

**PROJECT
PLATYPUS**
UPPER WIMMERA LANDCARE



Annual Report **2009-10**

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Project Platypus would like to extend a warm thank you to our sponsors and partners in 2009-2010:



The Upper Wimmera Catchment

The Wimmera River in Western Victoria forms part of the Murray Darling Basin. It is Victoria's largest land locked system and terminates at Lake Hindmarsh and Lake Albacutya south of the Wyperfeld National Park. The Upper Wimmera Catchment refers to the catchment area upstream of the Mt William Creek and Wimmera River junction encompassing an area of 3,027km².

The main land use in the region is made up mixed farming practices, largely sheep and dryland cropping, but also includes enterprises such as grapes, olives, forestry, vegetable production, cut flowers and other livestock production such as goats, cattle, pigs and poultry. The region is also home to mining industries and boasts a large tourism industry, especially within the Grampians and Pyrenees Ranges. The population of the Upper Wimmera is estimated to be around 15,000 people and is predicted to remain relatively stable into the near future.

The Upper Wimmera has a strong indigenous cultural history and contains many significant sites. Traditional owner groups from the region include the Jardwadjali, Djab Warrung, Djadja Wurrung and the Wotjobaluk People.

The region is home to an extensive array of flora and fauna including a large number of threatened and endangered species. Since European settlement, the region has been subject to significant clearing of native vegetation, which has resulted in numerous environmental issues. These include loss of biodiversity and a degradation of water quality through over-extraction, saline discharge and soil erosion.



Project Platypus

Project Platypus was founded in 1994 by Upper Wimmera Catchment Landcare group members who saw the need for a network to deliver larger scale projects across the region. The chosen icon was the platypus as it was identified that much of the network's activity would focus around improving water quality, which in turn would benefit the platypus.

Since its inception Project Platypus has achieved impressive results and have attracted over \$4.5 million to undertake activities such as erosion control work, revegetation, protection of remnant vegetation, establishment of perennial pastures, control of pest plants and animals and raised community awareness of environmental and land management issues.

The success of Project Platypus can be attributed to its community support, its grass-roots approach to problem solving and its ability to relate to land managers and investors. Project Platypus has been adaptable and flexible and has maintained its strength and vitality over the years. In 2010, Project Platypus's capacity to support Landcare groups and achieve on ground results is better than ever.

Project Platypus's mission is to support and empower the community to improve the environmental health of the Upper Wimmera River catchment while maintaining and improving productivity

Chairman's Report

Welcome to the 2009-2010 Annual Report of your local environmental and natural resource management organisation, Project Platypus. For those of you who are new to the region, we represent eleven Landcare groups in the Upper Wimmera Catchment area.

After many years of low water flows, high temperatures and fire, this year has returned to the last decade, to test our erosion control measures, dam construction, trickle pipe, banks and many other methods used in repairing the environment.

It has finally become wet. August has been a record rainfall month.

We are now in the second year of our strategic plan and must say it has been an invaluable document to both myself and Leigh, our Manager, as a means of guiding the organisation. Next year it will be up for review and new challenges will be met as funding Landcare proves more difficult.

The Catchment Management Authority is undergoing a restructure and we are yet to see how that is going to effect natural resource management in the Upper Wimmera Region.

Unfortunately Max Skeen, a very strong and loyal supporter of Project Platypus is leaving the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority team and will be dearly missed. Thank you for all that you have done for Landcare Max, and best wishes for the future.

The Management Committee has been particularly strong and has consolidated many operating procedures in this last twelve months. I thank the team for their vibrant debate on all sorts of issues and for their input and expertise on the very important sub-committees.

You will find in this document a list of the many activities that Project Platypus has organised or been involved with over this past year, including our very successful plantout weekend.

This year we lost our long serving Works Coordinator, Bernie Rudolph who has moved on after 7 years of dedicated to the Landcare movement. We thank him for his service and wish him well in his new employment. Victoria Leeke, our government funded Landcare Coordinator headed into the viticulturist world in Western Australia.

Project Platypus together with other Landcare groups have secured funding to manage the Landcare facilitation work for the Wimmera Region over the next three years. This is a significant project to be managed out of Project Platypus.

Our Manager, Leigh Blackmore thank you for the tireless effort you give to Project Platypus. Your enthusiasm is infectious in a not for profit organization.



Finally, to everyone from all walks of life, who become involved with Project Platypus, including staff, supporters, sponsors and management committee, who give their time and input, thank you.

To our Landcare group members and people who live and work in the environment, thank you for your support of Project Platypus during 2010.

Alan Green
Chairman

Project Platypus Management Committee

Project Platypus is managed by a volunteer Management Committee which meets on a monthly basis. The Management Committee is made up of Landcare Group representatives with a range of experience, skills and local knowledge which serves to guide the organisation's activities and provide strategic direction.

Management Committee Members (Sept 2009 - Sept 2010):

- Alan Green - Great Western Landcare Group
- Leanne Jackman - Northern Grampians Landcare Group
- Mark McKew - Crowlands Landcare Group
- Michael Greene - Elmhurst Landcare Group
- Stephen Ware - Navarre and District Landcare Group
- Michael McMurtrie - Jallukar Landcare Group
- Phil Hall - Concongella Landcare Group
- Ray Graham - Northern Grampians Landcare Group
- Rosie Nater - Moyston Landcare Group
- Ian Nicholson - Stawell Urban Landcare Group

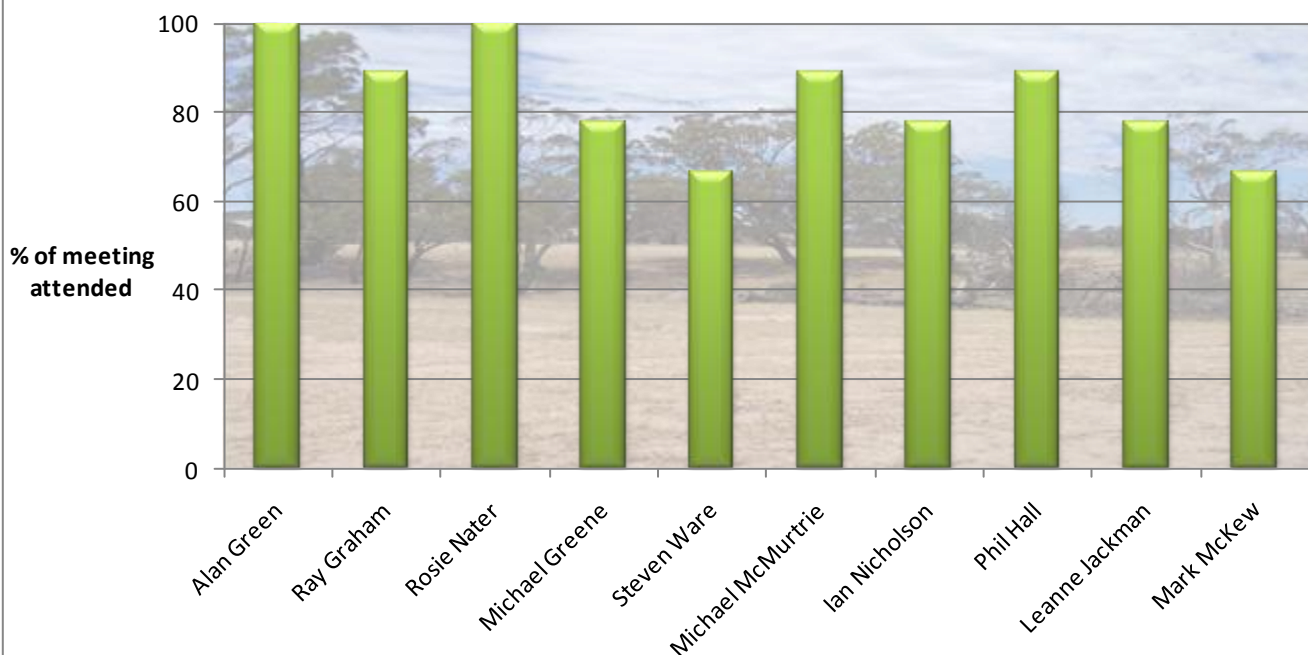
- Chairman**
- Vice Chair**
- Secretary**
- Treasurer**

Ex officio members:

- Nigel Binney - GWM Water
- Max Skeen - Wimmera Catchment Management Authority
- Leigh Blackmore - Project Platypus (Manager)



Management Committee Meeting Attendance



Project Platypus Sub-Committees

Climate Change Sub-Committee

The Climate Change Sub-committee met a number of times throughout the last 12 months. Their aim has been to ensure the Upper Wimmera Landcare Community is informed, involved and has access to opportunities that arise from Climate Change. One of the main projects this group has been interested in is measuring the amount of carbon in soils. They have contributed to funding applications that have aimed to monitor soil carbon over time. They have also instigated a Climate Change/Carbon section in the Upper Wimmera Catchment Newsletter and have been looking increasing the Climate Change/Carbon related resources available on the Project Platypus Web Site.

Leanne Jackman
Mark McKew
Stephen Ware
Emily Anderson
Rosie Nater

Projects Sub-Committee

During the 2009-2010 year the Projects sub-committee met in August, November, May and June. During these meetings the group assessed project ideas that had come from Landcare group members, Project Platypus staff or from the broader community. They developed these ideas further and prioritised them, based on a number of criteria including their ability to help Project Platypus achieve its mission. They also reviewed project success at completion to aid in future project development. At any point in time Project Platypus now has an up to date list of priority projects that have been suggested and developed by the Landcare Community.

Phil Hall
Jane Williams
Bernie Rudolph
George Holden
Howard Frampton

Partnerships and Funding Sub-Committee

Project Platypus places a high value in working in partnership with agencies, government, corporations and other community groups. The Partnerships and Funding Sub-committee have spent the last 12 months going through each of our existing partnerships and looking at what Project Platypus can do to develop these partnerships into the future. The Sub-committee created working groups as needs arose that put extra effort into investigating possibilities to develop specific partnerships further. The sub-committee also investigated opportunities to develop new partnerships into the future.

Alan Green
Michael McMurtrie
Ian Nicholson
Leigh Blackmore
Ewan Letts

Project Platypus Staff

Leigh Blackmore	Manager (1.0)
David Margetson	Project Manager (1.0)
Colin Snooks	Project Officer (0.8)
Jane Marriott	Community Engagement Officer (0.3)
Cathy McDermott	Landcare Support Officer (0.3)
Sean Malloy	Rabbit and Weed Facilitator (Casual)
Barry Curtis	Accounts and Payroll Officer (0.2)
Bob Wallace	Project Officer / Field Officer (Casual)
Emily Anderson	Partnership Development Officer (Casual)
David McAllister	Field Officer (Casual)
Don Smale	Field Officer (Casual)
Gavin Brody	Field Officer (Casual)
Robert Cray	Field Officer (Casual)
Paul Moralee	Field Officer (Casual)
Trevor O'Donnell	Field Officer (Casual)
Hamish Thomson	Field Officer (Casual)
Gordon Marriott	GIS Officer (Casual)

Bernie Rudolph (ex)	Works Coordinator (1.0)
Victoria Leeke (ex)	Landcare Coordinator (1.0)
Michelle Simpkin (ex)	Landcare Support Officer (0.3)



Manager's Report



Landcare in the Upper Wimmera Catchment has been re-invigorated over the last few years. From my perspective this has not been because of any one particular cause, but from a multitude of enthusiasm throughout the community. All it takes is one or two volunteers to start spreading the enthusiasm and things seem to cumulate from there.

It was great to have Elmhurst Landcare Group host the 10th Anniversary of Plantout in 2009. It was an extremely successful event with over 160 volunteers planting over 15,000 plants. Another project that has had lots of Landcare Group involvement has been the 'Engaging Small Landholders Project'. Moyston, Northern Grampians and Black Range Landcare Groups have all been busy undertaking walking track projects in their local areas. This has brought new members to the groups and given existing members an opportunity to spend some productive time together improving their local environment.

The Upper Wimmera Landcare Groups have also been very busy with 2nd Generation Landcare Grants. During this financial year, there were two rounds of funding with all eleven of our member groups getting involved, some for both rounds. It was great to see Landsborough Landcare Group getting back into action after a few years break. This resulted in a huge rabbit control program overall (more than 1,000ha) and a big effort in terms of weed control (over 2,500ha). It was great to have VicRoads, the Ararat Rural City Council and GWM Water coming on board to rip rabbit warrens in areas where work had taken place on private land. The ability to coordinate rabbit warren destruction works across land tenures and administrative boundaries can sometimes seem more tedious and complicated that you would expect.

The Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink Project has been successful in both 2009 and 2010. In 2009, 233 ha were revegetated and 184ha of remnant vegetation were protected.



This work will help maintain ecosystem resilience by providing a web of vegetation between the Grampians and the Pyrenees Ranges. The project is on track to achieve similar results in 2010. Project Platypus has also been able to continue its erosion control work with GWM Water Sponsorship. Jane has busy been working on a document that will provide an excellent history of this 15 year partnership and this publication is due for release in 2010.

Inviting Peter Andrews to our AGM in 2009 helped to attract 190 people. It was fantastic to have someone of Peter's profile visit us in the Upper Wimmera and share some of his

experience in reading and repairing the Australian landscape. Being part of the Farming in the 21st Century Series in 2009 also gave us an opportunity to bring informative speakers to the region by hosting a soils workshop at Pomonal attracting 40 interested landholders to increase their knowledge on soil health. With a big injection of funds into this program from the William Buckland Foundation over the next two years we will be able to ramp this up to include a major Sustainable Agriculture Field Day.

The Peter Andrews visit inspired a project on a small property at Greens Creek. This project has been called 'A balanced Farming System' and has seen a variety of works undertaken including contour ripping, laying of straw, fencing and revegetation. A field day will be held in 2010/2011 inviting others to visit and see what has been achieved on this property.

Through a partnership with the WCMA, Project Platypus has been able to provide support to the Landcare Groups of the Upper Wimmera Catchment in 2009/2010. Due to changes in funding arrangements there has been some uncertainty

Manager's Report cont.

around whether this support to local groups can continue. Fortunately, Project Platypus has been successful in an application to the Federal Government through its Regional Landcare Facilitator Program that will enable us to continue providing support over the next 3 years to help groups achieve their goals.

This year Project Platypus have also been successful in attracting \$5,000 from the Foundation of Regional and Rural Renewal contributing to the purchase a new spray trailer. This has increased our efficiency on the ground and means that we can now get more work done with fewer resources. With many of our annual weeds also having an autumn germination this year, the new spray trailer came in very handy.

The Bandicoot Highway Project (phase 1) was also completed this year contributing to revegetation and remnant protection works. This included a successful fox baiting program and series of bandicoot surveys.

Unfortunately no bandicoots were found on the Black Range and further surveys planned for next year with funding received from the Norman Wettenhall Foundation will help us determine the best course of action to take to help protect the bandicoot from localised extinction.



This year the 'Landcare Hike' along Six Mile Creek demonstrated how much can be gained from a simple walk along a creek. It gave walkers a great appreciation for the varied landscape that we are part of and gave landholders an opportunity to demonstrate what has been achieved on their properties. There seems to be enough enthusiasm to make these hikes an annual event, with Mt Cole Creek and Concongella Creek being two possibilities for future years.



On behalf of the Upper Wimmera Landcare Community I wanted to express my thanks to all those who have been involved over the last year. Landcare work goes beyond landholders and Landcare group members, and extends into many and varied areas within our community. Some of the groups involved in 2009/2010 include; Young people through their schools, scouts or through programs such as 'Green Corps', drought-affected farmers through the Drought Employment Program, Jobseekers through the Work Experience Program, people that have been in trouble with the law either fulfilling a community service or those that are being held in prison, and finally all those wonderful

volunteers that come from far and wide to get involved, once off during Plantout or on a regular basis—THANK YOU.

Prospects are looking good for Project Platypus into the future with an enthusiastic Management Committee, vibrant member groups, skilled staff and a number projects planned to be undertaken over the next few years.

Thanks for you support, its great to see that together we can make a real difference. Well done to everyone involved.

Leigh Blackmore
Manager

Landcare Group Highlights

Black Range

President: Peter Brazier

Secretary: Jane Marriott



Weed and rabbit control work continues to be on the agenda for the group, during the year the Landmate crew were engaged to fumigate rabbit warrens in rocky terrain on two properties. The group has had a number of very successful and sociable working bees on the Walk Track project as part of the Engaging Small Landholders in Landcare project, although the project (funding period) has concluded works are continuing and the group plans a launch of the track at Pleasant Creek Bushland Reserve in spring. The Black Range Landcare group have taken action to address the Panrock Road motor bike track. The group continue to encourage social activities and hope to have a spring walk for Bunjils Reserve.

Crowlands

President: Shane Molloy

Secretary: Harold Thomas

The group had David Jochinke (Nuffield Scholar and Horsham Farmer) as guest speaker at their annual general meeting. Steven Start stepped down as President and Shane Molloy took on the executive role. Another busy year for the Crowlands Landcare Group with rabbit and weed control works being carried out as part of the Second Generation Landcare program. The group hosted a Spray Course through the DPI which was well received and resulted in a couple of new members. Eleven members took an educational bus tour of AWTA and Hi-Fert in Lara. The group have also been involved with a mapping project by identifying areas owned or managed by Landcare members. David Jochinke has arranged for the Crowlands Landcare group to host a visit from Top Crop group in September.



Landsborough

President: Daryl Leslie

Secretary: Greg Dean

A grant and mapping project was undertaken to help reinvigorate/reconnect the group. The group gained a grant through the Second Generation Landcare program and contracted Project Platypus to facilitate rabbit control. The group completed a six month round report which involved a joint Patterson's Curse spraying project with Elmhurst Landcare Group. The Landmate crew were engaged to carry out Gorse and Spiny Broom spraying and rabbit ripping. An expression of interest has been entered for the next round of Second Generation Landcare grants.



Elmhurst

President: Doug Boatman

Secretary: Geoff Penna

The group's executive has been extremely busy managing a rabbit eradication campaign. Significant time was occupied with the reporting process, particularly in identifying allotment numbers in the Glenpatrick area. A spin-off to the constant communications has resulted in the overall membership of the group climbing to forty three. The construction of a storage shed is ongoing and is now at the stage of seeking approval from the DSE. The group have organised a number of activities during the year including guest speakers and a successful FarmSafe forum held by former local resident John Curtis. Neighbouring Landcare groups and farmer organisations were invited and an excellent three course meal was provided by the local catering team for thirty six participants.



Landcare Group Highlights

Moyston

President: Adam Merrick

Secretary: Vacant

Another successful year for the Moyston Landcare Group with rabbit and weed control works being carried out as part of the Second Generation Landcare program with landholders contributing 50% of the costs. Facilitating Landmate crews for weed removal and follow up rabbit fumigation after past ripping works. The group hosted a planting day at Mt. Sugarloaf and were integral in assisting with the 2010 Plantout weekend held at Moyston in July. As part of the Engaging Small Landholders Project, development of the Moyston Common Nature Walk is in progress with three working bees being held to date. The group held a Chilean Needle Grass workshop (in conjunction with Project Platypus) for this potentially damaging weed. Moyston Landcare group continues to enjoy coordinating nature walks, and held a Father's Day walk along the Salt Creek Catchment and next year hope to organise a walk from Mt. Ararat to Mt. William. At the annual general meeting held in August, Madelene Townsend stepped down as Secretary.



Great Western

President: Mark Kindred

Secretary: Paul Dakis

The Great Western Landcare group continue to participate in field trips and social gatherings. Rabbit and weed control have been conducted during the year through the Second Generation Landcare program. The Group held two successful tree planting days for the Great Western community. The group held two field trips during the year, one to Alan Green's to inspect revegetation and rabbit control works at Green Eggs and another to visit native pasture plantings at Seppelts. Negotiations are still occurring on projects to be funded by the Second Generation Landcare grants. The 2010 AGM saw the retirement of Ross McGregor as the Great Western Landcare Group President.

Jallukar

President: Wayne Burton

Secretary: Annette May

The group held a bus trip and tour of the Gason's factory in Ararat along with the wind farm at Challicum Hills. Jallukar Landcare Group has undertaken rabbit warren destruction works over nine properties as part of the Second Generation Landcare program with landholders contributing 50% of the costs involved. This covered an area of about 190ha – a great achievement. The group was successful in receiving a grant from the Federal Government to undertake work at Millers Creek, which runs through the centre of Pomonal. The group have undertaken some planning and held a tree planting working bee at Miller Creek.



Landcare Group Highlights

Concongella

President: Malcolm Nicholson

Secretary: Phil & Trudy Hall

An active year for Concongella Landcare Group with four members of the group completing a FarmPlan21 course. The group hosted a Carbon Crazy workshop in March as part of an AgFutures event and in July held a Locust and Mice information night. The group have completed rabbit and weed control works with funding from the Second Generation Landcare grants and have applied for further funding to continue with this program, they also intend to apply for a Caring for our Country Pasture grant. The annual general meeting was held in July which included looking at aerial photography with the aim of indentifying the best place for revegetation activities.



Northern Grampians

President: Ewan Letts

Secretary: Leanne Jackman

The Northern Grampians Landcare Group hosted a reunion for the Mount William Creek Walk, the time capsule was buried and the Mt. William Creek Walk photo book was launched. The group has welcomed new members thanks to the development and success of the nature trail as part of the Engaging Small Landholders



Project, the project has provided the format for productive social days. They have been involved with tree planting on member's properties and are working through an application for the Second Generation Landcare grant for weed and pest control along Mt. William Creek and roadsides.

Navarre

President: Colin Snooks

Secretary: R & L Kelleher

During the year a couple of the Navarre Landcare Group members completed a FarmPlan21 course. The group continues to facilitate rabbit and weed control works through funding from the Second Generation Landcare program, spraying for Patterson's Curse was also conducted during the year. The group hope to apply for further funding to continue with rabbit and weed control works.



Stawell Urban:

President: Ian Nicholson

Secretary: Catherine McDermott

Stawell Urban have been successful in obtaining historical details of the Moonlight Sands with some interesting information uncovered which can be used on signs along a new walking track. The group is still involved in maintenance of paths and weeds at the Pleasant Creek site. An application for a grant through the Volunteer Grant program 2010 was successful; these funds will go towards the purchase of a chainsaw and whipper snipper. The group hosted a well presented and informative weeds information session with Lucy Ivey from the DPI regarding weed identification. Stawell Urban have submitted an expression of interest through the Second Generation Landcare Grant for assistance with administrative and insurance costs. Stawell Urban hope to develop a weeds program for Big Hill area.



2009-2010 Achievements

Project	Partners	Achievements
Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink 2009	Wimmera CMA Federal Government (CfOC)	184 ha of Remnant Vegetation Protected 233 ha of Revegetation 68,000 indigenous plants planted 32 Landholders involved
Integrated Weed Control 2009	Wimmera CMA Victorian Government (DSE)	5 ha Chilean Needle Grass treated 18 ha Broom treated 123 ha Patterson's Curse treated 11 ha St John's Wort treated 256 ha Bridal Creeper
Integrated Weed Control 2010	Wimmera CMA Victorian Government (DSE)	1 ha of boneseed control (Stawell) 200 ha St John's Wort Control (Black Range) 16 ha Broom Control (Stawell)
2010 Gorse and Blackberry (Phase One)	Wimmera CMA Federal Government (CfOC)	159ha of Gorse treated 10.1ha Blackberry treated
2010 Gorse and BB (phase 2)	Wimmera CMA Victorian Government (DSE)	330ha of Gorse treated 25ha of Blackberry treated
Navarre Weed Control 2009/2010	Navarre and District Landcare Group Wimmera CMA Victorian Government (DSE)	237ha St Johns Wort treated 35ha Patterson's Curse treated
Bridal Creeper 2009	Wimmera CMA Federal Government (CfOC)	454 ha Bridal Creeper treated
Bridal Creeper 2010 (Phase 1)	Wimmera CMA Federal Government (CfOC)	130 ha Bridal Creeper treated
2009 Stawell Broom Control	Stawell Landcare Group Wimmera CMA Victorian Government (DSE)	25ha Broom treated
Concongella Weed Control 2009/2010	Concongella Landcare Group Wimmera CMA Victorian Government (DSE)	185ha Cape Tulip treated 211ha Horehound treated
Landsborough / Elmhurst Patterson's Curse Control	Landsborough Landcare Group Wimmera CMA Victorian Government (DSE)	101ha Patterson's Curse treated
Perennial Pastures	Federal Government (CfOC) Perennial Pasture Systems Group	161ha of perennial pasture established Split paddock evaluation sites established Perennial Pasture Systems Group Conference and Field days undertaken
New Spray Trailer	Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal	New Spray Trailer purchased
Landcare Group Support	Wimmera CMA Federal Government (CfOC)	11 Landcare Groups Supported Farm Plan 21 Support Plantout Support 4 x Upper Catchment Landcare Newsletters
Bandicoot Highway	Federal Government (CfOC) World Wildlife Fund Black Range Landcare Group	8,640 Indigenous species planted 3,000m fencing constructed 42ha revegetated 10ha Remnant vegetation protected 600ha fox baiting 8 x landholders involved
Landcare 2010	Wimmera CMA	Facilitated development of 3 Landcare Networks
Plantout 2009	Elmhurst Landcare Group SP Ausnet Landcare Australia Wimmera CMA	160 volunteers involved

2009-2010 Achievements

Project	Partners	Achievements
Work Experience Program	St Laurance Federal Government	280 participant days
Engaging Small Landholders in Landcare	Victorian Government (DSE) Moyston Landcare Group Northern Grampians Landcare Group Black Range Landcare Group Stawell Urban Landcare Group	3000 trees planted 3 walking tracks constructed 3 workshops held 10 working bees undertaken
Six Mile Creek Walk	Wimmera CMA State Government (DSE)	25 walkers involved over 3 days (40km)
2009 Rabbit Facilitation	Northern Grampians, Concongella, Crowlands, Jallukar, Moyston, Great Western & Navarre Landcare Groups Wimmera CMA Victorian Government (DSE)	289.4 ha - rabbit warren destruction
2010 Rabbit Facilitation	Concongella, Crowlands, Landsborough, Great Western, Jallukar, Moyston & Navarre Landcare Groups Wimmera CMA Victorian Government (DSE)	674.6 ha - rabbit warren destruction
Jinchilla	Pomonal CFA	Planted 15,000 agro-forestry stems
Ararat Roadside Rabbits 2009 & 2010	Ararat Rural City Council Victorian Government (DPI)	50ha - rabbit warren destruction (roadsides)
Grampians to Pyrenees Biolink 2010*	Wimmera CMA Federal Government	39 Landholder Agreements entered into
Improving Water Quality in the Wimmera River 09-10*	GWM Water	3 x erosion control sites maintained
Balanced farming system*	Federal Government (CfOC)	20ha treated for erosion control and carbon capture 5ha of remnant vegetation protected

* Projects to be completed in 2010-2011

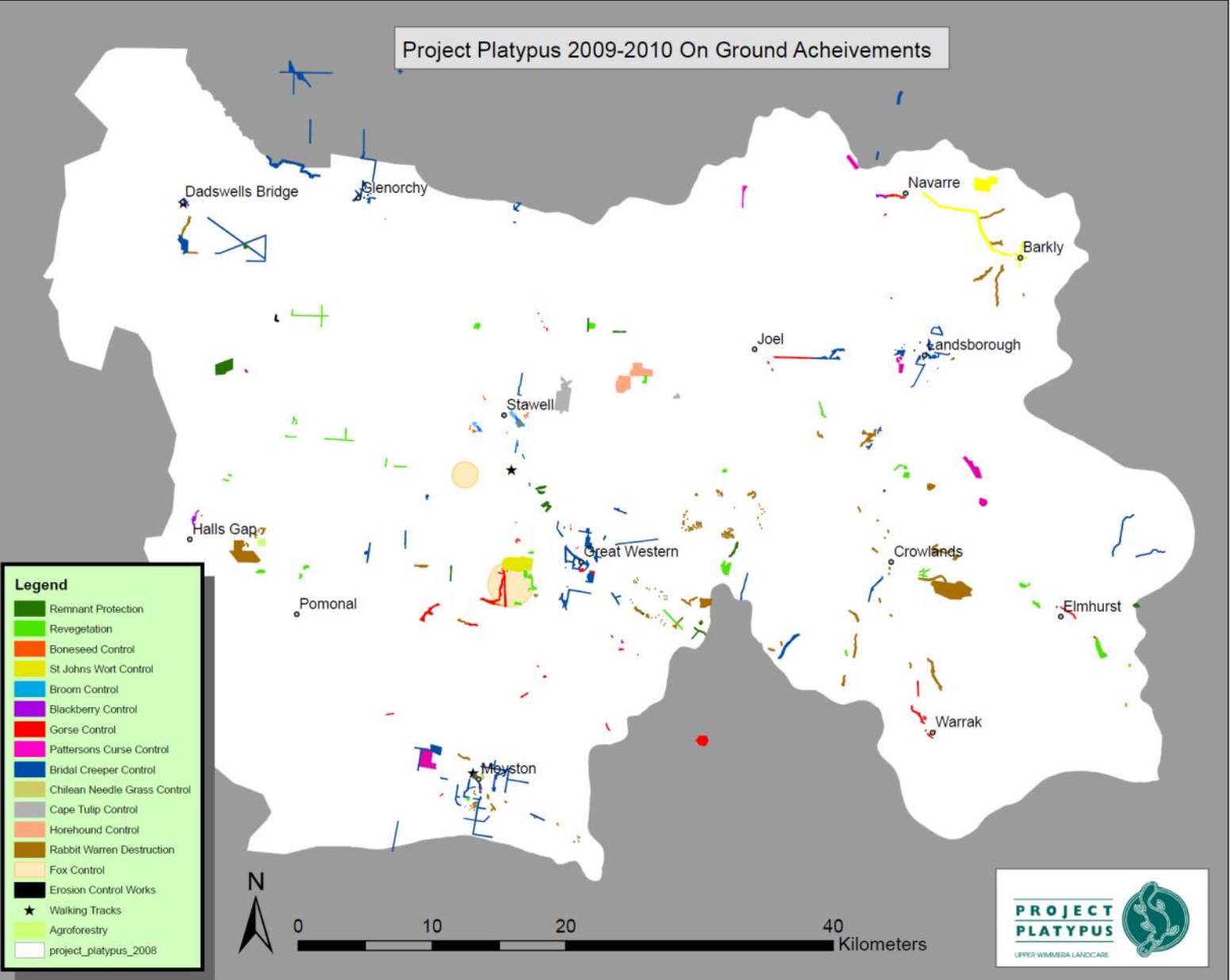
In addition to landholders and Landcare Groups, community involvement in 2009-2010 also included;

- Green Corps
- Drought effected farmers through the Drought employment program
- Marion College, Skene Street School, Stawell Primary School (502), involved in tree planting activities
- Community volunteers through Plantout 2009 and weed control work
- Community Service Participants
- Prison Crews
- Work Experience (Work for the Dole) participants
- Scouts
- International Volunteers through Conservation Volunteers Australia

Other engagement activities included;

- ⇒ Salt Creek Walk at Moyston
- ⇒ Hosting the Wimmera Regional Landcare Forum
- ⇒ 2009—AGM, with 190 people and high profile guest speaker, Peter Andrews
- ⇒ Presentation at the 2009 Victorian Landcare Conference

Project Platypus 2009-2010 On Ground Achievements





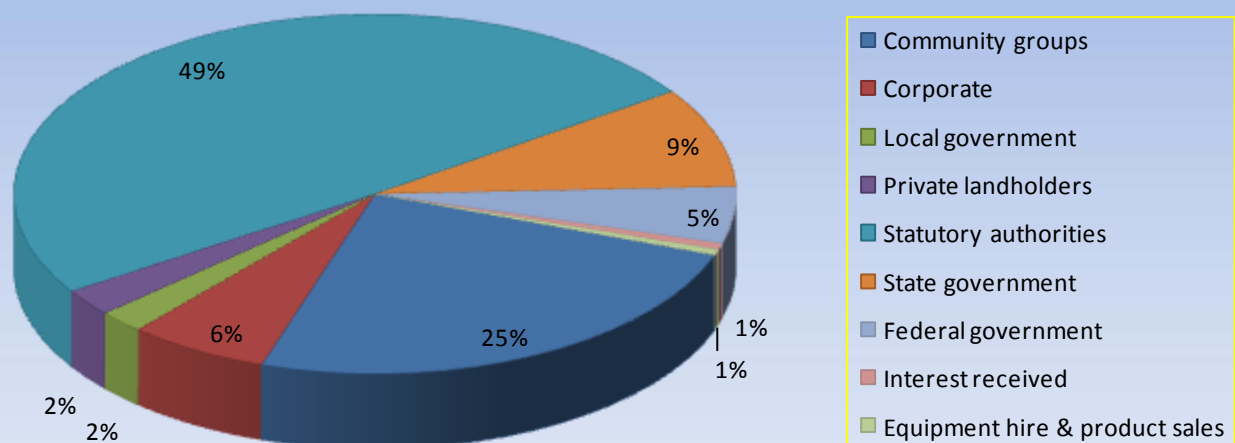
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OPERATING STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	2,010 \$	2,009 \$
Revenue		
Fee for Service	177,411	230,020
Grants received	389,133	580,395
Interest received	3,410	14,346
Sundry income	2,963	3,232
Total Revenue	<u>572,917</u>	<u>827,993</u>
Expenses		
Administration	47,823	43,374
Community engagement	30,852	34,261
Employment	321,792	256,822
Staff development	3,907	4,829
Vehicles	54,723	27,598
Operational Costs	308,795	619,552
Total Expenses	<u>767,892</u>	<u>986,436</u>
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>\$ (194,975)</u>	<u>\$ (158,443)</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Income Sources



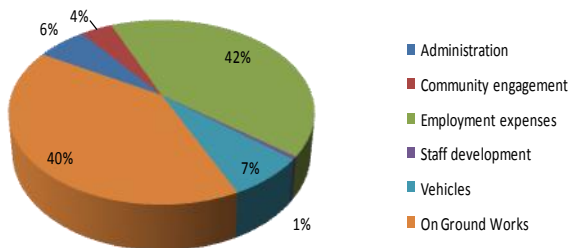
Financial Reports

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	Note	2,010 \$	2,009 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	44,653	357,713
Receivables	3	180,761	39,790
Total Current Assets		225,414	397,503
Non-Current Assets			
Vehicles and Equipment	4	103,483	74,458
Total Non-Current Assets		103,483	74,458
Total Assets		328,897	471,961
Current Liabilities			
Payables	5	74,856	43,036
Provisions	6	19,230	10,191
Total Current Liabilities		94,086	53,227
Non-Current Liabilities			
Payables	7	28,891	13,484
Total Non-Current Liabilities		28,891	13,484
Total Liabilities		122,977	66,711
Net Assets		205,920	405,250
Equity			
Balance brought forward		308,950	155,764
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(194,975)	(158,443)
Committed Funds Reserve	8	91,945	311,629
		\$ 205,920	\$ 308,950

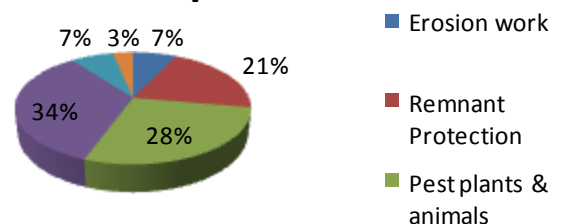
The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Expense Breakdown



Note: Employment Expenses include those relating to 'On Ground Works', 'Administration' and 'Community Engagement'

Breakdown of Works Expenses



Note: The breakdown of Works Expenses does not include expenses relating to employment, nor does it include payments made by funders directly to landholders

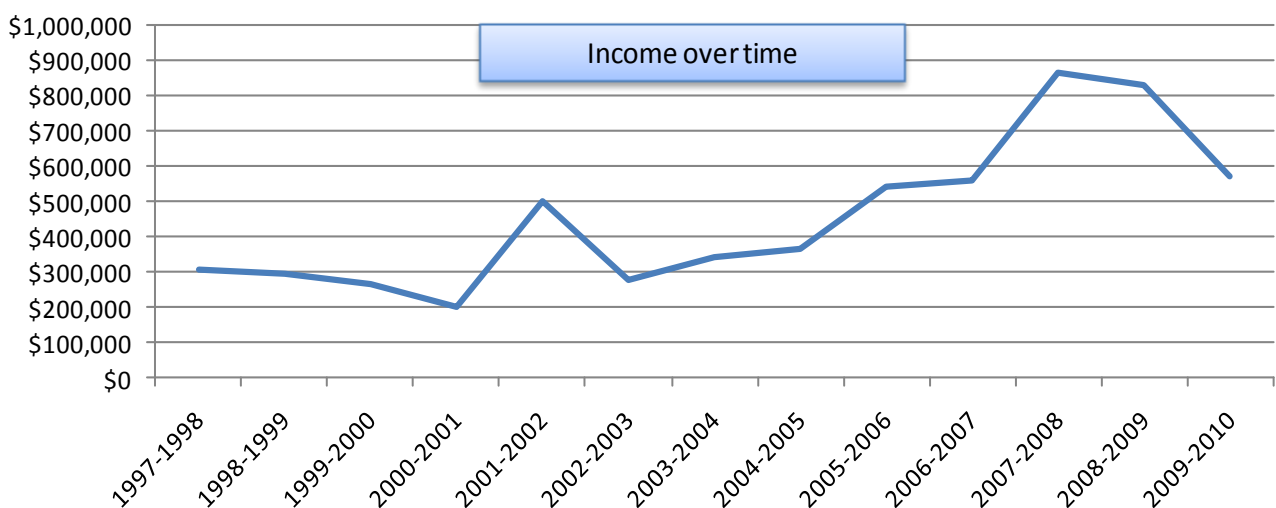


Financial Reports

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	No te	2,010 \$	2,009 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash received from customers		441,352	834,370
Cash paid to suppliers, grant recipients and employees		(713,538)	(960,067)
Net cash provided/(used) by operating activities	9	<u>(272,186)</u>	<u>(125,697)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		3,410	14,346
Proceeds from the sale of vehicles and equipment		13,545	5,909
Payments for vehicles and equipment		(73,530)	(30,634)
Net cash provided/(used) in investing activities		<u>(56,575)</u>	<u>(10,379)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Cash received from finance agencies		34,580	10,678
Cash paid to finance agencies		(18,879)	(12,573)
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>15,701</u>	<u>(1,895)</u>
Net Increase/(Decrease) in cash held		(313,060)	(137,971)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the financial year		<u>357,713</u>	<u>495,684</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		\$ 44,653	\$ 357,713

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



Financial Reports

PROJECT PLATYPUS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies

This report is a general purpose financial report representing Project Platypus Association Inc. as an individual entity.

Project Platypus Association Inc. is an association incorporated in Victoria Australia under the Associations Incorporations Act (1981) Vic.

[a] Basis of preparation

This financial report has been prepared on an accrual and going concern basis using the Historical Cost convention except where specifically stated and all accounting policies comply with Australian Accounting Standards include Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards.

All accounting policies applied are consistent with those used in the prior year.

[b] Revenue

In accordance with changes to the Accounting Standard AASB 1004, revenue from grants is recognised in the year in which the grant funds are received, irrespective of the period the funds relate to.

Consideration was been given to provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts at balance date. No such provision was necessary.

[c] Employee benefits

Liabilities for services rendered by employees are recognised at balance date to the extent that they have not been settled. Liability for annual leave and long service leave were considered.

[d] Cash and Cash Equivalents

This item includes cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks and other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of twelve months or less.

[e] Vehicles and equipment

These items with a value in excess of \$1000 and a useful life in excess of one year are capitalised at cost and amortised in equal instalments over their useful life.

When an asset is disposed of and the amount received is greater than the written down value of the item a gain is recognised as Revenue. Alternatively, if the disposal value is less than written down value the 'loss' is expensed.



Financial Reports

	2,010 \$	2,009 \$
Note 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Greenhouse Gas Project Account	8	13,741
Investment Account	14,019	250,812
Operating Account	12,578	92,431
Petty Cash Advance	300	400
Public Fund Account	329	329
Undeposited Funds	17,419	
	<u>44,653</u>	<u>357,713</u>
Note 3. Receivables		
Income receivable from Fee for Service customers	57,946	39,790
Income receivable from Grants	122,815	
	<u>180,761</u>	<u>39,790</u>
Note 4. Vehicles and Equipment		
Motor Vehicles	117,551	63,331
Less accumulated depreciation	(39,448)	(3,780)
Office Equipment & Furniture	4,017	4,017
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,369)	(554)
Works Equipment	29,194	14,300
Less accumulated depreciation	(6,462)	(2,856)
	<u>103,483</u>	<u>74,458</u>
Note 5. Payables [Current Liabilities]		
Credit Card	397	
Accounts Payable	33,352	7,839
GST Liabilities	12,611	10,650
Payroll Liabilities	28,496	24,547
	<u>74,856</u>	<u>43,036</u>
Note 6. Provisions		
Annual Leave and Long Service Leave	19,230	10,191
Note 7. Payables [Non-current Liabilities]		
BOQ Finance [Triton]		4,628
Less Unexpired Charges		(596)
		<u>4,032</u>
Toyota Finance [Corolla]	6,715	10,744
Less Unexpired Charges	(861)	(1,292)
	<u>5,854</u>	<u>9,452</u>
Esanda Finance Ltd [RAV4]	10,600	
Less Unexpired Charges	(154)	
	<u>10,446</u>	
Toyota Finance [Colorado]	13,757	
Less Unexpired Charges	(1,166)	
	<u>12,591</u>	
Total Non-current liabilities	<u>28,891</u>	<u>13,484</u>



Financial Reports

	2010 \$	2009 \$
Note 8. Committed Funds Reserve		
Reserve funds are legal obligations owed for committed projects.		
At balance date obligations existed in the following projects:		
Paddock Trees		19,552
Glendhu		22,019
Upper Wimmera Farm Tree Group		3,439
Upper Wimmera Landcare Coordination		6,702
Greenhouse Gas Audits		2,629
G2P Biolink	49,191	177,042
GWM	23,252	6,856
Mt William Creek Walk		3,730
Weed Control 2009		18,512
Landcare 2010		28,648
Landcare Support 2009-2010		22,500
Engaging Small Landholders	4,523	
Balanced Farming Systems	10,479	
Ararat Rural City Rabbit Control - Jallukar Landcare Group	4,500	
	<u>91,945</u>	<u>311,629</u>
Note 9. Reconciliation of Operating Activities		
Net result for the year	(194,976)	(158,443)
Non cash flows in result:		
Depreciation	19,621	7,190
Loss on Disposal of Non-current Assets	4,610	783
Expired Finance Charges	2,081	1,198
Changes in assets & liabilities:		
Increase in Payables	31,820	7,006
Increase in Provisions	9,039	10,191
Increase in Receivables	(140,971)	20,724
Transfer to Investing Activities:		
Interest Received	(3,410)	(14,346)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(272,186)</u>	<u>(125,697)</u>



Audited Financial Statement

SALLY HINCHLIFFE
& ASSOCIATES

CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANTS
ABN 58 121 794 045

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PROJECT PLATYPUS ASSOCIATION INC.

Scope

We have audited the financial report of Project Platypus Association Inc for the year ended 30th June, 2010. The Committee is responsible for the financial report. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the association's financial position and performance as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in the report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Project Platypus Association Inc. presents a true and fair view in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia the financial position of Project Platypus Association Inc. as at 30th June, 2010, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

SALLY HINCHLIFFE

SALLY HINCHLIFFE & ASSOCIATES PTY. LTD.

Date: 23rd August, 2010

SALLY HINCHLIFFE & ASSOCIATES



Liability limited by a
scheme approved under
Professional Standards
Legislation

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