



## Appendix G – Indicators of progress

The following table is a comparison of Natural Resource Management targets set by the Australian Conservation Foundation, and the ‘indicators of progress’ outlined in the Commonwealth government’s paper – ‘Managing Natural Resources in Rural Australia for a Sustainable Future: A discussion paper for developing a national policy’

<b>ACF Preferred Targets:</b> (Changes to the Commonwealth discussion paper in <b>bold</b> )	<b>Commonwealth Discussion Paper Targets:</b>
<p><b>REGIONAL APPROACHES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By <b>2002</b> each state and territory should establish a planning framework for all regions and catchments. <b>By 2005</b> communities in half of these regions and catchments <b>will be</b> in the process of implementing integrated natural resource management strategies <b>that are consistent with national policy direction and targets. By 2010 all regions and catchments will be implementing integrated natural resource management strategies.</b></li> <li>By 2005 all regional development initiatives and local government planning should be based on <b>national</b> natural resource management principles, <b>recognising both</b> the limitations of natural resource base, <b>and the economic and social significance of environmental assets and services.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>FACILITATING FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE</b></p>	<p><i>REGIONAL APPROACHES</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>By 2005 each state and territory should establish a planning framework for all regions and catchments, with communities in half of these regions and catchments having developed and being in the process of implementing integrated natural resource management strategies.</i></li> <li><i>2005 all regional development initiatives and local government planning should be based on sound natural resource management principles and recognise the limitations of natural resources.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>FACILITATING FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE</i></p>

<b>ACF Preferred Targets:</b> (Changes to the Commonwealth discussion paper in <b>bold</b> )	<b>Commonwealth Discussion Paper Targets:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By <b>2005</b>, 15 per cent of agricultural produce should be coming from properties that have ISO 14000 certification or other accredited environmental management systems in operation or that are participating in a production accreditation scheme. <b>Such accreditation must incorporate assessment against biodiversity criteria. By 2015, 50 per cent of agricultural produce should be so certified.</b></li> <li>By 2005 there should be a <b>100 per cent</b> increase in landholders' capital expenditure on measures and practices aimed at controlling or preventing natural resource degradation.</li> <li>By 2010 there should be an improved economic return resulting from new production opportunities, better use of resources, and land use change in areas at risk of or experiencing resource degradation. The principles of <b>ecological</b> sustainability should also be adhered to in new areas of development and non-degraded areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>By 2010, 15 percent of agricultural produce should be coming from properties that have ISO 14000 certification or other accredited environmental management systems in operation or that are participating in a production accreditation scheme.</i></li> <li><i>By 2005 there should be a significant increase in landholders' capital expenditure on measures and practices aimed at controlling or preventing natural resource degradation.</i></li> <li><i>By 2010 there should be an improved economic return resulting from new production opportunities, better use of resources, and land use change in areas at risk of or experiencing resource degradation. The principles of sustainability should also be adhered to in new areas of development and non-degraded areas.</i></li> </ul>
<b>BUILDING ON LANDCARE</b>	<b>BUILDING ON LANDCARE</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By <b>2005</b> operations on a majority of farms should be based on <b>accredited</b> whole-farm plans that are consistent with regional strategies</li> <li>Levels of participation by landholders in landcare and other natural resource management groups should <b>double</b> during the coming decade.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>By 2010 operations on a majority of farms should be based on whole-farm plans that are consistent with regional strategies</i></li> <li><i>Levels of participation by landholders' in landcare and other natural resource management groups should increase during the coming decade.</i></li> </ul>
<b>CAPACITY BUILDING FOR IMPROVED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>CAPACITY BUILDING FOR IMPROVED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2005 there should be a <b>100 per cent</b> increase in the number of landholders and regional communities actively monitoring resource condition – for example, by soil testing and water and biodiversity monitoring – to guide their management practices</li> <li>By 2010 the number of landholders and regional community leaders participating in rural training and leadership courses that <b>incorporate components in environmental and natural resource management</b> should have doubled.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>By 2005 there should be a 75 per cent increase in the number of landholders and regional communities actively monitoring resource condition – for example, by soil testing and water and biodiversity monitoring – to guide their management practices</i></li> <li><i>By 2010 the number of landholders and regional community leaders participating in rural training and leadership courses that incorporate a natural resource management component should have doubled.</i></li> </ul>
<b>ENHANCING KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION</b>	<b>ENHANCING KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION</b>

<b>ACF Preferred Targets:</b> (Changes to the Commonwealth discussion paper in <b>bold</b> )	<b>Commonwealth Discussion Paper Targets:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By <b>2005</b>, there should be a 50 per cent increase in research and development to do with ecologically sustainable natural resource management and use.</li> <li>• By 2010, 80 per cent of landholders should use natural resource management information relevant to their region through home-based computers.</li> <li>• By 2010, at least 50 per cent of regions should have information management systems that are comprehensive, supported and accessible to the general public, including through the Internet. <b>By 2020, all regions should have such systems in place.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>By 2010 there should be a 50 per cent increase in research and development to do with ecologically sustainable natural resource management and use.</i></li> <li>• <i>By 2010, 80 per cent of landholders should use natural resource management information relevant to their region through home-based computers.</i></li> <li>• <i>By 2015 at least 50 per cent of regions should have information management systems that are comprehensive, supported and accessible to the general public, including through the Internet.</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>NATURAL RESOURCE CONDITION</b></p>	<p><b>NATURAL RESOURCE CONDITION</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2015 there should be a net reduction in the area of productive land lost as a consequence of soil degradation caused by <b>human-induced</b> acidity, sodicity, salinity, acid sulphate, soil carbon loss, decline in soil structure, and erosion.</li> <li>• By <b>2002</b> no additional ecological communities <b>or species</b> should become threatened as a result of agricultural activity.</li> <li>• By <b>2001</b> there should be no net loss <b>in the quality and extent</b> of native vegetation measured within each jurisdiction. (*as per the Federal Government's <b>National Strategy for the Conservation of Biodiversity</b>).</li> <li>• By 2005 all stressed rivers and a significant proportion of other priority regulated rivers should have incorporated an environmental flow regime to restore ecological processes. <b>Monitoring programs should be in place to inform regular reviews of the adequacy of flow regimes.</b></li> <li>• By 2005 critical recharge zones within catchments will be identified; by 2010 these should be revegetated to prevent further land and water resource degradation, and necessary adjustments should be made to environmental flow regimes of all regional and catchment planning.</li> <li>• By 2005 revegetation options for multiple benefits will form part of all regional and catchment planning.</li> <li>• By 2005 there is a net gain in native</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>By 2015 there should be a net reduction in the area of productive land lost as a consequence of soil degradation caused by acidity, sodicity, salinity, acid sulphate, soil carbon loss, decline in soil structure, and erosion.</i></li> <li>• <i>By 2005 no additional ecological communities should become threatened as a result of agricultural activity.</i></li> <li>• <i>By 2005 there should be no net loss of native vegetation measured within each jurisdiction.</i></li> <li>• <i>By 2005 all stressed rivers and a significant proportion of other priority regulated rivers should have incorporated an environmental flow regime to ensure maintenance of ecological processes.</i></li> <li>• <i>By 2005 critical recharge zones within catchments will be identified; by 2010 these should be revegetated to prevent further land and water resource degradation, and necessary adjustments should be made to environmental flow regimes of affected watercourses.</i></li> <li>• <i>By 2005 revegetation options for multiple benefits will form part of all regional and catchment planning.</i></li> <li>• <i>By 2010 there is a net gain in native</i></li> </ul>

<b>ACF Preferred Targets:</b> (Changes to the Commonwealth discussion paper in <b>bold</b> )	<b>Commonwealth Discussion Paper Targets:</b>
vegetation cover and a <del>net</del> reduction in species and ecological communities listed as threatened or endangered.	<i>vegetation cover and a net reduction in species and ecological communities listed as threatened or endangered.</i>

Source: *The Australian Conservation Foundation, 'Submission in response to the Discussion Paper – Managing Natural Resources in Rural Australia for a Sustainable Future: A discussion paper for developing a national policy', March 2000, pp. 14-16.*