



Is it feasible to manage natural resources in peri-urban landscapes?

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Environment | Water | Agriculture
Policy | Economics | Communities

Managing natural resources in peri-urban landscapes

❖ **Characteristics of peri-urban landscapes**

❖ **The challenges**

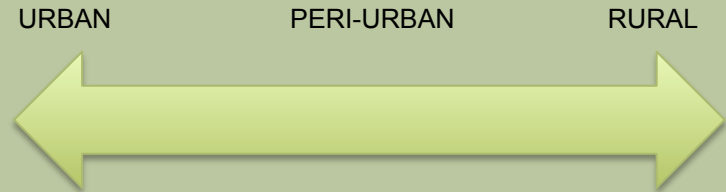
- Competing government priorities
- Diversity and number of landholders
- Landholder engagement approaches
- Higher costs

❖ **What can we can do?**

- Know the target audience
- Learn from past experience
- Be prepared to try innovative approaches to landholder engagement
- Use adaptive management

Characteristics of peri-urban landscapes

- ❖ **Urban/ rural interface**
- ❖ **Large variety of land uses**
- ❖ **Dynamic and transitional**
 - New and diverse communities
 - Land use change
- ❖ **Development pressure**
 - Population growth
 - Smaller lot sizes - fragmentation



The challenges

❖ **Competing government and community priorities**

- Conserving and protecting the environment
- Managing housing availability and affordability
- Recreational and open space
- Industry and agriculture

❖ **Greater number and diversity of landholders**

- Varied environmental awareness and interest
- Varied knowledge, skills and capacity to undertake natural resource management activities

The challenges

❖ Landholder engagement

- Standard rural landholder engagement approaches will not work in a peri-urban context
 - Who is doing the engagement matters
 - Perceived benefits of doing environmental works
 - Communication channels and networks
- Multiple channels/ methods of engagement may be required

❖ Higher costs

- Diversity and number of landholders
- Applying a suite of different methods of landholder engagement
- Greater variation in the willingness to pay

What can we do?

❖ **Take the time to understand the target audience**

- Secondary data sources (e.g. ABS data), baseline survey, community profiling
- Identify and work with the community leaders

❖ **Learn from past experience**

- What worked and what did not
- Reviews and evaluations
- Learn from others in the industry (look beyond your own backyard)

❖ **Be prepared to try innovative approaches to landholder engagement**

- Landcare for singles, Northern Tasmania Cat Trapping
- Non-conventional methods: weekend community markets, existing community groups

What can we do?

❖ Adaptive management

- Be flexible and prepared to take some risks in trying new approaches
- Monitor progress and if things are not working change them
- Don't expect everything will work perfectly the first time – view failure as an opportunity to improve

