

Buying back the bush ... for ever

Community involvement in
acquisition and management

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Acquisition program

Commitment to long-term management

Commitment to community involvement

Scaling up

Challenges for Bush Heritage and similar models



The other side of the fence

Bush Heritage ... and who else is similar:

- The Nature Conservancy, USA
- Birds Australia
- Bushland Conservation
- Parunna & Karakamia
- Earth Sanctuaries



Acquisition program

Bush Heritage has a national strategy to acquire high conservation value land

focusing on:

threats to biodiversity values

level of reservation/protection

costs of management



From 1990 - 2000 12 small to moderately sized reserves acquired from 6 to 600 ha selected from hundreds suggested mainly protecting fragmented or isolated ecological communities relatively low maintenance widely dispersed across Australia managed from Hobart



Commitment to long-term management

Land selected for reserves is guaranteed long-term management by Bush Heritage

Reserve selection must thus match management capacity

Potential for community-based stewardship support considered in reserve selection

This serves to use community knowledge, skills and interest and moderate land management costs



Commitment to community involvement

Community involvement in reserve management has and will be critical to the reserve's successful management

Neighbours and others in the community are our eyes and ears as well as actively supporting our programs



Community involvement encourages a community of interest and provides for information exchange between ourselves and the community

But it's not cost neutral and can't happen in isolation

People on the ground have to be linked to the organisational goals just as the organisation has to be linked to the community



Scaling up ... some issues

insurance and risk management

fire management

neighbours' and community interests &
perceptions

feral animal control

administration and fundraising costs

responsible governance and management

broadening our impact in regional landscapes

Carnarvon Station



Conservation Partners Program

Building our income and asset base

Determining the extent of our reach and the breadth of our vision



Challenges for Bush Heritage and similar models

dealing with the pork chops

build the profile, understanding and interest

clearly determine our objectives

identify and tap the funding opportunities

develop and maintain partnerships-Kojo shire

encourage further incentives

remain accountable

monitor & measure our contribution

collaborate - CONPLAN, manual/webpage



CONPLAN (Conservation on Private Land Network) is an informal network of organisations and individuals with an interest in nature conservation on private land and was formerly known as IMAN.

Principles of the CONPLAN are it is:

- informal
- open to all interested
- best run with an active list server
- self funded and regulated
- open to periodically advocating on matters relating to its objectives
- mutually supportive
- targeted at practitioners



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How far can we go?

Join us in the journey

www.bushheritage.org

We don't beat about the bush ... we buy it!

