

16 June 2011

BRIAN WIGHTMAN, MP
Minister for Environment, Parks and Heritage

**Support for Tasmanian Landcare Association's
Important Work**

The Minister for Environment, Parks and Heritage, Brian Wightman, said the State Government has committed an extra \$280,000 over four years to help support the Tasmanian Landcare Association and the important work it carries out.

Mr Wightman said the Association (TLCA) was an important cornerstone organisation that provided vital support to many community based conservation programs throughout the state.

“The Government recognises the pivotal role that Landcare plays in supporting a range of Tasmanian conservation and care groups,” he said.

“We have budgeted \$70,000 per year for the next four years to support the association’s administration and communications activities, and to help the organisation reach a sustainable footing in the longer term.

“This funding adds to the existing Government support of \$50,000 each year for the Landcare Assistance Program, managed by the TLCA, which supports community-level care groups and their insurance and administration requirements.

“We have also made available funding of \$20,000 in support of the 2011 Tasmanian Landcare Awards later this year.”

Mr Wightman said that achieving positive outcomes in conservation programs throughout the state is all about fostering and supporting effective partnerships.

“Whether its primary schools becoming involved in water quality monitoring or coastal conservation groups working hard to remove feral

pacific oysters from our beaches, the improvements gained in our local environment through grassroots, community-based conservation projects, research and sustainable farming practices is invaluable,” he said.

“Government, industry, NGOs and our communities working together can achieve so much, and the work of Landcare is vital to this ongoing level of cooperation.”

Contact: Ben Wild 6336 2253, 0459 801 969

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