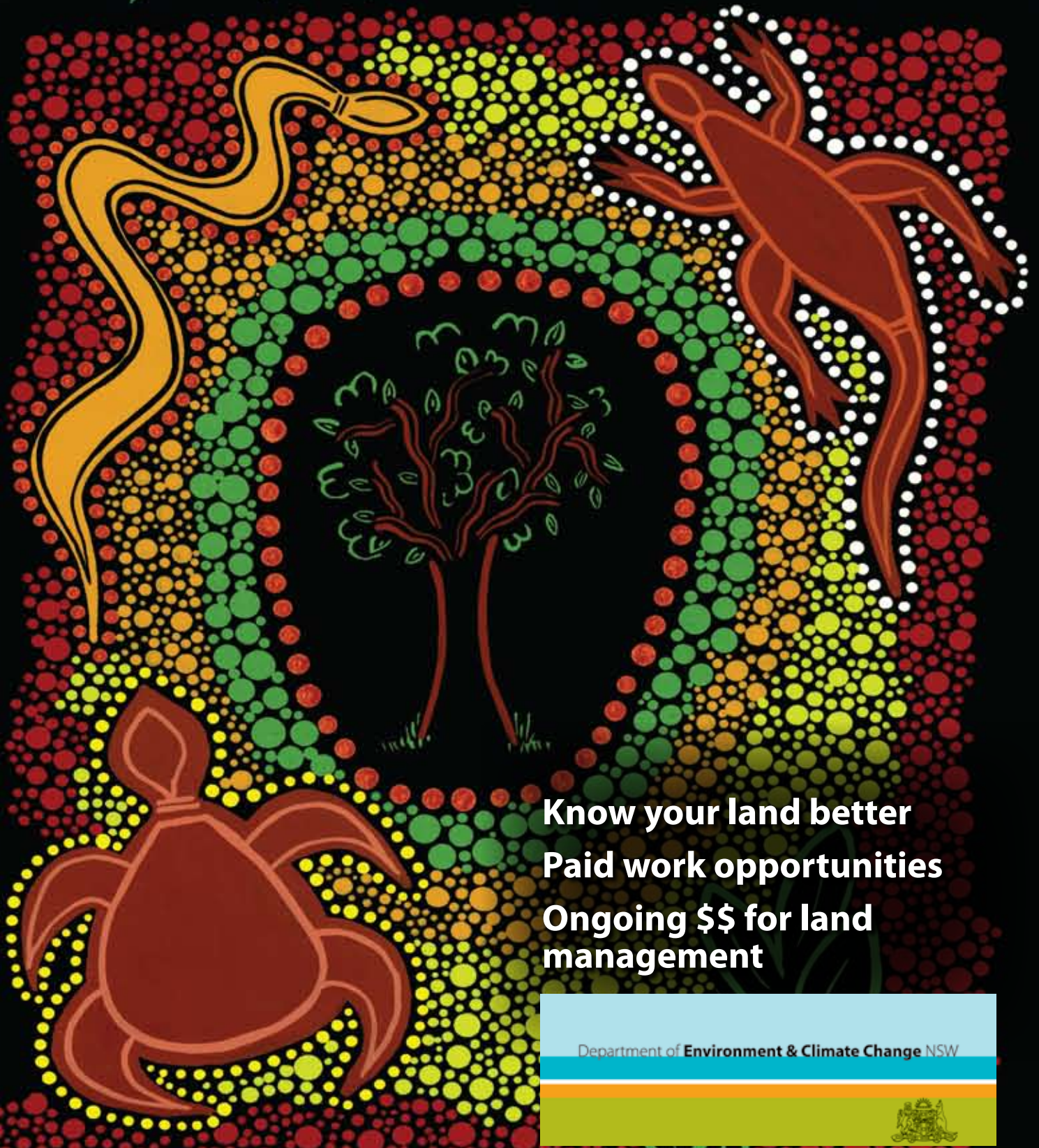




LandAlive

Aboriginal land management
for biodiversity



Know your land better
Paid work opportunities
Ongoing \$\$ for land management

Department of Environment & Climate Change NSW



Land Alive

gives Aboriginal landowners extra capacity to participate in the BioBanking Scheme run by the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change. Land Alive provides landowners with a chance to create jobs and business opportunities, while generating funds for the ongoing management of their land.



Get to know your land better

- Get out and map your land
- Find out what its natural values are
- Decide what places you want to conserve for natural and cultural reasons
- Learn about funding that can help you conserve your land

Create opportunities for paid work

- Receive training in land management
- Use skills you already have to teach others
- Be paid to work on your land
- Access support to become a small business, allowing you to apply for contracts all over your region

Receive ongoing funding for managing your land

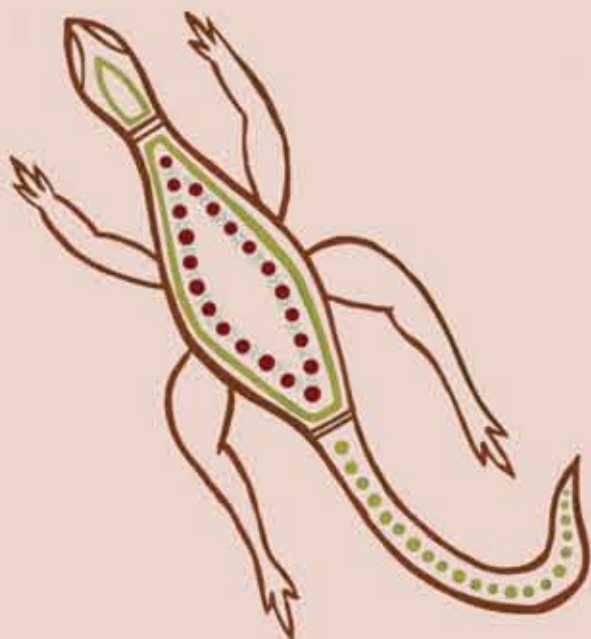
- Set up an agreement that pays to protect your land
- Get help to value your land's natural assets
- Receive funding for conservation work every year

LandAlive

What Land Alive is offering

Until June 2011, *Land Alive* is offering participating landowners:

- assistance with mapping and biodiversity assessments of their land
- training in land management and employment services
- advice on finding a buyer for biodiversity credits
- support for starting a small business focusing on land management.



So how does it work?

Develop a Management Plan

The first step is to investigate whether any of your land will make a good biobank site. These are sites rich in natural values. An example would be an area with plenty of vegetation that is home to many native plants and animals. It could also include land of cultural significance.

With help from the *Land Alive* team, local landowners will develop a Management Plan which highlights the natural and cultural values worth preserving on the site. The plan also includes ideas for managing the land and identifies opportunities for funding. This information can also be used as part of a Community Land and Business Plan.

Calculate the biodiversity credits

An area with natural values can earn 'biodiversity credits'. These credits can be sold on the market if the landowners sign a biobanking agreement.



Biodiversity = all the living things around us

... creating an ongoing income

Continue to own your land + have

Make a biobanking agreement

By entering into a biobanking agreement, landowners agree to manage and conserve the natural values on their land forever. The agreement is added to the land title and outlines what owners must do to protect the site and improve its natural values.

Earn profit + ongoing payments for land management

Landowners holding biodiversity credits can sell them to earn an income for the ongoing management of their land. *Land Alive* will help Aboriginal landowners find buyers for their credits. A sum of money from the sale of credits goes into a managed fund that makes yearly payments to landowners. Any additional money will be paid to landowners up-front as profit.

Selling biodiversity credits will not affect the ownership of the land.

The landowners will need to work out how much they need for the ongoing maintenance of the site each year in line with their agreement. This will be the amount of money paid to them every year from the managed fund.

Landowner responsibilities

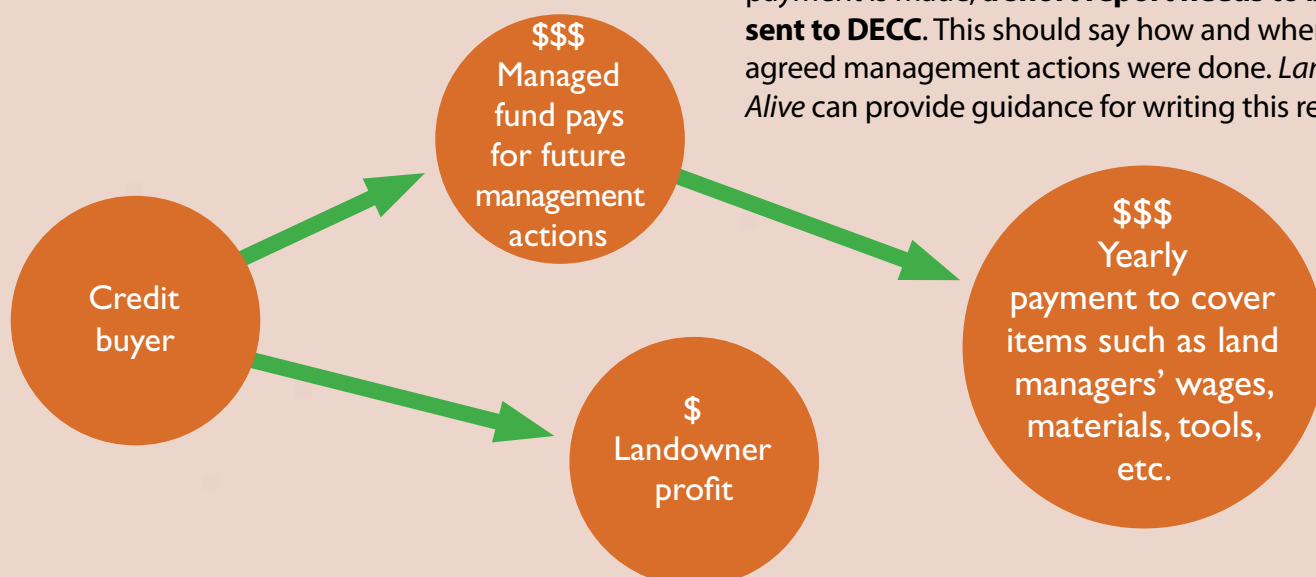
There are certain tasks landowners will need to do to receive their payments each year.

Firstly, the local **community must agree on the area of land** they want to be managed for conservation. This is a place that will never be developed. Other land uses on the selected site must fit in with the conservation activities.

Landowners must ensure that they **complete a number of agreed management actions** during the year. These actions are outlined in the Management Plan that the community develops with the *Land Alive* team. This plan is approved by the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) as part of the biobanking agreement.

Any significant events that happen on the site should be **recorded in a diary**. This might include the day of a fire, the week that it took to put a fence up, or the day stock were let onto the site for grazing.

At the end of each year and before the annual payment is made, **a short report needs to be sent to DECC**. This should say how and when the agreed management actions were done. *Land Alive* can provide guidance for writing this report.



Some stream on your land

Give money to look after it

What do landowners need to decide?

- How should this area of land be managed? A biobank site is just one of the options.
- How much land should be kept aside for conservation as a biobank site?
- Should land use for this site be restricted to conservation-related activities?
- Will the funding and support from *Land Alive* fit with the needs of the local community?
- Who in the community might be able to share land management knowledge?

BioBanking (including *Land Alive*) is voluntary and a biobanking agreement need only cover part of your land.

Are there any risks?

Not all areas of land make good biobank sites: Before deciding on a site, talk to the *Land Alive* team about an area's conservation potential.

Disagreement in the community is possible if not everyone agrees on a suitable biobank site: Landowners should consult widely within their community *before* deciding to enter into a biobanking agreement.

Landowners need to sell their biodiversity credits before they start getting yearly payments: There is a risk that no one will want to buy the credits. To reduce this possibility, the *Land Alive* team will help you find a good buyer for the biodiversity credits.

Landowners need to stay committed to the agreement: The agreements and the duty to look after the land are forever. There could be financial or other consequences if landowners do not keep to the agreement.

What do landowners get in the end?

- Money for land management every year
- Local Aboriginal people with recognised skills and long-term employment
- Land free of pollution and full of plant and animal life
- Aboriginal access to land for conservation and cultural activities
- Opportunities for other land uses, such as guided bushwalks or cultural activities
- The chance to share and value local Aboriginal land management knowledge

Share cultural knowledge

Participating in *Land Alive* will also give you an opportunity to share your stories. A collection of Aboriginal land management styles and cultural practices will be developed with the help of landowners who take part in *Land Alive* and want to share their knowledge. When finished, this will

promote Aboriginal knowledge and cultural practices to mainstream land managers and land management organisations.



Need more information?

A range of general resources about BioBanking is available for landowners: the *Land Alive* team can point you in the right direction. They can also come and meet with the community and discuss the opportunities for employment and conservation that *Land Alive* offers.

Contact *Land Alive* on (02) 9995 5000 or email landalive@environment.nsw.gov.au.



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