



**LANDCARE**  

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**NT**

# **Annual Report 2017-18**



## About Us

Landcare NT is the peak body representing Landcare groups in the Northern Territory. It is a member of the National Landcare Network which is made up of the Landcare networks from each state and territory across Australia.

The purpose of Landcare NT is to represent, strengthen, support and grow the Northern Territory's community Landcare movement to improve the health of the natural environment and working landscapes in the interests of the community and future generations.

## Management Committee

**Chair & Public Officer:** Sue McKinnon

**Vice-Chair:** Justine Elder

**Treasurer:** Camilla Osborn / Elizabeth Bird (Centralian Land Management Association)

**Central Australia Representative:** Sunil Dhanji (Alice Springs Landcare Inc.)

**Top End Representative:** Vacant

**Gulf Savannah Representative:** Clair O'Brien (Roper River Landcare Group) / Andrew 'Woody' Thies (Victoria River District Conservation Association)

**Tablelands Representative:** Angela Carpenter / Andy Bubb / Stephani Grove (Barkly Landcare and Conservation Association)

**Executive Officer:** Justine Elder / Madonna Wuttke

## Contact Us

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ABN 28 864 970 579

# Acknowledgements

Landcare NT acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands of the Northern Territory who have always carefully managed the lands on which we all live.

We pay our respects to Aboriginal elders past and present, who continue to provide a wealth of expertise and guidance to land and sea management in the Northern Territory.

## Members

- Roper River Landcare Group
- Rapid Creek Landcare Group
- Casuarina Coastal Reserve Landcare Group
- Friends of East Point
- Ludmilla Creek Landcare Group
- Friends of Mitchell Creek
- Centralian Land Management Association
- Barkly Landcare and Conservation Association
- Alice Springs Landcare Inc
- Holtze Landcare Group
- McMinns Lagoon Reserve Association
- Friends of Fogg Dam
- Olive Pink Botanic Gardens Landcare Group
- Victoria River & District Conservation Association
- Katherine Landcare Group
- NT Field Naturalists' Club

## Associate Members

- Greening Australia NT
- Conservation Volunteers Australia NT
- Pew Environmental Trusts
- Environment Centre NT
- Larrakia Nation
- Land for Wildlife (Central Australia)



*Landcare NT is supported by the Australian Government through the National Landcare Network*

# Chair's Report

## Sue McKinnon

This AGM marks the completion of my third year as Chairperson of Landcare NT also the third year since our incorporation.

Our current Board members are, Justine Elder (Vice Chair), Liz Bird – Treasurer (CMLA); Steph Grove (Barkly Region Rep, Barkly Landcare Conservation Assoc.), Andrew 'Woody' Thies (Savannah/Gulf region rep, VRDCA) and Sunil Dhanji (Arid Lands Region Rep, Alice Springs Landcare Inc).

The employment of Madonna Wuttke as our Co-ordinator in January this year led to a strengthening of both our Management Committee and our membership base, enabled the continuation of partnership development with other NT organisations in the natural resource management and environmental fields and allowed the startup of our own modest grant program, just to name three steps in our evolution.

Operationally, four general committee meetings were held by teleconference throughout the Report period.

In my role as National Landcare Network (NLN) Board Director I have listened, learnt and contributed to the wider national Landcare discussions via regular phone hookups and face to face meetings this year. Major themes have been securing ongoing Federal funding for our peak body national network and progressing the NLN-LA merger via a MOU process. Both Madonna and Steph - our NLN Members Councilors - are engaged in these national discussions which also provide a wealth of knowledge which contributes to Landcare NT's evolution.

Promotion - Landcare NT is proud to have provided sponsorship in 2017 to the TNRM Conference which is an important skills and knowledge exchange forum for landcarers and other natural resource managers.

Policy Position Paper - With input from its members, Landcare NT has revised its Policy Position Paper in 2018 to present Landcare NT's viewpoint to funding bodies on environmental and NRM matters. This document is also a useful information source at other NT wide and national forums. Landcare NT will continue to advocate on behalf of its members for improved avenues of support and resources in the fields of natural resource management and conservation.

Landcare NT - as a grassroots representative network - is considered by the NT Government and the NT NRM and environmental sector as a valuable contributor. As Chair I represent LNT in this role on the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee (DHAC) and the Australian Association of Environmental Educators (NT Chapter) (AAEE). In addition, both government and the NGO sectors seek when relevant, LNT feedback to proposed legislation, two current examples being the NT climate change discussion paper and the legislation around the environmental protection review.

In closing, a big thank you to my fellow Committee Members for your patience, input and efforts in going above and beyond in your continuing commitment to Landcare NT this year.

I commend our Executive Officer, Madonna Wuttke, for her commitment to establishing and strengthening Landcare NT's role as the peak Landcare network in the Northern Territory during this year.

I would also like to thank Justine Elder for her steady hand in coordinating and growing Landcare NT's business in the closing months of 2017. This allowed Madonna to develop her coordinator role from a strong base.

Sue McKinnon  
Chair - Landcare NT  
November 2018

## **Coordinator's Report**

### **Madonna Wuttke**

I started as Coordinator of Landcare NT (LNT) in January 2018 and therefore some of what is reported below was done by the previous Coordinator, Justine Elder.

The funding from the "Subcontractor Agreement" with the National Landcare Network (NLN) for delivery of the project "Maximising Value from Investment in Community Landcare Networks" via the National Landcare Program ensured operating funding for Landcare NT until the end of June 2018.

With a change in office location from Darwin to Katherine, Landcare NT continued to operate this year with a part time coordinator and an independent contractor (Brian Board) who assists with the organisation's financial management. Landcare NT's membership base has grown to include 17-member Landcare groups and six Associate Member organisations.

The LNT Committee saw some turnover during the financial year due to newly elected officers at our AGM and later, a change in Coordinators for the BLCA and consequently a change in Tablelands representation. The Top End Representative and Secretary positions have remained vacant with a total of six committee members. It met four times in 2017-18, as well as an AGM for the previous financial year held in November 2017.

Landcare NT has taken its advocacy role seriously.

- Landcare NT developed an Operational Funding Proposal to be presented to the NT Minister for Environment and Natural Resources to employ two part-time local coordinators (50% urban, 50% pastoral) to assist Landcare Groups with administration, capacity building and project management.
- Landcare NT was represented on the NLN Board by our committed Chair Sue McKinnon, who is one of its eight Directors. LNT Committee's Tablelands representative Stephani Grove (previously Camilla Osborn), and myself (previously Justine Elder) are both privileged to be a part of the NLN Members Council. Through these roles we have been able to advocate on our members' behalf on many issues, including the proposed merger between the National Landcare Network and Landcare Australia Limited.
- Landcare NT is represented also by Sue on the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee (DHAC) and the NT Chapter of the Australian Association for Environmental Education (AAEE).

- Landcare NT contributed to a nationally coordinated approach to provide feedback to the Australian Government regarding the rollout of Phase Two of the National Landcare Program (Regional Land Partnerships, Environment Small Grants and Smart Farms Grants) by collating and providing feedback from its members via the NLN.

In order to service the needs of our members we have been working on designing and securing funding for several projects.

- The 2017 Landcare Month Activities project was successfully funded through grants from Litchfield Council and Territory NRM.
- Environmental Education scoping project - funding unsuccessful through Community Benefit Fund (CBF), NTG Environment Project Grants and Suez Community Grants.
- The Bulk Insurance project came to fruition following a long period of liaising between Landcare NSW (the architects of the package), Ceneta insurance brokers and Landcare NT members. Several of our member groups saw value in changing their insurance provider as did Landcare NT.
- The Landcare NT committee and member groups support the development of a Volunteer Engagement Strategy. Available grants will be investigated.

We promoted Landcare in the NT in many ways.

- LNT maintained a FB page and website for member information - promoting events and grant opportunities.
- We attended and presented at Territory NRM's forums across the NT.
- We provided support to and attended member group open days, field days and community information days including Bushcare's Major Day Out at McMinns Lagoon and the Nightcliff Seabreeze Festival.
- Justine developed and delivered an outstanding Landcare NT Forum and Strategic Planning day which resulted in a finalised 2018-2021 LNT Strategic Plan following extensive consultation with our members.
- We promoted and were part of the judging panel for the 2017 NT Landcare Awards.
- Landcare NT facilitated the development of low-cost signage and high-resolution logos for member groups to use on gates and at project sites.

We continue to work hard to maintain partnerships and develop new working relationships with other organisations.

- Landcare NT was a silver sponsor at the 2017 TNRM Conference and communicates regularly with the NT's Regional NRM Body regarding events,

grant and training opportunities, potential project proposals and reciprocal support for funding applications.

- We coordinated a 20 Million Trees project with CVA, TNRM, City of Darwin, P&W and GANT.
- Communication with the Department of Defence continues with the potential of growing Landcare's volunteer base to include new defence personnel and their families with the benefit of facilitating connections within communities.
- We continue to address multiple requests from schools for resources, information and presentations.

I feel excited about Landcare NT's potential and its place in facilitating connections both within and between communities.

I'd like to thank all of the LNT Committee members for their support, particularly Sue who offers a substantial amount of her time to assist me and to represent our organisation with perseverance, passion and practicality at the local, territory and national levels.

## **Treasurer's Report**

### **Elizabeth Bird**

This is my first report as the Treasurer of Landcare NT and it is also my first period on the committee, replacing Camilla Osborn.

As reported at the last AGM Landcare NT again was to receive \$95,000 operational funding which secured our finances until June 30th. At the time of writing this report we have not been advised of continued operational funding from the Dept of Agriculture & Water Resources (DAWR) delivered via NLN.

We will provide an update to members when the news becomes available.

Again, Michael J Müller, Chartered Accountant, performed our independent audit of financial accounts (attached) which was distributed to the membership on 17th October 2018. A change to the allocation of one payment resulted in a couple of minor changes. These changes do not reflect the total amounts paid but the allocation of payments into their account areas.

The final version was again emailed out to members on the 5th of November and presented at the AGM held 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

Many thanks to Brian Board who has continued to act as the accounts officer for the association - paying and receiving bills and providing advice when needed. Brian, works closely with the Co-ordinator Madonna, Chair- Sue and myself on budget, payment allocations and reporting, and makes himself readily available. As a continued support to the Landcare NT group, his work is very much valued.

Landcare NT's financial position was a loss at the start of the 17/18 year, this was due to the timing of payments between financial years as reported at last year's AGM. We did however end the 17/18 with a surplus of \$9164.

Moving forward, Landcare NT is confident it will secure the resources and support to keep the position of paid co-ordinator to ensure that the association's worthwhile work will continue on.

I thank you for your support to Landcare NT.

Regards

Liz Bird

2017/18 Yr Treasurer

# **Special Purpose Financial Report**

for

**Landcare NT Inc.**  
**ABN 32 771 567 640**

for the year ended

30 June 2018

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## Independent Audit Report

To the members of Landcare NT Inc.  
ABN 32 771 567 640

### Scope of Audit

I, Michael J Müller, have audited the attached special purpose financial report of Landcare NT Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2018 as set out on pages 2 to 5.

The Management Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and the information it contains and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Associations Act* and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members.

I have also conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion to the members of the association on their preparation and presentation. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, and described in note 1, is appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members and to satisfy the reporting requirements of the *Associations Act*. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for reliance on this audit report or the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. The procedures included examination on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in note 1 so as to present a view consistent with my understanding of the financial position and performance of Landcare NT Inc. as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

### Audit Opinion

In my opinion the financial report presents fairly the financial position of the Landcare NT Inc. and the results of its operations at 30 June 2018 in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

Signed



Dated

4 October 2018

**Landcare NT Inc.**

**ABN 32 771 567 640**

**Statement by the Management Committee**

for the year ended 30 June 2018

In our opinion:

- (a) the accompanying financial report as set out on pages 2 to 5, being a special purpose financial statement, is drawn up so as to present fairly the state of affairs of the Association as at 30 June 2018 and the results of the Association for the year ended on that date;
- (b) the accounts of the Association have been properly prepared and are in accordance with the books of account of the Association; and
- (c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

We confirm as follows:

- (a) The name of each committee member of the association during the relevant financial year were:

Chair / Public Officer:	Sue McKinnon (Friends of Mitchell Creek)
Vice-Chair:	Justine Elder
Treasurer:	Elizabeth Bird (Centralian Land Management Association)
Top End Representative:	Vacant
Gulf and Savannah Representative:	Andrew Thies (Victoria River District Conservation Association)
Tablelands Representative:	Angela Carpenter / Stephani Grove (Barkly Landcare and Conservation Association)
Central Australia Representative:	Sunil Dhanji (Alice Springs Landcare Group)
Executive Officer / Secretary:	Madonna Wuttke

**Landcare NT Inc.**

**ABN 32 771 567 640**

**Statement by the Management Committee ctd**

for the year ended 30 June 2018

(b) The principal activities of the association during the relevant financial were:

Landcare NT is the peak body representing Landcare groups in the Northern Territory. It is a member of the National Landcare Network which is made up of the landcare networks from each state and territory across Australia.

The purpose of Landcare NT is to represent, strengthen, support and grow the Northern Territory's community Landcare movement to improve the health of the natural environment and working landscapes in the interests of the community and future generations.

(c) The net result of the association for the relevant financial year was a \$ 9,164 profit.

Signed at                      Electronically

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on                                      Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018

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President                       Sue McKinnon

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Treasurer                       Elizabeth Bird

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The accompanying notes form part of the financial report.

This report is to be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.

**Landcare NT Inc.**  
**ABN 32 771 567 640**

**Profit and Loss Statement**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2018**

	<b>30-Jun-18</b>	<b>30-Jun-17</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Government Funding	\$ 95,000	\$ 95,000
Grant Income	\$ 500	\$ 0
Sponsorship	\$ -	\$ 0
Interest Received	\$ 201	\$ 118
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 95,701</b>	<b>\$ 95,118</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Accommodation	\$ 3,682	\$ 2,870
Accounting and Auditing	\$ 5,755	\$ 7,550
Conference Registrations	\$ -	\$ 1,155
Consultancy and Contractors	\$ -	\$ 838
Events	\$ 2,267	\$ 220
Filing Fees	\$ 140	\$ 40
Insurance	\$ 249	\$ 2,161
IT Support	\$ 240	\$ 566
Meeting Costs	\$ 593	\$ 1,999
Memberships & Subscriptions	\$ 2,087	\$ 2,010
Minor Equipment Purchases	\$ 920	\$ 1,387
Office Supplies & Consumables	\$ 657	\$ 773
Postage	\$ 18	\$ 0
Printing and Advertising	\$ 964	\$ 4,545
Provision for Annual Leave	\$ 5,466	\$ 2,411
Sponsorship	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,458
Superannuation	\$ 4,623	\$ 4,771
Telephone	\$ 482	\$ 534
Travel	\$ 7,443	\$ 9,388
Wages & Salaries	\$ 45,100	\$ 49,731
Website	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,659
Workers' Compensation	\$ 650	\$ 500
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 86,537</b>	<b>\$ 99,567</b>
<b>Operating Surplus</b>	<b>\$ 9,164</b>	<b>\$ (4,449)</b>

The accompanying notes form part of the financial report  
This report is to be in conjunction with the attached audit report

**Landcare NT Inc.**  
**ABN 32 771 567 640**

**Balance Sheet**  
**as at 30 June 2018**

	<b>30-Jun-18</b>	<b>30-Jun-17</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debit Card	\$ 1,520	\$ 1,509
Undeposited Funds	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Account	\$ 29,899	\$ 28,083
Cash Reserve	\$ 26,372	\$ 21,996
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 57,791</b>	<b>\$ 51,588</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Furniture & Fixtures at Cost	\$ 0	\$ 0
Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 57,791</b>	<b>\$ 51,588</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade Creditors & Accruals	\$ 2,890	\$ 5,954
GST Liabilities	\$ (643)	\$ (977)
PAYG Withholding Payable	\$ 1,632	\$ 3,294
Superannuation Liability	\$ 329	\$ 0
Provision for Annual Leave	\$ 2,818	\$ 1,716
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 7,027</b>	<b>\$ 9,987</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 50,764</b>	<b>\$ 34,199</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Accumulated Funds	\$ 41,600	\$ 46,049
Current Operating Surplus	\$ 9,164	\$ (4,449)
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$ 50,764</b>	<b>\$ 41,600</b>

The accompanying notes form part of the financial statements  
This report is to be in conjunction with the attached audit report

**Landcare NT Inc.**

**ABN 32 771 567 640**

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2018

**1. Summary of Accounting Policies**

The accounting policies adopted by the Association are stated in order to assist in a general understanding of the financial statements. These policies have been consistently applied except as otherwise indicated.

**Reporting entity**

The association is not a reporting entity because in the committee's opinion there are unlikely to exist users who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy all of their information needs, and these accounts are therefore "special purpose accounts" that have been prepared solely to meet the requirements of the Constitution and the *Associations Act*.

**Accounting policies**

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost conventions and does not take into account changing money values except to the extent that they are reflected in the revaluation of certain assets.

In order for the financial report to present fairly the state of affairs of the Association and the results of the Association for the year, Australian Accounting Standards have been adopted to the extent disclosed in this note.

**Income tax**

The Association is of the opinion that it is not subject to income tax.

The accompanying notes form part of the financial report.

This report is to be read in conjunction with the attached audit report.