

NATIONAL LANDCARE PROGRAM REGIONAL LAND PARTNERSHIPS

CRADLE COAST REGION

The Australian Government recently released its National Landcare Program—Phase 2 (NLP2) draft investment strategy for Regional Land Partnerships over the period 2017 to 2023. The Request for Tender is expected to be released before Christmas.

Regional Land Partnerships are the component of NLP2 that will replace the existing regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) funding model.

The focus of the Regional Land Partnerships (RLP) investment is to help the Australian Government achieve environmental outcomes of national and international priority. There are six priority outcomes: “By 2023,

1. The ecological character of **Ramsar sites** is maintained or improved.
2. The trajectories of **Threatened Species Strategy** priority species are improved.
3. The outstanding universal values of natural and mixed **World Heritage Areas** are maintained or enhanced.
4. The condition of nationally **threatened ecological communities** on private land is improved.
5. There is an increase in the awareness and adoption of **land management practices** that improve and protect the condition of soil, biodiversity, and vegetation.
6. Agriculture systems have a **capacity to adapt** to significant changes in climate, weather, and markets.”

The RLP page of the www.nrm.gov.au website contains a map showing priority species and ecosystems for all NRM regions across Australia and identifies the opportunities for the Cradle Coast region to contribute to achieving the Australian Government priorities, in particular:

Priority bird species in the Cradle Coast region:

- ▶ Australasian Bittern, Hooded Plover, Orange-bellied Parrot, Eastern Curlew, Swift Parrot.
- ▶ Actions include: reducing threats by protecting nesting habitat; restoring wetland habitat; reducing human disturbance, habitat loss, degraded water quality, disease prevention, increasing wild population, reducing predation by sugar gliders.

Priority mammal species in the Cradle Coast region:

- ▶ Eastern Barred Bandicoot, Eastern Bettong, Eastern Quoll.
- ▶ Actions include: reducing feral cats, disease, habitat loss, fragmentation and degradation.

Threatened Ecological Communities listed in the Cradle Coast region:

- ▶ Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens (marshes); Lowland Native Grasslands of Tasmania; and Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh.

Ramsar wetlands:

- ▶ Lavinia wetland on King Island.

World Heritage Areas:

- ▶ Tasmanian Wilderness.

Sustainable agriculture outcomes:

- ▶ Land management practices to protect the condition of soil and vegetation.
- ▶ Reducing soil erosion and soil acidification and improving soil carbon.
- ▶ Agricultural enterprises being more resilient to changes in climate, weather and markets.

The Cradle Coast Authority is collaborating with NRM North and NRM South to develop a whole-of-Tasmania approach to the NLP2-RLP opportunity. The Cradle Coast NRM team is exploring **partnerships with industry, community groups, and other organisations** to develop project opportunities with a good fit under the guidelines.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, please check updates on the Cradle Coast Authority NRM webpage, use the email address: nrm@cradlecoast.com or give one of our team members a call!