

Year in review

2019



 **Greening Australia**

Greening Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the places in which we work and honours the deep cultural, social, environmental, spiritual and economic connection they share with their lands and waters.



Cover image: Noongar Elder Eugene Eades at Greening Australia's Nowanup property near Gairdner in Western Australia, in the heart of the Fitz-Stirling section of Gondwana Link. Photo credit Brains Design.

Inside cover image: The stunning coastline of Wardang Island in South Australia, sacred to the Narungga Aboriginal community and known as Waralti. We worked with local Aboriginal rangers, key partners and researchers to complete 300 ha of habitat restoration in this Indigenous Protected Area. Photo credit Mick Durant.

OUR VISION

Healthy and productive landscapes where people and nature thrive

OUR MISSION

To conserve and restore landscapes at scale through collaborative, science-based and innovative conservation programs

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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO AND CHAIR

2019 began with record heatwaves, fires blazing in Tasmania, and 1-in-100-year floods in Queensland.

There's since been unusually early, widespread fires on the east coast, and drought-hit towns are running out of water. Meanwhile, the [Global Assessment](#) of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) reported unprecedented environmental decline worldwide.

The United Nations has declared a [Decade of Ecosystem Restoration](#), calling for mass restoration as a proven measure against biodiversity loss and climate change. The next 10 years are critical to safeguard icons like the Great Barrier Reef, conserve productive farmland, save our unique species, and protect all the natural values from which we Australians benefit. Greening Australia is one of only a few national organisations putting science-led, nature-based solutions into action to protect biodiversity and restore landscapes. Over the past few years, we've asked ourselves hard questions about whether we're making an impact at the scale required. We set bold [2030 goals](#) to align our five national programs with global restoration targets. We invested in new skills and capacity and systems for growth.

To maximise impact, we now need a step change in how we fund our work. So from our proud not-for-profit origins, we're repositioning as an environmental enterprise that solves bold and complex problems to encourage large-scale investment in positive non-financial and financial returns. We're exploring [putting the 'eco' in economy](#) via alternative finance models like carbon, biodiversity and water quality credits. On our path to scale, we're ramping up our capacity in seed production, biodiverse carbon, registered training and consultancy.

The role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in this work is pivotal. The 65,000-year-old voices of this country speak of invaluable science and innovation, meaning Indigenous communities are uniquely placed to establish environmental enterprises and markets. In developing our [Reconciliation Action Plan](#), we look to build stronger ties with Traditional Owners and collaborate to heal country and create economic opportunities.

Greening Australia has a rich heritage of partnership. We've worked with communities, landholders, philanthropists, research institutions, business, governments, and industry groups in almost every land-related sector. Now, more than ever, we are focused on partnering for change, working with those who have a demonstrable commitment to transitioning to a low carbon economy. In all this, we remain true to [our values](#): putting our people and their safety first, turning evidence-based solutions into practical action, collaborating for impact, and being accountable for our commitments.

We thank our staff, members, volunteers and supporters for their contribution this year to Greening Australia.



Brendan Foran
CEO



Gordon Davis
Chair

Our Board of Directors

Gordon Davis
Chair (outgoing November 2019)

James Atkins
Deputy Chair

Georgina Myburgh
Board Secretary

Arianne Rose

Dr Robert Smith

Julie Green

Charl Pienaar

John Hope

Our Leadership Team

Brendan Foran
Chief Executive Officer

Stephen Unerkov
Chief Financial Officer

David Timmel
Chief Operating Officer

Renay Gamble
Director — People, Culture and Safety

Todd Berkinshaw
*Director — Strategy, Innovation and Growth
Executive Officer — Biodiverse
Carbon Conservation*

Kate Smith
Director — Marketing and Communications

Jonathan Duddles
Director — Greening Australia Foundation

Robyn Myrdycz
ICT Manager

Sean Willans
Financial Controller

Ian Rollins
Program Director — Great Southern Landscapes

Lynise Wearne
Program Director — Reef Aid

Paul Della Libera
*Program Director — Nature in Cities
Executive Officer — Nindethana Seed Services*

Peter Flottmann
Director — Commercial Development

Jelenko Dragisic
Executive Officer — Greening Australia Training

TOWARDS VISION 2030

To maximise our impact and meet our bold 2030 goals, we are repositioning as an environmental enterprise that generates positive non-financial and financial returns for reinvestment in our vision and mission. These key elements are pivotal components on our path to scale.



IT'S MORE THAN A TREE

Greening Australia has been restoring and conserving Australia's unique landscapes for over 37 years and is focused on tackling our greatest environmental challenges.

These include:

- Taking action on climate change
- Saving the Great Barrier Reef
- Restoring habitat to reverse biodiversity loss
- Supporting Traditional Owners' aspirations for restoring country
- Creating sustainable cities for people and wildlife
- Supporting regenerative agriculture and restoring degraded farmland.

These environmental challenges are not unique to Australia and the solutions must be delivered in a global context to make the biggest impact. To ensure that Greening Australia is contributing to global objectives, we have aligned our five national programs to worldwide initiatives including:

- [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [Paris Climate Agreement](#)
- [Global Bonn Land Restoration Challenge](#)
- [International Convention on Biological Diversity](#).

By partnering, learning and sharing knowledge with leading organisations and initiatives from around the world, Greening Australia works to apply the latest science, research and innovations to land restoration programs in Australia.

From drone technology and industrial-scale seed production areas to blue carbon and environmental DNA monitoring, Greening Australia is embracing a new era of land restoration techniques to help us achieve our ambitious 2030 goals.

OUR 2030 GOALS



500,000,000

Native plants established



330,000

Hectares of habitat restored



1,300,000

Tonnes of carbon sequestered per annum



20

Flagship threatened species conserved



2,000

Hectares of gullies restored in the Great Barrier Reef catchment



1,000

Hectares of wetlands restored in the Great Barrier Reef catchment



6,600

Landholders engaged



100

Indigenous partnerships



3,000

Indigenous trainees



12,500

Volunteers involved



400,000

Tonnes of sediment stopped from polluting the Reef each year*

*The 'tonnes of sediment stopped' goal aligns with catchment-wide targets under *Reef Plan 2050*. It improves on our previous goal of 50–80% improvement in Reef water quality.

Our 2030 goals will undergo their next formal review in 2020.

WHERE WE WORK



Our National Programs

-  Tasmania Island Ark
-  Thriving on Country
-  Nature in Cities

Our work contributes to the following United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:

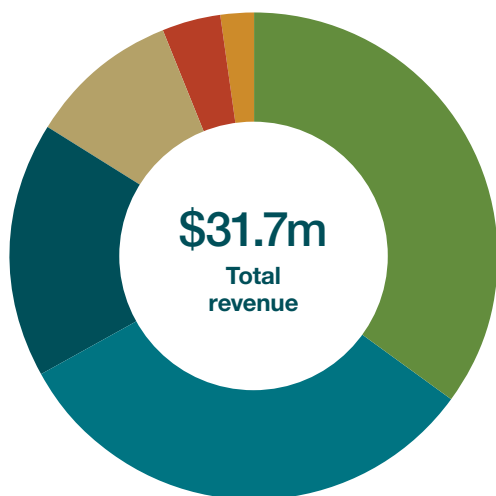


Our values and behaviours are integrated into everything we do:

-  We put people first
-  We take action to find solutions
-  We collaborate for impact, we need each other
-  We are accountable for our commitments

THIS YEAR'S FIGURES

WHERE OUR MONEY COMES FROM:



Australian Government	35%
Business	32%
State Government	17%
Philanthropy	10%
Regional Natural Resource Management Groups	4%
Local Government	2%

WHERE OUR MONEY GOES:



Great Southern Landscapes	54%
Reef Aid	23%
Nature in Cities	15%
Tasmania Island Ark	5%
Thriving on Country*	3%

*Projects are allocated to the national program that makes up the largest delivery component. Most Thriving on Country activities are incorporated into other programs, therefore this percentage does not completely reflect the value of works undertaken.

OUR IMPACT IN 2019



5,202,954

Native plants established



5,374

Hectares of habitat restored



20,393

Tonnes of carbon sequestered per annum



15

Flagship threatened species conserved



24

Hectares of gullies restored in the Great Barrier Reef catchment



52

Hectares of wetlands restored in the Great Barrier Reef catchment



878

Landholders engaged



53

Indigenous partnerships



117

Indigenous trainees



7,202

Volunteers involved



>10,000

Tonnes of sediment stopped from polluting the Reef each year

BREAKDOWN OF OUR IMPACT ACROSS THE NATIONAL PROGRAMS:

 Great Southern Landscapes

 Tasmania Island Ark

 Thriving on Country

 Reef Aid

 Nature in Cities

 Other*

%



%



%



%



%



%



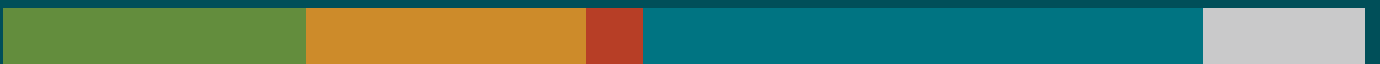
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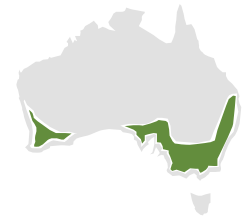


%



*'Other' represents outcomes from activities such as seed and nursery production, biodiverse carbon plantings, and registered training and consultancy services.

Climate change and over-clearing have created a legacy of land degradation and extinction across southern Australia. One of the world's largest and most ambitious ecological restoration programs, [Great Southern Landscapes](#) integrates science-led, large-scale plantings into agricultural systems to capture carbon, protect biodiversity and support farm productivity.



Restoring habitat

8.5 million of 20 Million Trees

This year saw the third, final phase of Greening Australia's plantings under the Australian Government's [20 Million Trees](#) Program. We delivered the lion's share through projects across Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales, planting more than 8.5 million trees over 10,000 hectares to restore habitat for threatened ecological communities and species like the Red-Tailed Phascogale, Malleefowl, and Greater Glider.

Wetlands introduced to Haining Farm

Greening Australia, Zoos Victoria, Parks Victoria and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning are creating new habitat on a former dairy farm in Victoria's Yarra Valley for the critically endangered lowland Leadbeater's Possum and Helmeted Honeyeater. These species love wet places, so this year we added water-filled habitat areas and reinstated an ephemeral stream. We also began engaging community by hosting school visits and citizen science events. In less than a year our restoration has doubled the number of frog species and we've seen birds and species like freshwater crayfish move in.

Biodiversity offset grows for gold

Newmont Goldcorp Boddington commissioned Greening Australia, with restoration specialist Dr Geoff Woodall, to implement ecological restoration on 470 hectares of former farmland at Hotham Farm in southwest WA. Over two years we've prepared the site and undertaken direct seeding and infill planting to commence restoration of ecosystem function consistent with neighbouring Jarrah Forest remnants. Vegetation is establishing well and the project is on track for success. Over time, the area will provide vital foraging for black cockatoos and refuge for mammals such as Woylie and Chuditch.

Carbon

Climate Proofing Australia Alliance

We [launched a new alliance](#) with forestry and farming groups this year to lead the land sector in transitioning to carbon neutrality and a climate-resilient Australia. The [Climate Proofing Australia](#) alliance seeks to influence policy to support whole-of-economy solutions to the climate crisis. For example, we are calling for government to incentivise carbon farming projects that deliver co-benefits for biodiversity, productivity, water quality, and employment.

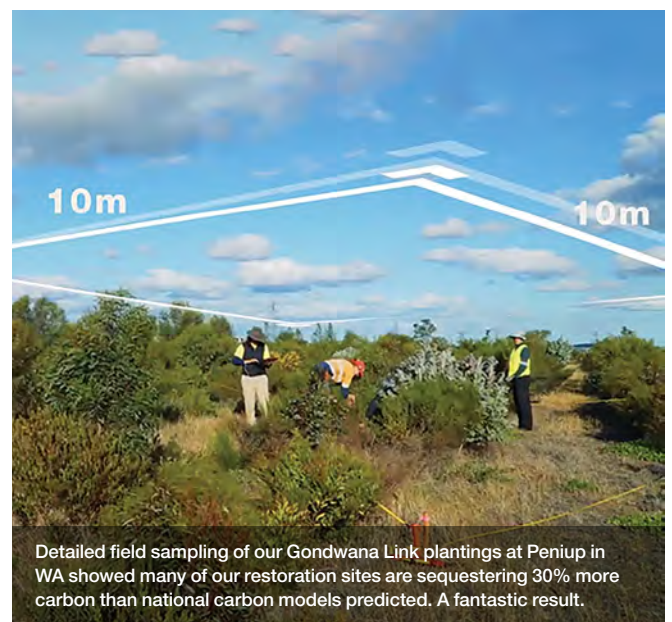
Unlocking a sustainable carbon market

Greening Australia and Woodside [signed a heads of agreement](#) to collaborate on large-scale native tree planting projects, creating [carbon offsets](#) with co-benefits for people and nature. The first phase involves planting up to 5,000 ha in 2020, to sequester approximately 1 million tonnes of carbon over 25 years. We'll also assess further opportunities for large-scale plantings and explore ways to scale up on-ground works. Together we aim to unlock barriers to a sustainable carbon market in Australia.

Regenerative agriculture

Ten years of transforming farmland

We're celebrating a decade of [Whole of Paddock Rehabilitation](#) projects in NSW and WA. Together with related Shade Shelter Fodder projects in WA, we've worked with more than 180 farmers in the past 10 years to plant over 6,100 hectares. Modelling shows millions of hectares of marginal farmland across Australia that would benefit from integrating native vegetation to boost profitability and mitigate risk. We are seeking support to continue these projects beyond 2019.



	 Plants established	 Habitat restored	 Carbon sequestered per annum	 Flagship threatened species conserved
2019 IMPACTS	4,563,496	4,956 hectares	18,801 tonnes	10
2030 GOALS	450,000,000	300,000 hectares	1,200,000 tonnes	17

Our CommVeg machine completing large-scale direct seeding at a property near Katanning, WA, as part of the Australian Government's 20 Million Trees Program. Photo credit Jesse Collins at JCFilmBox.



“Great Southern Landscapes provides a platform for business, government and impact investors to support both the Australian economy and the natural environment to provide critical services for farmers, communities and business. Biodiversity offsets and carbon credits have the potential to generate new forms of capital for the environmental sector, define the next decade of environmental activity and help our society integrate the value of nature into our economic frameworks. Large-scale landscape restoration is a solution that can re-establish critical biodiversity, regenerate agricultural land and sequester carbon, ensuring Australia can meet its Paris Agreement targets and contribute to global food security.”

IAN ROLLINS

PROGRAM DIRECTOR —
GREAT SOUTHERN LANDSCAPES



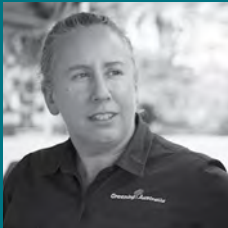
We are protecting biodiversity with large-scale habitat restoration, like this innovative project in Victoria's Strzelecki Ranges that planted steep slopes with [habitat for the nationally threatened Greater Glider](#), funded through the Australian Government's 20 Million Trees program. Photo credit Drew Liepa.





“It’s been an exciting year as we continue to expand into new areas, engaging new landholders and forming connections with Traditional Owners. Highlights include completing the largest gully remediation trial in Queensland; converting marginal cane land to wetlands; trialling innovative water quality treatments including a bioreactor and diatoms; and improving biodiversity through fish ladders and riparian corridors. In 2020, Reef Aid will continue to grow, with major emphasis on co-designing projects with Traditional Owner groups, and introducing innovative finance models such as Reef Credits to reach the scale of impact required for a resilient Great Barrier Reef.”

DR LYNISE WEARNE
PROGRAM DIRECTOR — REEF AID



So far we have stopped over 6,000 tonnes of sediment from polluting the Great Barrier Reef each year, through directly treating more than 18 ha of gullies on Strathalbyn Station. Treatment has an immediate impact on water quality. The photo shows the stark contrast between untreated (left) and treated gullies (right). Photo credit Annette Ruzicka.



Climate change and poor water quality are the greatest threats to the future of the Great Barrier Reef. Greening Australia is addressing both through its Great Southern Landscapes and Reef Aid programs. [Reef Aid](#) works with landholders, communities and Traditional Owners to improve water quality for the Reef by rebuilding gullies and restoring coastal wetlands across the catchment.



Rebuilding eroded gullies

Greening Australia is leading the most comprehensive [gully remediation innovation pilot](#) in the Reef catchment at Strathalbyn Station in North Queensland. Our first phase of treatments weathered the floods in early 2019 and vegetation has returned, demonstrating durability. This year we completed a second phase of onground works. [Preliminary results](#) from 110 samples confirmed the continued effectiveness of the treatments, with a 98% reduction in sediment run-off between treated vs untreated gullies. Treatments are being assessed using innovative techniques such as high-resolution aerial LiDAR and drone imagery, in addition to standard monitoring such as automated water sampling and land condition assessments.

Given these successes, in 2019 we expanded our gullies projects to new sites in the Fitzroy and Burdekin regions. At Footes Hill in the Burdekin's Haughton River catchment, for example, we completed gully remediation earthworks that will save the Great Barrier Reef from another 1,800 tonnes of sediment pollution per year.

With the Office of the Great Barrier Reef, Griffith University, and Rock-it Science, we've secured funding from the Great Barrier Reef Foundation to [pilot a Reef Credit system](#) with GreenCollar that will enable investors to purchase water quality improvements. This is a bold step in testing the feasibility of environmental markets for scaling up investment in gully remediation. The pilot Reef Credits will be generated from our third phase of works at Strathalbyn Station, set to begin in 2020.

Restoring coastal wetlands

Biodiversity enhanced at legacy sites

Since 2016, Greening Australia has restored 346 ha of priority [coastal wetlands](#). An independent review by James Cook University's TropWATER confirmed restored ecosystem health and connectivity at our project sites. Fish have returned, aquatic weeds are reduced, and dissolved oxygen levels improved from 0 to 80%. Birdlife Australia surveys showed increased bird diversity too. Building on this success, this year we expanded our wetland projects into the Fitzroy Basin, starting works to reconnect Lake Mary and Lake Serpentine.

Trialling innovative treatments for wetland water quality

We're working with stakeholders to develop management plans containing baseline data and prioritising future works for all our wetland catchment areas. With their support, we are trialling science-led innovative techniques to unlock greater water quality and biodiversity wins. This year, we completed a constructed wetland on one site and installed a bioreactor on another, to monitor the effect on farm run-off. We constructed a fish ladder to allow iconic species like Barramundi to move between estuaries and upstream wetlands. We are also trialling diatoms (microalgae) to improve water quality, and installed solar bores at one site to see if saltwater introduction can help control aquatic weeds.

Partnering with Traditional Owners

Our new partnership with Woorabinda Pastoral Company is fixing eroding gullies on two of their stations in the Fitzroy Basin. We've collaborated on stock management training and fencing work and are co-developing a vegetation and weed management plan.

We embarked on a five year project with BHP to expand our partnerships with Indigenous communities in the Reef catchment, to co-design and co-deliver environmental, economic and cultural outcomes directly linked with improving water quality on the Reef.

In August we entered [Reef Aid into MacArthur Foundation's 100&Change](#) US\$100 million grant competition in partnership with Mungalla Aboriginal Corporation for Business, the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, and GreenCollar. This opportunity would monumentally scale up our impact on the Reef. The winner will be announced in September 2020 — fingers crossed!



Gullies restored



Wetlands restored



Sediment stopped per annum

2019 IMPACTS	24 hectares	52 hectares	>10,000 tonnes
2030 GOALS	2,000 hectares	1,000 hectares	400,000 tonnes



As climate change and population growth intensify pressures on our urban areas, we are working with communities, businesses and governments across Australia to create greener, more liveable cities and urban areas where both people and nature thrive.



Water

Arbor Day plantings for River Torrens

In June the community installed 6,500 native plants along Adelaide’s River Torrens. The plantings marked 130 years of Arbor Day in South Australia and were organised with the City of West Torrens, City of Port Adelaide Enfield and Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges. The plantings added to a [long-term restoration project](#) aiming to enhance wildlife habitat and recreational green space along this urban nature corridor. Greening Australia’s Arbor Day events have helped establish over 62,000 plants since 2006.

Biodiversity

Restoring critical koala corridors

We collaborated with WWF-Australia and Campbelltown City Council on [this important project](#) to support the only disease-free Koala population in the Sydney Basin. At a community event in May, 100 locals and 30 school children installed new plants to expand the size and biodiversity of an existing Koala corridor in Campbelltown. We are in the final stages of mapping over 100,000 ha of private and public land, identifying priority areas for koala habitat restoration — this map will be key to restoring critical koala corridors so the growing population has food and safe passage.

Connecting people and nature in parklands

Greening Australia and Western Sydney Parklands Trust (WSPT) have committed to connecting the people of Western Sydney to nature via a strategic collaboration. WSPT are custodians of a vision for what is Sydney’s backyard — a 26-kilometre-long, mixed-use park. We are managing 650 ha of the parklands, restoring bushland and monitoring flora and fauna, ensuring people and nature can connect in Sydney for years to come.

People

Schools kids bring back the bush

The Western Sydney [Bringing Back the Bush](#) schools program engages local schools to bring native plants back to urban areas through a series of interactive events. Over the past three years, we’ve worked with 90 schools to plant over 60,000 plants with students in years K-12, restoring degraded bushlands and inspiring young people to become the next generation of environmental guardians.

Nine years of Land for Wildlife

Our funding for this program sadly ended this year. We acknowledge the hard work of our staff and the dedication of landholders, and are proud of what’s been achieved over the past nine years. We supported 250 peri-urban landholders with properties from Darwin to Katherine to manage an equivalent of 11,000 hectares of private land conservation. It’s been mighty work for wildlife education and we wish the landholders success in continuing their conservation efforts.

Climate

WOMAD offsets support carbon capture and cockatoo habitat

In March, [Greening Australia and the WOMADelaide Foundation](#) celebrated 13 years of a partnership that has seen \$2 from every WOMADelaide ticket invested in offsetting the festival’s carbon emissions through biodiverse tree planting in SA. With more than 75,000 native trees and shrubs planted offsetting 21,650 tonnes of carbon emissions, the project has also increased biodiversity and restored habitat for threatened species such as the Glossy Black-Cockatoo.



Thanks to Mazda Foundation funding, Greening Australia and Dementia Australia are continuing a [valuable program](#) at our Canberra nursery for people living with dementia. They volunteer weekly to produce seedlings for our restoration projects, which also benefits their wellbeing.



Plants established



Habitat restored



Carbon sequestered per annum



Volunteers engaged

	Plants established	Habitat restored	Carbon sequestered per annum	Volunteers engaged
2019 IMPACTS	467,786	172 hectares	715 tonnes	3,316
2030 GOALS	25,000,000	15,000 hectares	50,000 tonnes	12,500

Students from Henry Fulton Primary School were among those helping bring back the bush in Western Sydney this year. Photo credit Paden Wilson.



“Most Australians live in urban settings, which are often overlooked when considering ecosystem restoration. With significant and increasingly threatened biodiversity found within the built environment, there are clear opportunities to protect and enhance habitat for species — and create healthier, happier communities in the process. Our Nature in Cities program takes practical steps to improve water, climate and biodiversity outcomes by engaging communities to create real connections with nature. We think the best way to create healthy, productive landscapes is to inspire the people that live and work in them to be active guardians of our unique natural assets.”

PAUL DELLA LIBERA
PROGRAM DIRECTOR —
NATURE IN CITIES



“Islands are unique places to witness biodiversity trends over time, given their geographical isolation and relatively closed systems. This year we looked back on 10 years of work and refreshed our strategy for Tasmania, setting ambitious new targets to make a difference in a changing climate. We see Tasmania as an island laboratory for ecological research and will continue to strengthen our partnerships with the University of Tasmania and other research institutions to create connected, climate-ready habitat across the island. We are also reconnecting Tasmanian communities with Country, sharing knowledge about Tasmania’s unique natural and cultural heritage, and empowering people to take practical action.”

DR ELISA RAULINGS
NATIONAL PROGRAMS AND
SCIENCE LEADER



Greening Australia project lead Jimmy Collinson checks on growth at one of our restoration sites in the Tasmanian Midlands. Photo credit Annette Ruzicka.





Tasmania Island Ark restores and connects vital habitat, using innovative research to create functioning, climate-ready ecological communities that safeguard some of Australia's most iconic flora and fauna.



Wildlife habitat

The [Tasmanian Midlands](#) is a biodiversity hotspot, but less than 2% of the native vegetation in this area is protected, meaning paddock trees and small habitat patches are disproportionately important for connecting wildlife to areas of high-quality vegetation. This year we worked with 25 landholders to plant hectares of habitat across the Midlands, aiming to establish wildlife corridors through the agricultural landscape. The plantings were funded by the Australian Government's [20 Million Trees](#) program and Officeworks' [Restoring Australia](#) initiative.

Island Lab — research and innovation

Provenance trials to fight *Eucalyptus viminalis* decline

Ribbon Gums, Manna Gums, White Gums — whatever you call them, we've put keystone species *Eucalyptus viminalis* on our watchlist. Many of our endangered animal species, like Forty Spotted Pardalote, feed on the exudates of this widespread gum, but they are in decline across Australia. We are partnering with the University of Tasmania to fight this decline, establishing research plots across the Midlands. We are planting seedlings from regions of differing climates to see if any take hold. We're also trialling this technique in the [NSW Monaro](#), and the seedlings have survived well so far, so there's hope.

Lifting farmgate profitability

Plenty of research shows the benefits of trees on farms for productivity gains. We've been working with CSIRO and other interested agencies to understand the perception of trees on farms and barriers to uptake, including interviews with Midlands farmers. We know from this research that farmers value trees and understand the benefits, but finding time and funding is a challenge. We're committed to supporting farmers to regenerate their land and boost their productivity in a changing climate.

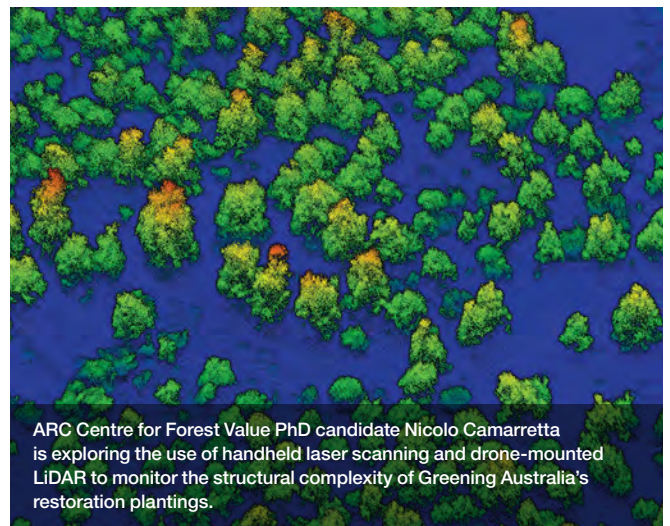
Connecting people and nature

Promoting sustainability in schools

Our [Bushrangers](#) and [Energywise](#) programs engaged another 50 schools this year, continuing to deliver educational experiences for Tasmanian school children in environment and culture. We [launched a new Energywise resource kit](#) for high school teachers in March, with TasNetworks and the Minister for Energy and Primary Industry. The resource is designed to help the next generation wise up about sustainability and the transforming energy landscape in Australia and worldwide.

Equipping young Tasmanians to be climate leaders

In March, 250 students across Tasmania gathered for the Youth Climate Leaders Conference to workshop ways to take climate action. Greening Australia's Nel Smit and student leaders convened this three-day event for the second year running, together with Education for Sustainability Tasmania. The students were mentored by climate, science and sustainability experts, and returned to their schools inspired to take action. In September they reconvened to reflect on six months of efforts. Tales of frustration were balanced with strides forward in reducing waste, campaigning for solar panels or promoting citizen science. Gardening Australia host [Costa Georgiadis has been a pivotal mentor](#), encouraging the students to remember that small steps taken collectively can change the agenda.



ARC Centre for Forest Value PhD candidate Nicolo Camarretta is exploring the use of handheld laser scanning and drone-mounted LiDAR to monitor the structural complexity of Greening Australia's restoration plantings.



Plants established



Habitat restored



Carbon sequestered per annum



Landholders engaged

	Plants established	Habitat restored	Carbon sequestered per annum	Landholders engaged
2019 IMPACTS	130,312	168 hectares	561 tonnes	63
2030 GOALS	25,000,000	15,000 hectares	50,000 tonnes	700

The Badgebup Rangers helped us plant 200,000 tubestock seedlings this season — a massive task that will create significant impact on the ground. Photo credit Jesse Collins at JCFilmBox.



“Developing a meaningful Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is not a process that tolerates deadlines — it is about taking time to listen and learn about the culture that holds a special place in our nation’s identity. Every conversation is significant. Our RAP process is as much about time as it is about everything else that RAP represents. As we broaden our dialogue with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders, Elders and communities, we are learning about the importance of time as a construct that, while understood differently by different cultures, is a language that binds us all.”

JELENKO DRAGISIC
RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN PROJECT LEAD



Thriving on Country is our organisation-wide commitment to a stronger, reconciled Australia. We partner with Indigenous communities across Australia to bring together traditional and contemporary knowledge, exchange skills, increase employment opportunities and support people to live and work on country.



Restoring Country

Celebrating global recognition for Budj Bim

This year we welcomed the addition of Budj Bim Cultural Landscape to the UNESCO World Heritage List — the only Australian world heritage site listed exclusively for its Aboriginal cultural values. We've made great strides this year with Gunditji Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation and Budj Bim Rangers to [restore 400 ha of critically endangered Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands](#). We are combining traditional burns with aerial 'seed-bombing' to restore country with funding from the Australian Government's 20 Million Trees Program.

Rangers plant hundreds of hectares across Southwest WA

Building on our planting partnerships of last season, Greening Australia continued working with Traditional Owner groups to plant thousands of seedlings, infilling direct-seeded sites for 20 Million Trees in Western Australia. The Badgebup, Tambellup and Nowanup Rangers together planted an incredible 333,000 seedlings with our staff, restoring country in the biodiversity hotspot of Southwest WA.

Indigenous Knowledge

Reconnecting with culture at Bank Australia Conservation Reserve

The Barengi Gadjin Land Council (BGLC) [completed a cultural survey](#) of the entire Bank Australia Conservation Reserve this year in Victoria's Wimmera, and identified significant sites. The findings will be pivotal for managing the reserve going forward, working with BGLC to ensure this cultural heritage is safeguarded for all Australians. Recently we undertook a cultural burn together, assisted by the Country Fire Authority — the first at the site in decades and an important step in reconnecting people with place.

Building on 60,000 years of science in Tasmania

Greening Australia partnered with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community to host [events for National Science Week](#) celebrating traditional and contemporary knowledge and building on over 60,000 years of science conducted by Aboriginal cultures. Thirty Indigenous students attended three cultural immersion days with Aboriginal Educator Dave Gough, then returned to interpret their experiences for family and community at Aboriginal Science Expos at Campbell Town and Oatlands schools.

We also hosted an Aboriginal land management field day and symposium for farmers, land managers, scientists, educators and community members, featuring Bill Gammage, author of *The Biggest Estate on Earth*. The events prompted passionate conversations about working together to embrace Aboriginal heritage in land management practice.

Indigenous Enterprise

Planting the seeds of enterprise in Western Sydney

With Western Sydney's population set to expand to three million by 2036, we foresee an increased demand for native seed for environmental restoration offsets. As such, Greening Australia and Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council recently commenced a formal agreement to co-develop an Indigenous enterprise, aligning training, cultural connection and sustainable business models with the projected future need for seed.

Reconciliation Action Plan

Greening Australia continued developing our Reconciliation Action Plan this year. We are evolving our long-standing collaborations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities into a formalised commitment to the national reconciliation agenda. We've established a project roadmap and internal working group, and are approaching key partners to join our advisory group. Watch this space!



We are working with the Aboriginal community in Woorabinda, central Queensland, on a gully restoration project that delivers both sediment reductions for the Great Barrier Reef and significant Indigenous employment opportunities. The Woorabinda community are using their own rangers and people to co-deliver trial treatments with us on site.



Indigenous trainees*



Indigenous partnerships

2019 IMPACTS	117	53
2030 GOALS	3,000	100

*Includes participants in accredited (75) and non-accredited (42) training.

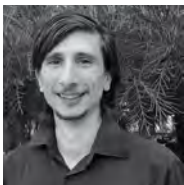
OUR PEOPLE

Award Winners



Cumberland-Dodds Medal: James McGregor, South Australia

James has made an outstanding contribution over more than 15 years at Greening Australia. From writing successful multi-million-dollar funding applications to testing drones, from creating a national impact reporting dashboard and field-based apps to making beautiful plant and fauna guides, nothing is too much trouble. James has an incredible ability to apply his diverse and substantial skills to almost any area, and his thirst for innovation sees him taking projects further than imagined, producing great results.



People and Culture Award: Chris Macris, New South Wales

Regularly providing leadership to his peers outside of his expected role, Chris gravitates naturally toward accountability, decision making and managing risk. He is a genuine all-rounder — technically competent with a strong business acumen, able to manage dynamic situations, others and himself. Chris balances substantial competing priorities while remaining competent, approachable and accountable. His consistent display of leadership only magnifies his commitment, self-belief and future potential.



Volunteer of the Year: Chris Pedersen, South Australia

Chris has volunteered at Greening Australia's nursery in Adelaide for seven years. A happy, respectful and kind individual, he immerses himself in any group and willingly shares his considerable knowledge on a range of topics with great passion. Chris is always enthusiastic to start the day and takes on any task allocated. He takes an outstandingly proactive approach to maintaining the nursery and grounds, going the extra mile to improve their appearance, functionality and safety.

Our heartfelt thanks to all 7,202 volunteers who contributed to our work this year.



New Leader Award: Ioana Radu, Queensland

Ioana joined Greening Australia in 2018 and became a key driver in organisation-wide implementation of Dynamics NAV and Power BI. Her relentless focus on improvements has set the foundation for tools that enable enhanced resource planning and business analytics, allowing staff to collect and analyse information for in-depth data visualisation and improved decision making. Always ready to listen, Ioana builds trust and respect by providing overwhelming assistance. She is an unremitting leader, who stands up for what she believes is right in implementing and promoting our vision and mission.



Work Health and Safety Award: Dr Blair Parsons, Western Australia


Blair leads by example, holds others to account and follows up to ensure actions are completed. He brings significant work health and safety experience from previous positions with remote area commercial consultancies and mining projects, and displays passion and enthusiasm for staff safety. Most importantly, Blair doesn't rely on compliance but goes above and beyond to keep staff safe.

Vale

In memory of those in the Greening Australia family who have passed this year, and gave so much to the Australian landscape.

- Doug Phillips, Portland
- Aaron Frith, Hobart
- Jessica Wilson, Adelaide
- Mark Thomas, Canberra (former CEO)

2019 Best Communication of a Safety Message Award Winner



Greening Australia won the [2019 Best Communication of a Safety Message Award](#) at the NSCA Foundation and GIO Workers Compensation National Safety Awards of Excellence. The nomination was based on our [Stand Down for Safety Events](#), which we've held annually since 2017. The importance Greening Australia places on putting people first is evident through these initiatives and in how we embed safety as the number one priority in everything we do.

Other awards and commendations:

- Reef Aid Innovative Gully Remediation Project, Overall Winner at the 2019 Premier's Awards for Excellence
- Reef Aid Innovative Gully Remediation Project, Protect the Great Barrier Reef Category Winner at the 2019 Premier's Awards for Excellence

Photo credit Annette Ruzicka.



The Chris Jones Environmental Stewardship Award: Lenny Parisi, Queensland

The Parisi family has farmed sugarcane on their property in the wet tropics of northern Queensland for three generations. Much of their farmland adjoins areas of significant environmental value. The creeks running through the Parisi's farm flow to the Mulgrave River, and then to the Great Barrier Reef lagoon. These creeks are home to the endangered Cassowary, the unique Cairns Rainbowfish and Smooth Crayfish, as well as plants otherwise found only in the Daintree Rainforest. Landholder Lenny Parisi embraces being a good custodian of the land. A respected community member, he is active in Mulgrave Landcare and has been involved with Sugar Research Australia's Cane to Creek project from inception. The Parisi's farm also has Smartcane Best Management Practice accreditation.

Lenny has worked with Greening Australia on the **Figtree Lagoon Wetland Project** since 2017, in a partnership essential to our Reef Aid program. Through Greening Australia's partnerships with Mulgrave Landcare, AccorHotels and Sukin, 14,000 trees have been planted along 6 km of waterways on his land. He has also provided over 7 ha of marginal land for a constructed wetland — a first for Greening Australia in the region — complemented by 7,000 trees planted by Mulgrave Landcare volunteers. The riparian plantings and constructed wetland filter water running into the important fish habitat of the Figtree Lagoon of Mulgrave River.

The work on Lenny's property is already a catalyst for new environmental projects planned for the lower Mulgrave catchment, and is attracting interest from neighbouring farmers, NRM groups, government and the media. Lenny welcomes visitors onto his farm to showcase the wetland project with a big heart and open arms. A gifted public speaker, he takes every opportunity to promote landscape restoration through better farming practices. He is a true ambassador for Reef Aid and for our vision of healthy and productive landscapes where people and nature thrive.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Greening Australia thanks all those who share our vision and roll up their sleeves beside us, including businesses, philanthropists, governments, investors, volunteers, members, and delivery partners. With your support we can achieve far more than we could alone.

Business



This year we celebrate [two years of our Restoring Australia partnership](#) with Officeworks, which plants two trees for every one used, based on the weight of paper-based products bought by Officeworks customers. Since 2017, this Australian-first initiative has established more than half a million trees over 900 hectares across six states.

Greening Australia were proud to receive Officeworks' 2019 Community Partner of the Year Award.



We made important progress this year towards our 10 year vision for the [Bank Australia Conservation Reserve](#), which is co-managed by Greening Australia and Trust for Nature. We developed a climate adaptive restoration plan for the reserve, and the Barengi Gadjin Land Council completed a cultural survey of all 927 hectares.



Since the 2008 launch, AccorHotels' [Plant for the Planet](#) program has established over 60,000 trees across four states. This year planting expanded to a new site in New South Wales. The company enjoys getting hands-on with the program — hotel staff from Victoria helped establish over 3,000 plants at a site in Geelong.



2019 marks the first anniversary of our [Sukin X Reef Aid](#) partnership, which aims to improve water quality on the Reef. Sukin and a team of Instagram influencers experienced Reef Aid projects first-hand this year, touring some 18 ha of gully treatments, meeting landholders, and sharing educational content with followers along the way.



Our [Three Rivers Initiative](#) with the Alcoa Foundation aims to improve the health of the Peel-Harvey estuary in Western Australia. With local partners, schools and communities, we've so far established over 20,000 plants, completed streambank erosion works, and commissioned an aquatic survey and citizen science project providing a great indicator of river health.



Since launching Reef Aid in 2016, [Greening Australia's Official Airline Partner Virgin Australia](#) has championed our Reef Aid projects and other work across the country — providing airline services, supporting our global communications, providing volunteers from their Sustainability Ambassador team, and buying carbon offsets to protect Orange-bellied Parrots and Emu Wrens in South Australia.

Arnold Bloch Leibler

Lawyers and Advisors

At our 2018 Annual General Meeting, our members adopted a contemporary [new constitution](#) designed to better support our vision, mission and objectives. Changing a constitution is a resource and time intensive exercise, made possible thanks to the pro-bono professional services of long-time supporter Peter Seidel and his team at Arnold Bloch Liebler.

Other business supporters and clients include:

- Australian River Restoration Centre
- BHP
- Brains Design
- Clarins
- DFC (Project Management)
- Endeavour Energy
- Gateway South
- GreenCollar
- Merrell
- Newmont Goldcorp Boddington
- Paynter Dixon Constructions
- Pharos Corporation
- PUR Projet
- TasNetworks
- WOMADelaide Foundation
- Woodside

Some of the first planting sites through the Restoring Australia initiative with Officeworks were in the heavily cleared Tasmanian Midlands. Jimmy Collinson from Greening Australia, Kym Sharpe from Officeworks and landholder Julian von Bibra with a two-year-old Restoring Australia seedling. Photo credit Annette Ruzicka.



OUR SUPPORTERS

Government

Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy

Greening Australia is the largest service provider of the Australian Government's [20 Million Trees](#) program, completing in 2020. The Australian Government's Reef Trust provides key funding directly to three major Reef Aid projects aimed at restoring coastal wetlands and repairing heavily eroded gullies. Through the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, Australian Government funding is also enabling Greening Australia to trial a new, first-of-its-kind 'pay for performance' project aimed at generating Reef water quality credits for sediment reduction.

Australian Government Department Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development

Funding of our [Western Sydney Seed Production Area](#) (SPA) continues, with the facility hitting critical scale this year through major earthworks to develop the new SPA footprint. This facility will form an important part of specialist seed supply to the Western Sydney restoration market for years to come.

Australian Government Department of Agriculture

In May 2019, the Australian Government announced funding for two new innovative projects aimed at building capability in the sector: an online portal for landholders who want to plant trees, and a project testing and developing drone technology for large-scale habitat restoration. We will report on progress for these two projects in 2020.

Queensland Government Department of Environment and Science

Funding of \$3.3m for three Reef Aid gully repair projects continues, with the aim to reduce suspended sediment pollution and improve water quality for the Great Barrier Reef. Projects supported include the highly successful [Innovative Gully Remediation Project](#) at Strathalbyn Station.

NSW Government Saving Our Species

Greening Australia's project, valued at \$756,000 over three years, is restoring and enhancing [habitat for the Superb Parrot](#) in the Riverina with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and with support from Officeworks' Restoring Australia initiative. We are restoring land at priority breeding sites on both public and private property.

Greening Australia provides services to governmental departments, statutory authorities and agencies across Australia, including:

Australian Government

- Department of Industry, Innovation and Science

ACT

- ACT Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate
- ACT Government Health
- ACT Parks and Conservation
- Icon Water Limited
- Transport Canberra and City Services

NSW

- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- National Parks and Wildlife Service
- NSW Environmental Trust
- Roads and Maritime Services
- Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust
- South East Local Land Services
- Western Sydney Parklands Trust

QLD

- Fitzroy Basin Association Inc
- NQ Dry Tropics Ltd

TAS

- Department of State Growth

SA

- Department of Environment and Water
- Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure
- Department of Primary Industries and Regions
- Native Vegetation Council
- Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges
- Natural Resources Eyre Peninsula
- Natural Resources Northern and Yorke
- Natural Resources SA Murray-Darling Basin
- SA Power Networks
- SA Water

VIC

- Corangamite Catchment Management Authority
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority
- Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority
- Mallee Catchment Management Authority
- Parks Victoria
- Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority
- VicRoads
- Wimmera Catchment Management Authority
- Zoos Victoria

WA

- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation — Environment Protection Authority
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation — State NRM Program
- Development WA
- Northern Agricultural Catchments Council
- Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

Philanthropy

Our philanthropic supporters include:

- 1% for the Planet
- Base Camp Tasmania
- Biome
- Channel Foundation
- Disney Conservation Fund
- Garry White Foundation
- Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation
- Give2Asia
- I=Change
- JM Roberts Charitable Trust
- John T Reid Charitable Trust
- John Villiers Trust
- Kamenar Foundation
- Mazda Foundation
- Morris Family Foundation
- Myer Foundation
- NAOS Asset Management
- One Tree Planted
- Paul M Angell Family Foundation
- Perpetual Trustees
- Platinum Cables
- Portland House Foundation
- Ryan Cooper Family Foundation
- SBS Foundation
- The Purryburry Trust
- The Two Monkeys Foundation
- Tiffany & Co. Foundation
- Yulgilbar Foundation

The Prior Family, Ian Potter Foundation and the Norman Family

This small group of high-profile philanthropists and investors have made a world of difference as founding supporters of Reef Aid.

In 2015, the Ian Potter Foundation became our first wetland restoration supporter. New to environmental philanthropy, David and Sallie Prior catalysed growth in support from both government and business by developing a challenge funding model for the innovative gully remediation pilot. And the Norman Family, also new to environmental philanthropy, have directly attracted over three times their contribution from other philanthropists through active promotion, introductions and endorsement.

These founding supporters have made introductions to new donors in Australia and USA, provided advice on marketing, provided credibility through their due diligence, spread the story through their membership with Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network, attended meetings and events with government ministers, been direct referee for new funders, and have influenced Greening Australia's ability to secure corporate support. Since 2016, Reef Aid has grown into a \$30m project involving multiple landholders, Indigenous groups, research partners and other investors.

Pennicott Wilderness Journeys

In 2019 we celebrated a 10 year partnership with Pennicott Wilderness Journeys capturing and storing 100% of their carbon emissions. To date, donations from Pennicott Wilderness Journeys have helped plant over 650,000 trees across 1,800 hectares of habitat in the Tasmanian Midlands biodiversity hotspot. The sites are not only sequestering carbon well over Pennicott Wilderness Journeys' emissions, they are restoring degraded land and increasing biodiversity in Tasmania's highest priority landscapes, and providing cutting-edge research data on climate change and restoration ecology.



The Ian Potter Foundation and the Normans attended a donor tour of Reef Aid sites in 2018, together with Greening Australia staff and other stakeholders. Photo credit Annette Ruzicka.

GET INVOLVED

Help us create healthy, productive landscapes where nature and people thrive.

greeningaustralia.org.au

Become a member to join us every step of the way

Become a partner and help us create meaningful impact for the environment

Donate to support our work restoring Australian landscapes

Subscribe for updates via our monthly e-newsletter

Connect with us on social media:



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