. is to receive an amount of \$124,333 greater than the contracted amount, in addition to the final scheduled year 10 payment of \$116,128.

BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.

A0048273Z

STATEMENT BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

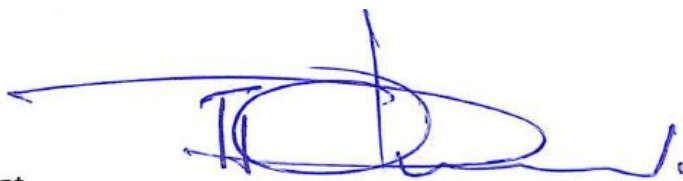
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

In the opinion of the committee of Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc., the financial report as set out on pages 1 to 10:

- i) Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc. as at 30 June 2018 and its performance for the year ended on that date, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic) 2012* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.
- ii) At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc. and is signed for and on behalf of the Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc. by:

President



.....  
Ric Oldham

Treasurer



.....  
Roger Lee

9 October 2018



INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

**Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc., which comprises the Statement of Financial Position at 30 June 2018, the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the declaration by members of the Board.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc. is in accordance with Section 100(2) of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic) 2012* and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2013*.

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report.

We are independent of Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc. in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the "Code") that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Other Information**

The Board of the association is responsible for other information. The other information comprises the information included in the association's annual report for the financial year ended 30 June 2018 but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Responsibilities of the members of the Board for the Financial Report**

The Board of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements, the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Vic) 2012* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. This responsibility also includes such internal control as the Board determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Board is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board are responsible for overseeing the association's financial reporting process.

#### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

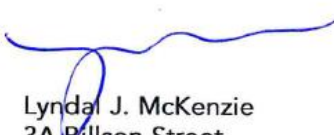
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but it is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, other the override of internal control
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and relates disclosures made by the Board.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify from our audit.

**CARDELL ASSURANCE & AUDIT**

  
Lynda J. McKenzie  
3A Billson Street  
WONTHAGGI VIC 3995

12 October 2018



**COMPILATION REPORT TO BASS COAST LANDCARE NETWORK INC.**

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statement of Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc comprising the detailed income and expenditure report for the Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statement has been prepared is to provide financial information to the Board.

*The Responsibility of the Board*

The Board of Bass Coast Landcare Network Inc is solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statement, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that the financial statement were prepared.

*Our Responsibility*

On the basis of information provided by the Board we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statement in accordance with the basis of accounting and APES 315: Compilation of Financial Information (issued by the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board).

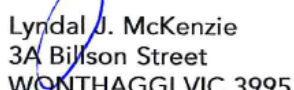
We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile this financial statement in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the financial statement. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.

**Assurance Disclaimer**

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, we are not required to verify the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided to us by management to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on these financial statements.

The special purpose financial statement was compiled exclusively for the benefit of the Board who are responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.

**CARDELL ASSURANCE & AUDIT**

  
Lyndal J. McKenzie  
3A Billson Street  
WONTHAGGI VIC 3995

8 October 2018



**Bass Coast Landcare Network**  
**Profit & Loss**  
Financial Year ended 30 June 2018

	Jul 17 - Jun 18	Jul 16 - Jun 17	\$ Change
<b>Partnerships</b>			
AGL	6,260.00	-	6,260.00
Bass Coast Shire Council	303,941.41	209,001.81	94,939.60
Bass Valley Landcare Group	34,196.10	23,417.20	10,778.90
Consulting Services	3,833.17	7,349.59	(3,516.42)
Dept Eco Develop, Jobs, Transport & Revenue	12,220.00	-	12,220.00
Dept of Envir, Land Water	85,277.26	58,324.66	26,952.60
Dept of Sust, Water, Pop	730.00	35,300.81	(34,570.81)
French Island Landcare Group	44,510.85	21,572.92	22,937.93
Grants Commonwealth	-	4,788.00	(4,788.00)
Do Something One Tree per Child	52.00	14,473.00	(14,421.00)
Engie	123,333.33	130,000.04	(6,666.71)
Korumburra Landcare Group	-	1,064.00	(1,064.00)
Landcare Australia	4,171.00	2,560.00	1,611.00
Melbourne Water	30,032.31	11,920.08	18,112.23
National Heritage Trust	7,638.95	9,692.00	(2,053.05)
Partnerships	258.50	2,571.22	(2,312.72)
Phillip Island Landcare Group	26,570.66	45,500.87	(18,930.21)
Powlett Project	2,885.00	6,984.09	(4,099.09)
Pt Phillip & Wport CMA	67,651.75	21,915.00	45,736.75
Public Fund - Helen Macpherson Smith Trust	-	15,900.00	(15,900.00)
South Gippsland Landcare	532.00	6,298.18	(5,766.18)
Three Creeks Landcare Group	9,500.00	9,258.00	242.00
Vic Roads	76,863.00	53,261.04	23,601.96
West Gippsland CMA	73,025.27	86,728.84	(13,703.57)
Westernport Biosphere	7,471.00	96,406.94	(88,935.94)
Westernport Catchment LN	24,712.00	21,699.96	3,012.04
Westernport Water	70,015.00	48,933.00	21,082.00
Wonthaggi Urban Landcare Group	1,060.50	1,589.00	(528.50)
<b>Total Partnerships</b>	<b>1,016,741.06</b>	<b>946,510.25</b>	<b>70,230.81</b>
<b>Events/Fundraising</b>			
Fee for Service - Operational	4,768.12	-	4,768.12
Fee for Service - Works Crew	166,187.88	77,944.01	88,243.87
Interest Income	25,288.06	25,498.69	(210.63)
Sundry/Other Income	1,810.98	503.62	1,307.36
Sureway (Work for the Dole)	9,615.93	3,150.00	6,465.93
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>207,670.97</b>	<b>107,096.32</b>	<b>100,574.65</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME PER P&amp;L</b>	<b>1,224,412.03</b>	<b>1,053,606.57</b>	<b>170,805.46</b>
<b>Movement in Project Balances</b>			
Opening Project Balances	588,473.00	455,205.01	133,267.99
Net income received into project accounts	9,865.00	359,391.00	(349,526.00)
Expenses paid out of project accounts	(350,242.00)	(226,123.01)	(124,118.99)
Closing Project Balances	(248,096.00)	(588,473.00)	340,377.00
<b>Net Project Balances</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Income per P&amp;L</b>	<b>1,224,412.03</b>	<b>1,053,606.57</b>	<b>170,805.46</b>
Add expenses paid out of project accounts	350,242.00	226,123.43	124,118.57
<b>TOTAL INCOME PER FINANCIAL REPORT</b>	<b>1,574,654.03</b>	<b>1,279,730.00</b>	<b>294,924.03</b>

**Bass Coast Landcare Network**  
**Profit & Loss**  
Financial Year ended 30 June 2018

	<u>Jul 17 - Jun 18</u>	<u>Jul 16 - Jun 17</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>Administration Expenses</b>			
Asset & Equipment Purchases	8,049.31	2,733.22	5,316.09
Audit Fees	4,827.50	5,150.00	(322.50)
Bank Charges	335.87	761.72	(425.85)
Board/Governance Charges	8,298.65	4,783.68	3,514.97
Computer Expenses	2,317.06	1,914.38	402.68
Depreciation	24,985.90	25,290.14	(304.24)
Doubtful Debts Expense	991.64	(3,000.00)	3,991.64
Insurance - General	6,604.49	8,024.38	(1,419.89)
Member/Group Support Ser	2,038.18	136.36	1,901.82
Office Expenses	8,136.77	6,611.17	1,525.60
Repairs & Maintenance	6,632.82	1,573.76	5,059.06
Sundry Expenses	423.78	382.07	41.71
Telephone & Internet	11,882.28	10,382.65	1,499.63
Volunteer costs	235.46	-	235.46
<b>Total Administration Expenses</b>	<b>85,759.71</b>	<b>64,743.53</b>	<b>21,016.18</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Works Crew Expenses	41,835.78	19,658.56	22,177.22
Advertising & Promotion	2,356.12	3,883.52	(1,527.40)
Contractors/Consultants	10,730.80	8,273.00	2,457.80
Event Expenses	7,270.15	4,390.65	2,879.50
Operating expenses	-	23.73	(23.73)
Publications & Info Reso	50.00	1,274.37	(1,224.37)
Weed Control	-	51.82	(51.82)
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>62,242.85</b>	<b>37,555.65</b>	<b>24,687.20</b>
<b>Salaries &amp; Wages</b>			
Wage payments	884,675.49	771,387.88	113,287.61
Superannuation/On costs	80,720.51	72,702.96	8,017.55
<b>Total Salaries &amp; Wages</b>	<b>965,396.00</b>	<b>844,090.84</b>	<b>121,305.16</b>
<b>Other Employment Costs</b>			
Health & Safety	6,129.60	3,485.51	2,644.09
Medical Costs	1,447.00	3,354.14	(1,907.14)
Motor Vehicle Expenses	46,694.96	46,994.17	(299.21)
Phone/Internet Allowance	1,051.02	880.00	171.02
Recruitment	330.00	-	330.00
Travel km Reimbursement	5,446.19	1,634.82	3,811.37
Travel - Other	1,339.94	1,001.86	338.08
Staff Amenities	1,774.80	1,569.39	205.41
Staff Clothing/Uniforms	3,372.59	2,795.86	576.73
Training & Development	18,498.38	9,921.73	8,576.65
Workcover Insurance	9,537.66	5,137.98	4,399.68
<b>Total Other Employment Costs</b>	<b>95,622.14</b>	<b>76,775.46</b>	<b>18,846.68</b>

**Bass Coast Landcare Network**  
**Profit & Loss**  
Financial Year ended 30 June 2018

	<u>Jul 17 - Jun 18</u>	<u>Jul 16 - Jun 17</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
Other Expenses			
Interest Expense	6,055.59	6,815.08	(759.49)
Disposal of Fixed Assets	-	-	-
Total Other Expenses	<u>6,055.59</u>	<u>6,815.08</u>	<u>(759.49)</u>
Total Expense	<u>1,215,076.29</u>	<u>1,029,980.56</u>	<u>185,095.73</u>
Net Surplus per financial report	<u>9,335.74</u>	<u>23,626.01</u>	<u>(14,290.27)</u>