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Minister for the Environment and Energy

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Assistant Minister to the Deputy Prime Minister

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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\$450 MILLION REGIONAL LAND PARTNERSHIPS HERALDS A NEW ERA FOR LANDCARE

The Regional Land Partnerships tender, which will invest \$450 million over five years to deliver national Landcare priorities at a regional and local level, opened this week.

Minister for the Environment and Energy Josh Frydenberg said that the landcare movement has always been about local participation and it will continue to bring communities together with a focus on regional delivery.

“We are looking for experienced service providers with a demonstrated track record and capability to deliver natural resource management services,” Minister Frydenberg said.

“A key focus of the National Landcare Program is protecting our threatened species as many of our species are under threat with more than 130 of our native species lost since European settlement.

“Eradicating pests like feral cats, foxes, dogs, pigs and goats is an important part of the National Landcare Program. Under the program, more than 2.2 million hectares have been subject to pest control. This builds on and complements the Government’s broader Threatened Species Strategy, first introduced in 2015.”

Assistant Minister to the Deputy Prime Minister Luke Hartsuyker said Regional Land Partnerships are the cornerstone of the National Landcare Program which will deliver vital natural resource management outcomes.

“We are building on the strengths of previous programs and continuing to connect and engage with local communities to deliver national Landcare priorities on-the-ground, using local knowhow and expertise. This open tender process ensures targeted outcomes will be met, which will encourage and foster new partnerships with like-minded landcare individuals and organisations at a regional and local level,” Assistant Minister Hartsuyker said.

“Improving the condition of soils on our farms will continue to be a priority due to soil acidification, building soil carbon and reducing soil lost by wind and water erosion. More than 61 per cent of Australia’s land mass is managed by our farmers and it will continue to be a priority area for the landcare movement to invest in the improvement of the condition of soils, vegetation and biodiversity on farm.”

For further information, visit: <http://www.nrm.gov.au/>

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