

Granite Borders Landcare Committee Incorporated Strategic Plan

(April 2024)

This document outlines the vision, mission, values and operations of the Granite Borders Landcare Committee Inc. (GBLC). We aim to review our Strategic Plan every five years.

Vision

Promoting community understanding and best practice management of our diverse natural resources while nurturing a healthy, functional and inclusive community.

Mission

Our organisation commits to our long-term goal to become an innovative, technologically advanced, and viable organisation that can empower our communities to manage the Granite Borders country with best management principles and practices.

Core Values

GBLC actions and decisions are guided by our core values, attitudes and beliefs, including:

- Fairness: being impartial to all, and accessible in our provision of services
- Dependability: providing quality work, reliable referral and sound scientific information
- Sustainability: measured by financial, environmental and social robustness
- Adaptability: measured by resilience in dealing with change and adverse events
- Integrity: delivering what we promise, accountability, transparency clearly communicated

Service Areas

Serving both the Tenterfield and Stanthorpe shires, Granite Borders Landcare Committee is unique in its cross-border Landcare Commitment. Our members have a diversity of backgrounds, interests, skills and attributes, arising from our varied ecological landscapes. This and approaches to cross-border natural resource management. Historically, the Granite Belt border region has gone through numerous agricultural iterations, including sheep, cattle, grain, tobacco and orchards. There is a growing number of smaller lifestyle landholders, which has changed the community and land use profiles since our beginnings in the 1990s.



Figure 1. Granite Borders Landcare Committee Inc. Area

Granite Borders Landcare Committee – who we are

GBLC is a not-for-profit organisation that formed in 1994 to support a network of Landcare groups and communities with shared community and environmental interests in the Granite Border regions of the Tenterfield (northern NSW) and Stanthorpe (southern Qld) shires. We are one of four Landcare Networks in the New England Landcare Network (NELN) region, working together to deliver state, regional and local projects towards positive outcomes for communities involved in natural resource management.



Figure 2. GBLC Organisation

Our Executive Committee meets monthly to provide guidance, support and direction to our Landcare activities and events, which are delivered by our Landcare Coordinator and Project Officer. Our committee members bring to the organisation a wealth of knowledge, skills and experience in a range of fields. They all share common interests in natural resource management aligned with the vision, mission and core values of GBLC (please refer to our GBLC Capability Statement and website).

GBLC has over 700 lifetime members, who have access to the information, training, assistance, networking and funding opportunities to help them achieve their desired ecological and social improvements. We have more than 10 active Landcare Subgroups, who focus on shared interests, issues or practices, such as community gardening, nature appreciation and conservation, agricultural and environmental weed management, disaster risk management and youth and community support. Belonging to our organisation enables members to have a voice about local land management issues, gain credibility through association and expand their special interest networks.

GBLC Networks and stakeholders

GBLC relies on functional and reciprocal relationships with a broad range of organisations, exemplified below:

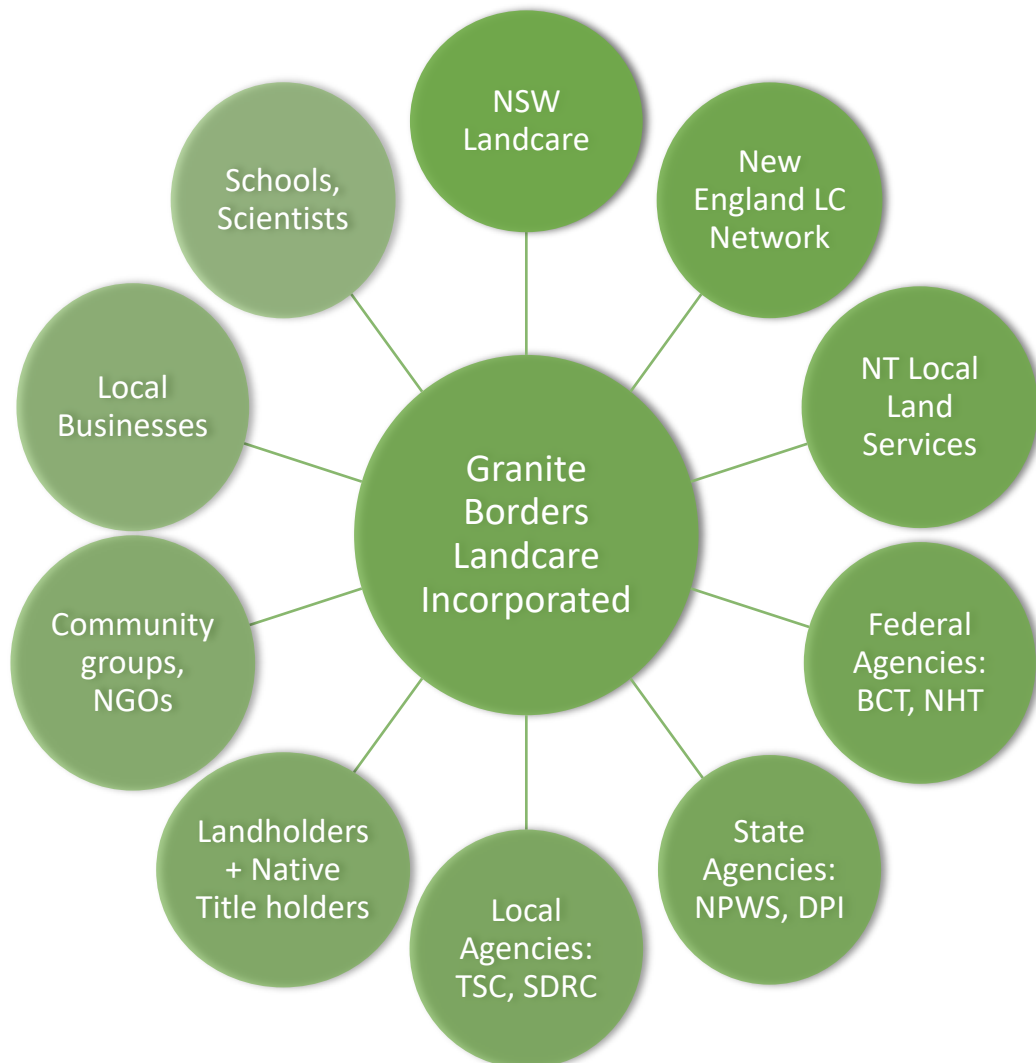


Figure 3. GBLC has functional and efficient relationships with a number of organisations

Good GBLC Governance

Good governance helps us to maintain these healthy working. We regularly update our guiding policies and operational procedures, which are available in our office.

Granite Borders Landcare Committee – what we do

GBLC exists to provide support, information and a forum for discussion with our community about managing our diverse natural resources. GBLC plays a vital role in connecting people at events and field days or through projects, which is how we contribute to the health and wellbeing of both the environment and our communities.

GBLC Focus Areas of Operation and Scope of Services

GBLC adopts the general policy that we will help any group or individual whose interests align with our own, including:

- Climate change imperatives and innovations
- Alternative approaches to conventional cropping, pasture and livestock management
- Sustainable and regenerative agriculture
- Management & control of invasive species and other impacts on ecological integrity
- Wellbeing of our community, nature & the environment
- Contributing to conservation and enhanced biodiversity
- Local research application,
- Incorporating innovation, such as mapping natural resources and invasive species
- Inclusivity, extension and capacity building for people, society and community
- Indigenous cultures and traditional custodians
- Taking action and raising awareness of socio-ecological threats, such as biosecurity

Products and services

GBLC offers a range of products and services to both customers and members. These include an office that serves as a 'shopfront', a regular newsletter for members, a library of resources, equipment for hire/loan, member group public liability insurance, funding opportunities, liaison between agencies, project management, event coordination and facilitation, group development, and administration and financial services for member groups. Our website (www.gblc.org.au) and Facebook page facilitate sharing and communication.

Organisational Objectives

We focus on developing four key areas: Personnel; Finances; Projects and Programs; and, Groups and Networks. These help us work towards our mission:

1. Personnel – Professional, skilled and informed staff, dedicated to NRM and GBLC.
2. Finances – a credible and viable organisation that is fiscally responsible.
3. Programs & Projects – Community engagement that delivers diverse Natural Resource Management science, principles, learning and practice.
4. Groups & Networks – well-supported, interest-based NRM groups supported by respected and functional networks.

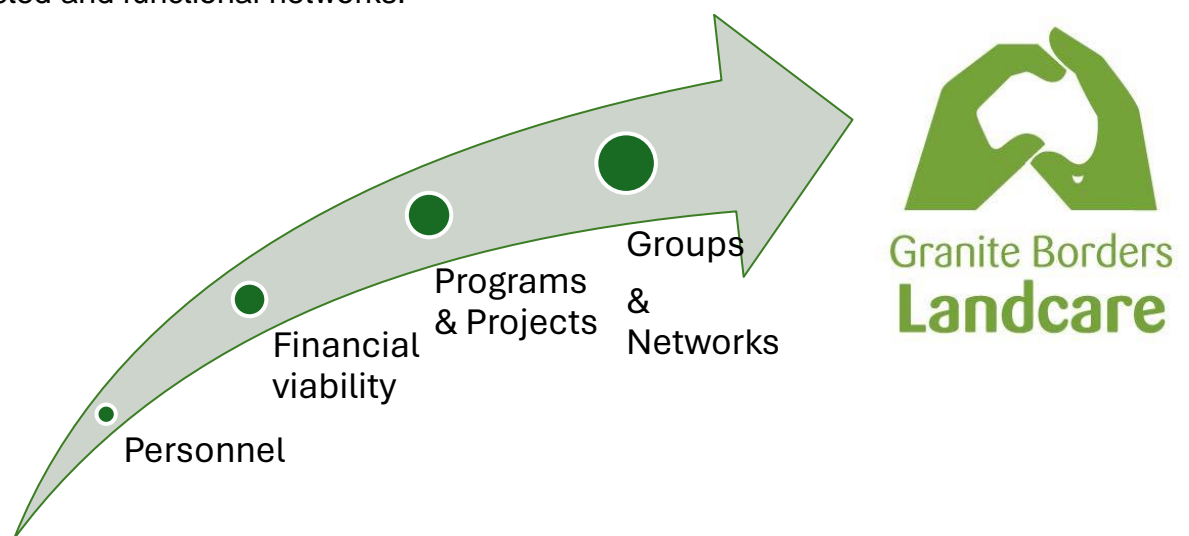


Figure 4. GBLC organisational objectives help us move toward our vision