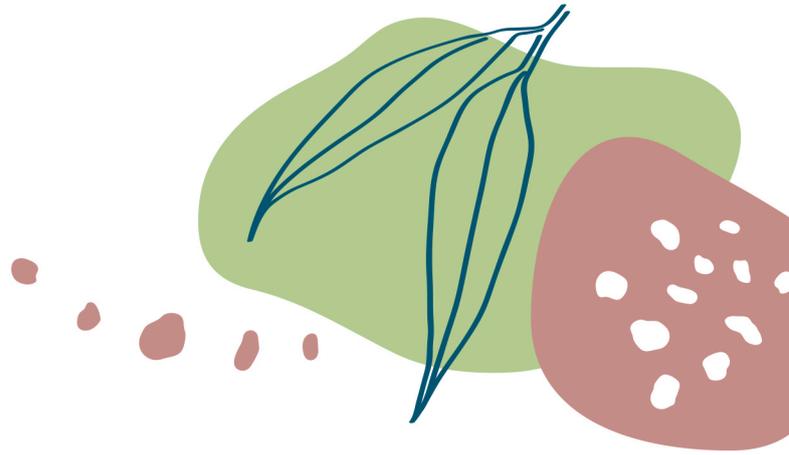


Media Release



5 November 2021

RECORD \$500k INVESTED IN LOCAL LANDCARE PROJECTS

More than \$500,000 will be invested in on-ground works through Landcare projects in the Glenelg Hopkins catchment area through the 2021 Victorian Landcare Grants program.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio announced the recipients of the 2021 Victorian Landcare Grants yesterday with more than 450 groups and community organisations benefitting from just over \$4 million in grants around the State.

The Landcare grants were awarded for community projects including weed control, pest and animal control, habitat protection, revegetation and community education.

"This latest round of Landcare grants continues our support for vital work by volunteers – particularly in our regional communities – protecting our natural environment and improving habitats for native plants and animals," Ms D'Ambrosio said.

Glenelg Hopkins CMA CEO, Adam Bester, said the significant size of funding the region received through the grants was a direct reflection of the passionate Landcare group members.

"Some of the projects funded are of a significant size and value – both financially and environmentally," he said.

"Some groups in our region have been able to put together applications for projects which will build corridors revegetation projects, link up bioregions, protect waterways, and enhance coastal areas to allow greater community benefit from enjoying our environment while also improving the vegetation of the area ... there is an incredibly diverse range of projects right across our region that have been funded through the program this year."

Some regional Landcare groups were successful in gaining funding for multiple projects, including the Upper Hopkins Land Management Group, which received over \$108,000 for four projects relating to linking wildlife and vegetation corridors and protecting wetland areas around Maroona; Wando River Landcare which received almost \$60,000 for two waterways and erosion-related projects around Wando Vale and Nareen; and the Beyond Bolac Catchment Action Group, which received over \$54,000 for two projects around Terang.

The Victorian Landcare Grants program also provided \$500 support grants for Landcare groups to assist in the administration of these volunteer-based groups.

A total of 28 Landcare groups within the catchment received these support grants.

Support grants are for costs such as insurance, incorporation and operational needs, or meetings and events or newsletters, websites, and other communication.

“These support grants go a long way to helping our Landcare groups stay in contact with their members and encouraging more people to be part of local Landcare activities,” Mr Bester said.

A full list of successful grant recipients for the Glenelg Hopkins Region can be found at www.ghcma.vic.gov.au

It will be a busy next 12 months for Landcare groups now funding has been announced, as projects funded through the 2021 Victorian Landcare Grants program will be completed by 30 November 2022.

ENDS