



Bunanyung Landscape Alliance

draft Establishment Document & Strategic Plan





Bunanyung is the word Wadawurrung People used to refer to the landmark known today as Mt Buninyong.

Bunanyung has been translated to mean:

“man lying on his back with knees raised (i.e. from shape of the hill)”.

Adopting **“Bunanyung”** recognises the long custodianship of the land by the Wadawurrung People.

“Landscape Alliance” reflects the current custodianship by The Alliance community and stakeholders.

We are grateful to the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation for permission to use this name for our Alliance.

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This draft document was prepared by Amy Hahs, Andrea Mason, Jeff Rootes and Peter Gell on behalf of the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance community, with support from Sophie Bickford and members of the Alliance Interim Committee

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1. About this Document

This Establishment Document and Strategic Plan of the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance (The Alliance) has been produced by the BLA Interim Committee working group on behalf of The Alliance. While it reflects the sentiments of the community captured to date, it is not designed to be final and definitive. It is simply a starting point for more directed and detailed conversations, and a road map for how these conversations can unfold. It is expected to be updated regularly as our community collaboratively develop a stronger shared understanding of their common interests, needs and goals.

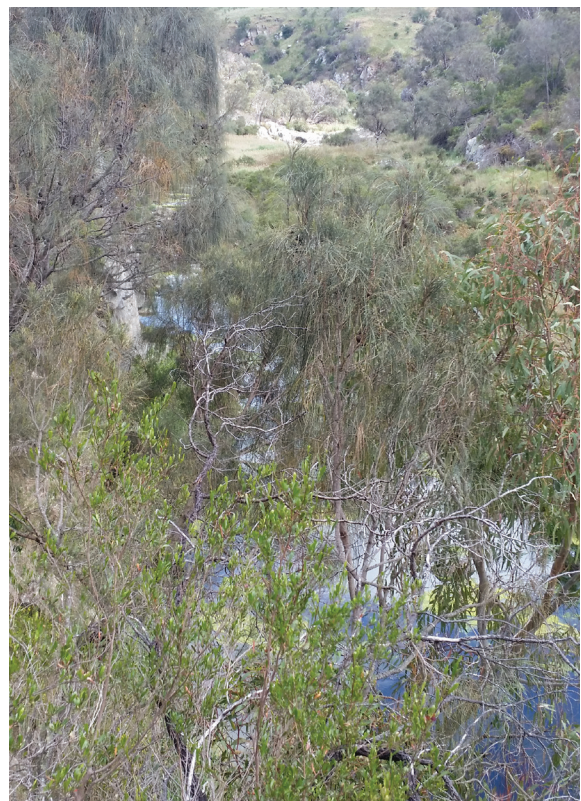
The document presents the Vision and Mission co-developed by The Alliance and outlines the approach that will be used to implement the aims that were articulated by the local individuals, groups, networks and organisations over the course of The Alliance's journey to date.

This document outlines the purpose of The Alliance, the governance structures that The Alliance aims to employ and some of the basic principles which will guide how The Alliance will operate.

As the activities of The Alliance will reflect a landscape scale approach, this document seeks to provide a template by which the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Forum can seek support for activities that contribute to The Alliance affecting its Vision and Mission. This document therefore, does not prescribe individual projects but reveals the pathways by which the community may use the support, resources and other enabling features of The Alliance to co-develop their programs of activity to best achieve landscape scale ecosystem health, productivity and restoration and strengthen human connections to nature across its focal landscape.

This document also outlines the adaptive learning approaches that will facilitate and support an effective use of The Alliance's resources for maximum impact, and ongoing research and monitoring related to the regional ecosystems and effects of past, present and ongoing restoration and biodiversity related practices in the region. These learnings will be used to continuously adapt the practices of The Alliance and will be shared more broadly to encourage improved practices beyond the boundaries of The Alliance region.

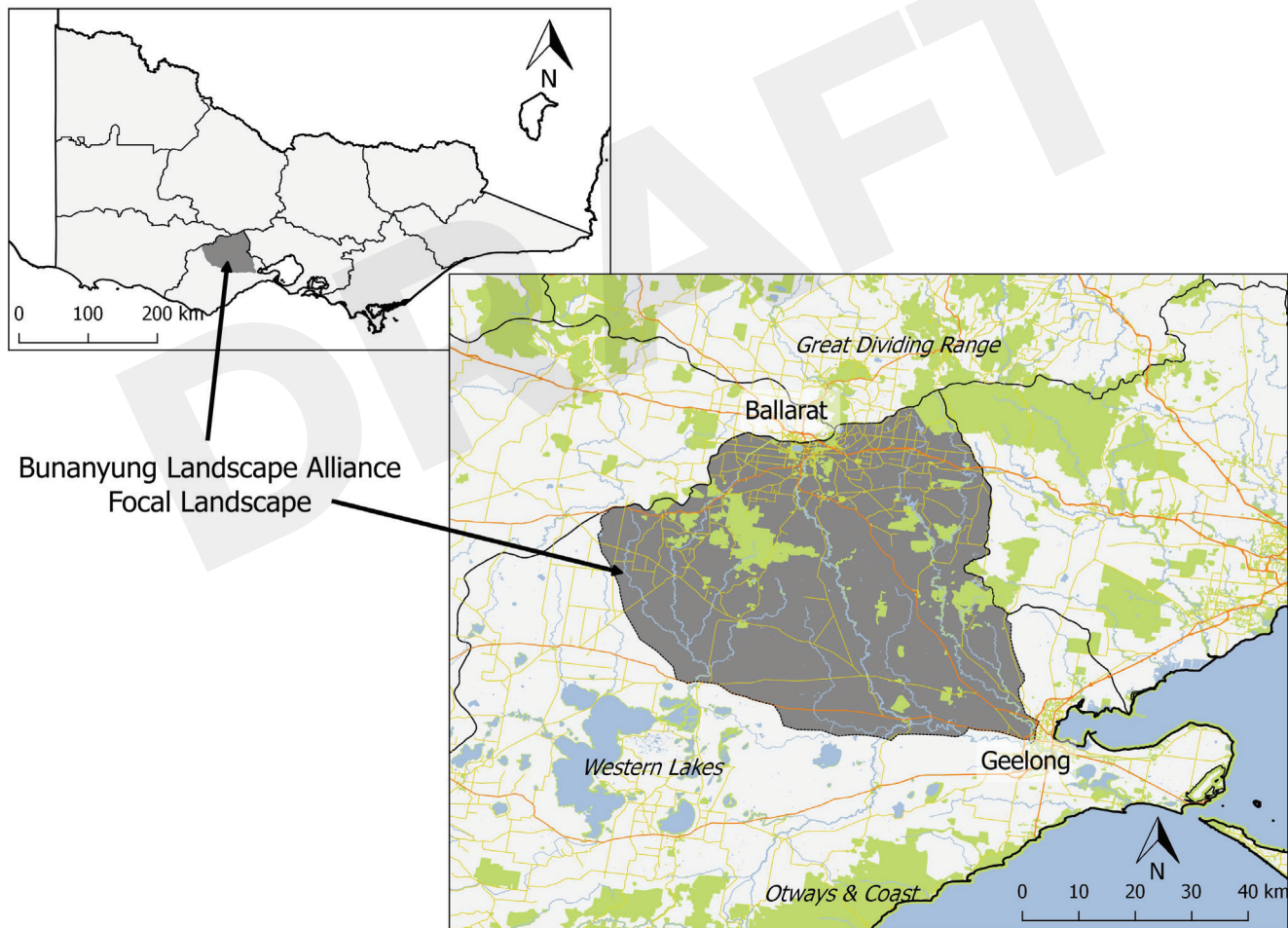
We gratefully acknowledge the input from friends and colleagues who have provided guidance and where necessary their permission to use existing documents as a basis for this strategy to avoid 'reinventing the wheel' and to expediate the planning process including; the Interim Committee, Wathaurong Aboriginal Corporation, Natural Resources Conservation League, GondwanaLink, Greater Eastern Ranges Initiative, Biolinks Alliance, Corangamite CMA - Connected Landscapes and the Clarkesdale Group.



2. The Focal Landscape

The Bunanyung Landscape Alliance focuses its activities on, but is not confined to, the catchments of the Woody Yaloak, Yarrowee/Leigh and Moorabool Rivers, within the domain of the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA), and the people who live, work and visit there. We have deliberately focused on a single CMA as this allows us to concentrate on the networks within the CCMA, without needing to balance the needs of coordinating across multiple CMAs. This is intended to ensure the “workability” of The Alliance.

The “Bunanyung Landscape Alliance” is an alliance of community members, landcare and friends’ groups, networks and associations involved in promoting the health of biodiversity for the urban and rural catchments of the Moorabool, Leigh and Woody Yaloak, all of which form the northern part of the Corangamite Catchment Area. By combining into the “Bunanyung Landscape Alliance” the past, present and future is expressed and identified.



3. Vision

Bunanyung Landscape Alliance - healthy landscapes, resilient communities

4. Mission

The Bunanyung Landscape Alliance is the community's advocate for our environment. In partnership with our stakeholders, we assist in the development and implementation of shared, evidence based, visionary landscape - scale projects that protect and/or enhance our land & waterscapes. These projects will reflect the aspirations of our local member groups and our goal of engaging the broader community.

5. The Bunanyung Landscape Alliance journey

The Natural Resources Conservation League of Victoria (NRCL) convened a workshop on climate change adaptation that was held at Narmbool in November 2016. Subsequent discussions about the potential role of a landscape alliance led to a workshop to explore the idea further in April 2017. There was significant support for the concept and a working group was formed to work on a draft vision and mission for The Alliance and to develop and circulate a questionnaire. In August 2017, members of the working group canvassed the community for their support of a landscape alliance. The outcomes of this questionnaire were shared back to the community in September 2017. This ended Stage 1.

Stage 2 saw the establishment of the Interim Committee (IC) and the Working Group of the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance and they have been meeting regularly since 9 October 2017. The Operating Protocols of the IC can be found in **Appendix A. Operating Protocols of BLA's Interim Committee.**

Their purpose was to create the current Establishment/Strategic Document which develops the details and arrangements identified by the community during Stage 1. The Establishment Document and Strategic Plan will be circulated to the wider Alliance for feedback, and the final document will provide the foundation for the formalization process of The Alliance. Stage 2 was supported by funding from the Natural Resources Conservation League (NRCL) and Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA). This document represents the draft version of the Establishment Document and Strategic Plan which will now be circulated to the wider Alliance for feedback.

In Stage 3, the Interim Committee will secure funding to support the transition to the formal governance structure and activities. Once the transition to the formal governance structure has been completed, the Interim Committee will be dissolved, and The Alliance will be in operation.

6. What is the need?

a. The bigger picture – Bunanyung Landscape as a regional piece of a greater whole

The Bunanyung Landscape sits between the Wombat Forest to the north, the Brisbane Ranges to the east, the Otways and Western District Lakes to the south and the Enfield Forest to the west. It is based on the catchments of the Woody Yaloak River, Yarrowee/Leigh River and the Moorabool River.

The Alliance's focal landscape covers the gap in previously identified regional priority areas such as the continental scale Great Eastern Ranges Initiative, the Victorian Government's priority coastal landscapes of the Otways and Lake Connewarre, and the Western District Lakes.

The Alliance will work to increase the profile of our unique regional landscape and its importance as a key piece in the connectivity jigsaw between Central Victoria and the South West. It is a cool climate environment with its own significant local vegetation and waterways. Its central waterway offers continuous water flow which, in an ecological context, will strengthen connections between the larger landscape scale initiatives that surround us.

b. Ecology – What does our landscape need?

Nature is like us. It needs space to exist and to move safely across the landscape. Plants, animals and other organisms need access to food and water, shelter and safety, and a favorable environment. While the Wadawurrung people of the Kulin Nation have an extensive history and ongoing relationship caring for country within the Alliance focal landscape the impact of European colonisation, agriculture, urbanisation and mining has been calamitous for much of the biota in our landscape and nationally.

Evidence for this includes the ongoing decline in the populations of native biota such as woodland bird species and the reduced ability to move across the landscape evident in many species including Koala, various glider species, Brown Treecreeper, Regent and Black-chinned Honeyeaters, Swift Parrot etc. Amphibians are at risk through disease and diminished habitat. Many plants species are at risk due to changing fire regime, habitat reclamation for housing and road development and competition with, and predation by, invasive species.

To exist into the future, they need sufficient expanses of quality and appropriate habitat, the ability to interact across the landscape to survive, breed, increase the genetic pool and to interact with other species for mutual benefits e.g. to enable pollination, dispersal, nutrient capture.

To thrive in this changed landscape, nature needs human interventions to care and look after it, in much the same way that the Wadawurrung people have been caring for it for tens of thousands of years. The Alliance will build knowledge, capacity, support and the ability for humans in our landscape to help protect, enhance and restore our unique local biodiversity.

Present knowledge arising from research on effective landscape restoration practice can drive the adoption of practices that may include:

- Effective control of invasive plants prior to planting;
- Maximising the diversity of plantings to limit the dominance of aggressive fauna and adaptable invasive species;
- mixing trees with shrub and ground layer species including sedges, grasses and forbs to provide resources for a broad diversity of species;
- employing a 'habitat patch' design including gaps tailored to specific species needs e.g. for reptiles to bask thereby attracting predatory birds;
- Connecting high quality habitat remnants with linear plantings and structures that facilitate movement of biota;
- Planting buffers around high quality patches to reduce edge effects and increase the area of effective habitat;
- Restoring the hydrology and geomorphic profile of streams to restore valley substrates for diverse plantings;
- Enhance riparian habitats by planting with a diverse array of local provenance flora of varying types including rushes and sedges, shrubs and trees;
- Using structures and plantings to stabilise riparian zones to mitigate bank erosion and the input of stock wastes to streams.

A more detailed description can be seen in **[Appendix B. The Bunanyung Landscape – Background and Approaches for change.](#)**

c. Community – what are the benefits?

The Alliance represents a large number of individuals, groups, networks and community-based organisations who are already working effectively in their own right.

A snapshot of these groups can be seen in [Appendix C. Landcare and NRM Community Groups of The Alliance](#).

The Alliance will seek to create a platform where these constituents can discuss and develop a shared vision for our landscape, including ambitions for increased participation from the broader community as a means of fostering greater stewardship, ecological awareness and human health outcomes.

The following gaps were identified by The Alliance community as important opportunities and priorities to develop.

- I. Build and enhance the capacity and effectiveness of individuals, groups, networks and organisations to undertake onground, community engagement and related Natural Resource Management (NRM) works. This will be done by:
 - Providing administrative and project support, where required, to local individuals, groups, networks and organisations enabling them to focus on project implementation;
 - Aggregating effort so local projects and activities are part of a larger catchment wide vision tackling agreed priorities;
 - Developing shared training and educational opportunities;
 - Increasing capacity for research, monitoring and tracking components of projects.
- II. Advocating for the strategic priorities and needs of local individuals, groups, networks and organisations. The Alliance will:
 - Reflect local priorities within a catchment-wide perspective enabling them to communicate effectively with each other and develop integrated approaches to key issues;
 - Enable and promote exchange and contact with others enabling the sharing of ideas and actions;
 - Coordinate individuals, groups, networks and organisations on both private and public lands to ensure a whole-of-landscape, tenure blind approach;
 - Create mutual benefits to environment and agriculture.
- III. Provide key stakeholders such as Catchment Management Authorities (CMA), councils and statutory authorities with a strategic point of contact on NRM and community engagement. The Alliance will provide a forum where:
 - Local groups can add their voice to a catchment-wide response to policy and project issues;
 - There is potential for The Alliance to set the agenda on policy and projects.
- IV. Act as a vehicle for value adding and aggregating investment in NRM by having the capacity to work at a landscape level and integrate local actions into the larger landscape framework and vision. The Alliance will:
 - Initiate and implement landscape scale projects in partnership with local individuals, groups, networks and organisations;
 - Provide an agile/adaptive approach to funding to meet NRM outcomes;
 - Develop productive and biodiverse projects that farms can implement;
 - Develop a consistent 'tool box' to increase NRM and community engagement outcomes.
- V. Support and promote community education, health and wellbeing initiatives by:
 - Providing administrative and project support, where required, to local individuals, groups, networks and organisations enabling them to focus on project implementation;
 - Developing shared training, promotional and educational materials for use by local individuals, groups, networks and organisations including schools and tertiary programs;
 - Investigating new ways of linking onground projects to health and wellbeing initiatives.

7. Guiding Principles

The Alliance will operate under the following guiding principles:

- i. The Alliance has a primary area of interest, but is open to considering projects outside of these boundaries where there is a clear and direct link to improving outcomes within the core area;
- ii. Rather than undertake projects that can be delivered by its partners, collaborators or other groups working within the CCMA region, The Alliance will enable and support them to deliver projects on behalf of themselves or The Alliance;
- iii. Working together and sharing knowledge is an effective way to move towards the development of a *Better Best Practice*;
- iv. People are an integral part of the landscape - if we look after our landscape it will look after us;
- v. A holistic landscape approach embraces both urban and non-urban areas simultaneously;
- vi. There are direct and indirect pathways for looking after landscapes - all of which are important;
- vii. Research, monitoring and analysis are critical to developing the evidence base we need to drive effective future actions;
- viii. An adaptive learning framework underpins an approach that is important in all facets of our business;
- ix. Education and advocacy are essential for the protection and enhancement of our landscape and the health and wellbeing of our communities.



8. Governance Structure

Any landscape scale alliance must be crafted to reflect and respect the unique needs and issues of local groups within any landscape or region.

The proposed governance structure for The Alliance is based on a model that provides the greatest opportunity for the community to focus on its goals, vision, directions and activities, but leaves the responsibilities and administrative burden of formal governance obligations to a smaller formal entity.

This structure respects the autonomy of purpose and function of local individuals, groups, networks and organisations and seeks to support their actions without diluting their capacity to deliver the contribution that they already make. Therefore, the smaller formal entity will manage all of the business governance and compliance requirements, whilst enabling representation and support for the local individuals, groups, networks and organisations to influence the direction of catchment wide programs, projects and policy work.

a. How we will operate?

There will be two main entities:

- **The Bunanyung Landscape Alliance (The Alliance) will consist of a non-legal representative group of those individuals, groups, networks and organisations who share the vision of the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance. Attendees will be referred to as 'representatives'; and**
- **A formal entity, Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Incorporated (BLA Inc), a small incorporated body consisting of a skills-based board of 8-12 members will be established. Individuals only will be offered an opportunity to become financial members of BLA Inc. and will be referred to as 'members'.**

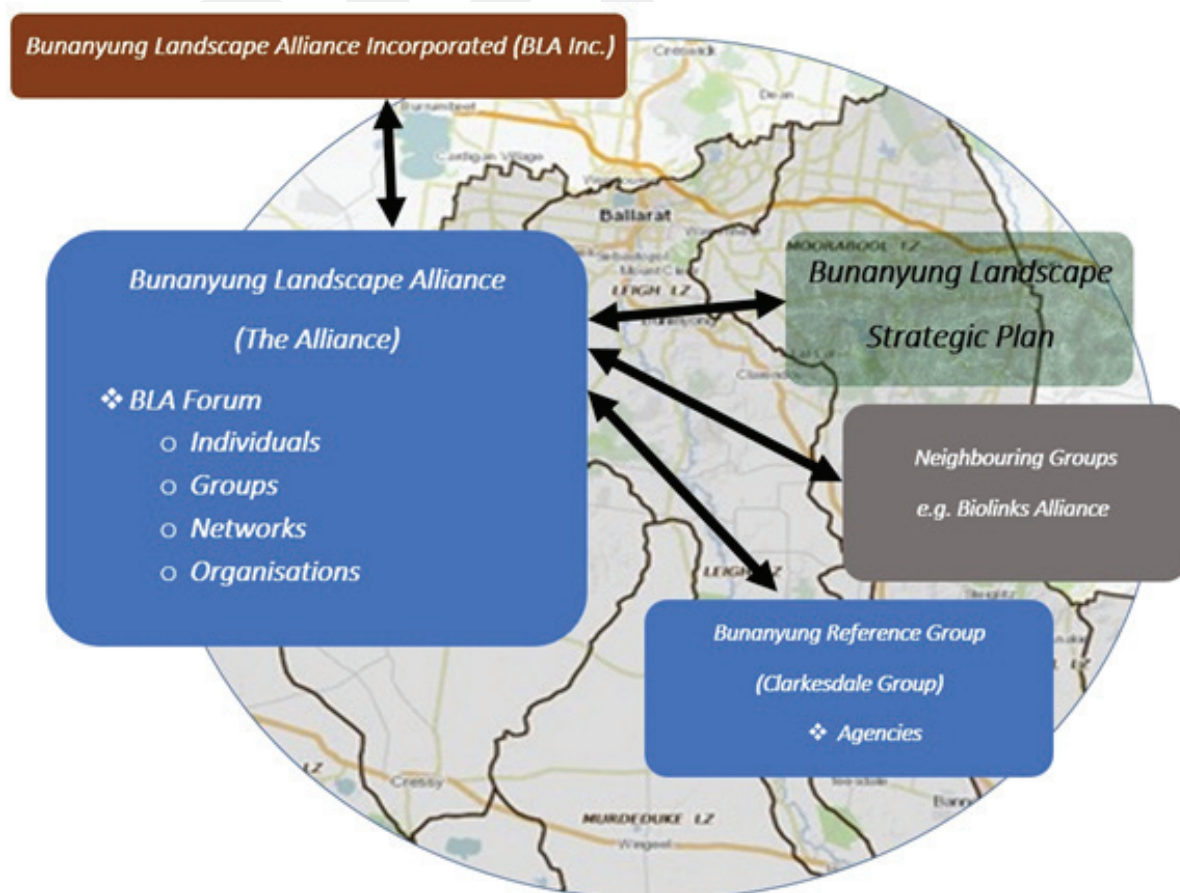
The role of BLA Inc. will be to provide the legal, business, administrative, funding and project support to The Alliance and will be responsible for delivering the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Forums (BLA Forum), which are an essential component of the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance.

The BLA Forums will be held regularly on community-led topics, and their purpose is to enable The Alliance to actively exchange ideas and contribute to strategic actions, direction for BLA Inc and project development to deliver the landscape scale vision and strategic plan.

The BLA Forum will also provide a platform for neighbouring groups and alliances (e.g. Biolinks Alliance) and project related agency groups (e.g. The Clarksdale Group associated with the CCMA Connected Landscapes Project) to interact with The Alliance.

Other engagement models can also be identified through this process and established when necessary to support the additional outcomes The Alliance seeks to co-develop with our community.

A full description of the model can be found in [Appendix D. How we will operate.](#)



b. How will we establish our legal identity?

When a club or community group incorporates, it becomes a 'legal person' – that is, a legal entity that stays the same even if its members change. It can enter into contracts in its own name; for example, to borrow money or buy equipment. This protects the individual members of the association from legal liabilities.

Victorian incorporated associations are registered with Consumer Affairs Victoria under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* (the Act).

The Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Incorporated (BLA Inc) will be established as an incorporated association according to the guidelines:

<https://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/clubs-and-fundraising/incorporated-associations/become-an-incorporated-association/register-as-an-incorporated-association>

A draft constitution is available in **[Appendix E. Constitution for BLA Inc draft.](#)**

c. What will The Alliance and BLA Incorporated provide?

The Alliance will enable stronger, more coordinated and effective interactions between the local individuals, groups, organisations and networks through:

- Allowing opportunities to influence the direction of The Alliance through participation in BLA Forums, specialized working groups on focal topics of interest, and additional platforms that emerge in response to feedback from The Alliance's community;
- Improved access to resources, such as the online mapping platform that will be created by CeRDI (see **[Appendix F. Bunanyung Landscape Alliance mapping project](#)**);
- Increased opportunities for knowledge generation and sharing through an Adaptive Learning Framework (see **[Appendix G. Adaptive Learning Framework](#)**);
- Provision of training and skills development on topics identified by the community or as staged as part of the project development process.

BLA Incorporated will also seek opportunities to extend the offering of The Alliance through additional initiatives such as:

- Providing legal, business, administrative, funding and project support to The Alliance;
- Securing funding for project development;
- Securing a source of funding to allow for the distribution of devolved grants;
- Developing standard methods that allow for larger outcomes, such as standard monitoring frameworks, ecological principles and Guidelines for effective delivery of projects (see **[Appendix H. Monitoring and Research](#)**).

d. Who are our working partners?

The Alliance will work to improve our landscape by partnering with relevant land managers and will develop projects using a holistic and tenure blind approach. Land, water and other natural resources within the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance area are managed by a range of government agencies, non-government organisations, community groups, business and industry groups and private landholders.

The key agencies, groups and individuals involved in natural resource management within The Alliance area include:

Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative	Golden Plains Shire
Ballarat Environment Network	Greening Australia
Barwon Water	Heritage Victoria
Biolinks Alliance	Landcare and NRM community groups*
Central Highlands Water	Leigh Catchment Group
Centre for eResearch and Digital Innovation	Moorabool Landcare Network
City of Ballarat	Moorabool Shire Council
Colac Otway and Surf Coast Municipalities (small sections of the southern area of The Alliance)	Parks Victoria
Corangamite Catchment Management Authority	Private landholders and land managers
Country Fire Authority	Seeding Victoria
Department of Planning and Community Development (including Aboriginal Affairs Victoria)	Statewide Integrated Flora and Fauna Team
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	Southern Rural Water (SRW)
Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources	VicRoads
Federation University	VicTrack
	Wadawarrung (Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation)
	Woody Yaloak Catchment Group

*A more comprehensive list of the Landcare and NRM community groups associated with each of the key networks, Woody Yaloak, Leigh and Moorabool can be found in **Appendix C. Landcare and NRM community groups of The Alliance.**

e. Communication plan

Communication, stakeholder and community engagement has been identified as a high priority in the successful establishment and delivery of The Alliance. This communication plan outlines what type of communication The Alliance anticipates they will undertake, and provides a description of how it will be undertaken *to assist with the establishment of a legal entity and formal Bunanyung Landscape Alliance* and will be a topic of conversation for The Alliance at future BLA Forums.

This plan aims to ensure open and transparent flow of information and clarity of messages, to set clear media and communications protocols, to outline actions and to delegate communications tasks. This plan will ensure efficient, effective and consistent communication between The Alliance, CCMA, Landcare, local government, community, media, government agencies and other stakeholders.

The Communications and Community Engagement Objectives are:

- To provide clear, consistent, open and honest information in plain English;
- To provide clear objectives and areas of responsibility for the Working Group and subsequent organisations;
- To keep the community informed about the establishment processes of the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance;
- To guide the community's expectations on how long this process will take;
- To inform and allow consultation with the community on the progress and development of the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance;
- To inform and allow consultation/feedback with the community/stakeholders on key strategic documents including the Establishment Document and Strategic Plan and initial Strategic Document;
- To publicise the efforts of the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance, community and other agencies on key milestones of the development process.

The full Communications and Community Engagement Plan can be found in **[Appendix I. Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Establishment Communications Plan](#)**



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9. The Alliance Program Themes

The Bunanyung Landscape Alliance will focus its attention initially on three key program themes:

a) Connections across Landscapes, b) Future Landscapes, and c) Connecting Communities.

These themes will help us communicate the key areas where we would like to contribute to landscape-scale change. They have been deliberately kept broad enough to accommodate a wide range of conversations and directions identified by the community, whilst remaining focused and descriptive enough that the purpose and mission of The Alliance is clear to anyone who reads them.

a. Connections across Landscapes

A cornerstone of any landscape scale initiative is the landscape itself. The Bunanyung Landscape Alliance represents many individuals and organisations who are actively involved in actions on the ground or behind the scenes that help to improve the health, resilience and connectivity of the landscape in our area. This first theme recognizes that the health and resilience of our focal landscape relies on the ability of plants, animals, people and nature to move safely across the landscape. In working towards this goal, The Alliance will actively seek to protect and enhance existing ecological assets within our landscape.

The first step in protecting existing ecological assets is knowing what they are and where they are located, well in advance of any alternative proposed changes to their status. The Alliance will need to secure funding to accurately survey and gather evidence of existing ecological assets across our landscape. Once they have been identified, The Alliance can then work to identify the processes and mechanisms required to protect them into the future through legal and administrative protection, advocating for protection overlays as well as onground actions that will preserve and enhance the condition of these assets over time.

Protecting the condition of the ecological assets over time will involve identifying the most appropriate management activities to maintain their health (e.g. appropriate fire management plans), as well as the creation of linkages between similar habitat features (such as connections between forested areas), and different types of habitat features. This may include the connection from the forested areas of the Central Highlands at the north of our landscape, through the open grasslands and grassy woodlands in the central and lower areas of our landscape, to the forested areas of the Otway ranges at the southern border. This latter connection supports the larger continental scale movement of migratory species, and the ability of species to move in response to climate change. Supporting these connections involves the identification of key connector areas where there is a pressing need for supportive action and identifying and supporting human actions that help contribute to a healthier, more connected landscape.



b. Future Landscapes

Landscapes are constantly responding to changes in environment, and the activities of the people in that landscape. Two of the most pressing environmental challenges that landscapes are currently responding to are global climate change, and urban and rural development to accommodate growing human populations and new social and cultural demands.

This theme recognises The Alliance's commitment to ensuring that the region is well equipped to contribute to addressing these challenges through a stronger (and locally relevant) evidence base and the participation of a strong, informed, engaged and connected community. The Alliance will seek to actively contribute to ensuring our landscapes can transition into the future without a loss of health or resilience.

To do this we will undertake projects that anticipate future challenges such as agricultural productivity, food security, changing ecosystems, pressures on biodiversity and the development of urban, peri-urban and rural landscapes, and identify effective actions that can minimize any detrimental impacts associated with these challenges. We will seek to provide a stronger evidence base to inform actions that support positive outcomes in line with The Alliance's vision of healthy landscapes, resilient communities.

c. Connecting Communities

Landscapes and Communities do not exist in isolation - they are integral to the health and resilience of each other.

This is exemplified by the longstanding relationship that Australia's indigenous peoples have with their country – a connection which is now captured and expressed as 'Caring for Country'. The critical importance of human connection to nature has also been recognized in diverse disciplines including health and wellbeing, child development, and conservation, and is one of the pillars of Victoria's biodiversity plan, *Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037*.

This theme recognizes that while the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance is a community led initiative, our ability to realise our vision is directly related to support from the whole of community. We will be actively seeking opportunities to support landscape-scale change by supporting and expanding the capacity of our community network. The Alliance will look for and support new and creative ways to reconnect and strengthen human connections to nature and boost the support for our work in the wider community.



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10. What are the features of an Alliance project?

One of The Alliance's Guiding Principles is that it will not duplicate projects that can be delivered by its partners, collaborators or other groups working within the CCMA region. Its focus will be to play an enabling role to assist many groups to work together more effectively and deliver better outcomes related to The Alliance Vision and Mission.

To this end, we will evaluate all incoming project opportunities against a set of clear and transparent criteria that are published and easily visible on our website. While the full set of criteria is still under development, the following is an example of the evaluation template we will be seeking to finalise in Stage 3 during the first BLA Forums held in 2019.

a. Does this project qualify as an initiative of The Alliance?

Evaluation Criteria (examples of)	Yes	No
Is the project different to what the networks are doing on the ground?		
Will the involvement of The Alliance help the group secure access to funds that would otherwise not be available?		
Will the project deliver a broader benefit to The Alliance landscape and/or community?		
Does the project state how it will share lessons learnt in a meaningful way with other groups within The Alliance?		

b. Does this project qualify for endorsement from The Alliance?

Evaluation Criteria	Yes	No
Is the project being put forward by a partner, collaborator, supporter or organization working in The Alliance landscape?		
Will the project deliver benefits to: 1) whole of community; 2) BLA community; 3) multiple 'communities of interest'?		
Does the project meet the methodological and ecological principles of The Alliance?		

c. Exemplar Projects (Case studies/ Key Connector Areas)

It is our intention to develop case studies for each of our Program Themes and across three types of landscape: urban, peri-urban, and rural. We will endeavor to ensure one case study is based in each of the three catchment management areas. We will use the experience of developing the case studies to develop and test the processes and methodologies for how The Alliance will deliver additional projects in the future. The table below provides an example of how we plan to ensure that there is an equitable representation of exemplar case studies in all three of the major catchments and across a range of landscape settings. Selecting the final set of exemplar projects will be undertaken as part of the first BLA Forum in early 2019.

Connections across Landscapes	Future Landscapes	Connecting communities
Peri-urban setting	Rural/Agricultural setting	Urban setting
Moorabool Landcare Network	Woody Yaloak Catchment	Leigh Catchment Group
How to value add in the fringe landscapes for greater outcomes with extended scope/ new partners/knowledge sharing	Opportunity to trial innovative management practices in a large project with benefits to the agricultural and natural landscape.	Support connectivity, human health and community engagement in an urban setting

11. The next steps – actions and timelines

This Establishment Document and Strategic Plan captures the spirit and intentions of the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance and provides a strong foundation to inform Stage 3 of the journey for The Alliance, namely the formal establishment of The Alliance, and its associated entities and programs. The following actions outline the next steps for the Alliance.

	2018				2019					
	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
Community Engagement and document review										
Establish Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Incorporated										
The Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Forum										
Establish partnerships between BLA Inc and local groups/networks/organisations										
Deliver two BLA Forums										
Create the online resources portal										
Work to secure additional project funds for The Alliance										

a. Establish Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Incorporated and The Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Forum – by 30 December 2018

Complete the formal process of establishing the formal entity of Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Incorporated as an incorporated body (see **Appendix E. Constitution for BLA Inc draft**) appointing the skills-based board. (see **Appendix C. How we will operate**)

b. Establish partnerships between BLA Inc and local groups/networks/organisations - by 30 April 2019

Funding to support this formalization phase will be sought from NRCL, CCMA, State of Victoria and other potential funding avenues. (see **Appendix J. BLA - Alliance Memorandum of Understanding**)

c. Deliver two BLA Forums - by 30 June 2019

Secure funding and deliver two BLA Forums prior to 30 June 2019, with the first one delivered prior to 28 February 2019. Funding to support these BLA forums will be sought from CCMA, State of Victoria (including DELWP) and other contributors who may be able to offer small contributions or in-kind support.

These BLA Forums will be organised by BLA Inc in conjunction with The Alliance community. Priority actions for consideration are:

- Establishing the Terms of Reference for the BLA Forums;
- Establishing criteria for determining what level of involvement The Alliance may have with potential projects;
- Identifying key connector areas and developing sets of actions to support and augment them;
- Creating a methodology for meeting ecological principles (See **Appendix K. Design Principles for Ecological Restoration**) and delivery principles.

d. Create the online resources portal - by 30 March 2019

Work with the Corangamite Catchment Management Agency and CeRDI to create the online NRM portal for The Alliance (see **Appendix G. Bunanyung Landscape Alliance mapping project**). Funding to be provided via CCMA. Online portal to be live by 30 March 2019.

e. Work to secure additional project funds for The Alliance – by 30 June 2020

Building upon the outcomes and directions produced during the BLA Forums and associated activities undertaken by The Alliance, BLA Inc will actively seek to boost funding to support projects of interest to local groups/organisations/networks by 30 June 2020. Multiple avenues for funding will be investigated including:

- BLA Inc led funding applications on behalf of The Alliance;
- BLA Inc assistance in shaping funding applications led by local groups/organisations/networks within The Alliance;
- Investigating opportunities for BLA Inc to act as a devolved funding body to support projects undertaken by local groups/organisations/networks within The Alliance;
- Investigating options for linking with the Ballarat Environment Fund, a generic sub-fund with DGR status established and administered by the Ballarat Foundation.

12. Glossary of terms

The following terms are frequently used in the BLA Establishment Document and Strategic Plan. For a fuller list of terms that are likely to be used by The Alliance (see [Appendix L. Glossary of Terms and Acronyms](#)).

BLA	Bunanyung Landscape Alliance
Bunanyung Landscape Alliance (The Alliance)	is the non-legal representative group of those individuals, groups, networks and organisations who share the vision of the Bunanyung Landscape Alliance.
Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Forum (BLA Forum)	One of the essential mechanisms through which The Alliance will interact with, and provide community-led direction to, BLA Inc.
Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Incorporated (BLA Inc)	Legal entity providing the legal, business, administrative, funding and project support to The Alliance and the BLA Forum
CCMA	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority
CeRDI	The Centre for eResearch and Digital Innovation (CeRDI) at Federation University Australia (FedUni)
Community	Throughout this document we use the term “Community” in the most general sense, as a term that doesn’t exclude anyone. When we are referring to a particular subset of the community (defined by geography, organisations, or special interests), we will use a qualifier term to clarify our intentions.
IC	Interim Committee
Landscape	Throughout the document we use “landscape” in the most inclusive sense, to represent where we live and what is in it. When we are referring to specific components within a landscape, we will be explicit in stating which component of the landscape we are referring to. Landscapes exist in the past, present and future. They belong to a larger picture, with connections to adjacent landscapes and the world. Actions taken in a landscape can have a local impact or can act at a distance. Similarly, the actions arising in other landscapes have the potential to leave impacts in our own.
Members	Financial members of Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Incorporated
NRCL	Natural Resources Conservation League
NRM	Natural Resource Management
Representatives	Non-financial members of The Alliance and the BLA Forum
WG	Working Group

13. FAQs

Responses to frequently asked questions can be seen in [Appendix M. Frequently Asked Questions](#).

14. Appendices

- A. Operating Protocols of the BLA's Interim Committee
- B. The Bunanyung Landscape – Background and Approaches for change
- C. Landcare and NRM Community Groups of The Alliance
- D. How we will operate
- E. Constitution for BLA Inc_draft
- F. Bunanyung Landscape Alliance mapping project
- G. Adaptive Learning Framework
- H. Monitoring and Research
- I. Bunanyung Landscape Alliance Establishment Communications Plan
- J. BLA - Alliance Memorandum of Understanding Template
- K. Design Principles for Ecological Restoration
- L. Glossary of Terms and Acronyms
- M. Frequently Asked Questions

Available from:

<http://findingnorth.net.au/your-project/bunanyung-landscape-alliance>

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