



2018 NATIONAL LANDCARE AWARDS

11 October
Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

Nominee: Turners Beach Coastcare Inc, TAS

Category: Coastcare Award

The Turners Beach Coastcare Group (TBC) undertakes sustainable practices to restore damage caused by land clearing and storms. The Group's weed control and revegetation efforts protect waterways and wetlands, reflecting the important role that coastal vegetation plays in maintaining the integrity of the dunes and river mouth.

The Group's work in propping up eroding foredunes and strengthening slumping riverbanks has enabled it to adopt a position of leadership in the community. Council plans for residential amenities are reviewed by TBC in a consultative role, and management plans now prioritise conservation, protecting trees and coastal bush. While much of the surrounding coast has been developed, the Turners Beach coastal zone has been protected.

The Group has also worked to preserve mature trees in parks, reserves, and streetscapes. Understory plantings along caravan park frontage have enhanced the coastal drive, and landscaped native gardens around public amenities such as BBQs, toilet blocks and footpaths have nurtured habitat enhancement.

As part of the Customs Reserve Management Plan, the Group has recovered many locally extinct wildflowers, and TBC has gained control of most woody weeds. The Group also runs a maintenance and monitoring program against sea spurge, as well as a progressive program of willow and cape ivy control.

For the last two decades, TBC has also protected remnant woodlands and individual eucalyptus trees, revegetated vast areas of previously cleared coastal land, restored dunes, low-lying wetlands, and riparian banks, and successfully controlled many invasive weeds. Claytons Rivulet is flowing due to an ongoing willow and blackberry control program, and the low-lying wetlands around it have naturally regenerated.

The Group has long collected data on weed distribution, photo-point records, flora and fauna locations, trees planted and tree survival. TBC also brought in specialists to conduct Aboriginal cultural surveys in addition to botanical surveys and bird, insect and mammal reports.

The Group has been able to use this data to educate land managers about the positive effects of environmental restoration. Today there are formal management plans that standardise environmental protections, and Council employees are better educated about habitat values. TBC keeps the community informed about dune restoration, rehabilitation of wetlands and riparian recovery.

Support for TBC's protection of native coastal vegetation along is high, especially after a mini-tornado caused chunks of dune to blow away. The majority of locals have come to realise the importance that native vegetation plays in protecting and stabilising the dunes and their properties.

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

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Web summary:

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Pull quote:

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