

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

PROGRAM	RECIPIENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME	STATE	LOCATION	PROJECT / ACTIVITY TITLE	SUMMARY OF APPLICATION - Purpose of the grant	Total Funding (GST Excl)
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Northern Territory Seafood Council Inc.	NT	Darwin	Adoption of new purpose designed data capture tool to improve knowledge and stewardship of the NT Mud Crab Fishery	During the development of the NT Mud Crab Harvest Strategy it was identified that language and workload barriers are impacting on the quality of data recorded and submitted. Largely due to low literacy levels, many fishers on the water are relying on the help of others to complete their logbooks, often days after the fishing activity, resulting in inaccurate returns bases on estimates and memory. Workload and sea conditions also make the task difficult. Industry want to use suitable technology to simplify and improve their fishing records to counteract claims of it being inaccurate and aid better understanding of mud crab stocks. Modification and a trial of the Deckhand app to meet the needs of an English as a second language user, will identify whether through the support of an app, the fishermen can start to restore trust in their operations through improved data collection and the resultant sustainable harvest methods.	\$49,900.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Agriculture Kangaroo Island Incorporated	SA	Kingscote	From Satellites to Soils to Sustainability - Farming on Kangaroo Island	Farmers need detailed and accurate paddock data to match fertiliser and lime requirements to soil type and plant needs. A range of extension approaches will be developed to accurately determine lime and fertiliser requirements for specific areas within paddocks. This strategic application of lime and fertiliser will result in decreased costs, improved farm productivity, reduction in soil acidity, erosion and the negative off site environmental impacts from excessive fertiliser applications. By understanding their soils, limitations, constraints and potential productivity, farmers can make more informed management decisions to ensure that soils are managed for the long term sustainability and viability of local cropping and grazing farm enterprises and the natural environment.	\$44,700.00
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<p>National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants</p>	<p>Landcare Victoria Inc</p>	<p>VIC</p>	<p>Melbourne</p>	<p>Breaking down the Stubble Myth. Incorporating crop stubbles into the soil with added nutrients to assist their decomposition, improve soil condition and reduce stubble burning in the high rainfall cropping zone of South Western Victoria.</p>	<p>Recently there has been a significant increase in continuous cropping across the Corangamite Lakes Landcare (CLL) area in the high rainfall cropping zone of Victoria. Associated with this is the potential for a decline in soil condition due to loss of soil organic matter under continuous cropping systems. Locally almost all cereal and bean stubbles are burnt, leading to a loss of organic matter and production of greenhouse gases. Wet winters and high stubble loads on heavy clay soils result in poor decomposition of any retained stubbles, causing blockages of air-seeders, increased incidence of slugs, snails and disease, and poor performance of subsequent crops. This project will address these barriers to adoption by demonstrating the incorporation of stubbles into the soil at 8 sites with addition of nutrients (fertiliser) to enhance decomposition, based upon work by CSIRO Research Agronomist Clive Kirkby et.al, with change in soil condition monitored and compared with reference sites.</p>	<p>\$44,520.00</p>
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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Katanning Land Conservation District Committee	WA	Katanning	Supporting the landowners of Daping Creek, Katanning WA, to integrate natural resource management into productive farming	The broadacre farmers of the Daping Creek catchment, Katanning WA, will be supported to take direct action to improve soil health and the management of natural resources in their productive farming systems through this project. Utilising expertise in the form of farm water assessments and agronomy, the farmers will work collaboratively across the boundaries of their adjoining properties using an 'information first' approach to plan and implement best practice water management, erosion control, revegetation, perennial pasture establishment and monitoring to improve environmental and productive outcomes. The project integrates work and learnings from previous Landcare activities into a fresh approach, not used before in this catchment, to guide decision making and activity. They will establish 35 ha of revegetation, 150 ha of perennial pastures, 8km of environmental fencing, complete 5 farm water assessments and track their progress against the catchments 2006 – 2026 NRM goals.	\$87,100.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Western Murray Land Improvement Group Incorporated	NSW	Barham	Managing Rice Stubble Post Harvest	This project aims to investigate best-practice management for rice stubble post-harvest in the Edward-Wakool region of NSW. The Moulamein Cropping Group (MCG) believes that the current management of rice stubble is a key constraint to irrigated productivity and profitability in the area. Current best practice in the region is to burn rice stubble to achieve an even seed bed for the next crop. This poses both an environmental and economic disadvantage, as burning diminishes soil bacterial populations, reduces nutrient levels and releases carbon dioxide, monoxide and nitrogen dioxide which contribute to greenhouse gases. The MCG intend to evaluate a number of alternative stubble management methods such as mulching and ploughing residues, with the intention of improving the sustainability of rice soils, reduce gaseous nitrogen emissions and boost crop productivity per megalitre in the face of a changing climate.	\$17,650.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Blackwood Basin Group Incorporated	WA	Boyup Brook	On-Ground Soil Monitoring Kit Education Program	This program will educate landholders in the tools and techniques available to continuously monitor the soil and biodiversity health on their properties. This increased capability will enable farmers to establish benchmarks & set objectives for continuous improvements in soil & biodiversity health, to monitor outcomes from land use practices & to target on-ground works. Fifty monitoring kits, containing \$600 worth of soil, water & biodiversity monitoring tools, will be provided to farmers with four in-field workshops. The kit will include practical & easy to use equipment, simple procedures & a record manual to assess different aspects of land health. The program's dual approach of practical equipment & in-field workshops will increase farmer's capabilities & awareness of land use impacts & will in turn result in increased monitoring & protection of soil & biodiversity. General monitoring trends will be shared with stakeholders to better assess state and national soil health levels.	\$49,917.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Greening Australia (WA) Ltd	WA	Shenton Park	Best practice rangelands rehydration to improve soil, vegetation, biodiversity and productivity on Yarrie, Yandeyarra Stations in the Pilbara -increasing knowledge, capacity and adoption by station managers, staff, volunteers and Aboriginal Rangers.	The project will deliver erosion control works, priority fencing, grazing management, comprehensive monitoring, training and knowledge sharing to improve soil, vegetation, biodiversity, grazing management and productivity of two Pilbara stations. The project will combine expert advice with local knowledge to enable management according to best practice pastoral and environmental principles. The works will occur on Yarrie and Yandeyarra Stations, which are priority areas (Rangelands NRM regional plan). Both stations have known Greater Bilby populations –habitat will be improved via these works. 'Ecologically Sustainable Rangelands Management' and 'Ecosystem Management Understanding' planning on both stations have identified multiple degraded areas where poorly managed tracks and infrastructure (associated with exploration, mining) have negatively impacted upon hydrological regimes, leading to vegetation and topsoil decline, affecting biodiversity, grazing management and profitability	\$93,800.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Rural Directions Trust	SA	Clare	Increased productivity and profitability from disruption of the hard pan layer in northern SA Mallee siliceous sands.	To conduct demonstrations at two sites in the northern SA Mallee using ripper-type equipment to break the hard pan layer that develops in deep siliceous sands (> 30 cm). In late autumn use a conventional ripper and a 'Depth Charger' to rip and pack demonstration strips in suitable paddocks. The landowner would sow a cereal crop over the whole paddock including the trial area, a no-rip control will be included in the demonstration. Measurements of soil physical and chemical properties before application of treatments are: penetrometer readings before and after renovation and for two years after; and comprehensive stratified soil testing conducted on the various soil types in the strips. Crop yield is measured for three years using grower yield monitoring equipment, with yields harvested for each treatment compared spatially. Profitability analysis will be presented. Grain for quality assessment will also be collected.	\$49,713.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Hart Field Site Group Incorporated	SA	Clare	Sustainable farming from the start	Ensuring the next generation of farmers are 'sustainable from the start' is critical to the long-term sustainability and profitability of the agricultural industry. This project is an extension of a pilot program (SGR1-0336) looking at new methods to engage and train farmers. The project will deliver a series of modules to build the knowledge and skills of early career farmers (0-8 years' experience). The workshops will be available to 45 early career farmers across the Mid-North and Yorke Peninsula. Research and agronomic expertise will be contracted to ensure the most recent information in sustainable farming practices is presented. The modules will focus on pest management, soil health / fertility, climate and sustainable farming in practice (on-farm visits). Each module will consist of a lecture style session followed by a hands on practical or field based session. Pre and post workshop surveys will evaluate participant learning and project outcomes during the project.	\$91,587.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Morawa Farm Improvement Group Incorporated	WA	Merkanooka	Our future is beneath the surface. Facilitating young farmers to increase knowledge and adopt best practice soil conservation methods.	Young farmers in the Shire of Morawa and future farmers currently attending WA college of Agriculture- Morawa will work with leading soil scientists to protect and rehabilitate our most precious natural resource, soil. Soils in the Shire of Morawa are severely degraded from acidity, compaction, loss of nutrients and erosion. This project will increase awareness of the problem and facilitate farmer adoption of land management practices that restore and protect soil. This objective will be achieved firstly by farmer's collecting and analysing their soil. Secondly this information will facilitate discussion and demonstration of best practice in three field based workshops. Lastly the project will create a sharing and collaboration culture in a small community striving to stay productive in the face of a changing climate.	\$24,093.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Agriculture Kangaroo Island Incorporated	SA	Kingscote	Creating healthy, productive and resilient perennial pasture systems on Kangaroo Island	To increase the resilience of grazing systems on Kangaroo Island (KI) by promoting a more species diverse pasture mix. The successful incorporation of perennial and annual legumes and grasses into existing pasture stands will improve robustness of the system to endure climate change impacts. A review of inter and intra state knowledge will determine the most appropriate strategies to be adopted on KI. Demonstration sites and technical support will drive farmer adoption. This system will be profitable and achieve significant environmental benefits of reducing erosion risk, minimising nutrient run-off and soil salinity; improving soil health and increasing soil carbon storage.	\$42,350.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	South West Catchments Council	WA	Bunburry	Soil constraints to productivity in high rainfall beef pastures (South West WA)	Nutrient availability in soils is recognised as a key constraint to profitable farming and beef farming is no exception, but farmers typically don't test enough variables, e.g. micronutrients, subsoil pH, compaction or soil biology. Most beef farmers use standard soil tests every three years to maintain high phosphorus levels, based on an extension message from 30 years ago when levels were lower, but seldom look at other constraints due to a lack of understanding of the costs and benefits. Testing of more variables can identify issues such as micronutrient deficiencies that significantly reduce yields, while more emphasis on building soil biology instead of soil phosphorus can reduce nutrient leaching. This project will provide farmers with on-ground evidence of the costs and benefits of testing all key variables under a range of conditions and soil types, so they can prioritise potential measures to optimise productivity, such as using trace elements or addressing nodulation issues.	\$92,516.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Glenrac Inc.	NSW	Glen Innes	Ferals in Focus - Glen Innes	Pest animals have been identified as a major issue for landholders across the Northern Tablelands region and as a threat to numerous threatened species and ecological communities. Pests such as rabbits, feral pigs, foxes and wild dogs all have significant impacts on both the natural environment and agricultural production. There are numerous environmental assets across the Northern Tablelands, including the World Heritage listed Washpool and Gibraltar Range National Parks, Torrington State Recreation area, Bolivia Nature Reserve and many others. These assets along with a number of endangered ecological communities and numerous vulnerable and endangered species (see attached EPBC list) are significantly affected by pest animals. This project will deliver a Pest Animal Forum bringing together land managers, both public and private land, technical experts and pest animal control practitioners from across northern NSW to share information, experience, techniques and new technologies.	\$8,410.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Murray Mallee Local Action Planning Association Inc.	SA	Murray Bridge	Regenerative farming mentor program	Informed consumers are increasingly placing pressure on meat, wool and grain markets for ethically and sustainably produced products. To support producers to adapt to the market and to improve sustainability and viability of their farms, a regenerative farming mentorship program will be coordinated. This will provide local farmers an opportunity to gain practical skills and knowledge to ultimately adopt regenerative farming methods that will not only meet market demand but also lead to increased production, and profit, improved NRM (natural resource management) and benefits to biodiversity. Champions of regenerative agriculture practices will mentor farmers through a series of workshops, field days, farm tours, online forums and regular communications between with farmers using tools such as video conference calls. Farmer networks in regenerative farming methods will be promoted to provide farmers with technical guidance and to establish a support system of like-minded producers.	\$49,700.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board	SA	Kingscote	Feral Cat Strike Force - Developing an Innovative, Best Practice, Community Wildlife Detection Dog Program for Feral Cat Eradication on Kangaroo Island to Increase Livestock Farming Profitability and Protect Island Biodiversity	This project will train a small team of local landholders and their companion dogs in humane and ethical wildlife detection dog (WDD) techniques to support feral cat eradication on Kangaroo Island (KI). Feral cats prey heavily on KI native fauna and are primary vectors for livestock diseases that impact the profitability of Kangaroo Island sheep farmers. An accredited Australian WDD specialist will deliver intensive workshop and field exercise training, supported by a local WDD contractor who can provide on-going mentoring support to WDD teams. Training will include mandatory animal welfare standards, target accuracy assessment, situational advice and refresher sessions, as well as the production of video training modules to facilitate on-going learning. The outcome will be establishment of a self-sustaining 'strike force' of trained community WDD teams with the capability to significantly enhance the long-term feral cat eradication program on KI.	\$99,500.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Greening Australia (Tas) Ltd	TAS	Mount Nelson	Effective control of feral cats in farm landscapes - trialling the Felixer grooming trap in Tasmania	Feral cats threaten biodiversity & agricultural production in Australia, & therefore have significant impact on the economic & ecological sustainability of farming. Existing tools cannot produce effective cat control at scales needed on farms. We will trial innovate Felixer grooming traps to overcomes limitations of conventional tools. Felixer devices specifically target cats & have proven effective in small-scale tests. The project will field trial them at landscape scales with farmers in the Tasmanian midlands. We will set up Felixer traps in an experimental design, with independent monitoring (field cameras) of resident cat populations to measure 1) impacts on population size of cats & movements of surviving cats, 2) benefits to wildlife from cat removal, & 3) effects of local removal of cats on exposure of sheep to diseases transmitted by cats. The device promises improved management on target farms & demonstration of best practice in cat management.	\$100,000.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	The Agricultural Bureau Of South Australia Incorporated	SA	Magill	Innovative and cost-effective methods to manage 'emerging' soil acidity to improve soil health, crop and pasture production	With more intensive and productive farming systems in the Mid North and Yorke Peninsula of SA there are now areas with emerging issues of soil acidity that have been regarded as traditionally non-acid soil areas. The growth of high value crops such as lentils and beans that are highly sensitive to low pH soils are not growing well in some areas due to increasing areas of soil acidity. The project will work with six farmer groups. It will trial and implement new and innovative technologies of soil pH mapping to show the spatial variation of soil pH across paddocks. The soil pH mapping demonstration work will be ground-truthed and will be used with decision support tools with farmer workshops to increase farmer's awareness, understanding, management and treatment of acid soils. The increased knowledge and facilitation of the new technology will allow farmers to better manage soil acidity to improve soil health, production and profitability. Case studies will be prepared	\$91,080.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Dalrymple Landcare Committee Incorporated	QLD	Charters Towers	Best management practices for wildlife conservation in grazing lands of the Queensland Dry Tropics	This project aims to improve the general awareness of graziers in the Dry Tropics region on the potential of grazing land for wildlife conservation. Through several activities, the project will highlight that wildlife represent a very valuable asset to their lands and can also be used as a tool to identify healthy country (i.e. soil fauna). It will define the best management practices for wildlife and defuse knowledge into the community through the publication of a booklet and a workshop. Several producers will be engaged through active implementation of recommended grazing practices for conserving wildlife and appropriate habitat.	\$17,700.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Petaurus Education Group Incorporated	NSW	Albury	Landholder driven discussion group to support the adoption of New Technologies, Tools & Best Management Practices for mixed farming to reduce pressures on our Natural Resources in the West Hume Landcare region.	The high level aim of this project is to increase the capacity of Landholders to adopt new technologies, tools and best management practices to increase their productivity and profitability while reducing pressures on our Natural Resources. This aim will be achieved through the formation of a Mixed Farming Landholder Discussion Group which will meet 10 times over two years with industry experts to deliver information on topics specifically requested by the group and driven by regional NRM priorities. This will also include 2 field trips to review practices in other regions. The group will have a Facilitator and Project Officer, who driven by the group needs, will partner with industry experts to deliver the sessions. In Year 1 the group will be established and participate in a series of information sessions, workshops and field days/trip. In Year 2 the group will be supported to adopt new practices and meet and discuss the successes or challenges that they are facing.	\$47,970.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Barron River Catchment Management Association Incorporated	QLD	Atherton	Raising awareness and encouraging adoption of Best Management Practice by mixed-cropping farmers on the Atherton Tablelands	Project aims to achieve optimum land management for the Atherton Tablelands Mixed Cropping Area (MCA) by enhancing farmer knowledge and adoption of Best Management Practices (BMPs). Focus is on potatoes, peanuts, maize and grass crops, where local producers lack an industry association to provide advice and support. Outcomes will be achieved via a facilitator who, together with Barron Catchment Care (BCC) members (including farmers involved in developing the BMPs), will conduct two shed meetings and four field days to demonstrate components of BMPs for specific crops. These events will include consideration of the cost-effectiveness of BMPs to assist in overcoming barriers to adoption, and dissemination of specific material to assist farmer's record and document practice change.	\$50,000.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	The Agricultural Bureau Of South Australia Incorporated	SA	Magill	Improved Control of Exotic Pest Snails in the Yorke Peninsula Region of SA	The project will evaluate new techniques to improve snail control and meet new market demands for low numbers of snails in grain. The use of time lapse cameras, together with collection and analysis of snail species throughout the season has improved snail control, through increasing understanding of snail behaviour and snail bait efficacy. Increasing snail mortality to eighty five percent has reduced crop damage and harvesting issues. However snails are still a major problem in many areas in S.A. due to high snail reproduction rates in favourable conditions (one snail producing 200 to 400 offspring) Achieving eighty five percent control of snails will not ensure farmers can meet forecast standards of "less than one snail per 0.5 litres". There is concern farmers may revert to increased use of bare earth treatments to meet tighter grain snail tolerances. Bare earth treatments will reduce plant soil cover and significantly increase erosion risk in loam soils.	\$47,500.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Merredin and Districts Farm Improvement Group	WA	Merredin	Using remotely sensed and on-farm data to improve soil management in Western Australia's eastern wheatbelt	This project will demonstrate how soil productivity constraints can be identified and managed more effectively through combining on-farm & free, remotely sensed data to determine land use capability. Sustainable practice options for the different capability classes will be identified and demonstrated through establishing on-farm trials on 8 eastern wheatbelt farms enable growers to evaluate and quantify the value of different soil management techniques within their own environment. Free airborne radiometric soil maps and satellite NDVI, crop yield, applied inputs and soil tests will be used to assess land use capability, production management zones and identify soil constraints. This data will be used to trial improved crop input management, soil constraint amelioration and more appropriate land use practices giving farmers an understanding of the entire process of implementation, soil health and economic benefits of adoption and knowledge to implement in other parts of their farms.	\$89,348.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	West Kimberley Land Conservation District Committee	WA	Derby	Bringing soils back to life through water ponding	The purpose of this activity is to assist farmers in the northern Rangelands of WA to learn through doing and bring scalded soil back to life and to increase productivity through waterponding. This project aims to facilitate adoption of this technology by engaging land managers in implementing the tool. Scalded soil essentially contains no life. Rainfall landing on scalded soil runs off quickly, causing erosion and destructive flooding. Water ponding slows water flow giving rainfall an opportunity to soak into the soil where it can be utilised for plant growth. Primary colonisers establish in the ponds quickly capturing carbon and kicking off the cycle of life. It is important for business profitability, the health of native flora and fauna and local communities living on river banks to restore scald soils and ensure life giving rains can infiltrate and in part be utilised where they fall.	\$100,000.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Mallee Sustainable Farming Inc.	VIC	Irymple	Enhancing the skills of Mallee farmers to measure whole farm sustainability	This project will assist farmers to quantify important sustainability measures such as ground cover, soil health and the nutrient balances of contemporary Mallee farming systems. Mallee farms have changed markedly over the past decade from simple rotations comprising cereals, pastures and fallow to highly complex systems comprising a range of legume, oil seed and hay enterprises interspersed with cereal crops. While these systems have significantly boosted whole farm productivity and profitability, farmers are uncertain of the impact of these higher production systems on key sustainability indicators such as groundcover, soil function and nutrient supply and the net balance of nutrients. This project will work with two case study farms over two years to quantify these indicators across a range of on-farm soil types and enterprises. Using these farms as demonstration sites, this project to directly engage a further 10 local growers to undertake a sustainability audit of their farm.	\$89,847.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Holbrook Landcare Group	NSW	Holbrook	Embedding a Recycling Culture for Silage Wrap and On Farm Plastics	The project will bring together landholders, Landcare groups, local council and a regional plastics recycler to create and embed a culture of on farm plastics recycling by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating an awareness and understanding of the environmental and on farm impact of farm plastics and current disposal practices</li> <li>• Exploring barriers for farmer and other stakeholder engagement in recycling of difficult plastics</li> <li>• Establish a fit for purpose local process to encourage and enable recycling of farm plastics</li> <li>• Embed a cultural commitment to recycling farm plastics in current and future farming generations</li> <li>• Develop an adoption guide that can be rolled out more widely across regions where similar issue exist</li> </ul>	\$59,000.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group Inc.	QLD	Maleny	Maleny Sustainable Beef	With buoyant beef prices Maleny graziers are exploring options to increase productivity on limited land (purchasing grazing land not viable) which will place significant pressure on farm soil, vegetation and water resources. Lake Baroon Catchment Care Group will engage 30+ local beef graziers to participate in a whole farm awareness and on-ground project that will provide best practice solutions to sustainability threats. We will form a Discussion Group and establish demonstration sites (fertiliser & grazing management) conduct workshops (soil, pasture, animal health and grazing) and field walks at demonstration sites. Soil tests will determine deficiencies and provide guidance on appropriate fertiliser selection while 10 Action Plans will direct 10 on-ground best practice projects (Seqwater funding) with a focus on riparian fencing, off stream water, shade, revegetation, stream crossings, erosion and weed management.	\$49,878.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation	WA	Roebourne	Conserving Australian native biodiversity - Indigenous rangers protecting environmental assets in the Pilbara region, WA	The activity will promote native biodiversity across an extensive indigenous land parcel through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Protection of native flora through weeds control and management</li> <li>o Sustain and increase vegetation through mosaic prescribed burns</li> <li>o Monitoring of treated Parkinsonia controlled measures</li> <li>o Native seeds population mapping</li> <li>o Native seeds collection for landscape propagation</li> <li>o Native mammals survey throughout lease</li> </ul> As part of the Yindjibarndi language group Conservation Program managed by the active and dedicated Ngurrawaana indigenous rangers. The corporation is developing an eco-tourism venture on its lease and a vital element for its success is insuring the diversity: fauna and flora are maintained, protected and improved for visitors experience and for the custodians' legacy to the environment. All activities stated will contribute to benefiting soil health, expand vegetative cover, reduce direct sun exposure, limit weeds and assist with augmenting floristic distribution.	\$48,000.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Condamine Catchment Natural Resource Management Corporation Limited	QLD	Toowoomba	Testing eShepherd virtual fencing to protect riparian habitat and implement rotational grazing in the Bollonne Condamine flood zone	This activity will increase the capacity of land managers in the Condamine flood plain to manage riparian vegetation and on-farm biodiversity. Outcomes include: 1- Enhanced knowledge, capacity and capability of local landholder to use innovative virtual fencing technology 2- Changed land management practices 3- Improved management of flood zone by conserving riparian vegetation, increasing biodiversity and soil health and minimising erosion. 4- Improved pasture management by implementing rotational grazing.	\$23,522.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Little River Landcare Group	NSW	Yeoval	Organic Matter Matters	This project will demonstrate how to increase soil organic matter by applying compost and changing grazing and soil management. The project will recruit five Little River Landcare members and engage them in a peer learning program to develop their capacity to assess soil quality, and, to identify and implement the most effective management actions to increase soil organic matter. The learning program will include a study tour to sites where soil is managed for increased organic matter and make use of the FarmMap4D Spatial Hub to highlight shifts in their agroecosystem health over the past 30 years. Compost will be applied on one 20 hectare paddock per participant. Through monitoring changes in soil quality indicators and biophysical responses in the treated paddock, for a period of four years, participants will gain practical soil quality assessment skills and will develop the knowledge to guide management decision-making aimed at increasing soil organic matter.	\$48,349.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Stirlings to Coast Farmers Inc.	WA	Albany	Future Farmers Student Connect Pilot Program - Creating connections between farmers and agriculture students through sustainable farming innovation demonstrations, lectures and mentoring	SCF will partner with two agricultural colleges to share expertise in sustainable farming systems and technological innovation with students and staff. Students will be encouraged to form connections with local innovative farmers and researchers who are willing to volunteer to talk with students, offer advice and mentoring. Specific activities over 18 months: • Demonstration sites will be established at each college. • Lectures and practical demonstrations provided to final year students relating to term themes. T1: New technologies for sustainable ag; T2: Looking after the land - sustainable farming systems; T3: Facing Climate Challenges on the land; T4: Careers in Ag and NRM • Free membership of the SCF Young Farmers group and welcome pack for students. • Events for students to meet other students and mix with innovative farmers. • Work experience, careers advice and mentoring will be offered to students. • Leadership Award presented to best performing student at end of year	\$42,000.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	South West Nrm Ltd	QLD	Charleville	Protecting Grazing Land Productivity & Biodiversity Values by Adopting Improved Vegetation Management Practices in the Warrego Catchment, Morven QLD	This activity will protect grazing land productivity by adopting improved vegetation management practices over 3000ha in the Warrego Catchment. This will effectively reduce the spread of Weed of National Significance (WONS) species Mother of Millions (MOM), Harrisia cacti & tree pear throughout the activity areas. Grazing land productivity will be enhanced by decreasing the area of pasture lands competing with weed species. Activity Outcomes include: 1- improved vegetation management practices over targeted point source locations & eradication & containment of invasive WONS over 3000ha 2- enhanced perennial pasture composition within the project area from reduced competition from invasive WONS weeds over the same 3000ha 3- 35 land managers with increased knowledge & capacity to implement and monitor the effectiveness of management strategies for vegetation resources across the activity area.	\$22,460.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Birchip Cropping Group Inc.	VIC	Birchip	Using standing crops to finish lambs and improve summer groundcover and soil health	This project will highlight a fodder option that will turn lambs off faster in summer, and provide more soil protection outside of the growing season. Through demonstration, field walks, group discussion and newsletter articles, the role for standing crops to fill a late-spring and early-summer pasture feedgap will be shared with, and trialled by mixed sheep-cropping farmers. The practice is low cost and low risk, and enables growers to sell lambs earlier, reduce the stocking pressure on dead feed paddocks and stubbles, and maintain more groundcover on paddocks until the autumn break than otherwise. A feedbase option that gives landscapes more groundcover in the summer period will protect soils against wind and heavy summer storm water erosion and potential nutrient loss. It is an important technique for mixed farm operations that need to balance potential antagonisms of running crops and livestock together, and managing environmental and economic risk in their business.	\$99,850.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	South West Nrm Ltd	QLD	Charleville	Improved Productivity by Increasing Groundcover for Increased Pastures in the Bulloo & Paroo Catchments	This activity will increase the capacity of the Land Manager to effectively implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices. This will increase productivity & efficiency while decreasing the cost of pest control in the catchment area. Feral pest eradication in the area will reduce grazing pressures, damage to fences and increase biodiversity by protecting two priority species identified in the national Threatened Species Strategy. Outcomes include: 1- Implementation of IPM Plan to reduce feral pests numbers over 150,000ha 2- Enhanced capacity and capability of the Land Manager for increased production & profitability over 150,000 ha 3- Increased groundcover over 150,000 ha	\$45,264.00

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National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Perth Region Nrm Inc.	WA	Belmont	Fertiliser and Irrigation Efficiency for Horticulture in a Drying Climate	The sandy soils of the Swan Coastal Plain have a poor water and nutrient holding capacity. Producers operating on the Plain need to implement leading irrigation and fertiliser management practices to minimize the impact they have on water resources. This project will identify and work with producers to demonstrate tools and practices that minimize the leaching of nutrients while improving production efficiencies. This will help negate the impact of the state government's plans to reduce water allocations for horticulturists in the Wanneroo area by 25% over the next 2-5 years. The project will allow 20 producers to trial and compare production methods to improve fertiliser and irrigation efficiency. Participants will analyse leaf, soil and water condition whilst monitoring soil moisture to determine irrigation rates. The project will be a collaboration between Perth NRM, the City of Wanneroo, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) and Vegetables WA.	\$100,000.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Territory Natural Resource Management Incorporated	NT	Darwin	Northern Territory Soil Consortium - Building Land Manager Capacity and Knowledge in Soil Health and Conservation	The Northern Territory (NT) contains a range of grazing and horticulture enterprises on unique soil which faces various weather events, from long, dry spells to intense rainfall events. Territory Natural Resource Management (TNRM) will initiate the NT Soil Consortium to increase the capacity and knowledge of land managers to implement land management practices that will improve on-farm soil. The consortium will bring land managers from various industries and soil experts together through a number of workshops and symposiums, to ensure knowledge passes in an effective manner. TNRM will host symposiums in key population areas of the NT during both years of the activity, and will offer intensive learning courses in soil health, soil management, and biological farming to ensure uptake of innovative practices. Complementing these efforts, TNRM will host a Soil Consortium website, which land managers will be able to freely access the latest soil information and resources.	\$93,950.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Woody Yaloak Catchment Group Inc.	VIC	Queenscliff	Addressing sodic soils in South West Victoria with variable rate gypsum applications	Soil sodicity covers 85% of cropping land in Victoria. Sodic soils are dispersive and have poor structure which reduces pore space in the soils. This prevents root penetration, seedling emergence, and reduces: water infiltration, water holding capacity and soil aeration. Consequently, the productivity of the soil is reduced and costing more than \$2 billion annually. Sodic soils are extremely susceptible to gully and tunnel erosion which can have a catastrophic effect on drainage lines and water courses. This project will demonstrate variable rate gypsum application, specifically on 4 trial farms in SW Victoria. The trial will demonstrate managerial options of sodic soils and the benefits of variable rate technology. An extension program will ensure information is accessible and delivered to a broad audience, including farmers and their contractors. The outcome of this project is to gain an understanding on the appropriate application rate of gypsum to reduce yield constraints.	\$84,750.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Orara Valley Rivercare Groups Management Committee Incorporated	NSW	Karangi	Revegetating the Riverside Farm - creating shelter and riparian forests in the Orara Valley of NSW	The Orara River in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area (LGA) of NSW provides water for the town of Coffs Harbour, scenic waterholes for fishing and swimming, habitat for endangered species such as Eastern freshwater cod, and supports a wide range of agriculture. Years of historical clearing for rainforest timber and agriculture left the Orara River with cleared riverbanks. Twenty years of rehabilitation by the Orara River Rehabilitation Project (ORRP) has seen many properties within the Orara catchment with revegetated banks and a riparian zone in increasingly good condition. However, the project has never worked on the cleared tributaries which often provide water for farms and are most susceptible to pollutants, gully and sheet erosion; nor has the project planted shade trees for livestock shelter in increasingly hot summers. Revegetating first and second order streams and planting strategic shelter areas for livestock are the aim of this proposal.	\$100,000.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	The Agricultural Bureau Of South Australia Incorporated	SA	Magill	Innovative NDVI, pH and EC mapping in the Clare Valley vineyards and investigation and management of soil constraints to improve soil health, production and profitability.	The Clare Valley of South Australia is renowned for its Riesling wines as well as its premium red varieties including Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon. In 2017, the total value of wine grapes was worth approximately \$32M. Within the vineyards there can be considerable soil variability that can have a serious impact on grape quality as well as yield. This can be due to variation in soil type and soil qualities such as low soil pH, salt, sodic soils etc. This project is to develop and extend new and innovative tools, methods and technologies such as NDVI (normalised difference vegetation index) with UAV (drones), pH and EC (Electrical conductivity) mapping to identify variability within vineyards. From this, management zones can then be identified. Within each management zone soil pits will be dug to look at soil constraints. Workshops will be held with grape growers to improve their knowledge of soil and to better manage soils to improve production and profitability.	\$98,734.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Stirlings to Coast Farmers Inc.	WA	Albany	Improving soil health and avoiding future loss of productive land through subsoil acidification and compaction in the southern high rainfall zone of WA	The Stirlings to Coast Farmers group (SCF) will work with 200 local farmers and key partners to demonstrate how deep ripping soil with inclusion plates after broadcasting lime can ameliorate subsoil compaction and acidity. Demonstrations will be used to show farmers the latest technology, tools and farming practices available that help ameliorate soil acidity and compaction. SCF will work with project partners to hold farmer forums to share information, build knowledge and provide advice about new soil amelioration and deep ripping technology. Most of the project will be implemented through farmer-to-farmer learning activities, which will lead to improved farming practices and improved natural resource management. Priority issues addressed by this project include: soil acidification, nutrient management, soil compaction, improving soil health and biological function, providing information on new technologies, and community engagement.	\$74,175.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	South West Nrm Ltd	QLD	Charleville	Rescuing the Scalded Plains of Cunnamulla- Adopting Innovative Land Management Technologies for Improved Productivity & Sustainability, QLD	A significant issue evident in the Cunnamulla district is that of degradation of native pasture to scalded plains. Such areas can comprise vast stretches with lack of ground cover and subsequent erosion, leading to the decline of native pasture. These areas will not regenerate without intervention. This activity will implement the practice of water ponding. Pasture growth and native vegetation regeneration will be encouraged, propagation of introduced and non-beneficial vegetation will be mitigated, while soil carbon percentages are increased. Activity Outcomes are: 1) Increased ground cover & recovery of scalded plains over 250 hectares (ha), 2) Increased soil carbon percentages over the same 250 ha, 3) Increased knowledge & capacity for 5 Land Managers to implement new proven, land management practices in the area. This is a new innovative land management practice for the area and will benefit the wider community by providing knowledge & resources for land recovery in the area.	\$29,195.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group Incorporated	WA	Perenjori	Create a living haystack	To create a living haystack throughout the Yarra Yarra Catchment to ensure stock farmers are well prepared for dry seasons. Perennial grasses have not been readily trialled in the wheatbelt and have predominantly been utilised along coastal grazing properties. These demonstration sites will trial perennial grasses, native grasses and fodder shrubs in 6 different soil types within the low rainfall area of the wheatbelt. We've added in fodder shrubs as we know they have been very successful in this region and will help the establishment of grasses and add a taller layer of vegetation which will protect the grasses against erosion. To investigate the types of perennials that would be successful in the dryer conditions and different soil types, such as: sand over gravel shallow soils on granite or gneiss red, sandy loams over clay red loams over hardpan brown alkaline clays sand over red clay Perennial Mix Panic Rye Grass Rhodes Grass Northern Mix Tedera Messina Anameka Fodder Shrubs	\$48,200.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Sapphire Coast Producers Association (Inc.)	NSW	Narooma	Eco-smart, climate-smart farming	This project will: 1. select 4 demonstration properties that represent the main agro-ecological types in the region 2. use multidisciplinary team of experts and farmers, on each property to: ◦ survey farm ecosystems and identify climate vulnerabilities ◦ identify and test options to conserve each farm’s biodiversity and increase its climate resilience ◦ develop eco-smart farm plans and trials ◦ oversee the farmer’s initial stages of plan implementation ◦ hold a ground work day on the property where approx. 20 participants per property will be able to learn about the work to date and contribute their labour to the plan implementation 3. use all of the above in the development of training materials and publications. These teams will include expertise in: • soil health • native flora and fauna assessment and management • aquatic ecosystem health and water resource management • climate impact and vulnerability assessment • agricultural market opportunities and dynamics	\$50,000.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Northern Slopes Landcare Association Incorporated	NSW	Bingara	Farming in the 21st Century - 2019 New England and North West Regional Landcare Adventure and Awards Dinner	The New England & North West Landcare Adventure and Regional Awards is a bi-annual event, where approximately 150 Landcarers and landholders from across the region come together to hear from a who's who of Industry speakers and attend inspirational field trips. The 2019 "Farming in the 21st Century" event will be held in Narrabri, and will incorporate a visit to The University of Sydney's 'Smart Farm' hub, where innovative new practices are being trialled and demonstrated. A visit to a native fish farm which is harvesting around 300,000 native fingerlings per annum for release in the local waterways will also be included in the activities. Speakers over the 1 1/2 day event will focus on innovative tools and practices in farming which improve soil health and aid in regenerating our natural resources. The awards evening will recognise the natural resource management achievements of our region's landholders, and inspire others to adopt new more sustainable land management practices	\$48,720.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	L Barrett & S Gale	NSW	Pembroke	Demonstrating and documenting photovoltaic pumping in North Coast agriculture to improve climate change resilience, reduce CO2 emissions, improve water quality and protect biodiversity	Climate change impacts on North Coast NSW and other parts of Australia will deliver more intense rain events and longer dry periods. Storing excess water from storm events enables agricultural practices (irrigation and stock watering) to continue during dry events, enhancing adaptation to climate change. This project demonstrates the development of a solar pumping system to capture surplus stream water during peak flow events for storage and later irrigation/stock watering. The key deliverable is Instructables to enable other land managers to replicate the project at suitable scale. Further the project demonstrates the benefits of using small scale irrigation devices which do not compact and seal soils through droplet impact, which is a problem with many large gun irrigators- resulting in excess water and nutrient runoff. Replacement of diesel pumps on streams by solar pumps reduces noise pollution (affecting people and wildlife), erosion of the pump site and reduces CO2 emissions.	\$16,667.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Port Cygnet Land And Watercare Inc	NSW	Avoca	Agnes Rivulet Restoration Project	This project seeks to improve the health of the Agnes Rivulet, an important inland water that terminates at the township of Cygnet, Tasmania. In 2004, recommendations for the rehabilitation of the Agnes Rivulet were prepared for the Port Cygnet Land and Watercare Group Inc. Then, in 2014 the group was successful in seeking funding for a restoration plan (completed by Rick James of Riparian Management Services) for a section of the Agnes Rivulet most affected by erosion. This grant application is seeking funds to implement that restoration plan. The river bed erosion has been migrating upstream - the extensive rock and geotextile work seeks to halt this, and also prevent further erosion of the river banks. Extension work aims to engage surrounding property owners, some of which still allow livestock (predominantly cattle) to access the banks of the Agnes Rivulet. This project is part of a large project targeting the Agnes Rivulet catchment and managed by the group.	\$13,750.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Coorong District Council	SA	Taillem Bend	Saltland Pasture Redemption Project	This project will demonstrate the potential of recently developed salt tolerant pastures in local conditions. Will look at the outcomes; establishment, long term management, & maintenance. Not just whether plants grow or not. Areas of dryland salinity are increasing in the Coorong. Support is demonstrated through high attendance at 2 Workshops in 2016 and a Farm Tour in 2017. This is a partnership project between; Farmers, Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan, Coomandook Ag Bureau, Seed Merchants, Local Agribusiness, NRM's. Local landholders and agronomists have identified these project focus areas; - Staggered seeding of salt tolerant legume Messina after several rainfall events (to test effect of rainfall flushing the topsoil) - Use of groundcovers to test reduced salinity evapo-concentration over the summer period - Use of mounds to enhance establishment (microclimates) - Establishment of new varieties in existing salt tolerant pasture stands - Demonstration on a range of soil types	\$28,599.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Harden Murrumburrah Landcare Group	NSW	Harden	Farming 'Smarter' and 'Sustainably' on a catchment scale with a connected sensor network.	A joint project by the Harden Landcare Group, Delta Agribusiness and Discovery Ag: Improving the capacity of dryland cropping and livestock enterprises across the NSW South-West Slopes to adapt to resource constraints and climatic variability, via the adoption of sensing technology to capture accurate data and inform better resource decision making to underpin production and improve environmental management.	\$81,200.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Farmlink Research Limited	NSW	Temora	Technology and tools connecting farmers to their soil	The project will demonstrate at farm scale integration of innovative sensor & connectivity technology to support soil data capture & related on farm management decisions Innovative soil moisture & nutrient probes linked to auto weather stations will be installed on 5 farms & networked on farm using novel LoRaWAN technology to transmit data, overcoming connectivity issues often experienced in rural areas. This project will demonstrate the effectiveness of new generation sensors and viable solutions for connectivity constraints. It targets two barriers to adoption of sensor technology supported decision making in broadacre cropping 1. Knowledge & understanding of the sensors & their commercial scale applications & 2. Inability to transmit & therefore use in real time data collected via a sensor network. Model farms will be public demonstrations of the technology & its uses & be the subject of case studies developed for public disseminated. The project will assess the economics of adoption	\$100,000.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Corrigin Farm Improvement Group	WA	Corrigin	Improving soil health with perennial legume Lebeckia - harvest demonstration.	Lebeckia is a perennial legume showing considerable promise for deep sands; as it stabilises the soil structure preventing wind erosion whilst increasing the grazing potential of these paddocks. Soil fertility seems to be vastly improved once sown to Lebeckia. Through this project CFGI will establish a 1ha demonstration site which will be fenced for managed grazing. CFGI will run extension activities (i.e. field walk) to increase the capacity of a minimum 40 attendees to productively and sustainably manage legume pastures, and to adopt appropriate management practices that will increase production values of these sandy soils and improve soil quality. Growers will have access to guest speakers with technical expertise. The demonstration site will showcase effective methods to harvest Lebeckia seed suitable for broadacre farming practices.	\$94,550.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Tamar Region Natural Resource Management Strategy Reference Group Inc.	TAS	Launceston	Tamar Regional Weed Website Update	Tamar NRM manages a regionally relevant weed information website, the Tamar Valley Weed Strategy. The idea behind the site is to provide up to date identification and control information on weeds found in the region, to allow land owners, managers and community groups themselves to make informed decisions about managing weeds on land that they work. Website information has become a commonly used source of information as it is easy to access on multiple devices which are portable and can link to other relevant sites. Community feedback on the Tamar Valley Weed Strategy website is that due to its focus on weeds found in the local area and prioritising those with the greatest impact is very useful. Over the last two years weed control information has changed and a few new highly invasive weeds have entered the Tamar. Tamar NRM is requesting funds to update the look of the website to make it easier to access and, more importantly, update the information, photographs and links.	\$10,500.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Wilson Inlet Catchment Committee Inc.	WA	Mount Barker	Greener Pastures, Efficiently achieving greater yields	This program is about equipping farmers in the Wilson Inlet Catchment with nutrient and soil mapping data on their farms so they can make informed fertiliser decisions in order to achieve better yields and minimise nutrient export from their properties into our waterways. The receiving water body for our catchment has been identified at risk of eutrophication (nutrient enriched) due to the excessive use of applying Super Phosphate by local farmers. The Department of Primary Industries and Rural Development (DPIRD-WA) has concluded that approximately 80% of the paddocks in our catchment already have more Phosphorous in the soil than what is required for maximum productivity. This program will equip famers with baseline nutrient data through the provision of soil and microbe testing so farmers can determine the optimal fertiliser application, thus achieving maximum yield and minimal nutrient export from their properties.	\$42,915.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Karuah & Great Lakes Landcare Inc.	NSW	Nabiac	Enhancing Soil Health and Soil Carbon Sequestration in the Myall Lakes Catchment, Reducing Soil and Nutrient Loss and Improving Water Quality	The Bulahdelah Sustainable Farming Group, under the auspices of Karuah & Great Lakes Landcare (KGLL), will work with members in the lower Myall Lakes catchment to enhance soil health and groundcover management through capacity building and the use of appropriate technology. Participants will receive training in Scale of Permanence Keyline Farm Planning, planned grazing and Rapid Assessment of Soil Health monitoring (A DIY set of repeatable physical, chemical and biological assessments). The use of one-off or very infrequent, surveyed, non-inverting cultivation, to reduce compaction, enhance infiltration and build soil biology and carbon, will be demonstrated and supported, with Yeomans Plow shared between participants and maintained as a resource of our Landcare Network. Results will be monitored over time, and will be shared with the wider KGLL network, MidCoast to Tops Landcare Connection, and NSW Landcare Gateway	\$12,000.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Western Landcare NSW Incorporated	NSW	Bourke	Understanding landscape function and improving land management in Western NSW	This projects aims to deliver 3 x 2 day Geomorphology courses for landholders in the rangelands of Western NSW. Geomorphology is the science of landscape processes and this course will be tailored to be specific to land management issues in the non-cropping areas of Western NSW. Each course will be a residential 2-day program presented by Gresley Wakelin-King, a geologist with more than 30 years' experience in the Australian rangelands. These short courses will assist both landholders and regional NRM and Landcare staff better understand the processes behind landscape behaviour and how these processes underpin local ecosystems. Understanding these processes will enable land managers and advisers to make better decisions across a wide range of land management issues in the rangelands of Western NSW.	\$41,635.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Jarlmadangah Burru Aboriginal Corporation	WA	Derby	Jarlmadangah Burru Aboriginal Community Revegetation Nursery Capacity Building Project	This NLP Smart Farms project builds on the positive outcomes from the JBAC Green Army project teams who constructed a Revegetation Nursery within the Jarlmadangah Burru Aboriginal Community and set up the infrastructure to grow local provenance plants for revegetation, and to develop the horticulture skills of the community youth. Stage 1 provided JBAC with an operational nursery facility as well as initial horticulture training with support from Lotterywest, Royalties for Regions / NRM WA, Norman Wettenhall Foundation, along with corporate in-kind from Triple BL Pty and Okara Pty Ltd. The Smart Farms grant will move the project into stage 2 - operationalizing the nursery and developing the Jarlmadanga community's capacity to run the nursery on a part-time basis with a production capacity of 5,000 local provenance native plants per annum, which will be used to revegetate degraded areas of the Fitzroy River floodplain.	\$93,518.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Local Land Services	NSW	Moruya	Protecting pasture integrity, significant wetlands and aquatic ecosystems from the impact of Spiny Rush	Many properties in the Eurobodalla contain significant remnants of the nationally listed Coastal Saltmarsh (TEC) and state listed Swamp Oak Forest (EEC). These vegetation communities and adjoining paddocks are often actively managed pastures for livestock production. A key threatening process to the biological integrity of these vegetation communities, pasture productivity and animal health is the increasing threat of invasion by the weed Spiny Rush ( <i>Juncus acutis</i> ). Most landholders in the south east are unaware of the existence of Spiny Rush and its threats. LLS have developed best management methods through trial to treat the weed whilst taking into account the sensitive adjacent environments including oyster leases, marine parks and wetlands. This project will map population distribution on properties across the Moruya, Clyde and Tomaga River floodplains and begin initial treatment of the weed and build capacity of farmers and the community to best manage the weed.	\$97,371.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Orange Region Vignerons Association Incorporated	NSW	Orange	Orange Wine Region Sustainability Project	The Orange Region Vignerons’ Association (ORVA) is proposing to start collaboration by viticulturists in the region to strive for environmentally sustainable production. The project would increase awareness and adoption of land management practices that improve and protect the condition of the soil, biodiversity and vegetation on local vineyards. Currently less than 5% of viticulturists in the Orange region hold Entwine Australia membership. Entwine Australia is the Australian wine industry’s sustainability program – set up to support growers and winemakers in demonstrating and improving the sustainability of their businesses. The ORVA would like to employ a project manager to extend information to as many producers in the area to encourage them to participate in the Entwine Australia program. A large member cohort within the region will allow benchmarking of current sustainability metrics as the first stage of a large project to create a cool climate wines environmental standard.	\$17,500.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Landcare Victoria Inc.	VIC	Melbourne	Mitta to Murray Blackberry Action Group Smart Management of Invasive Weeds Program	Our activity uses innovative approaches to improve farm viability and protect the natural resource base by improving community capacity to manage invasive species. Our focus is on blackberry, a weed of national significance that also harbours many invasive pests. It threatens farm sustainability, critical ecological niches and biodiversity on private and crown land across temperate Australia. We facilitate collaboration between farmers, community and government agencies to optimise environmental outcomes. Our approach uses spatial technology, infestation mapping, work planning, tracking and reporting for improved results. We conduct field days and support testing and implement new technology and biological controls. 144 farm enterprises on 35,900ha of land currently have plans developed through our program. We have a waiting list. This grant would allow us to build community capacity by improving our practices and extending our initiative to additional areas and communities.	\$48,285.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Murray Mallee Local Action Planning Association Incorporated	SA	Murray Bridge	Bee Friendly Farms	Honey bee populations in the SA Murray Mallee face pressure due to recent fires which destroyed local floral resources. This, coupled with colony collapse disorder, affects agriculture and biodiversity as many cultivated and native plants rely on bees for pollination. A regional forum will build awareness of bee decline and production and environmental impacts. The forum will offer achievable on farm solutions to support seasonal floral resources for honey bees. The forum will attract attendees from the apiculture sector, researchers, managers of agri-environment enterprises, landholders, producers and those interested in food security and protection of the natural resource base. A Bee Friendly Farm Network will be established to link farmers with bee keepers and raise awareness about the mutual benefits of taking bee friendly actions on farms. An educational resource will be produced and a winter floral resource (Banksia) demonstration site established and promoted at a field day.	\$82,550.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Corowa District Landcare Incorporated	NSW	Corowa	Cultivation of perennial native grasses as a commercial source of seed in North-East Vic and the Southern Riverina area of NSW.	Cultivation of perennial native grasses as a commercial source of seed in North-East Vic and the Southern Riverina area of NSW. Cultivation of native grass seed for seed banks/seed suppliers; native grass seed for grazing pastures; native grass seed as an edible grain and native grass seed for restoration/revegetation purposes. Based on existing research and cultivation methods, assess native grass varieties that best suit local conditions, along with methods of native grass establishment, management and harvesting options. With partners and experts in the field, formulate a plan and conduct trials to establish and harvest native grasses in three different areas. Work with local Aboriginal people to better understand the cultural values and uses of native grasses in the past, and opportunities for the future.	\$49,800.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	South Myall Catchment Landcare Group Inc.	QLD	Kleinton	Reduce erosion hazard to protect on farm soil	Reduce erosion on medium risk erosion country by planting 160 hectares of legume based pasture in the Highgrove/Wutul area. The use of a crocodile planter where possible will enable seed to be planted on rough unprepared sites. This machine uses a one pass seeding operation creating a water harvesting pit into which seed is placed. Trials have demonstrated that establishment of seed can be increased as much as 50% with the use of this seeder due to water infiltration. On the extremely hilly areas pasture seed will be planted engaging a contractor with a dozer and stick rake. The seed will be planted behind the dozer. Pasture seed will be legume based to increase natural nitrogen in the soil. Trial a portable soil water monitoring tool (e.g.Sentek) to capture data with telemetry system. Demonstrate the use of this at field day with expert pasture consultant who will discuss the benefits achieved by changing erosion prone cropping land to legume based pastures..	\$24,050.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Irrigation Research & Extension Committee	NSW	Griffith	Ag Tech Sprouts About-using technology to improve management of natural resources.	Technology development in the agricultural area is moving very rapidly- in many cases too rapidly for many land managers to make maximum advantage of the capabilities of the technologies. The aim of this project to introduce land managers in the Murrumbidgee and Lower Lachlan valleys to a range of cutting edge but proven technologies, such as drones, automation, variable rate and irrigation scheduling, to show them how to best use these technologies in their businesses in order to better manage their natural resources. By using these technologies, land managers will also be better able to deal with the impacts of climate change and improve overall soil health.	\$98,800.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Mid Lachlan Landcare Incorporated	NSW	Cowra	Growing the Grazing Revolution	<p>Growing the Grazing Revolution is a unique project that delivers on economic, social and environmental outcomes. It aims to engage graziers to learn about and implement sustainable and regenerative grazing practices through providing a peer learning environment that offers flexibility, and encourages people to try or adopt new techniques at their own pace with the help of a facilitator and mentor. Growing the Grazing Revolution has been running in the Mid Lachlan Landcare region since 2010 and employs a local well respected farmer as our Project Officer who acts as a facilitator, providing resources and links to other networks, information sessions, property tours and field days with specialist speakers. The Project Officer is also a mentor, building confidence and providing encouragement and ideas. This funding will allow us to continue the employment of our project officer until April 2020 and expand on the outcomes we have achieved to date.</p>	\$48,370.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Insight Agricultural Consulting Pty Ltd	WA	Buntine	Building extension capability in WA to deliver improved sustainable agriculture adoption outcomes	<p>Developing and delivering effective extension programs is based on a sound understanding of the underlying principles and knowledge of the audience being targeted for change. This project will work with project managers and extension deliverers from Regional NRM organisations, grower groups and private extension providers across Western Australia to understand, develop and deliver effective extension programs for sustainable agriculture. This project is modelled on, and value adds to, the successful extension capacity building project administered by the Ag Excellence Alliance Inc. through the Sustainable Ag Grants in 2016. It also incorporates aspects from the innovative New Zealand Red Meat Profit Partnership extension program. The project will deliver a series of workshops (3) and webinars (2) over a ten month period aimed at increasing skills and knowledge in extension theory and practice, program design, adult learning techniques and facilitation, and evaluation and monitoring.</p>	\$43,600.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Otway Agroforestry Network Limited	VIC	Birregurra	Building Farmer Capacity to Integrate Multipurpose Trees and shrubs into Existing Farming Systems for Conservation and Profit	Otway Agroforestry Network limited (OAN) is a not for profit landcare organisation focused on building farmer capacity to design and implement revegetation projects that reflect their needs and aspirations. The result is a diverse range of self-funded multipurpose revegetation, integrated into existing farming systems, for soil conservation, carbon sequestration, biodiversity, aesthetics and profit (robust and resilient farming landscapes). OAN uses a progressive and evolving education package consisting of in field education programs, field days, farm site visits, farm revegetation plans supported by Peer Group Mentors (PGM), Mentor training and a continuous communication package. The innovative PGM service uses 20 experienced farmers and tree growers to support new members with their projects. OAN projects are designed to increase farmer engagement in our region leading to multipurpose re-vegetation as a standard farm practice. Close to achievement in the East Otways.	\$49,010.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	East Gippsland Landcare Network Incorporated	VIC	Bairnsdale	Landcare Farming on the Red Gum Grassy Woodlands	This project aims to assist farmers on the Red Gum Grassy Woodlands, to learn and adopt on farm practices that will improve land, biodiversity and productivity values. The project will hold workshops and then assist with the implementation of targeted best practice works. Works will include; 1. Matching stock grazing pressure, pasture availability and land class type for continual ground cover management and to assist with retaining soil on farm and reducing erosion; 2. Riparian zone protection and enhancement, to create a vegetation filter between farm water runoff and the internationally listed Ramsar Gippsland Lakes; 3. Enhance and buffer existing remnant vegetation patches, to increase biodiversity and resilience of a nationally threatened vegetation community.	\$99,400.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Southern Otway Landcare Network	VIC	Apollo Bay	Corangamite Regional Regenerative Farming Conference	The Southern Otway Landcare Network (SOLN) and its member group, Otway Coast Regenerative Farmers (OCRf), will host a 2 day conference on Regenerative Agriculture to support the regional development of Regenerative Agriculture practice across the Corangamite Catchment area. Regenerative Agriculture refers to practices which support improvement in soil health and improved environmental outcomes. The practices focus on soil health and biodiversity and the functional relationship between the two as part of a farm ecosystem. It will host national and regional practitioners in the field to introduce key technical, economic and social practices. The conference will launch a proposed multi-year program of Regenerative Agriculture extension and practice development throughout the region.	\$39,500.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Coorong District Council	SA	Taillem Bend	Coorong Water Security Innovations Applied	Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan, Coorong Water Security Advisory Group (Livestock Producers), and Coorong District Council will deliver demonstration, promotion and adoption of water security technologies of the following components: 1. Construction & demonstration of 4 Water Shutoff / Leak Detection Units 2. Drone mounted leak finding thermal imaging technology field tested, demonstrated and promoted 3. Installation & demonstration of shandyng, water blending technology (groundwater / mains water) 4. Flow Meter / Leak Detection Unit to assist in leak finding - installed & demonstrated 5. Water Security Case Studies on; Water Harvesting, On Farm Desalination Units, Piping Projects. Covering set up costs, estimated pay back periods, challenges & benefits 6. Compile information to improve understanding of Farm Water Infrastructure taxation benefits 7. Promotion: web, fact sheets, events, media, social media Generous project support provided by Water Security Technology Experts	\$69,320.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Corrigin Farm Improvement Group	WA	Corrigin	Amelioration to incorporate soil amendments to improve soil health and fertility on sandy soils.	Sandy soils are often acidic & non-wetting. They account for approximately 30% of the Corrigin districts arable land. Poor structure & coarse texture of sandy soils results in low water holding capacity. Nutrient contents & nutrient retention are low, causing a low inherent fertility status for agricultural production. To increase the productivity of these soils growers need to implement sustainable management practices. This project will determine if there are suitable alternative amelioration strategies to improve soil condition, biological fertility & nutrient balances of these soils in our region. CFG will establish a 1ha demonstration site to run extension activities. We aim to increase capacity of a minimum 60 farmers on sustainable land management practices. Without the continued efforts from the community to address these sandy soil, land degradation is likely to increase; these infertile soils are prone to severe wind erosion due to poor structure & plant establishment.	\$99,550.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Local Land Services	NSW	Orange	Grazing, soil and native vegetation management for the future in the Northern Tablelands	Agricultural commodities produced in the Northern Tablelands region are worth over \$30 million with 90% of this produced from beef, sheep and wool through grazing enterprises. The adoption of best practice grazing, soil and native vegetation management will provide enormous benefit to catchments and ultimately the entire Northern Tablelands landscape. This project aims to build landholder capacity and skills to maintain and improve soil health, fertility, groundcover and native vegetation on farms across the Northern Tablelands. The project will use an agriculture extension model, including field days, workshops and training events to engage with landholder in grazing, soil and native vegetation management. The project will use identified critical thresholds as benchmarks to maintain a resilient landscape. Maintaining and improving the natural resource base on farm will be critical in a changing climate to ensure farms remain productive, profitable and sustainable in the long term.	\$86,000.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation	WA	Roebourne	Generating economic and social benefits while increasing Australian biodiversity using Indigenous flora and native pastoral grasses	The activity will utilise an existing fenced area as a trial site for the seeding and propagation of indigenous economically-viable plants and for native pastoral grasses. A solar operated water bore and reticulation will be implemented to minimise the dependence on natural rain events. Seeds mapping on the 48,900 hectares lease and collecting times will be recorded. Desired seeds will be collected and broadcasted. A 4WD vehicle will tow various depth ripping lines in the soil for seeds responses evaluation. This will be repeated for a number of years to establish successful measures and techniques and understand flora type response to the climatic regime and land system. Successful indigenous and native plants trials in this part of the country is a need that is not properly and systematically addressed. Consistent trials less reliant on natural wet cycles need to be tested on a smaller scale than typical WA station sizes for indigenous medium size land parcel businesses.	\$50,000.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	The Australian Native Bee Company Pty Ltd	NSW	Lennox Head	Native Bee pollination Calendar for Macadamia Orchard and surrounds. Using drone technology to map native bee habitat within the orchard and surrounding 500 metres. Producing a planting calendar for optimum year-round pollination and bee health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping potential nectar/pollen sources</li> <li>• Compiling a calendar of surrounding potential flowering within 500 metres of native bee hives, this being the distance that native bees will travel to collect nectar/pollen.</li> <li>• Producing a recommendation for plantings where gaps are seen over a calendar year in sources. Intense mapping of the 500-metre zone will be carried out, and a map or base line produced. This map will show any gaps occurring over a calendar year where no nectar/pollen producing plants exist. By using innovative drone technology, we can quickly and efficiently review the whole target area, this aids in the final process of creating the farm specific Pollination Calendar. Recommended plantings for nectar/pollen gaps, when followed will improve biodiversity, create habitat not only for bees, but other beneficial insects, birds and mammals. An established corridor will deliver more productive Native Bee pollinators. Who in turn will increase the farmers yield.</li> </ul>	\$46,213.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Far South Coast Landcare Association	NSW	Bega	Introducing EMS to drive practice change for the beef/sheep industry in the Bega Valley	Utilising existing farmer, conservation and Landcare networks in the Bega Valley Shire, this project will bring together a core group of interested landholders in an experiential learning environment to better understand of the principles of Environmental Management Systems (EMS) and mentor others towards management change. The projects' 8 learning modules will focus on: water, soils, pastures, biodiversity, legislation, livestock health, human resource management and waste & energy efficiency. Each module will conduct a hands-on workshop that will provide farmers with the knowledge and motivation to conduct their own baseline farm assessment using questionnaires and environmental monitoring tools. The process will allow farmers to be responsible for their own issues whilst being supported by the group as they reflect and explore solutions. Learning will be reinforced by mentoring, concrete experiences and time for reflecting thereby enabling and motivating practice change.	\$100,000.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Derwent Catchment Natural Resource Management Committee	TAS	Hamilton	Dairy Cares for the Derwent - Open Gates	This project is a partnership between Compass Agri and The Derwent Catchment Project to open the gate for farmers to share knowledge and experience of best practice dairy management. This project builds on the Dairy Cares for the Derwent program which works on farm to improve nutrient management and supports on-ground projects in effluent management and fencing cows out of creeks. This project will engage farmers by using an open gate approach working with the local farmers, to increase practical understanding of the implementation process of best practice management. The open gate approach will include series of field days and on-farm workshops. Key components: 1. Reducing nutrient loss - composting biosolids and wetland filtration 2. Farm energy budgets to minimise losses 3. Carbon emissions accounting 4. Biodiversity on farms -shelterbelts and rehabilitation of streams. 5. Integrate monitoring of water quality as a management tool	\$100,000.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Ravensthorpe Agricultural Initiative Network Incorporated	WA	Ravensthorpe	Ravensthorpe Agricultural Salinity Risk Reduction	The Ravensthorpe Agricultural Initiative Network (RAIN) is applying for funding to assist with the implementation of mitigation works for salinity and waterlogging throughout the shire region. RAIN has received several expression of interest from landholders that have proposed projects to manage salinity risk areas with best practice farming techniques. Projects must offer protection of valuable natural resources both on and off-farm. Projects will focus on mitigation work including salt land pastures and saltbush/understorey plantation. Projects will then offer grazing opportunities (maintaining productive use of the land) while reducing ground water level through plant growth, reducing salinity spread. Projects sites should also be selected to reduce the spread of salinity to off-farm natural resources. The shire of Ravensthorpe hosts some of the most biodiverse natural ecosystems and protecting them from the increase of salinity is essential to sustainable farming in our region.	\$100,000.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Warren Catchments Council	WA	Manjimup	Annual-Perennial Partnership Systems Improve Pasture Soil Productivity	'Annual-Perennial Partnership Systems Improve Pasture Soil Productivity' will establish three plot trial sites across different soil types in the high rainfall area of the Warren River Catchment. Each site will establish ten combinations of annual-perennial pasture species, three randomised replicates of each combination. Soil tests will establish benchmark available and total nutrients and characteristics e.g. pH, EC and texture. Subsequent tissue and soil testing will occur at the same time to compare interpretation of nutrient availability and plant needs. Composite testing of each three replicates will determine influence of pasture combination on soil fertility levels, including organic matter - a driver of soil fertility. Trial sites will hold Field Days to demonstrate establishment methodology in increasingly challenging soil and environmental conditions - particularly soil acidity, drying climate. Knowledge gaps in balancing soil nutrition will be addressed by a two day workshop.	\$29,238.00

Smart Farms Small Grants List of Successful Applicants

National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	Greta Valley Landcare Group	VIC	Greta West	Developing climate resilience in the Greta Valley - Helping small farm businesses to plan for climate change through a series of Farm Gate workshops and providing incentives to establish essential shade and shelter for stock.	Our project has two components: 1. Farm Gate workshops – To provide information around the forecast impacts of climate change in North East Victoria and present a series of tools and management practices that can be implemented at the farm scale to assist farms in coping with these extremes in climate. Four workshops will be held on farm, using practical examples to improve knowledge and build capacity for change and adoption. 2. On ground works – A property plan that considers the location of biodiversity assets, water supplies and need for shade and shelter will be developed for each property. Fencing and revegetation incentives will be offered to the landholder to establish new shelter belts or emergency shade blocks. Locations for these belts will be prioritised based on consideration of landscape connectivity, inclusion of biodiversity assets such as large old scattered paddock trees, and achieving multiple site objectives such as reducing erosion and soil disturbance.	\$94,610.00
National Landcare Program - Smart Farms Small Grants	The Agricultural Bureau Of South Australia Incorporated	SA	Magill	Fleurieu Forward Farmers - Increasing profit by managing climate variability through soil health.	Livestock producers in the Fleurieu region will be supported to better manage soil and pasture health, climate variability and improve profit. To achieve targeted outcomes, the project will: • Innovatively measure pasture quality, soil moisture and rainfall at 6 soil health sites, and 15 farm sites, and in addition continue to measure soil health at 2 of the replicated soil health sites. • Utilise and build upon decision support tools for our region incorporating data collected on feed quality, nutrition, productivity, soil moisture and soil health to support decisions for N & P scheduling, optimal hay and silage cutting, grazing management, and supplementary feeding. • Produce a fact sheet that helps producers to understand how build soil health. • Conduct a field day demonstrating the tools and key project outcomes. • Develop a one-day workshop to train producers on building soil health, using the tools developed. • Deliver outcomes via newsletters and our web site.	\$99,812.00