

## Local to Landscape Facilitator

0.5 EFT Salary 70,000 + superannuation

Fixed term contract 2.5 years

### **Purpose of the role**

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Make a difference and lead a new type of collaborative nature conservation project in Victoria that seeks to find ways for everyone to take positive actions for nature, and to work together, to achieve far-reaching impacts at a landscape scale.

Biolinks Alliance is a community-driven initiative that aims to restore the connectivity, condition and resilience of landscapes and halt the further decline of species. Our mission is to support, coordinate and amplify community efforts to repair regional ecosystems at a landscape scale. Biolinks represents a new type of partnership and capacity building organisation that is key to restoring ecosystems and stopping species extinctions in the face of climate change.

Biolinks Alliance is seeking a highly motivated and collaborative Local to Landscape Facilitator to lead the implementation of Phase Two Heathcote L2L Plan, a plan for ecosystem restoration in the Heathcote region. Your superior community engagement, partnership building and project management skills will provide a major contribution to a Landscape Restoration Project aiming to demonstrate **how landscapes can be repaired** with new shared-visions and thinking, application of the best science, community capacity building, innovative demonstration projects and importantly the alignment of local efforts to meet Project goals to secure the biodiversity and natural environments in central Victoria for future generations.

The Project will work closely with local landcare network facilitators in the planning and implementation of specific activities and with Biolinks Alliance Project Director/Ecologists, reporting to Program and Operations Director.

### **Role and Responsibilities**

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#### *Communications and community engagement*

- Support the design of a tailored communication plan to build broad local awareness of natural values of the region, issues they face and practical solutions to address them through the Heathcote Local to Landscape project
- Develop a community stakeholder database to facilitate communications and collaboration
- Roll out the communications plan including producing regular newsletters, social media content, email channels
- Work with the Biolinks Alliance team to broadly communicate the project across the Biolinks Alliance Network through Alliance events and digital channels.

### *Building community capacity for collaborative action*

- Build and maintain productive working relationships and networks with the local community
- Foster links between landholders involved in the project to support knowledge sharing, community building and partnerships
- Establish a Local to Landscape Heathcote project committee/working group and support it to operate by scheduling meetings, setting agendas, taking minutes and distributing records.
- Host periodic meetings with the broader community and collaborative partners
- Plan and deliver knowledge-sharing events and workshops at local venues and field sites that address the local communities specific knowledge needs
- Develop and promote local project knowledge hub for the sharing of knowledge resources.
- Engage one-on-one with landholders on their properties
- Support planning around the development of new projects and implementation of on-ground projects meeting the L2L Plans objectives around #1 Large Old Trees (LOTs) #2 Swift Parrots #3 Healthy Soils #4 Creeks #5

### *Building Partnerships and identifying new funding opportunities*

- Further advance partnerships through seeking areas of program alignment with supporters of the First Phase of the Heathcote Local to Landscape Project including City of Greater Bendigo and Parks Victoria
- With the Indigenous Project Officer, work with Traditional Owners, the Taungurung to develop partnerships and project activities around pilot restoration projects
- Seek alignment and develop partnerships with other key Government agencies, DELWP, the North Central CMA, Goulburn Broken CMA, Mitchell Shire (water agency?) and seek synergies and efficiencies in the delivery of all aspects of the Heathcote L2L project and its activities.
- Explore new local partnership opportunities, especially focusing on bringing a new and diverse involvement with the project.
- Identify potential project funding opportunities and develop them with the Community and the Biolinks team.

### *Coordination of on-ground Pilot landscape-restoration projects*

- Coordinate the delivery of Heathcote Local to Landscape pilot restoration projects, including, overseeing contractors and volunteers, delivery of project activities, developing and managing relationships with partners and other stakeholders, evaluation and regular reporting.

- Coordination of an overall citizen–science LOT monitoring program including data collection and interpretation, including through the use of online applications

### *Supporting monitoring and evaluation*

- Support/implement monitoring and evaluation of the project’s capacity and partnership building
- Organise and implement monitoring activities for the L2L
- Recruit and organise volunteers to assist with monitoring where possible including the development of citizen science programs/tools etc.
- Organise monitoring–training field days to educate community about citizen science programs and or monitoring programs –

### **Selection criteria**

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- Motivation to achieve great outcomes for nature conservation
- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the issues related to biodiversity conservation, Landcare and sustainable land management in the central Victorian region
- Demonstrated ability to communicate with a wide range of people from landowners to agency representatives, and to nurture effective partnerships
- Demonstrated understanding of community engagement processes including consultation, negotiation and conflict resolution.
- Ability to confidently work with land managers and provide extension/education where necessary
- Experience managing or implementing nature conservation, ecological restoration or improved land management projects.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including the ability to write stories for the local press and project webpages and to speak in public.
- Well–developed time management, planning and priority setting skills and the ability to work autonomously as well a team–member
- Willingness to work occasional weekends and to attend evening meetings
- A current Victorian drivers license

### **Organisational relationships**

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This position is directly responsible to the Program and Operations Director of the Biolinks Alliance.