

STRATEGIC PLAN

2023-2028



**DUNEDOO COOLAH
LANDCARE**

OUR COMMUNITY

August 2023 has seen Dunedoo Coolah Landcare pull together our 2023 – 2028 Strategic Plan. Landcarers from across the Warrumbungle Shire – Coolah, Dunedoo, Mendooran, Leadville, Birriwa and Coonabarabran – have contributed to this plan through our planning sessions and our latest survey.

The last five years have seen our community endure and survive a major bushfire, drought, mouse plague, flooding and COVID. Throughout this, our local Landcare groups worked on the ground to provide emergency relief, resilience based social activities, environmental education, field days, environment-based youth and seniors activities and a regular farmers market. Landcare has also been instrumental in building community infrastructure such as signage, seating, revegetation and yarning circles at the Dunedoo Woodlands and the Coolaburragundy Riverwalk.

Our local Landcare membership continues to grow. Residents of Coonabarabran and Mendooran have recently joined with us to develop regional plans and become part of a wider, connected Landcare community.

As a community and organisation we look to the future. We want to make a difference and we invite you to become involved. We welcome new members and thank all current and past members and volunteers. Without you we would not be here.



We foster and value partnerships and work collaboratively within the local and regional community and environment.

OUR VISION

We support sustainability, regeneration and education to build and maintain healthy environments and communities

OUR AIM

As an organisation we aim to be responsive to current and emerging environmental and community needs.

CHALLENGES

Significant challenges in our community include: Climate Change, Water Security, Sustainability and being part of a Renewable Energy Zone.

OPPORTUNITIES

Our opportunities and priorities have been identified as: Tree planting, Restoring River Habitat, Drought Proofing, On Farm Revegetation and Environmental Education.

OUR VALUES

Inclusion - Ensuring that all members of our community are able to participate in and benefit from our programs and activities. Celebrating and embracing Indigenous knowledge and connection to country, as well as the diversity of our community.

Collaboration - Identifying common challenges and aspirations and working together with all stakeholders for a common beneficial outcome.

Connectivity - Connecting individuals, organisations, towns, and regions to create thriving, healthy, diverse and resilient communities and environments.

Sustainability - Protecting our resources and our environment so that current and future generations may continue to access and enjoy a safe, healthy, and sustainable environment and lifestyle.

Learning - Supporting lifelong learning and intergenerational learning. Learning from the past to help shape the future working in the present. Learning informs our plans, goals and activities.

Action - Leadership through action. We proactively seek to identify challenges and act responsively to maintain momentum in the pursuit of our goals.

Survey respondents were keen to participate in Landcare activities and learn more about Revegetation, Native Plant Identification, Native Grasses, Weed Control, Bush Tucker and Soil Health.

KEY PRIORITY AREAS

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Environmental learning and action for climate adaption; Workshops and field days on sustainable land use and productivity; Habitat is conserved, protected and restored with focus on building connected habitat for endangered species; Protection, development and restoration of remnant bushlands and Endangered Ecological Communities; Communities learn about biodiversity, native flora, fauna and endangered species; Restoration of riparian zones; Seed Library expanded to encourage seed collection and growing; Young farmers engaged; Local and regional collaboration on weed and pest animal control.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND EDUCATION

Intergenerational learning and whole of life learning underpin projects; Volunteers supported and celebrated; Community is engaged, well skilled and informed of Landcare matters, environmental impacts and issues; Indigenous Communities, Culture and Heritage embedded in project development; Whole of community approach implemented; Diversity is celebrated; Build kinship – connecting shared interests and stories; Youth, women and Indigenous leadership encouraged.

THRIVING RURAL COMMUNITIES

Celebrate healthy environments / healthy communities; Strong local and regional community partnerships share expertise, resources and knowledge; Vibrant rural economy with diverse options for farms, small business and agritourism; Vibrant public spaces with access to Crown Land; Plan for green urban streetscape and community gardens; Support, encourage, and celebrate volunteers; Develop local nursery; Develop local skills database.

CONNECTED, VIABLE LANDCARE COMMUNITY

A strong and diverse network of organisations, communities and individuals is involved in Landcare activities; Community consultations support Landcare planning and direction. Accountable organisations with good Governance at all layers; public reporting of activities and achievements; Landcare is responsive to environmental and community needs and changes; Contribute to regional planning and mapping; Landcare is represented in local, regional and State forums.

Dunedoo Coolah Landcare acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land in which we meet and work and we pay our respects to Aboriginal Elders past, present and emerging. We also extend that respect to all Aboriginal people and celebrate the rich culture, diversity, strength and knowledge of caring for our land and sea country.



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Healthy environments, healthy communities.
Activities and amenities to support wellbeing,
environmental learning and outdoor activity.