

Performance Review 2012/13

for the GLENRAC Strategic Plan 2010-2015

A. SUSTAINING LAND – VEGETATION, SOILS, WEEDS AND LAND USE

A1. Enhance vegetation cover and water use efficiency

- a. Develop & maintain partnerships with other organisations
GLENRAC has 18 formal and informal partnerships with other NRM organisations
GLENRAC represented on 6 regional NRM committees
- b. Provide resource centre for the community for the dissemination of information.
A fully operational community resource centre is maintained Mon – Fri during business hours or available on the GLENRAC mobile. In addition, GLENRAC maintains a website and Facebook updated weekly with news and events.
- c. Host an annual pasture / ground cover field day
 - i “Coolatai management & control” field day Reedy Creek, Strathbogie 28th March 2013 (26) (BRG CMA, DECCW, NSW DPI)
 - ii CAG Mapping revegetation plantings achieved mapping on 112 properties (515 tree plots mapped) and 65 landholders were taken through the “how to use a GPS” workshop
 - iii Pasture to Pocket (P2P) course and follow up days (45pp)

A2. Health soils for healthy landscapes

- a. Provide resource centre for the community for the dissemination of information.
Completed
- b. Seek funding for soils related projects
Successful funding achieved for \$159,801
 1. Community Action Grants (CAG11-00036) Implementing Soils Monitoring activities on Ben Lomond farms to benchmark soil on 13 properties, importantly soil carbon Year 3
 2. BRG CMA Sustainable Farm Practises Grants – Healthy Soils workshop
- Start of a AOTG with NR-CMA 3 farms x 3 years

A3. Reduce the impact of weeds

- a. Work with partner organisations to deliver information on weeds
GLENRAC represented on the Northern Inland Weeds Advisory Committee and the BRG CMA Invasive Species steering committee.
- b. Work in conjunction with GISC to present newsletter articles and displays
Ongoing formal arrangement with GISC, newsletter article published bi-monthly.
Static display in the GLENRAC office space featuring invasive plants and animals.
- c. Host an annual weeds field day
 - i Productive Farms & Healthy Rivers field day 14/03/2013 (CFOC, GISC, Clean Energy Future)
 - ii “Coolatai management & control” field day Reedy Creek, Strathbogie 28th March 2013 (26) (BRG CMA, DECCW, NSW DPI)

d. Additional Information

Successful funding achieved \$181,260

- i Biodiversity Fund – Control of honey locust to increase biodiversity and conservation values over three years, in its 2nd year
- ii Severn River for 3 years;
- iii Coolatai management; Rummerys Hill group; WONS and Mann River
- v Granite Borders Landcare/CMA Blackberry Control Project

A.4 Landholder Education

- a. GLENRAC will host one property management planning course per annum
One course completed in conjunction with BRG CMA Property Planning team in 12/13 for Glen Innes landholders.
- b. Seek funding for landholders who have completed NRM strategic planning activities
Successful funding achieved directly from funding bodies 3 private landholders, BRG CMA Sustainable Farming practises grants
- c. Address future training needs.
Enquiry forms available at office & online, evaluation forms available for completion at events to assess landholder needs.

Workshops and field days hosted by GLENRAC in 2012/13 –

- Landscan Course – last 3 workshops July 2012 to Oct. 2012 (8)
- Fox coordinators meeting 1/08/2012 (12)
- GPS training – 9 workshops from Aug. 2012 to June 2013 (65)
- Fox baiting pick up August 2012 and April/May 2013 (68)
- Healthy Soils 20/09/2012 (27)
- Tree planting field day 11/10/2012 (25)
- Pasture to Pocket 23/10/2012 (20)
- Dung beetle field day 29/10/2012 (24)
- Rummerys Hill Phil Sparks 20/11/2012 (20)
- Soils for Life field day 21/11/2012 (134)
- Stock handling school 4/12/2012 (20)
- Feral field day 8/02/2013 (35)
- Pasture Plant Identification 12/02/2013 (20)
- Feral animal control field day 8/03/2013 (24)
- Productive farms & healthy rivers 14/03/2013 (20)
- Coolatai management field day 28/03/2013 (26)
- Ben Lomond soils seminar 2/05/2013 (70)
- Measure to manage workshop 9/05/2013 (20)
- Managing dry times P2P 15/05/2013 (12)
- Indian myna bird control 18/05/2013 (14)
- Rummerys Hill Tag along Tour 8/06/2013 (12)
- Bus trip to Gary McDoualls P2P 13/06/2013 (10)
- Glen Innes show display 23 & 24 Feb 2013
- Ashford Show 2013

B. MANAGING WATER – EROSION CONTROL, WATER QUALITY

B.1 Reduce risk of soil erosion & repair active erosion sites

- a. Provide community resource centre for the dissemination of information
Completed.
- b. Seeking funding for soils related on ground works project
Refer A.4.b
- c. Facilitate access to professional advice for soil erosion projects
GLENRAC staff work in conjunction with CMA Catchment Officers & NSW Soil Conservation Service to access professional advice services.
- d. Report annually on the number of projects, no. ha repaired and any other associated works completed.
On ground works targets achieved
 - i. Five soil monitoring sites through AG CFOC project, 2010-2013;
 - ii. Thirteen soil monitoring sites through AG CAG Ben Lomond Year 3

B.2 Protect waterways and riparian zones

- a. Develop and maintain partnerships with other organisations
11 partnerships maintained during 2012 & 2013
- b. Provide resource centre for the community for dissemination of information.
Completed.
- c. Seeking funding for riparian related on ground works project
Successful funding achieved for
 - i. Severn River project secured 2011 to 2013 for on ground work in riparian zones;
 - ii. Biodiversity fund – Control of honey locust to increase biodiversity and conservation values three year project \$109,000: implemented second year
 - iii. BRGCMA - Control of Honey Locust on the Severn and Macintyre Rivers \$40,000
- d. Report annually on the number of projects, km of riparian fencing completed and any other associated works completed.
On ground works targets achieved
 - i Honey Locust controlled along the rivers and targets reported on, to BioFund and BRGCMA
 - ii Severn River project targets achieved and reported to funding body including:
-2 workshops in Glen Innes & Ashford attended by 55 landholders
-River reach plan developed and documented to consolidate previous works
-24 properties conducted on ground works projects including repair of erosion, fencing to protect waterways, alternate stock water and weed control, notably blackberry, honey locust and privet infestations





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B3. Participate in regional water quality monitoring activities

Offer Water Watch training and/or monitoring to any stakeholders individuals or groups interested in participating.
Private landholders and one local school group

C. ACHIEVING BALANCE – BIODIVERSITY, FLORA-FAUNA, ANIMAL PESTS

C.1 Biodiversity understanding.

- a. Develop and maintain partnerships with other organisations.
Completed
- b. Provide resource centre for the community for dissemination of information.
Completed
- c. Seeking funding for biodiversity related on ground works project.
Successful funding achieved \$114,023
 - i. CFOC \$61,882 Increasing native habitat
 - ii. CAG \$20,000 Dung beetle friendly farms
 - iii. CAG \$21,340 Rummerys Hill Landcare
- d. Report annually on the number of projects, no. of seedlings planted/ no. ha fenced to conserve native vegetation on farms and any other associated works completed.
On ground works targets achieved including-
 - i. 10,000 native seedlings were planted as part of CFOC - Increasing native habitat
 - ii. 3 field days and 1 workshop. 81 attendees

C.2 Protect native habitat, flora and fauna.

- a. Develop and maintain partnerships with other organisations.
Completed
- b. Provide resource centre for the community for dissemination of information.
Completed
- c. Refer PVP enquiries to relevant CMA staff.
Completed as enquires are received by GLENRAC staff. A range of Native Veg. Act information available from the GLENRAC office.

C.3 Control of Pest Animals (feral and "other")

- a. Work with partner organisation to deliver information on pest animals and methods of control.
GLENRAC is represented on the BRG CMA Invasive Species committee and the NE/NW Pest Animal project steering committee.
- b. Work in conjunction with the LHPA to present newsletter articles and public displays.
 - i. Glen Innes and Ashford show displays February 2012
 - ii. Feral focus and Pest animal displays at various local stores
 - iii. Pest Smart fact sheets available at the GLENRAC office
 - iv. Feral Focus display at the GLENRAC office June-September 2013, new Pest Smart fact sheets
 - v. Indian Minor workshop
 - vi. Assisted with 5 coordinated fox baiting programs
 - vii. 3 Feral animal control field days
- c. Seek funding for pest animal related projects.
Successful funding achieved \$5,000
 - i. BRG CMA / Rummerys Hill Landcare group Fox control project second/final year, \$5,000

D. EXTENDING GLENRAC PERFORMANCE

D.1 Extend GLENRAC's Reach – wider and deeper.

- a. Scope current and future target audience.
Increased urban participation through -
 - i. GLENRAC representation on the GISC Open Spaces sub-committee - Lucy Faithfull
 - ii. Assisting Urban BushlandCare group as required
- b. Develop new strategies to engage new members in the immediate community and beyond.
 - i. The GLENRAC website has been maintained during 2012/13
 - ii. GLENRAC has continued using Facebook as a means of communicating with our target audience
 - iii. Use of web based e-flash database to communicate quickly and effectively with both urban & rural residents; 54 E/flashes
 - iv. 64 Media Releases
 - v. 8 new publications produced
- c. Review communication strategy and methods annually.
 - i. Revision of website structure and content;
 - ii. Continual upgrading of GLENRAC newsletter style & content.

D.2 Professional project management.

- a. Deliver all projects on-time and on-budget.
Completed
- b. Annual review of staff skills development needs.
In progress
- c. Annual plan for staff professional development.
In progress
- d. Annual audit of GLENRAC resources available to deliver projects.
Completed 2012/2013 financial year

D.3 Monitor, evaluate and report

- a. Develop simple MERI process.
MERI system in place for all projects, events, training.
- b. Report annually to the committee.
In the form of performance against the Strategic plan i.e. this report.

D.4 Provide a voice for grass roots landholders

- a. GLENRAC will continue in its role as a source of information and data to local, regional, State and National NRM agencies.
 - i. GLENRAC office displays 117 printed resources + 30 online resources
 - ii. GLENRAC provides data to 7 local, regional, state and national NRM agencies.
 - iii. GLENRAC staff and Jeff Lowien to Newcastle Landcare State Conference
- b. The GLENRAC Chair will attend New England North West Chairs and the BRG CMA Landcare Advisory Group as a representative of GLENRAC.
 - i. NE/NW Chairs meetings attended by John Bavea, Chairman and CSO, Tanya Weir
 - ii. Various BRG CAP Meeting attended
- c. GLENRAC Chair will report on these activities at the AGM in the Chairman's report.
To be completed at the AGM, 24th September 2013

D.5 Secure resources for effective implementation.

- a. GLENRAC will continue to seek funding to continue to provide the same level of base services to the community – Community Resource Centre, Full time Community Support Officer.
 - i. Employed 3 to 5 part time staff in 2012/13
 - ii. Successful funding of \$95,000.00 obtained (includes one Community Support Officer and all running costs) for the 2013/14 financial year through partnership with BRG CMA
- b. GLENRAC will seek to secure funding for NRM focused activities for the local community.
 - i. In 2012/13 GLENRAC staff applied for \$837,298.00 worth of funding.
 - ii. GLENRAC received approvals for \$247,456.00 of funding from various grants sources.
 - iii. As at 30 June 2013, 3 current applications awaiting response, total funding requested \$8,878.00.
 - iv. GLENRAC helped 3 individual landholders secure direct grants from funding bodies.
 - v. Supported regional funding applications
- c. Statement of funding obtained to be presented in an annual report.
Completed 24th September 2013 AGM

E. WORKING FORWARD – CHALLENGING CLIMATES AND SYSTEMS

E.1 Complexity – and community capacity building.

- a. Establish and maintain partnerships with new groups and stakeholders in NRM.
 - i. Refer A1
 - ii. Commenced planning the "Healthy Land - Resilient Communities" 2014 LANDCARE Adventure for 19th and 20th March 2014

E.2 Climate change and this region.

- a. Act as an information conduit to inform the community of the effects of climate change
GLENRAC office provides printed resources on the effects of climate change on sustainable agricultural techniques, in addition to onsite links to Federal and State scientific reports on climate change.
- b. Promote and provide (as appropriate) training activities relating to climate change.
One event promoted and/or hosted in 2012-13
 - i. Managing dry times P2P – May 2013

E.3 Demographics changing ways and means.

- a. Establish and maintain an effective delivery mechanism to increase NRM skills across all sections of the community.
GLENRAC partners with various NRM stakeholder groups to increase NRM skills across the community.

