## **Media Release**

Steve Dimopoulos MP
Minister for Environment
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Thursday, 6 March 2025

## SUPPORTING VOLUNTEERS TO CARE FOR THE GREAT OUTDOORS

The Allan Labor Government is helping local volunteer groups get outdoors and help improve their local parks, waterways and reserves so Victorians can continue to experience the best of our great outdoors.

Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos today announced the opening of the 2025 Victorian Landcare Grants with \$3.55 million available to get Victorians outside and enjoy the great outdoors while learning about and improving the local environment.

Project grants of up to \$20,000 are available to environmental volunteer groups and networks, including Landcare groups and networks, Friends groups, Conservation Management Networks, Committees of Management, Coastcare groups and First Nations groups.

Recipients can use the grants for on-ground works and community education projects that will enhance the natural environment such as native vegetation and wildlife, waterway and soils so Victorians can continue to enjoy spending time in the environment.

Last year, the Labor Government supported 227 projects grants and 296 support grants including Whittlesea Community Connections' nugal bilk mini and Junior Rangers program, which saw school students restore a section of a waterway with Landcare, all while learning about culture and connection to Country.

The Jallukar Landcare Group received funding to address the impacts of the February 2024 bushfires, including protecting biodiversity, habitat recovery projects and community engagement to encourage residents to participate and experience habitat restoration.

The grants will help to protect and grow our natural environment and native species, making our parks more vibrant and beautiful for Victorians to get out and enjoy.

Applications for the Victorian Landcare Grants will close on 16 April 2025, for more information and to apply, visit environment.vic.gov.au/grants.

## **Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos**

"We're proud to support volunteers who are working tirelessly to keep our unique environment healthy so Victorians can continue to experience the beauty our great outdoors has to offer."

"Our volunteers are invaluable, and these grants will enable them to continue to make a major difference at a grassroots level while giving Victorians the opportunity to enjoy being in the great outdoors."

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