

## Healesville to Phillip Island Nature Link (HPNL Inc) Vision, Mission, Goals 2022-2025

**Vision:** To develop a Healesville to Phillip Island Nature Link (HPNL) between the Yarra Ranges and Warnmorin (Western Port), so current and future generations will be able to live sustainably with Victoria's unique flora and fauna, mitigate climate change and enjoy positive benefits of connecting with nature.

**Mission:** To serve as a nimble, collaborative, citizen advocacy group to foster biodiversity and promote bio-links on waterways and overland to create an integrated, connected, HPNL.

**STRATEGIC GOALS 2022-2025:** Wherever possible we will consult with Aboriginal people (Bunurong/Boonwurrung and Wurunjeri) in working towards these.

1. **Advocacy and planning:** We will advocate for, and work with, government and other organisations to promote
  - a. Regional biodiversity plans and implementation: ensuring that these function at a landscape scale
  - b. Establishing a Nature Link Trail
  - c. Biodiversity threat mitigation: threats include weeds, fire, exotic pest species, extractive industries, and urban development
  - d. HPNL profile and goals, through website, newsletter, social media etc and fostering positive personal relationships with politicians, particularly in HPNL councils
  - e. HPNL being consulted in land management decisions, e.g. commenting on / signing strategies involving Integrated Catchment Management, planning applications etc
2. **Collaboration and partnerships:** We will foster productive relationships with key partners by
  - a. Developing a 'Power Map' of HPNL relationships to assist in understanding where best to focus attention and crystallise opportunities.
  - b. Supporting and promoting HPNL partnerships and projects, e.g. acknowledgement on our website, recognising/referencing the Regional Catchment Strategy
  - c. Driving/supporting the Tooradin Environment Centre project
  - d. Promoting covenanting and sympathetic purchase of land in Nature Link corridors
3. **On-ground habitat improvement:** We will improve habitat for biodiversity by including practical, on-ground activities alongside higher level strategic advocacy, e.g.
  - a. Revegetating local Ecological Vegetation Communities, environmental clean-up, weed and pest species control
  - b. Seeking grants for HPNL-relevant, projects, e.g. targeted waterway restoration; 'ground truthing' opportunities for revegetation, re-introducing programs for threatened species
  - c. Participating in activities organised by key partners, e.g. revegetation, particularly where these foster connections with groups working in different parts of the HPNL
4. **Research:** We will proactively seek out university-based and/or citizen science research projects relevant to HPNL including, e.g.
  - a. Integrated re-wilding including soil microbiota, Ecological Vegetation Communities, invertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals
  - b. Improving biolinks and wetland design and construction; mitigating climate change and sea level rise; carbon sequestration
  - c. Using digital/novel technologies to achieve HPNL goals, e.g. digital apps to document species presence and behaviour (iNaturalist, Frog ID etc)
5. **Knowledge Sharing:** We will disseminate knowledge and assist people in improving wildlife habitats through biodiversity workshops/forum and community events
6. **Governance:** We will ensure that HPNL Inc fulfills statutory and risk management obligations and builds on the appeal of our vision so that we
  - a. Attract individuals to serve in skills-based roles as set out in the HPNL management structure
  - b. Achieve financial stability to effectively pursue HPNL goals, e.g. by grant writing, setting up a 'ways and means' committee, seeking philanthropic donations and identifying ways to have grants auspiced for HPNL to allow for tax deductibility.