



Joint Media Release

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Landcare Tasmania and NRM bodies unify under new agreement

Stronger relationships, improved communication and tighter coordination of initiatives are the goals of a new agreement between Landcare Tasmania and the state's three regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) organisations.

The new Statement of Common Purpose is expected to drive stronger synergies and reduce duplication of efforts between the groups and sharpen the leadership and direction for Tasmania's landcare agenda.

The official signing with Landcare Tasmania, NRM North, NRM South and Cradle Coast NRM will take place at the 2015 State Landcare Conference in Hobart this week (10 and 11th of October).

NRM South Chair, Max Kitchell, said the agreement recognised that while all parties played different roles across the state, they had a shared vision and purpose.

"This signals a renewed commitment to working collaboratively and to engage better for the benefit of our state and our regions," Mr Kitchell said.

The sentiment was backed by NRM North Chair, James Walch, who said the agreement would enable more productive and efficient methods of working.

"The new agreement means Landcare Tasmania and the three NRM bodies will avoid unnecessary competition and duplication by developing common objectives".

Cradle Coast Chair Rick Rockliff said he was hopeful of a stronger regional focus.

"We all have a shared vision to ensure our landscapes are better protected and managed, however there is also a need to deliver on regional plans."

At a legislative level, the three NRM bodies will combine to contribute to State and National policy. While the need to facilitate a broader approach to managing our natural resources has been acknowledged, so has the need to maintain a degree of regional independence.

"Landcare Tasmania has grown from community and is governed by community and we will still represent community Landcare as an advocacy body," said Roger Tyshing, President of Landcare Tasmania.

The agreement is a long term one, and will build on the existing efforts of the four natural resource management organisations to build mutual recognition for collective efforts in the Landcare movement across the State.

Ends



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