

MID COAST 2 TOPS LANDCARE CONNECTION



Mid Coast 2 Tops
Landcare
Connection

2024
snapshot



Mid Coast 2 Tops wishes to acknowledge the land and seas we care for as Worimi and Biripi country, which was never ceded.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging and celebrate the diversity of First Nations peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW.



hello

We offer you a snapshot of the operations of Mid Coast 2 Tops Landcare Connection (MC2T) for the year 2024.

The information draws upon data collected from the events, activities and projects we have presented or partnered.



our vision

Growing resilient ecosystems from the mountains to the sea.

our purpose

To bring people together to care for our landscapes.



who we are



Run by volunteers for volunteers, supported by a team of dedicated staff.

MC2T advocates for and seeks funding for the many groups across the different landscapes of our area: the Coast, Manning, Inland (Upper Manning and the Karuah Valley) and Great Lakes.

- 403 Volunteers
- 4 Local Landcare Coordinators
- 1 Regional Landcare Coordinator
- 2 Project Officers
- 1 Support Officer

a taste of what we do

Highlighting activities MC2T has organised or supported in 2024.

workshops
18

groups supported
31

local field days
11

regional field day
1

on ground activities
15

plants planted
1,035

community markets
4

on-ground volunteer
hours recorded
1340

volunteer
participants
294

grant applications
4

leadership projects funded
4



nsw landcare enabling program 2023 -2027

Goals:

- develop skills, knowledge & experience of Landcarers to increase their capacity
- increase volume of Landcare activity relative to resource inputs by improving efficiency
- leverage investment for diversity of funding sources in order to increase self-sufficiency

Opportunities from this Program

- Regional Landcare Coordinator for Mid Coast
- Local Coordinator - support for staff, committee and landscapes
- Doubling of hours for Local Coordinators in landscapes
- Funds for district and regional networking
- Professional development for staff
- Shared Services Hub of resources for staff & committee



This initiative is made possible by the NSW Landcare Enabling Program, a collaboration between Local Land Services and Landcare NSW supported by the NSW Government.



the coast

*Biosecurity Workshop -
February, 20 attendees*

*Rainforest ID Workshop -
March, 21 attendees*

*Wallabi Point Walk -
August, 16 attendees*

**Working Bees -
Crowdy Head &
Harrington**

**Manning Coastcare Group Inc
Wallabi Point Coastcare Group
Forest Heart Coastcare Group
Diamond Beach Coastcare Group
Harrington Coastcare Group
Hallidays Point Coastcare Group
Old Bar Coastcare Group**

**Wallabi Point
Coastcare Group won
the Landcare NSW
Coastcare Award**



The image shows a certificate for the Wallabi Point Coastcare Group. At the top left is the Manning Coastcare Group Inc. logo. The main text reads: "Wallabi Point Coastcare Group WINNERS Coastcare Award — 2023/2024 — NEW SOUTH WALES LANDCARE AWARDS". Below this are logos for the Australian Government, National Landcare Program, Woolworths, Landcare NSW, and Landcare. The website www.landcareawards.org.au is listed. At the bottom, it says "Go here to find out more about local Coastcare groups:" with a QR code, and "or email: coast@midcoast2tops.org.au".

manning

Junior Landcare events included
Koalas & Cubbies Field Day with Mid Coast Council
Water Quality Monitoring with Mid Coast Council

Manning Landcare Inc
Killabakh and Lower Cedar Party
Landcare Inc
Wherrol Flat & Caparra Landcare Inc
Taree Landcare
Friends of Browns Creek
Upper Lansdowne Landcare
Stewarts River Catchment Group
Manning Junior Landcare
Creative Landcare Collaborators

Sold out screening of *Rachel's Farm*

Funding support for Manning Junior Landcare from Essential Energy



10

inland - upper manning & karuah valley

The Tops Landcare - monthly working bees

Supporting the regenerative farming space with a range of events.

Carbon Farming Beyond the Dollars - collaboration with Mid Coast Growers Network, Local Land Services & Gloucester Pastoralists Group, in Gloucester

Mill Creek Restoration Project at Stroud funded by Duralie Coal

Stroud Junior Landcare launching in 2025

Gloucester Environment Group

SubSonic Music Festival at Riverwood Downs - raising Landcare's profile & running a tree planting. Collaborating with Greater Sydney Landcare, Hunter Intrepid, Hunter Landcare, North Coast Landcare, North West Landcare & New England Landcare

Dirty Detour - 250 people attended cycling weekend in Monkerai. 50 trees planted by attendee volunteers

11

great lakes & lower karuah

Karuah & Great Lakes Landcare Inc.

Dyers Crossing Landcare

Wootton Topi Topi Sustainable Farming

Wang Wauk/Wallamba Sustainable Farming

Karuah River Catchment Landcare

Wang Wauk Catchment Landcare

Bulahdelah Sustainable Farming

Wallamba Bridges Bushcare

Nabiac Community Garden

Mid Coast Growers Network

Dunn's Creek Landcare

Nabiac Landcare

Smiths Lake Landcare

Drought Resilience Workshop at Yeo Farm with Limestone Permaculture

Dung Beetle Workshop - educating landholders on the importance & benefits of dung beetles for soil health

Funding support for Nabiac Landcare from Essential

Energy to hold *Riparian*

Regen Walk & Talk

showcasing the work on

Woosters Creek

New group Dunn's Creek

Landcare supported with

plant ID & bush

regeneration



12

private land conservation matters

workshops / field days - 12

attendance - 537

96 BCT Landholders engaged

190 LFW members engaged

networking events - 6

attendance - 114



PRIVATE LAND CONSERVATION MATTERS

Landcare NSW and the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust are working together to raise awareness and support private land conservation efforts across the state.

photo credit: Virginia Bear - Little Gecko Media

land for wildlife

new LFW members

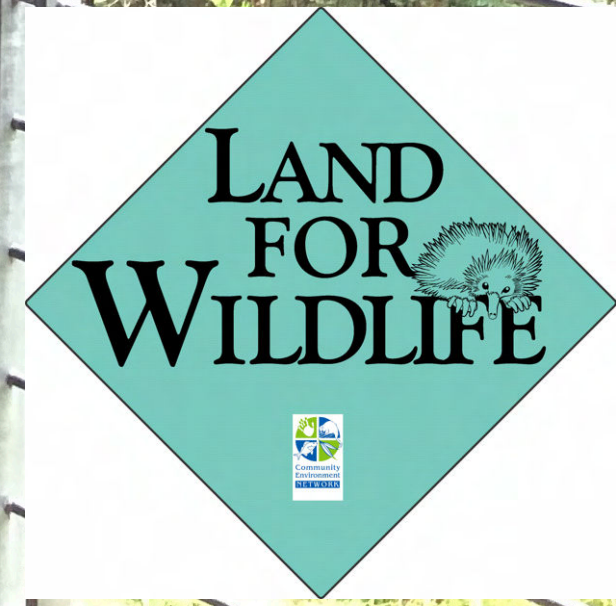
23

new land conserved

5,814.27ha

LFW members -146

**Success of program
celebrated with 3 day event
hosted by Mid Coast
Council - including a
professional development
forum, and tour of member
properties**



eco burn education

events

5

1 live fire demonstration in Stroud

participants

68

Guide to Fire Ecology on the Mid Coast to be released end November 2024

Development of community resource package to improve understanding of and confidence in using fire to improve landscape function

The project has been made possible with funding from the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program.



people led prevention project - *Burn Plans for You*

events

6

participants

72

52.59ha of planned burns on private land across Killabakh, Nabiac, Pindimar, Coomba Park, Gloucester & Wherrol Flat

- Development of *'Pathway for Burning on Private Property in NSW'*
- FAQ document
- Online learning modules for fire ecology & management

Future fire ecology project awarded Environmental Trust Grant



PEOPLE LED PREVENTION PROJECT

Landcare NSW's People Led Prevention project empowers communities across regional NSW in developing disaster resilience and preparedness skills. Jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Governments.

16 leadership - small projects

A collaboration between MC2T and Local Land Services funded a number of community leaders to undertake small projects that support and nourish the community. The projects developed:

Ripples of Change; supporting women's mental health through social connection and environmental stewardship. Partnered with the Manning Chapter of OzFish and Manning Kayak Group.

Gayay Lagili Garden a co-designed sustainable, accessible and inclusive community space that provides skill development and employment opportunities for people with disability. Partnered with Dundaloo Enterprises

First Nations Junior Landcare Group; Commencing in 2025 working with Whitney Ridgeway from Hunter Local Land Services, this will involve a series of monthly learning circles for a group of Indigenous primary students in Forster.

Slow Food Community Singleton: increasing local food networks and security through community, engagement, education and involvement. Supporting the development of a community garden for Maitland Baptist Church and a local Indigenous Foods workshop.



collaboration with hunter catchments



member of regional body: Hunter & Mid Coast Landcare Hub Inc.

visit to *Aussie Ark*

- planning workshop for NSW Landcare Enabling Program (LEP)
- LEP induction workshop, committee & staff
- quarterly State Advisory Council of Landcare NSW meetings
- *Trees in the House* event with Parliamentary Friends of Landcare

looking forward...

The MC2T Committee has established an array of policies and procedures to guide operations. There has been a review of the MC2T membership structure. Succession in the committee office bearer positions is now greatly enhanced by a comprehensive functional analysis of paid and voluntary roles. At the AGM, Robyn Lamond will be stepping aside as President, after 5 years of dedicated commitment.

We would like to take this time to acknowledge all Landcare volunteers, on-ground and on committees, the contribution each person makes and the many benefits this brings to our landscape on the Mid Coast.



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