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PIONEER CATCHMENT AND LANDCARE GROUP INC.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR  
PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



**PIONEER**  
Catchment  
**LANDCARE**





# A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

2022 has been a landmark year for PCL. The staff and committee have all found their rhythm and are working well together as a cohesive team. We have developed a strong strategic focus which is allowing us to forge our own path with impressive results. A number of our smaller projects were completed and were replaced with several significant projects. Exemplary effort from staff has allowed us to successfully deliver on a number of key initiatives eliciting unsolicited praise from a number of stakeholders. The efforts of our members as volunteers are also being noticed in the wider community. PCL's successful application for deductible gift recipient status will allow us to target small but significant projects which we have been unable to procure funding for previously but are important to our community. Overall our financial position is strong and the outlook for foreseeable future is reassuring. This financial stability will allow PCL to follow its strategic plan based upon our vision to implement an integrated, science-based approach to natural resource management through supportive partnerships across our catchment and our mission to empower our community to build biodiverse ecosystems.

**SHARON DWYER**  
CHAIR





in photo: 2021 Great Northern Clean Up Event with Mackay Regional Council and Conservation Volunteers Australia at Riverside Drive, Mackay.

# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## Community Engagement

As a grassroots environmental organisation, community engagement is at the forefront of the work we do at Pioneer Catchment and Landcare (PCL). Assisting and inspiring community members and landholders, schools and other local community groups to achieve their environmental objectives, through education and practical work, has allowed us to work towards our goal for a whole catchment, collaborative approach to environmental management in the Pioneer River Catchment.

Through our projects, we have had the opportunity to employ and up-skill people from our local community who have a passion for environmental conservation as well as build an important relationship with the Yuwibara people, the Traditional Custodians of our region.

*"Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world"*

-Howard Zinn

Our partnership with Mackay Regional Council has been an incredibly valuable pathway for community engagement, through programs including Land for Wildlife, Gardens for Wildlife, Free Plant Giveaways and hosting weekly Nursery Volunteering at the Mackay Natural Environment Centre which helps PCL to build connections with local volunteers.



## Natural Resource Management

Over the past year, PCL has expanded the scope of Natural Resource Management (NRM) projects being undertaken through a fresh perspective and acquiring funding for a variety of environmental projects including providing training and employment opportunities, invasive weed management, revegetation, endangered species monitoring, litter removal and auditing and water quality testing.

Through these projects PCL has collaborated with several NRM organisations including Mackay Regional Council, Reef Catchments, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Tangaroa Blue Foundation, Sarina Landcare Catchment Management Association and Whitsunday Catchment Landcare.

## Commercial Projects

With great success, PCL has also been developing a commercial arm to the organisation, focusing on native revegetation. As a non-for-profit, these projects provide valuable resources for employing and training our revegetation team, equipment maintenance and administration, and allow us to continue to expand our environmental work in the Pioneer River Catchment.

Our most successful commercial project to date has been our Transport and Main Roads (TMR) Ring Road Project which has funded the employment of four new field team members and the revegetation of 2.1 acres of land alongside the new Ring Road in Mackay. PCL has also secured funding for an extension to this project in collaboration with the Yuwi Aboriginal Corporation.



in photo: TMR Ring Road Project Revegetation Site





**755 HRS**

*Community  
Engagement*

**26**

*Community  
Events*

PCL held and attended 26 environmental awareness and community events

**10**

*Schools*

PCL supported 10 schools and kindergartens to achieve their environmental goals

**11**

*Community  
Groups*

PCL supported 11 local community groups through events and on-ground work

**176 HRS**

*Stakeholder  
Engagement*

PCL spent 176 hours working with regional stakeholders to develop community connections and collaborative projects

**179 HRS**

*Communication  
& Online*

PCL spent 179 hours developing written educational material for community use and expanding online engagement



**400**  
*for  
Landholders*

PCL planted 400 trees on private landholder property as a part of the Reef Assist Program

**7,400**  
*for Other  
Projects*

PCL planted 7,400 trees as a part of grant funded projects and commercial revegetation contracts

**8,400**  
*Trees  
Planted*

**16**  
*Planting  
Days*

PCL held and assisted with 16 community planting days

**600**  
*for Schools  
& Groups*

PCL planted 600 trees for schools and community groups as a part of MRC's Free Native Plant Program



Land for Wildlife (LfW), funded by Mackay Regional Council (MRC), allows landholders to become a part of a growing network of private properties committed to the preservation of our natural environment, providing valuable wildlife refuge areas across the landscape.

**63 HA**  
*Committed to  
Land for  
Wildlife*

**16**  
*Landholder  
Visits*

Through LfW, PCL visited 16 landholder properties for LfW assessments and member revisits

**80**  
*Free Native  
Plants*

80 native plants were provided to LfW members through MRC's Free Native Plant Program

**31 HRS**  
*Support &  
Education*

PCL spent 31 hours supporting LfW members by providing advice, educational opportunities and an online platform for knowledge sharing





in photo: Reptile Handling Workshop

# ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## Strategic Planning

Throughout the 2021-22 financial year, Pioneer Catchment and Landcare (PCL) has endeavored to improve the organisation's capacity to undertake expansive and diverse projects and enhance staff capabilities. This began with an inclusive strategic planning workshop in November 2021 that involved all members of staff and the committee. This workshop led to the development of PCL's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 and a new Capabilities Statement. PCL has been using the goals and vision set out by these important documents to move forward into a new and exciting era of growth.

## Team Building and Development

Improving workplace cohesivity and investing in the professional development of our staff has been a top priority. PCL has provided staff with a number of opportunities including accredited training in Conservation Land Management and in field training and experience with various stakeholders such as Island clean ups and invasive weed removal with Reef Catchments. Other relevant training opportunities included Agricultural Chemicals Licences, Chainsaw Use, Water Quality Sampling, First Aid and Reptile Handling. PCL will also be continuing to prioritise staff mental health with designated days for team building experiences.



# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## Operational Revenue



In the 2021-22 FY PCL employed:

**5**  
*full time staff*

**2**  
*part time staff*

**4**  
*casual staff*

As of June 30  
2022, PCL has:

**364**  
*members*



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Pioneer Catchment and Landcare would like to acknowledge the Yuwibara people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Pioneer Catchment and Landcare would like to acknowledge the many volunteers and organisations that have assisted and supported our work in the Pioneer River Catchment in the 2021-22 financial year, with special thanks to Mackay Regional Council, Native Plants Queensland, Reef Catchments, Sarina Landcare Catchment Management Association, Whitsunday Catchment Landcare, Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads, Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service.





# CONTACT US

If you would like more information about Pioneer Catchment and Landcare Group Inc., you can contact us or visit our website at [www.pioneercatchment.org.au](http://www.pioneercatchment.org.au). You can also find us on [Facebook](#).

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