



MEDIA RELEASE

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“TASMANIA’S LANDCARERS GET A BOOST!”

Just over \$200,000 has been allocated to Landcare projects in the first round of the Tasmanian Landcaring Grants Program ‘from the Bush to the Beach’. Seventeen individual projects were funded from the fifty five applications received, with on-ground work including:

- Tackling strategically important infestations of Weeds of National Significance (including seeding willows, serrated tussock and gorse);
- Supporting local Coastcare, Bushcare, Wildcare and “Friends of” groups to undertake local weed control and native habitat recovery work;
- Assisting farmers to fence off critically important riparian habitat from the impacts of stock; and
- Supporting farmer groups in learning more about sustainable farm practices.

The Tasmanian Landcare Association (TLCA) and partner Wildcare Inc have been amazed at the response to the program, funded by the Australian Government’s Caring for Our Country initiative.

President of the TLCA Lyndley Chopping said “The toughest challenge was selecting the most worthy recipients, as there were many well considered projects”. The program supports Tasmanian groups and property owners to undertake Landcare projects up to \$20,000.

“The response to the Tasmanian Landcaring Grants Program confirms our long held view that grassroots landcare in Tasmania is alive and well, but needs financial resources so the great work keeps happening” said TLCA President Lyndley Chopping. He also acknowledged the guidance provided by the Program’s Steering Committee and the Technical Assessment Committee. “The assessment process was efficient and methodical. Nationally strategic priorities have been matched with community capabilities and commitment. We’re linking grass roots landcare activities with national initiatives and getting resources to the ground”.

“We will also endeavour to work with the unsuccessful applicants to find ways to get their projects ready to submit in round two” said Chopping.

Round two of the program will open on 16 August, 2010. Potential applicants are invited to contact Alan Barton, Project Manager with the TLCA on 0428 222816 for more information.

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This project is delivered by the TLCA, through funding from the Australian Government’s Caring for Our Country initiative.



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