



2018 NATIONAL LANDCARE AWARDS

11 October
Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

Nominee: Swan Alcoa Landcare Program, WA
Category: Australian Government Partnerships for Landcare Award

The Swan Alcoa Landcare Program (SALP) brings industry, government and community together to empower grassroots action throughout the Swan Canning catchment in Western Australia. Community groups can apply to SALP for Landcare grants of up to \$20,000 annually for a single project.

SALP was formed in 1998 when Alcoa of Australia (Alcoa) provided \$1.25 million over five years for the Landcare grants. The Swan River Trust, which is now amalgamated with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) joined the program as a funder the following year. Perth NRM (PNRM) administers the community grant process on behalf of the funders.

Running for 20 years, the program has delivered more than \$8.4 million for on-ground projects in the catchment. Volunteers have contributed nearly 182,000 hours and put close to 2.5 million plants in the ground, revegetating more than 1,943 hectares of degraded land. To date, SALP has injected almost \$18.3 million into the economy through partnership funding, local government contributions and volunteer labour estimated at \$3.6 million. These funds have helped to protect valuable bushlands and waterways in the Swan Canning catchment. Recognising SALP's success in improving water quality, the State NRM Office contributed \$100,000 during 2009-11 and the Commonwealth Government invested \$200,000 during 2013-17 through their commitment to the Swan Canning Water Quality Improvement Plan.

A total of 1,323 projects have rehabilitated and protected habitat for native flora and fauna in the urban and peri urban environment. The revegetation projects are likely to have reduced nutrients entering the rivers and wetlands. Ecological corridors between remnant bush and wetlands have been established. Weed eradication has been carried out across 4,800 hectares. A total of 1,900 tonnes of mulch has been spread and 6,000 kilometres of fencing erected. In 2018, 25 community groups received \$338,604 to undertake 53 projects. These ranged from tackling invasive weeds and restoring biodiversity to improving water quality in waterways and restoring areas of natural bushland.

SALP's model is rare among grant programs in that it provides funding for a project promotion as well as administration and is ongoing. With continuity a critical factor in achieving NRM outcomes, the long-term nature of this partnership has meant continued growth and effectiveness for a variety of projects. Waterways and bushlands have been revegetated. Feral bees have been removed to provide nesting infrastructure for large birds. Dieback has been treated and landowners have shared fencing costs to protect their waterways from stock incursion.

This program is supported by Landcare Australia and the National Landcare Network, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.





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Landcare is a grassroots movement that harnesses individuals and groups to protect, restore and sustainably manage Australia's natural environment and its productivity. Groups that fall under the Landcare umbrella work on a diverse range of environmental projects and include farmers embracing sustainable farm management and any community group that partakes in volunteer environmental activities. To find out how you can become a Landcare volunteer and for full details on all 2018 National Landcare finalists, visit www.landcareaustralia.org.au

Ends

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Web Summary

The Swan Alcoa Landcare Program (SALP) was established in 1998 to support urban community groups throughout the Swan Canning catchment in Western Australia. Community groups apply to SALP for Landcare grants of up to \$20,000 annually for a single project. The program has delivered more than \$8.4 million for 1,323 on-ground projects. Volunteers have contributed nearly 182,000 hours and put close to 2.5 million plants in the ground, revegetating more than 1,943 hectares of degraded land. To date, SALP has injected almost \$18.3million into the economy through partnership funding, local government contributions and volunteer labour estimated at \$3.6 million. These funds have provided significant protection and improvement in the waterways and bushlands of the Swan Canning catchment.

Pull-out quote:

SALP's model is rare among grant programs in that it provides funding for a project's promotion as well as its implementation.

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