



**Ginninderra Catchment Group**

**2022-2023 Annual Report**

Prepared for the  
**2023 Annual General Meeting**

## CHAIR'S REPORT

Ginninderra Catchment Group, under the inspirational leadership of our Executive Officer, Kat and the staff team, has once again had a very successful year from both an environmental and operational outcomes perspective. That said none of this is possible without all our volunteers who contribute so much. Thank you all for all you do, it is so important in many ways in looking after our local environment. Our Annual Report goes into the details of Ginninderra Catchment Group activities in 2022-2023. However, there are a few key points to highlight.

The Committee is a key part of the governance of the Ginninderra Catchment Group. The Committee carries legal and organisational responsibilities and we work to maintain and build our member groups, ensure that the culture of the organisation is supportive to staff and volunteers and we keep our governance in line with the systems and accountability required of a non-government organisation undertaking environmental activities.

In terms of environment outcomes, key achievements in 2022-2023 were:

- being part of the successful Commonwealth Urban Rivers Project grant of \$2.775 million over the next 3.5 years. This is a partnership grant with Landcare ACT and our sister organisations – Molonglo Conservation Organisation and Southern ACT Catchment Group. Funding through this program will enable us to do significant on-ground restoration works along Ginninderra Creek.
- our member groups continue to deliver on-ground achievements
- ensuring protection of Ngunawal ring trees and woodlands along the Barton Highway

At an operational level some key achievements were:

- we again saw an operating surplus – this year of approximately \$13,000
- continued growth in member groups with an increase to 31 groups in 2022-2023
- ongoing improvements in our communications outreach with upward trends in all our various social and other media
- finalising acquittal of older grants with only 1 outstanding unacquitted grants from previous years prior to FY21/22

As always there are challenges. 2022-2023 was our second year of our 'core' funding from the ACT Government through the Community Environmental Education and Stewardship Program. This is a four-year program and provides us with far greater stability than the one-year funding cycle of the previous years. However, our task now is to ensure that this funding becomes recurrent (i.e. ongoing funding) with indexation. The Commonwealth-funded Urban Rivers Project, while a great and unique opportunity, also poses new governance and partnership arrangements. However, if we succeed on this program the opportunities for similar future combined strategic programs will be greatly enhanced. There are risks. We could grow fast, deliver over a comparatively short time-frame (3.5 years) and then lose capacity to build on the works done if no future programs eventuate.

Other ongoing governance matters underway over the last year include the development of a reserves policy: how we build reserves, what is an appropriate level of reserves and how do we decide when to spend reserves. We are also reassessing our constitution and rules to take account of ACT Government changes to the model rules and constitution. We expect that we might need some recommended constitutional changes to special meetings over the coming year.

That said I have great confidence in Ginninderra Catchment Group to take on these challenges and to map a way forward to continue to deliver on-ground environmental outcomes.

On behalf of Ginninderra Catchment Group I would like to thank our dedicated staff, Executive, members groups and volunteers. Thank you all.

Our staff include Kat, Anke-Maria, Yolandi, Fiona, Bruno, Suzanne, Julian, Jarrod and Rouane. The Executive during the year included Ken Hodgkinson, (Deputy-Chair), John Connelly (Treasurer), Sandy Lolicato, Wally Bell, John Pugh, John Giacon, and Roan Dunstone. I would like to again acknowledge the work from all our volunteers in the 31 Landcare and Parkcare Groups through their tireless dedication and passion.

Finally, we thank and acknowledge our funding providers including ACT Government, including ACT NRM, EPSDD, TCCS and other directorates and also the Commonwealth Government, ICON Water and Corporate Volunteer sponsors.

## CATCHMENT REPORT

This year, Ginninderra Catchment's community Landcare excelled, securing 13 Adopt-A-Park Grant projects and 7 ACT Environment Grant projects, benefiting over 15 Landcare groups. The Connecting Nature, Connecting People Program gained momentum, tackling urban growth challenges and enhancing ecological connectivity. Fiona Spier, our Projects Officer, bids farewell, and a warmwelcome to Yolandi Vermaak as the new Waterwatch Coordinator, and Jarrod Ruch as our Rural Projects Officer.

### **Member Groups Landcare / Parkcare Support**

Community Landcare, encompassing Parkcare and Urban Landcare Groups, remains integral to GCG's operations. Allan McLean and Joelle Bakker have played pivotal roles at TCCS, offering on-ground aid and backing for new and existing groups, particularly during the TCCS UPP Adopt-A-Park grant rounds. Unfortunately, Andrew Forster, the former Northside Operations Manager, hasn't resumed his role at TCCS. Andrew, a substantial supporter of GCG and member groups, was actively involved with our urban groups across many different projects.

Enhancing assistance for Parkcare groups in the catchment has become a priority. The PCS team is currently streamlining processes for volunteers to use power tools onsite, slated for completion in late 2023. Thanks to Lauren McQueen for focusing on this issue, as well as increasing communications beweeetn Ctahcment Groups and various Governemtn Departments. GCG collaborated on numerous grants with Parkcare groups this year, including a large ACT Environment grant focused on weed control across Canberra Nature Park Reserves in belconnen and Gungahlin.

### **New Group Additions – GCG Membership at 31 Groups, with 2 New Groups at AGM:**

In the past year, GCG welcomed two new groups, the Moncrieff Litter Action Group (Moncrieff Landcare) and the Higgins Landcare Group. Additionally, two groups, Friends of Gundara Street Neighbourhood Playground and Melba Landcare Group, will be officially confirmed at the 2023 AGM, raising the total GCG membership to 33 groups.

### **Community Environmental Education and Stewardship Program**

In 2022/2023, Ginninderra Catchment Group (GCG) successfully concluded the Community Environmental Education and Stewardship Program (CEESP), generously supported by the ACT Government. CEESP aimed to enhance ties with local communities, schools, and businesses, promoting environmental management through Landcare. Collaborating closely with ACT NRM, Landcare, Parkcare, businesses, schools, and community groups, GCG played a pivotal role in advancing community environmental management through Landcare initiatives. The project achieved significant milestones, including;

- scoping 49 projects, submitting 35 grant applications, and benefiting 31 community groups
- engaged the community through 15+ stakeholder events, 10 consultations, and submissions, fostering public understanding of government policies.
- Community outreach efforts included volunteer recruitment, organizing 14 events, and establishing partnerships with 30 organizations, expanding the volunteer base and raising environmental awareness.
- The program's communication impact was notable, with 23,000+ individuals engaging with its Facebook posts and 16 newsletters distributed throughout the year.

## **Aboriginal Land Management**

### ACT Heritage and ACT Environment Grants - Ngunawal Community Education

Under this project, the three ACT Catchment Groups (Ginninderra Catchment Group, Southern ACT Catchment Group and Molonglo Conservation Group) partnered with Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation, to host a series of site-based cross-cultural education and training events and interpretive walks, with local Aboriginal elders to facilitate Ngunawal cultural heritage awareness.

As part of a captivating series of interpretive walks for the ACT Heritage Festival, guided by Traditional Ngunawal Custodians, we had the privilege to delve into the rich cultural heritage of the ACT region. This included a series of 6 Ngunawal-led community walks at Gubur Dhaura Ochre Pits, Theodore Grinding Grooves, and Bullan Mura.

During these guided walks, Ngunawal custodians shared their wisdom and personal connections to the land with members of the ACT community. It was a heartfelt exchange of knowledge and stories, bridging the gaps of history and fostering a deeper understanding of community and our connection to the land.

This project received invaluable support through funding provided by the ACT Government under the ACT Heritage Grants Program. This partnership, which includes Buru Ngunawal, Ginninderra Catchment Group, Southern ACT Catchment Group, and Molonglo Conservation Group, exemplifies the collaborative spirit needed to honour and preserve our cultural heritage.

## **Connecting Nature - Connecting People**

"Connecting Nature, Connecting People" represents an initiative spearheaded by the ACT Government, aimed at tackling intricate challenges arising from our city's growth while emphasizing the necessity for our urban areas to serve as biodiverse and resilient green spaces.

Through a series of cross-government projects, "Connecting Nature, Connecting People" endeavors to facilitate the movement of species into the broader landscape, fostering what is termed 'ecological connectivity.' This initiative seeks to enhance and fortify urban biodiversity, as well as strengthen the bond between our community and the natural world. The Urban Connectivity Areas Project features pilot programs at Emu Creek in Belconnen and the Hughes Open Corridor Space.

### Canberra Urban Biodiversity Surveys (CUBS)

This year, the Canberra Urban Biodiversity Surveys (CUBS) program, a new initiative from the ACT Government Office of Nature Conservation, has partnered with Catchment and Landcare Groups, University students and the ACT Community to survey native fauna in Canberra's urban landscape.

1. Platypus and Rakali visual surveys began in August, engaging volunteers from ParkCare groups and students from ANU, UC, and CIT. Rakali sightings were reported at multiple sites for the first time.
2. Insect pollinator visual surveys begin in late October/early November, with citizen scientists conducting 30-minute surveys. Photos of insects on flowers are uploaded to Canberra Nature Map for identification by experts.

## Grant Applications 22/23

Over the 22/23 year, GCG staff and groups submitted 21 grant applications, of these 19 projects have been successful.

### ACT Environment Grants

Here is a full list of our successful ACT Environment & Nature in the City grants this year.

Applicant	Project	Grant Amount
Parkcare Groups	Invasive Species Weed Warriors: Restoring our Parkcare reserves through targeted weed control	20790
Hall Landcare	Improving Urban Landscape Health in Hall	27940
Friends of Yerrabi Pond	Land and Water: The Yerrabi Pond Restoration Project	11000
Parkcare Groups	ParkCare Groups Training Program	5000
GCG & Catchment	Journeying Ginninderra, Listening to Country: Exploring the Indigenous History and Changing Landscapes of Ginninderra Creek through Time.	34623
ACT FrogWatch	Frog-friendly habitat workshops	12660
ACT FrogWatch	Creating frog-friendly habitat (in Canberra) Brochure	11300
<b>8 GROUPS +</b>	<b>7 PROJECTS</b>	<b>\$123,313</b>

### Adopt-a-Park Gants

Here is a full list of our successful AAP grants this year.

Applicant	Project	Grant Amount
Mount Rogers Landcare (Fraser)	Mount Rogers Weed Control	8000
Emu Creek Landcare (Belconnen)	Habitat & Biodiversity Restoration	5000
Crace Landcare Group	Native Oasis: Revitalising Crace Ponds	5000
Landcare of Lawson	Linking Endangered Grassland - Woodland	8000
Kuringa Woodlands Landcare (Fraser)	Weed Control at Kuringa Woodland	10000
Ambalindum Park (Hawker)	Ambalindum Park: Stage 3	12575
Croke Place Landcare Group (Evatt)	Cool Burn and Biodiversity Enhancement	5000
Ginninderra Catchment Group	UPP Group Training (various)	9500
Ginninderra Catchment Group	Empowering UPP Volunteers (various)	10000
Friends of Wangara Parks (Aranda)	Greening Aranda: Sustainable Parkland	3870
Ginninderra Catchment Group	Mulch for Landcare Groups (various)	8000
Ginninderra Catchment Group	Environmental Educational Signage	8000
Higgins Landcare Group	Restoring Higgins Park	10000
<b>9 GROUPS</b>	<b>13 PROJECTS</b>	<b>\$102,945</b>

## **GCG Consultations and Submissions**

During this period, GCG has provided submissions and feedback to many ACT Gov and Federal Gov and private developemtn proposals and consultations, including;

### Stakeholder engagement Sessions

- ACT NRM Plan Review
- International Women’s Day Event
- CNCP Update for GCG Members
- Belconnen Wetlands Meetings x 3
- ACT Planning Review and District Strategies Discussion
- Bush on the Boundary meetings x 8
- Biodiversity Conservation Forum x 4
- Water Security Forum x 2

### Consultations and Submissions

- DA Submission Belconnen Wetlands
- DA Submission Umbagog Bridges
- DA Submission Lawson Grasslands
- DA Submission on Wallaroo Solar Farm
- Legislative Assembly Inquiry into Grants Management
- Federal DA Submission on North Lawson Development
- Submission of initial feedback for Belconnen Oval Wetlands
- Submission of initial feedback for Higgins Rain Garden

## **WATERWATCH REPORT**

Yolandi Vermaak assumed the Waterwatch Coordinator role in May 2023, actively engaging in the Autumn Bug Blitz, building connections with volunteers, and immersing herself in the position.

### **Water Quality Testing**

Water sampling over the past year has been consistent and we thank our volunteers who have been doing water testing every month and submitting their results. We have reached the data threshold to cover all reaches in the annual upcoming CHIP report.

### **Waterbug Surveys**

The Autumn and Spring BugBlitz events went smoothly and the Spring waterbug testing is nearly complete. This includes 15 waterbug test sites in the Ginninderra catchment and 7 sites in the Yass area. Some volunteers, including landowners on private properties, assisted in the bug surveys and found the exercise very rewarding.

Some interesting bugs found this year included a water scorpion and a large needlebug. Most sites yielded satisfactory results but it was noted that water levels were dropping significantly between the Autumn and Spring surveys and this had an impact on the number and diversity of waterbugs found.

### **Platypus Surveys**

August's Platypus month yielded great success with 34 group surveys conducted evenly between dusk and dawn. Survey sites, including Coppins Crossing, Jerrabomberra Creek, Queanbeyan River, Point Hut Crossing, Tidbinbilla, Scottsdale, Mittagong Crossing, and Cooma Creek, engaged over 200 volunteers. Notably, platypus numbers rose from 2022, with 23 individuals spotted, while rakali numbers increased significantly from 10 to 16 between 2022 and 2023.

### **Catchment Health Indicator Program (CHIP)**

Our Coordinator is preparing the CHIP report, incorporating waterbug survey data and volunteer-driven water quality results, with the final release scheduled for March 2024.

### **Education and Engagement**

A social media series on waterbugs was released earlier in the year and is ongoing. Dubbed #letstalkwaterbugs this series aims to showcase one specific waterbug in a social media post, every fortnight, to raise awareness and provide insights into the wondrous world of waterbugs.

Education events have been very well received and as expected, highly popular with schools and students who love catching waterbugs and assisting in identifying them, using a dichotomous key.

Apart from school events, other participants included the Sustainable Canberra Expo, Wildbark at Mulligans Flat and SeeChange.

Our Waterwatch Coordinator attended a River Restoration Guided Walk hosted by Rivers of Carbon and a presentation delivered by Icon Water about the upgrading of the water treatment plant.

She also managed a project to create and deliver an educational video on platypus as well as 10 instructional videos on water quality testing, including why we do testing, safety and how to do the tests correctly.

It's been a productive year, and we eagerly anticipate the opportunities and challenges that 2024 will bring.



## **FROGWATCH REPORT (LSL 04-07.2023)**

### **Grants for the current financial year**

- ACT Gov Core funding 90K – delivery of FrogCensus, education etc.
- 2022-2023 ACT Enviro Grant \$5000 – new ACT Frog pocket guide in 2023
- 2023-2024 ACT Enviro Grant \$11,300 – Frog-friendly Habitat brochure
- 2023-2024 ACT Enviro Grant \$12,660 – Frog-friendly Habitat workshops
- 2023-2024 Icon Water Tadpole Kit funding \$15,000
- ACTHA \$1500 for frog habitat sessions

### **FrogTober Census**

Prep: 2022 data cleaning and analysis (Isobel ACT Gov), published 2021 & 2022 census report, created 2022 FW highlights and summary for 2022 CHIP report; 4 training events, updated all training and handout material, managed site bookings, monitored remote sites, general and weekly newsletters, verified over 500 surveys, only a few to go. Then data prep for analysis and report writing in early 2024.

### **Habitat assessments at all FrogWatch sites**

In depth habitat assessments (RARC and FRARC) @ 209 of 230 FW sites with support of a field assistant. Excluded sites were inaccessible, either remote or on private property. Currently data entry and prep for analysis. Report writing early 2024

### **CanberraNatureMapr**

CNM south coast frog ID verification, Ongoing bug fixing & data checking in prep/during/after data migration (March) into main CNM, redevelopment of instruction manual

## **Education/engagement**

### **Community engagement/ training events/education sessions**

4 Census training seminars, 4 “Health and Wellbeing with frogs” sessions

**Other:** Gungahlin Health and Wellbeing expo, Canberra Show display, Frog Talk to ACTHA. Assisted with 4 Platypus surveys

**Education:** Mt Majura Scouts froggy fun, Badimara Scouts session, NESB session @ Dickson College, 2 bilingual sessions @ German Australian PlayS, Koala PreS, Radford College (all Y2 students)

### **Finance**

Verification of 2022-23 finances. Budget for 2023-24 projections and planning, incl increased work hours & additional project officer for field work component. Management of grants

### **General**

Prep for LSL, GCG policy development, GCG banking, Public Advocacy for the Environment course (2 days), urban stencilling (drains) with Fiona. Assisted public with inquiries, Property management.

### **Education**

School/public education session (see above)

Tadpole Kits for school Program: Managed booking system, payments, all equipment, harvested tadpoles and aquatic plants, 120 Tadpole kits, weekly email updates, teacher support.

### **Future funding – project ideas**

Trailing frog refuges near ponds, signage for long grass/gambusia; Habitat revegetation at urban ponds

## COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

### Communications Staffing

GCG increased its communications capacity in late 2022 with the Assistant Project and Communications Officer role increasing from 2 days per week to 4 days per week. This enabled the existing communications work to be more thorough, and for the role to expand to include ICT support such as troubleshooting, equipment procurement, system administration and onboarding staff, as well as increased participation in operational activities.

### GCG Mailing List

GCG's email list continued to be an important channel of communication to our supporters. The mailing list was used to send out 15 major mailings this year, including our monthly events newsletter and quarterly update newsletter *Grassroots*.

At 30th June 2023, we had a total of 1017 mailing list subscribers (+22 from last year), with 102 new subscribers during the year. This year we created a flyer mounted on a stand displaying a QR code linking directly to our mailing list subscribe page, which made it easier for people coming to our events to subscribe on the spot using their phones. We will continue to find ways to increase subscribers in the coming year.

**Free service:** Everyone is welcome to [subscribe to the GCG mailing list](#).

### Monthly Events Newsletter and New Online Calendar

Promoting member group events was a significant focus of GCG comms this year. We published 11 editions of our monthly events email newsletter, promoting member events including regular working bees and special events, and other environmental conservation events relevant to the Ginninderra Catchment. At the request of members, we also began including information on consultations to ensure that subscribers had a chance to contribute to government decision making within the oft-short timeframes. Over the year, the events newsletter attracted an open rate ranging between 21.4% and 42.4% (averaging 30.1%).

In the beginning of 2023, we also launched a shared events calendar on our website with Landcare ACT and the other catchment groups. This was a major addition to the website's functionality, as we previously had no central online spot for events. Updating the calendar has been integrated into the workflow of the monthly events newsletter.

**Member service:** Each month we email member group convenors an invitation to send us information about their events for the coming month to promote in our events newsletter. Members are encouraged to email the information a week prior to the beginning of the following month so we have time to include it in our newsletter and online calendar.

### Quarterly Update Newsletter *Grassroots*

GCG continued to publish our quarterly email newsletter *Grassroots*, which provided news about GCG, Waterwatch, FrogWatch, member group updates, opportunities to contribute to consultations and research, and other environmental conservation news and resources.

In 2022-2023, *Grassroots* attracted an average open rate between 25.3% to 34% (averaging 29.3%), which is above the [Mailchimp benchmark](#) for non-profits of 25.17%.

**Member service:** Once per year we email member groups calling for an annual update about their activities. The update is included in an edition of *Grassroots*, and it is a great way for members to promote their group and celebrate their achievements. We encourage members to respond to our calls for yearly updates.

## Facebook

The [GCG Facebook Page](#) continued to be a valuable communications channel to engage with our current audience and increase our reach to people not already in our circles.

GCG's Facebook Page at 30th June 2023 had 960 followers (+113 since last year).

Our Facebook activities included:

- Posting about 3 or so times per week
- Recapping volunteer and engagement events
- Promoting GCG and member events
- Creating and sharing educational content and resources
- Sharing other community interest activities and consultations.

Our most popular posts this year were about turtles, frogs, waterbugs, grassland restoration volunteer event recaps, and sleeper weeds.

We regularly spent small amounts of money on promotion of selected Facebook posts, events and our page, which garnered an increase in visibility and more people coming to our events and engaging with our content who otherwise would not have. We will continue to find ways to leverage Facebook for community engagement in the coming year.

**Member service:** We encourage members to email us or contact us through our Facebook Page if your group has a landcaring event you would like us to share via Facebook.

## Signage

In 2022-2023 we continued to provide interpretive corflute signs about native grasslands to members on request. We also began designing a native woodland version. As we received an Adopt-A-Park grant in 2023 for environmental volunteering signage, in the coming year we will be able to continue creating signs for groups, including templates for events and group ID, as well as educational and environmental etiquette signs.

## Group Comms Support

We continued to provide ad-hoc comms support to groups upon request, including assistance with navigating and managing Facebook groups and pages, creating flyers and posters for events, and proofreading and graphic design advice on signage and other printed materials which groups developed themselves. We also gave a presentation at a members forum on effective interpretive signage design, and a presentation on our comms services available to member groups.

**Member service:** Members are encouraged to contact the Communications Officer if they have any questions about communications and information technology in relation to their landcaring activities.

## **Working with Other Catchment Groups**

GCG assisted our sister organisations in some of their comms projects, including the development of the LandcareACT/catchment group shared online calendar, and providing advice to Southern ACT Catchment Group on an appropriate platform/format for their weeds manual (launching late 2023).

We will continue to work with the other catchment groups and Landcare ACT to collaborate on ICT projects and share knowledge to help improve our comms and related processes.

## **Website**

We continued to update the GCG website ad-hoc with major news, small updates and edits upon request by groups for their group information pages. Due to challenges with using the platform, investigations began into alternative platforms which enable staff to manage the website in a more sustainable way. Website redevelopment will be considered in the coming year.

**Member service:** We host member group information pages on the GCG website. Member groups are encouraged to review their [group pages](#) and send through changes in content, contacts and imagery.

## **RURAL PROJECTS**

Rural Projects will be working on the following areas in upcoming months;

### **Farm Dam and Creekline Restoration**

This project was part of the Murray Darling Healthy Rivers Program. Five properties across Sutton and Wallaroo were part of the restoration project. The Wallaroo Road site was a revegetation project that had a top of catchment site and another creekside site where volunteers assisted to revegetate trees and shrubs and guard them from kangaroos.

The other four sites were all in Sutton and were dam restoration projects. The dams had many species of aquatic plants planted and then guarded from water birds with galvanized cages.

### **Habitat Restoration Weekend Workshop training**

Three of four weekend workshops have already been carried out covering the topics of the philosophy of how we approach restoration, specialty techniques, identification of the best sites to target and ways of creating a long term commitment to a place through deep connection and observation.

### **Kaleen Grassland Restoration**

This project is a Habitat Restoration site using the techniques outlined in the Habitat Restoration Workshops. A small group of committed volunteers took part in restoration activities every fortnight on Friday mornings to identify emerging indigenous grassland species and carefully hand weed the two areas.

The areas have been taken out of the standard TCCS mowing regime and will be the focus of a weekend event on the 19th of November.

### **Hall Village Open Space Environment Plan**

This plan continues to be developed and aims to bring collaboration between community and various government land managers aiming to create better outcomes for biodiversity. Community consultation has taken place as well as information sought from various government agencies.

Topics such as large tree preservation, storm water outfalls into Halls Creek, tree scape planning, changes to horse paddock grazing in sensitive floristic areas, exotic species control etc. have been included.

## **TURTLEWATCH REPORT**

### **Turtle project at Tidbinbilla**

The first season (2022-23) of turtle monitoring in Tidbinbilla finished in March 2023 and we captured 187 turtles within the Sanctuary (fenced) and 43 turtles in the Waterbirds area (not fenced). We observed some nest predation within the sanctuary and we are currently investigating which native predator could be digging out the nests within the sanctuary (collaboration with PCS rangers to set up camera traps on turtle nests during the 2023 nesting season in November and December 2023). At the end of the first season, we presented our results to all volunteers that participated in the project and PCS rangers in the Tidbinbilla Depot.

We have started a second season of turtle trapping (2023-24) and will sample from October until March. We teamed up with PCS and ONC staff and developed a turtle basking app (Survey 123), where our volunteers are currently collecting information on turtle basking behaviour within the Sanctuary. These basking surveys will aid us in understanding turtle numbers in the sanctuary and compare it with trapping efforts, besides understanding turtle behaviour.

### **Manuscripts in preparation**

Our team is finishing writing the manuscript on habitat connectivity and turtle demography (study in Sullivans Creek and Ginninderra Creek, result of the previous grant by Anke Maria and Bruno), and the paper should be sent to review in a scientific journal in November. Then our team will start writing the manuscript about the turtle nesting project, which should be ready for submission over the next few months.

## AUDITORS REPORT

### Ginninderra Catchment Group Incorporated Ginninderra Catchment Group Inc.

ABN 75 648 187 515

#### Income and Expenditure Statement For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>		
Interest received	3,198.24	179.81
Other income	600.00	8,587.00
DECCEW - Catchment Grant	351,839.82	294,719.39
DECCEW - Frogwatch Grant	104,759.05	125,284.77
DECCEW - Waterwatch Grant	80,178.37	98,318.60
Turtle Project Income	16,913.50	31,705.97
Donations		1,000.00
Total income	557,488.98	559,795.54
<b>Expenses</b>		
Advertising & marketing	191.18	138.48
Audit fees	4,200.00	4,000.00
Bank fees & charges	11.21	9.36
Depreciation - Other	637.00	1,273.00
Donations	20.00	150.00
General expenses	2,228.70	3,759.68
Insurance	7,073.83	7,717.50
Catchment expenses	88,139.17	96,640.11
Frogwatch expenses	22,178.54	16,256.74
Waterwatch expenses	8,941.45	2,318.67
Turtle Project Expenses	1,077.52	1,546.16
Office expenses	5,483.52	4,248.08
Printing & stationery	784.44	503.68
Computer expenses	641.80	558.05
Rent on land & buildings	11,671.53	
Catchment wages	194,137.33	136,386.13
Frogwatch wages	68,449.97	85,960.56
Waterwatch wages	61,814.60	71,925.49
Administration wages	17,140.20	13,880.84
Turtle Project Wages	10,589.27	22,418.01
Salaries - Provision for Annual leave	(10,410.00)	10,182.13
Staff training	1,427.00	213.64
Subscriptions	2,494.25	2,775.17
Catchment superannuation	20,384.40	13,607.34
Frogwatch superannuation	7,187.27	8,595.99

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Ginninderra Catchment Group Incorporated**  
**Ginninderra Catchment Group Inc.**

ABN 75 648 187 515

**Income and Expenditure Statement**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Waterwatch superannuation	5,657.54	7,192.56
Administration - superannuation	1,763.29	1,618.47
Turtle Project Superannuation	1,111.87	2,241.80
SGC Interest	16.22	1,765.71
Telephone & Internet	2,181.06	1,275.86
WHS Audit	3,200.00	
Volunteer events	650.38	2,155.09
Website expenses	50.00	37.00
Workers Compensation Insurance	2,981.55	2,986.78
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>544,106.09</b>	<b>524,338.08</b>
<b>Profit from ordinary activities before income tax</b>	<b>13,382.89</b>	<b>35,457.46</b>
Income tax revenue relating to ordinary activities		
<b>Net profit attributable to the association</b>	<b>13,382.89</b>	<b>35,457.46</b>
<b>Total changes in equity of the association</b>	<b>13,382.89</b>	<b>35,457.46</b>
Opening retained profits	147,222.17	111,764.71
Net profit attributable to the association	13,382.89	35,457.46
<b>Closing retained profits</b>	<b>160,605.06</b>	<b>147,222.17</b>

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**The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.**



**Ginninderra Catchment Group Incorporated**  
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ABN 75 648 187 515

**Detailed Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2023**

	Note	2023	2022
		\$	\$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Cash Assets</b>			
Westpac Interest account		170,380.83	168,664.70
Westpac operating account		601,817.64	461,879.70
		772,198.47	630,544.40
<b>Receivables</b>			
Trade debtors		12,980.00	7,260.00
Westpac Business Term Deposit		151,967.96	151,167.85
		164,947.96	158,427.85
<b>Other</b>			
Returnable Bond			1,200.00
Prepayments		7,197.11	10,078.11
		7,197.11	11,278.11
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>944,343.54</b>	<b>800,250.36</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
<b>Property, Plant and Equipment</b>			
Office equipment		3,689.20	3,689.20
Less: Accumulated amortisation		(3,053.00)	(2,416.00)
		636.20	1,273.20
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>636.20</b>	<b>1,273.20</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>944,979.74</b>	<b>801,523.56</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Ginninderra Catchment Group Incorporated**  
**Ginninderra Catchment Group Inc.**  
 ABN 75 648 187 515

**Detailed Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Payables</b>			
<b>Unsecured:</b>			
Trade creditors		26,228.08	9,487.83
Expenses accrued		6,678.20	5,678.20
		32,906.28	15,166.03
<b>Current Tax Liabilities</b>			
GST adjustment control account			993.00
GST clearing		26,899.63	22,204.47
TFN withholding tax		(1,637.00)	(955.00)
PAYG Withholdings payable		7,344.00	7,168.00
		32,606.63	29,410.47
<b>Provisions</b>			
Superannuation payable		9,328.32	350.00
Provision for Annual leave		26,488.74	34,245.25
Provision for Long Service leave		7,664.28	10,317.77
		43,481.34	44,913.02
<b>Other</b>			
Income in Advance		552,854.36	446,971.57
		552,854.36	446,971.57
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>661,848.61</b>	<b>536,461.09</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Ginninderra Catchment Group Incorporated**  
**Ginninderra Catchment Group Inc.**

ABN 75 648 187 515

**Detailed Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2023**

	Note	2023	2022
		\$	\$
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Provisions</b>			
Member Funds - Donations held		110.00	110.00
Member Funds - Mt Painter		1,810.51	1,510.51
Member Funds - North Belconnen Group		677.46	677.46
Member Funds - Umbagog Group		920.05	920.05
Member Funds - MacGregor		430.38	430.38
Member Funds - Holt Community Park		214.00	214.00
Member Funds - Aboriginal landcare of G		10,734.30	10,734.30
Member Funds - Dunlop Enviro/Jarramlee P		1,087.68	1,087.68
Member Funds - Friends of the Pinnacle		16,739.96	18,351.61
Member Funds - Giralang Pond Landcare		3,362.12	3,362.12
Member Funds - Friends of Aranda Bushlan		549.05	549.05
Member Funds - Hawker Landcare		769.11	(438.89)
Member Funds - Hawker Landcare Donations		209.41	209.41
Member Funds - Platypus Conservancy		243.97	
Member Funds - Fenner		4,545.45	
		42,403.45	37,717.68
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>42,403.45</b>	<b>37,717.68</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>704,252.06</b>	<b>574,178.77</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>240,727.68</b>	<b>227,344.79</b>
 <b>Members' Funds</b>			
<b>Reserves</b>			
Capital profit reserve		80,122.62	80,122.62
Accumulated surplus (deficit)		160,605.06	147,222.17
<b>Total Members' Funds</b>		<b>240,727.68</b>	<b>227,344.79</b>

**The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.**

## 2023/2024 PROJECTED OUTLOOK

Outlined below are our forthcoming initiatives for 2023/2024, encompassing support for member groups and the delivery of various projects.

### Member Groups:

Several entities have previously indicated their interest in establishing a local landcare group. These include:

- Ngunnawal Hill Group
- Macquarie Park Group
- Cook Park Group
- Gungahlin Hill Parkcare

### Grants:

In the fiscal year 23/24, our focus on grants and project work will center on fulfilling projects from previous years and concluding grants from FY22/23. Additionally, the GCG plans to submit further grants for the last round of Adopt-A-Park grants and will engage in projects supported by ACT Environment grants for FY23/24. Alongside individual projects, the GCG will pursue grants aimed at community education on "Bush Etiquette" through signage and promotional material.

### Urban Rivers:

Anticipation surrounds the commencement of the Urban Rivers funding program, which is poised to allocate over \$2.7 million to Riparian landcare across the ACT, covering the three catchment groups and landcare. GCG's allocated funding will primarily support on-ground riparian and aquatic restoration projects, addressing weed control, erosion, revegetation, and waste removal at various sites along Ginninderra Creek from Giralang to Jarramlee. Further details will be provided in early 2024.

### Expressions of Thanks:

The entire GCG staff expresses gratitude to Clare Henderson and Ken Hodgkinson for their roles as GCG Chair and Deputy-Chair during 2022/23. Special thanks are extended to the entire Executive committee for their exemplary leadership and guidance over the past 12 months.

Appreciation is also conveyed to all GCG member group convenors for their guidance and support to group volunteers, showcasing dedication and passion for community Landcare and the preservation of natural areas within the Ginninderra Catchment.

We eagerly anticipate returning in early 2024 with renewed enthusiasm to support our members and the broader community in undertaking Landcare projects across the Ginninderra Catchment.

Kat McGilp

Catchment Coordinator

*On behalf of Kat, Anke Maria, Yolandi, Bruno, Suzanne, Julian, and Rouane.*