

# 2019 Greater Sydney Regional Landcare Awards

Greater Sydney Local Land Services

March 2019

## Categories and Selection Criteria

### *About the Awards*

Welcome to this year's Regional Landcare Awards. If you are involved in protecting or improving your local environment, farm, coastline, bushland, wetland, waterway, school, region, catchment or backyard, there is a category in this year's awards to suit you.

### *How to nominate*

To nominate, please click on awards category link below to submit an entry.

**PLEASE NOTE YOU CANNOT SAVE AND RESUME THE NOMINATION FORM.**

Please work on your nomination offline and then cut and paste your response to each criterion in one sitting. Each selection criterion has a strict 300 word limit.

Details of the selection criteria for each category are provided below.

Microsoft Word versions of nominations will also be accepted but they must strictly adhere to the 300 word limit for each criterion.

Each nomination also allows you to upload up to five pieces of supporting documentation and requires the details of two referees.

Entries close on 16 June 2019. Winners will be announced at the Greater Sydney Regional Landcare Forum held at Old Government House on Friday 2nd August 2019.

All category winners will be nominated up to the New South Wales Landcare and Local Land Services Awards to be held in Broken Hill in October 2019. <https://nswlandcareconference.com.au/>

If you have any issues or questions please contact Bec Mooy, Senior Land Services Officer at Greater Sydney Local Land Services on (02) 4724 2120 or email [rebecca.mooy@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rebecca.mooy@lls.nsw.gov.au)



## Categories and Selection Criteria

**Individual Landcarer Award** - This award will be made to an individual volunteer who has demonstrated leadership in, and commitment to improving land management practices through practical on-ground or community awareness actions.

*Selection criteria:*

1. Demonstrate the extent to which the individual has implemented Landcare activities and has helped others to implement Landcare activities in their area.
2. Describe the extent to which the individual's actions have encouraged others to be involved in Landcare activities (e.g. by speaking about Landcare to schools, media, landholders, groups, councils etc.).
3. Explain the extent to which the individual assisted in training and helping others in the development of skills for the Landcare activities undertaken.
4. Provide examples of the extent to which the individual has gone beyond usual practice and has become a champion for Landcare, and set new standards through their achievements with Landcare projects or in a primary role in the planning and organisation associated with Landcare projects.
5. Describe any challenges the individual has faced in the development and implementation of Landcare projects and the strategies they used to overcome these challenges.

To nominate, please visit: <http://bit.ly/IndiLand>

**Young Landcare Leader Award** - This award will be made to an individual between the ages of 15-35 years who carries out and/or promotes excellence in Landcare through on-ground or awareness raising activities, as a volunteer or paid employee. You may nominate yourself or a person from your community for this award.

*Selection Criteria:*

1. Provide examples of cutting-edge and/or excellent Landcare practices that the individual has implemented in their local area, and/or how they have helped others implement these practices.
2. Demonstrate how the individual has displayed leadership, and encouraged others in promoting or implementing activities that improve natural resource management outcomes; (e.g. by speaking to schools, media, landholders, groups, councils etc).
3. How has the individual trained and helped others in developing their Landcare practices and skills?
4. Describe how the individual has been a champion for Landcare, through their achievements in environmental sustainability projects or their role in planning and organising Landcare-associated initiatives.
5. Provide examples of the ways the individual has communicated environmental/natural resource management issues or raised awareness about Landcare to a wider audience (including the use of media, social media, events, speeches or presentations, posters, letters etc).
6. Describe any challenges the individual has faced in the development and implementation of cutting-edge and/or excellent Landcare projects, and the strategies used to address these challenges.

To nominate, please visit: <http://bit.ly/Youlandlead>

**Landcare Community Group Award** - This award will be made to an outstanding community group that is working towards sustainable land use and/or is undertaking on-ground action to protect, enhance or restore an area on behalf of the community.

*Selection Criteria:*

1. Demonstrate how the group has developed a cutting-edge approach or process to achieve outstanding environmental outcomes.
2. Show how the group has used comprehensive plans, as a basis for their group's activities. Include a copy of these plans and demonstrate the physical, strategic management or other attributes of the group. Plans may include property and/or group and/or catchment plans.
3. Provide examples of how the group has repaired degraded land/environments, prevented degradation and/or has achieved some on-farm and/or community benefit from its on-ground activities.
4. Show how the group has sought advice, worked with and involved the wider community, other Landcare/community groups, government, business and schools, in the development and implementation of its plans.
5. Demonstrate how the group has shared and communicated its ideas, plans, skills, and results (e.g., through field days or education campaigns), to encourage others (i.e. not involved in the group) to participate in Landcare practices and projects.
6. Describe any challenges the group has faced in the development and implementation of cutting-edge Landcare practices or projects, and the strategies used to address these challenges.

To nominate, please visit: <http://bit.ly/commgroup>

**Junior Landcare Team Award** - This award will be made to a youth organisation or young Landcare team that contributes to raising awareness, knowledge and understanding of Landcare amongst young people up to the age of 18, and implements Landcare practices on its own property or within the local community. For this award, youth organisations include primary schools, secondary schools and youth groups such as scouts.

*Selection Criteria:*

1. How has the organisation's activities led to an improved understanding among their team members and/or the community about environmental issues and further developed skills to better manage the challenges associated with these issues?
2. Provide examples of projects that the team has implemented that have inspired their school, group or community to extend their learning and skills development classes into practical on-ground activity.
3. How has the team helped others learn about Landcare, for example other young groups and/or the wider community?
4. Describe how the team has developed its educational resources and formed partnerships to increase the capacity of young landcarers to learn about and address environmental issues
5. Describe any challenges the team has faced in the development and implementation of Landcare projects and the strategies used to address these challenges.
1. Describe any challenges the organisation or authority has faced in the development and implementation of this Landcare partnership and the strategies used to address these challenges.

To nominate, please visit: <http://bit.ly/Junland>

**Indigenous Land Management Award** - This award will be made to an outstanding indigenous community group or individual that is working towards improving land use and/or enhancing or protecting an area on behalf of the community.

*Selection Criteria:*

1. Describe how the group or individual looks after country including land and/or sea. What sort of work has been undertaken?
2. How has the group or individual used indigenous ecological knowledge and traditional or other land management practices in their work?
3. What kind of impact has the group or individual had in the community by looking after country? For example, has the work created jobs for indigenous people in the community, have young people learned new skills or had traditional ecological knowledge passed on to them?
4. Demonstrate how the group or individual has worked with others on the project. For example with community elders and others within the community, or any other groups or external organisations.
5. How has the group or individual shared indigenous land management practices and techniques with the wider community?
6. What challenges has the group or individual experienced in working on country and how has the group or individual responded to these challenges?

To nominate, please visit: <http://bit.ly/Indland>

**Innovation in Agriculture and Land Management Award** - This award will be made to a primary producer or enterprise which has implemented innovative farm and/or land management practices to improve natural resource management and productivity outcomes. The term innovation in this award should be defined as the demonstration of early adoption, excellence and/or leading-edge projects or practices. Eligible primary producers or enterprises may include an agricultural co-operative, network, agricultural industry association, research group, private business or primary producer.

*Selection Criteria:*

1. How has the primary producer or enterprise demonstrated innovative farm and/or land management practices that deliver improved productivity and commercial outcomes while improving natural resource management? The key natural resources targeted are soil, water quality, native vegetation and the marine environment. The following are examples of activities that could be used to demonstrate success in this area. This is not an exclusive list.
2. Describe how the innovative farm and/or land management practices undertaken by the primary producer or enterprise have improved productivity outcomes on commercial scale operations. This can be demonstrated through any of the suggested methods outlined below:
  - a. Give examples of how the primary producer or enterprise has cooperated with and encouraged involvement of others in sustainable/innovative farming practices.
  - b. Describe any challenges that were encountered by the primary producer or enterprise in the development and implementation of new or innovative practices and the strategies used to address these challenges.

To nominate, please visit: <http://bit.ly/InnovAg>

**Excellence in Sustainable Farm Practices Award** - This award will be made to an individual, group or organisation that has demonstrated excellence and leadership in implementing integrated land management practices to a farm property or properties that protect soils, water and vegetation.

*Selection Criteria:*

1. Explain the extent to which the individual, group or organisation has demonstrated excellence and leadership in implementing integrated land management practices to a farm property or properties that protect soils, water and vegetation. The following are examples of activities that could be used to demonstrate success in this area. This is not an exclusive list.
2. 1. Activities that improve any of the following: soil condition, water quality, native vegetation and weed and pest management. Integrated projects will also be considered, e.g. increasing the growth of native grasses to reduce soil erosion, the loss of soil nutrients and improved productivity. For aquaculture, activities could include those targeting improvements in water quality and environmental health.
3. Other activities could be used to demonstrate success: a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions; increased biodiversity; increased ground cover, particularly during periodic seasonal feed gaps and reduced soil erosion; or improved management and handling of stock to provide both animal welfare and improved natural resource management outcomes.
4. Give examples of the extent to which the individual, group or organisation has gone beyond usual practice and demonstrated leadership and encouraged involvement of others in sustainable and integrated land management practices.
5. Describe any challenges that were encountered by the individual, group or organisation in the development and implementation of sustainable and integrated land management practices, and the strategies used to address these challenges.

To nominate, please visit: <http://bit.ly/susfarmprac>

**Coastcare Award** - This award will be made to a community group/network for excellence in activities that have contributed to the significant improvement of local coastal and/or marine environments, including estuaries, coastal and marine wetlands and salt marsh ecosystems.

*Selection Criteria:*

1. Describe the projects undertaken by the group/network that have increased community awareness and engagement with coastal environmental issues linked to local and/or regional environmental/ natural resource management plans.
2. How has the group/network's activities improved the sustainable use and/or management of coastal natural resources? Provide examples of results.
3. Demonstrate how the group/network's activities have targeted the causes and symptoms of local coastal environmental issues.
4. How has the group/network developed local and/or regional partnerships for Coastcare activity? For example with local councils, businesses, school, other community groups, academic institutions etc.
5. What challenges did the group/network encounter in the development and implementation of coastal protection activities and the strategies used to address these challenges?

To nominate, please visit: <http://bit.ly/coastcareaw>

**Fish Habitat Award** - Nominees can be organisations, groups or individuals that have achieved significant outcomes for the betterment of fish habitat in NSW and must have:

- Demonstrated leadership in, and commitment to, sustained or significant on-ground rehabilitation actions to improve the state of fish habitat in NSW; and/or
- Actively facilitated and promoted industry or community participation that has resulted in increased support, resourcing and/or understanding of the importance of fish habitat in NSW.

*Selection Criteria:*

1. Background; Please provide a brief introduction/overview of the nominated individual, group or organisation.
2. Challenge; What environmental or social challenges did you or your organisation face? Please ensure you address the key problems these challenges posed for fish habitat.
  - Describe the specific fish habitat challenges and issues the nominee faced.
  - Demonstrate how the nominee's activities have targeted the causes and symptoms of local fish habitat issues.
  - Describe any challenges they had in the development and implementation of their project and the strategies they used to overcome these challenges.
3. Innovation; How did you or your organisation tackle these environmental or social fish habitat challenges? Please discuss the various aspects of the implemented solution.
  - Demonstrate the extent to which the nominee has developed a cutting-edge approach to achieve outstanding on-ground fish habitat outcomes; and/or,
  - Describe the extent to which the actions of the nominee have engaged with others and increased community awareness in innovative ways to support or address its priorities.
  - Provide examples of the extent to which the nominee has gone beyond usual practice and has become a champion for fish habitat, and set new standards through their achievements.
4. Impact; How effective has the nominee been in addressing the initial environmental or social fish habitat challenges and who or what will benefit from their actions? Please highlight how effectively the implemented solution addressed the key problems faced
  - Demonstrate the extent to which the nominee has developed a cutting-edge approach to achieve outstanding on-ground fish habitat outcomes; and/or,
  - Describe the extent to which the actions of the nominee have engaged with others and increased community awareness in innovative ways to support or address its priorities.
  - Provide examples of the extent to which the nominee has gone beyond usual practice and has become a champion for fish habitat, and set new standards through their achievements.
5. Commitment; What steps have been undertaken to ensure on-going maintenance of achievements or a continued solution to the initial challenges? Please outline the ongoing initiatives or plans in place to ensure these results are maintained/improved.
  - Describe any identified requirements for maintenance or on-going community involvement.
  - Provide details of any on-going agreements and/or funding sources to maintain or increase on-ground works and/or community involvement.
  - Provide examples where this has or is occurring now.

To nominate, please visit: <http://bit.ly/fishhab>

**Government Partnerships with Landcare Award** - This award will be made to a partnership of individuals, groups, or organisations that have demonstrated leadership and achievement in Landcare related activities because of the partnership. Nominations are open to partnerships that could include National Resource Management regional organisations, research organisations, local government, and Landcare and farmer groups.

*Selection criteria:*

1. Illustrate the extent to which the groups of individuals or organisations have developed strong partnerships for Landcare groups/networks to ensure community engagement and involvement in achieving outstanding natural resource management outcomes. You will need to include a copy of, or excerpt from your authority's engagement and communication strategy.
2. Describe the extent to which the actions of the partnership of individuals, groups, or organisations have engaged with Landcare or community groups in innovative ways to support or address its priorities.
3. Demonstrate how the partnership of individuals, groups, or organisations used a multi-disciplinary approach in planning and partnership development. The authority should show how they have incorporated environmental/production, community/social and financial strategies for achieving outstanding natural resource management outcomes.
4. How has the partnership of individuals, groups, or organisations linked Landcare initiatives with other groups or programs including other agencies, businesses, organisations, neighbours, schools and community groups? Provide copies or excerpts from plans and/or list cooperative projects.
5. Applicants must include two letters from Landcare groups/networks that acknowledge how the organisation or authority has partnered with the group/network to improve capacity and increase participation in on-ground work
6. Describe any challenges the organisation or authority has faced in the development and implementation of this Landcare partnership and the strategies used to address these challenges.

To nominate, please visit: <http://bit.ly/GovtPart>

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For updates go to [www.lls.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au)